

THE CCS BUZZ


Your weekly guide to what is important to your career and professional development

Week of April 20, 2009

SAVE THE DATES!!!

SMALL FIRM PRACTICE SERIES

May 29, June 5, June 12, June 19 from 2-5pm



This summer, the Center for Career Services will present the Small Firm Practice Series here at UF Law. Smaller firms are a significant employment market for students in and just out of UF Law.

Law students well trained in legal skills and practicing with professionalism are more successful in gaining employment within these firms. As part of the Small Firm Project, local practitioners and other experts will teach classes which will help interested students learn those valuable legal skills. Initially, the series will consist of four three-hour classes (not for academic credit) designed to provide participants with both instruction and hands-on practice. The class topics include: Pleadings and Motion Practice, Crafting a Defense, a Deposition Skills Workshop, and Understanding Malpractice Insurance and Tips to Avoid Claims (FLMIC). The classes will take place on several Friday afternoons during the summer (May 29th, June 5th, June 12th, and June 19th) from 2-5 PM. There will also be a reception to wrap-up the series on Friday, June 19th from 5-7 PM. This series is a great learning and networking opportunity for students! Please contact Career Services for more information.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations to the 2009-10 Chester Bedell Inn of Court (Jacksonville) UF Law Pupils:

Christopher Goodwin

Alex King

Allison McElhaney

Dan Stocker

A. Daniel Vazquez-Pillar

Ashley Williams

Interested in becoming a pupil of an Inn of Court? Applications for the Gainesville Inn will be requested Fall '09.

1L CORNER

Attorneys from **Gray Robinson** gave some great information at their program *Insight from the Inside: Surviving the legal employment market*.

Trevor Arnold mentioned that since many State Courts have had their budget decreased, they are starving for volunteers. Interning at a court can give a breadth of experience in various practice areas. Don't forget the insight you will bring a potential employer having worked for the judge presiding over many of their cases. Also, firms have started adjusting to dealing with young lawyers, basing an associate's salary on performance. To ensure you meet an employer's expectations, reinvent yourself with core classes that can hone your skills.

Patrick Willis talked about finding internships, even if unpaid, with government agencies like the State Attorney's Office. These can give you valuable experience and help you become more marketable for your 2L summer.

Joe Fitos described that employers are looking for candidates who have been out, working in the legal community. He went on to say that students should taper their expectations about landing the perfect job. As long as the work gives you substantive experience, it does not need to be glamorous. Also, participating in bar activities as students increases your chance of learning about opportunities through the grape vine.

Rachel Crews gave a great tip about heading out of state. If the firm you are interested in interviews at a different law school's campus, do not be afraid to send them a cover letter and resume prior to their interviews. They may not need to interview as many of those OTHER students.

FREE HOUSING IN NYC???

Educational Housing Services is giving away 8 more full housing scholarships for this coming summer session. This means free room, telephone, internet, and all other amazing amenities. There 7 residences in New York City.

Visit www.studenthousing.org/scholarship to register to win!



New Summer Externship Opportunity with **TECO Energy, Inc. in Tampa** (Unpaid, for credit)

Application deadline: April 25, 2009

("TECO") is a major public utility and one of the largest publicly-owned companies in Florida. TECO has an in-house General Counsel staff consisting of nine (9) lawyers divided into various areas of responsibility, ranging from employment matters to contract drafting to securities law issues. As with most corporate externships, this position is not likely to directly lead to employment as TECO does not hire entry-level associates.

Preferences: 2L's who have completed Corporations, Legal Drafting and a course in Sales. Class rank and previous work experience will also be factors considered in the selection process.

Educational Objectives: TECO's in-house counsel handles numerous contract, employment, labor, and utility regulation issues. Externs will be expected to research legal matters in these areas and prepare memoranda for the general counsel's staff. The general counsel's staff meets regularly with the externs to discuss pending matters and directs externs in their research efforts.

For more info & how to apply please check the posting in the Symplicity Job Bank in the "Jobs" tab.



GREAT JOB!

Congratulations to all of the participants participating in the Pro Bono and Community Service Projects! Those students earning 35 volunteer hours and above this year were recently honored at the Volunteer Celebration, and graduating 3Ls earned their certificates. Graduates earning certificates will also have a special mention in the commencement program.

Volunteers earned over 16,500 hours overall!!!

Although Career Services reports announcements of opportunities and events that may state a preference for a specified religion, gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnicity, disability or other category, it is UF Law CCS's policy that any interested UF Law student is eligible to submit credentials for consideration and may participate in the events.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well." - Ralph Waldo Emerson



NEW RESOURCE IN THE CCS!

The Law Student's Pocket Mentor: From Surviving to Thriving—Ann L. Iijima



This book offers student-tested checklists, tips, techniques, and exercises that will help you to choose classes, read and brief cases, take notes in class, create a course outline, write exam answers, and develop your resume. In a smart, yet informal style, Ann Iijima pulls it together in one logical, step-by-step place that is going to put your mind at ease.

CCS AVAILABILITY

***NEW* Tuesdays:** The CCS will have a counselor available until 7:00pm.

Hours of Operation: M-F 8am-5pm.

Walk-Ins: Have a quick question? Pop in M-Th 8:30am-3pm.

Appointments: Ask at the front desk or email careers@law.ufl.edu.

IM: Fridays, 9am-5pm for Yahoo, Hotmail, AOL
Screen name: UFLAWCAREERS.

Blog: Check out the **NEW** and **CONTINUALLY UPDATED** place to find your important career planning info: uflawccs.blogspot.com.

