Overview of the 2016-17 LLSA Mentoring Program

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions and more information about how to sign up to be a volunteer.

What is the LLSA Mentoring Program?

Through a series of organized events taking place during the academic year, the Latino/a Law Students Association (LLSA) Mentoring Program fosters relationships between Latino/a 1Ls and lawyers working in the Chicago area. The program provides a support network for incoming students and cultivates a culture of acceptance and inclusion in the legal profession as a whole. LLSA benefits greatly from the invaluable support of our participating mentors who come from varied professional paths including law firms, public interest organizations, business, and governmental posts. The LLSA Mentoring Program encourages frank discussions relating to diversity, career advancement, and opportunities to strengthen the Latino community.

Who participates in the program?

The LLSA Mentoring Program is open to all incoming law students, many of whom identify as Latino/a. Incoming 1Ls will have the unique opportunity to connect with local attorneys in a variety of legal fields. Our students have expressed interest in fields ranging from law firms to public interest and government.

What is expected of me as a mentor?

The mentoring program spans the length of the academic year (November 2016 – June 2017) your level of involvement is largely left to you and your mentee. We are aware that your schedule is busy and your time is valuable. We hope that at a minimum you will:

- Meet in person with your mentee once each quarter;
- Participate in one or more group events;
- Communicate with your mentee via email or phone periodically as agreed upon by you and your mentee;
- Provide feedback, guidance and encouragement to your mentee.

During your first meeting, we encourage you and your mentee to discuss your expectations for the year with each other, including meeting/discussion frequency, location and medium for communication.

Important Dates:

- September 26 – First day of classes
- October 28 – Deadline to sign up as a mentor
- Mid-November – OEA will connect mentees and mentors via email, so mentees can reach out to mentors
Mid-January – Program Kick-off Event

Are there program-sponsored events?

The program will include a Kick-Off reception in January where mentees and mentors are able to meet. Other events will be scheduled throughout the academic year, as determined by the LLSA Student Board and mentor availability. Last year’s events included a panel on summer employment followed by a reception and a Spring Quarter bowling night. In addition to sponsored events, mentors and mentees will correspond throughout the year. To help guide the mentoring relationship, the Office of External Affairs and LLSA student board will reach out periodically.

How do I sign up?

Please visit the LLSA Mentoring Program Mentor Sign-up page at http://www.law.uchicago.edu/LLSAmentor by Friday, October 28th at 5pm.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?

Please contact Daniel Rojas, LLSA Alumni Relations Chair, at dnrjas@uchicago.edu, or Maggie Elmarakby, Assistant Director of Young Alumni Relations, at melmarakby@uchicago.edu.