



The Pre-Law e-Newsletter from Pre-Professional Programs & Advising
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1. MESSAGE FROM ANA L. DROSCOSKI, ESQ.

Great news! Khan Academy has teamed with the Law School Admission Council, makers of the LSAT, to offer the first free and official LSAT test prep program.

Starting June 1, you can access Khan Academy Official LSAT Prep to create a personalized LSAT practice plan with official LSAT exams. And best of all, it's 100% free!

With Khan Academy Official LSAT Prep, you can build the skills and confidence to succeed on test day—all on your own schedule.

- Diagnose your strengths and weaknesses to unlock an LSAT practice plan tailored just for you.
- Access thousands of practice questions, full-length exams, and hours of helpful content covering every concept on the LSAT.
- Receive regular progress updates so you can see how close you're getting to your goal score.

Starting June 1, visit khanacademy.org/lsat to get started. Performing well on the LSAT exam is a major step forward on your path to law school admission!

This is the final Pre-Law e-Newsletter of the 2017-2018 academic year. Congratulations to those graduating, and I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

2. LEGAL EDUCATION & THE LEGAL INDUSTRY IN THE MEDIA

Caron, Paul. **"The Top Feeder Colleges For Law School Applicants."** *TaxProf Blog*. Web. 25 Apr. 18.

-- highlights new research from the AccessLex Institute that identifies the top 240 feeder schools for ABA applicants, and calculates a rank by applicants per capita for each of those schools.

Sloan, Karen. "**Law Grads Hiring Report: Job Stats for the Class of 2017.**" Web. 25 Apr. 18. <https://www.law.com/2018/04/25/law-grads-hiring-report-job-stats-for-the-class-of-2017/> -- parses the recently released ABA employment outcomes data for the Class of 2017 with ten charts that rank schools by a variety of employment metrics, including by percent of graduates in full-time, long-term, bar passage required jobs.

Ward, Stephanie Francis. "**Fewer entry-level positions in most job categories for 2017 law grads, new ABA data shows.**" Web. 20 Apr. 18. <http://www.abajournal.com/news/article/fewer-entry-level-positions-in-most-job-categories-for-2017-law-grads-new-a/> -- reports that "...the employment picture for new law graduates improved in 2017, marking the fourth straight year that a higher percentage of fresh J.D.s found legal jobs," but only because the class was smaller, not because there were more jobs.

3. OPPORTUNITY: COMPLIANCE INTERN (REMOTE POSITION), THE BRIDGE ALLIANCE

The Bridge Alliance is a growing movement of more than 80 democracy reform organizations working individually and together to transform the political terrain. The Bridge Alliance provide essential infrastructure and investment for member organizations to connect and collaborate on projects that further shared goals to generate a collective impact far greater than any one group could make alone.

Each member of the Bridge Alliance is required to fulfill certain commitments in order to maintain its membership with the Alliance. For information on The Bridge Alliance, visit: <https://www.bridgealliance.us/>

The Bridge Alliance is looking for an intern who can track compliance and help enforce these obligations. The intern will also have the opportunity to join weekly team calls and write blog posts, as well as learn about how an ambitious non-profit organization operates and develops over time.

The ideal intern will be a self-starter with excellent attention to detail. They need to be an excellent communicator, both verbally and in writing. They should also have a demonstrated interest in the democracy reform movement. This internship is also great for somebody with creative, problem-solving skills, as there will be opportunities to propose new ideas and execute them.

Please note that the Bridge Alliance does not have a physical office location, so interested candidates must have personal access to a laptop or computer with an internet connection. The position is unpaid, requires a minimum time commitment of 10 hours per week, and is flexible in its duration.

If you are interested in this position, please email a cover letter and resume to Jeremy Spear Garson, Esq. '10, Legal Counsel and Associate Project Director, at: Jeremy@BridgeAlliance.us.

