



the Commentator

The Student Newspaper of the New York University School of Law

Volume XLIII, Number 1

September 16, 2009

THE STATE OF THE LEGAL ECONOMY

Early Interview Week Kicks off Busy Fall for Office of Career Services



Stavan Desai
Staff Editor

Students wait anxiously for their impending interviews at the Embassy Suites during Early Interview Week.

BY MOLLY WALLACE '10
STAFF WRITER

When the law firm Reed Smith cancelled its recruiting at Fordham Law School in August, the school banned them from campus recruiting for the next five years. NYU took the opposite approach as early as July, when three employers cancelled their participation in NYU's Early Interview Week (EIW) entirely, and many more cut the number of interview slots.

The Office of Career Services (OCS) is encouraging student-firm contact through "PEP" – a newly created "Professional Exchange Program." This program invite firms that cancelled their EIW participation to maintain campus presence by hosting a day of practice interviews, discussions of practice areas, or informational interviews about the firm specifically should openings occur later in the interview season. "In a worst case scenario," explained Assistant Dean Irene Dorzback, "the students will be better prepared for future interviews, and in the best case scenario these meetings will create useful connections for both the firm and the student.

"The ultimate goal is em-

ployment, but that employment may not be with a participating PEP employer – but lawyers know other lawyers, whether through bar association committees, clients, neighbors, etc. and perhaps a good connection will be made that will lead a student to a different prospective employer, said Dorzback. Three firms have signed up for PEP so far (DLA Piper; Orrick; and Morgan Lewis) and student response has been very strong.

On October 7, OCS is hosting a panel titled "Finding Your Niche" followed by a networking reception with small and medium sized firms. Several alumni will discuss their career paths in smaller legal practices and provide informational advice to students in a less formal reception. Again the goal is that alumni and students connect in ways that may lead to additional career opportunities.

"The name of the game," said Dorzback, "is to stay in it, and to continue to develop one's skills and contacts. There is no job lottery – no ticket to buy and no lucky winner. So we have to create opportunities for firm and employer engagement, plain and simple." To that end, the OCS is speaking with firms to allow students to

attend firm-hosted CLEs, to co-write articles with partners, and to collaborate on pro-bono projects. "We each have to dig deeper – students and the OCS – to identify ways that students can showcase their enthusiasm for legal practice, their strong skills and experience, and their interpersonal skills. That can only happen when students and employers are in the same room and we are focused on making that happen," said Dorzback.

Despite the slowed hiring these efforts indicate, 2Ls only had one to two fewer interviews at EIW than last year. The bigger shift in that group has been seen in callback rates: some students are juggling several callbacks and others still await their first callback.

Because recruiting is more competitive this year, some firms feel able to take their time in determining how many callbacks to schedule and who should fill those slots. Others began their callbacks as early as the Friday of Early Interview Week, which ran from Monday August 17 through Thursday the 20. Skadden plans to extend its summer offers all at once on September 22. Dorzback expects some shift from the "hold lists" following the Skadden offers. "Some students are waiting to hear from Skadden before making their offer decisions," said Dorzback, "and these students will then turn down offers and cancel other callbacks they have not yet taken."

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Dean Revesz Leads Town Hall, Reassures Students About Jobs, LRAP, Tuition

BY JOSEPH JEROME '11
MANAGING EDITOR

Describing the law school as being in a "reasonably good position considering the economy," Dean Richard Revesz tackled students' concerns about the economic crisis during a town hall meeting last Tuesday morning in Greenberg Lounge. "I don't want to minimize the problem," he cautioned, "but I want to put it into context." An hour was devoted to putting the best face possible on a bleak situation, focusing, first, on the fiscal health of the law school and, second, on the impact the recession is having on job prospects for graduates.

