Greetings from the NIU Law Office of Admissions & Financial Aid! As you continue down the path to choosing a law school home, many of you may be wondering about your career prospects on the other side of law school. We hope that this mailing will serve as a way to assuage any anxiety you might have, and we hope that you will carefully consider the following information.

**ABA Employment Summary:**

Each year, the National Association of Law Placement (NALP) requires ABA-accredited law schools to collect and distribute graduate employment data. These statistics are collected at graduation as well as at nine months after graduation.

Nine months following graduation from law school, 85.7% of the NIU Law Class of 2012 was employed. The breakdown of their employment was as follows:

- Law Office: 58.97%
- Government: 10.26%
- Business: 20.51%
- Public Interest: 3.85%
- Academic: 6.41%

As you can see, our students find jobs in many different arenas! This information and more is displayed prominently on our Career Opportunities website.

**Bar Passage Required:**

From the 85.7% of the NIU Law Class of 2012 that secured employment nine months after graduation, 72.53% secured positions that are qualified as bar passage required.

**A Growing Legacy:**

A majority of our graduates enter private practice. However, over 14% of our Class of 2012 secured legal jobs with the government or within the public interest arena. In its 30-year history, NIU Law has developed a growing legacy as a public interest law school. Each year, we graduate a relatively high number of Assistant State’s Attorneys and Public Defenders. Perhaps this number led to our 2012 accolade from *National Jurist* magazine, in which we were ranked as one of the nation’s Top 20 Law schools for Public Interest/Government.

85:

A significant number of NIU Law graduates have become members of the judiciary. Currently, 85 alumni, nearly one out of every forty, are judges! We believe this impressive statistic is directly correlated with our public interest legacy and with our financial value.
The Mentoring Trifecta:

NIU Law students may participate in one or more mentoring programs from the time they begin their law school journeys.

Last year, 91 of our 103 first-year students were paired with alumni mentors. Our Office of Career Opportunities has also partnered with the Illinois State Bar Association to develop a Lawyer-to-Lawyer mentoring program for alumni attorneys as well as a Pro Bono Mentoring program, both of which launched this past spring.

Career Opportunities Office:

NIU Law students are fortunate to have a committed and passionate Career Opportunities Office. Students receive coaching on networking, resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, and career development. Because of our community’s small size, our Director of Career Opportunities is equipped to work closely with all of our students to maximize their success in building rewarding legal careers. They receive a weekly “Career Corner” bulletin with information about upcoming networking events, job postings, and general career tips.

In the coming weeks, you will receive a phone call from Greg Anderson, Director of our Career Opportunities Office. We encourage you to embrace this opportunity.

Alumni:

We have a vibrant and active alumni network. Many of our alumni are involved on the Alumni Council, and many more often return to NIU Law for events, panels, and tailgates. They are also active in the lives of our students, whether through the mentoring program, through externship opportunities, or through more casual encounters. We have interviewed several of these alumni, and their profiles appear on our website, along with our student profiles. We encourage you to check out their profiles now and as we add to and update them throughout the summer, as you try to picture yourself at NIU Law and as an NIU LAW alumnus!

In conclusion, we are proud of our graduates and are committed to helping them commence their legal careers. We encourage you to consider these facts as you decide on a law school home. We understand that you may have additional questions and concerns about law school. Please give us a call at (815) 753-8595, and we will be happy to assist you.

As always, thank you for your continuing interest in NIU Law!

All the best,
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Assistant Director
NIU Law Office of Admissions and Financial Aid