

In Your Interest

News and information for the public interest and public service community

A publication of the BLS Public Service Programs Office

December 13, 2007

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Mission: To create a just society by mobilizing the next generation of lawyers committed to equal justice.

News and Announcements

This is the Final IYI for the Semester

Thanks to all who have contributed. Good luck with finals. Happy holidays!

In Your Interest Is Online

<http://brooklaw.edu/career/publicserviceevents/>

Thanks to the Communications Department, current and archived issues from the beginning of the school year are at News and Announcements of the Public Service Programs Office website. Look for '06-'07 academic year issues and an index of highlighted articles soon.

NYU Job Fair FAQ

See [below](#). There will be an NYU Fair Orientation Session early in the semester—please watch for posters.

14th Annual Rebellious Lawyering Conference

See [below](#).

Congratulations to Equal Justice Works Fellows Ted De Barbieri & Nikki Prenoveau!

Ted's Bronx Transactional Legal Assistance Project will be hosted by the Urban Justice Center's Community Development unit and will provide legal services to immigrants and others in the Bronx starting cooperative enterprises and small businesses. Ted hopes to raise awareness among immigrant and low-wage workers about economic rights and opportunities and to increase the number of worker-owned cooperatives and small businesses in the Bronx. His project was competitively selected by Equal Justice Works and by his corporate sponsor Kramer Levin.

Nikki's project, which will be hosted by Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A, is to represent non-profit community development organizations seeking to finance, construct and operate efficient green homes and community facilities in low-income communities in Brooklyn and beyond. As a testament to the strength of her project, it was not only selected by EJW for sponsorship, but by two corporate sponsors: AIG and Sullivan and Cromwell—each wanting a piece of the project—will be co-sponsoring her.

Congratulations to them both!

LSPIN Funding Has Been Approved; BLS Students Waiting

The Revson Law Student Public Interest (LSPIN) program, which has funded many BLS students in the past, funds 100 public interest or government internships in the NYC metro area each year. While last year brought us to the end of a funding cycle, the Revson Foundation has just granted NYU \$1.7 million to administer the program for another 3 years. The '07 summer grants will increase \$500 over last year's to \$4,500. Unlike many grants, LSPIN can be combined with other funding up to a specified maximum. BLS applicants are still waiting to hear about their grants.

Public Interest Legal Career Fair gives employers the opportunity to meet with students and allows students to interview with employers for internships and permanent jobs, as well as to talk with employers at information tables. Last year, more than 1,700 law students and representatives from 189 organizations attended the Fair.

Public Service Work Log Deadline

[The Public Service Work Log](#) is used to determine eligibility for the Public Service Awards in the Spring of your graduating year and to ensure the Law School is aware of the public interest work undertaken by its students and can monitor, increase and enhance the variety and quality of opportunities for public service work to meet students' needs.

The deadline for filling in hours through the summer of 2007 is January 1, 2008. Starting in January 2008, students will only be able to fill in their hours for the immediately preceding semester.

Job Fairs & Conferences

[NYU Job Fair](#)

The Public Interest Law Center (PILC) at New York University School of Law will hold its 31st annual Public Interest Legal Career Fair on February 7 and 8, 2008. Students can apply for formal interviews and whether or not interviews are granted, can attend and have informal interviews with any of over 222 public interest and government employers.

If I missed the registration deadline, can I still attend? Yes, you may—the late registration deadline is January 9, 2008. Late registrants cannot apply for positions through the Fair, but can attend and visit the information tables and access information, including employment opportunities, from over 222 public interest and government employers. **For your "student ID" please use the number on your student ID card.**

Can I upload my cover letter? If you registered before December 5, 2007, yes. This year for the first time, students are permitted to upload cover letters as well as resumes, but they must be in one document. *Make sure you "accept all changes" in your documents before you upload them. It is best to have them reviewed before submission.*

How do the two periods for uploading resumes work? You may upload a total of 40 resumes by the January 9th deadline, but only 15 of that number may be uploaded after January 1st. In addition, employers will begin reviewing applications on January 1st and you are at an advantage to be in their first review.

How do 3Ls handle requests for materials other than a resume and cover letter? Employers seeking permanent employees may ask for materials other than the resume/cover letter document such as a writing sample, transcript, list of references, etc., but these additional materials cannot be uploaded. Students should bring them to their interviews. If you want the employer to have those documents while considering your application, call the employer and ask if you may send them.

My resume/cover letter hasn't been reviewed yet. Can I do that during the break? There is little time between now and January 1st, and because of the holidays, the Career Center will be very short staffed, but is open except for the 24th, 25th, 31st and 1st. The Public Service Programs Office is also open except for those days. In short, you may or may not be able to get an appointment, but you should try.

A PILC Fair timeline would be handy. Is there one? Yes, see below:

Timeline for the NYU Job Fair

*December 5, 3pm: Registration deadline to be eligible for interviews through the Fair system.

*Nov-Dec-Jan: Research organizations with whom you'd like to work. Get your resume/cover letter reviewed.