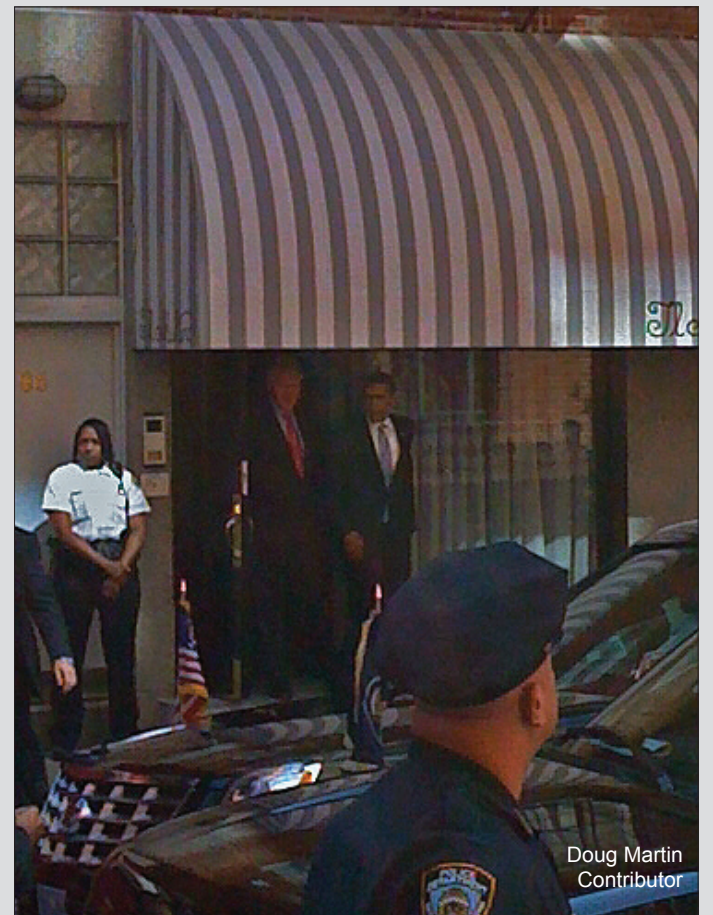
The reality of the recession is that the law school's costs are up and its revenues are down, Revesz admitted. However, he argued that the situation facing the law school is no worse than at peer institutions. Responding to a recent petition requesting this year's tuition increase be deferred, Revesz

insisted that the 4.5 percent increase was considerably less than almost all other peer schools. The suggestion was that the increase could have been much higher. As only 10 percent of the school's budget is provided by NYU's endowment, he considered the school lucky not to be impacted as much as other law schools by shrinking university endowments. Fundraising and alumni involvement continue to give Revesz confidence regarding the overall financial health of the school.

Further, Revesz insisted that the school's top priority at the moment should be to keep its reputation intact. He reiterated his commitment to both the Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) and Public Interest Law Center (PILC) summer funding grants even though the costs for both are expected to increase dramatically this year. "We think [public service] is a good thing," he said as several students sighed in relief, "and our commitments are staying in place."

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Obama Fever at NYU



Doug Martin
Contributor

President Barack Obama had lunch with former President Bill Clinton Monday afternoon at Il Mulino on Third Street between Thompson Street and Sullivan Street. There were barricades and Secret Service agents all around the area, as many NYU Law students tried to get a peek at the two Presidents. The lunch occurred after Obama gave a speech on Wall Street about the economic crisis.

Infra

The SBA Vice President does more than take clandestine pictures of Barack Obama page 2

Don't know what the SBA is? We have a handy glossary to guide you to all the acronyms and jargon you'll hear at NYU page 3

Student Bar Association VP Welcomes New 1Ls, LLMS, Transfers to NYU Law



By **DOUG MARTIN '11**
SBA VICE
PRESIDENT

Howdy! To our new 1Ls, LLMS, JSDs, and transfer students, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to New York University. To the 3Ls and my fellow 2Ls, I'd like to say welcome back for another great year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer wherever you were and whatever you were doing.

