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New York Law School



A newsletter for the New York Law School community

Counselor

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OTTO WALTER LECTURE THIS WEEK

"A Lawyer has an Obligation: *Pro Bono* and the Legal Profession" will be discussed during the 2001 Otto L. Walter Lecture on Tues., April 10, 4:30-6 pm, Wellington Center.

Evan A. Davis, president of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, will speak about lawyers' ethical responsibility to provide *pro bono* services. He will examine what the legal profession can do to support and expand *pro bono* opportunities; and what the future holds for lawyers and students interested in public interest law. Mr. Davis is a partner at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton.

Pro bono work remains one of a lawyer's greatest obligations to society. However, as the legal profession has become more stressful in recent years, some lawyers are committing less time and fewer resources to *pro bono* work. And, as public funding for legal aid programs remains inadequate, there is reason for concern that the need for *pro bono* assistance will not be met.

The lecture series is named for Dr. Otto L. Walter, who received his first law degree in his native Germany, was disbarred by the Nazi government, and earned his American law degree from New York Law School's Evening Division in 1954.

C.V. Starr Professor of Law Sydney M. Cone, III, director of the Center for International Law, will host the lecture.

Admission is free. RSVP: Michael Rhee at 431-2865 or via e-mail at mrhee@nyls.edu.

State of the death penalty panel discussion

A panel discussion on "The 25th Anniversary of *Gregg v. Georgia*: A Discussion on the Current State of the Death Penalty in America" will be held on Wed., April 11, 7:30-9 pm, Ernst Stiefel Reading Room. Panelists include Profs. Robert Wecker and Nadine Strossen, president of the ACLU, and Lawrence Hayes, former death row prisoner. Mr. Hayes speaks internationally for the Campaign to End the Death Penalty.

The panel is sponsored by the NYLS chapter of Amnesty International. Reservations are not required.

Final Town Meeting for the semester set

Dean Matasar's last town meeting for the spring semester will be held on Tues., April 17, 5-7 pm, Student Cafeteria.

Dean Matasar has an open door policy: anytime he is not in a meeting and is in the office, you are welcome to drop by. If he is busy you may make an appointment with his assistant, DJ Mazer, to meet with the Dean at your convenience.

In addition, the Dean's weekly schedule is posted outside his office on the 2nd floor of A building.

You also should feel free to write to Dean Matasar at the e-mail account established especially for this purpose: deardean@nyls.edu.

Recognizing that evening students have limited time availability, he will hold a call-in hour reserved for evening students on Thurs., April 19, 11 am-12 pm.

Class of 2001: Thank you and last call!

First, the good news: 312 members of this year's graduating class returned their commencement packets, including their RSVPs, ticket requests and cap and gown orders. However, if you are one of the few graduating students who have not yet responded, please note that unless you respond to the Office of Development and Public Affairs, 40 Worth St., room 705 by **FRIDAY, APRIL 27:**

- ◆ There may not be a cap and gown for you.
- ◆ You will not be eligible for the lottery for additional tickets.
- ◆ We cannot guarantee any tickets for your family or friends.

Extra tickets will be distributed only to those who have met the deadline.

Federal clerkship awarded

Congratulations to Sonia Chung '01 who has been awarded a federal clerkship for 2001-2002. After graduation she will clerk for the Hon. Gregory M. Sleet, US District Court, DE.

About Counselor *Counselor* is published weekly when school is in session by the Office of Development and Public Affairs. The next issue of *Counselor* will be published on Monday, April 16. Students who wish to submit information to *Counselor* should write to the Office of Student Life, 5th floor, A bldg. by 9 am, Monday for the following Monday's edition. Faculty and staff should e-mail copy via counselor@nyls.edu to Donna Spalter, assistant director of communications and public relations, by noon Tuesday, for the next Monday's issue. Contact Ms. Spalter at 431-2187 with questions or to request an editorial schedule.

Research assistants wanted

Professor Nadine Strossen, national president of the American Civil Liberties Union, is accepting applications for research assistants in her NYLS office for the summer months.

RAs work as part of an office team that assists with Prof. Strossen's research, writing, speaking, and media appearances on a wide range of civil liberties and constitutional law issues. The learning opportunities are enhanced by lunch-time seminars that take place at the offices of the ACLU and the NAACP Legal Defense & Education Fund (both close to NYLS), at which RAs (along with ACLU and LDF summer interns) hear from lawyers engaged in civil liberties/civil rights work. (Prof. Strossen expects her RAs to participate in these seminars as part of their interrelated work and educational summer experience).

In addition to research on a wide range of legal and factual issues, responsibilities include assisting with communications and other aspects of office management and administration. Ideal candidates should have strong communication skills; an ability to work with others; superior Lexis/Westlaw/Internet research skills; the ability to exercise judgment and take initiative; and outstanding organizational skills, including the ability to manage numerous tasks simultaneously; work under pressure; and meet unexpected deadlines.

