

PILC NEWSLETTER

Student Spotlight

Leigh Creighton



Ms. Creighton hails from Decatur, GA and is a Double Dawg—she majored in History during undergrad and is now about to graduate with the class of 2011 from UGA School of Law. This summer Ms. Creighton worked tirelessly with Atlanta Legal Aid Society's Gwinnett Office, commuting from Athens the entire summer. "Atlanta Legal Aid Society's primary function is to provide referrals and legal representation to people who otherwise cannot obtain access to

the court system..." www.atlantalegalaid.org.

"I have always been interested in it [public interest law]," said Creighton during our interview, "I went to DeKalb School of the Arts for high school and didn't realize how special that experience was until I left." Creighton became focused on promoting the importance of arts education and became interested in legal programs geared towards underprivileged youth. At UGA School of Law, Creighton externed with in the Special Education Clinic and continue to gain other externship experiences to further her career goals. One of the reasons she was interested in working with Atlanta Legal Aid Society was because of their family law practice areas and their TeamChild department, which includes special education work. Also, her internship gave her invaluable exposure to other non-profits in Georgia. "The experience improved my ability to talk

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before, but this summer I did a lot of intakes for the attorney and had direct contact with clients," said Creighton. "The people were so appreciative just to talk about their issues." Creighton was able to go to court with her supervising attorney and Georgia Alum, Anne Marie Lugo. "It was nice to see a case go from start to finish," reflected Creighton. Ms. Creighton intends on continuing work with indigents and especially hopes to work with youth. Her advice to

students who hope to work in the Public Interest Sector is to "make sure you look around and talk to people about your interests because you never know when they will be able to give you ideas or connect you with someone."

PILC would like to thank and congratulate Leigh on her outstanding work this summer and wish her luck in her future endeavors!

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About PILC

Public interest students at Georgia Law founded the Public Interest Law Council (PILC) this year to increase collaboration among student groups and to expand public interest career programming. It is also PILC's mission to broaden the concept of public interest work at Georgia Law. The organization is a council of student organizations who support public interest careers and promote *pro bono* work from within the private sector.

Check out our blog at: <http://ugapilc.tumblr.com/>

To nominate students, faculty or staff, please email Sarah Wooten at swooten@uga.edu.