



The Pre-Law e-Newsletter from Pre-Professional Programs & Advising

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Friday, September 10, 2010 – Thursday, September 23, 2010

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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

Welcome to the freshmen, and welcome back to everyone else! I hope you had a wonderful summer -- productive, but restful.

In the next few weeks, there will be a host of pre-law events. There will be Constitution Day forums and symposiums locally, including one on campus by Harvard Law School Professor Michael Klarman. Additionally, Hopkins will be hosting a law school fair this year, where 85+ law school admission officers will be available to answer questions and provide information on their respective schools. Be sure to refer to Section 5 of this newsletter, "Upcoming Pre-Law Meetings and Program Announcements" to learn more, and try to attend as many as you can!

In other news, Johns Hopkins Office of Pre-Professional Programs & Advising has a new Facebook page. "Like" us for updated information, including events:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Baltimore-MD/Johns-Hopkins-Office-of-Pre-Professional-Programs-Advising/141462842557621>

2. INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY: STUDENT CAMPUS COORDINATOR, LSAC

The Law School Admission Council (LSAC), the organization that creates the LSAT and preparation resources, is currently recruiting hard-working and energetic college students to serve as DiscoverLaw.org Student Campus Coordinators for the 2010-2011 school year.

Description:

Coordinators will act as LSAC's "voice on the ground" on college campuses across the country to promote DiscoverLaw.org, LSAC's campaign to increase diversity in the legal profession. Candidates should be current students interested in working with campus groups, student government and local partners, show strong academic achievement and demonstrate outstanding communication skills.

Responsibilities include:

- Distributing and displaying campaign materials (provided by LSAC) to drive students to visit DiscoverLaw.org.
- Promoting the website to other students online via social networking sites, listservs, etc.
- Identifying and engaging campus partners (prelaw organizations, student associations, sororities/fraternities, other relevant clubs, etc.).

- Coordinating outreach to community partners (faculty and staff at local law schools, professional associations, law firms, etc.).
- Making announcements and presentations to inform students about DiscoverLaw.org.

Minimum requirements include:

- Full time enrollment (half time will be considered) in an undergraduate school degree program.
- Proactive self-starting ability with strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Ability to work both independently and in collaboration with student organizations, campus advisors and local partners.
- An outgoing personality with excellent oral and written communications skills.
- Ability to think creatively.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Outlook, Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Internet and e-mail.
- Preference will be given to students with an interest in law (including majors in sociology, political science, economics, history or similar field).

Compensation and benefits:

Student Campus Coordinators will receive compensation based on meeting specified campus outreach goals.

To apply:

Interested applicants should send a resume and cover letter to DiscoverLaw@LSAC.org with "Campus Coordinator Application" in the subject line.

Your resume and cover letter should include the following information:

- Full name, mailing address, and day and evening phone numbers (including area code).
- Name of college or university (including city, state and ZIP code).
- Major, if declared.
- Projected graduation date.
- Work experience/resume, including GPA.

For more information about the Student Campus Coordinator opportunity, visit:

<http://www.discoverlaw.org/campus-coordinator-job-description>

To learn more about the DiscoverLaw.org campaign, visit: <http://discoverlaw.org/>

3. MEDIA WATCH: "THE TWO-TRACK LAWYER MARKET"

On July 26, 2010, Catherine Rampell blogged about the release of the Association for Legal Career Professionals' [annual report](#) on employment and salaries for new lawyers.

Most people are interested in the average salary data of any profession, but Rampell notes that this concept is a bit of a misnomer in the world of law. Why? Because there is such a massive disparity between the near-end points of the salary range. As Rampell states:

Salaries for first-year lawyers seem to congregate in two camps: those who earn about \$45,000 to \$65,000 a year (representing about 34 percent of reported salaries), and those who earn about \$160,000 a year (representing about 25 percent of reported salaries). Very few newly minted lawyers actually receive "average" or even median pay.

Something to think about when considering a career in the field of law and, specifically, a niche within the field.

