June 22, 2020

Working Backwards from August

As we’ve discussed previously, the goal for the summer is to know your top 10-15 firms/offices that you would like to interview with at EIW. This will form the core of your “bid list” that you will finalize in the fall. To accomplish this goal, you are going to need to know (or at least have a good sense for) your geographic preferences, your practice area interest(s), which firms meet those two basic criteria, and your competitiveness at the firm. You are also going to need some sense of the subjective factors that are important specifically to you (e.g., the firm’s prestige, size, commitment to diversity, whether you feel like it is an environment that sets you up for success, it’s pro bono work, etc.)

You are each going to find your way to that goal through different paths because each of you are starting at a different point. To help you along the way, as we move into the end of June and early July, you are going to find an increasing number of programs listed in Symplicity under workshops and infosessions that are meant to help you “get to know” a firm or practice area. Some of the research you can do using online tools, but firms are just collections of people so the best way of “getting to know” a firm requires you, at some point, to get to know at least some sampling of its people.

With that background, let me highlight a few things:

1. The e-Edition of Chambers Associate 2020 has been released and is available here. For those who recall seeing the red books that lined the shelves of the OCP lobby, the link will take you to this year’s edition of that resource. Similar to the Chambers & Associates website, this is an excellent resource that gives you background information on firms, but also provides comparative information, as well as summaries of practice areas and “inside views” of law firms (e.g., the kind of information you might get from talking with a junior associate).

2. The return of Lawyer’s Life. Tomorrow, Tuesday June 23, from 7-8 pm, we will be doing a Lawyer's Life program with Morgan Lewis focusing on the work of a “BigLaw” litigation associate. What does the work look like generally? What is life like at Morgan
Lewis specifically? How has COVID-19 changed the practice? Please RSVP if you are planning to attend (Simplicity > Workshops). We’re going to try new things this summer, so if there isn’t sufficient demand (as measured by RSVPs), we will cancel programs or change the formats as we figure out what works best for you.

3. **Check Symplicity Workshops and InfoSessions** for new programs. Firms are scheduling programs without a ton of advance notice, so it’s a good idea to check these regularly to see if there are programs you are interested in attending.

4. **Coming Soon: Small group meetings with law firms.** Large webinars are nice for learning about a firm, or for learning more about a practice area, but they don’t give you a chance to meaningfully connect with attorneys – you need those opportunities to connect so that you can assess some of those important subjective factors. We are going to pilot facilitating some small group conversations to see if we can help bridge that gap. For example, a firm may post a handful of small group meetings where 5-7 students will have the opportunity to meet with a few attorneys. If that is a firm you’re interested in connecting with, you’ll have the opportunity to sign-up. Look for more information on these in the coming weeks. They will be posted in Symplicity > InfoSessions.

5. **Law firm programs: As you go through the process of preparing for EIW, what topics are you interested in hearing about?** Firms are interested in hearing from students about what kinds of topics you want them to cover. I certainly have a lot of ideas, but if you would like to add your thoughts, please submit them via this [Google Form](#).

**Updates Regarding (Not So) EIW**

Given the Winter 2021 term is now set to begin on January 19, we are now targeting (Not So) EIW to happen during the week of January 11 so that it does not conflict with the start of classes. We don’t have more details at this point, but I wanted to give you information on a rolling basis as it becomes known.

**And, Finally …**

- Just a reminder that your primary first-stop for EIW questions should be the EIW student site.
- Recordings of programs we’ve done via Zoom are available in Symplicity > Resources > Document Library.
- And, we are available all summer for appointments. You should absolutely plan on having at least 1-2 appointments over the summer with a private sector counselor to discuss your progress on how things are going. If you have quick questions, feel free to use the drop-in hours, or email lawcareers@umich.edu.

Best,

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Pronouns: he, him, his
### Info Sessions

#### UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start Date/Time</th>
<th>End Date/Time</th>
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<td>- Off-Campus (see event description)</td>
<td>Jun 23, 2020, 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Jun 23, 2020, 5:00 PM</td>
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