

**INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS
SPRING 2008**

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.law.gwu.edu/cdo/

Choosing a law school is a multi-faceted endeavor. There are many important factors to weigh, not the least among them being the career services that will be available to you at your selected law school. The Career Development Office at The George Washington University Law School takes great pride in our comprehensive career services designed to assist students and alumni in connecting with potential employers.

As a preliminary matter, the Career Development Office recommends that you make sure you are attending law school for the right reasons. There are lots of good reasons to attend law school (e.g., intellectual stimulation, public service, making a difference in others' lives, earning a comfortable living), and there are some not-so-good reasons as well. Make sure that your decision to attend law school is a proactive one and the right one for you. Learn about the legal profession and dispel the myth that law is what you see on any one of several popular television series. If you need some help sorting this out, speak with your pre-law advisor at your undergraduate school or see some of the many books on selecting a law school.

The Career Development Office's primary mission is to meet the career needs of all students and alumni. That being said, it is important to note that the legal job market has fluctuated greatly over the past several years and continues to adjust to changing economic conditions. Restructuring, retrenchment, and reorganization in the private sector as well as budget concerns in the public service and non-profit sectors require the players in the job market to be creative and persistent in pursuing career goals.

In 2007, the American Bar Association reported that almost 44,000 students graduated with a J.D. degree from ABA-accredited law schools nationally. With this in mind, the Career Development Office (CDO) provides a full-range of services to support the decision-making process of students and alumni. A synopsis of selected services follows. Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Career Services at The George Washington University Law School

Staff - The eight Career Counselors in the CDO collectively represent over 75 years in the legal profession. All the Career Counselors are trained, licensed attorneys. A counselor is assigned to each of the five first-year sections, which they follow throughout the three or four years of law school.

Individualized Career Counseling - The counselors meet individually with hundreds of students and alumni each year to assist in all aspects of the career development and job search process. Counseling takes many forms and includes "basic tools" preparation (resumes, cover letters, application procedures, etc.), employment market insight (career options, interpreting organizational research, and job-search strategy), and personal career counseling (self-assessment, skills recognition and development). Appointments are usually available within 24 hours and a designated walk-in counselor is available every day for 'quick questions.'

Skills Training and Practice Area Programs - The CDO maintains an active programming schedule throughout the year. Practice area programs provide an excellent opportunity to network with practicing lawyers who are often GW Law School graduates. A list of the programs offered during the 2007-2008 academic year is attached.

Career Resource Library - Our Resource Library collection includes several hundred resources ranging from general information on legal career planning to employer profiles and prospective employer contact information.

CDO Website: www.law.gwu.edu/cdo/ - Updated on a regular basis, the CDO website provides information on interviewing programs, the latest edition of the bi-weekly newsletter *Noteworthy*, CDO handouts, and more than 100 links to other career-related websites.

Job Postings - During 2007, the CDO posted over 3,700 job vacancies to which students and alumni could apply directly. These opportunities included summer positions, part-time jobs during the academic year, experienced lawyer positions, full-time positions for evening division students, entry-level attorney positions, judicial clerkships, internships, and teaching opportunities. Job vacancies are updated daily and advertised for students and alumni 24 hours a day through our web-based job posting and recruiting system, Symplicity.

Programming for First-Year Students - The CDO kicks off the fall semester for 1Ls with our *Annual Career Exploration Conference*, which includes speakers, alumni, and a panel of upper-level students discussing their 1L summer jobs. Subsequently, each section has a CDO orientation at which time students receive their CDO Manuals and packets with general information about the legal job search as well as specific information regarding the 1L summer job search. The counselors host Resume Review Days in November and January and conduct a number of 'career skills' workshops. Other programs in the spring semester introduce students to the U.S. Department of Justice, the judicial internship process, government internships, public interest jobs, and various legal practice areas.

