

I'm a 1L Interested in High Tech/IP Law What Should I Do Now?

Welcome to Santa Clara University School of Law! We're glad you're here. Students have numerous opportunities to become part of the high tech law community. However, some activities are not designed for 1Ls, and in some cases 1Ls will be discouraged or prohibited from participating. So, how can a 1L get involved?

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO DO *RIGHT NOW*:

Subscribe to the High Tech Blog! We post important high tech related announcements and notices to the High Tech Blog so if you're not subscribed, you won't know what is going on. So *right now*, put this paper down and subscribe to the blog! <http://law.scu.edu/blog/hightech/index.cfm> **Note: You must use your SCU email address to receive all student specific information.**

GO TO EVENTS

Obviously, you will want to put your studies first. However, we encourage you to find some time for out-of-class learning opportunities. Many noontime events offer lunch, so you can grab a bite, learn a little and meet some new people.

The Student Intellectual Property Law association runs the noontime "High Tech Tuesday" series, which brings in practicing IP and technology lawyers to talk about their jobs or cutting-edge legal issues. See the SIPLA events schedule at <http://scusipla.org/>. For more information, contact Roger Ling (roger.ling@gmail.com) or Pat Lai (plai@scu.edu).

The Biotechnology Law Group focuses on biotech and life sciences matters and creates opportunities for students to network with attorneys practicing in these areas. See the BLG events schedule at <http://law.scu.edu/life/biotechnology-law-group.cfm>. For more information, contact Johanna Jacob (Johanna.I.jacob@gmail.com).

The Sports and Entertainment Law Society sponsors programs throughout the year, such as speaker events on current issues in sports and entertainment law, career panels and social events. For more information contact Nicole Bartz at Nbartz@scu.edu or Steve Barbieri at Sbarbieri@scu.edu.

The *Computer & High Tech Law Journal* runs an annual day-long symposium early in the spring semester. For more information, contact Michael Van Auker at MVanAuker@scu.edu.

The High Tech Law Institute offers numerous events during the year that are open to students. These events are posted to the blog; you can find a preview of upcoming events at <http://law.scu.edu/hightech/events.cfm>.

START YOUR CAREER DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

The Law Career Services office offers a number of high-tech/IP-oriented sessions during the year. Due to NALP regulations, most LCS activities do not start for 1Ls until November. To find out more about LCS events, go the <http://law.scu.edu/careers/>.

As a 1L, you should begin to build your network of lawyers and other colleagues who can be good information resources and perhaps help you find a job. How do you network?

- When you attend events, talk with speakers/panelists.
- Volunteer to work at conferences and seminars.

- Get involved with local and national professional organizations, including those listed at <http://law.scu.edu/careers/professional-associations.cfm>.
- Conduct informational interviews with alumni and other lawyers.
- Attend career fairs, such as the LCS's Silicon Valley High Tech Legal Career Fair (<http://www.law.scu.edu/careers/high-tech-fair-registration.cfm>), the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association Bay Area Job Fair (see <http://www.sfipla.com/job.html>), and the Loyola Patent Law Interview Program held in Chicago (see <http://www.luc.edu/law/career/patent.html>). IMPORTANT: To attend the Loyola Chicago job fair for a 2L summer job, you need to apply in *February of your 1L year!*

WHAT SHOULD I DO TO PREPARE FOR MY SECOND YEAR?

In Spring, we will organize a presentation about the curriculum for the next academic year. This session will discuss your options and answer your questions about the curriculum. In addition you will learn more about the *Computer & High Tech Law Journal*, the Student Intellectual Property Law Association, the Biotechnology Law Group, and the High Tech Moot Court. Plan on attending! For more help with your curricular planning, see <http://law.scu.edu/hightech/file/CurriculumSuggestionsFinalVersion.pdf>

WHAT SHOULD I DO IN MY FIRST YEAR SUMMER?

You can do a lot in your first summer to build your skills and resume. In addition to a paying legal clerkship, other options to consider:

- Take the Patent Bar exam (if you qualify). During the school year, there will be at least one session discussing the best time to take the patent bar exam.
- Attend one of the school's summer abroad programs focusing on technology or intellectual property law. See <http://law.scu.edu/international/summer-abroad.cfm>.
- Become a research assistant for a professor.
- Research and write a paper on high tech law issues. You can use this paper as your application to the *Computer & High Tech Law Journal* and submit the paper to writing competitions.
- Do a Civil and High Tech Internship and get work experience for academic credit. See <http://law.scu.edu/hightech/civil-and-high-tech-law-internship.cfm>.
- Start your job search for your second summer. Conduct informational interviews and network with practicing lawyers.

WANT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HIGH TECH OR IP LAW?

Visit <http://hightechlaw.scu.edu> or contact us:

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