

A COMMUNITY OF JUSTICE

CUNY LAW

SPRING 2012

Alums in the Forefront of Community Lawyering



SUMMER MATTERS!

SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS HELP CUNY LAW STUDENTS CARRY OUT THE LAW SCHOOL'S IMPORTANT PUBLIC INTEREST MISSION BY WORKING AS LEGAL INTERNS AT SOCIAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS IN NEW YORK, ACROSS THE UNITED STATES, AND AROUND THE WORLD.

“Over the course of the summer I wrote four appellate briefs....Under the direction of my supervisors, I pored over trial records and transcripts and looked for inconsistencies or issues. Once the issues were spotted, I performed preliminary research to develop a theory of the case on my own.”

“I would estimate that I worked on well over 30 child protective cases throughout the summer. I met with clients, conducted home visits, represented clients on the record in open court, conducted research, drafted motions, and worked with clients to obtain much-needed services.”

“This internship helped me apply abstract ideas to real-life situations. I met families who needed so much help that I wish I could have stayed longer. This was an invaluable experience for my law career.”

**SUPPORT THE NEXT GENERATION
OF PUBLIC INTEREST LAWYERS.**

**SUPPORT THE
ALUMNI JUSTICE
FELLOWSHIP FUND**

CONTENTS

Spring 2012



features

- 4 **ADVOCATING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**
- 6 **15 YEARS STRIVING FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE: A LOOK BACK**
- 8 **SAFEGUARDING BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS**
- 8 **SUPPORTING CUNY STUDENTS THROUGH SCHOOL**
- 10 **BRINGING JUSTICE TO THE UNDERSERVED THROUGH MFY**
- 11 **DRAWING ON CLIENTS' STRENGTHS**
- 16 **Q&A WITH ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AMNA AKBAR**
- 17 **DIALA SHAMAS: LIMAN FELLOW WITH THE CLEAR PROJECT**
- 18 **30 YEARS AT 65-21 MAIN STREET**
- 20 **JOHN WHITLOW ('03) JOINS CED CLINIC**
- 22 **SARAH LAMDAN JOINS LAW LIBRARY**

COVER STORY

- 12 **SUPPORTING CUNY LAW GRADS IN SOLO PRACTICE**
- 13 **Helping Small Businesses Succeed: Yogi Patel ('06)**
- 14 **Launching a New Practice: Rosanna Roizin ('08)**
- 15 **Defending People in Need: Andrew Lisko ('10)**

On the Cover: *Rosanna Roizin ('08)*

departments

Dean's Letter	2
News Brief	3
Alumni News	23
Faculty Notes	27

EDITOR AND ARTICLES AUTHOR

Abbi Leman
Manager of Alumni Relations & Communications
abbi.leman@mail.law.cuny.edu

WRITER

Paul Lin
plinmedia@gmail.com

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Dana Ramos
Executive Assistant to Dean Michelle J. Anderson

ART DIRECTOR

Hope Forstenzer
hopejf@gmail.com

ALUMNI NEWS

Compiled by Kim Lashley
Development and Communications Assistant

FACULTY NOTES

Compiled by Cindy Rodriguez
Development and Communications Associate

PHOTOGRAPHY ©ARPI PAP

Arpi Pap
ArpiPap@paphoto.net

COPY EDITOR

Victoria Beliveau



Dean Michelle J. Anderson

Dear Friends,

As we go to press, we are beginning to say goodbye to our home at 65-21 Main Street in Flushing. Although our move to 2 Court Square has been long in the making, we are still grateful for the memories of our longtime home.

In this issue, you will hear reflections on the move from three of our first staff members: Verleatha Hill in the Clinic, Debbie Rothenberg in Admissions, and Seth Goldstein in Engineering, who have been with CUNY Law since the beginning. We also celebrate 15 years of the Economic Justice Project, which got its start on Main Street, and we feature alums working in our innovative Incubator for Justice project.

The next issue of the magazine will feature photos and greater detail about our beautiful new space. As a preview, however, I thought I would take you on a brief armchair tour of some of the highlights of what you will find when you visit, which we hope you will do often.

To ensure that our values are reflected architecturally in this new space, we conducted a listening tour with the architects at the beginning of the building renovation process. The three themes that arose from the CUNY Law community were to: proclaim our social justice mission; bring nature and the labyrinth into the new space (because we will not have the backyard of our current facility); and stamp a clear CUNY Law identity on our new home.

The renovations respond to these desires. Around the front of the building, a series of banners will proclaim “Law in the Service of Human Needs” in the six official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, English, French, Mandarin Chinese, Russian, and Spanish). The five elevator lobbies will each contain one of the five foundational human rights documents on its wall and ceiling: the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights; the Bill of Rights; the European Convention on Human Rights; the Inter-American Charter on Human Rights; and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A three-story atrium, the “Beacon,” anchors the northeast corner of the building. The Beacon floor is made of blue terrazzo flowing into the shape of a labyrinth. The Beacon’s large wall will feature a multilayered art piece of painted wood and vertically carved saplings.

A structural column with several horizontal support beams, the “Tree,” will rise through the three stories of the Beacon. We plan to inscribe the Tree with inspiring words of social justice, the way a person sometimes carves the name of a beloved into bark. The entire community of students, staff, and faculty selected the words for the Tree.

The auditorium, where we plan to hold major community events, lectures, and symposia, is state-of-the-art. To have a break from the stress of law school, we have set aside space for meditation and yoga. There is much more classroom and study space throughout the new building. Notably, as we’ve mentioned before, 2 Court Square puts us at a central transportation hub with easy access to subway lines, buses, and the Long Island Railroad.

We will see you soon at our new home!

Yours,

Michelle J. Anderson
Dean and Professor of Law

SEVA Wins Union Square Award

SEVA Immigrant Community Advocacy Project, a nonprofit, community-based organization cofounded by Gurpal Singh ('08), won a prestigious Union Square Award in December for its work mobilizing and training residents of under-resourced immigrant communities as community organizers.

The Union Square Awards recognize grassroots activism in New York City, supporting that work with grants for \$50,000. "I was personally really shocked," Singh said about receiving the award. "Fifty thousand will help us take it to the next level."

Singh and cofounder Ravisharon Kaur, an attorney from the Richmond Hill neighborhood of Queens, formally established SEVA in 2006, while Singh was attending law school. It has since grown into an organization with more than 20 trained organizers and several hundred members. SEVA is based in Richmond Hill and works closely with the South Asian and West Indian communities there and nearby.

Since its inception, SEVA has been focused on civic engagement. Organizers have registered thousands of people to vote and have plans to register up to 3,000 more people this year. They have also organized legal clinics, health fairs, and U.S. citizenship fairs. In 2010, they began educating residents of Richmond Hill on the impact that the 2010 census could have on their community. Now that the census results are out and subsequent redistricting efforts are under way, SEVA is organizing residents to address the effects of redistricting.

"We're defining communities of interest as immigrants themselves," Singh noted. Current district borders, however, cut through Richmond Hill and nearby neighborhoods, dividing immigrant communities.

SEVA is now working with local attorneys to build a legal response to the proposed new district maps released in January. "Our goal is to empower people in the community to represent themselves, their interests, and their resistance to the proposal," Singh said.

These efforts caught the eye of Himanshu Suri, a member of the rap group Das Racist. He joined SEVA's board of directors in January and has helped bring more media attention to the issue. Suri is a childhood friend of CUNY Law alum Ali Najmi ('09), who introduced Suri to Singh and the mission of SEVA.

Suri's participation coincides with SEVA's newest focus: reaching young immigrant artists. "We've begun focusing on



Gurpal Singh ('08)

giving voice to young artists in immigrant communities, largely because there is no medium for young immigrants to voice their issues," Singh said. "Art is really the only way to do it."

In addition to Najmi, other CUNY Law alumni are joining SEVA's efforts. Singh highlighted Michael Son ('08), Reena Rani ('09), and Laura Perez ('08), in particular, for taking the lead in some of the group's organizing.

Discussing the role of his legal background in his current work, Singh said, "It's helpful to a lot of people in the community who are lawyers, who want to do this stuff, but don't feel like they have it in them. When there's an organization like SEVA to support them and they know about my legal training, it provides a backbone for them." ●●



Rebecca Bratspies

Advocating for Environmental Justice

CUNY Law Launches Center for Urban Environmental Reform

by Paul Lin

GROWING UP IN A POLLUTED STEEL TOWN in the 1970s had a big impact on the director of CUNY Law's new Center for Urban Environmental Reform (CUER).

"I've seen firsthand what happens to people who worked [in the steel mills] and who lived near them," recalled Professor Rebecca Bratspies. "I've seen how that shapes the lives of people who don't have the information and the power to make choices."

Influenced by what was going on in her hometown of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and the expanding environmental movement in the '70s, Bratspies formed strong ideas about the urban

environment and how to keep it safe for those who live in it.

That's where CUER (pronounced "cure") comes in.

"What I wanted to do was to create a center for thinking in a holistic way about what it means to try to regulate the urban environment, what interests we are trying to promote, and who needs to be involved in the process," she said.

Conceived by Bratspies and approved by the faculty and the University's board of trustees just last summer, the center aims to keep the city's environmental protection and environmental justice in the public eye.

“It’s both a center to develop thinking about regulating the urban environment, and a portal for activists—a place where people can go for information and for suggestions about how to get involved,” Bratspies said.

The center’s website, which is in development, will be a conduit for online advocacy and education. For instance, it will collect information about decisions being made in the city and the state and let people know what the deadlines are for various actions and how they can participate in the decision-making process. The website will also post research and give advocates policy tools.

