Job Searching Beyond Job Postings

Job postings, like those on our Symplicity system, are one way to find a job, but this is not the only or the best way. It is important to expand your job search beyond responding to job postings for three reasons:

- **Job postings represent only a tiny fraction of the legal jobs that are available to law students.** Experts agree that in this economy, about 90% of all jobs are filled through networking.

  Most positions are filled by word of mouth, personal recommendations, and networking. And most employers, especially public interest and service oriented employers, for whom your commitment to the issue or population they serve is a key factor in hiring, expect you to reach out to them if you are interested, not the other way around.

- **Posted positions are very competitive because they attract so many applications.** Bear in mind that postings on Symplicity are usually not exclusive to Loyola. Employers often send the same posting to many law schools. The same is true for postings that you find on other online sources, like PSLawNet, monster.com, or the CBA website.

- **Responding to postings by sending your resume and cover letter sometimes is not enough to land an interview.** For many students, the best of what you have to offer does not always come through on paper.

  Most of us need an opportunity to impress an employer in person before handing over a resume. How do you get that opportunity?

  **1) Identify employers that practice in an area that interests you.**

    - Use the Four or More list to identify firms that are doing work in an area that interests you. [http://www.luc.edu/law/career/4_or_more.html](http://www.luc.edu/law/career/4_or_more.html)

    - Check our links to some of Chicago’s public interest organizations but also do Google searches for “legal aid” or “non-profit” and the issue or issues that interest you (fair housing, domestic violence, education, etc.) [http://www.luc.edu/law/career/pubint_links.html](http://www.luc.edu/law/career/pubint_links.html)

  - The Government Resources section of our website can give you a feel for the myriad federal, state and local **government agencies** that hire law students. [http://www.luc.edu/law/career/government.html](http://www.luc.edu/law/career/government.html)

  - See the lists of where students worked for the past two summers on our website. [http://www.luc.edu/law/career/handouts.html](http://www.luc.edu/law/career/handouts.html)

  **2) Identify people who work for those employers.** After you have a short list of employers you are interested in, search their websites to find **Loyola alumni or alumni from your undergraduate institution** who work there. Talk to current students who have worked there. Talk to your professors and/or your career counselor about the employers who you have identified and see if they know of anyone who works there.

  **3) Follow up on every lead you are given.** Once you’ve identified a contact at an employer you are interested in, send them a short email, saying something like:

    “When Professor So-and-so learned of my interest in tax law, he suggested that I contact you. I am a 1L at Loyola and am hoping to practice in a firm like yours after graduation. If you could spare 15 minutes for a meeting in your office or a phone call, I would really appreciate your advice on the best type of experience to get during law school to be marketable in the field of tax law. Please let me know a convenient time to contact you, or I will follow up by phone next week.”

    Then prepare a list of questions to ask, follow up on your email with a phone call, and start talking to lawyers who do what you want to do. These conversations will not only help you learn about the area or areas of law you are interested in, they will put you in contact with people who may need to hire a law student in the near future.

    **Don’t put the person you are networking with on the spot by asking for a job.** Let the person you are talking to bring it up. If he or she hires law students, it will logically come up in your conversation if he or she is impressed by you. Also feel free to ask if the contact knows of other lawyers who they admire in that practice area and then contact them.
## Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Security Law Association Welcomes Terry Gainer, Sergeant At Arms of the U.S. Senate</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 1101</td>
<td>Thursday, March 1st 4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;No LegalZzzs: Don’t Be This Interviewee&quot; An Interview skills program using comedy and sketch writing skills. All Chicago law students are invited to attend. If you plan to attend please RSVP to Puja Singh Patel @ <a href="mailto:puja-patel@law.northwestern.edu">puja-patel@law.northwestern.edu</a>.</td>
<td>Northwestern Law School, RB150</td>
<td>Thursday, March 8th 12:15 p.m.—1:15 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>U. S. Navy JAGC Informational Program</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Career Services Office 13th Floor</td>
<td>Friday, March 16th 10:30 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equal Justice Works Webinar—Student Strategies for Success: How to Find Your Dream Job</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 1202</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 20th 11:00 p.m. (CST)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loyola Alums in Practice: Suzanne Catanzaro of ConAgra Foods</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 105</td>
<td>Thursday, March 22nd 12:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Nielsen Lawyer, Career Coach and Author of “Job Quest for Lawyers” will speak about tips for a successful job search. See pg.3 for details</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room TBA</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 27th 12:00 — 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judicial Clerkship Program</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center Room 1101</td>
<td>Thursday March 29th 12:00—1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Security Career Symposium</td>
<td>Corboy Law Center, Ceremonial Courtroom (10th Floor)</td>
<td>Thursday, March 29th 5:00 p.m.</td>
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### Upcoming Summer Funding Deadlines

