The legal term “feasance” is defined as a performance or the doing of an act. Recent events in the Paralegal Studies arena at Sullivan University have really showcased the Paralegal program and its students in action!

**Facts.** Sullivan paralegal students recently received the facts about the realities of working in the legal world when the Louisville Association of Paralegals (LAP) held a “Meet & Greet” reception on campus. Day and evening division students attending the event were provided with food, beverages and valuable information.

Students gave reception an A+—Kimberly Bush, president of the Sullivan Student Paralegal Association, enjoyed the opportunity to meet practicing paralegals. “The visit from the LAP was very interesting and informative. I enjoyed networking with local paralegals and learning their jobs and their levels of education. It was great to find out that student membership fees were waived. As a result several students were able to obtain membership in the LAP,” Bush said.

Other students at the LAP function were similarly impressed. Student Mark Clark commented that, “I thoroughly enjoyed the LAP visit. The members were quite friendly, open to questions and conversation, and eager to explain LAP and the opportunities that it provides. I felt truly welcomed as a new student member, and look forward to attending more LAP activities.” Mary Bernard said, “I was able to question ‘real’ paralegals and many anxieties were dispelled. It was wonderful to have answers from the field, and I enjoyed socializing with the other paralegal students and the instructors.”

**Fun.** Student members of the Sullivan Student Paralegal Association (SSPA), along with Nick Riggs, the Director of Legal Studies, and Angi Riggs, Coordinator of the Early Childhood Education Program, recently got together for an informal and sometimes hilarious night of bowling. Students brought family and friends to play or just watch as “so-called” bowlers took their turns.

**Outstanding social event**

SSPA bowling night was truly outstanding! Everyone had a great time, and they made my wife feel welcome,” said Mark Clark. “It was nice to wind down with the group. Just watching our “Fearless Leader,” Nick Riggs, alternate between strikes and gutter balls was worth the trip.”

Special note: Although teams were selected and scores were kept, that information will not be reported here - the innocent need to be protected and there is no need to embarrass the 80% or so who never got three-digit scores. Despite the lack of skill exhibited by most, fun was certainly had by all. Having a great time at Fern Bowl were members of the Sullivan Student Paralegal Association with their friends and family.

**Feasance.** Students in the PLS 262 Basic Legal Ethics class, taught by Nick Riggs, Director of Legal Studies, always have a chance to perform when they must give an oral presentation on a randomly-assigned legal ethics issue. “Learning about ethics requires more than just reading and taking tests,” stated Mr. Riggs. “I want students to dig deeply into their assigned topics, get up in front of their classmates, and tell them something they didn’t know before. I’m sure it’s scary to do this, but it is an eye-opener for many to realize they can do this,” he continued.

**Students enjoy the experience**

Here’s what a few students had to say when asked if they felt about getting up in front of their peers to speak on the law.

Kelly Brown enjoyed giving her presentation. “It was interesting, I now know what is and is not the unauthorized practice of law by doing this project and giving a speech on it,” said Suleidy Ledesma. Joyce Walker commented, “It was scary and wonderfully exhilarating, but it did help me overcome my fear of being in front of a group.” Lorie Hibbard probably said best, “I thought I was going to faint, but it was a learning experience!” Susan Farrar responded from a different angle, “As part of the audience, I learned a lot about each subject that was covered. The topics that were selected by the instructor were very good and each student did a good job in presenting the material.”

**Make-up and jewelry donated**

Contributing to the event, Reis Salon and Ultra Salon provided the hair styling and make-up. Jewelry fashions were courtesy of Premier Designs. There were a total of 52 students involved in making the show a success.

After the fashion show, several instructors noticed a change in the appearance of several of their students the following Wednesday on Professional Dress Day. Plans are underway for another fashion show early next year.

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**THE INSTITUTE for LEGAL STUDIES**

**Facts, fun & feasance**

**The Wellness Center:** Helping Sullivan students achieve a healthy balance

The Wellness Center is helping Sullivan students achieve balance personal and interpersonal stressors. Students are entitled to seven free interviews with Dr. Renee Rust-Yamuth, Certified Wellness Director, to learn how to manage their stress.

**Frequent informative displays**

Tracking student interest through Student Services, every quarter the Center has a display. Recently, the display centered on Sexual Wellness and included an option for extra credit arranged with participating College Success Skills instructors. About 75 students took advantage of this learning opportunity. The Louisville Coalition for HIV/AIDS gave materials to complement leaflets on normal sexuality, gender orientations, and also sexually transmitted diseases. An inspiring video on women living with AIDS was shown most of the day.

**More topics on the way**

For upcoming informational events, Sullivan University is making use of the National Screening for Depression Day when Sullivan students will be able to participate on campus. Online access, a reception on this topic will be available to students for one year for confidential screening and information. Later this year, there are plans to participate in another national screening event around eating disorders. Connections between food and alcohol are being considered due to interest from culinary students on this topic. Another topic is the relationship between stress and stress-related illness: this event will emphasize a chiropractic methods with local practitioners present.

**Ask the Advisor column**

The Sullivan Wellness Center continues to expand services and increase access to resources both on and off campus. A regular column in the weekly Student Scoop newsletter uses an Ask the Advisor format to address issues like sleep hygiene, conflict resolution, anxiety, and appropriate communication in relationships.

The Sullivan Wellness Center is itself, alive and well.

**Students give the Sullivan Wellness Center a big thumbs-up!**

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**2004 Fashion Attire Show**

Many students are confused about what to wear on Professional Dress Day, to a job interview, or for the professional work environment. So, Graduate Employment Services (GES) teamed up with Instructor Sharonda Youngblood’s Professional Development Class and produced a great Fashion Attire Show.

The Fashion Show was a very entertaining way to show the students the difference between being professionally dressed and unprofessionally dressed. Several students dressed in non-business attire, then the same students returned to the stage dressed professionally. What a difference!

**Students’ budget considered**

Realizing that students are usually on a tight budget, GES used very affordable attire - the total value of each outfit was around $35.00.

**Even “shy” Brenda Brown (yes, she’s staff!) joined in the fun, to the great amusement of Matt Harper.**