

JANUARY 12 SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS

JANUARY 23-25 BRIDGE THE GAP
(CLE Credit Offered)

JANUARY 26 BREAKFAST ROUNDTABLE
"International Competition of Investment
Companies: Is it Domicile and Structure or
Just Taxes?"
SPEAKER: ANDREW J. DONOHUE
Director, Division of Investment Management
US Securities and Exchange Commission

FEBRUARY 27 SYMPOSIUM
"Securities Regulation and Claims Trading"
SPONSORED BY THE *Brooklyn Journal of Corporate,
Financial & Commercial Law*

MARCH 14 PHILADELPHIA ALUMNI RECEPTION
AND FACULTY LECTURE
SPEAKER: PROFESSOR ROBERTA KARMELO
Hosted by Hope and Timothy Ulrich '74

MARCH 22 BOCA RATON ALUMNI BRUNCH
The Polo Club, Boca Raton

MARCH 19 ENDOWED SCHOLARS RECEPTION

MARCH 26 BLSPI AUCTION

MARCH 27 EDWARD V. SPARER PUBLIC INTEREST
LAW SYMPOSIUM
"Getting it Right: Government Involvement in
Housing and Economic Development"
(CLE Credit Offered)

MARCH 31 ABRAHAM POMERANTZ LECTURE
SPEAKER: PROFESSOR BERNARD S. BLACK
Hayden W. Head Regents Chair for
Faculty Excellence

APRIL 14 IRA M. BELFER LECTURE
HONORING PROFESSOR MARGARET BERGER
SPEAKER: JENNIFER MNOOKIN
Vice Dean and Professor of Law,
UCLA School of Law

APRIL 25 ARIZONA ALUMNI RECEPTION
Hosted by Fran and Lawrence Sucharow '75

MAY 14 CLASS REUNIONS
1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989,
1994, 1999, 2004
Chelsea Piers, Manhattan

JUNE 2 COMMENCEMENT
Avery Fisher Hall

BLSLawNotes

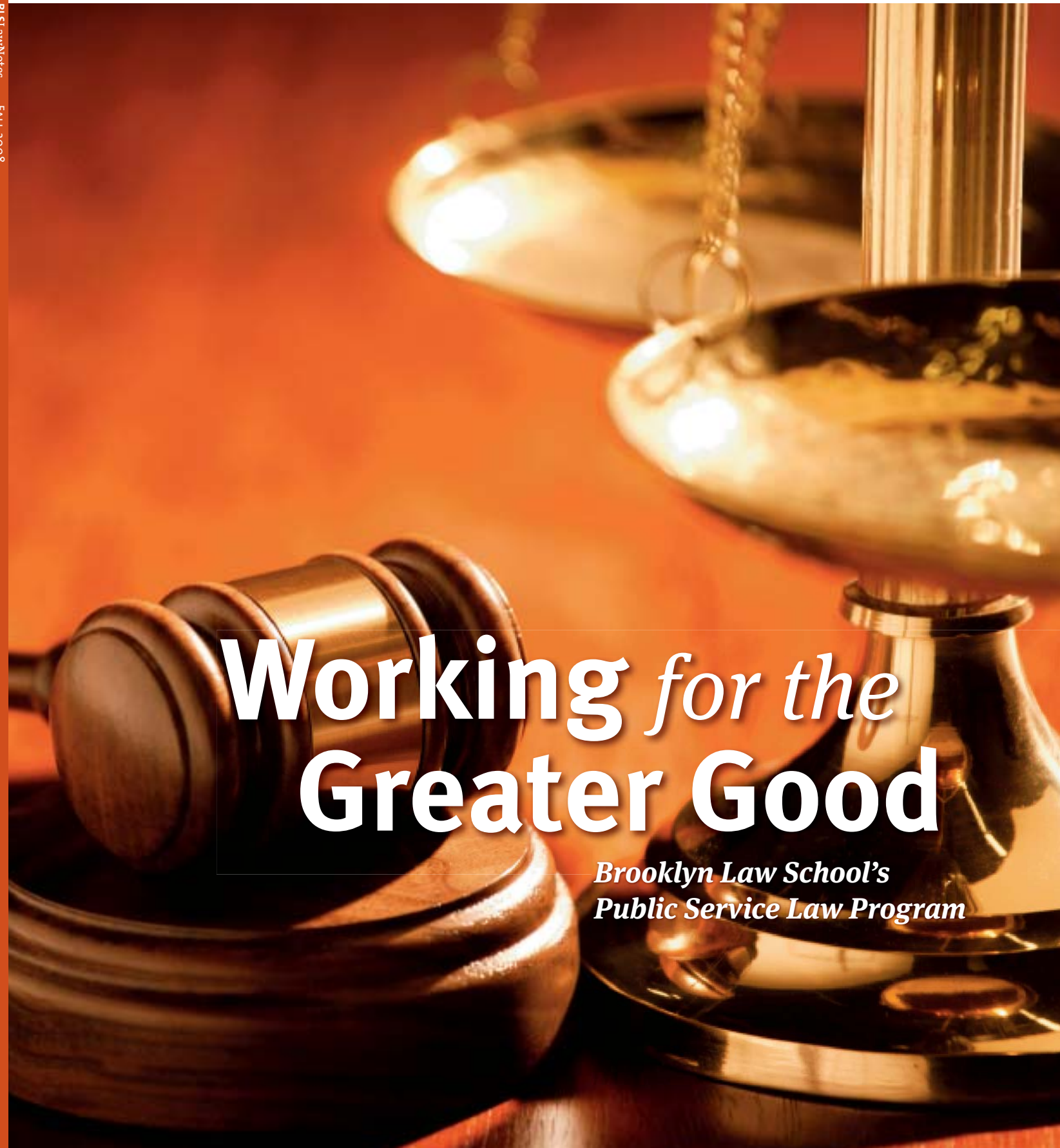
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Working for the Greater Good

*Brooklyn Law School's
Public Service Law Program*

BLSLawNotes

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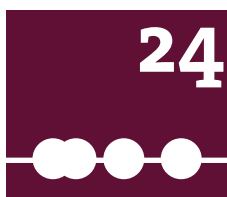
In September 2008, John N. Poulos '01, an associate with Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP in its Jersey City office, won an honorable mention from the International Photography Awards in the architecture category for "Storm" (above). In addition to his practice in litigation, products liability, toxic torts and real estate, for which he was recognized as a "2009 New Jersey Rising Star" by SuperLawyers, Poulos is an avid photographer whose work focuses on architecture and cityscapes. To view more of his work online, please visit www.jnpoulos.com.

FEATURES



Working for the Greater Good

Brooklyn Law School boasts one of the most comprehensive public service law programs in the nation. Every student who wants to explore public service is supported generously. A pioneer in the field, the Law School instills in its students a strong commitment to working for the greater good.



Opinion Specialization: Alive and Well in the Federal Judiciary

Professor Edward K. Cheng explores how opinion specialization is a part of everyday judicial practice and argues that it may achieve many of the benefits of specialized courts without the cost.



New Courses Open New Paths to Success

Opportunities for Brooklyn Law School students to study interdisciplinary and cutting-edge fields abound as the Law School expands its offerings this academic year.

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THE DEAN'S Message



Brooklyn Law School has long occupied a special place in legal education, in part because of its long tradition of preparing students not only for careers in private practice, but also for careers in public service. Indeed, one of the points that I often make to our entering students is that it is not unusual for lawyers to move back and forth between private practice and public service.

Although some students enter law school intent on pursuing a such a career, many develop an interest in public service after they arrive here and come into contact with those of their fellow students who, with substantial financial support from the School and dedicated faculty mentoring, are working with government agencies, NGOs, and public interest law offices here and abroad.

In this issue of *LawNotes*, you will read about several of these students, including one who spent a summer in Thailand, working on community development and child protection issues, another who worked in South Africa on housing and human rights matters, and other who developed a highly successful prototype organization that helps low-income debtors in Brooklyn defend themselves in collection suits. I am sure that you will be as impressed with their extraordinary accomplishments as I am.

In this issue, you will also read about some of the exciting, new, cutting-edge courses that we added to the curriculum this year. Courses such as Climate Change, Electronic Discovery, International Human Rights Advocacy, and Controversies in Corporate Law reflect the fact that being a lawyer requires that one think about legal principles as well as the social, technological, and economic forces that shape them.