4. INTERVIEW: ALEX FAVELA '14, PARALEGAL, HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

Alex Favela was born and raised in Miami, FL, where he graduated valedictorian of his high school. Alex first enrolled at the Florida International University's Honors College to be close to his family, but, seeking a more rigorous education, later Alex transferred to the Johns Hopkins University in 2014.

Alex received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy at Johns Hopkins, taking graduate courses his senior year. For his academic achievement, Alex was invited to the Golden Key Honor Society and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. Outside of academics, Alex served as the Elections Commissioner, was Philanthropy Chairman of his fraternity, and actively contributed to the Prometheus Philosophical Journal.

After graduation, Alex moved to the District of Columbia to work at the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest LGBTQ civil rights organization. There, Alex works with a team of attorneys to track LGBTQ-related legislation across all 50 states, lobby members of Congress, and manage the organization's campaign finance matters. Alex takes pride in mentoring LGBTQ undergraduate students of color, enjoys badminton, and designs menswear. He will attend Stanford Law School the fall of 2018.

Questions:

Describe a day in the life of a Paralegal at the Human Rights Campaign.

Each day is fresh and exciting! I work with a team of 10 attorneys split between the Policy department and the General Counsel's office at HRC; each attorney has expertise in a different body of law so there is quite a variety of projects I get to take on. Examples of frequent/daily tasks include writing letters to administration staff, drafting contracts, reporting in-kind contributions to campaigns, and creating talking points on issues.

What made you choose this particular position and has it met your expectations?

My team is super appreciative of the work I do here but sometimes I think I get more out of them than what they get out of me. What I wanted from my gap year(s) was to catch a glimpse of the kind of life a policy attorney leads and to get my feet wet into the vast field of LGBTQ law. I've certainly accomplished that.

Did you pursue anything else during your interim years before beginning law school? How did you go about researching each of these opportunities?

I did not, unfortunately! Studying for the LSAT and getting my applications out took up way more time than I thought. Studying for the LSAT alone drained maybe 7-8 months before I reached the higher percentiles and was confident in my scores. I do mentor law-curious, brown, LGBTQ students which has given me so much in terms of self-discovery and experience but other than that I've only volunteered here and there for smaller initiatives.

What do you think you have gained from the experiences and from taking time off before law school? Given the choice, would you do it again?

There's a very strong narrative out there about choosing law. I find that I just have to mention the term "law school" and people are quick to regurgitate the alleged bad news: law school is expensive, isn't worth the investment, and the legal job market is scarce. For me, I thought it'd be foolish to just ignore all the naysayers without good reason to do so. Taking the time off to join lawyers in the trenches nicely dissipated whatever doubts I had and I would absolutely do it again – even if only just to be confident in the decision.

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

My experience might be different than most here. I wanted to get into the best school I could, given the difficult major I chose. Each year, I only chose 1 or 2 involvements so that I had plenty of time to dedicate to keeping my GPA as high as possible. I have been thinking about a legal career since high school so much of what I did in my undergraduate career was aimed at confirming my interest and in getting my feet wet. I will say that during undergrad, I had the chance to intern/work for nonprofit, public, and private legal entities which has been a huge help in planning out where I want to end up.

Contact Information:

Alex is happy to answer questions and is reachable by email at: Alex.u.favela@gmail.com.

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 11, 2018 / July 23, 2018 / September 8, 2018

Time: Report at no later than 12:30 pm 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  
Ana L. Droscoski, J.D., Associate Director  
Ellen Snyderman, M.S., Assistant Director  
Shannon Jensen, M.A., Assistant Director

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 visit our website <http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/preprofadvising/> for additional information.

Ana L. Droscoski, J.D.  
Associate Director  
Office of Pre-Professional Programs & Advising

Johns Hopkins University  
Garland Hall Suite 300  
3400 North Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Tel: +1 410.516.4140  
Fax: +1 410.516.4040  
Skype: preprof\_adrosco1  
Email: [adrosco1@jhu.edu](mailto:adrosco1@jhu.edu)  
Website: <http://studentaffairs.jhu.edu/preprofadvising/>