While not a prerequisite for the position, an interest in constitutional law and civil liberties issues (regardless of one's views on those issues) would be a plus. Interested students should submit a resume, a writing sample, and a letter of interest to Kathy Davis, academic assistant to Prof. Strossen, A903, by noon, Mon., April 16.

Work-study positions available

The Lawyering Skills Office has full-time and part-time positions available this summer. Duties include assisting professors and staff with various projects, general office duties, and data entry. Interested students should see Jill Jackson room B106, 431-2186, or Susan D'Ambra, room C208, 431-2388.

You got game?

The SBA is sponsoring a three-on-three basketball tournament on Thurs., April 12 and a co-ed volleyball tournament on Tues., April 17 at Stuyvesant High School (10 minute walking distance from NYLS). Both tournaments run from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Teams must register in Student Life by 3 pm one (1) day prior to playing in the tournament.

For further information, contact Michael Arcati, SBA senator, at 212-349-8656, or by e-mail at marcati.s@nyls.edu.

From the Office of Academic Affairs

Examination conflict and typing request forms are now available in the Academic Affairs Office. Forms must be submitted to Academic Affairs by Mon., April 23.

FROM THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID

For more information on the following, visit the Office of Financial Aid (fifth floor, A Building) or call 431-2828.

Student loan exit counseling workshops

June 2001 graduating students who have borrowed money through the Federal Stafford Loan and/or Federal Perkins Loan program are required by federal law to complete an exit counseling workshop.

Workshops are set for Tues., April 24 and Wed., April 25, 12:30-1:45 pm and 4:30-5:45 pm, room A700.

Financial Aid staff must know who plans to attend each workshop, as customized folders are made for each attending student. Note: Space is limited to 50 people per session.

RSVP to Financial Aid via e-mail at financialaid@nyls.edu or call 431-2828.

2001-2002 financial aid application deadline

The deadline for submitting 2001-2002 financial aid application materials for summer federal work-study and academic year grant-in-aid is April 16. Students applying for loan assistance for the 2001-2002 academic year only must submit all required materials by Aug 1. We suggest, however, that all applicants comply with the April 16 deadline to ensure that financial aid funds for fall 2001 can be disbursed by the start of the school year. Students seeking loans for summer enrollment should contact the Financial Aid Office for application instructions at 431-2828.

Financial Literacy workshop set

Prof. Karen Gross will conduct a financial literacy workshop on Thurs., April 26, 12:45-1:45 pm, room A900. Prof. Gross will discuss credit cards and minimum payments; credit scoring; credit reporting; and permissible debt collection practices. The workshop is sponsored by the Financial Aid Office. Refreshments will be served.

RSVP: Financial Aid via e-mail at financialaid@nyls.edu, or call 431-2828. Reservation deadline: April 20. □

Operation Laptop continues

A crime prevention officer will be on campus to discuss how to safeguard laptop computers against theft through "Operation Laptop" on Wed., April 18, 4-6 pm, the first floor corridor/53 Worth St.

The program provides laptop stickers and serial numbers written in indelible ink that can only be seen with a black light. The serial numbers will be filed at the NYPD First Precinct, 16 Ericsson Place.

FROM THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

For more information on the following, visit the Office of Career Services (fifth floor, B building) or call 431-2345. RSVP for all Career Services programs using the On-line Resource Center. Career programs are videotaped.

Corporate Practice Program

Learn what it means to be a minority attorney practicing corporate law. Students of color are invited to join corporate practitioners from leading NYC law firms at a panel discussion on Tues., April 10, 6:15 pm, immediately follow the Otto Walter Lecture in the Wellington Center. Students will have the opportunity to speak one-on-one with panelists following the discussion. The program is sponsored by the Committee on Mergers, Acquisitions and Corporate Control Contest of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York, Career Services, AALSA, BLSA, SALSA and LaLSA. Refreshments will be served.

RSVP: On-line Resource Center.

Fellowship Program for Civil Rights

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) Foundation and the Joseph L. Brechner Fellowship Program Endowment Fund have established the Joseph L. Brechner Fellowship Program to further the pursuit and development of careers in the practice area of civil rights. The Brechner Fellows will engage in legal research; writing under the supervision of ADL attorneys; and will assist in preparing amicus curiae briefs, testimony, model legislation, op-ed submissions and ADL Civil Rights Division publications when appropriate.

Applicants must be first- or second-year day students or first-, second-, or third-year evening students with a demonstrated commitment to First Amendment issues. The eight month fellowship runs concurrently with the law school's fall and spring semesters.

Fellows will be paid a \$1,000 stipend per month for the term of the program, or the ADL will work with the Fellow to to secure course credit through the Fellows school. Students should submit a completed application form, a resume, a law school transcript, two (2) letters of recommendation from law school professors or attorneys familiar with their work, and a two (2) page, single-spaced personal statement indicating the reasons for their interest in this fellowship.

