

ACE AN INTERVIEW

Mark Snider '04L wants to see your authentic self.

BY LOUISE UFFELMAN

WHEN MARK SNIDER '04L WAS BACK ON CAMPUS THIS PAST AUGUST TO interview students for a summer internship at Porter Wright, he proudly wore his W&L tie. “I bought it when I was a law student, because I knew I would need to dress up for some of the social events I would be attending at the president’s house or the Alumni House,” he said. “I also knew I’d need one when I started interviewing for internships.”

Like many W&L students, he ended up at the Alvin-Dennis store — which is still going strong — and purchased a blue-and-white striped tie with a small trident at the bottom. “It’s subtle,” he noted, “but I like the connection to W&L.” He pulls it out for reunion weekends and even wears it to work sometimes. It’s survived several spills and trips to the dry cleaners. “It’s obviously well made.”

What’s held up just as well is his W&L education.

Now a partner focusing on tax law, Snider recruits W&L students because he knows they are getting the same strong academic preparation that he did. “I know they’ve already met certain criteria or they wouldn’t be at W&L Law,” he said. “When I’m interviewing candidates for an internship or a job, I’m looking for those intangibles that seem to set W&L students apart — they are relaxed, conversational, resilient, dynamic and personable. They possess soft skills that will help them be great lawyers.”

His advice for those on the market? “Practice. Have a good friend ask you all the obvious questions and a few off-the-wall ones,” he advised. “It will feel a little awkward, but you’ll learn to be less self-conscious. Be prepared and learn to relax. Most of all, be your authentic self.”



Mark Snider '04L sports his beloved W&L tie.