



September 4, 2007

JMLS Student Newsletter No. 11

Dean's Message

Welcome to the start of the best year in John Marshall's history! The excitement having so many new students and faculty, the building renovations, and the start of classes all made the past week rush by. This will be the first issue of the weekly newsletter about the law school. It will contain important announcements, some of which have deadlines and other information that is binding, so please pay attention to them. And, I'll try to start off each edition with a discussion of a topic that I hope will be helpful to you.

The registration and new student orientation program went effortlessly, other than a slight problem with air conditioning and a still-missing elevator. Well, we know where it is, but we may not be using it for another day or two. (I did ride in it and it's fast.) We are assured that most of the hard work behind the scenes has already been done. When we start using the new elevator and begin work on the old one, it should go more quickly.

Since life has both ups and downs, the good news about the coming year is offset by the difficulty faced by one of your fellow students. Just after her summer session finals, Melissa Hamrick learned that she has acute leukemia. That would devastate most of us, but she has handled it with grace and humor and a great deal of faith, as you will see when you visit <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/melissahamrick>. She would love to hear from her classmates and professors. And, I think she'd be interested in hearing from others who she may not have met, yet. She will inspire you.

Melissa needs a bone marrow transplant. Drawing on a couple of emails from her friends, at Life South Community Blood Center you can donate blood and be tissue-typed to see if you are a match for Melissa. Ordinarily, there is a \$52 charge for the tissue typing, but Life South will waive the fee if you donate blood to them. **If you elect this option, you will be placed on the National Registry for Bone Marrow donors.** The contact information for Life South is as follows: **Life South Community Blood Center , 4891 Ashford Dunwoody Rd. Atlanta, Ga 30338 404-329-1994 www.lifesouth.org**

In lieu of this option, there is a company which will conduct private testing to see if you are a match for Melissa - and Melissa only - and will send the results to her transplant coordinator at the hospital. **You will NOT be placed on the National Registry.** The fee for this private tissue-typing is \$165. The contact information is as follows: **TEPNEL Lifecodes 1-800-915-3695**

Finally, there is www.bonemarrowtest.com. Testing is easy: You simply swab the sides of your cheeks. I urge you to let Melissa know that we are all thinking about her.

The major reason why the school year started so well, in addition to the reliably hard work of our staff, was the effective and cheerful presence of student volunteers. I am pleased to recognize each of them with a Dean's Award. The Dean's Award is a valuable, yet rare pin in the shape of a bow tie in John Marshall colors, which is a token of our gratitude when law students volunteer to help the school or engage in pro bono activities in the community. The following students who were so generous with their time and talents should stop by my office to receive their Dean's Award:

Adams, Ashley	Andrews, Katie
Barbarash, Sara	Bauer, Michael
Bevill, Amanda	Brien, Molly
Burk, Damon	Chinn, Valerie
Faught, Trey	Florio, Thomas
Gaddis, Amanda	Kee, Amanda
Khadye, Shogun	Kratzert, Nathan
Morris, Tucker	Nasseh, Prosha
Rockhill, Cara	Rosser, Celina
Simmons, Tiffany	Stafford, Daniel
Willingham, David	Woodruff, Ronna
Zukowski, Mark	

Thanks again to all of them. Have a great week!

Dean Lynn

This week's announcements:

- Atlanta Bar Association Law School Outreach offers cover letter and resume review
- Volunteer opportunity for reading program
- Sign up for your mock interview appointment
- Wondering where the job posting board has gone?

LAW SCHOOL OUTREACH COMMITTEE OF THE ATLANTA BAR ASSOCIATION OFFERS COVER LETTER AND RESUME REVIEW

As part of their ongoing commitment to serve the students in Georgia law schools, the Law School Outreach Committee of the Atlanta Bar Association is now offering cover letter and resume review services for a limited time, to 2L and 3L law students only. Cover letters and resumes will be accepted for review by volunteer attorneys from September 3, 2007 through October 15, 2007. Cover letters and resumes must be sent via e-mail to a designated coordinating attorney and will be returned with written comments to the law student via e-mail in two weeks time. The law students

are to call the coordinating attorney only if necessary, as the coordinating attorney will not be the attorney reviewing the resumes. Thank you.

