Law School Launches Externship Program in New York City

**LAW STUDENTS** enrolled in the New York City Regulatory & Business Externship will have the opportunity to learn firsthand about the practice of business associations and regulation in the nation’s largest city.

Offered for the first time this fall, the semester-long clinical experience in New York includes a variety of legal externship opportunities, including those with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, New York City Department of Finance, Standard & Poor’s/McGraw Hill, Securities and Exchange Commission, New York Attorney General’s Office, Anheuser-Busch’s New York headquarters, and the New York City Law Department.

“The overarching goal of the New York City Regulatory & Business Externship is to provide opportunities for our students to engage in critical reflection about the legal profession, business regulation, and entrepreneurship while further developing lawyering skills and professional values,” says Kent Syverud, dean and the Ethan A.H. Shepley University Professor. “The program also allows us to expand our national reach in yet another city of strategic importance to our students, faculty, and alumni.”

The new externship program is among the Clinical Education Program’s 15 distinct local, national, and international clinical opportunities. It will follow a model similar to the longstanding and highly successful Congressional & Administrative Law Externship in Washington, D.C., which places law students in semester-long externships on Capitol Hill, in federal agencies, and at the Brookings Institution. The New York program also is being offered in conjunction with Washington University’s Olin Business School, including a companion course in ethics with students from both schools. The externship is being directed by adjunct professors and New York attorneys Sasha Polonsky, JD ’06, and Zack Shankman.

The New York City program is a logical enhancement to the law school’s current curriculum in business associations and other entity regulation and law. It is designed to provide advanced opportunities for eligible second- and third-year law students to be immersed in hands-on learning about business associations, investment banking, and corporate entities, including with regulators, in a city widely considered a mecca for the banking and business industries. The program also fosters interdisciplinary experiences between business and law that prepare students for careers in business law.

“The immersion in the various environments allows our students to further develop legal skills and judgment, both of which are invaluable to becoming effective attorneys,” says Janet Bolin, associate dean of admissions and student services. “Our students will benefit from the mentoring of their attorney supervisors as they gain a level of experiential training and learning designed to allow a more rapid transition to practice in their postgraduate careers.”

“The New York City Regulatory & Business Externship is ideal for me because of my strong interest in financial regulation and capital markets,” says third-year law student David Myrie, who is pursuing a joint JD/MBA degree. “I spent the summer working at J.P. Morgan Private Bank focusing on asset allocation, trust, and estate planning. The New York externship will allow me to further explore issues related to the Volcker Rule’s impact on investment fund structuring.”

The New York City Regulatory & Business Externship matches students with business and financial entities and regulators in the nation’s largest city.