MEDIA RELEASE



Tuesday, 31 March 2020

Sydney Law Careers Fair goes virtual

Faced with having to cancel its annual Sydney Law Careers Fair for law students and law graduates, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Law Society of NSW has announced it will be running the event as a 'virtual' careers fair this year.

Each year, the Sydney Law Careers Fair brings together law students from across the state, all seeking career guidance from those well established in the legal profession. More than 1000 students and graduates were expected to attend this year's event at the International Convention Centre.

However, when COVID-19 restrictions banned the holding of all large-scale events, the Law Society of NSW moved quickly to re-develop the Sydney Law Careers Fair as a virtual event.

The careers fair, which is free to all exhibitors and students, will now be held online this Friday 3 April 2020 from 11m – 2pm.

The Law Society is now inviting all law students and graduates from across the state to attend the event. The site is live: https://lawcareerstarter.com/lsnsw-virtual-fair-2020.

More than 35 exhibitors from Australia's leading firms, government departments and educational institutions will be online to answer student's questions about clerkships, graduate roles and offer career guidance.

Law Society of NSW President, Richard Harvey, urged law students and graduates wishing to take part in the virtual careers fair to sign in at 11am sharp on April 3 to ensure they can ask all the questions they have lined up for the exhibitors.

"With universities and tertiary providers around Australia moving to online classes in a bid to minimise the spread of COVID-19, it made perfect sense for the Law Society to move the Sydney Law Careers Fair online," Mr Harvey said.

"These are unprecedented and uncertain times and we all need to adapt and adjust to the challenges of COVID-19, in ways we would not have imagined even a month ago.

"If you are you starting to think about applying for clerkships or graduate programs, want some advice and guidance as you transition from study to the first few years of your career in law, or are looking for the inside scoop on clerkship and graduate programs, then I suggest you register for the Virtual Sydney Law Careers Fair.

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"Don't let COVID-19 stop you from getting all the tips and guidance you need to ensure you are on the right path to your future career in the law," he said.

How will it work?

The Virtual Sydney Law Careers Virtual Fair will use Zoom to power the video chat rooms during the virtual event. Face-to-face exhibitor 'booths' will be replaced with unique video rooms for each exhibitor.

Exhibiting employers will feature on a dedicated landing page within their career site and, prior to the fair, students will be able to review employer profiles and decide which exhibitors they want to chat with and prepare questions in advance.

When the virtual event begins, students and graduates can join the video room of an employer that they want to meet, jump in and out of different video rooms and ask questions.

The Law Society, in conjunction with Prosple, has even developed some etiquette guidelines for the virtual event: https://lawcareerstarter.com/lsnsw-virtual-fair-2020/video-room-etiquette.

Exhibitors taking part in the Sydney Law Virtual Careers Fair (many of whom are already working remotely due to COVID-19 restrictions) include:

Allens Linklaters | Ashurst | Baker McKenzie | Barry Nilsson | Bird & Bird | Bond University | Clayton UTZ | Clifford Chance | Colin Biggers & Paisley | Corrs Chambers Westgarth | DLA Piper | FSLaw | Gadens | Gilbert + Tobin | Hall and Wilcox | Johnson Winter & Slattery | Jones Day | K&L Gates | King & Wood Mallesons | Lander & Rogers | Legal Vitae | Macpherson Kelley | Maddocks | Marsden Group | McDonalds | NSW Young Lawyers | Sparke Helmore Lawyers | The College of Law | The Law Society of NSW | Thomson Geer | Wotton+Kearney.

Interested students and graduates should follow <u>Legal Vitae (Graduate services) on Facebook</u> for daily updates on the Sydney Law Careers Virtual Fair.

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