

Appendix C.: Sample Networking Questions

General Questions

- How did you get your job at (organization name)?
- Were you a summer associate/lateral hire?
- Did you have particular skills/background in the area in which you are working?
- What led you to choose your particular career path?
- What do you wish you had known about your field or practice area prior to starting?
- How have you advanced within the organization? Does your organization promote from within? How long did it take you to make partner?
- How do you envision your future career path?
- What exactly does a (practice area) attorney do? What are the different aspects of the job?
- As a judicial clerk, how do you spend your day? Do you get to spend time with the judge, perform research, or attend court?
- What is the philosophy of your organization? Does your organization have employee training and support?
- What does your organization look for when hiring new attorneys/laterals/law clerks? What traits does a successful applicant possess?
- How is the job market for (career field) in (geographic location)? Are there areas of the law in (geographic location) that are considered “hot” or “up and coming” these days?
- What advice do you have for a recent graduate seeking to enter this field?
- Are there any professional associations I should join that would put me in contact with other women attorneys/minority attorneys/career changers/international attorneys?
- Do you know of any other people to contact that might be able to assist me with information?
- What is the typical salary range for a (position) with a (small/medium/large organization) in (geographic location)?
- Would you review my resume and provide feedback? (Follow up by updating your resume, incorporating the suggestions and sending him/her a copy).

Interviewing Skills

- What qualities and skills are lawyers looking for when considering law students for positions?
- What do you believe are the hardest interview questions to answer?
- What are the most important things I should remember in preparing for an interview?

Professional Development

- What professional associations have you found most valuable?
- What kind of professional enrichment activities (i.e. CLEs, conferences, subsequent education) have you found to be most beneficial?
- What publications or newspapers do you read?
- Are there particular government agencies with which it would be useful for a future practitioner in your field to pursue an internship?

Law School Career Planning

- What are things I could be doing now to acquaint myself with your area of practice?
- What are some experiences or activities that you pursued as a law student to prepare for legal practice and/or a particular legal field?
- How did you prepare for your OCI interviews?

Getting the Most Out of My 1L and 2L Summers

- If I'm unsure about my practice area interests, what are some ways you might suggest I investigate the available options?
- What should I be gathering or learning during my 1L and 2L summers to help make informed career decisions?

Mentoring

- How would you recommend finding attorneys who might be interested in mentoring?
- If you have been in a mentoring relationship, either as a mentor or mentee, what is the most important thing you learned and what advice would you pass along?

Perspective

- What are some things you wish you knew about the practice of law before graduation?
- What do you find most rewarding and/or challenging about the practice of law?
- What do you find least rewarding or challenging?

Quality of Life

- Do you have any suggestions on how to balance work and other commitments, both personal and professional?
- Please tell me a little about how you deal with client demands, how much control you have/had over your schedule, or how predictable your hours are.
- Do you feel that hours or time at work is dependant upon practice area, size of employer or being in the public vs. private sector?