Diversity Events and Programs - Minority students are served through a variety of programs and career fairs which take place throughout the year. The Law School participates in several annual job fairs for our diverse student body: Black Law Students Association (BLSA) Regional, DuPont, Delaware Minority, Cook County (Chicago, IL), Boston Law Group, Allegheny County (Pittsburgh, PA), and the Lambda Law Conference and Career Fair. The Consortium of Washington DC Area Law Schools also provides programming in collaboration with area minority student groups. The CDO offers an e-mail distribution list for minority students and works closely with several student groups to inform them of various diversity efforts undertaken by bar associations and legal employers around the country. The affinity groups at GW are the Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Hispanic Law Students Association, East Asian Law Society, Native American Law Student Association, South Asian Law Student Association, Muslim Law Students Association, and Lambda Law.

Evening Students - To accommodate the unique needs of evening students, the CDO offers extended hours and flexible

scheduling. We have a career counselor to serve evening students several nights a week and occasionally on Saturdays as needed. The CDO has developed an evening student e-mail listserv providing information on CDO events and the latest job opportunities that may be of interest to the evening student population. The CDO has also prepared a handout, *Career Planning for the Evening Student*, that provides information about gaining legal experience and a career planning timeline. The CDO also coordinates programs specifically for evening students.

LL.M. Students - LL.M. students are invited to participate in all services offered by the CDO. One of the counselors works directly with LL.M. students and plans programs specifically for LL.M. candidates. In addition, the CDO has prepared a separate handout, *LL.M. Candidates in the Job Market*. For international LL.M.s, the CDO participates in the New York University International Student Interview Program which is cosponsored by 30 schools. Through the program, which serves students with foreign law degrees currently studying in the U.S. for their LL.M. degrees, interviews are held in New York City each January.

Alumni Career Advisor Network - With over 18,000 living alumni, GW Law can assist in connecting you with graduates in virtually every legal practice and geographic area. Through networking and informational interviewing with GW Law graduates, you can investigate employers, employment trends, and alternative career options.

Public Interest Initiatives - Through a number of initiatives, the CDO works to create an atmosphere of support, validation, and increased knowledge of public interest employment opportunities. One of the career counselors is dedicated solely to Public Interest and moderates the Public Interest listserv, which communicates public interest job and internship opportunities as well as networking and community events to students and alumni. GW Law is a member of PSLawNet, an on-line service that links law students with public interest opportunities worldwide. The CDO also facilitates student interviews with public interest employers through the yearly Public Interest Recruiting Program (co-sponsored with the Georgetown University Law Center), Government Internship Fair and the Equal Justice Works Career Fair, which is held annually in Washington, DC. The Public Interest Counselor also serves as the Pro Bono Liaison and assists students in identifying pro bono opportunities. Finally, the Public Interest Counselor has an active role in the Law School's Public Interest Committee and Pro Bono Subcommittee, which seek to promote 'hands-on' volunteerism in the Washington, DC community.

Public Interest Summer Funding/Loan Reimbursement Assistance Program - The CDO participates in the faculty and student committee that administers summer subsidies, school-year fellowships, and loan reimbursement assistance. The CDO also publicizes sources of funding outside of the Law School.

Judicial Clerkships/Internships - The Law School is committed to providing support to students interested in clerking for judges, either as post-graduate clerks or as summer or school-year student interns. A Judicial Clerkship Committee comprised of Professors and the Judicial Clerkship Advisor of the CDO provides programming, networking events, counseling, and advising on the judicial clerkship application process. A post-graduate clerkship coordinator is responsible for generating professorial letters of recommendation and maintaining a current list of judges. Approximately 20% of the class of 2007 held judicial internships after their first year of law school. 10% of the class of 2006 accepted post-graduation judicial clerkships. Students also have the option of receiving academic credit for judicial internships during the summer or school year.

