



ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

Peer Coaches | 2023-2024

[Carolyn Zaccaro](#) | Class of 2025 | [Georgetown University](#)



Between College and Law School: In between college and law school, I worked as a restaurant manager with Hillstone Restaurant Group and then pivoted to recruiting software engineers at Atlassian, a Sydney-based tech company.

Activities at BC: Constitutional Law Teaching Assistant, Staff Writer and Incoming Executive Production Editor for the Intellectual Property and Technology Forum Journal, Lambda Law Students Association, Co-Captain of my section's softball team.

Summer Employment: I am currently working as a legal intern in the Office of the General Counsel at UMass Memorial Health.

After Graduation: I hope to pursue a career in litigation (thanks to Professor Bratt!), focused on the intersection between data privacy and healthcare.

Why Law School? Law school was not something that I knew I wanted to do from Day 1. I analyzed the jobs I had post-college and picked out what I liked most about them. After discussing my options with many people, I decided to pursue a legal career, and I am so happy that I did!

Why BC Law? Coming from California, it was a surprising decision to many people in my life. But, I felt as if the student representatives were being genuine when they said they enjoyed the school and each other. Also, I knew it had a strong first-year legal research and writing course (Law Practice!) and it was really important to me that whatever school I went to had that.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got Here? I was surprised by how much I enjoyed my first semester. Everyone says that 1L is the worst (and don't get me wrong, there are definitely parts of it that will be very difficult). But I loved it, and I think a huge part of that is thanks to BC! I made incredible friends in my section, used the many resources that BC has to manage my workload to ensure I was not overwhelmed, and found my courses and professors engaging and supportive.

[Olivia Chilcott](#) | Class of 2024 | [Suffolk University](#)



Between College and Law School: I went straight to law school after college, so the summer in between I took time to relax before continuing my education.

Activities at BC: Business Law Society, Peer tutor.

Summer Employment: My 1L summer, I interned at an employment litigation firm, Tocci & Lee. My 2L summer, I was a summer associate at Kirkland & Ellis doing private equity work.

After Graduation: An associate in a firm focusing on tax in the private equity cycle.

Why Law School? I decided to go to law school because in comparison to other fields, law is ambiguous and there is a continuous opportunity to learn and find certainty in the ambiguity.

Why BC Law? I chose BC because I felt that the kind of collaborative culture the school fosters would contribute to my success in law school and overall make my experience much better.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got here? I was surprised with how approachable professors were and eager to help students grasp these complex topics.

[Deepthi Sailappan](#) | Class of 2025 | [University of Chicago](#)



Between College and Law School: I was a paralegal at an immigration nonprofit in Philadelphia and worked with unaccompanied immigrant youth.

Activities at BC: Public Interest Law Foundation, South Asian Law Students Association.

Summer Employment: After 1L, I interned with the Immigration Practice at the Brooklyn Defender Services. I worked on the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project, a statewide universal representation program for detained immigrants in deportation proceedings.

After Graduation: I hope to work in immigration defense at a nonprofit!

Why Law School? I love to write and work with people; a career in law combines these. Law school has been my dream since high school! Internships in college and then working as a paralegal convinced me that working as an attorney would be energizing and always challenging.

Why BC Law? BC Law offered wonderful academics and a reputation for having a warm, supportive student culture. It helped, too, that everyone I met or heard about who had attended BC Law spoke with such genuine fondness for their time there.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got Here? I've been blown away by how generous, caring, and accessible our professors have been! They have really stressed that the legal profession is a collaborative one.

[Janny Joo](#) | Class of 2025 | [University of Nebraska-Lincoln](#)



Between College and Law School: I earned a doctorate degree in Music Performance, performed as a professional violinist in Boston, and ran a nonprofit organization, Music for Food.

Activities at BC: PILF, APALSA, Law Review.

Summer Employment: 1L Diversity Fellow/Summer Associate at Stoel Rives LLP in Seattle.

After Graduation: I would like to do interesting work with good people.

Why Law School? I was doing legal-adjacent work as the executive director of a nonprofit organization and wanted to learn more.

Why BC Law? The community was so welcoming and warm and that was the most important thing for me.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got Here? I didn't experience any of the drama that you see on movies and read about online.

Michael Carden | Class of 2024 | Yale University



Between College and Law School: I taught 8th grade Special Education and Math for three years in Boston Public Schools while obtaining a Masters in Education from Boston University.

Activities at BC: Boston College Law Review; Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition; Wendell F. Grimes Moot Court Competition, Constitutional Law TA.

