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Dean Logan's Blog

1Ls Introduced to Narragansett/Mt. Hope Bays

Posted by David Logan on 10/22/2012 at 10:01 AM

While many Rhode Islanders choose to stay home for law school, RWU Law draws 1Ls from all over the country (typically from 30 or so states), and we always enjoy taking the newbies out on the water that surrounds our campus. Here is a recap of this year's excursion from our terrific Marine Affairs Director, Susan Farady, followed by some pics of a stunningly beautiful day to be on the water.

On Friday, October 5, members of the 1L class joined the Marine Affairs Institute (MAI) and Dean Logan on the MAI's annual Meet the Bay boat trip with staff of Save the Bay, a Rhode Island non-profit that protects, restores and improves the ecological health of the Narragansett Bay region. About 2 dozen 1Ls boarded the Alletta Morris for a tour of the Bay, educating them on the history, ecology, and importance of the Bay. The 1L's couldn't have asked for better weather --- it was 80 degrees, sunny, and the water was calm. Students had the opportunity to ask questions about the MAI programs: law fellow opportunities with the MAI partner Rhode Island Sea Grant, student roundtable lunches, the upcoming symposium on climate change, and the joint degree program with the University of Rhode Island. MAI Director Susan Farady, Staff Attorney Julia Wyman, and 2L's Elizabeth Blank and Katie Zilgme were on hand to answer student questions.

Tom Kutcher, the Narragansett Baykeeper, spoke with students about some of the legal challenges Save the Bay has faced in the past, such as keeping Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) tankers out of the Bay. Kutcher noted the many opportunities for law students in the field of environmental law.

It wasn't all shop-talk, though. The students and the Dean were able to assist Save the Bay staff with two trawls off the stern of the ship. After pulling in their catch, the students looked (and touched!) some of the fish they caught--- including a winter flounder. Overall, it was a great way for students to meet their new home for the next three years!