EMPLOYMENT REPORT FOR THE J.D. CLASS OF 2007

Each year, the CDO conducts a survey of the previous year's J.D. graduates. Completed survey responses collected from members of the 2007 graduating class revealed the following:

EMPLOYMENT SECTORS

Law Firm Practice (all sizes)	65%
Judicial Clerkships	11%
Government	10%
Business and Industry	7%
Public Interest	3%
Academic	1%
Military	2%
Not Identified	1%

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

South Atlantic	65%	DC,DE,FL,GA,MD,NC,SC,VA,WV
Middle Atlantic	17%	NJ,NY,PA
New England	3%	CT,ME,MA,NH,RI,VT
Pacific	6%	AK,CA,HI,OR,WA
East North Central	3%	IL,IN,MI,OH,WI
West South Central	1%	AR,LA,OK,TX
Mountain	2%	AZ,CO,ID,MT,NM,NV,UT,WY
East South Central	0%	AL,KY,MS,TN
West North Central	1%	IA,KS,MN,MO,NE,ND,SD
Foreign	0%	
Location Unknown	2%	

SALARY DISTRIBUTION

Salaries vary by virtue of several factors including: the type of employer (whether government, public interest, private practice, or other); the geographic location of the employer; the size of the employer; and the specific background of the candidate. Out of 501 graduates in 2007, 288 submitted salary data. The salary range breakdown for the Class of 2007 is as follows:

Private Practice (501+ attorneys)	\$125,000 - \$160,000 Mean: \$148,149
Private Practice (251-500 attorneys)	\$100,000 - \$160,000 Mean: \$141,667
Private Practice (101-250 attorneys)	\$90,000 - \$160,000 Mean: \$133,438
Private Practice (51-100 attorneys)	\$100,000 - \$145,000 Mean: \$132,308
Private Practice (26-50 attorneys)	\$24,960 - \$175,000 Mean: \$77,438
Private Practice (11-25 attorneys)	\$45,000 - \$125,000 Mean: \$88,986
Private Practice (2-10 attorneys)	\$42,000 - \$110,000 Mean: \$68,625
Government	\$36,000 - \$110,000 Mean: \$68,890
Judicial Clerkships Federal	\$45,000 - \$63,000 Mean: \$51,271
Judicial Clerkships State	\$30,000 - \$47,000 Mean: \$40,372
Public Interest	\$27,000 - \$50,000 Mean: \$39,000
Business and Industry	\$35,000 - \$100,000 Mean: \$82,200

The average reported salary for the class of 2007 is \$123,549.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

LAW SCHOOL

Career Development Office Programs, 2007-2008 Academic Year

Fall Semester Programs

Applying for Public Interest Fellowships
Career Development Office Resource Library Open House
Careers in Government Contracts: A Panel Discussion
Congressional Research Service Information Session
Cover Letter Workshop for 1Ls
Demystifying the "BIGLAW" Experience
Department of Justice Honors Program Information Session
Environmental Protection Agency Information Session
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Information Session
Etiquette, Professionalism and Interview Skills
Federal Communications Commission Information Session
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Information Session
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Information Session
Federal Trade Commission – Bureau of Competition Information Session
Foreign-Trained LL.M. Networking Workshop
Funding a Public Interest Career
How to Apply for Government Jobs
Internal Revenue Service Information Session
Long Distance Job Search
Making the Most of Your Time at the Equal Justice Works Career Fair
Millennium Challenge Corp. Information Session
Nuclear Regulatory Commission Information Session
Nuts and Bolts of Direct Writes, Long Distance Job Search and Cover Letter Tips
Nuts and Bolts of Finding an Intellectual Property Law Job
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency Information Session
One-L Career Exploration Conference
One-L Section Meetings
Orientation to the Job Search Process for Foreign-Trained LL.M.s
Orientation to the Job Search Process for U.S.-Trained LL.M.s
Patent Practice and Patent Bar Exam Panel
Presidential Management Fellowship Program Info. Session
Pro Bono Fair
Public Defender Service of DC Information Session
Public Interest Alumni Breakfast
Resume Review Days
Soft Intellectual Property Panel
U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General Information Session
U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development Info. Session
U.S. Postal Service Information Session
What to Expect from the Fall Recruitment Program
What to Expect in the Judicial Clerkship Hiring Process
Work/Life Balance Panel