Summer Employment: My 1L summer I served as a judicial intern for the Honorable Justice Peter Krupp of the Superior Court of Massachusetts. My 2L summer I worked as a summer associate at Quinn Emanuel in New York.

After Graduation: I plan on returning to Quinn Emanuel in New York.

Why Law School? Hard to condense all of my reasons why! Ultimately, I felt (and continue to feel) confident that working as an attorney will mean that my work is challenging, rewarding, and impactful.

Why BC Law? BC Law was an easy choice for me. I had already been living in Boston for three years and love the city, and the school's culture really embodies what I knew I wanted out of my law school experience.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got here? I was really stressed about starting law school, especially the July and August before my 1L year began. Almost immediately, I made amazing friends and felt the warmth and high expectations of professors who genuinely wanted to see my classmates and me succeed.

Andrea Traietti | Class of 2025 | Providence College



Between College and Law School: I served with AmeriCorps for a year at South Coastal Counties Legal Services.

Activities at BC: Boston College Law Review; Public Interest Law Foundation.

Summer Employment: US Attorney's Office, District of Maine.

After Graduation: A career in litigation.

Why Law School? Research, reading, and writing have been strong interests of mine since the beginning of my undergraduate years, and I've always hoped to find a career where I'm doing those kinds of activities on a daily basis. I'm also somebody that really enjoys the challenge and excitement that comes along with constantly learning new things. Based on my interests and work preferences, I really felt like pursuing a legal career was the right choice, and knew I wanted to head to law school!

Why BC Law? I'm originally from Massachusetts and hope to make a career here after graduating, so staying in the area for school made sense, especially because I wanted to be near my support network of family and friends while going through school! I was also looking for a school with a collegial atmosphere and strong sense of community, and felt that BC would provide both of those things.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got here? A lot of people warned me coming into school that the law school environment is cold and competitive, so I was nervous at the start of my 1L year, but that hasn't been my experience at BC at all! I was surprised by how friendly and welcoming all of my professors were, and happily feel like I've made some really incredible friends here at BC during my first year.

Sarah Weiswasser | Class of 2024 | The University of Chicago



Between College and Law School: I was a paralegal at Davis Polk & Wardwell working in structured products for a large bank.

Activities at BC: Outside of class, I am a Peer Coach and have also participated in BC Law Softball!

Summer Employment: My 1L summer I worked as an Intern at the U.S Attorney's Office in Boston. My 2L Summer I was a Summer Associate at the firm of Latham & Watkins LLP.

After Graduation: I will be entering the legal profession as an associate at Latham. I am currently interested in pursuing a career in litigation but also have interests in bankruptcy law or private equity law.

Why Law School? I have always worked towards becoming a lawyer. As a philosophy and political science double major, I really enjoy problem solving and analyzing issues, so law school alone was exciting for me, but I am even more excited to enter the profession.

Why BC Law? The professors! I was fortunate enough to have a mentor a year ahead of me who told me a lot about BC while I was applying. She spoke so highly of the professors, and I can say they are the best instructors and mentors I have ever had.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got Here? What surprised me most about BC Law is how different it is from how law school is depicted in pop culture. The professors are incredibly warm and patient and they are always available to help.

Bella Miller | Class of 2024 | Bates College



Between College and Law School: I worked as a paralegal doing corporate transactional law for almost 3 years, helping with pro bono matters for legal issues relating to debt, and supporting tenants facing eviction in Massachusetts.

Activities at BC: If/When/How; Women's Law Center; Boston College Law Executive Notes Editor.

Summer Employment: During my 1L summer I worked for a Federal Court of Appeals Judge for the First Circuit and during my 2L summer I was a summer associate at Ropes & Gray in Boston

After Graduation? After graduation, I will be clerking at the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and then I plan on returning to Ropes & Gray as an associate.

Why Law School? I first decided to apply to law school because I knew I wanted to go back to school, and I was most interested in learning the kinds of things taught to you in a law school curriculum! I then spent a bit of time working in a legal environment, which showed me how a law degree can help you become a better leader in your community and a better supporter of topics you care deeply about. This really solidified my interest in pursuing a legal education.

Why BC Law? I chose BC Law because of the people! Some of the best lawyers I worked with had graduated from BC and all spoke so highly of their experience and of their classmates. They were brilliant and compassionate professionals. I knew that that was the kind of lawyer and person that I wanted to be coming out of school, and this seemed like the perfect place to help me achieve that.

What Most Surprised You about BC Law When You Got Here? I think I was most surprised by just how supportive everyone was. I had heard anecdotally that law school would be a cutthroat environment, and that could not be farther from the truth at BC. I genuinely felt like my classmates all wanted the best for one another.

Book an Appointment with a Peer Coach