Bratspies has other innovative ideas, including publishing a kind of environmental comic book with a multimedia component that will make the regulatory process more transparent; it will also serve as a how-to guide so people can learn how to participate.

“We are the City University of New York. We do a wonderful job dealing with many important urban issues at the Law School, but we haven’t focused in the past on the urban environment,” said Bratspies, who hopes that CUER will fill that need.

Like CUNY Law’s other justice initiatives, the center seeks to empower historically underserved communities, including immigrants, people of color, and the urban poor. CUER hopes to make people aware that environmental justice is a critical aspect of social justice and that communities are entitled to participate fully and meaningfully in decisions that affect them—what Bratspies calls environmental democracy.

Those decisions include the allocation of “environmental goods,” like access to green space, and “environmental bads,” like placement of pollution-creating facilities. Consider how neighborhoods like the South Bronx have been on the short end of the environmental stick regarding pollution and air quality.

“We ought not to have a society where the environmental hazards that people are exposed to are divided up along lines of race and class and economic prosperity,” she said. “We need to educate and advocate.”

Part of that process will come through public events, like last fall’s panel on hydrofracking, the controversial process through which natural gas is extracted from shale. In the

center’s first event, panelists—including environmental lawyer Lem Srolovic from the New York State Attorney General’s Office and Eric Weltman of Food & Water Watch—examined the many issues related to fracking and the potential water and air pollution that come with it. The dialog comes at a critical time, since the Department of Environmental Protection is drafting its environmental impact assessment, which will govern the process going forward. A video of the event is posted on YouTube in three parts.

“The New York City water supply could be in jeopardy if hydrofracking doesn’t occur in an environmentally responsible manner,” said Bratspies. “I thought it was important that CUNY have an event to bring these issues to students

and the public. This is not something that’s happening upstate; this is something that’s happening that will affect all of us.”

As CUER rounds out its first year, Bratspies hopes to continue the dialog with experts and to reach out to different communities so they can all work in concert. That means bringing together city policymakers, scholars, and community activists to get a sense of what makes regulating the urban environment so unusual, why it can be so challenging for environmental statutes to address the city’s problems, and what can be done.

Looking ahead in the short term, the center could expand its staff. It’s currently run by just Bratspies and librarian Sarah Lamdan, aided by two student researchers. Bratspies will look to hire work-study students next year.

In the long term, Bratspies hopes to be able to raise funds to offer partial or full scholarships to students interested in urban environmental law.

“My hope is that the center will help people see just how critical environmental issues are to our mission of law in the service of human needs and our mission of diversifying the legal profession,” she said.

Those aspirations aside, for Bratspies, there’s a lot more riding on CUER.

“I have a 5-year-old. I look at her, and I think, what is her world going to be?” she said. “She lives in New York, and there are thousands upon thousands of kids like her here in this city. I want them to have a safe, healthy place to be.” ●●

“We ought not to have a society where the environmental hazards that people are exposed to are divided up along lines of race and class and economic prosperity. We need to educate and advocate.”

15 Years Striving for Economic Justice: A Look Back

In 1996, when Congress enacted federal welfare reform, “CUNY began hemorrhaging thousands of students,” according to Stephen Loffredo, director of the Economic Justice Project (EJP) at CUNY Law. At the time, some 25,000 CUNY undergraduates received public assistance benefits, and many of them were mothers of young children. The reform forced many students to leave school to meet new “workfare” requirements in order to ensure that they received the assistance they needed to support their families.

Enter the Welfare Rights Initiative (WRI) at Hunter College, which was launched in response to this crisis. Led by students who had experience with welfare, WRI trained other students to organize and take on welfare policies that forced them and others out of school. When it launched, WRI had one problem: There was no one to legally represent students who were dropping out as they fought for their benefits.

“As the law school in the CUNY system, we felt compelled to help these students and also to protect the University’s historic mission of providing access to poor and working-class people,” Loffredo said. “Most poverty lawyers will tell you that progressive change rarely comes from a judge’s pen; it requires the patient, sustained work of organizers and activists pressing to alter the politics and policies of poverty and economic justice. We saw an opportunity to forge a collaboration that would advance WRI’s efforts at creating systemic change and, in the process, connect our law students to this critical, collaborative aspect of social justice lawyering.” With support from the Law School administration and the University, EJP opened its doors in late 1996, just weeks after the enactment of federal welfare reform.

Fifteen years later, EJP, in coalition with WRI and other community and advocacy groups, is still fighting for access to higher education, which was not something Loffredo had anticipated. “I thought we would only be around four or five years, until more reasoned policymaking had a chance to push back on the anti-poor politics of the 1990s,” he said. Research shows that when people earn a bachelor’s degree, most are able to land better-paying jobs and leave the welfare system. “Higher education is the key to upward mobility; cutting poor people off from that opportunity may have made political sense in some quarters, but it was a terrible policy choice,” and one that Loffredo thought would be short-lived. “But, as it turned out, [EJP] couldn’t close up shop after five years or after 10, and here it is, 15 years later. The need continues to exist,” he said.

In those 15 years, however, the impact of EJP has become very clear. The project has represented hundreds of CUNY students; won nearly all of its cases; and seen countless students graduate from CUNY, secure good jobs, and move their families out of poverty. “For many of these students,” Loffredo said, “the opportunity to graduate college has been immediately transformative and has



From left: Welfare Rights Initiative (WRI) Legal Advocacy Organizer Roxanna Henry, Clinical Professor Degna Levister, Verleatha Hill, EJP Director Stephen Loffredo, WRI Co-Executive Director Dillonna Lewis, and WRI Co-Executive Director Maureen Lane

dramatically improved the life chances of their children.”

This strong success may be at least partially attributed to CUNY Law students themselves. “They come ready to work with clients. They bring diverse backgrounds and sometimes personal experience with poverty or poverty work that makes them a passionate group,” said Degna Levister, supervising attorney in EJP. “I almost can’t imagine this project happening at another school. Students self-select to take this seminar. They demonstrate a clear commitment to public interest lawyering. They are the embodiment of the Law School’s mission.”

Loffredo and Levister work with second-year CUNY Law students to help them build the skills necessary to become excellent public interest lawyers—all while representing students from across CUNY who are fighting to keep their public assistance benefits and stay in school. Interviewing clients, preparing for trial, developing written and oral advocacy skills, and learning how and when to make procedural and substantive arguments are all part of the package of skills EJP students gain.

In 2000, a coalition that included WRI and EJP was able to

get New York State to pass the Work-Study and Internship Law, which allows work-study and internship hours to count toward a college student’s public assistance work requirement and prohibits welfare officials from unreasonably interfering with the student’s ability to attend classes. “The enactment of that law has changed lives,” Loffredo said. “It created breathing room for low-income students that has made the difference between educational success and failure, between remaining trapped on welfare and climbing out of poverty.”

Although both Loffredo and Levister hope that the need for EJP disappears, looking forward, they see their work continuing on several fronts. These include issues related to students who are facing disabilities or mental health concerns, or who are experiencing domestic violence—students who are not always able to meet all the requirements for receiving their benefits.

“We like to think that the existence of this project for 15 years has made the CUNY community aware that college students struggling with these issues have a place to go—an in-the-family support system,” said Levister. ●●

Safeguarding Benefits for Students

Kelly Marie Fay Rodríguez ('12) recalled one of her most memorable clients from the Economic Justice Project (EJP) as a “brilliant Latina student at LaGuardia Community College, who lived with her partner and four children in a one-bedroom apartment.” When the student did not receive a questionnaire that was supposed to be completed and returned in order for her to continue receiving public assistance, her benefits were cut. Fay Rodríguez worked with the client to develop a theory of the case and prepare for the hearing; she ultimately convinced the City’s representative to withdraw the termination of benefits.

“Maneuvering the New York City public benefits system is an experience that nobody should have to endure alone, especially not a student who is trying to support herself while

finishing her degree,” Fay Rodríguez said. It was in that spirit that she joined EJP.

Representing fellow CUNY students, who would then educate other students about welfare policy and reform, was what drew Fay Rodríguez to EJP. “I was particularly interested in working with grassroots advocates, like the Welfare Rights Initiative, from my community that were taking on this incredible challenge.”

Although Fay Rodríguez is now considering several options after law school that could put her legal training to use, she wasn’t always convinced that law was the right means for her to use in supporting her community.

After several years as an immigration paralegal at a New York City nonprofit and labor assistant at the State Attorney General’s Office, “I sometimes felt demoralized and limited in how I could actually change things,” said Fay Rodríguez. But several CUNY Law alumni, including Jennifer Breaton ('02), Carmen Torrent ('86), and Pico Ben-Amotz ('86), helped her see the impact she could have as a social justice lawyer. “I began to understand the range of opportunities law offers for meaningful social justice advocacy,” she said. ●●

“Maneuvering the New York City public benefits system is an experience that nobody should have to endure alone.”

Supporting CUNY Students Through School

Richard Bailey ('12) was in the right place at the right time the afternoon he overheard some students talking about their work in the Economic Justice Project (EJP). When he learned he could actually represent clients at hearings—in only his second year of law school—he joined the project.

This choice had its challenges. “I did not know anything about public assistance laws or how they affected students before I started,” Bailey said.

It did not take him long to see the struggle of CUNY undergraduates who were trying to stay in school and meet their “workfare” requirements. “I wanted to do everything I could

to help them succeed,” he said.

One of his clients was going to school to become a teacher, but to receive her public assistance benefits, she was required to work 25 hours per week. She worked her hours at a pre-school, but when her supervisor failed to submit a document confirming this, the client’s benefits were suspended. Bailey gathered the evidence necessary to show that his client had complied with her work requirements and was successful in restoring her benefits.

