

International Court of Justice Trainee Position 2009-10

The International Court of Justice at The Hague, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, has once again invited Yale Law School to submit applications for a "trainee" (clerkship) position. The nine-month traineeship will begin in September 2009, and the successful candidate will receive a stipend of approximately \$33,000 from YLS. Additional information about the ICJ can be found at www.icj-cij.org.

Applications are reviewed by all members of the Court, and the trainees are selected by consensus. Once the trainees are selected, each judge can choose someone with whom to work directly; therefore, it is likely that a trainee will work with more than one judge. The trainees assist members of the court in tasks such as drafting opinions, orders, and other court documents; preparing case files, and researching a variety of legal issues.

Qualifications:

- JD, LLM or JSD from YLS (applications accepted from alumni and from students in final year of study)
- Excellent command of at least one of the ICJ's official languages (English or French) and a very good working knowledge of the other
- Excellent academic record with proven research and writing skills

Application Materials:

- Cover letter
- Résumé or CV
 - *The Court's invitation letter noted that, in addition to the required information, "the Court would like [candidates] to indicate their ages."*
- Official YLS transcript and, if applicable, transcripts for other law degrees
- At least two letters of recommendation, preferably from individuals who may be able to speak to a candidate's credentials in international law
- Writing sample, preferably work which has been submitted for publication or other work of publishable quality, produced by the individual candidate without significant editing by others (*e.g.*, the version of the paper as submitted for publication, rather than the version reworked by the journal's editorial staff)

Applications due in CDO: Monday, January 26, 2009, 4:00 PM

Because the ICJ has requested that materials be shipped in a single package, all application materials (including recommendation letters) must be submitted to CDO no later than 4:00 PM Monday, January 26, 2009. The ICJ has also requested that no more than five applications be forwarded to the court. If necessary, a committee of YLS faculty will narrow the applicant pool to five; those applications will be forwarded to the ICJ without any distinguishing commentary or ranking.

[**Note:** The upcoming holiday break may impinge on recommenders' ability to complete letters; please request them well in advance.]

Address for Letters

Cover letters and recommendations can be addressed to The Honorable Rosalyn Higgins, President, International Court of Justice, Peace Palace, Carnegieplein 2, 2517 KJ The Hague, The Netherlands. The appropriate salutation would be "Dear President Higgins".

Previous YLS Trainees

Chiara Giorgetti (LLM '02), 2002-03 term; Daphne Richemond (LLM '00), 2003-04 term; Philippa Webb (LLM '04), 2004-05 term; Chie Kojima (LLM '05), 2005-06 term; Viviane Meunier (LLM '06), 2006-07 term; Cristina Villarino Villa (LLM '07), 2007-08 term; Bart Szewczyk (JD '06), 2008-09 term.