To read the comment in full, visit:

<http://economix.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/07/26/the-two-track-lawyer-market/>

4. INTERVIEW: KIRSTIN E MULLER, PARTNER, CURIALE HIRSCHFELD KRAEMER LLP



Kirstin E. Muller is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Curiale Hirschfeld Kraemer LLP (CHK), a defense-side employment boutique firm. Prior to joining Curiale Hirschfeld Kraemer LLP, Ms. Muller worked at another boutique employer-side/defense employment law firm in Los Angeles. She has been with CHK since 1999.

Ms. Muller practices labor and employment law, representing clients in litigation before state and federal courts, as well as administrative agencies. Her labor and employment law experience involves defending employers in a broad range of disputes involving discrimination, wrongful termination, wage and hour, and traditional labor law issues. She has had success in numerous cases by achieving summary judgment for her clients and defending the decisions on appeal. She recently won a significant appellate victory in a disability discrimination and interactive process case,

[Scotch v. Art Institute](#), 173 Cal. App. 4th 986 (2009).

Los Angeles Magazine elected Ms. Muller “Super Lawyer Rising Star,” in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010. She is a Board Member and Ventura County Affiliate of the National Human Resources Association and a Member of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles.

In 1996, Ms. Muller received her J.D. from DePaul University College of Law in Chicago, Illinois. She chose DePaul Law School because of its International Human Rights Law Institute, which eventually led to her focus on domestic civil/human rights issues. While in law school, Ms. Muller edited the publication of the DePaul Women’s Law Caucus and assisted one of her professors with a Constitutional Law article that had been accepted for publication. Ms. Muller also worked at her law school’s asylum clinic, which provided assistance to immigrants seeking political asylum in the U.S. Additional experiences while in law school included work at: a small employee-side/plaintiffs’-side civil rights firm in Chicago; the Legal Aid Foundation in Chicago; the Illinois Human Rights Commission (the state equivalent of the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission), where she clerked for an administrative law judge, drafting opinions on employment discrimination/sexual harassment matters; and, finally, a coffee shop -- to earn tips!

In 1992, Ms. Muller earned her B.A. in Psychology from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. While in college, she held several paid and unpaid positions at CNN, where she worked primarily as a production assistant/writer.

Ms. Muller is a member of the California Bar and has been admitted to the U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, and the U.S. District Court, Central and Southern Districts of California.

Ms. Muller’s CHK biography can be found here: <http://www.chklawyers.com/attorneys/bio.cfm?id=20>

Questions

1) Describe a day in the life of a Partner at Curiale Hirschfeld Kraemer LLP, a defense-side employment boutique firm.

My day is usually as varied as my practice is. Because we conduct training (a mix of education and entertainment on a variety of subjects from sexual harassment prevention to how to manage within the law), do preventative advice and counsel (from terminations and discipline to accommodating disabled employees and everything in between), and litigation defense, my typical day may include all three. I might make a court appearance in the morning to argue a motion and then spend the rest of the day talking to clients about whether they have provided employees with sufficient notice of their performance problems to go through with a termination and avoid the risk of litigation.

2) What initially attracted you to this field? What are some of the rewards of this area of law and the legal profession?

I am a people oriented person, so liked the personal interest side of the dilemmas we face. I also enjoyed Constitutional Law and all of the civil rights courses that I took in law school, so employment law was right up my alley. The rewards of this area include giving advice and counsel to clients that help them comply with the law and making creative legal arguments that lead to the dismissal of weak claims.

3) What are some of the downsides of this area of law? How would you compare the reality of your profession to the picture you had of it while in school?

The downsides include knowing how frustrating it is for clients to have to expend hard earned money on the defense of frivolous claims and working on a billable hour basis.

I did not know much about the day-to-day practice of law before I graduated from law school, so cannot say that the picture that I had of it in law school is different from my experience in the practice.

4) Do you have any advice for an undergraduate interested in pursuing this body of law and the legal profession?

My advice would be to work in a law firm before going to law school, if possible. Talk to any attorneys that you know. Do some job-shadowing. I would also continue to read this e-Newsletter.

Contact Information

If you would like to learn more about employment law, Curiale Hirschfeld Kraemer LLP, or have additional questions for Ms. Muller, you may contact her via email at kmuller@chklawyers.com. Be sure to refer to this e-Newsletter in the subject line so your email is not deleted as being from an unknown sender.

