Be Prepared for Your Interviews

The advice we give all students, no matter who they are interviewing with, is: get informed, be ready to engage in a conversation, ask lots of questions, show curiosity and, essentially, manage your interviews. You’d be amazed at how many lawyers don’t know how to interview, so it is up to you to ensure the interview progresses smoothly. There is no such thing as being overly prepared for an interview. In addition to being ready to talk about yourself — your background, education and experience — you must also be ready to interview the interviewer.

Do your homework. Read as much literature on the employer as possible and on the people who will be interviewing you. Go to the employer’s website and pay attention to the words they use to describe themselves. Read the “Careers” section of the employer’s website, where they often describe the type of people they hire and the skills they seek. Also check out any press releases on the website, which will reveal recent cases the employer worked on and other news the employer deems important. Research the lawyers who will interview you. If you don’t know who they are, call or email the person who arranged the interview.

Speak with anyone who may know something about the employer -- Career Services, your professors, friends and Loyola alumni. Always check online resources such as employer websites, Lexis, Westlaw, and PSLawNet. Google the employer — it is always surprising what I learn about legal employers and people by doing a simple Google search.

Go to the interview ready to talk about yourself and ask questions about them — questions that show you are interested in the employer, have already researched them, and want to learn more. Avoid asking questions that can be answered with simple research or questions that are confrontational or too self-interested. Prepare a list of ten really good questions that are directly relevant to the employer and the work you will do for them if you get hired. If you don’t know what questions to ask, schedule a quick mock interview with your career counselor — you will be so much better prepared for your interviews after a mock interview — they really are essential.

If you go to your interviews informed about the employer, ready to talk about yourself, and ready to ask lots of questions, you and your interviewer will never be at a loss for words.

Goodwin Procter Public Interest Fellowship for Diverse Law Students

This year, Goodwin Procter will again be offering awards of $7,500 to diverse law students who work in public interest positions the summer after their first year of law school. **Fellowship applications are due on February 25, but students are not required to have a public interest placement secured at the time of application.** Visit [http://www.goodwinprocter.com/Careers/Diversity/The-Goodwin-Diversity-Fellowships.aspx](http://www.goodwinprocter.com/Careers/Diversity/The-Goodwin-Diversity-Fellowships.aspx) for more information or to apply online.

In addition to the monetary fellowship award, selected fellows are guaranteed a “straight to callback” interview with the Goodwin Procter office of their choice in the fall interview season during their second year of law school.

Environmental Law Society: Green Careers Panel

**Thursday, February 3rd | 5:30—7:00 p.m. | Corboy Law Center, Room 1102**

This panel discussion will include lawyers & non-lawyers who work in the environmental field.

**Panelists:**
Brian Granahan, Illinois Commerce Commission | Adam Mays, Center for Neighborhood Technology
Bradley Klein & Kristie Pullen, Environmental Law & Policy Center | Ray Losch, All Cell Technologies

Interested in Intellectual Property Law?

**Plan to attend**
**IP Careers: An Introduction**

**Tuesday, February 8th @ 1:00 p.m.**

**Office of Career Services | Corboy Law Center, Suite 1370**

CSO Associate Director Mary Beth Wynn & Prof. Cynthia Ho will discuss careers in intellectual property law & tips for preparing an IP resume.

Food will be served, so please RSVP to law-career@luc.edu.

Summer & Fall Judicial Externship

**Application Deadline**

**By 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 4th:**
All application materials must be submitted via Symplicity

**AND**
Honors Statements must be turned in to Josie Gough in Room 1362 of the Corboy Law Center
## Upcoming Events

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwest Public Interest Law Career Conference</td>
<td>Northwestern University Law School</td>
<td>Saturday, February 5</td>
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<td>Check in: 7:30—8:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intellectual Property Career Planning w/ Mary Beth Wynn &amp; Professor Ho</td>
<td>Office of Career Services Corboy Law Center, Suite 1370</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 8</td>
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<td>1:00—2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1L Job Search Strategies Session <strong>RESCHEDULED DUE TO WEATHER</strong></td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 1103</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 8</td>
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<td>4:00—5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1L Friday Series: &amp; Governance Practice</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 1202</td>
<td>Friday, February 11</td>
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<td>12:00—1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Practice Tracks</td>
<td>Chicago Bar Association 321 S. Plymouth Court</td>
<td>Thursday, February 17</td>
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<td>5:00—6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1L Friday Series: Public Interest Practice</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 1202</td>
<td>Friday, February 25</td>
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### Loyola Patent Law Interview Program