A desire to defend the rights of people like that client is why Bailey came to law school. “CUNY Law stood out as being the best place for me to develop a network of fellow students committed to using the law to advance individual and community rights,” he said. When he graduates this spring, Bailey is considering whether to go back to his former field of human rights or head into immigration law practice.

Reflecting on EJP, Bailey acknowledged the importance of the project’s goals and mission. He added, “The project started as a stopgap measure. It should not be necessary anymore, but it seems to be more necessary than ever.” ●●

Kelly Marie Fay Rodríguez ('12) and Richard Bailey ('12)



Bringing Justice to the Underserved through MFY

A client had to travel to Egypt because his mother had died. When he returned to New York City, he was on the verge of losing his home. MFY Legal Services, where several CUNY Law and Economic Justice Project alumni are staff attorneys, took on his case.

While the client had been gone, he had missed a deadline associated with continuing his enrollment in Section 8. His rental subsidy was terminated, and his landlord eventually took him to court for nonpayment of rent.

With MFY's help, the client was reinstated in the program and was able to keep his home. "People are terminated from the Section 8 program for many reasons. Oftentimes, it is in error, or an excusable defense exists for why the benefit should be re-activated," said Orier Okumakpeyi ('06), staff attorney at MFY.

MFY provides free legal assistance to underserved people in New York City. Okumakpeyi focuses primarily on clients with mental health disabilities and low-income Manhattan seniors.

"The populations I work with tend to have targets on their backs," she said. "For example, elderly people residing in Manhattan, by and large, live in rent-regulated apartments. Many landlords...focus their eviction cases on these individuals, in order to further the goals of deregulation and charge market-rate rents."

Housing is also a focus of the class action lawsuit that MFY has filed in Kings County on behalf of tenants living in what is known as three-quarter housing.

Many three-quarter facilities, which typically rent temporarily to homeless people or people returning from prison, "make a lot of promises" about their programs and supportive services, according to Tanya Kessler ('09), staff attorney at MFY. But "they don't help people get [long-term] housing. They don't help with job training or further education. They don't provide any of the services they promise."

Instead, Kessler says, residents may be placed in overcrowded rooms in buildings with hazardous conditions. The lawsuit includes claims of illegal eviction, harassment, and violations of rent stabilization laws.

At MFY, Kessler and Okumakpeyi work alongside two other CUNY Law alumni—Rachel Spector ('07) and Garen McClure ('06).

Kessler began as a Skadden Fellow at MFY and stayed on after her fellowship. But before she was a lawyer, she was a caseworker for people with mental health issues and a community organizer working with adult home residents with disabilities.



From left: Tanya Kessler ('09), Orier Okumakpeyi ('06), and Rachel Spector ('07)

"The more I saw, the more I wanted to be in a position to work toward change rather than trying to address individual problems within the system," Kessler said.

Okumakpeyi was inspired to become a lawyer because of the unfairness she saw while she was the housing director for Pathways to Housing.

"When you enter housing court, a majority of people are not represented by attorneys, but landlords are," Okumakpeyi said. "It is not a level playing field."

Both came to CUNY Law and joined the Economic Justice Project (EJP), which pairs CUNY Law students with CUNY undergraduates who receive public assistance but are having problems receiving their benefits.

"I had always been interested in disability rights," Kessler said. "And public benefits are frequently important to the survival of people with disabilities."

Okumakpeyi's EJP client had the first fair hearing of the class, so Okumakpeyi had to get up to speed quickly. "EJP taught me how to immerse myself in an area of the law that I didn't know much about," she said. "It also taught me how to build trust and a relationship with a client."

Kessler appreciated having the full responsibility for representing clients. "It was the best taste of what lawyering is really like: We were required to master a complex body of laws and regulations and develop a theory of the case," she said. "And we had to be flexible—the clinic showed us how in a hearing, as in court, things can happen on the fly." ●●

Drawing on Clients' Strengths



Nate Treadwell ('09)

Nate Treadwell ('09) had a client who was severely mentally ill and couldn't write checks or mail them. She consequently fell behind on her rent and was on the verge of losing her home. In one of his first big cases, Treadwell successfully defended her against that eviction.

Most of Treadwell's clients come to him because they need support resolving landlord/tenant issues or because they've encountered problems receiving their public assistance benefits. He credits the Economic Justice Project (EJP) with leading him to where he is today. "EJP wound up selling me on the virtue of doing poverty work," he said.

As a staff attorney at Legal Services of the Hudson Valley, Treadwell takes a holistic approach with his clients. "In EJP, we did work with an eye toward structural change and with a great amount of respect for what clients can do. It's very different from the Band-Aid approach to benefits work, where you're

keeping someone afloat without helping them change their material circumstances for the better," he said. "It gave me an approach to client counseling that really acknowledges clients' strengths and abilities."

Fighting for people's rights is something that has always been a passion for Treadwell. Before law school, he was involved in the labor movement working at unions.

"I found I was a lousy organizer," said Treadwell. "But I wanted to do social justice work, and I enjoyed arguing. So I decided to go to law school."

Treadwell recalled a lecture he heard in college from Dean Spade, former Haywood Burns Chair at CUNY Law. "He said something like, 'Don't go to law school if you want to do social justice work—unless you go to CUNY.'"

"It was a high-tension environment, but it generated a real sense of camaraderie."

Getting clinic experience was Treadwell's top priority once he arrived at CUNY Law. "I heard great things about the supervision in EJP, and some EJP alums told me I would get a lot of client and hearing experience," he said. "They were very enthusiastic about the project."

Treadwell remembers his EJP experience fondly. "It was a high-tension environment, but it generated a real sense of camaraderie. We grew a lot as advocates through that interaction," he said.

Most of his clients were young mothers, trying to support their families while going to school. "When I was going to school, I had the full support of my family. My clients were doing it without much support and were raising a child at the same time. They were really impressive," he said.

He reflected that the fair hearings that determine whether someone will continue receiving his or her benefits are often treated as if they're not important. "But EJP refused to do that," Treadwell said. "Our supervisors emphasized that we needed to work with clients. That was one of the major things I took away from EJP. Clients have a lot of knowledge we can draw on to help protect their rights." ••



From left: Benjamin Flavin ('09), Michele Lampach ('10), Andrew Lisko ('10), CLRN Director Fred Rooney, Yogi Patel ('06), and Amy Rosa ('06)

Supporting CUNY Law Grads in Solo Practice

How do I bill clients? Should I hire an employee? How can I market my services?

When lawyers launch their own practice, these kinds of questions can prove the most difficult to address—and they can make the difference in whether a practice succeeds or fails. But these questions are not typically part of a law school's curriculum, and lawyers who want to start a solo practice are often on their own, struggling to find the answers.

For the past five years, CUNY Law's Incubator for Justice—started by the Community Legal Resource Network and the first of its kind in the nation—has been working with recent graduates to help them answer these questions. But the mission of the program reaches beyond helping alumni set up and run their own business: It aims to develop lawyers who successfully serve low-income communities that lack access to legal representation.

Sixteen participants have already completed the 18-month program and launched their own practices or organizations. Nine more are currently working in the Incubator for Justice, learning important business practices and establishing themselves in their communities. On the following pages, you'll meet a few of these alumni who are branching out on their own but not going it alone. ••

Helping Small Businesses Succeed

by Paul Lin

When clients visit Yogi Patel ('06), they're treated to a view of the Flatiron Building from the conference room. His office, which was complete with furniture and office equipment when he began using it, provides a nice reminder of what he calls the Incubator for Justice's "tangible benefits."

"When you're starting off, you need all the help you can get, and having a nice location makes a big difference," said Patel, who finds that clients from the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens can easily take the subway to the Fifth Avenue address.

Decent office space and low overhead were two practical concerns that Patel had with going solo. Then there was the isolation. No mentors to talk to in a solo practice, no partners for feedback on issues, and no one to check your work—all the things you would have in a law firm, the "intangible benefits," as Patel calls them.

When he turned to Fred Rooney, initially to join the Community Legal Resource Network's (CLRN's) e-mail subscription list, he learned about the incubator. Besides providing office space, it has given Patel a chance to work alongside CUNY Law alumni with wide-ranging legal concentrations, making it easy to consult with colleagues on matters as varied as landlord/tenant issues, family law, health care, education, elder law, criminal law, labor and employment, litigation, and entertainment law.

"The ties run deep. There's comradeship with other people in the incubator going through the same thing you are, and you get the support of other attorneys in CLRN. The support system is incredible," Patel said.

Joining the incubator allowed him to start Patel Law Firm in February 2011, serving mostly low- to moderate-income clients. (He has talked with two others in the program about starting a small practice together when their time with the incubator is over.) About 60 percent of his clients are small businesses, and individuals make up the rest.

For small businesses, Patel provides litigation and transactional services, leveraging experience he gained from jobs at a small law firm and at a construction company's in-house legal department.

Among his clients: a sheet metal fabrication company in Jamaica, Queens, that is acquiring another in upstate New York. Patel is helping with labor and employment matters and bank financing agreements.

As for individuals, Patel has taken on a number of clients, thanks to the incubator. He takes part in community counseling sessions in Queens, often providing pro bono legal advice on immigration to low-income constituents in several City Council member districts.

"It's the reason I went to law school, but when I graduated I could not find employment in the immigration field," said Patel, who once faced immigration issues himself. "Being on my own, I finally got the opportunity to get back into that kind of work." ●



Yogi Patel ('06)

"When I graduated I could not find employment in the immigration field. Being on my own, I finally got the opportunity to get back into that kind of work."

