



# ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIC SUPPORT EDUCATORS

## Thanksgiving Special Edition:



**Give Thanks** A Huge Thank You to Our Planning Committee!

We're counting down to Las Vegas! As we prepare to gather from May 19 – 21, we want to recognize the tireless dedication of the Planning Committee in putting this event together.

This Special Edition Newsletter is your winning ticket: it features all the regular updates you love, plus an exclusive look at what's in store for us in Las Vegas.

## Meet the Team

AASE PLANNING COMMITTEE

## 2026 AASE Conference



**UNLV**  
WILLIAM S. BOYD  
SCHOOL OF LAW

**Alexis Martinez** University of Miami (Chair)  
**Elizabeth Z. Stillman** Suffolk (Liaison & Pres. Elect)  
**Raef Granger** William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada (Host School Representative)

**Chris Engle-Newman** University of Denver, Sturm College of Law

**Diane Kraft** University of Denver, Sturm College of Law

**Nicole Deutsch** Texas A & M University School of Law

**Meg Clifford** The University of Texas School of Law

**Jima Fahnbueh** Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law

**Kasey Faris** West Virginia University

**Naomi Hatton** Barry University School of Law

**Jennifer Ciarimboli** Suffolk University Law School

**C. Benjie Louis**

**Debbie Shapiro**

**Kathleen Bolus**

**Michele Beger**

**Odetta Clark**

**Sandy Boisrond**

**Christine Francis**

**Alyssa Dragnich**

Follow, comment, and like us on our social media platforms:





THE WAIT IS OVER . . .

Announcing Our 2026  
Conference Theme!

## HIGH STAKES, BIG IMPACT

Our Las Vegas conference theme says it all—the work we do is high stakes, and the impact we create is extraordinary.

Registration and Travel Scholarship Information forthcoming in early December.

## Call for Proposals

Save the Date!

**AASE Call for Proposals will open and be accepted from December 1, 2025, to January 2, 2026.**

*Follow, comment, and like us on our social media platforms:*



EMBASSY SUITES  
HOTELS®

### Reserve Now!

AASE has secured an exclusive room block at Embassy Suites by Hilton Las Vegas for May 18-22, 2026. This family-friendly, pet-friendly, non-gaming hotel offers comfort and convenience—right across the street from the Law School!

#### Why You'll Love It:

- Unbeatable Rate: 2-room suites for just \$159 + tax (no resort fees!)
- Daily Happy Hour with 2 complimentary drinks and light snacks
- Hot Breakfast included every morning
- Evening Transportation: Buses will pick up and drop off right at the hotel for conference events
- Prime Location: Steps away from the Law School

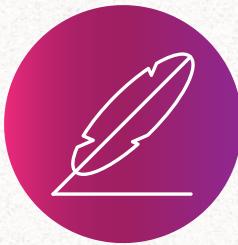
#### Booking Details

It's easy! Click [HERE](#) to visit AASE's booking page and select "Book a Room" to access our preferred group rate.

- Pay When You Stay – Only a credit card needed to reserve
- Free Cancellation up to 24 hours before check-in
- Book Early – Don't wait! We have enough rooms for everyone

**Important:** We have a rolling block of 20 rooms that replenishes as they're booked. If the booking page shows no availability, don't worry! Simply call the hotel directly or email [Nachman.Gutowski@unlv.edu](mailto:Nachman.Gutowski@unlv.edu) and we'll reload the next block of rooms for you.

# ASP Scholarship NEWS



## ASP SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

AASE members continue to produce excellent scholarship. Here are some of the latest publications:

Professor Anne G. Johnson (Mercer University School of Law): "Preparing Students for Legal Research on the NextGen UBE Bar Exam." You can read her article in the [Law Library Journal](#).

Professor Kari Anne Milligan (Mitchell Hamline School of Law): "When LSAT Doesn't Matter: And Other Surprising Finds from a Deep Dive into Academic Probation in Law School." Forthcoming in the *California Western Law Review* and available [on SSRN](#).



## CAREER CORNER

Don't forget to check out the AASE Career Center! It's updated regularly with exciting job openings and opportunities tailored for our community. Whether you're actively searching or just exploring, this is your go-to resource.

👉 Visit the Career Center and take the next step in your career journey!  
<https://aaselaw.org/networking/>

## Your Voice Matters: Share Input with the ABA Council



In August 2025, the ABA Council for the Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar voted to include AASE among its affiliate organizations—a milestone worth celebrating!

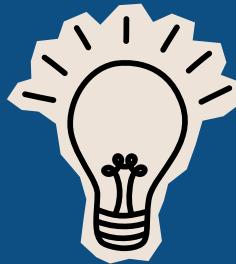
Now, the ABA Council is seeking feedback on potential revisions to definitions, standards, rules, and internal operating procedures. This is a unique opportunity for AASE to contribute our collective expertise and make an impact.

### What's Next?

- Review the details in the attached document or [click here](#).
- Share your thoughts on whether AASE should respond—and if so, what that response should include.

**Deadline:** Please send input to [President@aaselaw.org](mailto:President@aaselaw.org) by **December 8th** so we can organize and prepare a formal comment before the Council's deadline.

**Let's make our voices heard!**



Professor Scott DeVito (Quinnipiac University School of Law), Dr. Kelsey Hample (Furman University), and Dr. Kirsten Winek (American Bar Association) are launching a three-year study examining whether law students receive different accommodations in law school and on the bar exam—and how those differences may affect first-time bar passage. By gathering anonymized data from schools in California, Florida, and UBE jurisdictions, the team aims to provide the first granular empirical insight into equity in bar-exam accommodations. This work is important because it fills a critical gap in understanding how accommodation practices may affect access to the legal profession.

