



# Career Corner

September 20, 2004 ♦ Fall - Issue 5

## Inside this issue

- \* Career Tips
- \* FROTW
- \* JOBS!JOBS!JOBS!
- \* This Week's Events

## Office of Career Services

Denice Barnes

*Assoc. Dir. For Recruitment*

Elena Haskins Ducharme

*Contract Job Developer*

Pat Gonzales

*Administrative Secretary*

Tunisha Grant

*Senior Administrative Secretary*

Pamela Hyland

*Assoc. Dir. For Career Development*

Phil Marshall

*Alumni Mentor Program Director*

Susan Tunnell

*Contract Career Counselor*

Sari Zimmerman

*Director of Career Services*

## Student Assistants

Ok-Hee Shim

Liliana Campos

200 McAllister Street, Rm. 211

Phone: 415/565-4619

Fax: 415/565-4863

E-mail: [careers@uchastings.edu](mailto:careers@uchastings.edu)

### OFFICE HOURS:

**Monday –Friday**

**9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

*The Career Corner is edited by  
Tunisha Grant*

## CAREER TIPS Interview Tips from Those in the Know

**Interviewers from law firms shared interview tips with students last week. Here are some of the takeaways from that session:**

### Common interview pitfalls:

- Common questions that students should be ready to answer easily and with conviction are: "Why do you want to be a lawyer?" and "Why you want to do transactional/litigation work?" If you shy away from litigation, put your preference for transaction work in a positive light as opposed to saying that you dislike confrontation: transactional work also involves confrontation and most employers prefer a candidate who could "do it all" if asked.
- Incongruity between experience and aspiration will always generate a question about what the student wants - so be prepared to talk about any switch you are making. For example, if you have a history of public interest, why are you now applying for large firm work? The answer "I'm exploring" will not be a compelling one; students need to be more assertive about why they want to be in a large firm setting to convince an employer that they know what they are going after.
- The question "Where else are you interviewing?" is partly to

find out if you are focused in your search and if you know who the "players" are in your area of interest. If you indicate a strong interest in IP work, yet haven't targeted other IP firms, the interviewer will suspect that you haven't done your homework.

- Some good questions to ask the interviewer:
  - "What are you looking for that you perceive I don't have?" This gives the student a chance to address what the interviewer may see as weaknesses and turn a so-so interview into a winning one.
  - "What kind of work would I be given as a summer associate?"
  - "What is the source of your job satisfaction?"
  - "What do you think is your firm's biggest weakness?"
  - "What might a typical day be like for a summer associate?"
  - "Would I be working on a team or by myself mostly?"

**All the panelists emphasized the need to "RESEARCH THE FIRM".** They suggested calling recent alumni at the firm in addition to using the website, the NALP directory, and other paper resources. Typical questions you could ask alumni include inquiring about the firm culture or what a typical day is like for a new associate.

Any questions, anxieties, dilemmas about interviewing? Come on by to Career Services for some advice.

## FEATURED RESOURCE OF THE WEEK

Featured resources are a sure way to be better prepared, more polished and even more marketable in your quest for a dream job! Check this one out in Career Services today!!

*This Week's Featured Resource Is:*



**The Basics:** As soon as you enter Career Services, to your left, you will find the Summer Evaluation Binders. They have a green spine and are easy to spot! For your viewing pleasure we currently have evaluations from 1997 through 2004.

**The Cool Catch:** Would you go to a bar if someone you trusted said that it was awful? Would you go to a club if you were told it was "off the hook?" Here's a great way to learn about a firm, corporation or government job before you work there! Students just like you have already tested the waters and can tell you all about it!

Tune in next week for another ... Featured Resource of the Week!!!!



## JOBS! JOBS! JOBS!

Everyday, the Career Services Office receives new listings for both **part-time**, and **summer positions**. **Post-JD positions**, including **judicial clerkships**, are also available. Log onto **LawCareer** and click on the **School Job Postings** often to check for new postings.

*Just a few highlights from LawCareer:*

## RESUME COLLECTIONS

### Tyler Cooper & Alcorn LLP (Listing No. 99830)

New Haven, CT  
This Corporate and Employment Litigation firm is seeking applicants in the top 10% of their class and with an interest in practicing in Connecticut.

**Years Requested:** 2L

**Materials Requested:** Cover Letter, Resume, Transcript, Writing Sample.

**Deadline:** Sept. 20, 2004 – 3:00 p.m. at CSO

## DIRECT APPLICATIONS

### Platt & Arndt (Listing No. 96630)

Coupeville, WA  
This firm is the Public Defender Office for Island County, and provides services for several islands in Puget Sound.

**Years Requested:** 2L, 3L

**Materials Requested:** Cover Letter, Resume.

**Deadline:** Sept. 22, 2004

### Ropes & Gray (Listing No. 100067)

Washington, D.C. & San Francisco  
Interested in Corporate, Trusts and Estates, and Employment Law? If you're in the top 20% of your class, apply to work in the Washington, D.C. or San Francisco office of this leading national firm.

**Years Requested:** 2L, 3L

**Materials Requested:** Cover Letter, Resume, Transcript.

**Deadline:** Sept. 24, 2004

### McDonald Carano Wilson, LLP (Listing No. 100121)

Reno, NV  
This firm specializes in Personal Injury, Regulatory and Construction matters, and seeks applicants for their summer associate program.

**Years Requested:** 2L.

**Materials Requested:** Cover Letter, Resume, References (3).

**Deadline:** Sept. 24, 2004

### Lang, Robert and Patch (Listing No. 100119)

Fresno, CA  
Have an interested in working at a multi-disciplinary firm? This may be the firm for you.

**Years Requested:** 2L

**Materials Requested:** Cover Letter, Resume, Transcript, Writing Sample, References (3).

**Deadline:** Sept. 24, 2004

## PART-TIME SEMESTER

### U.S. Trustee Program (Listing No. 72355)

Oakland, CA  
The Oakland Office of the U.S. Trustee looking for a volunteer legal intern.

[www.usdoj.gov/ust](http://www.usdoj.gov/ust)

**Years Requested:** 2L, 3L

**Materials Requested:** Cover Letter, Resume, Transcript, Writing Sample, References (3).

**Deadline:** Sept. 24, 2004



## THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Monday, September 20

3:40 PM; Room F

**Public Interest Job Search Strategies** – Interested in Public Interest Law? Come get insight from this panel on how and where to begin your search.

Wednesday, September 22

3:40 PM; Room 314

**Presidential Management Fellows Program Orientation** - William Shie, a Hastings alumnus, will speak about the exciting opportunities offered by the PMI Fellows Program.

