



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

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Friday, September 11, 2015

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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

I hope that everyone has had a great start to their 2015-2016 academic year! Fall is application season for those pursuing law school, so current applicants should make an appointment with me, if we have not met already. Of course, if you are not applying to law school this cycle, you are welcome to meet with me for planning purposes! To schedule an appointment, please visit the following link: <https://booknow.appointment-plus.com/vkb5m10/10>

Interested in learning more about how to pay for law school? Be sure to check out the upcoming free webinar, **Financing Your Legal Education**, which will be presented by the Access Group. The webinar is on September 15, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. ET. To register, please visit the following link: <https://www.accessgroup.org/events/financing-your-legal-education-1>

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Cassens Weiss, Debra. "**LSAT test takers increase for third time in a row.**" *ABA Journal*. Web. 13 Jul. 2015.
http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/lsat_test_takers_increase_for_third_time_in_a_row/ -- the number of LSAT test-takers has increased three times in a row after decreasing steadily for 14 test administrations in a row between February 2010 and December 2013, suggesting that the number of law school applicants may be on their way up.

Woods, Darrian. "**Medicine, Law, Business: Which Grad Students Borrow the Most?**" *NPR*. Web. 15 Jul. 2015.
<http://www.npr.org/sections/money/2015/07/15/422590257/medicine-law-business-which-grad-students-borrow-the-most> -- NPR takes a look at graduate student

borrowing, finding that students studying law and medicine borrow the most, typically more than a hundred thousand dollars.

Kitroeff, Natalie. “**Are Lawyers Getting Dumber? Yes, says the woman who runs the bar exam.**”

Bloomberg BNA. Web. 20 Aug. 2015. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2015-08-20/are-lawyers-getting-dumber-> -- Bloomberg BNA examines sinking LSAT scores among entering law students and a nationwide plunge in bar passage rates.

3. OPPORTUNITY: CLEO CONNECTION PROGRAM

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.

The [CLEO CONNECTION](#) program provides a person-to-person environment where under-represented students can:

- Find answers to important questions about law school,
- Create a local network of colleagues and legal professional guides, and
- Develop an understanding of the legal field culture

When: Oct. 15, Nov. 19 & Dec. 17 2015 (Thursday) 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Where: Washington, D.C.

How: Register for FREE. Click here: [CLEO Connection website](#) (click on D.C.)

4. INTERVIEW: KANDICE JUNG (JHU Dec. '13), UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW 2L

Kandice Jung is a second year transfer student at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law (UCLA School of Law). She attended Georgetown University Law Center (GULC) in Washington, D.C., for her first year of law school and transferred to UCLA School of Law where she recently began her second year of law school. Kandice started at GULC after graduating from Johns Hopkins University (JHU) in December 2013 with a B.A. in English and Anthropology. She graduated from JHU with General Honors.

While at Hopkins, Kandice served as the Vice-President of Alumni Relations for the Pre-Law Society, was a student representative for the Ethic and Conduct Boards, and a member of Pi Beta Phi. In the interim between graduating from Hopkins and starting at GULC, Kandice worked at Geragos and Geragos, a criminal law and civil litigation firm, in Los Angeles. Kandice also clerked for the Baltimore State's Attorney's Office and the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office during her 3.5 years at Hopkins.

During her time at GULC, Kandice was a first year representative to the Equal Justice Foundation, the Military Law Society, and Kaplan Bar Review. After her first year, Kandice clerked for the California Department of Justice, in the Civil Division of the Office of the Attorney General. At UCLA, Kandice is a Comments Editor for the Asian Pacific American Law Journal and a participant in the Judicial Decision-Making Seminar. Kandice is clerking for the Honorable Judge Alison Estrada at Los Angeles Superior Court for the fall semester, as well as assisting a District Attorney in her judicial campaign.

Kandice hopes to clerk for a federal judge for her spring semester and obtain a federal clerkship or participate in the Department of Justice Honors Program upon graduating from UCLA. In her free time, Kandice enjoys finding new hiking trails, baking, and helping high school students with their college application essays.