For 1L & 2L students interested in Patent Law: Loyola runs a Patent Law Interview Program every summer that brings firms and other employers with a patent law practice to Chicago to interview students from across the country. This year’s program will be held on Thursday, July 29 & Friday, July 30. **Registration for the program will begin on Monday, February 14 and end on Monday, March 7.** Current 1Ls will participate in this summer’s program as rising 2Ls, and current 2Ls will participate as rising 3Ls. For more information, check out our website at [http://www.luc.edu/law/career/patent_students.html](http://www.luc.edu/law/career/patent_students.html).

On February 14, a registration link will appear on this webpage so that you can register for the program online. Loyola will pay the $35 registration fee for you, so it will not cost you anything to register—**but you must register online by March 7.** In April, you will receive a login and password to the Patent Symplicity system, where you will upload your resume and bid on employers. The employers will choose the students they wish to interview, and you will learn if you have been chosen for interviews in June. While you do not need to be patent bar eligible to register for the program and submit your resume, we find that the students who receive interviews and job offers through the program are usually students who are eligible to sit for the patent bar.

If you have any questions about the program, contact Alissa Holterman at aholt@luc.edu.

### Attention Students:

Don’t forget to use your Career Services Handbook when you’re working on your cover letter & resume or when you’re preparing for an interview!

If you have questions that can’t be answered by the handbook, set up an appointment with your career counselor by calling 312-915-7160 or emailing law-career@luc.edu.

### Practice Tracks @ the Chicago Bar Association

**Thursday, February 17th | 5:00—6:30 p.m.**

Practice Tracks gives students the opportunity to meet and speak with attorneys representing over 50 different practice areas.

If you’re not sure what practice area(s) you’re interested in and want to learn more, this is the event for you!

### Twin Cities Diversity in Practice Dinner Events

Twin Cities Diversity in Practice invites diverse Loyola University Chicago School of Law students to attend one of two dinners they are hosting this month. This will be a great opportunity for students to meet with attorneys that practice in the Twin Cities and to learn about private firms and corporations in the Twin Cities.

- **February 22nd | 6:00—8:00 p.m.**
  - Carnivale Restaurant
  - 702 W. Fulton Street

- **February 23rd | 6:00—8:00 p.m.**
  - Café Ba Ba Reeba
  - 2024 North Halsted

To learn more about Twin Cities Diversity in Practice or to RSVP, visit [http://www.diversityinpractice.org/index.asp?pageID=22](http://www.diversityinpractice.org/index.asp?pageID=22)
Jeanne M. Reynolds is an Associate Judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County, currently serving in the Domestic Relations Division. A 1986 graduate of Loyola University School of Law, Judge Reynolds also serves on the Loyola Board of Governors. Prior to joining the bench, she was in private practice with her father, Frank R. Reynolds (Loyola ’62) and a partner of the Law Offices of Reynolds & Reynolds, Ltd., (1986-2007), practicing in the areas of commercial litigation, corporate and business transactions, real estate and probate law.

**Why did you attend law school and become a lawyer?**

There are so many lawyers in my family that being a lawyer was a natural choice for me. My father Frank R. Reynolds, my grandfather Frank R. Reynolds, and my uncle John F. Reynolds were all lawyers, and all attended Loyola Law School. My grandfather went straight from St. Patrick’s High School directly to law school skipping college all together! My cousin Jim Tyrrell was in the class of 1985, and my sister Carolyn (Carrie) Reynolds Armour graduated in 1991. Most recently, my cousin Thomas McBride, Jr. and his wife Sara graduated in 2004. Even as a little girl, I vividly remember going to work with my dad and watching him and my grandfather in court.

Loyola is a wonderful community and many of my friends from law school are my most trusted confidants and mentors. Dean Nina Appel and Dean Jim Faught had an open door policy to assist law students academically, to encourage professional development, and have students learn to give back to the community to those unable to seek justice by themselves.

