

In this Issue: Own Your Story, Recent Internships, Alumni Success Story, Career Celebration Corner, Career Celebration Spotlight, Negotiation Tips, Leadership Book Club Dinner Series, Applying to Graduate School, Monthly Challenge, Career Events



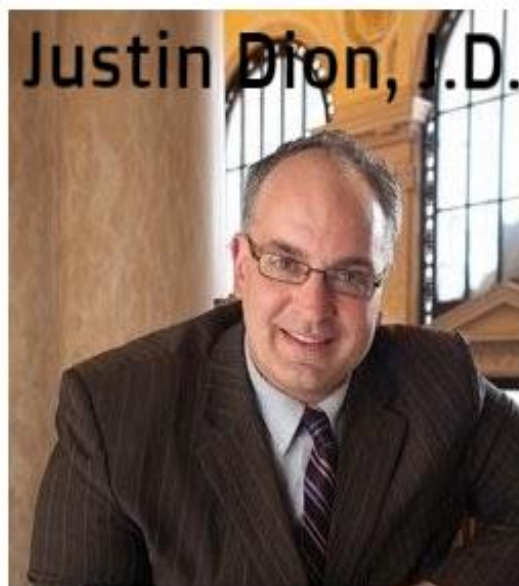
# The Network

## Newsletter

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March 2015

### Own Your Story: The Career Path of Justin Dion



Many would agree, the decision to redirect your life is not an easy one to make. For Attorney Justin Dion, however, the decision came in a flash of certainty. In his last semester of completing a Master's degree in Psychology at Southern Connecticut State University (and having just submitted applications for doctoral programs), Attorney Dion was sitting in a Psychology of Law class which would change the course of his academic and professional life.

The class, which was taught by a panel of lawyers, focused on the importance of counseling styles between lawyers and clients.

This sparked an interest which made him switch gears. That semester, he listened to his heart and withdrew his Ph.D. applications for Psychology programs and decided to apply to law school. He took the LSAT blindly and was able to get a decent enough score to be accepted.

Attorney Dion made the decision to attend Western New England University School of Law as a doctoral student. After visiting the campus, he fell in love with the faculty and the focus on student learning in intimate classroom settings. His first year was a challenge, but Attorney Dion used his fear of failure as his primary motivator. All of his free time was dedicated to studying and sure enough, he did well enough to be selected as one of twenty students to participate in Law Review. This opportunity allowed him to spend his last two years in the program researching and writing.

After graduating, Attorney Dion landed a job as a law clerk at Burstein Law Offices, a small family-owned firm in Springfield, Massachusetts. Here, he gained a wealth of experience on cases from criminal law to bankruptcy law which helped him narrow down his interests. He learned he did not want to work as a criminal defendant or with divorce cases, but knew he enjoyed real estate and bankruptcy law. After getting two job offers—one at a larger firm in Springfield and another at the small firm where he was employed—he was faced with a difficult decision. Attorney Dion chose to continue working at the smaller firm because it would provide him with the opportunity to work directly with people. After working there for two years, he moved on to Bacon & Wilson in Springfield, working in bankruptcy law.

After receiving an email from a friend about a teaching position in the One-Day program, Attorney Dion's Bay Path journey began! He began with a Real Estate law course and fell in love with teaching. He loved feeling like he was empowering students and was inspired by their desire to learn. From there, he increased his teaching load and has been a full-time faculty member since 2009. Attorney Dion has been a wonderful addition to the team, working alongside Attorney Woodruff to develop the Bankruptcy Clinic, which allows undergraduates the opportunity to work alongside clients to process cases from start to finish.

Interested in the Legal Studies programs at  
Bay Path University?  
Click here to learn more!