Launching A New Practice

by Paul Lin

Rosanna Roizin ('08) had only to look at her own life to find inspiration for starting a small law practice.

Her father and brother own businesses; her mother founded and runs a nonprofit ballet school.

"Coming from an entrepreneurial family, that inclination was there," Roizin said, to launch a startup.

Another strong influence: the Russian-speaking community where her family is and where she still resides: Brighton Beach, Brooklyn.

"I live there; I grew up there and speak Russian," she said. "I wanted to become a lawyer to work with people of need, to help solve their problems."

Roizin joined the Incubator for Justice because it provided the nuts and bolts on starting up and running a practice, offering workshops on topics such as managing finances, marketing, and accounting.

"Just being able to talk about all of these startup issues is huge, because you don't learn that in law school," said Roizin.

The incubator also gave her funding to do community counseling work with seniors at the Shorefront Jewish Community Center in her own neighborhood.

"There's such a variety of issues to keep you on your toes and broaden your knowledge and skills," she said. On topics outside her expertise, Roizin can always talk to colleagues at the incubator or the Community Legal Resource Network's Lisa Reiner, or post a query on CLRN's e-mail subscriber list.

In November 2011, Roizin and Fordham Law graduate Elena Volkova started Roizin & Volkova Law Group, focusing on small businesses and nonprofits.

The firm's edge, Roizin believes, comes from both partners' close knowledge of the inner workings of nonprofits. Roizin has been helping her mother's ballet school since she was 18 years old, writing grant proposals and, since law school, taking care of legal matters. She also did fundraising and development for a New York-based nonprofit to benefit an orphanage in Ukraine.

Roizin's time at the incubator wraps up this summer, and she will need a new office, likely in Manhattan. The work she does now, however, will continue, as will her flexible schedule. That way, she can stay true to her family roots and her strong connection to the communities where she works.

That dovetails with her CUNY Law family, its mission, and the clinics that drew her to the school. The incubator just gave her a push to the next level.

"To me, starting my own practice came a little sooner [than I expected]. Having the chance to join the incubator is the reason," said Roizin. ●●



Rosanna Roizin ('08)

"Just being able to talk about all of these startup issues is huge, because you don't learn that in law school."

Defending People In Need

by Paul Lin



Andrew Lisko ('10)

Andrew Lisko ('10) had been pulling some late hours at the Law Office of Andrew Lisko, working on a client's felony DWI case, when the judge declared a mistrial. The arresting officer had to take bereavement leave because his mother had died.

"It was unexpected but understandable, given the circumstances," Lisko said. "Still, it was disappointing because we felt the case was going our way."

Handling setbacks is part and parcel of Lisko's new criminal law practice, started with the help of the Incubator for Justice in August 2011.

After graduating from CUNY Law, Bronx-born Lisko looked at becoming a public defender or union organizer in New York. He also interviewed with the Legal Aid Society.

"I didn't get the job, but I knew I had to do work that aligned with my values," said Lisko, who learned about the incubator and decided to give it a try. The incubator allowed him to take the risk, start a practice, and learn to manage the practice and his money.

"You're taking on a whole new level of responsibility," he said in reference to being his own boss.

One of the perks? Being able to help clients in need.

"I had a client who paid on time and never complained about the cost, but I got the feeling [the family] didn't have a lot of extra cash lying around. So I told them, 'Don't worry, you don't have to pay me the rest,'" said Lisko.

Even though Lisko is solo, he's pleased to be sharing office space with CUNY alumni.

"I'm part of a team," Lisko said. "You have the ability to go to the person across the hall and say, 'Hey—do you know anything about this?'"

For coaching on criminal law, Lisko has been able to tap into the Community Legal Resource Network, finding mentors in immigration attorney Mercedes Cano ('99) and trial lawyer Gabriel R. Munson ('03), who has invited Lisko to courtroom hearings.

"They have helped me grow as an attorney. Those are the times when I get experience and education beyond anything [a classroom] could teach me," said Lisko.

As for community counseling, Lisko is working with seniors and youth in Jamaica and Flushing, New York.

When Lisko's time with the incubator ends in February 2013, he plans to keep focusing on criminal law and to stay involved in low-income neighborhoods in the Bronx. That would help him reinforce what brought him to CUNY Law in the first place: a commitment to public service. ●●



Amna Akbar

Supporting Muslim Communities in New York City

Amna Akbar joined the Creating Law Enforcement Accountability and Responsibility (CLEAR) project of the Immigrant & Refugee Rights Clinic in fall 2011 as a supervising attorney and adjunct professor, a position generously funded by the Proteus Fund for democracy and peace. She also serves as scholar-in-residence at the Center for Human Rights & Global Justice at the New York University School of Law.

Why was CLEAR established?

In 2009, a few CUNY students and faculty started to organize to address the legal needs of New York City's Muslim, Arab, and South Asian communities. Professors Ramzi Kassem and Nicole Smith were the faculty at the helm of the initiative. FBI raids in local Afghan communities underlined how law enforcement targets Muslim communities for indiscriminate questioning and searches, and the real need for rights awareness and legal services work rooted in the experience of Muslim communities with national security and counterterrorism policies. It was in that context that CLEAR emerged.

We also wanted CLEAR to support community organizing efforts responding to these law enforcement tactics. Community members were worried about being subjected to further scrutiny for their activism, so we felt it was important to let community members know that there are lawyers supporting their rights to organize and speak.

More recently, we have focused on Muslim communities in response to the Associated Press's reporting about the New York City Police Department's undercover surveillance program targeting Muslims. The program tracked details like where Muslims go for haircuts and which mosques they pray

at. The reporting has sparked a greater organizing response from the city's Muslim communities, and we've been working hard to support those efforts.

What is CLEAR's impact?

Since CLEAR launched, we've been met with a strong demand from Muslim communities for know-your-rights workshops, legal services, and organizing support. Many Muslims in the city now know that if they are approached for questioning by law enforcement, they have the right, like every other person within the United States, to remain silent, and that there's no obligation to speak with or work for law enforcement. They know they have the right to counsel. And they know they can call CLEAR.

Now that people know CLEAR is here, it contributes to a growing sense of potential within Muslim communities for the capacity to organize for change. CLEAR has been an important part of that growth in the last few years.

What do students learn through CLEAR?

Students are at the forefront of CLEAR's work, getting exposure to the building blocks of community lawyering. They do everything from initial client intake to researching legal options for clients to advising clients about the benefits and risks of different options. They conduct know-your-rights workshops and often take the lead in negotiations between clients and law enforcement. They support community organizing. Participating in CLEAR has brought home for students the local impacts of national security policies, and how important it is for lawyers to support organizing efforts in communities of color and immigrant communities alongside traditional legal services work. ●●

Diala Shamas is one of only seven recipients of Yale Law School's Arthur Liman Public Interest Fellowship this year. And she's spending her fellowship at the Creating Law Enforcement Accountability and Responsibility (CLEAR) project of the Immigrant & Refugee Rights Clinic (IRRC) at CUNY Law.

It was the unique focus of CLEAR that caught the attention of the Liman Fellowship selection committee. "The project is distinct because it offers a more holistic approach to lawyering," said Shamas. "We represent individual clients, but we also work with community organizations to address the overall policies that affect our clients. It's rare that those two things come together so organically in one project." CLEAR works with Muslim, Arab, South Asian, and other communities in New York City that are particularly affected by national security and counterterrorism policies and practices.

Community-based work comes naturally to Shamas. Born and raised in East Jerusalem, she engaged in human rights work with communities in the West Bank before attending Yale Law School. At Yale, Shamas worked with Professor Ramzi Kassem, who was co-teaching the National Litigation Project clinic there at the time, and who is now director of CLEAR and the IRRC at CUNY Law. Shamas's work with Kassem, representing a detainee held at Guantánamo Bay, cemented her interest in working on issues related to national security policies.

She joined CLEAR in the fall of 2011, and almost immediately her year's plans were reshaped. The Associated Press had just begun to release a series of articles about the New York Police Department's undercover surveillance of Muslim communities and groups around the city, including Muslim student associations (MSAs) at almost a dozen schools.

Shamas and CLEAR recognized that the NYPD surveillance program would become a top concern of the Muslim com-

Diala Shamas

Liman Fellow with the CLEAR Project

munity for the foreseeable future. "Many people suspected that the police were monitoring Muslims, but these reports confirmed it and revealed their shocking scope," she said. Shamas was soon leading CLEAR's efforts to offer accurate information to Muslim student groups and to organize know-your-rights workshops on their campuses, focusing on interactions with law enforcement and informants. "Many of the MSAs were understandably overwhelmed by the sudden media attention and by the reports that they were somehow considered suspicious by the police. But it has also been great to see students respond so thoughtfully and constructively to the challenge."

Shamas, along with a team of CLEAR students, is also developing a report due out this summer that documents the effects of the surveillance program on the Muslim community of New York City. "The goal is to create a document that would support the efforts of our partner community organizations in their advocacy work," she said. The report will be primarily drafted by CLEAR on behalf of the Muslim American Civil Liberties Coalition, a group with which CLEAR works closely. In researching the report, the team will conduct a series of interviews with individuals and organizations that have been affected by the NYPD's practices. "We hope the report will shed further light on the program, go beyond what's been reported in the press, and paint a picture of a community under siege," said Shamas. ●●

Diala Shamas



30 Years at 65-21

As CUNY Law prepares for its historic move to Long Island City, three longtime staff members reflect on their time at the Law School and share some of their favorite memories.



BACK IN 1982, CUNY School of Law consisted of a building that was under construction—scattered with leftover junior high school materials from its previous occupants—and a small staff charged with getting a new law school off the ground.

