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LAW SCHOOL NEWS

New York City Interview Program Serves Students and Employers

Second- and third-year UB law students shuffled off from Buffalo last fall to interview with many large firms and agencies at the sixth annual New York City Interviewing Program organized by the Law School's Career Development Office (CDO).

Approximately 100 students participated in last year's program, held October 5 at the Penta Hotel in Manhattan. The event has been hailed as a key to not only placing students in out-of-town employment, but also familiarizing downstate firms with the quality of UB Law School students. As one of the first schools to institute this type of event, Buffalo has been very successful in attracting employers, drawing approximately 30 each year.

Students are advised well in advance which firms and agencies will be attending. They then submit their resumes to the Law School Career Development Office for forwarding. After the employers decide whom they would like to meet, the School schedules the interviews.

A number of rooms are rented at one of the major, yet less expensive, hotels in Manhattan. The furniture is rearranged to make it appropriate for the occasion and each interviewer is assigned a room where he or she remains while students come in at regular intervals. By the end of the day, each employer will have seen every student it requested. The Law School also rents one large meeting room with a number of small tables where students can relax, talk and compare notes between interviews.

Although students have to provide their own transportation, approximately 100 attend annually. Some make the trip for only one or two interviews, while others have 11 or 12. The average is usually between four and five. Approximately 40 to 50 employment offers are made and an estimated 20 students find their positions through this program each year.

The benefits of the project have been numerous. It has allowed many individuals to find excellent positions which they would not have obtained otherwise. In addition, it has in-



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creased the Law School's visibility in New York City considerably. Many law and accounting firms, public interest and government agencies, and some corporate counsel offices, who once knew little about Buffalo's law school, have now interviewed its students. Literature is sent to hundreds of employers, describing the program and listing firms and agencies that participate. Even those who choose not to come learn that Buffalo offers very attractive candidates.

Furthermore, some agencies, such as the Manhattan District Attorney and the New York City Corporation Counsel now come on campus annually after first attending the New York

City Program. Others, such as the Brooklyn and Bronx district attorneys have recruited at Buffalo each fall for years.

Another benefit is the positive response from downstate alumni. A number have called or written to suggest employers that they know recruit annually. Others have persuaded their own firms to participate, some by volunteering to do the interviewing themselves. Those who find positions are normally very supportive, and try to help people in subsequent classes find jobs with their firms or agencies.



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