If you would like to learn more about employment law, Ms. Muller recommends the following:

At the federal level, students should visit the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission website: <http://www.eeoc.gov/> and the Department of Labor's website: <http://www.dol.gov/laborday/>. For employment discrimination issues, at the (California) state level, refer to the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing's website: <http://www.dfeh.ca.gov/DFEH/default/>. For wage and hour information, refer to the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement's website: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse/dlse.html>.

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW MEETINGS AND PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

JHU Berman Institute of Bioethics Seminar Series: "The Emergence of a Medical Approach to Torture"

Location: 615 N Wolfe St, W3008

Date: Monday, September 13, 2010

Time: 12:15pm - 1:30pm

Description: Leonard Rubenstein, JD, Visiting Scholar at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Center for Human Rights and Public Health, will discuss how the US program of torture of detainees evolved after its start in 2002, invoking medical criteria and physician and psychologist oversight as a means of "protecting" detainees subject to harsh interrogation -- as well as providing justification and legal approval. *Lunch will be provided.* For more information visit: http://www.bioethicsinstitute.org/web/page/613/sectionid/380/pagelevel/2/interior.asp?utm_source=Full+List&utm_campaign=83c896b112-Seminar_Series05_10_2009&utm_medium=email

2010 JHU Constitutional Forum: "A Skeptical View of Constitution Worship"

Location: 110 Hodson Hall

Date: Thursday, September 16, 2010

Time: 8pm

Description: To commemorate the signing of the Constitution on September 17, 1787, Michael Klarman, Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law at Harvard Law School will discuss why civil rights and civil liberties depend less on the Constitution and the Courts than people think. This event is free and open to the public. Klarman's biography can be found here: <http://www.law.harvard.edu/faculty/directory/index.html?id=577&show=bibliography>

MICA Constitution Day Symposium: Marriage as a Civil Right

Presented by MICA & ACLU of Maryland

Location: MICA, Brown Center's Falvey Hall, 1301 W. Mount Royal Ave.

Date: Sunday, September 19, 2010

Time: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Description: This free symposium at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) is open to the public and will feature a panel of experts, advocates and artists who will bring forward different viewpoints and look at what the future holds for marriage equality, as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights in general. For more information, visit:

http://www.mica.edu/News/MICA_ACLU_of_Maryland_Present_Constitution_Day_Symposium_Marriage_as_a_Civil_Right.html

Johns Hopkins University 2010 Law School Fair

Location: Glass Pavilion, Levering Hall

Date: Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Time: 4:00 to 7:00pm

Description: Representatives of 85+ law schools from around the U.S. will be on hand to meet and speak with interested, potential applicants.

Upcoming LSAT Administration for 2010

Location: On Campus -- Hodson 110 (tentative). Check with LSAC for definitive and additional testing locations.

Date: Saturday, October 9, 2010

Time: Registration begins at 8:30a - consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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**STAFF IN THE OFFICE OF PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS AND ADVISING**

Ana L. Droscoski, J.D., Assistant Director, Pre-Law Advisor, Pre-Dental & Pre-Health Advisor

David Verrier, Ph.D., Director, Pre-Health Advisor

Kirsten Kirby, M.S.Ed., Assistant Director, Pre-Health Advisor

Ellen Snyderman, M.S., Pre-Health Advisor

The Administrative Coordinators are available to answer questions regarding your file:

Carolyn Mae Krause, Administrative Coordinator, [ckrause@jhu.edu](mailto:ckrause@jhu.edu) 410-516-6744

For students whose last name begins with A-L, contact Mrs. Krause.

LaTonia Sanders, Administrative Coordinator, [ladytee@jhu.edu](mailto:ladytee@jhu.edu) 410-516-4140

For students whose last name begins with M-Z, contact Mrs. Sanders.

Angie Decker, Office Manager, [decker@jhu.edu](mailto:decker@jhu.edu)

Please feel free to use the resource library between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. everyday or visit our website

<http://web.jhu.edu/prepro/> for additional information.

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