

[Kay Biga](#) presented her recent paper "How to Win Friends and Influence Students: Applying Networking Principles to the Teacher-Student Relationship" at the annual Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business conference held at the Drake Hotel in Chicago on February 27 - March 1, 2013. The paper was co-authored by attorneys [Patrick Spott](#) and Emily Spott.

Biga is a Rule 114 Qualified Mediator, Guardian ad litem, and Custody Evaluator. She also is an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin – Superior and serves as adjunct faculty at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. She teaches courses in a variety of subjects, including: business law, business ethics, real property, contracts, strategic management, and international business. Since 1984, Kay has been the Chief Operating Officer of Biga Affiliates. A frequent presenter at the Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce Small Business Development Series, Kay is known for her expertise in matters related to networking, strategic planning, and hiring and firing practices. Kay also serves on a number of committees in the area and is actively involved in the local community.

The [Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business](#) is one of eleven regional affiliates of the American Business Law Association (Renamed ALSB in 1990), the Midwest Business Law Association (renamed MALS in 1991) has a mailing list membership of nearly 250. Annually in the mid-1980s the MALS has averaged 88 – 95 members in attendance at its annual meeting, at which there have been 50 – 60 papers scheduled for presentation at each of these meetings, as well as at least two panel discussions. This trend with some deviation continues through to today.

The Midwest Business Law Association was established in response to the American Business Law Association's 1958 encouragement that regional organizations be formed. The following year thirteen members met in St. Louis on April 16, 1959, setting initial dues at \$2 per year (in comparison to the current \$35 combined dues/registration fee). In the initial years, the MALS scheduled its meetings in conjunction with the Midwest Economics Association meeting. The MALS's ties to the Midwest Business Administration Association (MBAA, founded in 1964, renamed MBAA – International in 2005), however, stretch back to the early years of the latter organization. Having followed the MBAA from Chicago to St. Louis and back again, the MALS has met annually at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago throughout the 1980s and 1990's and into the 2000's. Since 2007 MBAA – International has been meeting at The Drake.

Particularly noteworthy is the MALS's sponsorship of a national blind refereed law review journal entitled the

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. MALS members, such as Doug Whitman and Mike Litka were instrumental in initiating the publication. Begun in 1981 under the leadership of its first Editor-in-Chief, John Gergacz of Kansas University, this semi-annual publication has recently become indexed in Cabell's Directory, the Business Periodicals Index and the Index for Legal Periodicals. It continues to

grow in stature, as national reviewers and contributors are attracted. In 2005 the  
*Midwest Law Review* was renamed the  
*Midwest Law Journal*

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