



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

Best viewed in HTML

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Friday, March 31, 2017

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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

Hope everyone is back in gear following a nice Spring Break.

For those of you that have interest, The Social Policy Program will host a spring information session for students interested in the Minor in Social Policy. The session will be held on Tuesday, April 4, 5:30-6:30 in Hodson 210.

The core of the Minor in Social Policy is an intensive semester, usually taken during the spring of a student's junior year, in which the student takes a special curriculum of five courses devoted to studying social policy at the national, state, and local levels, plus an internship in the Baltimore area or in Washington, DC.

For more information, please visit the website of the Program:

<http://krieger.jhu.edu/socialpolicy/>

Alternatively, email Prof. Andrew Cherlin, Director: cherlin@jhu.edu.

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Kreighbaum, Andrew. **“Study: Income-Based Repayment Reduced Defaults.”** *Inside Higher Ed*. Web. 28 Mar. 17.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2017/03/28/study-income-based-repayment-reduced-defaults> -- reports on a new study that finds that the federal income-based repayment program has led to fewer student loan defaults.

Rawles, Lee. **“Law Deans and GCs Join Campaign to Save Legal Services Corp. Funding.”** *ABA Journal*. Web. Mar 29, 2017.

<http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/166-law-deans-and-ges-of-185-companies-join-campaign-to-save-legal-services/> -- leaders of corporate legal departments and more than 160 law school deans sent letters to Congress urging them to preserve the Legal Services Corporation at a funding level of \$450 million.

Cowley, Stacy. “**Student Loan Forgiveness Program Approval Letters May Be Invalid, Education Dept. Says.**” *The New York Times*. Web. 30 Mar 17.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/30/business/student-loan-forgiveness-program-lawsuit.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=second-column-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news> --

those who borrowed federal loans and entered the public service loan forgiveness program recently found that their employers—who had previously been certified as making borrowers eligible for loan forgiveness—have been retroactively reclassified as not certified, rendering the borrower ineligible for loan forgiveness.

3. OPPORTUNITY: VOLUNTEER PARALEGAL INTERN, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

This position is in the Department of Justice. With over 900 attorneys, the Civil Division is the largest litigating division in the Justice Department. The Civil Division is composed of six components: Appellate Staff, Commercial Litigation Branch, Consumer Protection Branch, Federal Programs, Office of Immigration Litigation, and Torts Branch. Representing more than 100 federal agencies and the people of the United States, the Civil Division defends the United States in suits challenging the constitutionality or lawfulness of federal statutes; defends money claims brought against the government; and seeks affirmative fraud recoveries, among other types of litigation.

The mission of the National Courts Section is to protect taxpayer dollars in lawsuits brought against the United States. Its practice areas include government contracts, constitutional claims, government pay and personnel suits, veterans and other benefits appeals, and international trade and tariff matters. For more information about the section, please visit: <http://www.justice.gov/civil/commercial/national-courts/c-natcourts.html>.

Major Duties:

- Uses WestLaw and LEXIS to locate case law, statutes, and legislative history;
- Prepares indices and exhibits for court filings;
- Prepares pleading binders for attorneys;
- Performs redactions to documents manually and electronically;
- Uses CourtLink/Pacer to locate docket filings to conduct basic research;
- Prepares and maintains paper and electronic case files;
- Reviews discovery documents for Privacy Act information, such as social security numbers, date of birth, home addresses, etc.;
- Prepares mailings;
- Drafts basic correspondence from form documents;

- Operates a copier/duplicating machine to scan documents to various computer drives, produce and collate single and multiple page copies from originals; Duplicates CDs;
- Other duties as assigned.

Key Requirements:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen or Naturalized Citizen
- Must be suitable for Federal employment as determined by a background investigation
- Males born after 12/31/1959 must certify that you are registered for the selective service, or are exempt from registering under the Selective Service law. See www.sss.gov
- Must be in good academic standing at an accredited college or university
- Must be enrolled in or accepted to (with the intent to attend) an accredited academic institution; and carry at a minimum, a half-time course load as defined by the institution
- Must be able to work at least 20 hours per week

Learn more, and apply thru Handshake here:
<https://jhu.joinhandshake.com/jobs/642744/share> **preview**

4. INTERVIEW: TING LIU (JHU '16), DUKE LAW 1L

Ting Liu is originally from a small coastal city in southern China. She moved to New Jersey when she was 14 and attended high school there. At Hopkins, she double majored in Public Health and Economics and double minored in Entrepreneurship and Management and Financial Economics.

Ting was very involved with event planning. She was the community organizer of Spoon University and the marketing chair for Relay for Life. She was also on council for her sorority, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and held the position of treasurer during her junior year. Apart from her active role in student organizations, she was on the fencing team and enjoyed practicing and hanging out with her teammates.

She graduated Hopkins in 2016 and is now a 1L at Duke University School of Law.

Questions

Describe a typical day as a 1L at Duke Law.

1L year at Duke Law is typical of top 14 law schools. My day consists of preparation for classes—reading and briefing—attending classes, and I squeeze in my schedule meetings with professors or upper classmen, speaker panels and other club activities.

To date, what has been your favorite law school class, and why? What classes are you looking forward to taking after your first year of law school?

I really like my property class with Professor Blocher, because he is an amazing professor who is extremely passionate and animated in class. I am looking forward to taking classes

related to corporate law, for example with Professor Cox who is the expert in securities regulations.

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

I chose Duke Law because of the faculty and alumni network. Professors here truly care about teaching and about their students. It is easy to build a personal relationship with professors, and they are also willing to help. Duke alumni are also extremely valuable resources for students. They always love to come back to Duke and love to meet current students and give advice. I think the one con I see for Duke Law is the location. Even though students mainly end up in New York, DC or CA post-graduation, it is not as convenient as being in those cities in terms of interviews and meeting attorneys in the firm or practice area you are interested in.

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?

Being a public health and economic double major, I was very interested in social studies and wanted to further my study with law, a blend of economics, history, government, philosophy and English. I think my summer internship in New York with the Commission on Judicial Conduct was very valuable for both deciding to attend law school and also strengthening my application.

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 did not take a gap year, and I used the summer before law school to relax and travel.

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 think the image I had for law school was accurate for what it is. My peers are extremely intelligent and devoted to their studies. Everyone is career oriented and proactive with their work and potential opportunities. Law school is difficult. However, it is a great training opportunity for me to be more professionally oriented and to broaden my network with Duke Law faculty and alumni.

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?

Start preparing early. The market is doing well currently (first year associate salary in NYC has increased to \$180K). If you decide on attending law school, make sure to start

early with all the materials and score well on your LSAT. The weight of LSAT for your law school application is even greater compared to SAT for college application.

Ting is happy to answer questions and can be reached at ting.liu@duke.edu.

5. UPCOMING PRE-LAW STUDENT MEETINGS & PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming LSAT Administration

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

Date: June 12, 2017

Time: Report at no later than 11:30 am for the June exam -- consult with LSAC for all controlling details.

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

Kelli R. Johnson, J.D., Director  
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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  
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Please visit our website <http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/preprofadvising/> for additional information.

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