This issue also focuses on the work of one of our rising stars, Professor Edward K. Cheng. An authority on scientific, expert, and statistical evidence, Professor Cheng is building an important body of work as a scholar. In this issue, we present a condensed version of his article addressing the thorny issue of whether federal judges should be generalists. He draws a conclusion that may surprise you.

In this period of economic challenge, I am proud to highlight the ways that our students, faculty, and alumni continue to make a positive difference, not just inside the School but all over the world. It fills me with hope and I hope it has the same effect on you.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joan Wexler', written in a cursive style.

Joan G. Wexler

Joseph Crea Dean and Professor of Law

BLS Establishes International Human Rights Fellowship Program

Brooklyn Law School is proud to announce the creation of the International Human Rights Fellowship Program. Each year, this program will offer students a unique opportunity to acquire experience working on international human rights matters during their law school careers in both a work and academic setting.

The International Human Rights Fellowship provides a \$5,000 stipend, plus travel expenses, to work abroad during the summer for a non-governmental or inter-governmental organization. The fellows' work will be supervised by an attorney. Additionally, the fellows will have the opportunity to pursue scholarly research during the academic year under the supervision of a faculty member who is an expert in the field of international human rights. Fellows write a research paper on an international human rights law topic that may be used to satisfy the upper class writing requirement or to become a note for a journal. During the fall, the fellows will report on their summer internships at a luncheon.

The first two fellows, Jared Watkins '09 and Katharine Bodde '09, recently finished their summer fellowships (see page 16). "Jared



and Katharine exemplify the excellence of our students," says Associate Dean Beryl Jones-Woodin, who was instrumental in creating the new fellowships. Several other members of Brooklyn Law School's faculty work with the students during their fellowships, including Professor Stacy Caplow, who is the director of Brooklyn Law School's clinical programs, and Professor Maryellen Fullerton, who has worked closely with the student-run International Law Society to help promote a strong community for students interested in international law. In addition, Professor Samuel Murumba will provide guidance to the students.

For more information on the program, visit www.brooklaw.edu/centers/ihr. □

18th Annual BLSPI Auction Raises Record \$53,000



BROOKLYN LAW STUDENTS FOR THE PUBLIC Interest's 18th annual charity auction was a resounding success. Held at the Law School on March 6, the live and silent auctions combined raised a record-setting \$53,000, which funds summer fellowships for students who want to pursue careers in public interest.

Associate Dean Lawrence Solan started the auction, calling it "the best BLS event of the year." Attendees Geraldo Rivera '69, Gerald Lefcourt '67, and Professor Gerald Shargel '69 donated "Los Tres Geraldos: Dinner at Professor Shargel's Manhattan Apartment." The dinner was the big ticket item of the evening, selling for \$950.

"Everyone really got into the spirit, and our auctioneer worked the crowd hard to ensure we got the highest bid on each item," said Michael Dailey '09, a BLSPI Fellow and co-organizer of the auction.

Among the more than 65 prizes that were a part of the live auction were an Apple iPhone, a helicopter ride over Manhattan, and plenty of BarBri gift certificates. Additionally, all attendees were automatically entered in a raffle for 25 watches.

In a new spin this year, Professor Robert Pitler moderated "Law School Jeopardy" as part of the event. Before the auction began, professors teamed up with students to take on the board and compete for the title of champion. Jeopardy topics included torts, criminal procedure, property potpourri, and much more.

"We really love that students, faculty, alumni, and staff all got involved," said Michael Pope '10, a co-organizer of the event. "It is what makes the auction different." □

International Business Law Symposium Tackles Privatization Trend

The patterns and trends of U.S. capital markets can be both predictable and surprising. Business may follow the calculations set in advance by economists and scholars, or suddenly run in the opposite direction. With the nation's economy in a free fall, formerly booming businesses are now rapidly losing money and searching for solutions that will keep them afloat. One notable development is the move by many companies in the securities industry from the public market to the private.

This change has both influenced and been influenced by policy makers, marked especially by the passage of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. An accounting reform measure designed to protect the investors of public businesses, Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) was drafted in part as a response to large-scale frauds committed by executives at companies like Enron. While it enforces stricter standards on publicly owned corporations, private corporations are completely exempt. Whether SOX is a factor in the current inclination of companies to move to the private market remains an important issue of debate.

The study of this topic, as well as the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, was the basis for the symposium, "The 'Going Private' of U.S. Capital Markets." Held on February 29, the symposium was co-sponsored by the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law, the *Brooklyn Journal of Corporate, Financial & Commercial Law* and the Securities and Exchange Historical Society and was organized by Brooklyn Law School Professor James Fanto.

The first panel, moderated by BLS Professor Roberta Karmel, discussed the general implications of the "going private" phenomenon and the concept of "deregulation," or the decline of retail investors in the market. Panelists talked about the potential risk of privatization on the economy, whether or not it decreased the strength of U.S. competitive markets



BLS Professor James Park (far left) moderated the final panel.

against foreign markets, and the spectrum between completely public and completely private companies, including "going dark," or reducing the number of the corporation's shareholders while allowing the securities to remain available for trade. Conflicting opinions surfaced, including those of Alan Palmiter, a professor at the Wake Forest University School of Law, who argued that despite an influx of money in private markets, public markets are still strong. Others argued that this current trend is likely part of

a common business cycle that transitions from inclinations toward the private market to the public market and back again.

BLS Professor Dana Brakman Reiser moderated the second panel on the more theoretical aspects of privatization transactions, corporate buyouts, and private equity. Panelists William Bratton of Georgetown University Law Center, Larry Mitchell of George Washington University Law School, and Dale Oesterle of the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University

Is this current trend part of a common business cycle that transitions from inclinations toward the private market to the public market and back again?



BLS Professor Dana Brakman Reiser addressed the symposium.

debated heatedly about the advantages and drawbacks of privatization. Professor Bratton, a critic of the going private movement, stated that “values are cash in your pocket, not numbers on the page” — a sharp response to the huge profits made by newly private companies that he argued could not be legitimized until liquidized. Professor Mitchell went so far as to criticize the stock market itself, saying, “The market, in effect, has spun off as an institution from having anything to do with productive finance.”

The final panel addressed the effects of privatization on employees and other non-shareholders. Moderated by BLS Professor James Park, panelists assessed how beneficial this phenomenon could be on not only the top tiers and boards of privatized corporations, but also on the economy and society at large. Kent Greenfield, a Boston College Law School professor, pointed out the protection private companies could provide their employees by insulating them and the

corporations themselves from the pressures of the capital markets. Faith Stevelman and Daniel Greenwood, professors at New York Law School and Hofstra University School of Law, respectively, countered by pointing out various flaws in the switch to the private market: the apparent faddishness of the recent movement, the lack of transparency and sometimes even reliability, and the growth of an even more self-seeking capital market.

Greenwood was perhaps the most outspoken on the failures of privatization, comparing the corruption of the modern corporation to the corruption of empires of the past, which focused on amassing wealth by transference rather than creating wealth through actual production. He ended the symposium’s last question and answer session on a cautionary note, reflecting that we may be “creating a culture of extraction... rather than a culture that values producing things and giving them to the public.” □

Center for Health, Science and Public Policy Lecture Addresses Vioxx Litigation

DAVID MADIGAN, PROFESSOR OF STATISTICS AT COLUMBIA University, presented “The Secrets of Vioxx: Drug Safety and the Drug Development Process” at the Law School on April 10. In the lecture, co-sponsored by the Center for Health, Science and Public Policy, Madigan discussed the anti-inflammatory drug Rofecoxib and its brief life on the market.

Rofecoxib, most commonly known by the brand name Vioxx, was developed by Merck & Co. and approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 1999. Its sales revenue in the United States reached \$2.5 billion, but in September 2004, Merck voluntarily pulled the drug from the shelves due to concerns about increased risk of heart attack and stroke associated with long-term high-dosage use.

Madigan’s talk focused on litigation over the drug in New Jersey and the events leading up to the withdrawal of Vioxx from the market. In addition to teaching at Columbia, Madigan is also editor-in-chief of *Statistical Science* and a fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. □



Symposium Addresses “Partial-Birth Abortion” Ban

The Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act, enacted by Congress in 2003, imposes criminal liability on physicians who perform the procedure of intact dilation and extraction, which is more commonly and controversially referred to as “partial-birth abortion.” In 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court held in *Gonzales v. Carhart* that the Act does not impose an undue burden on women’s right to abortion. Following the Court’s decision, the extent to which the specter of criminal prosecution will influence, or dictate, physicians’ decision-making remains unclear.