My name is Doug Martin, and I am the Vice-President of the Student Bar Association, or SBA for short. As a student at NYU School of Law, you automatically become a member of the Student Bar Association. The Board of Governors, which most people know as the SBA, acts as the student government for the law school. The Board includes myself, the other executive officers, and the class representatives. Soon the 1Ls, transfer students, and LLMS will have the opportunity to elect their own representatives to the Board.

While you may not be aware, the SBA Board is involved in many critical aspects of the law school community. The Board sets the amount of money that any student group receives. When the administra-

tion wants student input on any question or issue, the Board is contacted. Student questions, concerns, and complaints are addressed in our weekly Board meetings and our regular meetings with the Dean and his staff. When major issues arise that are of concern to the entire law school community, the Board promotes dialogue between the administration and the students by advocating for Town Hall meetings. Recently, the Dean has discussed the economy in this setting, and will discuss the recent appointment of and subsequent rejection by Dr. Li-Ann Thio.

One of the most visible functions of the SBA is to host the weekly Thursday night parties. These are usually held at a local bar or club, and are an important way that members of the NYU Law community connect with each other. Plus, the free drinks we provide are a good way to recoup some of that tuition money.

I encourage all law school students to attend the Thursday night parties whenever possible. 2Ls and 3Ls have a habit of not being as well represented, and I hope that this year will be different. I also want the 1Ls, LLMS, and transfer students to not be intimidated about coming out. As I am sure you have begun to realize, NYU Law is a special place, with a different student

body than many others. We as a school have cultivated a unique sense of community, and it is upon every class to continue that tradition. As Vice-Dean Barry Friedman admonished my class during its orientation last year, "Don't mess it up!"

Another significant duty performed by the Board is the appointment of students to the Student-Faculty Committees. As their name implies, these committees are groups of students and faculty members that address issues of great importance here at the school, including admissions, faculty appointments, facilities, budgets, curricula, and more. This year, a new committee has been formed to address issues relating to the Lawyering program. This committee will address, among other things, questions of sensitivity and effectiveness in the Lawyering curriculum. The committee's decisions and recommendations will affect the future of this long-established program. While the appointments to this committee are already set, we are still looking for applicants for a couple of other committees. The current appointments will all expire at the end of the Spring semester, to be replaced with new members by the Board. I encourage all of you to speak with any of the officers or representatives on the SBA Board to learn more about how you can participate in these committees.

Lastly, I wish to say a few words to each of the JD classes. 1Ls, your first semester and year may seem overwhelming, frustrating, and depressing at times. But it can also be exciting, empowering, and enlightening. Reach out to your classmates, and to the upperclassmen. Lean on your friends, and support them as well. Remember that Civil Procedure won't last forever. And remember that while grades are important, so is the rest of your life. To the 2Ls and 3Ls, best of luck with the job search, and remember that the economy won't stay like this forever. It can't rain forever.

Keep your head up, and I'll see you this Thursday at the party!

Summer Doesn't Take Away NYU's Greatness

By **MICHAEL MIX '11**
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This summer, my plans to be an advice-giver went down the tubes. Taking a page from my predecessor, I was prepared to use my first editorial of the year to give some guidance to the new 1Ls. I had a litany of recommendations that I would dole out while passing myself off as the Dr. Phil of the law school.

But that was before the summer of 2009, which has to go down as one of the worst in the history of NYU School of Law. How could I plug NYU Law when the economy is awful, firms are laying off attorneys left and right, and 2Ls and 3Ls are incredibly anxious about their future? Similarly, NYU suffered a black eye in the blogosphere, and in the eyes of their own students, when it hired Dr. Li-Ann Thio as a visiting professor. For those 1Ls that don't know, or upperclassmen who spent their summer on Nim's Island, Dr. Thio has some, well, unfortunate views on homosexual sex. After petitions, criticism, and bad press, Dr. Thio ultimately decided not to come to NYU, but the Thio debacle certainly makes for good newspaper fodder. How could I ignore this juicy story to instead advise 1Ls about the best way to take notes?