- **Public Interest Law Society (PILS)**
  
  The application for PILS summer stipends is available on TWEN and is due March 30. Preference will be given to those who have shown a strong commitment to PILS and other community service/public interest work.

- **Equal Justice Works Summer Corps**
  
  http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/law-school/summercorps
  
  Applications will be available March 1 and are due March 23.

- **Equal Justice America Fellowships**
  
  http://www.equaljusticeamerica.org/prev_applications/ApplicationSummer.htm
  
  All applications must be postmarked no later than March 19.

- **ABA John J. Curtin Jr. Justice Fund**
  
  http://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_services/homelessness_poverty/john_j_curtin_jr_fellowship.html
  
  All applications must be received by March 26.

- **Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI)**
  
  http://www.pili-law.org/applyforsummerinternships.htm
  
  Online applications for PILI’s summer internships are being accepted on a rolling basis through the end of March or until all agencies have completed their hiring.

### Patent Law Interview Program Student Registration—March 5th Deadline

Registration for the 2012 Patent Law Interview Program is now open! Registration is free for Loyola students — registrations will be accepted through March 5th.

To register, go to: http://www.luc.edu/law/career/patent_students.html and click on the “Register Now” button.

### Judicial Clerkship Panel Presentations

March 29th at 12:00 noon Corboy Law Center, Room 1101

Students interested in learning about post graduate clerkships with federal and state court judges are invited to attend and hear from a panel of our alumni about their clerkship experiences. 2Ls are encouraged to attend, but all are welcome.
**Alumni Spotlight: Richard Thomas, Class of 1981**

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

I was a fairly good student in the liberal arts at Notre Dame when I made my decision and it seemed like the logical thing to do.

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

I wish I had made myself more aware of the wide range of diverse jobs that fall under the general heading “lawyer.”

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

Mike Kaufman/Barbri/Bar exam after law school. Mike’s Barbri Civil Procedure review classes were works of practical genius, compacting a ton of useful information into a limited period of time. And the classes were enjoyable! It was while I was taking Barbri that I fell in love with the idea of being a lawyer. It was then that I saw what the profession could mean to my life. Sitting for the actual exam was a peak experience for me, a thrilling two-days of preparation meeting the moment and leading to an inevitable and concrete result.

**What was the hardest thing to adjust to after graduating and beginning your career?**

I had to spend a lot of time figuring out what my options were as an attorney and how to make being a lawyer “work” for me.

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

I like lawyers. They are smart, social and surprisingly idealistic.

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

Huge. I spend a lot of time doing it. Read my public profile on LinkedIn and connect with me if you feel like it.

**What do you like the most about being a lawyer/your job?**

I don’t dwell on the “least” and try to remove it from my life when I can. I like the training in critical thinking that legal education gave to me, and the personal and professional opportunities that I enjoy as a lawyer.

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

I go to the movies with my fiancé every Friday night. Comedies, art films, large popcorn. We always have dinner together and spend time with each other in the evening. I like football and political shows on TV. I enjoy the Sunday New York Times and its crossword. Other than that, my enjoyment is one of the values I try to honor in the work that I do, and I seek and perform jobs that are fun for me.

**Which Chicago restaurant is your favorite?**

Garcia’s in Lincoln Square. Steak burrito, dry with only tomato and onions. $10.12 plus tip for the nice wait staff.

