Name and Year: Darlene Prescott '90.

Employer and Title: United Nations (Codification Division in the Office of Legal Affairs), Legal Officer.

Describe your work and responsibilities: "Responsibilities include covering several topics which are on the agenda of the UN Sixth Committee (Legal Committee), e.g. Protection of Diplomats; Program of Assistance in Teaching and Dissemination of International Law; and Review of the UN Administrative Tribunal Statute. I also work on the United Nations Juridical Yearbook series, which requires, inter alia, my drafting chapters for the publication."

Describe a favorite aspect of your job: "On occasion, being assigned, or suggesting, an ad hoc project that I must see through to its completion is welcomed. Knowing that I am directly involved in the codifying/progressive development of international law is very satisfying."

Career advice for students interested in the United Nations: "Such students should take as many international law-related courses as possible. There are six official languages of the UN (i.e. English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, and Chinese), and at New York headquarters two working languages (i.e. English and French). Knowledge of one of these languages -- in addition to English -- is useful. US attorneys wishing to apply for legal posts at the junior professional level must go through a national competitive examination. However, the examination for US attorneys is only offered by the UN at certain times. Go to the web site www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/ for detailed information on the national examinations, as well as for information on vacancies at New York headquarters and other UN organizations. There is also information on the website for unpaid internship programs offered at the UN."

Read the NYLS Alumni Profile every semester in The International Review