Brooklyn Law School held a symposium on March 7 to assess the likely effects of *Carhart*. “The ‘Partial-Birth Abortion’ Ban: Health Care in the Shadow of Criminal Liability” was co-sponsored by the Center for Health, Science and Public Policy and the *Journal of Law and Policy*.

The program began with a discussion by medical practitioners, who covered the Act’s impact on medical practice. Dr. Gillian Dean, Associate Medical Director of Clinical Research and Training at Planned Parenthood of New York City, provided an overview of the context in which abortions are sought. Dr. Katharine J. O’Connell, Assistant Clinical Professor of OB/GYN at Columbia University Medical Center, discussed the different medical and surgical options available to terminate a pregnancy and expressed concern that the vague and undefined language used in the Act leaves practitioners uncertain about what procedures could subject them to criminal liability, thereby limiting women’s options.

Dr. Eleanor Drey, Assistant Clinical Professor of OB/GYN and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California – San Francisco and Medical Director of the Women’s Options Center at San Francisco General Hospital, noted that the Act has led to procedural changes, such as more extensive documentation and fewer observers being permitted in the operating room. She also cautioned that the lack of medical support behind *Carhart*’s majority decision may encourage providers to act in ways that are not based on the best medical evidence available in order to shield themselves from

the possibility of criminal prosecution. Carole Joffe, Professor of Sociology at the University of California – Davis, discussed how the *Carhart* Court appropriated various “talking points” from the contemporary anti-abortion movement, which she argued further legitimates the cultural disdain for abortion providers in the United States. BLS Professor Marsha Garrison moderated the panel.

The second panel, consisting of legal scholars, focused on the legal questions that have arisen as a result of *Carhart*. Talcott Camp, Deputy Director of the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project, discussed the history of abortion-related decisions in the Court, focusing on Justice Kennedy’s reasoning and the Court’s treatment of the decision-making ability of women. Caitlin E.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Dr. Gillian Dean, Associate Medical Director of Clinical Research and Training at Planned Parenthood of New York City (right), and BLS Professor Marsha Garrison (left); Dr. Eleanor Drey, Assistant Clinical Professor of OB/GYN and Reproductive Sciences at the University of California – San Francisco, with symposium attendees; and the second panel, which addressed legal questions that have arisen as a result of *Carhart*.

Borgmann, a professor at CUNY Law School, discussed the Court's approach to legislative fact finding, i.e., those facts regarding recurrent patterns of behavior on which social policy is based, and the role it has played in judicial decision-making in the abortion context.

Priscilla J. Smith, Visiting Fellow of the Information Society Project at Yale Law School and Past Director of the Domestic Legal Program for the Center for Reproductive Rights, who argued *Carhart* before the Court, discussed possible future directions for legal advocates of abortion rights, both in legal

Carhart may reflect only the beginning of the legal issues surrounding the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act.

courts and in the court of public opinion. Finally, Professor David D. Meyer, visiting BLS during the spring semester from the University of Illinois College of Law, spoke about the decision's implications for family law and privacy beyond the abortion context. He noted that an important question arising in the wake of this decision is whether the seemingly greater tolerance for state

intervention signaled a general retreat from principles articulated in earlier cases involving family-related rights, or whether its implications are limited to cases involving abortion. *Carhart* may reflect only the beginning of the legal issues surrounding the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act. As Meyer cautioned, "It would be a mistake to suppose that *Carhart* does not have broader implications." □

38 Teams Compete at Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition

BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL HOSTED THE 23rd Annual Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition on April 5, 2008. The competition honors the late Jerome Prince, renowned evidence scholar, teacher, and author of *Prince on Evidence*, who served as Dean of Brooklyn Law School from 1953 to 1971.

A record 38 teams from around the country competed. Campbell University took first place team and best brief, and Seton Hall University, Southwestern Law School, and University of California at Hastings also placed. Best oralist honors went to students from Michigan State University and Campbell University.

Brooklyn Law School's proud tradition of attracting distinguished jurists to preside over the competition continued this year. The final round argument was held before the Honorable Theodore T. Jones Jr. of the New York State Court of Appeals, the Honorable Paul J. Kelly Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and the Honorable Richard C. Tallman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The case dealt with a federal civil lawsuit against the American distributor of a stuffed plush toy shark manufactured abroad. The question concerned the admissibility of collateral statements that are contained in the same narrative as an admissible hearsay exception for declarations against interest.

The Law School's Prince Writing Team, which prepared the question for the competition, included faculty members Professor Robert Pitler, Professor Mollie Falk, and Professor Margaret Berger. The team also included former students Anna Burns o8', Susan Greene o8', Rachel Kravitz o8', and Ilana Miller o8'. □



2008 first place team from Campbell University, alongside (L-R) Hon. Richard C. Tallman, Hon. Paul J. Kelly Jr., and Hon. Theodore T. Jones Jr.

Sparer Symposium Focuses on Decentralization of Rights

Brooklyn Law School's Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Program hosted its annual symposium on March 28. Titled "Decentralizing Rights: State-Level Strategies to Promote Justice and Equality," the event featured five panels of speakers who debated the tactic of pursuing rights protections in state as opposed to federal courts.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BLS Professor Jason Mazzone, University of California–Irvine School of Law Dean Erwin Chemerinsky, and audience members.

The current U.S. Supreme Court has lowered the federal constitutional floor for cases seeking to protect individual constitutional rights, and many litigators have adapted by taking cases to state court. The day-long Sparer Symposium brought together practitioners and academics from multiple public interest fields to examine the benefits and challenges in working within the state courts and legislatures to pioneer the next generation of rights protections.

BLS Professor Susan Herman, who helped organize the symposium, opened the

program by discussing the Supreme Court's 1976 decision in *San Antonio v. Rodriguez*, which held that the U.S. Constitution did not guarantee a fundamental right to education. During the first panel, "Promoting Equality," speakers discussed state-based approaches to promote educational equity, voter rights and campaign finance reform.

Regarding *Rodriguez*, the panelists acknowledged that the challenge in promoting educational equity has been in enforcement, explaining that courts often remand the question of remedy to the legislature.

They emphasized that cooperation with all branches of state government along with community participation are crucial elements for successful enforcement. The panel also spotlighted the challenge facing national organizations embarking on state-based initiatives. For example, Deborah Goldberg, director of the Brennan Center's Democracy Program, described how the Brennan Center first sought a favorable decision in Washington state on the use of voter registration databases before pursuing action in other states where the practice is more likely to disenfranchise a greater number of people. All three panelists emphasized the need for research that would survey and consolidate state laws and judicial tests.

The second panel, "Promoting Personal Freedom," addressed how LGBT and reproductive rights lawyers have successfully used state-based approaches in furthering civil rights agendas. State Strategies Attorney for the ACLU's Reproductive Freedom Project Sondra Goldschein highlighted how this approach included activities other than litigation, pointing out how the ACLU, in partnership with local organizations, defeated a ballot initiative in 2006 that would have banned abortions in South Dakota. David Buckel, from Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, traced the success of *Lawrence v. Texas*, a landmark 2003 Supreme Court case that struck down Texas' sodomy law, to state level victories that redefined the legal and social landscape in terms of sexuality, privacy and autonomy. Cognizant of limited resources, Buckel explained how Lambda decides which states to proceed in by employing a 100-factor test. BLS Professor Nan Hunter praised the ACLU and Lambda's approaches, which she termed "multidimensional entrepreneurial advocacy," citing as examples the use of new media, sophisticated selection of litigants and narratives, increased use of large law firms, and policy placement in public media and cultural venues.

Practitioners and academics from multiple public interest fields examined the benefits and challenges of working within the state courts and legislatures to pioneer the next generation of rights protections.

The third panel, “Death Penalty Activism,” highlighted the critical role states play in death penalty litigation. George Kendall, senior counsel at Holland & Knight and an adjunct professor at the Law School, opened his presentation by stating, “Our star is rising,” and he spoke optimistically about the prospects for state-level challenges to the use of the death penalty. Both he and Diann Rust-Tierney, executive director of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, emphasized that to succeed, activists must be cognizant of the individual dialogues occurring in different states and should seize upon a diversity of legal arguments and approaches.

