



From Seattle to Secaucus: State Court Clerkships Today

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Program Overview

- Creating Student Buy-In
(How to “Sell” the Non-Federal Options)
- Preparing for a Moving Target
(How to Plan for Deadlines on the Move)
- Developing Application Materials
(How to Compile Targeted Application Packets)
- Questions and Suggestions

Student Buy-In:

Highlight the Benefits

- Hone Research and Writing Skills
- Gain Inside View of the Judicial Process
- Build a Powerful Professional Network
- Develop Valuable Local Expertise

Student Buy-In: Eliminate the Misconceptions

- Lack the Credentials to Apply
- Financially Prohibitive
- Geographically Limiting
- Puts Off “Real” Legal Career

Student Buy-In: Use the Numbers

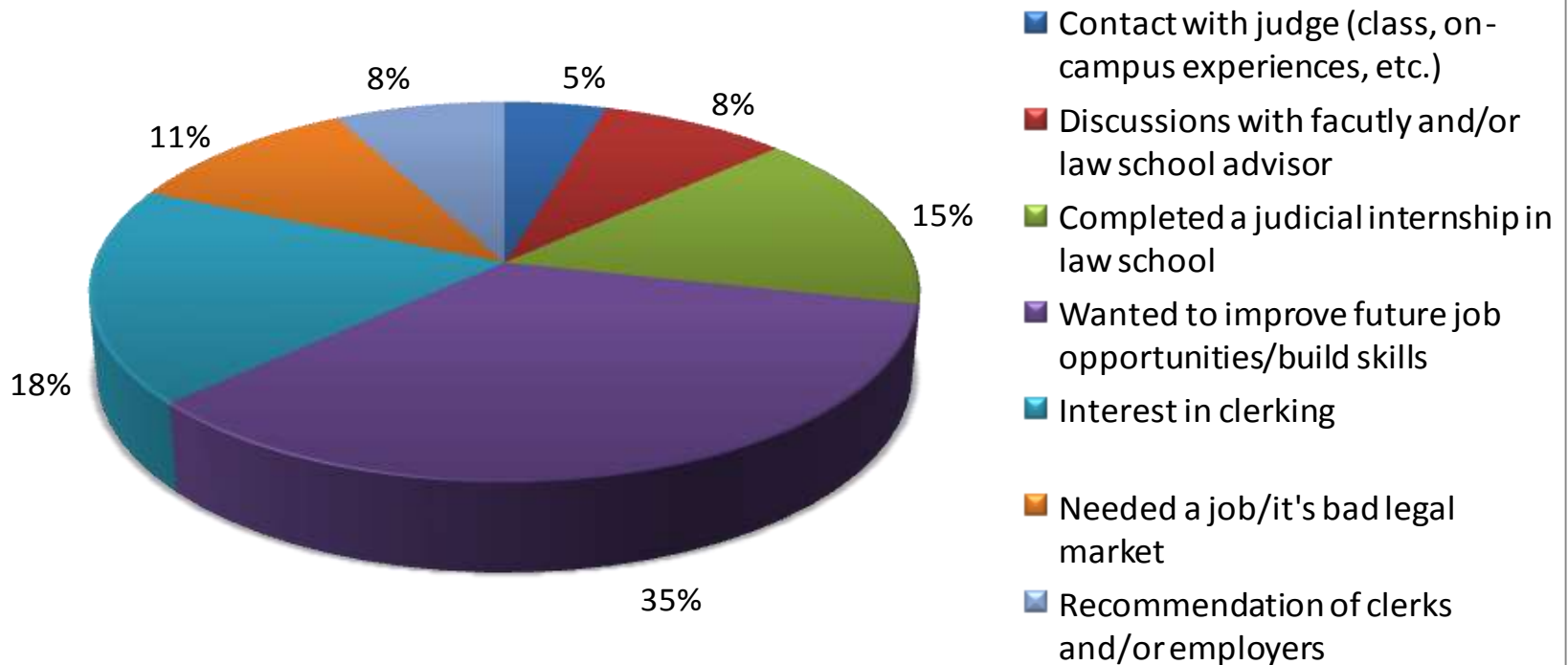
Thousands of state and local court clerkships are available

