

**MRWBA Mentorship Committee Report
2018-2019
Britney McPheron, Chair**

The Mentorship Committee had a very successful year. For the first time ever, there was a surplus of mentors. That is exactly the kind of problem we want to have, so to our members- thank you and please keep it up! Overall there were 66 mentor/mentee pairings.

Our first mentorship social was hosted by Richmond Women's Law at Belle & James downtown. The venue was excellent and the turnout even better with 92 registered and well over 100 attendees. It provided a great way for mentors and mentees to meet one another. Those who were unable to attend were encouraged to reach out to one another to set up coffee dates or other meetings.

The Annual Spring Mentorship Reception was held at the University of Richmond School of Law in the moot courtroom. Our speaker was Monica Monday, managing partner of Gentry Locke in Roanoke. Ms. Monday spoke of her experiences receiving and giving mentorship, as well as different types of mentorship and how it can be offered. She was a wonderful speaker and stayed until the last guest had left the event, despite a long drive back to Roanoke. She was very gracious in sharing her time with us and speaking to everyone before and after. The law school was a great venue for everyone, allowing easy access and thus greater attendance for the law students, and provided ample parking for MRWBA members. It was widely suggested that the law school should continue to serve as the venue for the Spring Mentorship social. Our gift to Ms. Monday was supplied by Strawberry Fields & Finds. The event was provided to the mentors/mentees at no cost and was a great success, with 89 registered attendees.

A trip to the US Supreme Court is scheduled for April 22nd. There will be 16 attendees from both MRWBA and RWL. Attendees are scheduled to hear oral argument at the court, followed by a meet and greet with Justice Thomas, a Q & A with one of Justice Thomas's law clerks, and a tour of the building. Sakina Paige has once again graciously organized and sponsored this wonderful event.

Key to the success of the mentorship committee this year was Crystal Fialkowski, a law student at UR and Vice President of Richmond Women's Law. The partnership between our organizations is an important one and was certainly strengthened this year. Crystal was instrumental in planning and organizing every event.