The Presenters:

**Lissa Kaufman**: Director/Attorney at Student Legal Services

**Tim Garrison**: Professor of History/Pre-law Advisor

**Chris Shortell**: Political Science Professor/Pre-law Advisor
SO, YOU WANT TO BE A LAWYER?
Some things they don’t tell you....
WHAT DO LAWYERS ACTUALLY DO???

- Legal research, analysis and writing
- Courtroom and administrative advocacy
- Investigation
- Create laws and Rules
- Administer Laws
- Advise clients
- Manage money
- Run a business/nonprofit

By: Lissa Kaufman
What are the practice areas?

Practice Setting

- Private Practice: 75%
- Government: 8%
- Private Industry: 8%
- Education: 4%
- Legal Aid/Public Defender: 3%
- Other: 1%

Source: http://www.americanbar.org/resources_for_lawyers/profession_statistics.html
WHAT DOES LAW SCHOOL COST?

Average tuition/fees per year for:
- **Public school** resident student: $23,214
- **Public school** non-resident student: $36,202
- **Private school**: $40,634

Average living and book expenses per year: $15,084

Source: http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/statistics.html
What does law school cost?

- Yale University
  - $54,650 tuition and fees per year
  - +$20,140 living, personal and book expenses

- University of Arkansas
  - $12,826 tuition and fees per year
    ($6,257 non-resident)

Source: http://www.law.yale.edu/admissions/finaid_budget.htm
Source: http://law.uark.edu/academics/jd/costs-financial-aid/
LOCAL TUITION

- Lewis and Clark $41,292
- Willamette $37,924
  - +17,995 living, personal and book expenses
- University of Oregon $29,458 (resident)
  - + $16,794 living, personal and book expenses
- University of Washington $43,932 (non-resident)
  - $30,891 (resident)
  - +18,843 living, personal and book expenses

Source:
- http://www.lclark.edu/offices/account_services/settling_your_account/calculating_costs/costs/law/
- http://www.willamette.edu/wucl/admission/finaid/fees.html
- http://lawadmissions.uoregon.edu/tuition/
- http://www.law.washington.edu/FinAid/expenses.aspx
HOW DO I FINANCE LAW SCHOOL?

- 1. Loans
- 2. Scholarships
- 3. Savings
- 4. Family Assistance
- 5. Employment
### Law School Debt

- **Average amount borrowed total:**
  - Public: $75,728
  - Private: $124,950

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school (name) (state)</th>
<th>Annual tuition and fees*</th>
<th>Average indebtedness</th>
<th>% of grads with debt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Jefferson School of Law (CA)</td>
<td>$42,000</td>
<td>$168,800</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Western School of Law</td>
<td>$43,700</td>
<td>$167,867</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phoenix School of Law (AZ)</td>
<td>$39,533</td>
<td>$162,627</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern University (IL)</td>
<td>$53,468</td>
<td>$156,791</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Law School</td>
<td>$49,225</td>
<td>$154,547</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American University (Washington) (DC)</td>
<td>$46,794</td>
<td>$152,659</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York University</td>
<td>$51,150</td>
<td>$149,336</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwestern Law School (CA)</td>
<td>$43,850</td>
<td>$147,976</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown University (DC)</td>
<td>$48,835</td>
<td>$146,169</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whittier College (CA)</td>
<td>$40,310</td>
<td>$143,536</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Annual tuition and fees are for full-time, in-state programs.*

Law School Debt

Average amount borrowed total:
- Public: $75,728
- Private: $124,950

10 Law Schools That Lead to the Least Debt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school (name) (state)</th>
<th>Annual tuition and fees*</th>
<th>Average indebtedness</th>
<th>% of grads with debt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southern University Law Center (LA)</td>
<td>$10,990</td>
<td>$21,911</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California–Irvine</td>
<td>$44,717</td>
<td>$49,602</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of South Dakota</td>
<td>$13,288</td>
<td>$54,352</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Nebraska–Lincoln</td>
<td>$14,363</td>
<td>$54,989</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Mississippi</td>
<td>$12,388</td>
<td>$55,992</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigham Young University (Clark)</td>
<td>$21,900</td>
<td>$56,112</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas–Fayetteville</td>
<td>$6,257</td>
<td>$59,384</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Wyoming</td>
<td>$13,428</td>
<td>$61,837</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Dakota</td>
<td>$10,417</td>
<td>$64,100</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas–Little Rock (Bowen)</td>
<td>$12,701</td>
<td>$64,207</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Annual tuition and fees are for full-time, in-state programs.*

THE GOOD NEWS: GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- Grants available through individual schools
- Grants available through the ABA and other bar associations
- Minority law school grants
- Scholarships funded by law firms

By: Lissa Kaufman
**WHAT DO LAWYERS MAKE?**

Private sector salaries:*class of 2011

- NYU – 160K
- Lewis and Clark - 68K
- University of Washington 100K
- University of Oregon 54K

