

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

Welcome to Santa Clara University School of Law! We're glad you're here. The first year of law school is exciting and you'll be exposed to countless to become part of the high tech law community. Many of the activities are not geared for 1Ls because we know you should be focused on academics, but there are ways for you to get involved.

BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING ELSE...



Subscribe to the High Tech Student email list at <http://eepurl.com/C8QcX>. This is where you'll find information about HTLI events, speakers, externships, jobs postings, news about classes and special opportunities for students that come our way. If you don't sign up, you might miss out on important news.

...AND DON'T FORGET SOCIAL MEDIA

Friend us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and connect with us on LinkedIn. The high tech law community is large and extends well beyond Silicon Valley. Check us out at [facebook.com/SCUHTLI](https://www.facebook.com/SCUHTLI), twitter.com/SCUHTLI, and [linkedin.com/groups/82784/](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/82784/).

HTLI EVENTS AND STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

We know that you know that you should focus on your studies during your first year, but you'll need to take a break, too. We encourage you to take advantage of some of the events we host on and off campus. These are great opportunities to meet practicing attorneys, learn something about different practice areas, and maybe even learn something new about the law.

In addition to checking for upcoming events on social media, you should always go to our website at law.scu.edu/high-tech where you'll find our events calendar, a link to our blog, and links to other events and activities related to high tech law.

You should consider joining one or more of the high tech law student organizations.

[Blockchain & Compliance Legal Society](#)
[ChIPs](#)
[High Tech Law Journal](#) (HTLJ)
[Internet Law Student Organization](#) (ILSO)
[Law & Business Society](#) (LBS)

[Privacy Law Student Organization](#) (PLSO)
[Society for Artificial Intelligence and Law](#) (SAIL)
[Society for Interactive Entertainment and Gaming Law](#)
[Sports & Entertainment Law Society](#) (SELS)
[Student Intellectual Property Law Association](#) (SIPLA)

NETWORKING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Career Management (OCM) offers a number of high-tech/IP-oriented sessions during the year. Due to NALP regulations, most OCM activities do not start for 1Ls until November. To find out more about OCM events, visit <https://law.scu.edu/careers/>.

According to the ABA, about **90% of law students do not get their jobs through On-Campus Interviews (OCI)**. If that's true (and it is), how are all these lawyers getting hired? It's simple – Networking.



Even as a 1L, you should begin to build a network of lawyers who can help you navigate the employment market. This may sound daunting, but it's not hard if you take it one step at a time. You just have to make the effort. How can you start "networking"?

- Check out the events on campus and plan to attend at least one event each that interests you. Don't know what you're interested in yet? Going to events is a good way to learn about areas of the law you didn't even know exist. Remember to talk with speakers and other attendees. If you connect with someone, get their business card and give them yours (*don't have one...get one*).
- Volunteer to work at conferences and seminars.
- Get involved with city, county, state, and national bar organizations, especially "sections" that focus on the subject matter that interests you most.
- Ask for informational interviews with alumni and other lawyers.
- Attend career fairs, such as the OCM's High Tech Career Fair, the San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association Bay Area Job Fair at University of San Francisco School of Law, and the Loyola Patent Law Interview Program held at Loyola Law in Chicago.

START PREPARING FOR YOUR SECOND YEAR

In spring, we hold a session for 1Ls to discuss course options and answer questions about the curriculum. In addition you will learn more about student activities like the student groups, the journal, moot court, and summer abroad. Please attend. For more help with your future curricular planning, view our helpful [Navigating the High Tech Curriculum](#) doc.

If you have a qualifying technical degree and are interested in patent law, consider taking the patent bar exam. The US Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) offers guidance on becoming a patent prosecutor at www.uspto.gov. If privacy law interests you, contact Dorice McDonnell at dkunis@scu.edu. Santa Clara Law has an arrangement with the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) for steeply discounted student memberships and testing.

FINALLY, KEEP IN TOUCH

We're here to help! Have questions? Email or set up a meeting with us!

Joanna Padua Justus,
Managing Director
Charney Hall, Suite 313
jpadua@scu.edu
408-551-7154

Dorice McDonnell,
Program Manager
Charney Hall, Suite 313
dkunis@scu.edu
408-551-1868