**What do you wish you had paid more attention to as a student or new lawyer?**

Books give you the legal basics, but your real education starts when you actually practice law! There is a big advantage to gaining work experience prior to going to law school. In hindsight, I wish I had tried out for the moot court trial team. The ability to think quickly on your feet, analyze facts and arguments, examine witnesses, debate an adversary, and really develop your own style comes only with lots of practice. I would strongly encourage any student to clerk as an intern or extern for a judge, law firm, or a governmental agency. Trial experience can also be had by obtaining a 711 license, or volunteering in a legal clinic.

**What professor/event/issue did you enjoy most in law school?**

There were many professors who encouraged, inspired, and terrified me. As a first year law student, the socratic method was a challenge. Professor Michaels always encouraged his students to at least articulate an answer even if it was the completely wrong answer. I can still hear his classic line in that vibrant voice of his “REYNOLDS – always remember even a stopped clock is correct twice a day”! He also taught his students not to take themselves too seriously. Jamie Carey’s trial advocacy and criminal procedure classes included volunteer lawyers and judges, who offered constructive criticism and examples of successful and failed trial strategies.

**Provide one piece of advice you have for law students and future lawyers?**

Treat others how you wish to be treated, and always be civil to your opponents, clients, witnesses, clerks and all courtroom personnel. Thanks to the media and too many public scandals, public perception of lawyers is not great. Civility or the lack thereof is a serious problem for many lawyers. Guard your reputation as an attorney of the highest integrity. Think before you speak. Although the temptation can be overwhelming to send a sarcastic zinger comeback to the nasty gram left by your opponent, resist the urge to stoop to that level and take the high road. For a big city, Chicago is a tight knit legal community, and people will talk.

**What do you like most about practicing law?**

I have always enjoyed puzzles and problem solving, especially when you are able to take the conflict out of the equation and restore a business relationship. Taking the time to truly listen and understand the rationale behind your opponent’s case will truly help to strategize a creative settlement. There is a true rush of adrenaline in settling a case where both parties benefit. In my current job as neutral, I really enjoy helping parents settle cases by using creative methods unique to the parties.

**How important has networking been in your career?**

ESSENTIAL!! No one gets where they want to be in life without help from others. And, your network will only grow with your own support and contribution to your others. Do not limit your network to lawyers. Expand it to include professionals from other industries. Offer to help not because you want something out of it, but because you have the answer and want to help.

**How do you balance your work life with home life and what do you do in your free time for fun or relaxation?**

There is no such thing as a perfect work/family you balance and luckily not all three areas usually demand equal attention at the same time. With young children for me, the only way I could concentrate fully on work issues was to be reassured that my children were well cared for, and that our home life was warm and stable for them. In addition, find ways to relieve stress by regularly exercising or finding time for a good laugh! Finding time for a family dinner even if only a few times each week helps me connect with my husband and children. In addition, I really enjoy my one hour spin class, taking a long walk with my ipod, or meeting a friend at Starbucks for a quick pick me up and a few laughs! I also have found that I receive personal satisfaction from volunteering. Shoe shopping therapy is also recommended.

**Which Chicago restaurant is your favorite?**

Chicago has so much to offer. Lou Mitchell’s is fabulous for breakfast, Maxim’s or Petterino’s for lunch, Italian Village for the family dinner, Rosebud or Capital Grill for special occasions, the top of the WIT hotel after work in the summer, Twin Anchors for ribs, and Butch McGuire’s at Christmas are classics!

**Are most of your Loyola classmates still practicing law and what have you noticed about how your and their law practices have changed over the years?**

I am in awe at how successful my Loyola classmates are. Many are legislators, judges, politicians, and advocates for justice. They are recognized as leaders and experts in the legal community. They are prominent lawyers recognized for their expertise and skills in the annual listings of Superlawyers, Leading Lawyers, Forty Under 40, and all national surveys. In addition, they are bar association presidents, adjunct law professors, volunteers, and philanthropists.

Despite all their professional roles and responsibilities, I see so many of my friends actively supporting their spouse or children’s activities. It is not uncommon to find a lawyer going to work very early or working extra late to ensure he or she can coach a child’s sports team or make it to the band recital. On one’s deathbed, I doubt anyone is going to wish they worked longer or harder, but instead wish to have spent more time with loved ones. Life is really too short and should be enjoyed.