After vacillating all summer about the topic of my first editorial, I eventually realized something important. No matter what happened over the summer, NYU Law is still a special place. Instead of giving the 1Ls advice about the year ahead, I decided to justify the choice they made to come to NYU. After all, the front and opinion pages of this issue contain enough coverage of the big summer stories.

1Ls should take solace in the fact that they are at the right place to begin a successful legal career. Not only is NYU the fifth-best law school in the country, but 1Ls can expect one of the most enjoyable years of their lives. As a 1L last year, I made a great group of friends, discovered the best bars in New York City (Blind Tiger is my personal favorite), went to as

many SBA parties and received as much free alcohol as possible, helped my flag football team make the playoffs, and learned a little bit about the law along the way. The great thing about NYU is that not only is everyone driven to do well, but they also want their peers to succeed. From talking to people at other law schools, this just doesn't happen elsewhere. So when a 2L or 3L is worried about his or her future employment, he or she will have a collection of peers to commiserate with.

That being said, my inner Dr. Phil has to come out at some point in this column. If I were to give any one piece of advice to 1Ls, it would be, to quote the genie from *Aladdin* or alternatively the band Audioslave, "be yourself." One of my biggest problems with law school is that many people enter with preconceived notions about it. They see movies like *The Paper Chase*, read books like *1L*, or read about law school online and come up with a stereotype of the law student.

When it comes down to it, though, everybody does things differently. For example, I like taking notes on the readings but don't like taking a lot of notes in class. I outline for finals and participate in a study group starting at the end of the semester. I unwind by watching as much sports on TV as possible. But some people take copious notes in class, are in study groups that meet more often than Congress, and haven't watched *Sportscenter* since Mark Messier was a Ranger. The point is that everyone needs to find out what specifically works for them; your study habits will probably translate to law school. Don't change things up just because you are "supposed" to do something a certain way.

So if you're a 1L, don't freak out just yet. I'm sure you're overwhelmed with work, meeting new people, and (possibly) living in a new city. Find out what works for you, stop worrying about what happened this summer, and don't listen to what you are supposed to do. Unless that advice comes from *The Commentator*. In that case, hang on to every word.

the Commentator

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Having a Hard Time Convincing Firms That You Can Write?

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Don't Kid Yourself: The University Has Every Right to Shut Thio Up

By ANDREW KLOSTER '10
STAFF WRITER

If there's one thing I learned from the Thio kerfuffle over the summer, it is that the law school is here to teach the law: not integrity, not consistency, not honor, and certainly not good manners or respect. Professor Li-Ann Thio, a member of the Singaporean Parliament and a law professor at the National University of Singapore, was invited to teach at the law school in the fall. If the official story is to be believed, NYU OUTLaw discovered a video of Thio openly opposing the repeal of a Singaporean statute criminalizing sexual activity between males. Likely this occurred during the routine background check that OUTLaw makes of persons that visit NYU. Subsequently, a firestorm of grassroots opposition led to low enrollment in Thio's courses, who then withdrew from her visiting appointment, in part due to the hostility of the law school community.

Let me begin by preaching to the choir: Thio probably should not have been appointed in the first place, and after the story "broke," the university had every right to either rescind her appointment, or muzzle her. This is a private university, an academic community which, *by definition*, sets limits on permissible discourse, both in form and in content. Professors speak English and wear clothes to lectures—likewise they do not rail against homosexuals, the White Man, or the Jews. Nor do they deny the efficacy of civil discourse and sit cross-legged at the podium chanting dada.

To think that Thio should teach a course on "human rights in Asia" boggles the mind. The same political circumstances that made her appointment attractive to the administration made her an irresponsible choice. She is a nominated (read: installed) member of Parliament in one of the most autocratic regimes in Asia. Her views on the subject of natural, human rights are automatically suspect for this reason.

