



the Commentator

The Student Newspaper of the New York University School of Law

Volume XLIV, Orientation Issue

August 27, 2010

The Commentator's New Student Guide to the Village!!!

Fantastic Food

Suzie's

(163 Bleecker St, bet. Thompson and Sullivan Sts)
An NYU institution, you'll find this place populated by students looking for decent Chinese food at a great price. Try the meat dumplings and the General Tso's Chicken.



Boyd Thai

(210 Thompson St, bet. 3rd and Bleecker Sts.)
Tasty Thai food close by. A slightly nicer option in the area.



Cuba

(222 Thompson St, bet. 3rd and Bleecker Sts)
Authentic Cuban plates and sandwiches, with a Flan dessert to die for! Check out the happy hour for \$5 Sangrias and Mojitos.

Galanga

(149 West 4th St, bet. 6th Ave and Washington Square West)
Nice Thai restaurant a little on the spicy side; Check out their lunch special.

Francesco Pizzeria

(140 West 4th St, bet. 6th Ave and Washington Square West)
Decent pizza by the slice or by the pie, with traditional and specialty toppings. Nice selection of hot subs, sandwiches and pastas.

Mamoun's Falafel



(119 MacDougal St, bet. 3rd and Bleecker Sts.)
Legendary and cheap. This middle eastern eatery is a staple for many NYUers, but is famous all around New York (and maybe the world) for its falafel. Beware of the extremely hot Spicy Sauce!!! (that is both a warning and a challenge)

Quantum Leap

(226 Thompson St, bet. 3rd and Bleecker Sts.)
All organic, all vegetarian; amazing and cheap veggie burgers.

Bustling Bars

Amity Hall

(80 West 3rd St, bet. Thompson and Sullivan Sts.)
This relatively new gem features two floors, two bars, 40 drafts, and 100 bottles. The food is also worth a try.



Peculier Pub

(145 Bleecker St, bet. Thompson St. and LaGuardia Place)



The combination of a long beer list, decent prices, great jukebox selection, and lots of seating makes this a great place to go to with friends.

The Half Pint

(76 West 3rd St, bet. Thompson St. and LaGuardia Place)

Featuring an impressive beer list and a newly renovated and expanded space, this is the perfect place for food and drink after class.

Thunder Jackson's

(169 Bleecker St, bet. Thompson and Sullivan Sts.)

Decent bar with a varied selection of beers and spirits. They claim their Dirty Burger is the best burger ever, but we beg to differ. . .



West 3rd Street Common

(1 West 3rd St, bet. Mercer St. and Broadway)

Comfortable lounge seating and good food menu makes this a great location right around the corner from the Mercer dorm.

Wicked Willy's

(149 Bleecker St, bet. Thompson St. and LaGuardia Place)

This bustling bar with a large back room always features an impressive happy hour.

1849

(183 Bleecker St, bet. Sullivan and MacDougal Sts.)

This busy bar has a decent selection, and two floors. Go for a great wing special, but beware of the notoriously terrible service.

For more food and bar reviews, read *The Commentator* all year long and check out idcrossthestreetforthat.wordpress.com, a local food blog by *The Commentator* food critics!

The Guide to What's What: Useful Terms for Confused 1Ls New to NYU

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 guide to learning the lingo.

Above the Law – a tabloid blog about the legal profession.

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

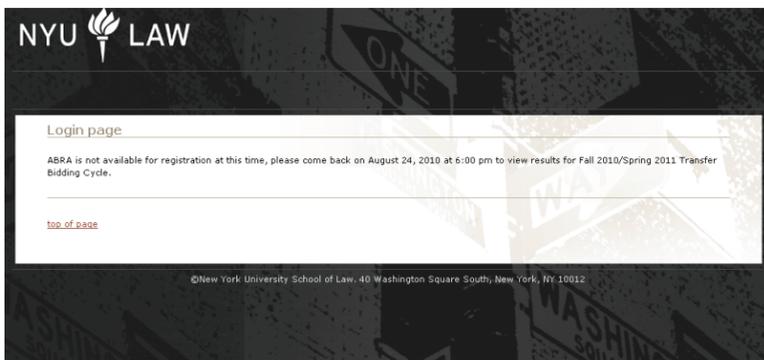
ABRA – the second-year system used by 2Ls and 3Ls to choose their classes for the upcoming year.

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

tended interview conducted at a firm, sometimes accompanied by an overpriced lunch.

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

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



If you can tell which one is ABBA, and which one is ABRA, you're on your way to becoming a successful NYU Law student.

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 ex-

"I just got back from an 8-hour callback at Cravath, and I didn't even get a free lunch because of the economy."

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.



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 Cancun rather than at

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

See **GLOSSARY** page 2

GLOSSARY: Vital NYU Information for Your Everyday Law School Life

Continued from Page 1

to Egyptian barber systems.”

“Hide the ball” – obfuscate or otherwise obscure the point that’s being driven at.

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

sociation 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 interviews,” 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, who help 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 amorphous and ambiguous administrative term defining what schools NYU competes with for stu-

dents.

“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 beer 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, which basically runs the school, providing course outlines and drink tickets.

“I was going to do my Torts reading but I got too drunk at the SBA party at Peculier Pub.”

Summer (v) – to work during the summer.

“I chose the non-traditional path and summered at Pizza Hut.”

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.”