Legal Studies at Bay Path University



no ratings yet

49 views

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## Recent Internships

**Drew Unikewicz**, '16, Residential Commercial Design, Valley Venture Mentors, Springfield, MA

**Erika Anderson**, '15, Forensic Science, TurfCare, Hatfield, MA

**Krystal Duncan**, '15, Biotechnology, Accuratus Lab Services, Agawam, MA

**Kayla Lusnia**, '15, Biology, Baystate Medical Center, Dr. Konefal, Springfield, MA

**Stephanie Morin**, '15, Biology, Baystate Labs, Springfield, MA

**Courtney LaFreniere**, '16, Human Resource Management, United Technologies, Hartford, CT

**Courtney Antkowiak**, '18, Marketing, Hewlett Packard, Palo Alto, CA

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## Alumni Success: Finding the Perfect Job!

Kelly Ye '15



Recent Legal Studies graduate, Kelly Ye '14, knows what it's like to set a goal and achieve it. As a first year, she knew she wanted to be a paralegal at Bacon & Wilson. She has always wanted to start a family and was intrigued by the flexibility and locale of its firm location in Springfield. Sure enough, four years later she is a full-time Estates Paralegal at Bacon and Wilson. As an Estates Paralegal, Kelly's current case load focuses around issues of probate, health insurance, and taxes. She works on reviewing files, researching necessary information, and filing certain court documents at the courthouse. Kelly admits that it was overwhelming at first, but everything is starting to click for her now as she becomes more familiar with all the ins and outs of being a Paralegal.

Kelly's Bacon & Wilson career story began as an intern. She landed an internship at the firm by reaching out directly to Attorney Darling after class. Although scary, she knew that she would never have her desired career if she did not go out on a limb. Sure enough, Kelly got the internship and even though she only needed the required 240 hours, she worked full-time hours during her summer break to take in everything she could. After one month at the internship, she was hired as a part-time Paralegal while finishing school and transitioned into a full-time position in December once she graduated.

Kelly's favorite part of her new job is building relationships with her clients. She didn't expect to become so involved in their lives, but loves being their "voice" to attorneys. Kelly doesn't find the workload difficult, but thinks that being an intern helped in providing her with realistic expectations of the job. She says there is no chance for procrastination in paralegal work and she relies entirely on a calendar! Kelly notes that her Legal Studies professors at BPU encouraged her to think outside of the box and ask questions, which in turn has helped her to succeed. Her advice to undergraduates preparing for the professional world: don't be afraid to make mistakes and ask questions! Each mistake will help you become a better paralegal in the long run.

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### Career Celebration Corner

**Jacqueline Williams, '15**, Legal Studies, Accepted into American University and Michigan State University Schools of Law

**Britney Allen, '15**, Biology, Accepted into Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Nursing Program

**Kayla Boehlen, '15**, Legal Studies, Accepted into Suffolk University and Western New England University Schools of Law

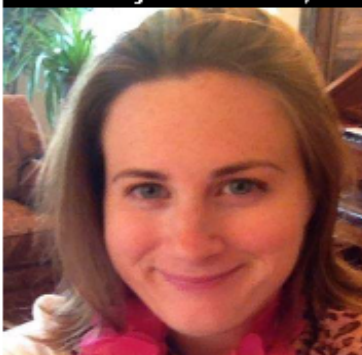
**Jessica Schact, '15**, Elementary Education, Full-Time Support Staff Team Member, KinderCare, South Windsor, CT

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## Career Celebration Spotlight

**Kimberley Grandfield, '14**



When Business Administration major Kim Grandfield graduated in December of '14, she had already been working at her full-time job for two months. Kim, who is now enrolled in the CIM Master's program, started at Jewish Geriatrics in March of last year as an intern. She worked on a series of major event planning projects, including a golf tournament, which required securing sponsorships and donations.

Since then, she has been promoted to a full-time position as the Development Coordinator at Jewish Geriatric Services in Springfield. Her primary duties include managing incoming donations and recruiting and maintaining volunteer databases.

In addition, she is responsible for managing the schedules of eighty volunteers who assist with various aspects of running the business.