Spring Semester Programs

Be Successful in Your Summer Job
Careers in Public Service
Careers in Tax Law Panel and Reception
Central Intelligence Agency Information Session
Department of Justice Summer Internship Information Session
Fall Recruitment Program Information Sessions
Federal Communications Bar Association Career Panel
Government and Public Interest Internship Fair
Guerilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams (presented by Kimm Walton, author of the book of the same name and *America's Greatest Places to Work with a Law Degree* and *What Law School Doesn't Teach You But You Really Need to Know*)
How to Find a Summer Job Abroad
How to Find Summer Jobs
Information Session on Applying for Judicial Clerkships for the 2009-2010 Term
Interviewing Skills
Intellectual Property Networking Event
Judicial Clerkship Recognition Reception
Mock Interview Program for One-Ls
NASA Information Session
Nuts and Bolts of Applying for Judicial Internships
Post-Graduate and 3L Fellowship Information Session
Post-Graduate Job Search Strategies
Public Interest Retreat
Public Sector Recruitment Program
Resume Review Days
Rules of Engagement (presented by Mary Crane of Mary Crane & Associates)
Small/Medium Firm Recruitment Program
Stop Telling Me How to Network and Show Me How!
Summer 2008 Public Interest Summer Subsidies
U.S. Department of Justice Summer Intern Program Information Session
What to Expect at the New York University International LL.M. Student Interview Program
What to Expect at the Public Sector Recruitment Program
Working on the Hill
World Bank Information Session

CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS

The CDO administers on-campus, regional, and cooperative recruitment programs that provide job interviewing opportunities to a broad segment of the student population. In 2007-2008 over 1000 employers participated in the recruitment programs listed below.

The Fall Recruitment Program - Through the Fall Recruitment Program, over 600 employers visited the GW campus in Fall 2007 to interview primarily 2L and 3L students for summer and permanent positions. The employers are for the most part law firms, although legal services offices, government agencies, accounting firms, corporations and district attorneys' offices participate as well. A list of employers who participated in the Fall 2007 program is attached.

Regional Recruitment Programs - During fall 2007, the CDO conducted regional off-campus recruitment programs in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami, New Hampshire, New York City, and Philadelphia. Regional programs supplemented the campus recruitment process by providing students exposure to approximately 150 firms and organizations. A list of participating employers is attached.

Public Interest Recruiting Program - In conjunction with Georgetown University Law Center, the CDO holds an annual spring recruitment program to which public interest organizations, government agencies, and legal services offices are invited. The 2008 program hosted over 170 employers who interviewed students for specific job openings. A list of the participants is attached.

Additional Recruitment Programs

Small and Medium Employer Recruitment Program (Spring Semester)

Government Internship Fair

Patent Law Interview Program

Equal Justice Works (EJW) Public Interest Career Fair

New York University International LL.M. Student Interview Program

Diversity Events and Recruitment Programs:

Black Law Students Association (BLSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Job Fair

Boston Lawyers Group Washington Area Job Fair for Students of Color

Cook County Job Fair (Chicago Region)

Dauphin County Bar Association Minority Job Fair (Harrisburg, PA)

Delaware Minority Job Fair

Dupont Legal Minority Job Fair

Hispanic Bar Association Convention and Job Fair

Lavender Law Conference and Job Fair

Minnesota Minority Recruitment Conference

Nashville Bar Association Minority Clerkship Program

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Convention and Job Fair

National Black Prosecutor's Association Annual Conference and Job Fair

Northwest Minority Job Fair (Seattle, WA)