

# The Internship at UVM's Student Legal Services

- ◆ Are you frustrated with injustice?
- ◆ Do you want to learn more about the law?
- ◆ Are you interested in obtaining experience in the legal field?
- ◆ Do you want to learn more about your rights?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, the internship program at UVM's Student Legal Services may be for you. Our internship is one of the oldest and most prestigious at the university. Founded in 1977, SLS is one of the **oldest student-run legal services** in the nation, and has operated continuously since its inception.

Each year, 12 to 15 student interns staff the SLS office, located in the SGA space in the Davis Center. Interns work closely with attorneys from the prominent Burlington law firm of Blodgett, Watts, & Volk. They act as liaisons between the attorneys and student clients, and seek to frame legal issues in a way clients can easily understand. Interns relay legal advice, set up meetings, conduct legal research, accompany clients to court and judicial hearings, and provide referral services. Interns work closely with the attorneys on each of their cases, and are obligated to be in the SLS office for a minimum of two hours each week. They must also attend a one-hour case discussion meeting, held weekly.

An internship such as the one offered at Student Legal Services is an extraordinary opportunity for an undergraduate. The chance to intern for practicing attorneys can be an invaluable experience, certainly for those considering law school, but also for those who haven't been exposed to the practice of law and are curious about it. It provides students with a worthwhile opportunity to learn more about their constitutional rights, civil liberties, and how our legal system works. Some of our interns do indeed pursue a career in law; many, however, choose not to, and take with them the multifaceted skills they acquire in their time here.

Interns apply in the spring semester of each academic year. Applications are reviewed and the best-qualified candidates are invited back for an interview. The application process is quite selective. Interns need strong interpersonal skills, and high aptitudes for both written and oral work are a plus. **No prior knowledge of the law is necessary.**

If you're interested in helping your fellow students navigate the legal process, or simply want to learn more about working in legal-related fields, an internship at UVM's Student Legal Services will provide you with valuable experience. Interns receive experience in all aspects of legal work, ranging from client relations, to case-building, to legal research. Stop by **our offices** in the SGA office space in the Davis Center, or call us at (802) 656-4379 to learn more. You can also reach us by e-mail at [legal@uvm.edu](mailto:legal@uvm.edu).

The internship application itself is on the second page of this document.

**STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES**  
**2014-2015 Internship Application DUE: 12:00 pm, Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**University of Vermont**  
**DUDLEY H. DAVIS CENTER**  
**BURLINGTON, VT 05405**  
**(802) 656-4379**  
**legal@uvm.edu**

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DAVID WATTS, ATTORNEY  
PAUL VOLK, ATTORNEY

COUNSEL TO STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACADEMICS**

Present Class (Please Circle One): F S J Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be enrolled on campus for the entire 2014-2015 academic year? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received any academic honors while attending college?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**EXPERIENCE**

Please list any school activities, civic clubs, volunteer service, work, or other relevant experience:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been in any formal academic or disciplinary trouble while at UVM? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, please explain on a separate sheet of paper. *Bear in mind, a positive answer will not necessarily reflect poorly on your application.*

**ESSAY (300-700 words)**

SLS is a unique student organization, and each of our interns brings something different to the group; individual qualities are an important part of what we do and how we deal with our clients. If someone were to recommend you for SLS what would they say about you in particular? What strengths do you possess that make you especially qualified to intern here?

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY 12:00 NOON ON Wednesday, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014. You must deliver your typed, completed application to our office, located in the SGA space on the third floor of the Davis Center. If no intern is present to collect your application, please slip it under the door.**