Are you interested in public service?

Do you want to get real, on-the-ground legal experience and training?

Is there a group or cause you feel passionate about?

Consider applying for a postgraduate public interest fellowship.

A fellowship is generally a one or two year term of employment with a public interest organization. It may be funded by the organization, or by an outside group or foundation.

For organization-based fellowships, the nonprofit organization itself determines the scope of the work. Alternatively, some large foundations fund project-based fellowships, for which the applicant develops a specific project to be funded.

If you are passionately committed to a particular cause, group, or issue, a fellowship is one way to put that commitment into action. Fellowships are often a gateway for entry-level public interest jobs, particularly with large, national nonprofit organizations.

Fellows receive top-rate training and supervision, with the potential for continued employment, depending on the organization. In addition, fellows begin to build a strong professional network in their chosen field. Application processes are highly competitive, so a fellowship is viewed as an impressive credential.

Want to find out more?

Keep reading this newsletter for more on North Carolina fellowships and links to additional resources. Check Symplicity for job postings.

In addition, PSLawNet has an online database of fellowships, internships, and other public interest employment opportunities, searchable by geographic area and subject matter. Helpful information and resources for fellowships is available here.

The Foundation Center also has extensive information on potential funding sources for individuals and organizations.

**Important Deadlines**

- Application process for Public Defender Corps program closes at **5pm on Friday, September 16**.
- Applications for the Attorney Honors Program—Department of Energy (see page 2 for details) are due **Friday, September 23**.
- Final day to register for the Equal Justice Works Conference & Career Fair is **Monday, September 19**.
- Application process for the Presidential Management Fellows program closes **Sunday, September 25**.
The UNC-Chapel Hill Center for Civil Rights Fellowship is a two-year fellowship with its Community Inclusion and Economic Development Program, focused on combating housing discrimination, ensuring access to quality municipal services, achieving environmental justice, and maximizing the property assets of minority landowners. The Center is accepting applications for the 2012-2014 fellowship until January 31, 2012.

The Fair Trial Initiative, a Durham nonprofit providing resources for attorneys representing indigent defendants in capital cases, offers the Osborn Fellowship, during which Fellows become members of the defense team, helping with the full scope of legal and investigative tasks. They also attend death penalty defense seminars and trainings across the country that supplement the in-house training and intensive support they receive from mentoring attorneys, permanent staff, and each other. FTI is accepting applications for the 2012-2014 fellowship until October 31, 2011.

Pisgah Legal Services, in Hendersonville, is interested in hosting a fellow to work with and expand its Justice for All Project. The Justice for All Project provides legal aid to help eligible low-income immigrants secure legal immigration status and/or work authorization. Fellowship applicants must identify and obtain their own funding source (see information on “Project-Based Grants” below).

Additional Information on Fellowships

Project-Based Grants:
This type of fellowship offers funding for applicants who create a specific project in conjunction with a sponsoring organization.

Equal Justice Works and the Skadden Fellowship Foundation are two of the most well-known organizations offering project-based fellowship grants.

Even if you do not have a particular project in mind, organizations in your field of interest may have project ideas and/or be looking for a fellow who matches that project. The ‘fellowship sponsor’ category on PSLawNet is intended for organizations with a specific project to be matched with a candidate who can obtain funding for that project.

Entrepreneurial Grants:
Some organizations offer funding to individuals with unique or innovative ideas. The Echoing Green Foundation provide start-up capital and technical assistance to help new leaders launch their organizations and build capacity. Applicants develop an independent project in a public service area such as civil and human rights, the environment, education and youth leadership, or housing.

Ashoka Fellowships provide funding to leading social entrepreneurs to develop innovative solutions to social problems with the potential to change patterns across society.

Law Firm Fellowships

Several law firms also have public interest fellows who typically work exclusively on pro bono matters. Hunton & Williams offers a two-year fellowship opportunity for attorneys in its Richmond and Atlanta offices. Pro bono fellows work in conjunction with local legal aid offices to represent indigent clients.

Relman, Dane & Colfax, PLLC offers a one-year civil rights fellowship during which the fellow works with litigation counsel on cutting edge civil rights cases.
Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday, October 5
Sports & Entertainment Law Panel
12:00-1:30pm

Friday, October 7
Criminal Law Roundtable Panel
12:00-12:50pm

Monday, October 10
OCPD Pre-Fall Break Marathon Day
Quick Questions for 2Ls and 3Ls

Tuesday, October 18
Pathways to Academia with Prof. Jonathan Cardi
12:00-12:50pm

Job Listings

The U.S. Department of Energy—Office of the General Counsel seeks 3Ls or Recent Grads (within 1 year of graduation) for the new 3-year full-time paid Attorneys Honors Program. Although not guaranteed, Honors Attorneys may be eligible for permanent positions in DOE after passing bar exam. Attorneys will be assigned to various Assistant General Counsel offices for 6-12 month rotations. Each office offers a wide variety of legal practice areas including environmental law, legislation and regulation, litigation and enforcement, international law, procurement, intellectual property and others. View the posting here.

Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc. (Greensboro, NC), one of the world’s leading companies with 25,000 employees in over 90 countries, is seeking a patent attorney. The position will involve all aspects of patent law with particular emphasis on application drafting, worldwide patent filing and prosecution, client counseling, evaluating patent validity and infringement issues, preparing and reviewing agreements and managing an IP portfolio. Job posting available on Symplicity.

Articles of Interest

◊ Six Networking Coups to Win Jobs
◊ NALP Report: Law Firm Associate Salaries Changed Little from Last Year
◊ The Rise of the Non-Firm Firms
◊ Are You Beer-Worthy?

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do.
So throw off the bowlines.
Sail away from the safe harbor.
- Mark Twain

Check Symplicity regularly for updated listings!
The Office of Career & Professional Development partners with students and alumni during the career planning and job search process. We help you identify and pursue your own career path through one-on-one advising and career-related programming; access to job search resources and job listings; and organized interview programs.

**Visit our blog!**
http://career.law.wfu.edu/blog/

**Keep your Symplicity profile and resume up to date!** Practice area and geographic preferences in Symplicity are located under the “Profile” and “Academic” tabs. We will be relying on this information more heavily in the coming months as we talk to employers about you and your geographic interests. As your preferences change throughout the year, be sure to keep this information current.

**If you have a video conference interview request:** Be sure to contact Ed Raliski (raliskes@wfu.edu) BEFORE scheduling a date and time for the interview. We need to coordinate with the business school for use of the equipment, so we want to make sure it’s available for your use.

**Follow Us Online!**
Check out the new Office of Career and Professional Development Facebook page for the latest job postings, reminders, and career-related news!