As a political matter, though, I agree that the waters navigated by the administration were narrow, and tough choices were made. On the one side were financial interest and diplomatic ties—one does not want to deter future visiting professors, nor does one want to scuttle the nascent NYU Law / National University of Singapore joint program. On the other side were justifiably impassioned students and faculty members (in particular, Professor Kenji Yoshino who counseled OUTLaw). In the face of all this, the line taken by Dean Revesz seemed appropriate: issue statements supporting the rabble-rousers while failing to publicly crucify Thio by rescinding her appointment. Thio's voluntary withdrawal was a smart move on her part, as well.

However, holding a town hall postmortem on this whole affair is double-dipping hubris. Not only do we get to fan the flames of self-congratulation—we get to pretend we've *learned* something, placing us in an ever-higher moral category: impossible given our immaculate starting point. To be honest, the event is an opportunity for the self-righteous thought police among

the student body to express their feelings to a vacuous, kowtowing administrator. It is catharsis, and it is a waste of time.

What happened here this summer is really quite simple. A politically-connected professor was pressured to step down because what she was saying was unacceptable. That's it. And that's okay! But let's not kid ourselves that we permit unfettered discourse at NYU Law. In fact, such a position would be incoherent. Still, there are some who, in a remarkable feat of doublethink, actually convince themselves that what was objectionable was not *what* Thio said, but *how* Thio said it.

The psychological motivations for reaching such a conclusion are obvious: by discounting Thio's opinions as uncivilized we elevate our own opinions still further while simultaneously refusing the intellectually-demanding task of actually engaging the content in question. This genteel poo-pooing of Thio's uncivilized superstitions is lazy. If it is self-evident that Thio was wrong, then no town hall is necessary: opposition to homosexual practice is an opinion that we cannot tolerate, and that it is so deep-rooted that it need not even be spoken. If, on the other hand, it is not self-evident that Thio was wrong, then we have two choices. We can use the town hall to formulate an exhaustive list of those opinions which are permissible, and those which are not. Or we can take the dishonest and shameful route, pretending that her views failed to meet some fetishistic, ever-shifting, content-neutral standard of civil discourse.

TOWN HALL: Economy Requires Flexibility

Continued from page 1

Revesz argued that any drastic measures taken this year could be both premature and more reactionary than necessary. He further lamented that rising education costs outpace inflation; efforts to improve education at the law school, such as smaller class section sizes, do not produce cost benefits. "All of us are working much harder to get the same results we used to get," he said. Because dorm occupancy helps the school's budget, he pointed to freezing rent rates and providing one month's free rent as an example of the school's attempt to help itself and its students in this economy.

Revesz also took time to address student concerns about the legal job market in the coming years. Flanked by Irene Dorzback from the Office of Career Services and Deb Ellis of PILC, Revesz spent much of the hour trying to calm the nerves of the primarily 1L audience.

Revesz suggested that NYU graduates were still fairing well in the job market. He briefly discussed his initial fear that the economic downturn would

result in a mass rescission of job offers. Though he lacked hard numbers, he maintained that upwards of 90 percent of NYU students were finding offers with firms, and that his fears had not come to pass. While he admitted that the current practice of deferring start dates might create a backlog of would-be first year associates, Revesz believed most students end up "quite pleased with the arrangement," and they appreciate the opportunity to learn other skills before beginning with a firm.

Indeed, Revesz remarked that practical skills learned during a deferral would likely allow NYU graduates to make lateral moves when the economy recovers. He said shrinking employment opportunities with big firms might cause students to explore alternative legal careers. He encouraged students to take advantage of opportunities in government or to pursue a clerkship.

"My dream job was to work in the Mondale Justice Department, but that job didn't exist when I was looking for a job [in 1984]," Revesz quipped.

Despite the economy, Revesz believes that firm hiring patterns likely will not change in the long term. The current hiring time frame is viable and firms are not likely to delaying interviewing job candidates into the spring of second year, but if they do, he pledged that NYU would work with firms to make sure any hiring process would be efficient and "place as many of our students as possible."