Application forms are available in Career Services. Deadline: Applications must be submitted to Career Services by April 13 at 5 pm.

For more information about the Anti-Defamation League, visit the Web site at www.adl.org.

How evening students change careers

Evening students are encouraged to attend a program on "Preparing For and Handling Career Change" on Wed., April 11, 5 pm, room B400. Hear tips on how to maximize future job possibilities. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP: On-line Resource Center.

Wanda's Resource Tip

ALTERNATIVE/NON-LEGAL RESOURCES

Here is a list of some resources available:

- ☐ *Alternative Careers for Lawyers*
- ☐ Alumni Mentor Project binders
- ☐ *America's Greatest Places to Work With a Law Degree*
- ☐ Articles on Alternative Careers binder
- ☐ *Beyond L.A. Law: Breaking the Traditional "Lawyer" Mold*
- ☐ *Changing Jobs: A Handbook for Lawyers in the New Millennium*
- ☐ *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (weekly)
- ☐ *Federal Law-Related Careers Directory*
- ☐ *Guerrilla Tactics for Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams*
- ☐ *JD Preferred: 400+ Things You Can Do With a Law Degree (Other Than Practice Law)*
- ☐ *The Lawyer's Career Change Handbook - More Than 300 Things You Can Do With A Law Degree*
- ☐ *Non-Legal Careers for Lawyers*
- ☐ The Non-Traditional Legal Careers Report binder
- ☐ *Public Interest Employment Services* (PIES Job Alert!) (bi-weekly)

For a complete list of alternative/non-legal resources, please visit our On-line Resource Center accessible through Emplawyernet. To access this list, go to www.emplawyernet.com; enter your Career Services ID and password; click the Manual and Resources icon; and click on the "Books and Guides Available" link.

Read next week's *Counselor* for information on Martindale-Hubbell Search on the Web. □

Writing-On is "Right on!"

The NYLS Law Review, Human Rights Journal and Journal for International and Comparative Law Write-on Competition for continuing students interested in participating on the NYLS Journals will be held, June 15-June 29. Students interested in participating in the competition should register by e-mail at WriteOn@nyls.edu.

For additional information, contact Steve Goot, sgoot@nyls.edu, or Michelle Ottley, mottley@nyls.edu.

CALENDAR.

APRIL 9-15

TUESDAY 4/10

☐ **IRISH LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING**

1-2 pm, room A600

☐ **OTTO L. WALTER LECTURE**

4:30-6 pm, Wellington Center

Featured speaker: Evan A. Davis, president of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, discusses *pro bono* work.

☐ **CORPORATE PRACTICE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS OF COLOR**

6:15 pm, Wellington Center. Sponsored by Career Services.

RSVP: On-line Resource Center.

WEDNESDAY 4/11

☐ **PREPARING FOR & HANDLING CAREER CHANGE**

For evening students. 5 pm, B400. RSVP: On-line Resource Center.

☐ **STATE OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN AMERICA**

25th Anniversary of *Gregg v. Georgia* panel discussion, 7:30-9 pm, Ernst Stiefel

Reading Room. Sponsored by the NYLS chapter of Amnesty International.

Reservations are not required.

THURSDAY 4/12

☐ **THE GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE GENERAL MEETING**

5:30-6:30 pm, room B410. All are invited. Newcomers welcome.

☐ **SBA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

6:30-8:30 pm, Stuyvesant High School. Register in Student Life.

☐ **ASIAN AMERICAN LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION ALUM/MENTOR BANQUET**

7-10 pm, Empire Korea, 6 East 32nd St. (between 5th and Madison Ave). Cost: \$25, (drinks not included). For further information, call 431-2899, ext. 4188.

FRIDAY 4/13

☐ **GOOD FRIDAY—NO CLASSES**

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 16

☐ **SBA GRADUATION RECEPTION**

5:30-8:30 pm, Wellington Center

APRIL 17

☐ **DEAN MATASAR'S TOWN MEETING**

5-7 pm, Student Center

☐ **SBA CO-ED VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT**

6:30-8:30 pm, Stuyvesant High School. Register in Student Life.

APRIL 18

☐ **OPERATION LAPTOP**

4-6 pm, first floor corridor/53 Worth St.

APRIL 19

☐ **DEAN MATASAR'S CALL-IN HOUR FOR EVENING STUDENTS**

11 am-12 pm, 431-2840

APRIL 20

☐ **NYLS LAW REVIEW & JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL & COMPARATIVE LAW BANQUET**

Honoring Barry C. Scheck and Peter Neufeld of Cochran, Neufeld & Scheck.
200 Fifth Club in Manhattan

APRIL 24-25

☐ **GRADUATING STUDENT EXIT COUNSELING WORKSHOPS**

12:30-1:45 pm and 4:30-5:45 pm, room A700

APRIL 26

☐ **FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP**

Conducted by Prof. Karen Gross. 12:45-1:45 pm, room A900