	2010	2011	2012
Total Reported Clerkships	3,346	3,315	3,355
Total State and Local Court Clerkships	2,044	2,035	2,050
State and Local Court Clerkships	61.1%	61.4%	61.1%
Federal Court Clerkships	37.8%	37.9%	38.2%

Data compiled from annual NALP ERSS reports

Student Buy-In: Survey of State Court Clerks

What Influenced the Decision to Apply



Student Buy-In: Individualize the Possibilities

- Not “One Size Fits All” Opportunities
- Clerkships Can Exist for Everyone

Student Buy-In:

Factors in Securing a Clerkship

<u>Factors</u>	
Connection to the Judge	38%
Faculty Support	30%
Strong Interview	73%
Strong Application Materials	65%
GPA/Class Rank	56%
Journal and/or Academic Activities (including clinical experiences)	38%
Judicial Internship	36%

Student Buy-In: Clerkship Programming



Student Buy-In: Programming Suggestions

- Panels
- Alumni clerks



Student Buy-In: Program Marketing

- Emails
- Flyers
- Word of Mouth



UNIVERSITY OF THE
PACIFIC
McGeorge School of Law

**FEDERAL JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP
WORKSHOP**

WITH GUEST SPEAKERS:

Professor Mike Mireles, Law Clerk for the Honorable Judge S. Jay Byler of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (2000-01).

Professor Omar M. Dejan, Law Clerk for the Honorable Judge Dorothy Telsion, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit (1997-98).

Nihar Desai, (04), Law Clerk for the Honorable Judge Consuelo M. Callahan, United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit (2007-08); Law Clerk for the Honorable Magistrate Judge Kendall J. Newman, Eastern District of California (2010-present).

Director of Field Placement Colleen Truden, Law Clerk for the Honorable Justice Brent E. Dickson, Indiana Supreme Court (1989-88); Law Clerk for the Honorable Chief Judge Allen Sharp, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana (1984-85).



**Thursday, APRIL 14
4:30 pm to 6:00pm
Classroom D**

Pacific McGeorge's
Career Development Office
Presents:

*Federal Judicial Clerkship Workshop: The
Nuts and Bolts
of the Application Process*

- ✓ Get tips on choosing courts and judges strategically.
- ✓ Learn how to get your letters of recommendation processed through the CDO.
- ✓ Discuss gearing your resume and cover letter to judicial clerkships.
- ✓ Hear about how to select your best writing samples for a clerkship application.
- ✓ Find out the top five judicial clerkship interviewing techniques.

Please RSVP on MCO (aka Symposity) no later than April 12.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to receive the administrative support that you will need in order to apply for federal clerkships, you must attend this event. The federal judiciary requires that applications be processed through the school. If you cannot attend, please e-mail Molly Stafford at molly@pacificmcgeorge.edu to arrange an alternative training session.

Student Buy-In:

Faculty Encouragement

- Faculty Clerkship Advisors
 - Review resumes, cover letters and writing samples
 - Conduct mock interviews
- Faculty Committee
 - Promote opportunities to students
 - Promote “best practices” to recommenders

The Moving Target: Timing and State Courts

- Changing Landscape
 - Impact of the Dismantled Federal Hiring Plan
 - State Level Changes – More Still to Come?
- Independent Procedures
 - Refer Students to the Vermont Guide
 - Use the NALP Insider's Guide as a Tool

The Moving Target: How to Survey Courts

- Written survey to judges
- Calls to individual judges or courts
 - Student assistants
 - Consortium of schools
- Feedback from law clerks

The Moving Target: What to Ask

- Timing of accepting applications
- Timing of interviews
- Which application materials
- Other hiring needs

Applications:

Tailor Materials to the Audience

- Cover Letter and Resume
 - ✓ Highlight connections to the court
 - ✓ Demonstrate knowledge (pool v. elbow clerk)
- Writing Sample
 - ✓ Emphasis substantive or local research
- Letters of Recommendation
 - ✓ Often ask for non-faculty letters
 - ✓ Consider former clerks, well-known attorneys