The afternoon began with a fourth panel, “Preserving Property Rights.” Dana Berliner, senior attorney with the Institute for Justice, and John Echeverria, executive director of Georgetown University’s Environmental Law & Policy Institute, debated the appropriate role of state-level regulation of eminent domain following the Supreme Court’s 2005 decision in *Kelo v. City of New London*.

The final panel of the symposium, “Promoting New Paradigms,” included Professor Burt Neuborne, legal director of the Brennan Center; constitutional law scholar Erwin Chemerinsky, dean of University of California – Irvine School of

Law; and BLS Professor Jason Mazzone. Reflecting on the first four panels, Neuborne argued that the symposium demonstrates the “highly political nature” and “increased fragility” of rights and pointed out that federal courts still have an important role to play in protecting the “unpopular rights of unpopular people.”

Dean Chemerinsky argued that there are limits to state-focused initiatives, including the financial burdens of proceeding state by state. He concurred with Mazzone’s point that academia should promote doctrinal research rather than generally favoring legal theory. On this point, the final panel echoed the previous speakers who stressed the need for legal academics and law students to research state laws and judicial decisions in order to shed light on the unique challenges and opportunities each state offers activists who are seeking to raise the level of rights protections above the descending federal floor. □

SBA Sponsors Fourth Annual Barrister’s Ball

THE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION’S FOURTH annual Barrister’s Ball was held at Brooklyn’s Steiner Studios Stage 6 on February 23. The studio literally rolled out the red carpet for a crowd of over 550 students, their guests, and faculty members.

During the cocktail hour in a dramatic room with floor-to-ceiling windows that overlooked the Manhattan and Brooklyn Bridges, attendees enjoyed gorgeous views, gourmet hors d’oeuvres, specialty cocktails, and jazz. Expectations were high after the spectacular cocktail hour. Students were anxious to see what was in store for the main event, and they were not disappointed: A gourmet buffet dinner and an energetic DJ ensured that attendees enjoyed the remainder of the evening dancing in a ballroom with dramatic nighttime views of New York City.

The SBA executive board and social committee planned this year’s ball. □



LAW SCHOOL Briefs

Judge George Bundy Smith Delivers Commencement Address

Brooklyn Law School held its 107th Commencement Ceremony on June 4 at Avery Fisher Hall in New York. George Bundy Smith, a former judge of the New York State Court of Appeals, addressed the members of the Class of 2008. Stuart Subotnick '68, chairman of the Law School's Board of Trustees, introduced Judge Smith, and Dean Joan G. Wexler conferred his honorary doctor of laws degree.

In his speech, Judge Smith compared today's legal and civil rights issues with the issues of 1962, when he graduated from Yale Law School. He reminded the audience that although much has changed since his days as a young lawyer in the midst of the civil rights movement, still much remains to be done in the fight for justice and equality. "If progress is to continue," he told the class,

"lawyers must remain at the center of the struggle." Judge Smith emphasized the role of lawyers as community leaders, saying they "must stand and be counted in the pressing issues of the day" because "there will always be people who are looking for others to form a team to carry on anything worth fighting for."

Judge Smith's own role as a community leader began while working as an attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, trying civil rights and demonstration cases in the South. He was born in New Orleans in 1937 and grew up in Washington, D.C. He earned a B.A. and LL.B. from Yale University, as well as an M.A. in political science and a Ph.D. in government from New York University. He began his government service career as a judicial law secretary in the New York State courts and quickly rose to Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department. After presiding there for 20 years, he retired and is now a partner in the law firm of Chadbourne & Parke LLP. □



(Top, right) Judge George Bundy Smith addresses 2008 graduates; (bottom, left) Associate Dean Beryl R. Jones-Woodin with a student; and (bottom, middle) Valedictorian Susan L. Greene.

International Law Society Offers Range of Events

During the past academic year, the International Law Society enjoyed a banner year at Brooklyn Law School. The growing student organization, with over 300 members, held more than 14 events over the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 semesters, including panels, roundtables, and academic and awareness-raising discussions, often in conjunction with other organizations. ILS has also joined and been recognized by the National International Law Students Association, which highlighted the BLS ILS chapter in the spring edition of its newsletter.

The ILS was created to promote awareness, study and understanding of important issues concerning international law. The organization sponsors social activities, symposia, guest speakers, career panels, a newsletter, and an annual United Nations Panel. "One of the great things about the ILS is that it attracts students with a wide range of interests, from human rights abroad to international financial markets, from immigration to climate change," said Max Shterngel '09, one of the new co-chairs of the organization.

Three events held during the Spring 2008 semester represent the range and depth of international law programming that ILS is bringing to students at Brooklyn Law School. In January, David A. Andelman, executive editor of Forbes.com, spoke to students about his new book, *A Shattered Peace*, which examines the powerful lessons of the Treaty of Versailles. In February, ILS hosted a panel discussion titled "Justice Through Accountability," which included three expert practitioners and consultants who shared their experiences working with accountability mechanisms in international law. And in "Suspending the Rule of Law: State of Emergency in Pakistan,"



COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: *David Andelman, Executive Editor of Forbes.com; Hamid Khan, a Supreme Court Lawyer and former President of the Pakistan Supreme Court Bar; Jennifer Trahan, Of Counsel, International Justice Program at Human Rights Watch; Katherine Gallagher, Staff Attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights; and Christine Chung, a Senior Fellow at Yale Law School's Schell Center for International Human Rights*

Hamid Khan, Muneer A. Malik, and Sahibzada Anwar Hamid discussed the crisis in Pakistan from the perspective of Pakistani lawyers who opposed President Musharaff's declaration of a state of emergency and who were arrested in the aftermath.

In addition to sponsoring these events, the ILS published six editions of its newsletter. This past year also marked the ILS's launch of its Global Justice Fellowship program, which sponsors students who pursue work overseas in an area of international or comparative law. The first two Global Justice Fellows, Deidre McGuigan '10 and Seher Khawaja '09, both completed internships in South Africa this past summer (see page 17).

"This year, we look forward to building upon the tremendous success of last year by continuing to bring great speakers to Brooklyn Law School, publishing a monthly ILS newsletter, and fundraising for the ILS Global Justice Fellowship," Shterngel said. □

"This year, we look forward to building upon the tremendous success of last year by continuing to bring great speakers to Brooklyn Law School, publishing a monthly ILS newsletter, and fundraising for the ILS Global Justice Fellowship. ”

MAX SHTERNGEL '09

Legal Lights

Brooklyn Law School students and recent graduates continue to win fellowships and publish articles that reveal the start of bright, new legal careers. This representative group is helping older adults and people with disabilities access affordable health care, is clerking for a Circuit Court of Appeals judge, and is working in health care and environmental law for New York Lawyers for the Public Interest.

Fellowships, Writing Honor Awarded to BLS Students and Recent Graduates

ILENE STEIN '08

Ilene Stein '08 won a fellowship from the Borchard Foundation Center on Law and Aging with the Medicare Rights Center, an organization dedicated to helping older adults and people with disabilities access affordable health care. The fellowship comes with an award of \$39,000.

Stein's fellowship will focus on two areas. In direct client services, she will help people secure Medicare benefits; and in policy analysis and reform, she will address Medicare consumer issues on the state and national levels. She will be working out of the organization's office in Washington, D.C.

Stein recently spent a year at MRC's New York office as a legal clerk handling Medicare Part D appeals cases. "I began to see the obstacles that elderly people face and the importance of helping to improve their quality of life," she said. "In the coming year, I hope to gain greater insight into the issues affecting Medicare beneficiaries in order to advocate for systematic improvements." She credited Professor Karen Porter, Executive Director of Brooklyn Law School's Center for Health, Science, and Public Policy, and Carrie S. Zoubul '06, a previous Borchard fellow, for their encouragement and support during the fellowship application process. During law school, Stein also interned at the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, in the litigation bureau of the New York Attorney General's Office, and for Judge Adlai S. Hardin of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York.

The daughter of alumnus Howard Stein '67 (see page 54), she received her B.A. at Tufts University, and then worked in Washington, D.C. for three years, where she was a correspondence assistant for Senator Barbara Boxer, and an associate at The Dewey Square Group, a political policy and strategy firm. Additionally, she worked as a

"I began to see the obstacles that elderly people face and the importance of helping to improve their quality of life."