Questions

Describe a typical day as a law student at UCLA Law.

I have not started classes at UCLA yet, but I can talk about a “typical day” as a Georgetown University Law Center (GULC) student. First of all, there is no typical day. However, I would say there are two types of days as a GULC law student: non-final exam days and final exam preparation days.

On a non-final exam day, I would typically wake up around 7:30 AM, make breakfast, and review my briefs for that morning’s classes. As a fall 1L, I had 9 AM classes three times a week, but by the spring, my earliest classes were at 10 AM. My classes typically went until the middle of the afternoon. Whenever I had at least a two-hour break between classes (which was pretty common), I would go to the gym—this was absolutely necessary for my mental health! During the fall, I would read and brief for approximately eight to ten hours a day. But, by the spring, I got better at briefing and only needed to read and brief for approximately six to eight hours a day. I typically stayed on campus until 10/11 PM and then tried to get in bed before midnight because the entire schedule started all over the next day.

On a final exam preparation day, which started approximately a month before reading period, my days were even busier. Some people started to skip class to prepare for exams, but I actually found the last weeks of classes very helpful because professors started to really hone in on what was going to be on exams. I ended up sleeping two to three hours less during the last few weeks before reading period because these weeks were spent doing intense outlining, which is a term law students will quickly get accustomed to hearing (almost nonstop!).

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?

Although many practicing attorneys think I am crazy, my favorite class has been Civil Procedure, also known as “Civ Pro”. Civ Pro is the hardest 1L class, because it is a lot of abstract procedural rules. Unlike Criminal Law, Civ Pro is difficult because most

students do not have much experience with, or exposure to, civil rules. However, I loved Civ Pro because I had an amazing professor. My professor was a previous commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). He was the one who sued Sketchers when Kim Kardashian was their spokesperson. He told us personal anecdotes during his time as the FTC Commissioner, drew absurd diagrams to explain the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and always gave us the silliest hypotheticals. He made me fall in love with Civil Procedure, which is why I chose to work for the California Attorney General in their Civil Division this past summer.

What made you choose UCLA Law—what spurred you to transfer from GULC? What do you see as the primary pros and cons of law school?

I ultimately chose to transfer to UCLA Law from GULC because of a family emergency and because the transfer made sense, in terms of my career goals. Once I got to GULC, I knew that I wanted to work in Los Angeles upon graduating law school—but, I also knew that the LA job market was one of the toughest, and coming from a non-California law school could make the job search harder simply because many LA law firms (especially the mid-sized and smaller ones) do their hiring locally. However, without the family emergency, I do not think I would have had the courage to transfer law schools, only because I did not know how seamless the transition would be! Since transferring, I very quickly was accepted into my top choice journal and the “Judicial Decision Making” seminar, both of which were unavailable to me at GULC.

The pros and cons of law school will obviously differ based on the person you talk to and what place in his/her legal career he/she is currently in. Personally, I see the primary pros of law school as the countless doors that are opened with a JD. I have worked in the private and public sector and know that a JD is highly revered in both. Furthermore, if I wanted to do something non-law related, such as become a college counselor or become a teacher/professor, then I strongly believe my JD will only strengthen my application. Some cons might include the staggering debt that many law students undertake, but if you plan properly, then the debt is arguably manageable. For example, if you know that you definitely want to work in the public sector, then look for schools with great LRAP programs, such as GULC, which actually forgives all your loans if you fulfill certain requirements, such as working for the government for 10 years and making under a certain income limit.

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?

My undergraduate experiences were particularly tailored to law school, because I always knew I wanted to apply to law school. While at Hopkins, I interned with the Baltimore State’s Attorney’s Office, which was a great experience with the legal system in Baltimore. I also was the Vice-President of the Pre-Law Society and a member of the Ethics and Conduct Boards. During my summers at home, I interned for the Los Angeles District Attorney’s Office. Although I cannot definitively say whether they were necessary for my application to law school, from what I have been told by prospective

and previous employers, my resume really stood out to them because of all my legal experience, despite the fact that I had only completed one year of law school. But, with that being said, many of my peers at GULC did not have any legal experience prior to applying so that should not preclude anybody from applying to law school.

