

Court of Appeals to Meet at Peru State College

(Peru, NE) - Southeast Nebraska residents and students will have a rare opportunity to sit in on a session of the Nebraska Court of Appeals, in a setting other than a typical courtroom. The Court of Appeals will be in session on the campus of Peru State College on Thursday.

College spokesperson Regan Anson says this is an historic first for the Court of Appeals. (play audio :14 oc: really excited.)

Anson explains that the court session was an idea of a criminal justice Professor at the college, who suggested it to Peru State President Dan Hanson, as a way to benefit the school's 200-plus criminal justice and social science majors. (play audio :23 oc: to hold court.)

In addition to college students, Peru State is inviting area high school and middle school students to observe the proceedings, as well as the general public.

There will be two court sessions at Peru State College. The first will be from 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. and the second from 1:30 to 3:15 p.m. Justices will hear four cases during each session, which will be held in the College Theater.

Anson says those planning to come should arrive at least a half-hour early to allow for security clearance. (play audio :23 oc: turned off. (2x))

As a bonus, Anson says audience members will have a chance to ask the judges questions after each session. (play audio :19 oc: do their job.)

The Nebraska Court of Appeals is the state's intermediate appellate court. There are six judges who sit in panels of three judges each. It is generally the first court to hear appeals of judgments and orders in criminal, juvenile, civil, domestic relations, and probate matters. Its decisions are final unless the Nebraska Supreme Court agrees to hear the case.

A link to information on the cases that will be heard can be found on line at w-w-w dot Supreme Court dot N-E dot gov.

<http://www.supremecourt.ne.gov/appeals-court/call-coa.shtml?sub2.>)