— ILENE STEIN '08

consultant to the Children's Health Forum/CHF Action Fund, assisting noted civil rights leader Dr. Benjamin Hooks, founder of the organization and former executive director of the NAACP.

ANNA BURNS '08

Anna Burns '08 was presented with a 2008 Burton Award for Legal Writing in Washington, D.C. in June at the Library of Congress. She was one of 15 students across the country to win a Burton Award. Her winning note, "*Beard v. Banks: Restricted Reading, Rehabilitation, and Prisoners' First Amendment Rights*," was published in the *Journal of Law and Policy* (summer 2007 issue).

"The Burton Award is a real tribute to the high quality of scholarship of our student law reviews," Dean Joan G. Wexler said. "We are pleased that our students continue to be recognized, and we congratulate Anna on her outstanding article." Previous BLS award winners were Marc J. Pensabene '94, Rachel Braunstein '03, and Michael B. Weitman '07.

Burns' note comments on the U.S. Supreme Court's standard of review when assessing prisoners' First Amendment rights. It focuses on *Beard v. Banks*, a 2006 decision concerning inmates in a Pennsylvania prison who were not allowed access to newspapers, magazines, or personal photographs — regulations that prison administrators justified, in part, as "rehabilitation." The Court



Ilene Stein '08

relied upon these justifications, Burns asserts, and barely considered the impact of depriving prisoners of their constitutional freedoms. She criticizes the Court's review and calls for greater scrutiny and narrower tailoring when such crucial rights are at stake.

During law school, she was Executive Notes and Comments Editor on the *Journal of Law and Policy*; took first place in the Duberstein National Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition; and won several CALI awards and a Dean's Recognition Merit

"The Burton Award is a real tribute to the high quality of scholarship of our student law reviews."

— DEAN JOAN G. WEXLER

Scholarship. She also helped write the problem for the Jerome Prince Moot Court Memorial Evidence Competition. She served as a summer associate at Willkie Farr & Gallagher, LLP and as a judicial intern with Judge David G. Trager of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York. She was also a teaching assistant for



Anna Burns '08

Professor Susan N. Herman and a summer intern at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

She began a clerkship this fall with Judge Stanley Marcus of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

JAIME ALONSO '09

Jaime Alonso '09 was awarded the Schulte, Roth & Zabel Fellowship to work at New York Lawyers for the Public Interest for the 2008–09 academic year. Alonso is past co-chair of the Latin-American Law Student Association at Brooklyn Law School and an Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellow.

NYLPI is a not-for-profit civil rights law firm working in the areas of disability rights, access to health care and environmental justice. "I am very impressed with the community lawyering model that NYLPI uses and I am excited to work with its Environmental Justice and Community Development Project assisting environmentally-stressed neighborhoods," Alonso said. He will work at least 15 hours a week and receive a stipend of \$2,000 per semester.

Previously, Alonso interned at Brooklyn Legal Services, Corporation A and the EPA Office of Regional Council, New Jersey Superfund Branch, and clerked at the Law Offices of Suzanne Brown, P.C. in St. Louis, Mo.



Jaime Alonso '09

"I am very impressed with the community lawyering model that NYLPI uses and I am excited to work with its Environmental Justice and Community Development Project assisting environmentally-stressed neighborhoods."

— JAIME ALONSO '09

Earlier in his career, after receiving a B.A. at the University of California at Los Angeles, he returned to his rural hometown of Coachella, Calif. to teach elementary school and volunteer in the community. He established Raices Cultura, Inc., a not-for-profit dedicated to enhancing culture and education in the Hispanic community. Working with another not-for-profit, Inland Congregations United for Change, he helped organize hundreds of residents in a successful campaign to make major capital improvements of parks and fund recreation in Coachella. □



Working *for the* Greater Good

Brooklyn Law School boasts one of the most comprehensive public service law programs in the nation.

Brooklyn Law School's Public Service Law Program helps every student who wants to explore public service attain that experience, whether through an externship, an internship, a clinic, fellowship or a full-time job after graduating. "The Law School has created one of the nation's leading programs to prepare lawyers for public service, and we support it generously," said Dean Joan G. Wexler. "We were pioneers in the field and we have stayed ahead of the curve throughout our history."

For more on Brooklyn Law School's Public Service Law Program, visit us online at: www.brooklaw.edu/publicservice.

Attracting students from around the world, the Law School offers rigorous coursework and clinical experiences, generous funding, and the opportunity to take part in a community of influential scholars, practitioners, advocates and activists. More than three-quarters of all graduates have participated in the Law School's Public Service Law Program, and approximately 20 percent of all graduates choose public interest law or government careers. While not all of the students who participate in the program pursue full-time careers in public service law, many gain a stronger commitment to working in an ongoing way for the greater good.

All Interests Funded

Law students compete vigorously for summer externships at nonprofit organizations and government agencies. Beyond their resume-building benefits, the jobs can offer intense learning and even life-changing experiences. In their evaluations of public service placements, students report that they are immersed, almost from day one, in client contact, research and problem-solving tasks with supervision by dedicated, savvy attorneys.

For example, at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, students were given a significant amount of responsibility for workers' wage-and-hour claims, and immigration and deportation issues. At Brooklyn Legal Services, students analyzed complex issues regarding land trusts and restrictive covenants on behalf of community-based organizations. At inMotion, they helped represent low-income women in matrimonial and other family matters. At the Children's Law Center of Los Angeles, they assisted in the representation of abused or neglected children. And at the National Labor Relations Board, they conducted investigations of charges of unfair labor practices. Students have also worked at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the Civil Rights Bureau of the Attorney General's Office, South Brooklyn Legal Services, and the National Center for Economic Justice, among hundreds of other organizations.

Last academic year, approximately 400 students were able to take advantage of these opportunities even though many employers often do not have the budget to pay law students. The Law School provided a public service grant of up to \$5,000 to every student who wanted to work at a government agency or qualifying nonprofit organization engaged in public interest legal work. "We will not turn down any student who wants a public service externship," said Dean Wexler.

This guarantee applies whether or not a student is eligible to receive federal work-study grants. Some students are funded entirely by Brooklyn Law School. In other instances, work-study funds pay a portion of the student's grant, and either Brooklyn Law School or the employer pays the rest. All students are eligible to apply for a grant. "Students view working in public service as a valuable part of their education and these grants allow them to do so," said Director of Financial Aid Nancy Zahzam. Last year alone, the Law School gave over \$250,000 of its own funds for these grants.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Public Service Grants Program

About **400** students each year receive public service grants.

Fellowships

About **50** students each year are awarded paid fellowships through:

- The Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship Program
- Brooklyn Law Students for the Public Interest (BLSPI)
- International Human Rights Fellowship Program
- International Law Society Global Justice Fellowship Program



Jonathan Sabin '10

PUBLIC SERVICE GRANT

Judicial Internship with Hon. Richard J. Sullivan, U.S. District Court (SDNY)

"I was given an incredible amount of responsibility in drafting an opinion on a federal habeas petition. I also learned by observing court proceedings and discussing cases with the judge and the clerks. Talk about making a difference in the world — they do it in a way that's very inspiring."

A journalist and teacher before law school, Sabin is a staff member of the *Journal of Law and Policy*, participates in the Moot Court Honor Society, and recently won a CALI award, among other honors. He will be a 2009 summer associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett.

International Reach

Two new international public service fellowship programs were launched last summer: The International Human Rights Fellowship, funded by the Law School; and the International Law Society Global Justice Fellowship, through the fundraising efforts of the student-run International Law Society.

The creation of these fellowships expands opportunities for students who have a passion for social justice and want to work beyond the domestic borders. This past summer, more students than ever before worked abroad. One student went to Israel with a group that addressed domestic violence, and in Switzerland, another pressed for bioweapons prevention. Others went to The Netherlands to work on gender justice issues and traveled to Chile to focus on justice studies.

When they returned to campus, several students delivered inspiring talks about their externships. Others wrote articles on the legal issues underlying their work, penned personal essays, blogged on the Law School's Web site at <http://blsx.brooklaw.edu/studentblog> or posted videos on MySpace.

