

THIRTY-FOUR STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MINERAL TITLE EXAMINATION COURSE



In its infancy, the Mineral Title Examination Course is already a catalyst for creating long-lasting opportunities for Washburn law students. The newly established short course, which ran three consecutive Saturdays beginning Jan. 21, attracted 34 students who benefited from the expertise of 17 former and/or current practitioners recruited by Professor **David Pierce, '77**.

“The most rewarding part of each day was when four to five students went into small groups, each led by a practitioner, to work through specific title problems,” Pierce said. He added that an additional bonus for the students was to witness the discussions that took place among the practitioners on how they practice their craft and interpret various statutes.

Students took the course exam on Saturday, Feb. 4, and received the results and feedback the same day. However, they were “not quite finished,” Pierce said. The Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation was conducting a Special Institute on Mineral Title Examination in Westminster, Colo., on Feb. 9 and 10, and Pierce arranged to take the law students to the two-day conference. Funding from the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation combined with money from a private fund allowed the students to attend the conference for free.

“The conference was excellent and reinforced and supplemented what we had studied in our course,” Pierce said. “Washburn, and our students, were recognized

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many times. One of the ‘newest’ lawyers to ever speak at such a Foundation conference was our very own **Nathan Hoffman, '10**,” Pierce explained. “He did an excellent job. I had no fewer than 50 comments from other lawyers about how impressed they were with our students and how pleased they were that they were able to attend.”

The conference attracted more than 700 lawyers from across the U.S., and Pierce noted that several job-related discussions took place between attending lawyers and Washburn Law students. The Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation offers scholarships to law students based on their potential to make significant contributions to the field. During the last scholarship cycle, of the 30 member-schools eligible for scholarships Washburn Law students received four of the 20 scholarships awarded.