Law student instructions:

- Your cover letter and resume must be no longer than one (1) page each
- Both documents must be in WORD format
- Feedback you will receive will focus primarily on the substance of your cover letter and resume, and not necessarily form
- Questions you have regarding grades and ranking displayed on your resume should ultimately be directed to your respective Career Services Office
- Cover letters and resumes will be accepted for review from September 3 through October 15, 2007; please submit both documents together, at the same time, for ease of review
- The Attorney who will coordinate cover letter/resume review for your law school, listed below, will send your cover letter/resume to one of the Attorneys who has volunteered to review law student cover letters and resumes as part of this project
- Please allow up to two (2) weeks to receive written feedback on your cover letter and resume
- Remember that this review is but one way to evaluate your cover letter and resume; your law school's Career Services Office is an invaluable resource to hone your resume writing and job interviewing skills

Please forward your cover letter and resume via e-mail to the following attorney who is serving as the review coordinator for your law school:

John Marshall School of Law:

Nicole Andres nicole.andres@hudson.com 770-325-0692

If you have any questions regarding this review, please contact LSO Committee Chair Dawn Jones at DJones@kslaw.com, (404) 572-3559, or contact Ivonne in Career Development.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR READING PROGRAM

The Fulton County District Attorney's Office is partnering again with Judge Myra Dixon, Fulton County State Court Judge & Program Chair of the Judicial Section of the Gate City Bar Association, the Atlanta Public School Board-Reading Coordinator and other organizations to help educate Georgia's children. Statistics show high percentages of kids who fall behind in their reading and basic skills often head down a dangerous path. Our mission is to give these students the skills they need to stay on course for success! You can also be instrumental in positively influencing the lives of our future leaders, by volunteering to read 1-hour, every week, on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at Perkerson Elementary School. This year we are targeting 3rd grade boys in need of mentors to assist them in sharpening their reading skills. Please consider signing up today and committing to participate throughout the program, which will begin the week of September 24, 2007 and end May 2008. It is also recommended to partner with other students to rotate weeks in order to better accommodate your schedule and to reduce any absences from the school.

If you are interested in participating this year or have any questions, please contact Jada Hudspeth as soon as possible at 404-730-0195. Each session will be conducted every week for 1-hour, on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. beginning the week of September 24, 2007 and ending May 2008. You will also receive special instructions from the school officials and the reading coordinator per your arrival. Thanks in advance for your support!

SIGN UP FOR YOUR MOCK INTERVIEW APPOINTMENT

Two key points illustrate the importance of mock interviews.

1. Potential employers are giving of their valuable time and experience to meet with and critique JMLS students. We want them to come away from the mock interview experience expounding JMLS to the legal community.
2. Although employers are conducting mock interviews, past law students have turned mock interview sessions into summer or permanent associate positions.

Mock Interview appointments are limited to 35 remaining time slots. Your interview performance will be videotaped and individual critique and analysis will be provided to help you improve your overall interviewing skills.

Bring your resume to the 2nd floor Career Development Office and reserve your position with one of several practicing attorneys that represent a range of fields and positions within the Atlanta legal community.

WONDERING WHERE THE JOB POSTING BOARD HAS GONE?

Access JMLS job postings online at: http://www.johnmarshall.edu/students/job_post.php.

Bookmark this on your computer for easy access.

The link for **students** will show you positions available for which employers invite students to apply directly.

The **on-campus** link will show you positions for which the career development office will collect application materials and forward them on to the employer.

The deadline for the Turner Padgett resume forwarding opportunity is fast approaching on September 5, 2007.