

EVENTS

An Actors' Advocate, a Gang Unit

Students seek advice at Alumni Career Forum



One year, **Andrew Dansker '07** was at Jacob Wirth's, a restaurant near the law school, eating a burger and fretting about the bar exam. A year later, he was at the same restaurant as a local representative and advocate for the Screen Actors Guild, watching Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz filming a lunch scene for the blockbuster *Knight and Day*.

As one of 90 alumni participating in the 2010 Alumni Career Forum, he helped students understand his legal role at the guild, which has also included monitoring the set of the comedy *Grown Ups*; Chris Rock, Salma Hayek Pinault, and Adam Sandler filmed a wedding scene for the movie in Southborough, Massachusetts.

One hundred twenty students had a chance to speak one-on-one with alumni at the forum and got practical advice for entering the job market. Among other alumni participating were:

- **Raffi Yessayan '94**, a solo practitioner and author of a new crime novel *2 in the Hat* (Random House). Yessayan was formerly chief of the Gang Unit in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office.
- **Douglas Denny-Brown '97**, principal of a legal consulting firm and one of the founders of Clean Asset Partners Corporation. The corporation works with developers, owners, and suppliers of renewable energy.
- **Elizabeth Marcus '97**, a mediator with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- **Justice Antoinette E. Leoney '84**, Massachusetts District Court
- **Judge Robert Ronquillo, Jr., '84** of the Boston Municipal Court, East Boston Division
- **Administrative Judge David G. Sullivan '86**, Massachusetts Department of Industrial Accidents

Chief, and More



Mandie LeBeau, director of the school's Career Services Office, said of the event: "It's sort of one-stop shopping for the networking-savvy student. This year we had attorneys representing 55 different practice areas and some representing alternative legal careers as well, including authors, consultants, recruiters, and financial advisers. Our students are always excited to have such a great opportunity to meet so many successful graduates of the law school in one place."

LeBeau said, "One of the things I love most about the forum is that it creates a positive exchange of energy, advice, and inspiration."

Almost every student leaves the room with a smile. Maybe they just heard that one piece of advice that makes them study harder and work longer, so they can follow in the footsteps of the successful alum they just met. Many students report that they stayed in touch with an alum they met at the event or ended up being contacted to set up a job interview."

The law school is grateful for the time and energy of all the alumni participants. For a list of the alumni involved in the Alumni Career Forum, please visit www.nesl.edu/alumnicareerforum2010.

1
Kristin Kolick '12,
Andrew Dansker '07

2
Maria Bello, Adam Sandler, and
Salma Hayek Pinault at a special
screening of *Grown Ups*. Photo
courtesy of Sony Pictures
Entertainment, Inc.

3
Lisa LaFera '02, Sarah Roxburgh '08,
Mary Loveless '12

4
Cameron Diaz and Tom Cruise in
Knight and Day. Photo courtesy of
Twentieth Century Fox.

5
Richard Sweeney '00, Sharon
Schawbel '01, William Maranville '12,
Carla Micalizzi '13

6
Ashley Monteiro '13,
David J. Correia '89

7
Raffi Yessayan '94,
Sarah McNeely '12

8
Richard Bardi '83,
Jessica Walsh '10

9
Desmond Fitzgerald '96,
Christopher Flanagan '94,
Amber Beaverson '10

10
Elizabeth Marcus '97,
Jennifer Maggiasco '94,
Meghan Claire Thorp '07

11
Douglas Denny-Brown '97,
In Young Cho '12