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**Sheila Nielsen, lawyer turned career coach, with twenty years of experience coaching over 2000 attorneys, will join us to discuss her book "Job Quest for Lawyers" and to provide concrete ways for students to network and conduct a successful job search.**

**March 27th, 12:00 - 1:00, Room: TBD**

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**Skadden Fellowship Program:**

Law students who are interested in developing Skadden Fellowship proposals are invited to attend a program presentation at the University of Chicago Law School on Wednesday, April 4th. The aim of the Skadden Fellowship is to give fellows the freedom to pursue public interest work; thus, the fellows create their own projects at public interest organizations. The program will run from 12:15-1:15 in Room V. All Chicago law students are invited to attend. Lunch will be served so please RSVP to law-career@luc.edu by Thursday, March 29th if you plan to attend. Additional information is available at: [http://www.skaddenfellowships.org](http://www.skaddenfellowships.org)

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**No LegalZzz: Don’t Be this Interviewee:** Thursday, March 8, 11:30 a.m. at Northwestern University Law

Alan S. Dalinka an attorney with many years of legal experience and experience, Alan is a graduate of the ComedySportz Chicago Training Center, the Second City Chicago Training Center, and the Second City Chicago Comedy Writing Program. The tips and strategies presented come with nearly true-to-life examples. The program also includes skill-building exercises that require attendees to actively participate rather than just sit and listen. If you plan to attend please RSVP to Puja Singh Patel @ puja-patel@law.northwestern.edu.
Conducting an Out-of-State Job Search

Perhaps you are originally from the east coast and hope to return upon graduation. Or maybe you’ve had enough of the Chicago winters and want to move to sunny California to begin your career. No matter what the situation, conducting an out-of-state job search can be challenging. Below are some tips and resources for students who are job hunting outside the Chicagoland area.

- **Request Reciprocity**
  Many law schools provide reasonable access to their career resources for students and graduates from other law schools. To request reciprocity with another law school, please send an email to law-career@luc.edu with your name, class year or graduation date, email address, the name of the school where you would like reciprocity, the school's contact person, and the contact person's email address.

  You can review the reciprocity policy of the school that you are interested in by visiting NALP’s Reciprocity Policies page at http://www.nalp.org/reciprocitypolicies.

- **Visit the out-of-state job search info on our website at:**
  http://www.luc.edu/law/career/out_of_state.html Includes state by state resources to search for a job outside of Chicago including information on local and national job fairs, links to law firms outside of Chicago, and a nationwide job search guide.

- **Reach out to Loyola Alums in your Desired Location**
  Want to connect with alums in your new city? You can gain access to the law school’s online alumni directory where you can search for alumni by geography and many other filters. To Register go to: LUC.edu/law/studentdirectory After you complete the form you will be receive access information within 48 hours!

- **Also use the lawyer search tool at:**
  www.martindale.com

- **Research Bar Admission Requirements**
  Published by the National Conference of Bar Examiners and the American Bar Association, this guide is helpful if you plan to take the bar exam outside of Illinois. http://tinyurl.com/6gx9ekn

  A hard copy of the National Conference of Bar Examiners Guide to Bar Admission Requirements is available in the Office of Career Services.

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### Symplicity Spotlight

**Summer 2012 Law Clerk Positions**

**U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.**

The Vaccine Litigation Group is currently seeking law students for a limited number of Summer 2012 volunteer (unpaid) law clerk positions in Washington, DC. Law clerks work closely with attorneys and paralegals on substantive matters in all stages of litigation. Indeed, the position offers a unique experience in public service. The legal and medical issues at stake in each case vary greatly. Attorneys and staff in the group handle heavy case loads, and while streamlined procedures are utilized, cases frequently involve complex liability and damages issues. Attorneys appear frequently before the U.S. Court of Federal Claims and before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, which affords law clerks the opportunity to gain experience in trial and appellate practice. To learn more please see Symplicity Job #8291.

**Summer 2012 Legal Extern**

**Children's Memorial Hospital, Legal Services Dept.**

A legal extern at Children’s Memorial Hospital (“CMH”) will participate in projects that span a variety of subject areas. Because of the complexity of the CMH organization, our attorneys and externs have a highly diverse practice. A week in the life of an extern could include research projects involving the application of a new Illinois law on error reporting; a question on the legality of rapid HIV-testing; assisting the Foundation in complying with Chicago raffle law; and drafting medical director agreements. Externs also routinely attend standing hospital staff meetings with members of the Legal Department, as well as meetings with CMH administrators to discuss specific ongoing projects. Externs are involved on a one-on-one basis with hospital staff on projects. Please see Symplicity Job #8300 for details about application procedures.