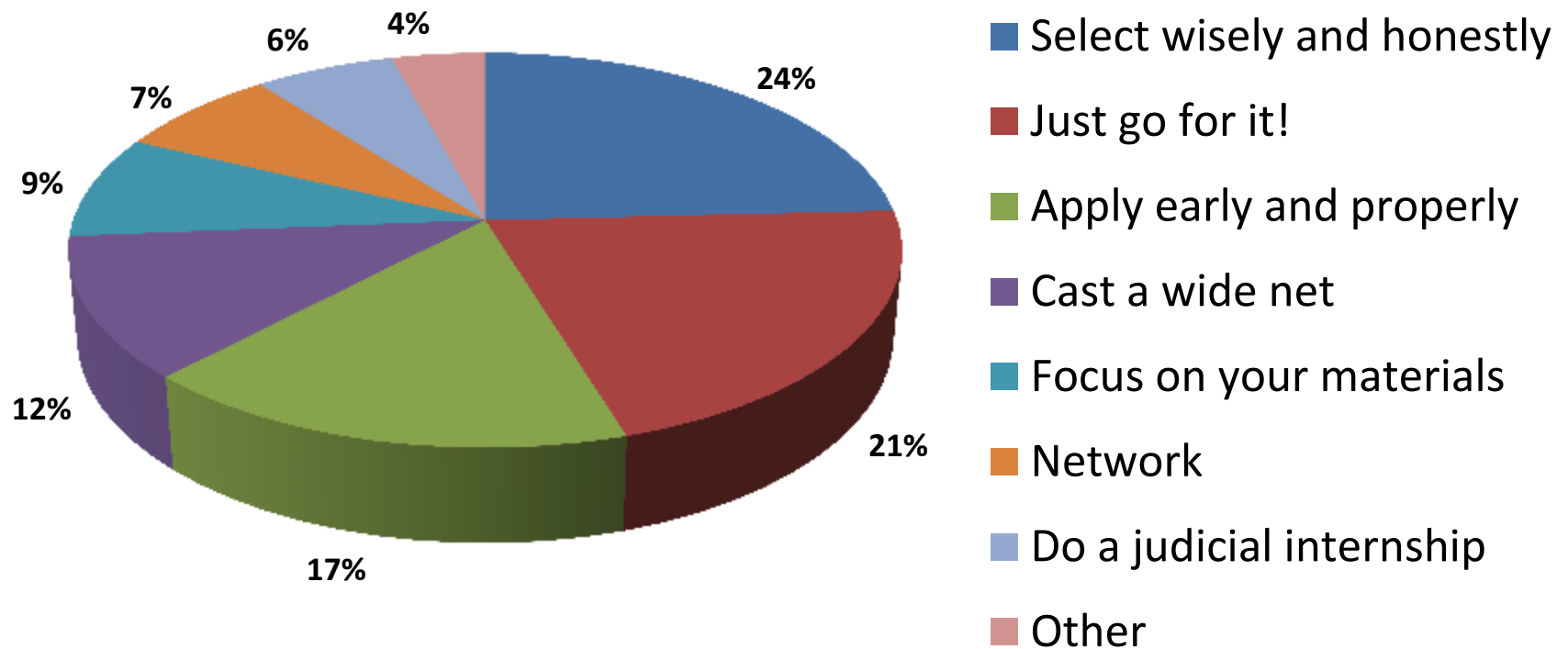
Insight and Advice From State Court Clerks

What helped you to secure your first post-clerkship position?

Key Factors	Responses
Clerkship on Resume	70%
Judge's Assistance	25%
Clerkship Networking Opportunities	31%
Other Networking Opportunities	16%
Career Services Support	11%
Prior Experience (OCI, Clinics, etc.)	18%

Insight and Advice From State Court Clerks

What advice would you give to applicants?



Questions and Suggestions

Contact Information

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