### Full-time Salaries for Jobs Lasting at Least One Year, by Employer or Job Type - Class of 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer or job type</th>
<th>Median salary</th>
<th>Average salary</th>
<th>The middle half of salaries fall in a range from:</th>
<th>Most frequently reported salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 2-10 attorneys</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>$53,525</td>
<td>$41,600 - $60,000</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 11-25 attorneys</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>67,712</td>
<td>50,000 - 75,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 26-50 attorneys</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>78,350</td>
<td>60,000 - 90,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 51-100 attorneys</td>
<td>88,000</td>
<td>94,594</td>
<td>70,000 - 115,000</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 101-250 attorneys</td>
<td>110,000</td>
<td>115,066</td>
<td>90,000 - 145,000</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 251-500 attorneys*</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td>136,107</td>
<td>110,000 - 160,000</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law firm, 501+ attorneys*</td>
<td>160,000</td>
<td>151,427</td>
<td>160,000 - 160,000</td>
<td>160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business—all</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>72,120</td>
<td>50,000 - 83,100</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs for which bar passage is required</td>
<td>67,000</td>
<td>72,824</td>
<td>52,000 - 85,000</td>
<td>60,000/75,000**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs for which JD is an advantage</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>72,944</td>
<td>50,171 - 80,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary attorney thru an agency</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>61,693</td>
<td>45,600 - 65,000</td>
<td>45,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: [http://www.nalp.org/key_salary_measures_class2011](http://www.nalp.org/key_salary_measures_class2011)
## WHAT DO PUBLIC SECTOR LAWYERS MAKE?

Public sector salaries:*class of 2011
NYU - 53K
Lewis and Clark – 50K
University of Washington - 50K

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employer or job type</th>
<th>Median salary</th>
<th>Average salary</th>
<th>The middle half of salaries fall in a range from:</th>
<th>Most frequently reported salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government - all</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>54,742</td>
<td>42,999 - 62,038</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal government</td>
<td>62,467</td>
<td>65,033</td>
<td>53,500 - 74,800</td>
<td>62,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State government</td>
<td>44,000</td>
<td>46,530</td>
<td>40,000 - 51,626</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local government</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,869</td>
<td>43,500 - 57,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutorial jobs—all levels of government</td>
<td>48,500</td>
<td>48,216</td>
<td>40,000 - 54,300</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military—all types of jobs</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>61,080</td>
<td>50,000 - 70,000</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial clerkships—all</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>51,761</td>
<td>43,437 - 60,000</td>
<td>43,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal courts</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>59,889</td>
<td>57,408 - 62,758</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State courts</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>46,887</td>
<td>43,000 - 51,012</td>
<td>43,437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local courts</td>
<td>42,000</td>
<td>42,351</td>
<td>37,268 - 45,000</td>
<td>43,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public interest—all</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>45,573</td>
<td>40,000 - 50,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal services</td>
<td>42,750</td>
<td>41,019</td>
<td>37,000 - 47,773</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public defenders</td>
<td>45,800</td>
<td>46,330</td>
<td>40,500 - 50,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic—all</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>52,704</td>
<td>40,000 - 60,000</td>
<td>45,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: http://www.nalp.org/key_salary_measures_class2011

Source: http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-law-schools/sitemap?int=7a0cf2#w
TRY IT BEFORE YOU BUY IT!

Private Law Firm
- Paralegal
- Library Assistant
- Proof Reader
- Litigation Support
- Legal Temp
GOVERNMENT

- Intern
  - Legislative
  - Judicial
  - agency

By: Lissa Kaufman
Public Interest

- Staff Assistant
- Receptionist
- Office Staff

By: Lissa Kaufman
ABOUT STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES

What:
- We are offer legal services in the areas of traffic, employment, family, consumer, and criminal law as well as Landlord/tenant issues, mediation and notary services.

Who:
- All PSU students who are registered for the current term—Undergraduates must be registered for 4 credits or more and graduate students must be registered for 3 credits or more.

Where:
- Our office is located in Smith Memorial Student Union M343 (mezzanine level)
- Website: www.pdx.edu/sls
- Phone: 503-725-4556
- Email: slms@pdx.edu

By: Lissa Kaufman
Thank You!

STUDENT.LEGAL.SERVICES

1825 SW Broadway
M343 Smith Memorial Student Union
503.725.4556
www.pdx.edu/sls
Preparing For Law School As An Undergraduate

By: Tim Garrison
The Law School Application Process
Application Cycle

• Start preparing a year and a half before you plan to start law school

• Most law schools only have fall admissions

• Applications accepted beginning in late October

• Should submit application by early January

By: Chris Shortell
Law School Admission Council

• http://www.lsac.org

• LSAT registration

• Law school information

• Credential Assembly Service (CAS)

• LSAC account = free, CAS account = $$

By: Chris Shortell
Elements of the Application

- LSAT
- GPA
- Personal Statement
- Everything else
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Resume

By: Chris Shortell
Prepare for the LSAT

- Study, study, study
- Marathon, not a sprint
- Offered four times a year
  - Sept/Oct
  - Dec
  - Feb
  - June
- Start slowly in January, step it up in the summer
- Prep course?

By: Chris Shortell
Personal Statement

• 1-2 pages in length
• Should be your “voice”
• Think about your strengths, life experiences
• Does not have to be dramatic- has to provide insight
• Be honest, but reasonable
• Multiple drafts
• Have others read it
• Carefully proofread

By: Chris Shortell
Letters of Recommendation

• Three letters is a good amount

• At least two of the three letters should be from faculty

• Work supervisor is also okay

• Do not get letters from family friends

• Another opportunity to get to know you

By: Chris Shortell
Further information

• http://web.pdx.edu/~shortell
  • Click the Pre-law advisement link
• Pre-Law advisors
  • Chris Shortell, Political Science
  • Tim Garrison, History
  • Kevin Hill, Philosophy
  • Bob Lockwood, Criminology and Criminal Justice
• Pre-Law Society

By: Chris Shortell