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 essentially went straight through to law school, except for the Spring semester before graduation, because I had finished a semester early. During that Spring, I worked for a family friend, who happens to be a great criminal defense attorney. I was lucky enough to have that experience because he is highly renowned and has access to some of the best clients/cases. My official title on my resume is “assistant”, but I was able to do some interesting law-related tasks, including document review, filing 1050’s, and helping with the intake of new cases.

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

I had always been told that the job market was tough, even for (or maybe, especially for) recent law school graduates. I still stand by that. However, I would argue that if you excel in your 1L year, then many, if not most, job opportunities will be within reach.

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?

I think it is truly crucial to understand why you are going to law school. If you are just going, but do not have a firm belief or understanding that is motivating your decision to apply, then take a year or two to work in the legal field prior to committing to the law school application/law school in general. Law school is a huge commitment, both emotionally, physically, and financially. I know many people from GULC (and at multiple other law schools) who dropped out either after the first semester or after the first year. You do not want to be one of those people.

On a brighter note, law school has been one of the most fascinating experiences of my academic career. I have met the most brilliant attorneys who have inspired me to be a great attorney one day.

Contact Information

If you would like to learn more about the law school transfer process, UCLA School of Law, Georgetown University Law Center, or have additional questions for Kandice Jung, you may reach her via email at: kandicejung@yahoo.com.

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Why Public Service? A Panel Discussion hosted by the JHU Law Affinity:
Baltimore**

Location: Mason Hall Auditorium

Date: Monday, September 21, 2015

Time: 6:30pm

Description: You are invited to hear from a distinguished panel of Hopkins alumni who have chosen a career in public service. Student registration is free can be found at the following link:

<https://jhweb.dev.jhu.edu/eforms/form.do?formId=26059>. For more detailed information, including a list of presenters, visit:

<http://alumni.jhu.edu/event/lawbaltpublic>

Diversity in Law Recruitment Panel

Location: TBD

Date: Monday, September 23, 2015

Time: 12pm to 1:30pm

Description: A recruitment and diversity in law panel, which will be presented by law school admissions representatives from NYU, Berkeley, Northwestern, USC, and UT Austin. Please note that this event is open to anyone interested in attending.

Columbia Law School Information Session

Location: Sherwood Room, Levering Hall

Date: Monday, October 12, 2015

Time: 12pm to 1pm

Description: An admissions representative from Columbia Law School will present an information session and answer questions.

Personal Statement Workshop

Location: TBD

Date: Monday, October 12, 2015

Time: 5pm to 6pm

Description: Admission Officers from University of Richmond School of Law, Seton Hall Law School, Tulane University Law School, and UC Hastings College of Law will take a workshop-style look at the personal statement, with multiple examples for attendees to read. Obtain suggestions and tips on how to draft your best personal statement, and learn more about this “sleeper” in the admissions process!

Baltimore Regional Law Fair

Hosted by the University of Baltimore School of Law

Location: John and Frances Angelos Law Center, 1401 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21201

Date: Tuesday, October 13

Time: Admissions Panel -- 6pm; Law Fair -- 6:30 to 8pm

Description: An anticipated 70+ law schools from across the country -- from California to Massachusetts -- will be represented at the Baltimore Regional Law Fair. No R.S.V.P. required -- walk-ins welcome. For more information, including a list of participating law schools, visit http://law.ubalt.edu/admissions/regional_law_fair/

Upcoming LSAT Administration

Location: Visit <http://www.lsac.org/jd/lsat/testing-locations> for testing location information.

Date: October 3, 2015 / December 5, 2015 / February 6, 2016

Time: Registration begins at 8:30 am for the October exam -- consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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

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Please visit our website <http://web.jhu.edu/prepro/> for additional information.

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