*Nov-Dec-Jan: Upload resumes, rank employers, and list when you are available for interviews. Get your resume/cover letter reviewed.

*January 9, 3pm: Deadline for late registration, uploading resumes, ranking employers, and indicating your interview availability.

Orientation for the NYU Job Fair to be announced. If you have problems registering or have other questions, please email publicservice@brooklaw.edu.

14th Annual Rebellious Lawyering Conference

February 22-24, 2007, New Haven CT

Registration is now open on the website. This year features keynote speaker Bill Quigley, Civil Rights Activist, Lawyer, and Distinguished Professor of Law at Loyola University New Orleans School of Law. Last year, over 550 practitioners, law students, and community activists discussed progressive strategies for social change within and without the law.

You can also sign up on the website to receive free housing for the weekend in New Haven on the spare beds, couches and floors of local friendly, rebellious law students.

What Happened?

Models of Criminal Defense: Legal Aid & Public Defenders
60+ students heard impassioned speeches of dedicated public defender panelists Tom Klein, Legal Aid Society; Matt Knecht (BLS '99), Neighborhood Defender Services; and Martha Rayner, International Justice Clinic representing clients imprisoned without trial at Guantanamo Bay.

"I thought that Tom Klein's speech was especially powerful. I've never heard a more accurate and inspired description of public defense work! I wanted to go straight to the arraignment pens when I walked out of that event." – Claire Nicolay

Pro Bono at BLS

For *pro bono* opportunities at BLS and in NYC, see [BLS Pro Bono Opportunities](#).

Resources

- For *pro bono* opportunities at BLS and in NYC, see [BLS Pro Bono Opportunities](#).
- [Internship Evaluation Reports](#) Read about students' experiences during their internships.
- [Public Interest Career Fairs](#) across the United States and Canada on [PSLawNet.org](#).
- Access BLS Alums working in your area of interest. Contact [Caitlin Monck-Marcellino](#)

- Financial Resources & Loan Repayment for the Public Interest Student [Webcast](#) of the October 25, 2007 program
 - Public Service Programs Office
 - Bulletin boards have public service job listings.
 - *Serving the Public: A Job Search Guide*, Harvard Law School's Handbook & Directory for Law Students and Lawyers Seeking Public Service Work. Note: USA, International, and the 07-08 Employer Directory Supplement volumes are available for checkout.
 - *In Your Interest* is online [here](#).
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Post Graduate Fellowships

EJW Fellowship Awarded to BLS '07 Students

See News and Announcements [above](#).

Note to 2Ls: One factor to consider in selecting your summer placement is how well it would position you as a Post Graduate Fellowship applicant.

[Post-Graduate Fellowships Overview](#) offers information on types of fellowships and resources available. (Requires BLS user name and password.) For more opportunities, check [PSLawNet](#) and the *Serving the Public: A Job Search Guide*, available at the Public Service Programs Office.

[Berkeley Law Foundation](#) seeks requests for proposals for 1 year projects.

Summer Fellowships

Most of you planning to work at public interest and government agencies will be able to find funding through **Brooklyn Law School's work-study** or **Public Service Grant program** or the other fellowships listed below. (You do not have to be work-study eligible to be eligible for the school's Public Service Grant program. Please see Financial Aid). Most of the grants listed here are for \$5,000 and require 10 weeks work in a public interest or government organization.

Some, such as Sparer, do not encompass government work. Our in-house fellowship programs include **Edward Sparer Public Interest Fellowship** for which many of you may have applied and for which the application date is past, and the student funded **BLSPI Public Interest Fellowship**. **The BLSPI application deadline is January 11, 2008**. So if you missed the Sparer deadline or are not selected for the program, keep you eyes out for the BLSPI procedures.

[PILI](#) grants cover public interest work in the Chicago Metropolitan Area. **Loyola Law School Center for Juvenile Law and Policy** offers summer stipends for its juvenile justice clinic. Email publicservice@brooklaw.edu for more information.

Note: you may also log public interest hours towards a tuition grant of \$1000 (requires 300 hours, but they may be hours for which you were paid under any source including the grants above) under the [Equal Justice Works Summer Corps Program](#).

See [PSLawNet Summer Funding](#) for other sources.

Contact Us

[Public Service Programs Office Website](#)

Resources for employment, funding opportunities, public interest related news, events, & more.

publicservice@brooklaw.edu

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Internship Opportunities

Check PSPO, [PSLawNet](#), and [Symplicity](#) for internships, some of which may be paid. For any that are unfunded, Brooklyn Law School Public Service Grants may be available to you. Questions? Email publicservice@brooklaw.edu.

Contact Us

Are the Events and Activities Here Not What You Are Looking For?

We recognize that BLS students cover a broad political spectrum, and need your help to ensure **In Your Interest** is inclusive. Please let us know of activities and events that represent your perspective so they can be included.

Website: <http://brooklaw.edu/career/publicservice/>

Email: publicservice@brooklaw.edu

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