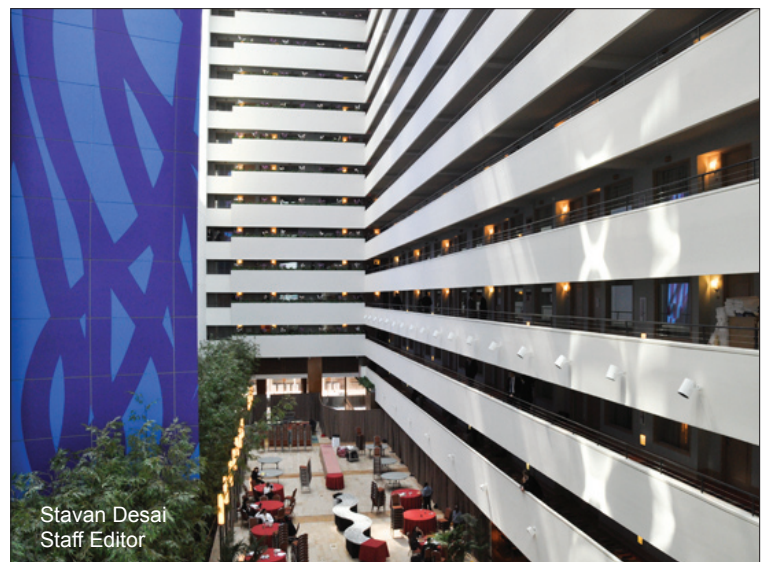
Cautioning students against envisioning a perfect job straight out of law school, Revesz reminded the audience that it was unlikely graduates would remain with one employer their entire career. He questioned whether limited employment choices straight out of law school were bad "so long as job offer choices are still bigger than zero." He encouraged students to be flexible, to be open to less prestigious positions and different geographic locations.

When a 2L inquired as to whether the school had plans to help students down the road if they became stuck on their career paths as a result of this advice, Revesz said the school would have a "lifetime commitment" to its graduates. "They'll be there," he said.

1L Class Credentials

- 450 full-time day students
- LSAT Numbers:
 - 75th percentile/173
 - 25th percentile/169
- Undergraduate GPA
 - 75th percentile/3.90
 - 25th percentile/3.60
- 140 colleges represented
- 46 states represented
- 43 percent women
- 26 percent students of color
- 28 percent enrolled directly after college
- 61 percent out of college 1 to 4 years
- 11 percent out of college 5 or more years
- 11 percent hold advanced degrees

Source: Entering Class Profile, <http://www.law.nyu.edu/admissions/jdadmissions/applicants/classprofile/index.htm>



Stavan Desai
Staff Editor

Floors upon floors of rooms to interview in at the Embassy Suites Hotel loom over students at EIW.

EIW: Even Worse for 3Ls

Continued from page 1

The decline in employer participation at NYU and its peer schools hit 3Ls the hardest. There are roughly 78 3Ls who worked at firms last summer who are awaiting word from regarding return offers. As a result, many more 3Ls participated in EIW this year despite the limited number of slots allocated to them.

The downturn in the economy and more challenging job searches have resulted in a higher demand for counseling appointments. The OCS has put a number of programs in place to respond to this demand, including "Careers and Cross Training" (a 6:30 am walk

in Washington Square Park with Dorzback to get career advice), "Monday Morning Matters," "Tuesday Talks and Trends," (to discuss the most up-to-date happenings in the legal markets based on Dorzback's daily discussions with firms), as well as increased drop-in hours.

Despite the economic backdrop, students at EIW used humor to keep up their spirits during the onslaught of twenty-minute interviews. When a fire alarm went off during lunch on the last day of the event, students at one table in the lobby were heard to cheer, "Ding! Ding! Ding! Look's like somebody got an offer on the spot!"