“There was electricity in the air, and it was so exciting to be a part of it,” said Seth Goldstein. Goldstein started working in the Engineering Department at CUNY Law part time when he was still a student at Queens College. Among other responsibilities, the department was charged with making sure there were desks in the classrooms, and tables, chairs, and filing cabinets in the offices.

Goldstein recalls not having enough money to buy what was needed. “There was a salvage center under the Brooklyn Bridge at the time. We found equipment there that we could

use,” he said. “There are a few things [we got there] that we are still using to this day.”

Verleatha Hill, another staff member who has been at the Law School since the beginning, is now an administrative assistant working with the Criminal Defense Clinic and the Economic Justice Project. But in the nearly 30 years that she has been with the school, she has worked as a faculty secretary and been part of the Admissions Office, the library, and, for the past 10 years, the clinic.

Hill recalls that during the summer in the school’s early years, some people would sit in lawn chairs up on the roof just to look around. “It was one of the highlights of our day,” she said.

Another highlight was sharing a birthday with the Law School’s second dean, Haywood Burns. “He would call me up-

Main Street



From left: Debbie Rothenberg, Verleatha Hill, and Seth Goldstein

stairs for a cupcake to celebrate. One time, he had a mountain of bagels for us!”

Debbie Rothenberg, who has been with the Admissions Office since she joined CUNY Law, remembers working when the school didn’t yet have students. “It was exciting to come in on the ground level,” she said. “When you would tell people, ‘I work at CUNY Law School,’ their interest was piqued right away. It was so different and progressive, you found yourself recruiting without even meaning to, because people would want to know about it.”

Reflecting on their time at the Law School, Rothenberg, Hill, and Goldstein shared one sentiment: It was like a family.

“My kids would come here every day after school. The students would entertain my kids and play touch football with

them. They looked out for my kids,” Hill said. “Where else could you work in such a place, where people are concerned about you and your family?”

Goldstein remembers the regular games of basketball that faculty, staff, and students played together. “It was a cohesive group of people,” he said.

That sense of cohesion and concern for all members of the Law School community is what, to Rothenberg, has always set CUNY Law apart from other law schools.

“This school has always reinforced the goodness and selflessness of people,” she said. “Our students could easily be making a lot more money in a different sector of law, but ‘Law in the Service of Human Needs’—that really was the foundation and premise of this law school.” ●●



John Whitlow

John Whitlow ('03) Joins CED Clinic

GROWING UP IN BALTIMORE in the 1980s, John Whitlow ('03) spent a lot of his childhood at the home of a friend whose father had been exiled from Spain by Francisco Franco because of his political activities. "There was a different way of thinking and talking about politics," Whitlow recalled. "Being exposed to that from an early age made me want to understand how power operates to marginalize and exclude people, and I wanted to do what I could to change that." After studying comparative international economic development at Johns Hopkins University, he enrolled in the anthropology graduate program at the New School. "I thought I wanted to be an academic, but it was frustrating because the work was not politically impactful," he said. That's when he turned to organizing.

"The security guards at the New School didn't get paid a living wage and didn't have any benefits, so when one of them

became really ill, the other guards had to literally pass around a hat," Whitlow said. The students and workers began an organizing campaign, and, eventually, Whitlow and his classmates found themselves sitting across the table from the university's corporate counsel, negotiating the terms of a settlement. "That's what made me think about law school. I realized that I needed the specific knowledge and tools that only a legal education could provide."

Not surprisingly, Whitlow chose CUNY Law. "I wanted to combine legal work with organizing work," he said. "At CUNY there's a deep commitment to using the law as a tool for social justice." Whitlow returned to CUNY Law this past fall as a clinical law professor in the Community & Economic Development (CED) Clinic.

After graduating in 2003, Whitlow worked as a staff at-

torney at Bedford-Stuyvesant Community Legal Services in Brooklyn, New York, representing low-income tenants in housing court. After a time, he began to notice something. “I saw some of the same clients coming back,” he said. He realized that “we were doing a good job of getting people out of jams, but we were not doing much to alter any structural relationships.” Looking to do more affirmative work, Whitlow joined the Urban Justice Center’s Community Development Project, where he represented tenants’ associations in group litigation and provided transactional legal assistance to community-based organizations. “I think legal work is best used and most dynamic when it’s connected to a social movement or some kind of community-based organizing,” he said.

He built on his work of combining community organizing and the law as a supervising attorney at Make the Road New York, a membership organization composed of low-income immigrant New Yorkers. At Make the Road, he led the organization’s housing and public benefits legal services, and he helped draft legislation to make it easier to track down corporate landlords. With this law now in place, these landlords are required to register their physical address and the

names of their corporate principals with New York City’s Department of Housing Preservation and Development. “We had noticed a staggering number of slumlords who were virtually impossible to locate because the only information on file was the name of a shell LLC and a P.O. box. The new law was a step toward making it easier for tenants to know who their landlords actually were and to get much-needed repairs in their apartments,” he explained.

The strength of successfully pairing legal and organizing tools was something Whitlow wanted to share. He began teaching in a clinic, co-led by Make the Road and the New York University School of Law, that focused on law, organizing, and social change. Watching students develop and apply their legal tools to real-life problems inspired him to look for more teaching opportunities.

Whitlow said he was eager to return to CUNY and to teach in the clinic because it’s a “great place to do impactful legal work.” He continued, “What’s appealing to me is supporting students and, at the same time, working with clients who are building alternative institutions in their communities. The work the clinic does helps sustain the social justice mission of these organizations.” ●●

“I think legal work is best used and most dynamic when it’s connected to a social movement or some kind of community-based organizing.”

Community & Economic Development Clinic at a Glance

The Community & Economic Development (CED) Clinic serves low-income and working-class communities that are fighting for social and economic justice. The clinic is designed to help build and expand the capacity of grassroots organizations to implement community development projects, including the creation of neighborhood institutions that provide needed services and opportunities. The clinic also works with more established nonprofits in expanding and sustaining their social service programs and organizing campaigns.

Students in the CED Clinic work in a variety of areas, providing legal support on complex projects such as negotiating and drafting contracts, preserving and creating affordable housing, counseling organizational clients regarding employment and governance issues, and representing low-wage workers in federal and state wage and hour litigation. Recent projects of the clinic have included drafting a guide for employers to use when hiring formerly incarcerated persons, assisting a large immigrants’ rights organization with the creation of a worker-owned cooperative, and providing counseling and transactional support to a tax-exempt community-based organization that is interested in building out its lobbying and electoral activity. CED Clinic students have also provided critical legal support—including incorporation, the drafting of bylaws, and application for tax exemption—to startup organizations working in the areas of community access to the arts, electoral reform, and financial justice.

In the classroom, clinic students learn about community economic development theory and practice, the role of community lawyering in furthering social justice, and various doctrinal areas related to nonprofits and their legal needs. In practice, students hone concrete lawyering skills while working to support organizations that are building vibrant, sustainable community institutions.

From Kansas to New York City

Slinging coffee at a café in Lawrence, Kansas, might not be the typical experience that inspires someone to become a lawyer, but it was for Sarah Lamdan. Working as a barista, she saw a cross-section of her community every day and got to know most of her neighbors as people came in to get their daily coffee. Before her job at the café, she had not known anyone in her neighborhood. The clientele at the café included families, working professionals, indigent people, and people with mental health issues. “I knew them all,” she said, “and it was the first time I felt I was part of a community.”

That sense of community also revealed to Lamdan that some people were more vulnerable and needed more protection than others. “I saw law as a good foundation for being able to change the places around you—to make sure homeless people have a place to be, to develop regulations to make sure the environment is protected,” she said.

Lamdan attended the University of Kansas School of Law, where she felt she might have been “one of the more liberal students they had seen in a while.”

Eventually she found other students who, like her, were interested in public interest law; she created an annual event to raise money to provide stipends for people doing pro bono work. She also worked as a research assistant on a project that would inspire her to become a law librarian.

“The professor I worked for had discovered a box of letters written by Susan B. Anthony while searching the library archives. My job was to transcribe those letters,” she said. “Who wouldn’t think a library was cool after that job?”

In addition to earning her law degree and an environmental law certificate at the University of Kansas, she earned her

“The professor I worked for had discovered a box of letters written by Susan B. Anthony while searching the library archives. My job was to transcribe those letters. Who wouldn’t think a library was cool after that job?”



Sarah Lamdan

master’s degree in legal information management from Emporia State University at the same time.

After receiving her degrees, Lamdan moved to New York and

worked as a librarian at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP, and at Fulbright & Jaworski LLP. Although she was working on high-profile cases, she said she left the corporate world because it was not satisfying. “It was not what I started out wanting to do.”

Lamdan is now an associate law library professor at CUNY Law. “As a law librarian, I effect change by helping great lawyers do great public interest work,” she said. Lamdan works with students in the library and teaches

legal research. Reflecting on CUNY Law students, she said, “They will be the attorneys going out there for the right reason. I’m giving them the tools they need to fight the good fight. That’s a good day at work for me.” ●●

Alumni News

Many of your classmates have a lot of news to share, including business addresses, marriages, children, and photos—more than we can fit in the magazine! For expanded Alumni News, please visit the alumni section of www.law.cuny.edu.

1986

PICO BEN-AMOTZ is acting counsel for the New York State Department of Labor after having served as deputy commissioner for Worker Protection since 2007. Prior to working at the Department of Labor, Pico was at the Labor Bureau of the New York State Attorney General's office, where the Department of Labor was his client agency.