2008 INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS FELLOWS



Katharine Bodde '09
*Community Development
in Thailand*

Katharine Bodde spent her fellowship working with Bridges Across Borders (BAB) in Southeast Asia as an international legal studies intern, helping to implement programs in community development, child protection and education, and community legal education. This NGO was formed to address the root causes of hatred and violence in the world and seeks to address disparities within the communities of developing nations with the overarching goal of promoting human rights. Bodde worked with the Community Legal Education Initiatives Program team at BAB as well as local lawyers, law professors, legal educators, and BAB's NGO partners in Chiang Mai, Thailand and elsewhere in the Southeast Asian region. Bodde, a member of the Human Rights Committee of the International Law Students Association and the International Committee of the Legal Association for Women, said she enjoyed the opportunity to study foreign law. "This fellowship provided an invaluable opportunity to gain practical experience in a different legal culture and community," she said.



Jared Watkins '09
*Accountability for Khmer
Rouge Crimes in Cambodia*

Jared Watkins worked as a legal associate at the Documentation Center for Cambodia (DC-Cam), an organization that promotes awareness of and accountability for crimes committed during the Khmer Rouge era from 1975 to 1979. A resource for the new international tribunal for Cambodia that conducts work related to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia, DC-Cam was established in 2006 to try senior leaders of the Khmer Rouge. Watkins was responsible for reporting daily on proceedings in the Extraordinary Chambers and drafting trial reports that were distributed through daily blogs, listservs and print newsletters. He also prepared educational materials for translation as part of DC-Cam's outreach to Cambodian society in Phnom Penh and beyond. "I was humbled by the opportunity to work with DC-Cam and serve the truth and memory needs of the Cambodian people as they work towards national reconciliation," said Watkins, who is a fellow in the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Program.



Seher Khawaja '09
*Right to Adequate Housing
in South Africa*

Seher Khawaja, a Sparer Public Interest Law Fellow in the summer of 2007, worked in the Grahamstown regional office of the Legal Resources Centre, a nonprofit that addresses discrimination and promotes democratic governance and human rights. In 2008, her focus was on land and housing rights. She worked with the Hogsback village association to secure low-cost housing for its landless population. Its goal was to provide 214 families with homes, but the government had authorized only 50 units. After meeting with several of the landless residents, she wrote an appeal of the government decision. "It was a challenge trying to balance practical land constraints, principles of land planning, environmental conservation priorities, statutory requirements and constitutional rights," she said.



Deirdre McGuigan '10
*Assistance to Refugees and
Asylum Seekers in South Africa*

Deirdre McGuigan's externship in Johannesburg was with one of South Africa's largest NGOs, Lawyers for Human Rights. She worked with the Refugee Rights Project, which focuses on giving legal assistance to refugees and asylum seekers. Last May, as she was about to travel to South Africa, violence against foreign people broke out across the nation. The xenophobic attacks were predominately limited to the townships — impoverished areas outside the city. Over 25,000 people were displaced. "If there ever was a time when refugees and asylum seekers needed legal assistance and someone to advocate on their behalf, this was it," said McGuigan, who decided to continue with her plans. She worked on permanent residence applications, police brutality complaints, research and drafting of status appeals, and social assistance referrals.

Highly Regarded Clinical Program

Brooklyn Law School's highly regarded clinical program, founded over 30 years ago, has grown into one of the country's most diverse, extensive, and comprehensive programs. It has been recognized with numerous awards from the legal community, and the work of BLS students consistently receives high praise from judges and lawyers. Most important, their work earns the deep appreciation of their clients. The students provide high quality legal services in a broad range of legal practice areas, such as bankruptcy, immigration, securities arbitration, criminal prosecution and defense, affordable housing, nonprofit community representation, employment law, and technology law. The clinical program includes nine in-house clinics, three large externship programs, two specialty externships, and six clinics in partnership with outside organizations.

CLINICAL OFFERINGS

IN-HOUSE CLINICS

Capital Defender and Federal Habeas Clinic, Community Development Clinic, Consumer Counseling & Bankruptcy Clinic, Corporate & Real Estate Clinic, Criminal Appeals: Manhattan D.A. Appeals Bureau, Criminal Appeals: Center for Appellate Litigation, Employment Law Clinic, Federal Litigation Clinic: NYC Law Department, Health Law Practice and Policy Externship, BLS-Holland & Knight Pro Bono Project, Brooklyn Law Incubator & Policy (BLIP) Clinic, Mediation Clinic, Prosecutors Clinic: Brooklyn District Attorney, Prosecutors Clinic: U.S. Attorney (EDNY), Safe Harbor Project, Securities Arbitration Clinic, Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts Transactional Law Clinic

CLERKSHIPS

Federal Circuit Courts, Federal District Courts, Bankruptcy Courts, Court of International Trade, State Appellate Courts, State Trial, Family, and Surrogate Courts, and Administrative Law Judges

SELECT EXTERNSHIPS

National Labor Relations Board, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Trade Commission, Internal Revenue Service, The Legal Aid Society, Brennan Center for Justice, Lawyers for Children, Fair Housing Justice Center, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Dramatists Guild, New York State Attorney General, ASPCA, District Attorneys' Offices, and U.S. Attorneys' Offices



Professor Stacy Caplow, Director of Clinical Legal Education, with students.

Longtime Fellowships Flourish

The Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Fellowship Program, launched 23 years ago, is a public service beacon that attracts highly qualified students who engage in concentrated studies and unique externships. The program honors the life and work of the late Edward V. Sparer, class of 1959, a pioneer in the fields of poverty and health law. By placing fellows in summer internships at leading public interest organizations across the United States and abroad, the program inspires students to work for justice, to provide legal services to underrepresented constituencies, and fosters the strong public interest community at Brooklyn Law School. It also holds monthly luncheons on timely issues and sponsors an annual public interest law forum or symposium on critical issues in public interest law. The program's fellows are all mentored by members of the Sparer Faculty Committee as well as alumni fellows.



Rose L. Hoffer Professor of Law Elizabeth M. Schneider, Director of the Sparer Program, with a panel of Sparer Alumni at the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the program.

EDWARD V. SPARER PUBLIC INTEREST LAW FELLOWSHIP RECENT SUMMER PLACEMENTS

Acumen Fund

Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund

Housing Conservation Coordinators

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

Institute for Humanitarian Law

inMotion

The Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division

The Legal Aid Society, Prisoner's Rights Project

Legal Momentum

Local Initiatives Support Corporation

New York Civil Liberties Union, Reproductive Rights Project

Timap for Justice

Urban Justice Center, Domestic Violence Project

Women's Initiative on Gender Justice



"I was fortunate enough to be awarded a BLSPI Fellowship that allowed me to work at the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs. Since I have always been interested in economic justice, this externship really helped set my law school career on the right path." — **John Buhta '09**

John Buhta is a founder of the Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO) Student Action Group, which helps debtors represent themselves effectively in civil court. He has also externed with Enterprise Community Partners, Inc., and the Staten Island Legal Services Homeowner Defense Project, and he was a judicial intern with Hon. Michael H. Dolinger, Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court (SDNY).



"As a Sparer Fellow, I worked at Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A, providing transactional legal assistance to community not-for-profits. As a BLSPI Fellow, I was at the Civil Rights Bureau of the State Attorney General's Office. These experiences gave me new insight into the differing ways the law can be leveraged to increase opportunities for traditionally disempowered people." — **Seth Cohen '09**

Seth Cohen is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Law and Policy*, the winner of three CALI awards, and a member of the Moot Court Honor Society. He plans on using his law degree to work on behalf of low-income communities in New York City.

BROOKLYN LAW STUDENTS FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST (BLSPI)

Brooklyn Law Students for the Public Interest, a student organization at the Law School, was founded in 1990 to help meet the legal needs of underrepresented communities and individuals and to increase opportunities for Brooklyn Law students in the field of public interest law. The BLSPI Fellowships provide many students each year with funding for summer externships. Funds for the fellowships are raised through an exciting auction. BLSPI also organizes symposia and events featuring prominent speakers, and sponsors volunteer fairs, voter registration drives, food drives, and fosters student participation in the annual New York AIDS Walk.



Pro Bono Opportunities Abound

Providing students the opportunity to work with clients in a pro bono capacity is another important part of the Public Service Law Program at Brooklyn Law School. Student groups sponsor events and undertake pro bono projects, charitable drives and other activities.

