Dear Prospective Members of the Class of 2018:

We invite you to apply to join the staff of *The University of Chicago Law Review*. The Law Review is a student-run quarterly journal of legal scholarship. Roughly three-fourths of each volume (comprising four issues) consists of articles and book reviews submitted by law professors, judges, and practitioners. The other one-fourth consists of Comments authored by the Law Review’s student members.

In addition to serving as a forum for legal scholarship, the Law Review is committed to providing its staff with rigorous training in legal research and writing. Staff members also learn a great deal of substantive law through their editing responsibilities and by writing Comments.

Former members of the Law Review include prominent legal figures such as Judges Danny Boggs, Robert Bork, Frank Easterbrook, Douglas Ginsburg, Michael McConnell, Abner Mikva, Lee Rosenthal, and David Tatel; and Professors Anthony Casey, Marvin Chirelstein, Ashley Deeks, Daniel Fischel, Lawrence Friedman, Mary Ann Glendon, Todd Henderson, William Hubbard, Anup Malani, Edward Morrison, Randal Picker, Jacqueline Ross, Elizabeth Samuels, Geoffrey Stone, Sonja West, and Stephen Yelderman.

Staff Selection

Transfer students may apply to join the Law Review by participating in the Writing Competition or by participating in the Topic Access program. Sign ups for the Writing Competition will run from May 3, 2016 to May 26, 2016. Any transfer students interested in competing in the Writing Competition must contact Dean Ann Perry at akperry@uchicago.edu to obtain the necessary materials. The Writing Competition itself will begin on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, and conclude on Sunday, June 19, 2016. The Competition consists of two parts: an editing portion and a writing portion. The editing portion is worth 40 percent and the writing portion is worth 60 percent of the total Writing Competition score. While our selection process is entirely blind, the number of transfer students that may qualify for membership based on the Writing Competition scores will be capped at two.

New staff members selected through the Writing Competition **must** return to the Law School on Saturday, August 13, 2016 to attend the Law Review’s summer orientation. In addition, staff members will receive several assignments in August, which must be completed prior to summer orientation.

The Law Review also admits new staff members during their second and third years through the Topic Access program. Students participating in this program are accepted to full membership upon completion of a publishable Comment. Each Topic Access program participant is assigned to an editor who is available to review proposals and drafts. Additional details about this program are available on the Law Review’s website. An unlimited number of transfer students may qualify through the Topic Access program.
Staff Responsibilities

The three main responsibilities of staff members are editing the Law Review, helping vet articles for publication, and writing a Comment. During their first year of membership, staff members should expect to spend an average of twenty hours per week working on the Law Review, with the workload for any particular week being quite variable. Students who gain membership through the Topic Access program must complete the same editorial duties.

Staff members actively contribute to the editorial functions of the Law Review. Each member typically completes at least four cite checks. A cite check entails five to ten days of work during which the staff member meticulously ensures the accuracy of each citation in a Comment, Article, or Book Review and edits for style and technical errors. In addition, staff members are involved in the evaluation of Comments and Articles, researching the novelty and impact a particular piece might have. Staffers will also contribute by working on any other essential production tasks.

At the same time, staff members work on their Comments with the goal of publication. Completion of a Comment is a requirement of journal membership, and Comments are eligible to satisfy the SRP graduation requirement. Members work under the guidance of a Comment Editor, who provides feedback at several stages. Members also consult with a Faculty Advisor with expertise in their selected topic area.

Why All the Work Is Worth It

Law Review membership is a rewarding experience. Members have a unique chance to solve problems in the law and contribute to legal scholarship—they often find that their work on Law Review assignments dramatically improves their legal research, writing, and reasoning skills. Additionally, journal work is now eligible for three pass/fail credits through the Law School. It is a fantastic opportunity to work with classmates toward a common objective: publication of a renowned journal. Law Review members form meaningful connections with one another that often outlast their time as staffers.

We hope you will consider applying. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

The Volume 84 Managing Board:

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