HON. PAMELA JACKMAN BROWN was inducted as a justice of the Queens County Supreme Court on January 27, 2012, at the Queens County Supreme Court.

JUSTICE DICCIA T. PINEDA-KIRWAN sits in the historic Long Island City Courthouse. She eagerly awaits the relocation of CUNY School of Law to Long Island City, and she is proud to have been elected and unanimously approved to its board of visitors.

BARRY STRUTT created and produced an OWS-related original cross-generational tune (light rap meets funk/jazz) with video. It's called "Run (The Occupy Movement Endures)." www.youtube.com/watch?v=VcgneDxijCE

CARMEN R. TORRENT introduces her great-grandchild Remington (Remi) Aubrey Smith, born January 2012.

1987

PARIS R. BALDACCI is the director of a new clinical program he launched at Cardozo Law School called the LGBT Litigation and Leadership Practicum. He also teaches an LGBT Rights Seminar. In December 2011, he presented "The French Experi-



Remington (Remi) Aubrey Smith, great-grandchild of Carmen Torrent ('86)

ence: Comparative Approaches to the Right to Counsel" at the National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel conference.

MATILDE LEO has been with the New York City Department of Probation since 1990.

1989

ELSIE ACEVEDO has an office in Center Moriches, NY. www.ElsieAcevedo.com.

CAREEN SHANNON, of counsel at Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen and Loewy, LLP, was named director of the Immigration Law Field Clinic at Cardozo Law School. She has coauthored a series of immigration handbooks and treatises published by Thomson Reuters/West and is an advisor to the New York State Bar Association's Special Committee on Immigration Representation. *Super Lawyers* has named Careen one of the top New York metro area lawyers for the past four years.

1990

EVELYN TOSSAS TUCKER has her own private practice specializing in immigration after working as an attorney with the INS and director of the legal department at Gay Men's Health Crisis. She has had many CUNY Law students as interns.

Her daughter is a sophomore at the University of Michigan. Evelyn recently adopted two boys.

1991

BARBARA CARAVELLO is entering her 12th year in private practice and is a member of both the 18b and Attorneys for Children panels in Queens County Family Court. She is also occupied with raising her two sons, Brandon and Jonathan.

ANNA LEVINE is an active mediator, a New York City Family Court Mediation Program participant, and an activist/advocate for all who need help.

1992

BARBARA KATZ was accepted into the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys (AAAA). Barbara is also a fellow of the Georgia Council of Adoption Lawyers.

MARIANNE HENRY SAYLOR was elected to Borough Council in Lansdowne, PA, for a four-year term.

PETER C. WALSH was nominated as the secretary of the District Managers Association for the Port Jefferson Village (NY) Business Improvement District.

1993

ANTHONE DAMIANAKIS is a partner in Peacock, Gaffney & Damianakis, P.A., a full-service law firm serving Tampa Bay residents and businesses and New Yorkers with Florida matters.

1994

DANIEL FLANZIG launched his new website and practice area, www.NewYorkBikeLawyer.com, focusing on promoting cycling safety in and around New York and representing the interests of injured cyclists.



Daniel Flanzig ('94)

KARL JACOB RUPPERT began his sixth year as court counsel serving the judges of the 11th Judicial District Court of Louisiana. He is also the district hearing officer (magistrate) for the district and began his third term as president of the Louisiana Hearing Officers' Association.

1995

In November 2011, **LINDA H. SCHWAGER** was elected mayor of the Borough of Oakland, in Bergen County, NJ. She was sworn in on January 4, 2012.

MARK F. WILLIMANN represented Aurora Lopez-Avila in *U.S. v. Lopez-Avila* in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

1996

ELISABETH AMES recently celebrated the 13th year of her law practice located in Manhattan, which specializes in immi-

gration law with an increasing emphasis on foreign nationals who are artists, academics, or in business and are seeking temporary or permanent status in the United States. She lives on the Upper West Side with her two children, Zachary and Anna.

EMILY BARNES COLE has been employed by the Cook County State's Attorney's Office since 1998 as an assistant state's attorney, working for the past 10 years in the specialty courts of drug court and mental health court, providing felony defendants the alternative of rehabilitation instead of incarceration.

JUSTIN C. FRANKEL has attained the AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell for his legal ability and ethical standards.

JOSEPH B. MAIRA is available to mentor law practice management for solo practitioners.

JOY ROSENTHAL, TERESA CALABRESE ('87), and **KATIE COLE** ('00) led Same Sex Marriage—What it Really Means, a seminar for members of the Family and Divorce Mediation Council of Greater New York that explored the impact of New York State's Marriage Equality Act on LGBTQ families in light of the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

1998

MICHAEL TOBMAN continues to serve as a lobbyist, media consultant, and political counselor for corporations, nonprofits, schools, and real estate developers. He works with elected officials throughout New York, New Jersey, and D.C. He is especially proud of his cousin, CUNY Law 2L Matthew Rosenbloom.

1999

MERCEDES S. CANO is sole proprietor of the Law Office of Mercedes S. Cano and has recently expanded her practice to include

a business center that provides specialty services tailored to helping immigrant micro-entrepreneurs achieve long-term success and sustainability in their small-business ventures.

JAMES J. GALLES and his law partner, Keith M. Sullivan, were named to the 2011 Irish Legal 100. Their firm also recently represented, on a pro bono basis, Sgt. Dakota Meyer, the first living United States Marine to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War.

MAE WATSON GROTE reports that the Financial Clinic, a nonprofit that she founded and for which she serves as executive director, was given the ABA's 2012 Louis M. Brown Award for Legal Access.

MYKAL SLACK completed his internship for ordination with Metropolitan Community Churches and is developing a consultative ministry for faith communities and social service agencies in the New England area that want to promote healing and wholeness in the areas concerning sexuality and gender identity/expression. He will also serve on the staff of the Beacon Hill Friends House.

2000

HEATHER ZORN has been living and working in Hong Kong since September 2011. She's been a senior writer/editor for CNN International for several years now; the posting in CNN's Hong Kong bureau is new.

2001

ERICA BUCKLEY (née **MCHALE**) has recently been appointed review section chief of the Real Estate Finance Bureau at the New York State Office of the Attorney General. Erica joined the Attorney General's Office in 2007. Previously, she served as general counsel to the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board.

2002

MARIA BALDRIDGE was promoted to assistant attorney in charge of the Bronx Juvenile Rights office at the Legal Aid Society.

MEGHAN K. GULCZYNSKI (MULLIGAN) opened her firm, Brunetti, Donnelly & Gulczynski, LLC, in Jersey City, NJ.

IAN HINONANGAN has secured termination of removal proceedings on behalf of several clients under the prosecutorial discretion policy outlined in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency's Morton Memo issued in June 2011.



Mercedes S. Cano ('99)

2003

HARRY BERBERIAN is the director of strategic partnerships and resource development at Graham Windham.

KATHRYN L. HUDSON owns a small firm in Little Rock, AR, representing criminal and family law clients in the state and federal courts. At least 10 percent of the

firm's practice is pro bono or low fee to make legal representation accessible and affordable. www.hudson-law-center.com.

2004

JOHN FREEMAN accepted the *Law Technology News* award for Most Innovative Technology in a Pro Bono Project on behalf of the Minnesota Legal Services Coalition, which he supervises.

KRIS KRAUS and **MIA MARANION KRAUS** celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in February. Mia continues her work as a staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society of San Diego. Kris continues his work as a trial attorney at the Federal Defenders of San Diego and recently accepted an adjunct professor position at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Kris and Mia are working with the Career Planning Office to establish a scholarship for CUNY Law students.

JULIE GRAVES KRISHNASWAMI recently started a new job as a law librarian at Yale Law School. She is the new head of reference services in the law library.

2005

JACQUELINE DEVORE is now an associate with Mayerson & Associates, a leading law firm in the area of special education litigation under the IDEIA. The firm specializes in serving children and adults with autism across the country.

RAHA JORJANI worked for the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project in Florence, AZ, as a staff attorney from 2005 until 2007. In 2007 she became a staff attorney/clinical professor with the Immigration Law Clinic at the University of California at Davis School of Law. In October 2009, she also began serving as in-house immigration counsel to the Alameda County Public Defender's Office.



John Freeman ('04)

The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) received the New York Bar Association's 2011 Bar Leaders Innovation Award for a medium-sized bar association in recognition of its Pro Bono Immigration Clinics. The honor was received by the cochairs of the AILA New York Chapter Pro Bono Committee, Jennifer Durkin and **ELIZABETA MARKUCI**, director of the Volunteers of Legal Service's Immigration Project.

2006

RICHARD CELESTIN recently received a federal grant under President Obama's Race to the Top Fund to provide his Young Debaters program to five middle schools in Queens and Brooklyn.

MICHAEL DAVIDOV, an elder law and estate planning attorney, recently passed the Certified Financial Planner certification exam.

RICHARD M. GOLDMAN continues to represent injured workers in and around the capital region of New York State, handling all phases of litigation and Appellate Division advocacy. He also serves as treasurer of the Injured Workers' Bar Association, a position he has held for three years.

DAVE PALMER and his wife, Paloma Gomes, announce the birth of their daughter, Maya Gomes Palmer, born in January in Salvador, Brazil.

CHARLIE STOLL works for the Second Judicial District Attorney's Office in Albuquerque, NM, where he prosecutes felony domestic violence crimes.

2007

AFREEN S. RIZWAN was appointed deputy town attorney for Babylon, NY. She previously served as assistant town attorney.

ANDREW STA. ANA was honored by the New York City Anti-Violence Project (AVP) at its 15th Annual Courage Awards ceremony for his work as one of the attorneys for AVP's Domestic Violence Legal Clinic.

