

RANDY H. LEE AMERICAN INN OF COURT 2025 - 2026 PROGRAM YEAR

When reviewing member feedback on how to improve our chapter, a common suggestion was to diversify the presentation styles. To assist with this effort, select teams have a “Program Library Resource” section. This section contains information on an interactive program on the suggested topic that other Inn of Court chapters across the country have utilized. Feel free to go to the Program Library found [here](#) and search the bolded phrase in the “Keyword” search box. After searching the bolded phrase, a program will appear that can be downloaded and reviewed for your presentation. These programs contain instructions on how to organize the presentation and all the materials used by the chapter that submitted the program. Please keep in mind these are programs other chapters have used, so *teams should carefully review materials and update information to make the presentation applicable to our local chapter*. As always, other than the elimination of bias topic, the below topics are only suggestions, so your team is free to change the topic and choose the presentation style.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 MEETING

Proposed Topic:

Mentorship

Pupillage Team #1:

Benchers: Julia Ernst
Kimberly Dasse (co-chair)

Barristers: Jacqueline Bergstrom
Sarah Gereszek

Associates: Elizabeth Behrens (co-chair)
Alivia Olson

Pupil: Monica Birdbear

OCTOBER 14, 2025 MEETING

Proposed Topic: Communication and Practicing Civil Dialogue

Pupillage Team #2: **Benchers:** Bradley Myers
Ariana Meyers (co-chair)
Carmell Mattison

Barristers: Sarah Atkinson
Cassie Scheving
Brittany Wollin (co-chair)

Associate: Yusuf Abas

Pupil: Camila Almonacid

Program Library Resource: Carnival of Conversations: Mastering Discourse in Law and Life

- Following this year’s theme of “Legal Ethics in a Polarized World,” this immersive program focused on engaging civilly on challenging topics. To that end, the presenters designed a “Carnival of Conversations” that allowed pupillage groups to rotate through five carnival booths, engaging in hands-on exercises related to civil dialogue. As members moved between booths, they participated in dynamic activities that tested their listening skills, challenged their biases, and provided hands-on practice in managing misinformation, logical fallacies, and de-escalation techniques. Each booth was meticulously designed to blend legal education with interactive learning, utilizing techniques from cognitive science and adult learning theory to reinforce key concepts. In a world where civil discourse is becoming a lost art, this program provided a roadmap for restoring it—one conversation at a time.

NOVEMBER 18, 2025 MEETING

Proposed Topic:

Ethics

Pupillage Team #3:

Benchers:

Marianne Knudson (co-chair)
Scott Jensen

Barristers:

Kiara Kraus-Parr (co-chair)
Megan Essig
Cassie Tostenson

Associate:

Erik Hanson

Pupil:

Erin Cummings

Program Library Resource: Fiduciary Feud: A Game of Unpopular Clients and Causes

- "Fiduciary Feud" is an interactive MCLE that engages participants in considering the ethical implications of representing unpopular clients and causes. Participants watch pre-recorded videos in which fictional attorneys face unpopular clients and causes: an antisemitic criminal defendant and his Jewish public defender; a devious politician who seeks counsel on how to use campaign funds for his divorce settlement; and a controversial comedian whose edgy jokes land him in hot water and in need of legal advice. Participants then answer questions, Family Feud style, relating to the ethical issues implicated by the scenes. Speakers provide additional background by presenting the relevant ethical rules, case law, and real-world examples.

FEBRUARY 10, 2026 MEETING

Proposed Topic:

Elimination of Bias: Race

Pupillage Team #4:

Benchers: Jessica Ahrendt
Paul Traynor
Sarah Cannon (co-chair)
Theodore Sandberg

Barristers: Andria Pinkerton (co-chair)

Associate: Kelsey Medford
Justin Borgen

Pupil: Samantha Ledahl

MARCH 3, 2026 MEETING

Proposed Topic:

Boundaries for Attorney Wellness

Pupillage Team #5:

Benchers: Blake Klinkner (co-chair)
Michael McGinniss
John Warcup
Andrew Eyre (co-chair)

Barristers: Matt Paulson

Associates: Zachary Tomczik
Erica Hovey

Pupil: Sam Meidinger

APRIL 7, 2026 MEETING

Proposed Topic:

Jeopardy

Pupillage Team #6:

Benchers: Alice Senechal
Nikola Datzov
Howard Swanson (co-chair)

Barristers: Samuel Gereszek (co-chair)
Alyssa Nefstead

Associates: Robert Agnes
Kenneth Carlsen
Jaxen Bratcher

Pupil: Madison Schoenberg