

# NAVIGATING THE MANY ROLES OF A PRE-LAW ADVISOR



AccessLex Spring Sync **Workshop**

#AccessLexSpringSync2025

# Panelists



## **Amarillys Garcia-Perez**

Assistant Teaching Professor and  
Director of Pre-Law Advising and  
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Florida International University



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# Panelists



**Kelly Kavalier**

Pre-Law Coordinator

Oklahoma State University



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# Panelists



## **Tina Coco**

Manager, Max Berger Pre-Law  
Program and Pre-Law Advisor  
Baruch College-CUNY



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# Program Overview

- What pre-law advisors don't do
- What pre-law advisors do/how we support students
- How are pre-law advisors able to wear all the hats?
- When is it time to pivot?



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# What **Pre-Law Advisors** Don't Do

Persuade students to  
apply/attend law  
school

Dissuade students from  
applying/attending  
law school

These are **individual choices** the student must make for themselves *with the help* of a pre-law advisor.



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# What Do **Pre-Law Advisors** Do? How Do They **Support Students**?

- **Provide information and tools** so that advisees can make the best choice for themselves
- **Provide individual support** with timelines
- **Provide individual/group support** with access to available resources
- **Develop and create informational programming**, workshops, law fairs, etc.



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# What Do **Pre-Law Advisors** Do? How Do They **Support Students**?

- **Provide individualized review** of application materials (personal statements/addenda/resumes)
- **Research and present internship opportunities**
- **Create networking opportunities** with alumni to promote student mentorship
- **Manage website/social media content** and program visibility
- **Explore financial assistance opportunities** for students



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# How Are **Pre-Law Advisors** Able to Wear So Many Hats?

## Time Management/Organization

- Organize and designate specific time periods for student meetings and other pre-law activities
- Organize and designate specific time for other roles (faculty/teaching)
- Make the best use of your limited time and resources



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# How Are **Pre-Law Advisors** Able to Wear So Many Hats?

Assess priorities and student needs,  
which may vary by semester

Assess your designated role within the  
university system/what does your job  
require in terms of time and  
commitment (assignment vs. service)



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# How Are **Pre-Law Advisors** Able to Wear So Many Hats?

Set boundaries for students

Be willing to delegate

Use your resources (i.e., technology, allied staff members, alumni, admissions staff, partners, etc.)



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# When is it **Time to Pivot?**



Assess how your time  
best meets the student  
and program needs



Cautionary tales



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A large, stylized speech bubble graphic in a light blue color, centered on the slide. It has a tail pointing towards the bottom left. Inside the bubble, the word "QUESTIONS?" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the text, there are several horizontal lines of varying lengths, suggesting a list or a series of questions.

QUESTIONS?