



Career Corner

October 4, 2004 ♦ Fall - Issue 7

Inside this issue

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

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OFFICE HOURS:

Monday –Friday

9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

*The Career Corner is edited by
Tunisha Grant*

CAREER TIPS

You too can survive the stress interview

By Sari Zimmerman

Many of you have experienced a range of interview styles. One such type, the "stress" interview will call on you to marshal your best advocacy skills. The stress approach can be in the form of questions or statements: "It sounds like you didn't learn anything your first year of law school," "Your grades are a real problem," "What makes you think you can do this job?"

In this situation it is usually the interviewee's reaction that is being evaluated, even more so than the response. Some firms, particularly the more "hard core" litigation firms are looking to see how candidates respond to stress in order to gauge how they'll deal with demanding clients, tough judges, last minute deadlines, or over-bearing opposing counsel (which none of you will be!).

The key in responding is to keep your cool, maintain your dignity and find a way to use the situation to your advantage. Don't make the mistake of taking this personally--stand your ground and do not let yourself be intimidated. Take the time to collect your thoughts and answer calmly. Year after year, employers share anecdotes with us of students who have "wowed" them with a confident response. This is your opportunity to rise to the challenge and respond in a level-headed, confident and professional manner.

Of course, good preparation makes a real difference—thinking ahead of time of how to deal with any Achilles' heel is essential. Some people will decide to preempt the question. For example, if the employer knows your grades and you see that they don't meet the employer's hiring criteria, it's up to you to raise the issue and show what else you bring to the table. Remember, you want to stand out from the crowd.

In the final analysis, look on interviewing and the questions you are being asked as a way to help you decide what practice makes the best fit. If you're looking to enter a "driven" litigation practice, then you'll really want to master these stress interviews. If it's uncomfortable, ask yourself—is this a skill set I'm interested in developing? If it's a complete "turn-off", think about those situations where you felt most comfortable. That might give you clues as to the work atmosphere where you'll be really happy.

Come into Career Services to discuss any issue related to interviewing.



Public Interest Law Program's Pro Bono Project

The Pro Bono Project is back! The Pro Bono Project places students in short-term and long-term volunteer projects throughout the school year. There are over 30 organizations currently looking for student volunteers, so now is the perfect time to get involved!

Zachary Katznelson, Director of the Public Interest Law Program, and Althea Smiley, Pro Bono Legal Corps Member, will be in Career Services every Monday from 3:00 to 5:00. We encourage all returning students interested in public interest or government work to schedule a counseling appointment to discuss your career goals and plan your career path, including loan repayment assistance. To schedule an appointment, stop by Career Services, and sign up for at the front desk.

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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..

PUBLIC INTEREST AGENCY PROFILES BINDERS

The Basics: This is a compilation of public interest agencies located throughout the United States. By sorting through the binders, you will have a wealth of information about the agencies' project, purpose, website links, and some examples of past job postings.

The Cool Catch: The Public Interest Agency Profiles Binders have been recently updated to provide the most accurate contact information and to display recent job postings available at such agencies. If you are interested in the public interest sector, perusing the Public Interest Agency Profiles Index is a helpful way to begin your research.

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:

PART-TIME SEMESTER

J. David Gladstone Institutes, UCSF affiliate (Listing #97599)

San Francisco, CA

This organization conducts medical research in areas of heart disease, AIDS and Alzheimer's. Patent Law Clerks are sought to assist in the Intellectual Property Department.

<http://gladstone.ucsf.edu/hr/>

Years Requested: 2L

Materials Requested: Cover Letter, Resume, References

Deadline: Oct. 4, 2004

GRADUATING STUDENTS

Skadden Fellowship 2005 (Listing #90981)

Skadden Fellows will receive a one-year grant to work at a sponsoring organization, which must be identified on the application and conform to Skadden Fellowship requirements. Grants may be renewable for a second year per request, pending grant-making panel approval.

www.skadden.com/skaddenFellowshipIndex.html

Years Requested: 3L

Materials Requested: Cover Letter, Resume, Transcript, Writing Sample, Recommendations, Commitment Letter from Sponsoring Organization.

Deadline: Oct. 4, 2004

Administrator of National Banks (Listing #97452)

Washington, D.C.

The Office of Chief Counsel is seeking graduating students with a sincere interest in financial services

law to work as entry-level associates.

www.occ.treas.gov/law.htm

Years Requested: 3L

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

Deadline: Oct. 5, 2004

Pacific Legal Foundation (Listing #97679)

Sacramento, CA

The College of Public Interest Law is offering national fellowships to top graduates interested in rapidly gaining experience in the litigation of major cases.

www.pacificlegal.org

Years Requested: 3L.

Materials Requested: CPIL Application, Writing Sample

Deadline: Oct. 6, 2004

Americans for Safe Access (Listing #98070)

ASA is looking for law students interested in legal work around establishing and protecting the right of seriously ill people to access medical marijuana, and is looking for legal fellows, such as Equal Justice Works, New Voices, Skadden or Soros Fellows.

www.safeaccessnow.org

Years Requested: 3L

Materials Requested: Cover Letter, Resume

Deadline: Oct. 8, 2004.



THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Monday, October 4

3:40 PM; Room F

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Wednesday, October 6

3:40 PM; Room F

How to Ace the Call-Back Interview - Come and find out how a call-back differs from a screening interview, and how you can enhance your chances at getting an offer.