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

## Get Involved!



Contribute to the Newsletter! Have info to share? Jobs to list? Photos or content from ASP activities? Email us at [InfoMediaAASE@gmail.com](mailto:InfoMediaAASE@gmail.com)!

Looking to raise your professional profile? We are looking for guest bloggers for the ASP blog Email: [InfoMediaAASE@gmail.com](mailto:InfoMediaAASE@gmail.com) for more!



# Member Spotlight:

## Goldie Pritchard



When you think of longevity and impact in the world of law school academic support, few names resonate as powerfully as Goldie Pritchard. For over fifteen years, Goldie has been the architect and steward of Michigan State University College of Law's Academic Success Program.

Originally making merely a one-year commitment, she has positively influenced generations of MSU law students. Goldie's journey to ASP was no accident. Her foundation in counseling and student affairs gave her the tools to listen deeply, ask good questions, and embrace silence as a space for growth. Over the years, she has adapted to shifting student needs, curricular changes, and the evolving demands of the legal profession.

Goldie's influence extends far beyond East Lansing, MI. She has served on numerous committees for AASE and the AALS Section on Academic Support. She recently was presented with the AASE Committee Leadership Award. Her presentations at conferences like LexCon and LSAC's RISE Alliance showcase her commitment to addressing systemic issues. Her stewardship of the Law School Academic Support Blog illustrates her dedication to knowledge-sharing. She is also a co-founder of the Academic Support Black Women's Collective (ASBWC), a space designed to combat isolation and foster professional development. The ways Goldie has enriched our academic support community are absolutely incredible!

What makes Goldie's tenure truly remarkable is her ability to maintain balance amid competing and ever-changing demands. She prioritizes self-care and self-respect, recognizing that burnout is a real risk in a field defined by high accountability and heavy workloads. In that spirit, she follows guidance from one of Lauryn Hill's acclaimed songs: "How you gonna win, when you ain't right within?" This lyric reminds Goldie that success begins with her inner-alignment. In a profession that often asks for everything, Goldie's example teaches that sustainability comes from honoring oneself.

Thank you, Goldie, for your contribution to the law school academic support community.

# Member Spotlight:

## Jeremy W. Hurley



Jeremy W. Hurley serves as the Associate Dean of Legal Studies & Professional Education at the Appalachian School of Law (ASL). He previously spent six years as Assistant Professor of Law and Director of Academic Success & Bar Preparation, where he oversaw ASL's academic success, bar readiness, and learning outcomes initiatives. His work centers on student development and the design of academic pathways that support learners from orientation through the bar exam. Although now in an administrative role, Dean Hurley remains deeply engaged in the Academic Success community through teaching, coaching, scholarship, and national presentations. His most recent project, *Success in the Middle: Building Programs for Law Students Who Are Neither Failing Nor Thriving*, earned the prestigious AccessLex-AASE ASP Faculty Scholar Program Grant for 2025-2026. His portfolio has expanded to include non-JD program development, institutional partnerships, and broader programmatic innovation that advances the mission of ASL. His greatest motivation comes from his family—his wife, Alex, their son Davis, their daughter Louisa, and their soon-to-be-born son Xander—who remind him daily of the purpose behind his work.

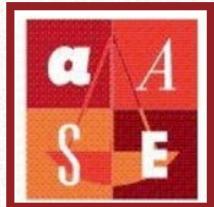
Dean Hurley was drawn to Academic Success because, as a first-generation college and law student, he understands how challenging the transition into law school can be. That experience revealed how many capable students are underserved by traditional models of support.

Believing deeply that legal education can be transformative, he found Academic Success to be the area where this transformation is most visible and meaningful. It also provided the opportunity for him to design a data-driven, cradle-to-career support structure that emphasizes clarity, consistency, and intentional skill-building from the earliest stages of a student's legal education. A strong sense of service grounds his work, shaped by ASL's presence in the heart of Appalachia—often described as a legal desert. In many ways, supporting law students here means strengthening the pipeline of future advocates who will serve Appalachian communities, a mission that continues to fuel his commitment to ASP.

In his approach to supporting students, Dean Hurley emphasizes clarity, structure, and direct communication. He blends honesty with compassion, believing that encouraging but unfiltered feedback is essential for student development. His work draws heavily from learning science, skill mapping, and habit formation, prioritizing consistency and intentional practice.

He remains committed to providing students with the best resources, tools, and support systems available, cultivating an environment where they feel both challenged and supported as they strengthen their skills, confidence, and professional identity. Dean Hurley often encourages students to pause and reflect on the reasons that brought them to law school. The opportunity to pursue a J.D. and work toward earning a license to practice law carries tremendous responsibility—one that ultimately empowers graduates to protect the life, liberty, and property of those in their communities who rely on strong advocates. When students reconnect with that purpose, they are better able to push through the difficult moments that accompany rigorous legal study. He emphasizes that their journey is a noble calling grounded in service, resilience, and integrity. For Dean Hurley, the most rewarding aspect of this work is witnessing the transformation students undergo over the course of their education. He finds deep fulfillment in seeing overwhelmed 1Ls grow into thoughtful, capable, service-oriented new attorneys. He also treasures supporting graduates through the bar exam process and celebrating with them as they step into practice. He often says that the day a person learns they passed the bar exam is “on a very short list of life’s greatest moments”—and working in bar preparation allows him to share a small part of that joy with former students who succeed on their own examinations.

# Get Connected !



**We Welcome**

**PLATINUM INSTITUTIONAL  
MEMBER**



**PLATINUM VENDOR MEMBERS**

**Themis**  
BarReview

A UWorld Company



If we missed a publication, promotion, new hire, or award please contact Rebecca Scalio at: [rebecca.scalio@law.villanova.edu](mailto:rebecca.scalio@law.villanova.edu) so we can include you in our next newsletter.

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