In September, the position for Development Coordinator opened up and, without a second guess, was offered to Kim. In her new role, Kim is learning a lot about how a non-profit works and gaining skills in marketing. She loves the creativity involved in marketing various events. Her favorite part of the job is working with wonderful people, interacting with the guests, and being able to put a smile on the face of a resident. The hardest part of the job has been learning the full functionality of the database system, but Kim is learning more and more every day! When asked what advice she has for undergraduate students, she says to be open to what is out there and give 110%!

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Criminal Justice major, Najira Harris '16, certainly knows how to utilize the skills she has learned at Bay Path to land a job! After seeing a job opening for a Program Coordinator at Manchester Housing Authorities, Najira decided to apply. She submitted her resume and cover letter and within a week received a call back. She was the first one interviewed for the position and got a call the week after her interview with a job offer. Congratulations, Najira!

**Najira Harris, '16**



In Najira's new position she is responsible for programming activities for the residents, maintaining safety and order, assisting with tenants needs, and budgeting. Her favorite part of her new position is seeing the tenants happy by bringing activity and fun into their daily lives.

Najira was well prepared for her interview. Her mom helped her with mock interviews, asking her questions that she would most likely be asked. In addition, she did her research of the company by viewing the company website to get an understanding of the culture and mission of Manchester Housing Authorities. Najira was interviewed by two people, a property manager and a social worker. The hardest question she was asked was the dreaded "Tell me about yourself?" However, because of her WELL310 class, Strategies for Personal and Career Success, Najira nailed it! Not only that, after the interview was complete she was told that she was the best interview they had EVER had! Najira thinks that WELL310 helped her learn about herself and allowed her to be comfortable talking about her strengths. Najira includes her WELL310 class on her resume because she feels it makes her stand out; she attends a school that enhances leadership and helps her grow!

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Click [here](#) to learn about a framework for negotiation from Margaret Neale, Professor of Management at the Stanford Graduate School of Business and Co-director of the Executive Program for Women Leaders.



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### **Leadership Book Club Dinner Series:**

#### **"Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us"**

Fifteen Bay Path University students gathered on February 4th with corporate leaders, members of the Bay Path Education, Health and Human Studies and Bay Path Advisory Council members for the second in a three installment academic year series of the Leadership Book Club Dinner event.

Welcoming remarks by Mo McGuinness G'12 provided a program overview and set the tone for the evening. Lenore Braun, Placement Coordinator at Johnson & Hill, shared an interesting and informative overview on the resources a staffing service can provide to perspective employees as well as the benefits to using a service and how to get started.

Over a delicious dinner, sponsored by Johnson & Hill Staffing Services, each table engaged in small group dialogue with a panelist at each of our student tables to share experiences and ideas. You could tell by the atmosphere in the room that these discussions evoked a great deal of conversation and back and forth exchange of what each participant took away from the book and how to apply this to their professional as well as personal life.





Abby Krobot, Student Moderator, presents gift of gratitude to Andrea Hill for sponsoring this wonderful event!

The evening continued with a panel discussion led by moderators Abby Jo Krobot '16, Bay Path University and Mo McGuiness, Bay Path University Advisory Council member and owner of Sylvester's and Roberto's restaurants in Northampton. Panelists included:

- Dr. Mark Benander, Associate Professor and Director for BPU Masters in Developmental Psychology and Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Dr. Karen DeAngelis, Association Professor of Education; Chair, Education Department at BPU
- Andrea Hill, Founder and President of Johnson & Hill Staffing Services, Advisory Council and College-to-Career Committee member
- Hannah Butler, PHR; Sr. Human Resources Manager, Newell Rubbermaid; Advisory Council and College-to-Career Committee member

The panelists shared their thoughts on the book and the effect the book had or will have on their personal and professional lives. Some of the takeaways included; what drives and motivates managers and employees; "you can do one thing to make a small change;" "people are partners, not resources" – how managers should be looking at their employees. There was a lot of discussion regarding money as a motivator and purpose vs. passion. Hannah shared the book with her manager and provided great tips on how others can share the book with their managers to provide recommendations for possible change.

