Questions to ask at Law Day

Wednesday, October 7, 2015
11am- 2pm at the Purdue Co-Rec

This is your opportunity to learn in-depth information about MANY different law schools directly from their admissions representatives. Be open-minded. You may learn about a great school that you had never considered before.

Your thoughtful preparation, genuine interest and engaging personality, as well as your insightful questions, will be very much appreciated. Below is a list of suggested questions to ask when speaking to a representative at a law school fair.

Admissions:
- How does your law school review applications?
- What percentage of applicants was admitted in recent years?
- Is there an advantage to applying early? If so, by when?
- When is it considered “too late” to submit applications? Will you accept results from the February LSAT?
- Does your school have “early application” or “early decision”?
- How do you evaluate multiple LSAT scores?
- How important is it for applicants to have a law-related internship or job prior to law school?
- Does your school offer a conditional summer program for students whose credentials are below the norm?

Curriculum:
- How is the first year program organized?
- What clinical opportunities are offered? Is participation competitive or open to all?
- Do you offer a part-time option? Can first year students start any time other than fall?
- Do you offer study abroad programs?
- Describe your areas of specialization. What joint degrees are offered?
- How are students selected for law journals or law review? What percentage participate?
- What is your faculty-student ratio? How would you describe faculty-student relationships?

Specialties:
- For specialized areas of practice (tax, environment, patent, etc.) how many courses are offered in that area?
- How often are these courses offered?
- Is participation in specialty areas and organizations open to all? What is the basis for selection?
- How does your program specifically differ from other schools’ programs?
- Are there special relationships with firms that are interested in hiring graduates with these skills?
Housing:
- Is graduate/law student housing available?
- Is off-campus housing available near the law school?
- Does the law school help students find housing/roommates?
- What is the average cost of off-campus housing?
- Is parking difficult? Is there a public transportation system?

Financial Aid:
- What should I anticipate the cost to be to attend your school for 3 years? **Be sure the answer includes cost of living and potential tuition increases.
- How do most of your students pay for law school?
- How much scholarship money is available?
- What criteria are used to award merit-based and need-based scholarships? Is parents’ income considered?
- How many awards are continued throughout the 3 years of law school? If continuation of scholarship money is based on maintaining a certain GPA, how many students maintain the GPA?
- What loan assistance/repayment programs does your school offer, if any?

Ambiance:
- Ask the rep to describe ways in which their school differs from other schools.
- What schools/areas do students typically come from?
- Is there a part-time, summer and/or night program?
- What is the attrition rate for first year students? What percent leave for academic reasons?
- What percentage of the faculty and student body are women? Minorities?
- Describe the physical location of the school. Is the area safe?
- When your students mention what they like about your school – what things are typically mentioned?
- What complaints do students have about your law school?
- How competitive are your students with each other?
- How accessible are faculty?

Career Services:
- Where do the students find employment? (locally, regionally, nationally)
- I want to start my career in (XX city). How many graduates found employment there last year?
- Is there a network of contacts which could help me obtain jobs/externships in a particular specialty or geographical area?
- How many firms interview at the school and from what parts of the country?
- Is the school committed to those students who are interested in public interest careers? Is there any loan forgiveness for such careers?
- What percentage of your third-year students have jobs lined up by winter break?
- What percentage of students seek and get clerkships? Where are the clerkships located?
- Are clerking opportunities available in your city for students during the school year?
- What resources do you provide for minority students?
- What percentage of jobs does the career placement office secure for students, and how many students find jobs on their own? How many full time employees work in the law school placement office?