



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

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Vol. 6, No. 7

Friday, February 1, 2013 – Thursday, February 14, 2013

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1) MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

Welcome back! Hope everyone had a great winter break and/or intersession, and that classes have started without a hitch. If you think you may apply to law school for entrance the Fall of 2014, please make an appointment with me so that we can go over everything you will need to get together and do in the upcoming months. To schedule an appointment, please visit the following link:

<https://www.securedata-trans10.com/ap/johnshopkinsuniversityofficeofpreprofessionalprogramsadvising/index.php?page=10>

And, if you missed it, here is the latest *New York Times* article on law schools and the legal profession: http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/31/education/law-schools-applications-fall-as-costs-rise-and-jobs-are-cut.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130131&r=0

For those taking the February LSAT: Best of luck!

2. CLEO COLLEGE SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

CLEO is a non-profit project of the American Bar Association. Since 1968, CLEO has helped more than 7,000 low-income and minority students become successful members of the legal profession. The College Scholars Program seeks to continue this standard of excellence through a collaborative effort between CLEO and colleges and universities throughout the United States.

CLEO's College Scholars Program includes The Road to Law School, Sophomore Super Saturdays, and Juniors Jumpstart the LSAT seminars. These seminars are designed to identify, motivate and prepare students for a career in the legal profession by enhancing essential skills like analytical and logical reasoning, research, writing, and LSAT preparation. You will also benefit from the advice and guidance of law school faculty, law school admissions representatives and Pre-Law advisors. This event is free but requires registration.

You are invited to attend the CLEO College Scholars Program at the University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law. Learn about the LSAT and the law school application process, attend a mock law school class, and gain an understanding of what you can expect in law school and from legal practice.

When: Saturday, February 16: **9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**
Where: [University of Maryland School of Law](#), Baltimore, MD
500 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
Who: Baltimore Area College Students (any major)

To register for the Road to Law School (freshmen): [click here.](#)
To register for Sophomore Super Saturdays (sophomores): [click here.](#)
To register for Juniors Jumpstart the LSAT (juniors/post-grad): [click here.](#)

Questions/Concerns: Contact Lynda Cevallos - lynda.cevallos@americanbar.org

3. JHU ALUM SEEKS SUMMER 2013 LEGAL INTERNS FOR TRADITION (NORTH AMERICA), INC.

A JHU alumnus in NYC is seeking summer interns for the legal compliance group of Tradition (<http://www.tradition-na.com/index.html>), a fully diversified inter-dealer broker. The internship would be based in New York City and will most likely be unpaid. For those interested in corporate law this could be a great opportunity, as interns would gain exposure to the legalities of multi-national finance and trade. Interested? Please direct all questions, resumes, and applications to:

Mr. Casey Miller
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3400 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218
410.516.4796 (p)
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4. INTERVIEW: SAM JOCKEL '11, BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL 2L

Sam Jockel is a second year law student at Boston College Law School (BC Law). Mr. Jockel began law school following his graduation from Johns Hopkins in 2011. After his 1L year, Mr. Jockel interned at the New England Innocence Project. He currently is a legal intern at the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, Office of International Programs.

At BC Law, Mr. Jockel serves as the co-chair of Lambda Law, is a member of BC Law's Public Interest Law Foundation and acts as a student representative to the Massachusetts LGBTQ Bar Association. In addition, Mr. Jockel is a founding member of a public health start-up, Ashalytics, entering business plan competitions and engaging with the start-up community in Boston.

Mr. Jockel received his Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from Johns Hopkins in May of 2011. While at Hopkins, Mr. Jockel studied abroad at Oxford University and was an active member of Vision Xchange, co-chairing the student-run non-profit his senior year. Mr. Jockel has interned for Senator Hillary Clinton, Congressman Inslee, and his Pennsylvania State Representative. Mr. Jockel was a Second Decade Society grantee, interning as a juvenile justice intern at Advocates for Children and Youth in Baltimore. Mr. Jockel also spent a semester as an Aitchison Fellow in Washington, D.C., investigating criminal defense cases at Georgetown Law's Criminal Justice Clinic. Following graduation and prior to law school, Mr. Jockel was a program assistant at Open Society Institute-Baltimore, providing support for their Community Fellowships Program.

Questions

1) Describe a typical day as a law student.

As a second year law student at BC Law, students are given much more flexibility and independence with regard to their course schedule than first year. On days that I have classes, I like to get an early start, reviewing the reading or assignments for that day. If I'm attending a larger class, I'm expected to be

prepared if I get called on as most professors employ some variation of the Socratic method. For smaller classes, I will also have to be prepared to add to the discussion for that day. After classes are over, I tend to vary my study locations, doing work at home, at nearby cafes, or at one of the libraries on campus. I continue to study on and off throughout the evening, reading for upcoming classes or reviewing notes.

On days that I have off, I spent a lot of time working on projects for my internship. I also help run a tech start-up, so I like to put some work into that during the week as well.

2) To date, what has been your favorite law school class, and why? How have you been choosing classes after your first year of law school?