For example, CLARO, the Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office, is a very successful pro bono project that was created in part through the ingenuity of BLS students. Through CLARO, students advise consumer debtors who are representing themselves in debt collection cases in civil court. Other New York law schools, as well as a Bronx legal aid office, have replicated the program.

Brooklyn Law School's chapter of the Unemployment Action Center has emerged as the largest and most active one in the city. The organization provides free legal representation to unemployed New Yorkers who have been denied insurance and other benefits.

SELECT PRO BONO PROJECTS

CAP

(Courtroom Advocates Project)

Students assist victims of domestic violence to file petitions for orders of protection in Brooklyn Family Court against their batterers.

CLARO

(Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office)

Students work in Brooklyn Civil Court advising consumer debtors regarding their court actions and understanding their other options. Founded by BLS and the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project, the innovative program has been studied and replicated throughout the city.

HIGH SCHOOL FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

Along with Cravath Swaine & Moore and the Red Hook Community Court, law students mentor high school students interested in the law.

LEGAL OUTREACH

At this college-bound program for inner city children, law students teach criminal law to familiarize young students with legal concepts.

PROJECT FAIR

Students provide fair hearing assistance information for those seeking public assistance, food stamps, or Medicaid.

UNEMPLOYMENT ACTION CENTER

Volunteers assist those who have lost their jobs to bridge the income gap until they find other work.

VITA

(Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)

In this program, which is sponsored by the IRS, law students are trained and then help low wage earners to file tax returns.

Faculty Leaders in Public Service

Brooklyn Law School's faculty has a strong commitment to public service. Many members of the faculty play leading roles at nonprofit and advocacy organizations around the world; others have held important positions in government; and many take an active role instilling their students with a passion for helping communities and the underserved. The faculty includes experts on such issues as the death penalty, refugees and asylum, children's rights, art law and intellectual property, international human rights, employment law, public sector real estate issues, gender law, and civil rights.

The adjunct faculty comprises many prominent practitioners — judges and government leaders; heads of legal service organizations and private law firms committed to pro bono service; district attorneys and public defenders; and leaders of foundations, nonprofits, public interest groups and NGOs. As just one example, Charles “Joe” Hynes, the Kings County District Attorney, has taught trial advocacy at the Law School for years as an adjunct professor.

SELECT FULL-TIME FACULTY

Ursula Bentele is a nationally recognized expert on death penalty issues. She has argued numerous death penalty appeals, and is the author of *Capital Case Sentencing: How to Protect Your Client*. She was the recipient of the New York City Bar's Thurgood Marshall Award given to outstanding attorneys who have represented those sentenced to death. She directs the Capital Defender and Federal Habeas Clinic, which provides students with the opportunity to participate in the post-conviction representation of death row inmates in other states and defendants in New York who have filed federal habeas corpus petitions.

Stacy Caplow is the director of the Law School's Clinical Education Program and co-director of the Safe Harbor Project. A leader in the field of clinical legal education, she received a Fulbright award in 2006 and spent the semester at University College Cork of Law, where she helped to augment the clinical curriculum for LLB and LLM students, and worked with a local refugee center in conjunction with an immigration law course she taught. She also spent a semester at the University of Hong Kong helping to establish its first legal clinic.

William Hellerstein teaches criminal procedure, constitutional law, and a seminar on wrongful convictions. For many years, he led the Law School's Second Look Program, which investigated and litigated claims of innocence by prisoners. He has been honored by the New York State Bar Association with an award for “Outstanding Contribution to the Delivery of Defense Services” and by the New York Civil Liberties Union for his contribution to the cause of civil liberties. He served for many years as Special Counsel for Pro Bono Matters at Proskauer Rose, LLP, where he coordinated its pro bono program. Prior to joining the faculty, he ran the Legal Aid Society's Criminal Appeals Bureau for 16 years.

Beryl Jones-Woodin specializes in copyright law, art law, intellectual property, and professional responsibility. She is also Associate Dean for Student Affairs. Applying her expertise to further the public good, Professor Jones-Woodin is on the board of directors of Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and the board of directors of the Westchester Children's Museum.

Aliza Kaplan is on the National Executive Board of Equal Justice Works. She is an advisor to BLS's Student Hurricane Network organization, and in 2007, she was the group's attorney-supervisor during its trip to the Gulf Coast over the winter break, where the students worked on criminal matters with the public defender's office. Prior to teaching, she was the deputy director of the Innocence Project, an organization dedicated to identifying, investigating and exonerating wrongfully convicted individuals using DNA evidence. She also co-founded the New England Innocence Project, which focuses on high impact advocacy in the courts, providing exonerees with assistance in readjusting to the outside world.

Samuel Murumba teaches and writes in the fields of intellectual property and international human rights. A refugee who fled the regime of Ugandan dictator Idi Amin, he continues his lifelong commitment to human rights, serving on the Board of Directors of Human Rights Watch, and on the Board's Policy Committee. In addition, he serves on the Advisory Boards of both its

Women's Rights and Africa Divisions and has served as a member of the Committee on Human Rights of the New York City Bar. He is an Advocate of the High Court of Uganda and of its subordinate courts.

Robert Pitler, an expert on criminal law and procedure, had a successful career in public service before joining the faculty. He was Counsel to the New York County District Attorney and Chief of the Office's Investigations Division and Chief of the Appeals Bureau. He has been twice honored by the New York State Bar Association for "Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Criminal Law Education" and "Outstanding Contribution in Criminal Justice Legislation." He currently serves as chair of the New York State Law Revision Commission.

David Reiss' scholarship concentrates on real estate issues in the nonprofit, government and community sectors. In particular, he is noted for his research on the subprime secondary mortgage markets. He directs the Brooklyn Law School's Community Development Clinic, which represents community

development corporations, cultural institutions, affordable housing providers and small businesses that serve under-represented communities. He serves on several local community boards.

Elizabeth Schneider is the director of the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest law Fellowship Program. She is a national expert in the fields of federal civil litigation, procedure, gender, law and domestic violence. She was recently honored by The New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence as one of 30 leaders making a difference in the lives of survivors of domestic violence. She served as a consultant for the Secretary-General's Report on All Forms of Violence Against Women, which was submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations in 2006.

Professor Susan Herman Elected President of ACLU



Professor Herman (right) receives gavel from former ACLU President Nadine Strossen.

Brooklyn Law School Centennial Professor of Law Susan Herman was elected president of the American Civil Liberties Union on October 18. She is a well-regarded expert on the U.S. Supreme Court and constitutional law. As ACLU president, Herman will preside over an 83-member board of civil libertarians, consult with the ACLU executive director on major decisions, and act as an ACLU spokesperson.

She began working for the organization over 25 years ago when she was still in law school at NYU. During her long tenure with the ACLU, she has served on its national board, on the executive committee, and has acted as the board's general counsel for the last 10 years. In addition, Herman has served on multiple ACLU committees and subcommittees, written many Supreme Court amicus briefs for the organization, lobbied Congress for ACLU positions, and served as a public spokesperson for the organization in a variety of contexts.

As a specialist in constitutional law, Herman has written books and numerous articles on civil liberties issues, including the due process rights of prisoners, the Patriot Act, the Fourth Amendment, socioeconomic rights and equality, and the First Amendment. She regularly appears as a commentator on constitutional issues in the media.

Curriculum Ranges Wide

Brooklyn Law School provides students with a dynamic curriculum that integrates legal doctrine and analysis, emphasizes strong lawyering skills, and provides a firm grounding in ethical and professional responsibility. There are more than 40 courses and seminars offered in public service law. New offerings in specialized areas are continually added. For example, Climate Change, Economic Development and Human Rights is a new course that will examine the legal mechanisms to help the international community confront the widespread impact of climate change in developing countries. In the new Transactional Law/Community Development Externship, students are placed in nonprofits and community-based organizations around the New York area. They represent community groups in such matters as gaining tax-exempt status, incorporating, negotiating leases, and developing governing boards and contracts.

Outside the classroom, students have many opportunities to learn about public service law. Every year the academic calendar is studded with symposia and events with topics of interest to the public policy field. Just this past year, the Sparer Program sponsored a symposium on state-level strategies to promote justice and equality. Other symposia or forums addressed the closure of New York hospitals, practicing health care in the shadow of criminal liability, and international corporate liability for human rights violations.

