Local News Reporters Give Lawyers Inside Look at Today’s Media

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY, N.Y. (Oct. 14, 2014) – Local newspaper and television reporters congregated on the banks of the Niagara River Gorge earlier this month to provide attorneys with an “insider’s look” at today’s media.

The media panel, which included popular WGRZ Channel 2 news anchor (and Niagara University alumna) Maryalice Demler, was assembled as part of NU’s new Continuing Legal Education (CLE) program series.

No question was off limits for the reporters, who addressed everything from what to wear in front of the television cameras to how much protection “off the record” conversations are afforded.

The four-hour course, titled “Media Management for Lawyers: What Every Attorney Should Know About Dealing With the Press,” was designed to provide area attorneys with the knowledge and expertise needed to handle reporter interviews as well as market themselves to the media.

“It’s just one of many CLE courses that we are organizing to offer Western New York lawyers and business professionals a different kind of CLE experience,” said Ryan Thompson, the NU CLE program director and university assistant general counsel. “Next month, our CLE seminar on NCAA bylaws will also bring attendees to the Niagara University men’s basketball home opener.”

The Nov. 22 game ticket is included in the $95 registration fee, Thompson said, and more tickets are available for guests who want to bring family and friends.

“When you have an excellent facility married with great speakers who are knowledgeable and experienced on the topics discussed, you’re on your way to a winning program,” said Robert J. Castellani, who attended the Oct. 3 course that was co-sponsored by the Buffalo law firm Hodgson Russ LLP.
Other speakers included Buffalo Law Journal editor Michael Petro, Niagara Gazette investigative reporter Rick Pfeiffer, and The Associated Press lead Buffalo correspondent Carolyn Thompson, as well as attorneys John J. Christopher and Barry N. Covert, of Hodgson Russ LLP and Lipsitz Scime Green Cambria LLP, respectively.

For more information, please call NU CLE program director Ryan Thompson at 716.286.8324 or visit www.niagara.edu/cle.

To learn more about Niagara University, please visit www.niagara.edu.

**Niagara University**

Founded by the Vincentian community in 1856, Niagara University is a private, liberal arts university with a strong, values-based Catholic tradition. Its four academic divisions include the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, and Hospitality and Tourism Management. The university also maintains an Academic Exploration Program that provides a learning environment for students who are undecided about their major. As the first Vincentian university established in the United States, Niagara prepares students for personal and professional success while emphasizing service to the community in honor of St. Vincent de Paul.

Niagara is the only institution from Western New York to be named a “2015 Up-and-Comer” by U.S. News & World Report,” a classification based on feedback from college presidents, provosts and admissions deans.

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