I have had two favorite classes: Administrative Law and Advanced Topics in Civil Rights: Microaggressions. Although not a favorite among many, I enjoyed Administrative Law because of my interest in policymaking and my former experience working on Capitol Hill. I also enjoyed taking a seminar on civil rights, discussing how issues of race, gender and sexuality permeate so many areas of the law. The specialized seminar reminded me of my academic experience at Johns Hopkins, taking small seminars in the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences.

I have employed a mix of practicality and general interest when choosing classes. Courses such as advanced legal writing, corporations, and evidence were chosen for their functional purpose. I have also supplemented these with classes that cover an interest I'd like to pursue further, such as comparative health law and criminal procedure.

3) What made you choose BC Law? What do you see as the primary pros and cons of law school?

I based my law school decision on a holistic consideration of several factors: the financial scholarship I received, the law school's reputation for sending graduates to high level positions in both the private and public sectors, and the impression I had after visiting the school. BC Law has, among many others, two main characteristics that I particularly found attractive: the reality of having a very close and collegiate student body and the commitment to public service that is instilled in students, no matter where the law takes them.

Law school has been a source of intellectual challenge and has given me the chance to continue to explore my wide variety of interests. That doesn't come without a price, though: it takes hard work and a lot sacrifice to get everything you want out of your legal education. The competitive curve and the uncertainty of the legal market can leave many feeling that their hard work isn't paying off the way they believed it would.

4) What types of undergraduate opportunities did you pursue that led to your decision to apply to law school? Were there any experiences that you felt were particularly helpful in strengthening your application to law school?

Liberal arts courses in the areas of economics, public health, and political science at Johns Hopkins initially sparked my interest in the law and policy. I was able to use that academic interest and apply it to my work on Capitol Hill, interning for Congressman Jay Inslee and Senator Hillary Clinton. Those experiences on the Hill ultimately prompted me to go to law school.

I believe my varied experience at Hopkins helped my law school candidacy. I took full advantage of every opportunity that came my way. While at Hopkins, I worked for three public servants, a children's advocacy non-profit, a public defender, and a philanthropic organization. My experience co-chairing a student-run non-profit, Vision Xchange, and my time spent studying abroad also added to this dynamism.

5) What did you pursue during your interim year(s)/before beginning law school, while in law school and during your law school summer(s)? How did you go about researching these opportunities?

I worked at Open Society Institute-Baltimore during the summer before law school began. I provided program assistance to their Community Fellowships Program, gaining exposure to issues of criminal justice, public health, and education within Baltimore City.

Following my 1L year, I knew I either wanted to work for an appellate judge or a public interest organization. I interviewed with judges on the Massachusetts Appeals Court as well as several public interest organizations. I ultimately chose to intern at the New England Innocence Project and received a grant from BC Law's Public Interest Law Foundation. I continued to volunteer at the Innocence Project throughout last fall.

I'm currently interning remotely at the FDA, Office of International Programs, working on regulatory matters. I heard of the opening through a Hopkins grad that currently works at the agency.

6) How would you compare the reality of law school and the ensuing job search to the picture you had of it while an undergraduate?

When I was deciding to attend law school in 2010, the legal market was tight and unpredictable. By talking to practicing attorneys and law students, it was clear that things were changing and the market would not likely be as it once was. From what I gather, the current hiring market is going through a recovery of sorts. Despite this, there is still a great deal of competition for a limited number of positions. From my perspective, this holds true for those that intend to join the private sector, work for the government, or work in the public interest.

7) Do you have any advice for an undergraduate interested in pursuing law school and a career in law given your experience in today's legal market and now as a current law student?

My decision to attend law school was a well-informed one, gaining an idea of what I would do with my degree by pursuing every academic and professional interest I had while at Hopkins. If I could give any advice, it would be to take full advantage of the opportunities that come with being a student at Johns Hopkins. Take as many internships as you can balance, meet with practicing attorneys that are Hopkins grads, speak with current law students, attend pre-law events, etc. Getting an idea of what it's like to be an attorney or what you might want to do with your legal education is tremendously important.

Consistent with above, I would caution against attending law school for those that have not fully thought through the hard work that comes with being a law student and their reasons for attending. Being a successful law student and a competitive applicant for legal jobs requires a serious desire and willingness to work hard. With that said, any Hopkins graduate that is armed with a good work ethic and a genuine interest in the law should find law school a rich and rewarding experience.

Contact Information:

If you would like to learn more about being a 2L, BC Law, or if you have additional questions for Sam Jockel, you may reach him by using the following contact information: JOCKEL@bc.edu

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming LSAT Administration

Location: Check with LSAC for testing locations (next on campus/JHU LSAT administration – Monday, June 10, 2013).

Date: Saturday, February 9, 2013/Monday, June 10, 2013

Time: Registration begins at 8.30a for the February exam – consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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

Ana L. Droskoski, J.D., Associate Director, Pre-Law Advisor, Pre-Dental & Pre-Health Advisor

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

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

Katie Cruik, M.S., Assistant Director, Pre-Nursing & 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. every day or visit our website <http://web.jhu.edu/prepro/> for additional information.

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