2008

MATTHEW BARTOLINI started a new job as a compliance officer at Healthy Neighborhoods, a nonprofit dedicated to revitalizing strong but undervalued neighborhoods in Baltimore City.

CHRISTA DOUAIHY and **SIENNA BASKIN** ('07) were married in August. Sienna is codirector of the Sex Workers Project at the Urban Justice Center. Christa is a staff attorney at the Bronx Defenders. Christa also works with **REBECCA GREENBERG** ('08), who was recently named supervising attorney overseeing the legal advocates in the Civil Action practice of the Bronx Defenders.

2009

JAMES ALEX BARRON joined Kevin Kerveng



Alicia Armstrong ('11) with her son Jude Armstrong Ericksen

Tung, P.C., a litigation firm in Queens, as an associate after working as a contract attorney at the Board of Elections in the City of New York for the 2010 and 2011 election cycles.

CHRISTEL MATALA DE MAZZA is a court attorney to the Hon. Cheryl J. Gonzales of the Civil Court of New York, New York County, Housing Part, who is currently presiding over a trial part. She has also volunteered as an attorney with the EEOC New York District Office and with the African Services Committee in Harlem on a political asylum case.

SAMANTHA N. THOMAS is currently working as a trial attorney for the Department of Labor, focusing primarily on mine safety and health litigation. Her office is in Philadelphia, PA.

2010

MARYAM ARIF will teach at Quaid-e-Azam Law College in Lahore, Pakistan, where she will head the Street Law Clinic. She is a partner at the Law Offices of Maryam & Arif. She recently coedited a publication based on the conference

Justice for All, Impunity for None, organized by the Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan.

Following graduation, **CHRISTOPHER J. FUSCO** clerked for Judge Thomas H. Dilts of the New Jersey Superior Court in Somerset County. Since completing his clerkship, Christopher has been an attorney with the Diocese of Metuchen, NJ, where he is also a judge on the diocesan tribunal. He and Patricia E. Scalse married in July 2011.

2011

In December 2011, **ALICIA ARMSTRONG** and her husband, Spencer Ericksen, welcomed the birth of their healthy baby boy, Jude Armstrong Ericksen. After being admitted to the Wisconsin State Bar Association, Alicia worked as an associate at a boutique immigration firm. She returns to her law practice after taking maternity leave.

NATASHA LYCIA ORA BANNAN accepted a two-year fellowship with the Center for Reproductive Rights' U.S. Legal Program. She'll be supporting domestic litigation in state and federal court beginning in September 2012. She was also voted in as cochair of the International Committee for the National Lawyers Guild.

MARCY WEHLING is an Equal Justice Works Americorps Legal Fellow at Legal Assistance of Western New York's Rochester office. Half of her project is the co-coordination of the Volunteer Legal Corps; the other half is direct representation, outreach, and community legal education.

NETWORKING AND CONNECTING

So that you can share more news about your personal and professional updates with your classmates, we're launching a new section of our website for alumni announcements that will be updated regularly. If you'd like to connect more with the CUNY Law community, please send your news, along with your name and class year, to alumnioffice@mail.law.cuny.edu. And be sure to check the alumni pages of the CUNY Law website to learn more about your classmates' latest work and accomplishments!

Faculty Notes

MICHELLE ANDERSON delivered remarks on a panel titled “Teaching Rape, Reforming Rape Law” at the Association of American Law Schools annual meeting in January. Throughout the fall of 2011, she led the 60-faculty-member Pathways Project at CUNY, which recommended an undergraduate, 30-credit Common Core to Chancellor Matthew Goldstein in December that was accepted without revision. In November, Anderson delivered a keynote speech at Queensborough Community College on general education at CUNY. Also in November, she delivered welcoming remarks and moderated a panel at the conference focused on preventing abuse and neglect of children sponsored by the CUNY Children’s Rights Institute and the New York City Bar Association. In October, Anderson introduced a plenary panel at the Women’s Leadership Conference at Hunter College.

PENELOPE ANDREWS moderated the section “Minority Conservatives and Their Impact on Legal Theory” at the Association of American Law Schools annual meeting in January. In November 2011 she presented at two events: on the “Civil Disobedience” panel at West Virginia College of Law and as a plenary speaker at the 2011 International Human Rights Education Conference in South Africa. Also in November, she co-conducted, with **MARY LU BILEK**, a one-day writing workshop for the South African Women Lawyers Association and the Foundation for Human Rights in Johannesburg, and then met with the judges at the High Court in Johannesburg, who provided CUNY Law students with a wonderful internship over the summer.

MARY LU BILEK agreed to serve on the board of directors of the National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest) in December 2011. In November, she spoke at the 2011 International Human Rights Education Conference in South Africa.

BERYL BLAUSTONE served as a “Professorial Research Visitor” at the University of New South Wales Law School in Sydney, Australia, and continues to foster an exchange

between that school and CUNY School of Law. She published “Improving Clinical Judgment in Lawyering with Multidisciplinary Knowledge about Brain Function and Human Behavior: What Should Law Students Learn about Human Behavior for Effective Lawyering?” in *40 University of Baltimore Law Review* 607.

CAITLIN BORGMANN was quoted by the *Christian Science Monitor*, CNN, Mississippi television stations, *Slate* magazine, and the *Washington Post* on reproductive rights and “personhood amendments.” In October 2011, Borgmann presented “What the Mississippi Personhood Amendment Tells Us about Life” at the Mississippi College School of Law Symposium and “Appellate Review of Trial Court Factfinding in Constitutional Rights Cases” at Loyola-Chicago Law School’s 2nd Annual Constitutional Law Colloquium.

REBECCA BRATSPIES was appointed to the AALS Environmental Law Section Executive Committee at the AALS annual meeting in January. She cowrote a report for the Center for Progressive Reform titled “Reclaiming Global Environmental Leadership” in December. In October 2011, she published “A Regulatory Wakeup Call: Lessons from BP’s Deepwater Horizon Disaster” in *5 Golden Gate University Environmental Law Journal* 7 and edited *LexisNexis Questions & Answers: International Law*, a textbook in the LexisNexis Understanding Law series. Bratspies presented part of her ongoing book project, *Sustainability: Using Law and Science to Remake Our World*, at Vermont Law School in September.

SUSAN BRYANT presented “Bringing a Racial and Cultural Competence Lens to Public Interest” at the New York Legal Assistance Group (NYLAG) in December 2011. Also in December, she presented a CLE training, “Enhancing Language Access: Serving Deaf Survivors of Violence” at the Legal Services Learning Center and made a training video for the new judges at the State Judicial Institute on Working with Interpreters to Increase Access to Justice.

DOUGLAS COX published “‘Inalienable’ Archives: Korean Royal Archives as French Property under International Law” in the *International Journal of Cultural Property* and an op-ed on *Jurist* titled “Finding Kuwait’s Missing National Archives” in January. In December 2011, *American Archivist* published his article “National Archives and International Conflicts.” In October, the *Los Angeles Times* published his op-ed “The Noriega File” on why the United States should return to Panama the thousands of boxes of documents it seized during Operation Just Cause.

LISA DAVIS coauthored the chapter “Our Bodies Are Still Trembling” in the book *Tectonic Shifts: Haiti Since the Earthquake*. She was interviewed by WPFW, WBAL, “GW on the Hill,” and the Progressive Radio Network and quoted in news stories by the Huffington Post, Reuters, and the Inter-Press Service, among other outlets, for the release of the new IWHR Clinic report, “Struggling to Survive: Sexual Exploitation of Displaced Women and Girls in Port au Prince, Haiti.” She spoke on the panel “Protecting Women’s Health in Post-Disaster Areas” for the National Haitian American Health Alliance and on the panel “Developing Best Practices for Media Coverage of Gender-Based Violence in Haiti” for the law firm Reed Smith in December 2011. In October, she spoke on two panels in Geneva, Switzerland: “Utilizing the Commitment of Security Council Resolution 1325” for the Women’s League of Peace and Freedom, and “Post-UPR Debrief: Next Steps of Human Rights in Haiti” for the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti. In September, Davis served as a judge for the Symbolic Tribunal on Sexual Violence in Post-Conflict Colombia. She was a panelist on “How Can Grassroots Movements and the Judicial System Complement Each Other?” for the World Bank and on the panel “Human Rights in Reconstruction Haiti” for the Haiti Assistance Task Force of Yale University and “Making a Difference” for the American Bar Association’s International Human Rights Committee Teleconference in September.

FRANK DEALE was one of two featured speakers at the Forum on CUNY & Race: Diversity in a Time of Austerity Policies, which was sponsored by the Professional Staff Congress in December 2011. His book review of *Human Rights at Work: Perspectives on Law and Regulation* was published in *Human Rights Quarterly* in November.

PAMELA EDWARDS moderated two panels: “Getting Into the Academy” and “How to Get a Legal Teaching Job” at the November 2011 Joint Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF)/Northeast People of Color Conference (NEPOC), Exploring the American Family.

RAQUEL GABRIEL’S column, “Diversity Dialogues: Managing Conflict” was published in the Fall 2011 issue of the *103 Law Library Journal* 685. It is the fourth in a series that she has been asked to write regarding diversity and the profession of law librarianship.

