



Jeffrey Jackson

Alumni

Jeffrey Jackson is what you would call

a “home grown” faculty member. Jackson graduated from Washburn Law in 1992 after receiving his Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics from Washburn in 1989. Jackson performed well on the LSAT and had numerous options for law school, but the friendliness he experienced on the Washburn campus and at the law school, along with a scholarship, made him realize he didn’t want to go anywhere else.

He learned both as a student and now a professor that, “Washburn Law provides a ‘top-flight’ legal education, one that is on par with the best schools in the nation and the learning environment, including the attentiveness of the faculty, is tremendous,” said Jackson. Speaking about Washburn Law, he said, “In many ways, I believe that Washburn is superior in turning out lawyers who actually practice law. I know we’ve got a better Legal Analysis, Research and Writing (LARW) program than most other schools, and we’re beginning to get some national recognition for that.”

After law school, Jackson worked as a research attorney on the Kansas Court of Appeals, for Justice Robert Davis of the Kansas Supreme Court, as a litigation associate at Bennett & Dillon LLP in Topeka and as a judicial law clerk to Judge Mary Beck Briscoe of the U.S. Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. He also received his LL.M from Georgetown University Law Center in 2003. He joined Washburn Law in 2004 as a visiting professor and became associate professor of law in 2005.

Being a graduate of Washburn Law, Jackson feels he has a connection and rapport with students that makes the lessons more “real” to them.

Jackson teaches LARW. “I teach the smallest-size class during students first year of law school and it is also the class in which they get their first feedback because there are so many assignments. As a result, I tend to be one of the professors who

develops a close relationship with the students, just by virtue of class size. I think it’s important for students to have a professor who they know well, and who they know is on their side helping them to succeed and I try to communicate that,” said Jackson.

Jackson exudes excitement when discussing teaching LARW, “I like teaching LARW because it’s an intense experience working with first-year students to try to make them better lawyers. I get students when they are really at their best, in that they are all eager to learn and other distractions, such as outside employment, haven’t set in yet.” He continued, “My favorite part is seeing the progress they make throughout the year, I get to see them go through all the stages from apprehensive new students to confident second-year students.”

This past spring semester, Jackson coached the moot court team, who took first place at the Evan A. Evans Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition. Jackson first became involved with moot court when he coached the Evans Competition team in 2005. That team made it to the Octo-finals. Jackson took over as the faculty advisor to the Moot Court council last year. He said, “I had really enjoyed my coaching experience, so it wasn’t much of a hard sell to take over the program. Personally, I get the same vicarious thrill that coaches in other activities do. I get to see the development of the competitors and hopefully I play some small part in their success.”

He gives a few words of advice for students, “Make friends and don’t get caught up in the competition for its own sake. You will continually rely on the help of your friends during and after law school. These are the people who will help you study and figure out concepts during law school and will provide you with good advice and, quite possibly, referrals when you are in practice.” Jackson knows the truth about his advice, he said he has relied heavily on friends he has made throughout his legal career and would not be where he is today without them.