Words You Need to Know: Useful Terms for Your 1L Year and Beyond

By COMMENTATOR STAFF

Being a 1L can be tough: you've paid a fortune to be here, had to pay another fortune to buy your books, and now the economy has gone down the tubes and you actually have to read those books. And no one at NYU makes anything easier because all they do is throw around law school jargon that's littered with acronyms and normally familiar words being used to convey new meaning. The Commentator wants to help ease your transition, with this (sort of) helpful (eerily familiar) guide to learning the lingo.

Above the Law – a tabloid blog about the legal profession providing insight, gossip, and marriage announcements.

"It's Jenny's goal in law school to avoid having an embarrassing story about herself end up on Above the Law."

ABRA – the brand new, albeit confusing, system used by 2Ls and 3Ls to choose their classes for the upcoming year.

"I missed the first two bidding cycles because I thought ABRA was the band that sang 'Dancing Queen.'"

"A" paper – the law student's wannabe-thesis.

"Although Vicki's 'A' paper, 'Economic Analysis of the Legal Underpinnings of Egyptian Barter Systems' contained original scholarship, it still wasn't fit for publication anywhere."

Bluebook – a book, coincidentally blue, that helps you properly cite authorities.

"To better learn Rule 18.2, Ari read his Bluebook on the toilet every day for a week."

Callback – a painfully extended interview conducted at a firm, often accompanied by an overpriced lunch.

"I just got back from an 8-hour callback at Skadden, and I all I got in return was this lousy lunch."

C&S – "cite and substance" checking, journal grunt work largely relegated to over-eager 2Ls.

"I've been asked to C&S the 'Economic Analysis of the Legal Underpinnings of Egyptian Barter Systems.' It's awesome."

Columbia – our neighbor to the North that is known for being really stuffy and not having fun.

"There weren't enough gunners in Gary's section, so he transferred to Columbia."

Dean's Cup – an annual basketball game between the two most athletic law schools, NYU and Columbia.

"NYU won the Dean's Cup last year in the biggest basketball victory since Hoosiers."

EIW – "early interview week," the week preceding the first week of classes, when screening interviews are conducted to determine who will receive callbacks and free lunch.

Having spent the week before classes in Rio De Janeiro rather than

at EIW, Ricky knew he'd chosen wisely (and selflessly) by opting for a career in public interest.

Flag Football – a weekly Friday tradition during the fall semester in which 1Ls attempt in futile to attain athletic glory, and where 2Ls and 3Ls reminisce about that time they scored four touchdowns in a game.

"Johnny was kicked out of his flag football game for getting into a fight about the proper interpretation of the intentional grounding rule."

Golding vs. Greenberg – Golding is a lounge, and Greenberg a hall; you eat in the former and meet in the latter.

"Golding is upstairs, Greenberg is downstairs."

Gunner – a law student who raises his hand incessantly, loves the sound of his own voice, and drives his or her fellow section mates crazy by showing off.

"We were having an interesting discussion in class until a gunner decided to ask a random question about how the Erie doctrine applies to Egyptian Barter Systems."

"Hide the ball" – obfuscate or otherwise obscure the point that's being driven at.

"No professor thinks he or she hides the ball, but they all do."

ICWA – 1Ls' least favorite statute.

"I spent my Spring Break in Mexico watching wet T-shirt contests and writing my ICWA brief."

Law Review – the opposite of Law Revue.

"I was going to get drunk at Law Revue, but I have to do a C&S assignment for Law Review."

Law Revue – an excuse to get really drunk, watch fellow law students sing song parodies for two hours, and have a surprisingly really good time.

"I'm going to skip out on Law Review to go to Law Revue. Where's the best place to buy a handle of vodka?"

NALP – the National Association of Law Professionals, whose website is an important source of information for law students seeking information on firms.

"I was doing research on NALP but I fell asleep from boredom."

OCI – "on-campus in-

terviews," when firms looking to hire students interview them—cryptically enough—on campus.