JULIE GOLDSCHIED published “Disparate Impact’s Impact: The Gender Violence Lens” in *90 Oregon Law Review* 33 (2011). In December 2011, she was a consultant and planner for the two-day Expert Group Meeting at U.N. Women, on developing a U.N. policy on Gender Violence and the Workplace. In November, Goldscheid was a convener and panelist for “*Jessica Lenahan (Gonzales) v. United States: Implementation, Litigation, and Mobilization Strategies*” at Columbia Law School. She was also a panelist for a program at Cardozo Law School, Jessica Lenahan’s Victory at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, where she presented “Reconsidering Civil Rights.” She also presented “Human Rights Litigation: A Remedy for DV Survivors, the Jessica Lenahan Victory,” as the plenary speaker at the National District Attorneys Association’s Annual Multi-Disciplinary Conference on Domestic Violence. Goldscheid gave three presentations in October: “Reconsidering Gender-based Violence and Civil Rights,” at the Yale Law School conference VAWA Revisited: Violence Against Women;

“Inter-American Commission’s Decision in *Lenahan v. United States*’ Implications for U.S. Advocacy,” at the National Association of Women Judges Conference, Ruth Bader Ginsburg Symposium on International Women’s Rights: Promoting Global Equality for Women through the Law at Rutgers Law School; and “Multiple Discrimination,” at the European Commission’s 2011 legal seminar on implementation of E.U. law on equal opportunities and anti-discrimination law. She also published “Gender Violence and Work in the United States and South Africa: The Parallel Processes of Legal and Cultural Change” in *19 American University Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law* 92 (2011). In September, Goldscheid presented “Disparate Impact’s Impact: The Gender Violence Lens” at the 6th Annual Colloquium on Labor and Employment Law at Loyola Law School Los Angeles.

VICTOR GOODE was a panelist for “Faculty Student Collaborations to Achieve Balance in the Law School” at the Section on Balance in Legal Education in January. He presented “Are Empathy and Compassion Lawyering Skills?” at the New York City Bar Association in December 2011. In October, Goode’s letter to “Sunday Dialogue: Diversity on Campus” was published in the Sunday *New York Times*.

BABE HOWELL authored an amicus brief to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of the New York City Bar Association in the case of *Mental Hygiene Legal Services v. Cuomo* in November 2011, which challenges the mandatory pre-trial detention provisions of the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act. In September, she published “Fear Itself: The Impact of Allegations of Gang Affiliation on Pre-Trial Detention” in *23 St. Thomas Law Review* 620 and spoke on criminal law responses to street harassment on “Today’s Verdict” on *BronxNet TV*.

RAMZI KASSEM was a panelist at an event organized by the Center for Constitutional Rights at Brecht Forum in January, “Guantánamo at Year 10: Building a Movement

to Close the Prison & End All Unjust U.S. Detentions.” His op-eds on civil rights and the “war on terror,” one of which was coauthored with **AMNA AKBAR**, appeared in the *New York Daily News* and in *Al-Jazeera English Online*. In October 2011, Kassem was a panelist on “Arab, Muslim and South Asian Communities Ten Years after 9/11” at the Asian-American Studies Program and the Human Rights Program at Roosevelt House in Hunter College and “Reflections on Litigation and Advocacy Strategy a Decade Post-9/11,” which was hosted by the Counterterrorism & Human Rights Project, Human Rights Institute at Columbia Law School. He also was a moderator on the panel “Profiling, Racialization, and Mobilization” at the conference Muslim American Citizenship: A Decade Since 9/11, organized by the Center for the Study of Democracy, Toleration, and Religion at Columbia University in October. Kassem presented “Gendered Erasure in the Global War on Terror” at the Gender, National Security, and Counter-Terrorism Workshop, which was organized by the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at New York University School of Law Abu Dhabi. His essay “September 11th and the Future We’ve Built” was published in the online *South Asian Magazine for Action and Reflection* (SAMAR) in September.

DONNA LEE was elected Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) secretary for 2012 in December 2011. She was a panelist on “The Hidden Regulation of the Family” at the Joint Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF)/Northeast People of Color Conference (NEPOC) in November.

DEGNA LEVISTER spoke about clinical teaching and legal writing on the panel “Getting Into the Academy: Different Types of Legal Teaching Jobs” at the Joint Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF)/Northeast People of Color Conference (NEPOC) in November 2011.

STEPHEN LOFFREDO published “State Courts and Constitutional Socio-Economic Rights:

Exploring the Underutilization Thesis” with New York University law professor Helen Hershkoff in *110 Penn State Law Review* 923.

SHIRLEY LUNG and **DAVID NADVORNEY** coauthored the essay “Academic Support: Countering the Failings of Traditional Law School Pedagogy and Supporting Inclusive and Effective Education for Pipeline Students” in the book *The End of the Pipeline: A Journey of Recognition for African Americans Entering the Legal Profession*, recently published by Carolina Press (2011).

In December 2011, **ANDREA MCARDLE** was a panelist for “Derrick Bell as Teacher” at the conference A Living, Working Faith: Remembering Our Colleague Derrick A. Bell, Jr., at the Center for the Study of Law and Culture at Columbia University School of Law. She also presented “The Judicial Writing Class: How Writing from a Judicial Perspective Helps Students Learn about Effective Advocacy Writing” for the Innovations in Legal Writing Panel at the Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop at the University of Memphis School of Law. McArdle presented a work in progress, “The Surprisingly Fractious Politics of Nonpartisan Judicial Selection: Judicial ‘Accountability’ as a Conservative Countermobilization to Court Reform,” at the Albany Law School Faculty Workshop Series in October.

JENNY RIVERA received the New York State Bar Association Diversity Trailblazer Lifetime Achievement Award at the NYS Bar Association’s annual meeting in January. Also in January, she co-presented “So You Want to Be a Lawyer: Puerto Ricans and Their Journey into the Legal Profession: Overcoming Challenges” at the Puerto Rican Bar Association. Rivera was a panelist for “Current Enrollment Trends of African Americans and Latinos in Graduate Education” at the Sixth Annual City University of New York Black Male Initiative (BMI) Conference, Hunter College, in October 2011. She was a panelist and moderator for “Civil Rights and Immigrants’ Rights/Federal Preemption Cases,”

at the Second Annual Supreme Court Review, the 2010–2011 Term: Impact on the Latino Community and Practitioners, at Linklaters LLP in September.

RUTHANN ROBSON presented “Sexual Minorities: the New Conservative Legal Theorists?” on the “Minority Conservatives and Their Impact on Legal Theory” panel at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) annual meeting in January.

RICK ROSSEIN was selected as the independent EEO consultant mandated by the Remedial Order by the U.S. District Court in *U.S. and the Vulcan Society v. the City of New York* in January. His treatise “Employment Discrimination Law and Litigation” was cited in *Russell v. Goodwin* in January and *Stroud v. McIntosh* in December 2011.

FRANKLIN SIEGEL and three co-counsel in *Handschu v. Special Services Division* filed a motion in October seeking discovery following reports by the Associated Press that the New York Police Department monitored religious worship in mosques, “mapped” Muslim communities, and placed undercover personnel in Muslim student groups on private and public university campuses. Such activities may have violated police guidelines adopted under the *Handschu* class-action decree, a federal court order limiting police surveillance of lawful political and First Amendment activity.

RICHARD STORROW’S article “Assisted Reproduction on Treacherous Terrain: The Legal Hazards of Cross-Border Reproductive Care” was published in *Reproductive BioMedicine Online* (2011). His essay “*S.H. v. Austria* Denies Infertile Europeans Human Rights” was published in *BioNews* in January. Storrow’s article “The Pluralism Problem in Cross-Border Reproductive Care” was cited by the dissenting judges in the European Court of Human Rights case *S.H. v. Austria* in November.

SARAH VALENTINE was awarded a fellowship at the National Institute for Teaching Ethics and Professionalism (NITEP) at Georgia State University College of Law in Decem-

ber 2011. Also in December, she presented “When Your Attorney Is Your Enemy: How to Know and What to Do” at the Growing Up Policed: Surveilling Racialized Sexualities conference at the University of Oregon Women’s Center. In November, Valentine presented “Teaching Professionalism at CUNY School of Law” at the Burge Conference on Law and Ethics at Georgia State University. She contributed a chapter titled “Supporting Queer Youth” for the book *Justice for Kids: Keeping Kids Out of the Juvenile Justice System*, published by New York University Press (2011).

DEBORAH ZALESNE presented the paper “Racial Inequality in Contracting” at the Columbia Journal of Race and Law Symposium and co-presented a paper, “Contracting Rights of Non-Traditional Families,” at the Joint Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty (CAPALF)/Northeast People of Color (NEPOC). In addition, she and **DAVID NADVORNEY** recently had their article, “Teaching Issue Spotting Explicitly and Integrating the Skill of Note Taking into a Doctrinal Class,” published as a chapter in the book *Techniques for Teaching Law 2* (published by Carolina Academic Press, 2011). Their article, “Why Don’t They Get It? Academic Intelligence and the Under-Prepared Student as ‘Other’” was also published in *61 Journal of Legal Education* 264.

STEVE ZEIDMAN participated in the Working Group on Experiential Education at the Northeastern University School of Law in September 2011. Also in September, his article “*Padilla v. Kentucky*: Sound and Fury or Transformative Potential” was accepted for publication in the *Fordham Urban Law Journal*.

JEAN ZORN’S “The Paradoxes of Sexism: Proving Rape in the Papua New Guinea Courts” was published in the journal *LawAsia* (December 2010). A follow-up to that article, “Engendering Violence in the Papua New Guinea Courts: Sentencing in Rape Trials,” will be a chapter in the book *Engendering Violence in Papua New Guinea* (Australian National University Press, April 2012).

The City University of New York

CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW

65-21 Main Street
Flushing, NY 11367

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Flushing, NY
Permit No. 517

POSTMASTER, CONTAINS DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY. THANK YOU.

Law in the service of human needs

www.law.cuny.edu

CUNY The City
University
of
New York