You may or may not have to slay a Minotaur in order to write onto Law Review during the annual summer writing competition.

“Professor Smith hides the ball as effectively as Henry Rowengartner in Rookie of the Year”

ICWA – 1Ls’ least favorite statute, soon to be defunct.

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

get really drunk, watch fellow law students sing song parodies for two hours, and have a 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 As-

Some Unwarranted and Potentially Helpful Advice for Surviving 1L Year

By MICHAEL MIX ’11
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the words of Michael Scott from *The Office*: “Good Morning Vietnam!” Oh wait, that’s not the right introduction. Let me start again: Welcome to NYU School of Law, your home for the next three years. I am your humble law school newspaper editor and guide to the dreaded first year of law school.

In about a week and a half, you will officially begin your first 1L classes. You will be undoubtedly nervous, especially when you find out that the person sitting next to you in your torts class was once on *Jeopardy*, has more degrees than you have toes and has dated Katy Perry and Britney Spears. Don’t worry, you will learn fast that everybody here has amazing credentials, but it probably means nothing when it comes to determining personal jurisdiction. You all should have confidence in yourself

— you were accepted for a reason and you deserve to be here. Don’t feel intimidated,

because everyone is just as scared as you.

You will also hear a lot of talk about the right and wrong ways to prepare for each law school class. People will tell you that you have to brief every case. People will tell you to use five different highlighters. People will tell you that you should start freaking out about finals immediately. In response to all this, I say chill out. If you were accepted to this law school, you obviously know how to excel at life. There is no need to alter your normal routine just because you are “supposed” to do so. As

you’ll find out, some people do not brief at all. Some people do not highlight. Some people (gasp!) don’t even outline for finals! Feel free to try different study techniques if you please, but don’t feel compelled to change what has worked for years.

Also, in case you have not noticed, you are living in New York City. Please enjoy accordingly. Undoubtedly, you will work long hours, but you should still take time off to see the sights of the city. See a play. Watch my New York Mets blow a game in the ninth inning, as they are wont to do. Walk over the Brooklyn Bridge. Go to the SBA Thursday night party and show up to your Friday morning class hung over. Participate in flag football (as long as you don’t beat my team). Trust me, you will spend enough time working during finals time, so you might as well enjoy the rest of the semester.

In the same vein, don’t hesitate to join a student group. There is a faction at this law school that believes 1Ls should eschew student

In addition, when you are in class or studying for finals, please be a normal, pleasant person. NYU Law is renowned for its collegial atmosphere. Students send class notes to others who are sick without being asked. During finals, everybody helps each other even though we know that we are ultimately competing for grades. We are (mostly) good people and that shouldn’t change. There is no need to hide books in the library, to sabotage fellow students or to announce your summer job decision in an hour-long ESPN special. This isn’t Columbia. Don’t ruin our well-deserved reputation.

Lastly, I’d like to impart some wisdom learned from my Constitutional Law professor, Kenji Yoshino (who I can’t recommend highly enough). On the last day of class, Professor Yoshino told us that even though comedians and members of the media make fun of

lawyers, it is truly an admirable profession that you all have chosen to enter. He is right. Every day, the newspaper is full of stories of attorneys making a difference around the world, such as the Proposition

8 or the Arizona immigration law litigation. However you feel about these laws, attorneys are at the forefront of cutting-edge issues around the globe. And if corporate law is your thing, don’t despair. It’s not selling out to do corporate work; the millions of corporate employees in this country will appreciate the work you do on their behalf to make sure their company stays afloat and their jobs stay safe.

So don’t worry, you will all be fine. Remember to read (and join!) *The Commentator* and to tip your bartenders at SBA Thursday night parties.

Comment

The Guy Behind The Guy Behind the Guy

groups, as they can only detract from the ever-important 1L grades. I couldn’t disagree more. Student groups are critical in maintaining one’s sanity. In addition, they allow you to meet interesting people with similar interests and to explore areas of the law that might not be part of the 1L curriculum. Furthermore, obtaining a leadership position in a student group might help you land a coveted summer job for either your 1L or 2L summer. If you are unsure of what student group to join (cough cough join *The Commentator* cough cough), there will be a student group fair in a few weeks.

the Commentator

The Student Newspaper of the New York University School of Law

Editor-in-Chief

Michael Mix ’11

Managing Editor

Joseph Jerome ’11

Associate Managing Editor

Stavan Desai ’11

Staff Editors

Elyse Feuer ’11

Terra Judge ’12

Staff Writers

Erika Anderson ’11

Ashok Ayyar ’11

Farrell Brody ’12

Doug Martin ’11

Dennis Chanay ’11

Erica Iverson ’11

Ryan Kairalla ’12

Crossword Editor

Chris Robertson ’11

Web Editor

Jason Law ’11

The Commentator serves as a forum for news, opinions and ideas of members of the Law School community. The Editorial Board consists of the Editor-in-Chief and the Managing Editor. Only editorials and policies developed by the Editorial Board reflect the opinion of the Editorial Board. All other opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of *The Commentator*. *The Commentator* is issued on alternate Wednesdays during the academic year except during vacations and examination periods. Advertising rates are available on request. Subscriptions are also available at a rate of \$15 per year. Letters to the Editor should be sent to the following address, either on paper or via e-mail. All submissions become property of *The Commentator*.

240 Mercer Street
New York, NY 10012
212.998.6080 (phone)
law.commentator@nyu.edu