Hello Class of 2013!

Hope you all enjoyed the section reunions, and are getting ready to graduate in a short 5 1/2 weeks!

Thank you for voting in the speaker survey last week, here are the results:

Faculty Speaker: Hastings' well-respected and adored, Professor Diamond!
Student Speaker: Scott Sawyer!

Additionally, our valedictorian speaker will be Chris Petroni, and our main commencement speaker will be Judge Edward Davila ’79 (appointed by Pres. Obama to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California).

Congratulations to those selected, and thank you to everyone who tried out!

Here are additional graduation announcements on:

- 1) Important Dates
- 2) What if I can't pick up regalia and tickets myself?
- 3) Pro Bono Society Recognition
- 4) Financial Aid Announcement- Deadline to Complete Direct Stafford/Graduate PLUS Exit Loan Counseling

1) Important Dates:

April 5 (Tomorrow!) Deadline to order cap & gown – If you have not yet ordered your regalia, this is your last chance! Stop by The Bookstore between 11am-1pm tomorrow with a check or credit card – no cash payments will be accepted. If you don’t order regalia, you are considered not attending and your tickets will enter the ticket lottery which will be run next week.

April 10 – Final Session of O! The Bar! – Putting it All Together and MBE (multiple choice), 3:30-4:30pm, Rm G. Intro to the MBE, Connection between the MBE and essays & Strategies to identify strengths and weaknesses

April 12 – Deadline to submit timesheets for Pro Bono Society recognition (See below for details)

April 29 – May 3 - Pick up cap & gown and tickets! 9am-4:00pm, Bookstore

May 9- Class of 2013 Graduation Party 10pm-2am, Public Works, Come celebrate - more details to come soon!

May 10 - Public Interest Celebration - 4-5:30pm, ARC; reception to follow in Dobbs Atrium. Chancellor and Dean Frank Wu will open the ceremony. Academic Dean Shauna Marshall will emcee. Noreen Farrell ’97, Executive Director of Equal Rights Advocates, will be our keynote speaker. Family & friends welcome.
May 11 - Commencement arrive by 1:00pm, Nob Hill Masonic Center-ceremony starts at 2:00pm.

Please read the Grad Guidebook (given at Grad To Do Day) for detailed information on Commencement

May 15 – Deadline to Complete Direct Stafford/Graduate PLUS Exit Loan Counseling
https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action

May 17 - Deadline to clean out your locker. If you plan to study for the Bar here and want to use a locker over the summer, please email Student Services (studentservices@uchastings.edu) with this request.

2) What if I can’t Pick Up My Regalia and Tickets Myself?

If you cannot pick up your regalia and tickets yourself, you may send a friend or family member, but that person MUST have a print-out of an email addressed to the Bookstore and Student Services from you authorizing that person to pick up these items. That person will need to show the print out to public safety to enter the 200 McAllister building and must give the print out to the Bookstore as a record for picking up your regalia.

3) Pro Bono Society Recognition
April 12, 2013 is the last day to submit time sheets for pro bono society recognition on Commencement Program and transcripts. Students who have completed at least 45 hours of approved pro bono services will be recognized as members of the pro bono society. Students who have completed 150+ hours will be recognized for outstanding achievement in pro bono. If you have provided pro bono services but have not submitted verified timesheets (even from prior semesters), it is not too late. For those of you who still have hours to complete to qualify for graduation recognition, it is also not too late.

Pro Bono timesheets must be approved by a supervising attorney or student coordinator of the organization with whom the services were performed. Timesheets may be submitted to the Externships and Pro Bono Programs office, 100 McAllister St., Rm 350, or emailed as a pdf to jacksoja@uchastings.edu. Pro bono opportunities and timesheets are available online.

4) Financial Aid Announcements:

Direct Stafford/Graduate PLUS Exit Loan Counseling is a requirement for any student who received federal loans. The deadline to do this is May 15, here’s the link: https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/index.action. If you miss this deadline a HOLD will be placed on your academic record. This means you will not be able to get a copy of your academic transcript, among other things. Please avoid hassle and do this requirement today.

Loans for Bar Study

Commercial lenders offer bar study loans for students who need funding for the bar course and living expenses while studying for the bar exam. Here’s more information: http://www.uchastings.edu/about/admin-offices/financial-aid/aid-programs/bar-study/index.php. UCH also has a modest last resort bar loan program for students who need to take a bar study course,
but have been denied a commercial bar loan. Contact Linda Bisesi at bisesil@uchastings.edu for more information.

Best wishes,

Natalie Alameddine

3L Class President