The students shared that they felt the book provided very practical, concrete examples that are applicable to work, life, personal and professional situations. It provided them with a chance to reflect on what drives them and how to start with one idea and go from there. The book also provided them with the question of "what motivates you?" and the fact that many people cannot answer that question. This led to an interesting discussion of purpose vs. passion – what is your life goal and what drives you to that?

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## Decisions, Decisions: The Process of Applying to Law School

Jackie Williams, '15



When Legal Studies major, Jackie Williams '15, started at Bay Path University as a Forensic Science major, she had no idea that four years later she would be making the difficult decision about where to attend law school! Her first semester, Jackie did not feel engaged by her course load of Biology and Chemistry classes and it wasn't until she ran into Attorney Woodruff, who asked her questions about her interests, that she realized Legal Studies might be the perfect fit!

Since then, Jackie has split her courses between Psychology and Legal Studies, participated as a Student Learning Assistant for the Bankruptcy Clinic,

interned at the Office of Police Complaints in Washington D.C., and studied abroad at American University! As of last week, Jackie has been accepted to American University College of Law and has received a full tuition scholarship at Michigan State University College of Law. Congratulations, Jackie!

Jackie's process began back in December, as she started the arduous task of organizing and executing her applications and deadlines. There were more steps in the process than she had expected. When applying to law school, all letters of recommendation, transcripts, LSAT scores, and writing samples get entered into something called the CAS Law School Report. The CAS (Credential Assembly Service) file makes it easy to compile and verify all the information before sending it to your chosen schools. After submitting all necessary information, the acceptance letters started rolling in!

Jackie hopes to work in Public Interest and Public Defense Law. She says she wants to stand in front of a judge as a lawyer and fight for what is fair and just. Her experiences at Bay Path, in particular her full year in the Bankruptcy Clinic, have prepared her to succeed in law school and in her professional life! When applying for her internship in D.C. at the Office of Police Complaints, she was the only applicant with direct client experience - a skill set she acquired in the Bankruptcy Clinic and will continue to set her apart. Her advice to students beginning the law school application process? Have real expectations and a back up plan!

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### This Month's Challenge!

**Match the Bachelor's level starting salary for a...  
Community Health Worker  
with the location! (See answers below)**

1. Worcester, MA
2. San Diego, CA
3. Arlington, VA
4. Northwest Central New Mexico
5. Boise, ID
6. Providence, RI
7. Albany, NY
8. Northeast ME

- a. \$25,600
- b. \$30,700
- c. \$31,000
- d. \$33,700
- e. \$32,500
- f. \$27,400
- g. \$22,900
- h. \$29,600

## Interested in learning more about starting salaries in your area? Check out the Job Seekers Online Salary Calculator!

[Click Here: Job Seekers Salary Calculator](#)

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### Upcoming SCLP Events

#### Internship Planning Sessions for Traditional Students

Thursday, March 19th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Monday, March 23rd, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Sullivan Career and Life Planning Center

#### Internship Reflection Sessions

Business, Criminal Justice, and Liberal Studies Majors:

Tuesday, March 24th, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Wednesday, April 1st, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Thursday, April 9th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Monday, April 13th, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Tuesday, April 21st, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Tuesday, April 28th, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Thursday, April 30th, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Psychology, Education, and Science Majors:

Friday, March 20th, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Tuesday, March 24th, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Monday, March 30th, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Thursday, April 2nd, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Tuesday, April 7th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday, April 15th, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Monday, April 20th, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Tuesday April 28th, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Wednesday, April 29th, 11:00 AM - 12:00PM

Helliwell Conference Room

#### Career and Networking Events

"Where the Magic Happens"

Science Career and Networking Event

Wednesday March 25th, 4:00PM - 6:00PM

Breck Suite

"Putting it into Practice"

Legal Studies Career and Networking Event

Tuesday, March 31st: 3:45 PM - 5:45 PM

Breck Suite

Criminal Justice Career and Networking Event

Tuesday, April 7th: 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Breck Suite

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## **"This Month's Challenge" Answer Key**

1(e); 2(c); 3(d); 4(f); 5(h); 6(a); 7(b); 8(g)

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