"I can't believe how many pens I've received from Spring OCI."

OCS – Office of Career Services, which helps you secure a job for your 2L summer.

"My bedtime reading for the past three weeks has consisted of the purple OCS binder."

Peer Schools – an ambiguous and amorphous administrative term defining what schools NYU competes with for students.

"NYU has the best location of any of its peer schools, allowing it to leverage the vibrance and culture of Greenwich Village."

PILC – Public Interest Law Center, or in other words, your source of money for your 1L summer.

"My goal for the PILC Fair was to secure a summer job and get more pens than I did at Spring OCI."

SBA – the Student Bar Association, otherwise known as the organization that provides course outlines and drink tickets.

"I was going to do my Torts reading but I got too drunk at the SBA party at Bleeker Street Bar."

Summer (v) – to work during the summer.

"I chose the non-traditional path and summered at Wendy's."

Summer associate – glorified intern.

"I'm going to be a summer associate at Chadbourne & Parke."

"You mean you're going to be an intern there?"

"Yes."

Vault – an online and print ranking and guide to law firms.

"I heard that the firm threw a party after moving up one spot in the Vault Rankings."

Writing Competition – a two-week series of Herculean tasks that students must complete after the end of their 1L year in order to be on a journal and earn the right to C&S.

"Wanda accidentally lost all of her Writing Competition materials so ended up writing her note on the efficacy of the Designated Hitter in baseball."

Advice to the Class of 2012 from a 2L Bully

By DENNIS CHANAY '11
STAFF WRITER

Welcome to NYU, one of the world's most prestigious law schools. As a class you have been blessed with great intelligence, diverse experience and dedication. These skills will undoubtedly serve you well as you continue to excel, achieving the grades, clerkships, journal positions, and clinics that I can only dream about at this point in my miserable, rejection-letter ridden, dark and stormy 2L hell.



Biff Tannen, bullying aficionado from Back to the Future, provides a hands-on demonstration of how to successfully bring a 1L to tears.

What are my grades? Don't worry about it, and wipe that smile off your face. I know what you're thinking; you think you're better than me, don't you? Well, it seems the two of us won't be getting along too well, after all. Let me introduce myself...

My name is Dennis but you can call me D-Rex, D-Bone, or my personal favorite, D-ablo. I was once like you, a first-year dweeb full of hope. Today, like many bullies, I hide my inner feelings of inferiority through various outward displays of aggression, namely, stompin' some 1Ls. So listen up dork-wads, because this is my turf, and here is the best advice you'll ever get:

1. *Things that are Cool.* Smoking, mustaches and girls that put-out are cool. Other things that are cool include *GTA: San Andreas*, *The Soup* and Justice Ginsberg. You are not cool, you have never been cool and you

will never be cool.

2. *Lockers.* Your locker is my locker, unless you want to be put in it. Yes, I know they are very small; let this fact serve as greater warning.

3. *Greenberg Lounge.* Do not talk to me or my squad. Yes, I call my posse a 'squad.' If you want to get in good with us, I suggest you make an offering. Cookies and turkey sandwiches are preferred. No salads. From time to time you may be asked to make a small monetary contribution to the D-Rex hunger campaign. I highly

suggest you make a donation.

4. *Lawyering.* In the spring, one of you will be lucky enough to have his or her ICWA brief selected to be my new writing sample. Congratu-freaking-lations.

5. *Flag-Football.* My team, Thomas Cooley's School of Pain, is the best. Play at your own peril.

6. *First Semester Classes.* Reading, asking or answering questions and showing up more than 50 percent of the time is for losers. From time to time, however, you will be asked to do my reading and provide me with short summaries. You may also be called upon to represent me and take notes in many of my classes. This will be very hard on you. I am sorry.

Did you get that? Good. Commit those rules to memory. And if you don't like any of them: you, me, Vandy courtyard, after Contracts.

Does No One Listen To You When You Talk?

Try Writing!!!

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