SELECT NEW PUBLIC SERVICE COURSES

- Advanced Condominium & Cooperative Externship Clinic
- Animal Rights Law
- Climate Change, Economic Development and Human Rights
- For-Profit/Nonprofit Boundary
- Housing Law, Policy and Finance
- Immigration and Work
- Immigration Law: Advanced Problems
- Ideas of the First Amendment
- International Human Rights Advocacy
- Sentencing Law Seminar
- Transactional Law/Community Development Externship Clinic
- Wrongful Convictions Seminar

Career Guidance and Beyond

The range of opportunities for Brooklyn Law School students who are interested in public service is broad. The Career Center provides expert guidance in securing positions in government or public interest law. More than 20 years ago, the Law School recognized the importance of devoting resources to a dedicated position counseling students interested in public interest law and developing internship and postgraduate opportunities. It was one of the first in the nation to do so. Today, the Law School's Public Service Office offers individual counseling and information on summer and academic year externships, pro bono opportunities, community service, student fellowships and funding, postgraduate fellowships, and employment opportunities. The Office also assists with job search strategies and sponsors workshops, luncheons, pro bono fairs, networking events, and alumni panel presentations, and it publishes a biweekly newsletter that updates the Law School community on public service opportunities. □



Elizabeth Kane, *Director of the Public Service Office*

Approximately 20% of all graduates choose public interest law or government careers.

POSTGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS INCREASING



From left to right: Ted De Barbieri '08, Nikki Prenoveau '08, Amanda Rogers '08, and David Stern, CEO of Equal Justice Works, at the 2008 Equal Justice Works Awards Dinner, October 16, 2008 in Washington, D.C.

De Barbieri, Prenoveau, and Rogers are beginning public interest law post-graduate fellowships with the support of Equal Justice Works programs. Prenoveau is developing green building practices at Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A, and is sponsored by AIG and Sullivan and Cromwell LLP. Rogers is an Equal Justice Work AmeriCorps Legal Fellow at the Louisiana Bar Foundation helping law students participate in pro bono work. And De Barbieri is helping small business and worker-owned cooperatives organize at the Community Development Project of the Urban Justice Center, sponsored by Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP.

Brooklyn Law School students and graduates are securing prestigious fellowships in increasing numbers. Since 2004, Brooklyn Law School graduates have been awarded:

- 3 Skadden Fellowships
- 2 Borchard Fellowships
- 1 Echoing Green Fellowship
- 2 Menapace Fellowships
- 4 Equal Justice Works Fellowships
- 1 Fulbright Scholarship
- 2 Fried Frank-inMotion Fellowships
- 1 Lexis-Nexis Fellowship

LOAN FORGIVENESS FOR PUBLIC SERVICE LAWYERS

Brooklyn Law School was one of the first law schools to enable its graduates to pursue public interest careers without an undue burden of educational debt. Since 1990, the BLS Loan Repayment Assistance Program has provided over \$2.4 million in loan forgiveness to support graduates who chose to work in public interest organizations following graduation.

In addition to BLS's LRAP Program, graduates who work in public service for a period of ten years will benefit from the new College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA). Under this Act, graduates who have made monthly payments on a Direct Loan during this time can have their loans forgiven.

Together, these programs will allow many more lawyers with a deep commitment to ensuring access to justice for all citizens to enter public service.

SELECT PUBLIC SERVICE PLACEMENTS OF RECENT GRADUATES

- The Legal Aid Society—Juvenile Rights, Criminal Appeals, Prisoners' Rights, Criminal Defense
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- Center for Constitutional Rights
- NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund
- Amnesty International
- ACLU National Task Force on Civil Liberties in the Workplace
- Human Rights First
- Legal Momentum (NOW LDEF)
- Offices of the District Attorney—throughout NYC and its suburbs
- United States Department of Justice
- Offices of the United States Attorney
- New York City Law Department
- New York State Attorney General's Office
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission

Opinion Specialization

Alive and Well in the Federal Appellate Judiciary

“Opinion specialization” is an unmistakable part of everyday judicial practice and may actually achieve many of the benefits of specialized courts without incurring their costs.

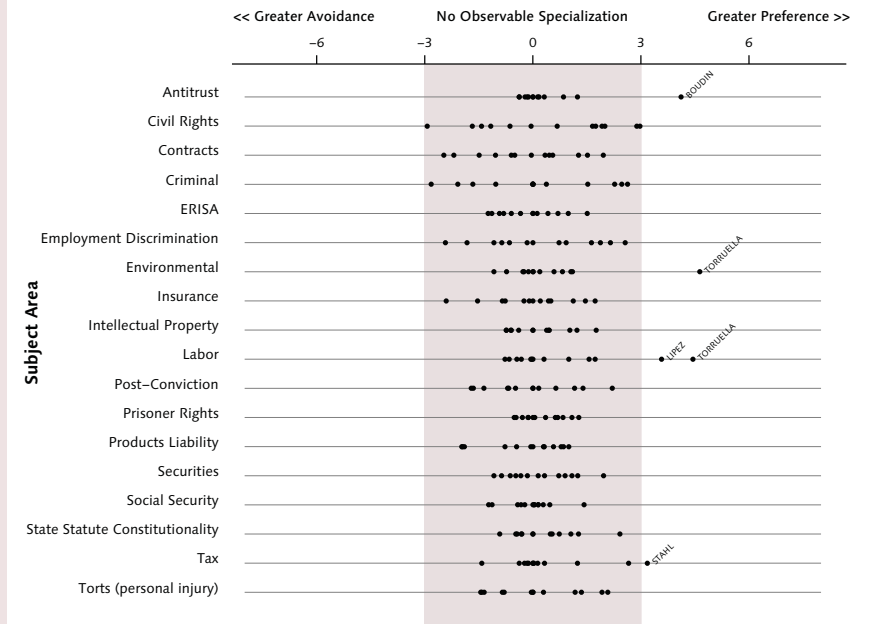
by Edward K. Cheng

In accord with traditions celebrating the generalist judge, the federal judiciary has consistently resisted proposals for specialized courts. Outward support for specialization, if it exists at all, is confined to narrow exceptions such as bankruptcy and tax.

The romantic image of the generalist, however, is not without its costs. It deprives the judiciary of potential expertise, which could be extremely useful in cases involving complex doctrines and specialized knowledge. It also undermines efficiency, a goal that is difficult to ignore in an era of crowded dockets and overworked jurists. Indeed, many state courts have increasingly turned to specialization or a subject-matter rotation system for these reasons, yet the federal judiciary remains unflinching.

But is it really? Despite the frequent rhetoric against specialization, an empirical look at opinion assignments in the federal courts of appeals from 1995–2005 reveals “opinion specialization” to be an unmistakable part of everyday judicial practice. In short, the generalist judge is largely a myth. But while some may deplore this subversion of a long cherished judicial value, the development may indeed be a beneficial one. As it turns out, opinion specialization may actually achieve many of the benefits of specialized courts without incurring their costs.

FIGURE 1
Subject matter specialization,
First Circuit, 1995–2005



Opinion Assignment

One way of studying judicial attitudes toward specialization is to observe if judges become specialists when given the chance. Random case assignment eliminates most such opportunities, but the process of opinion assignment provides a rare instance in which federal circuit judges can specialize in certain subjects.

To construct the dataset used in this study, I combined the Federal Judicial Center’s well-known Federal Courts database and a database extract generously provided by Thomson West. The resulting dataset included all opinions written between 1995 and 2005 in the United States Courts of Appeals for all circuits except the Federal Circuit. To detect instances of specialization, I modeled the number of expected opinions that a judge should write in each subject area given that judge’s caseload and the circuit’s overall docket patterns. The expected frequencies were then compared against the actual frequencies using Pearson (standardized) residuals.

The figures below graphically summarize the most likely instances of specialization in the First, Seventh, and DC Circuits. Each horizontal line represents a subject matter, or in the case of the DC Circuit, an agency being reviewed. Each dot represents a judge-subject pairing. For purposes of the study, residuals with absolute values above three were defined to indicate instances of specialization, with positive values showing preference and negative values showing aversion.

Many Judges Specialize

As the graphs show, specialization appears to be alive and well in the federal appellate judiciary. Opinion assignments are not randomly distributed, and frequently the rate at which certain judges write in a subject area is highly disproportionate to their colleagues.

One important question is whether these results might occur purely as a matter of chance. After all, with so many judge-subject pairings, some statistical outliers are inevitable. A number of reasons, however, suggest that some non-random phenomenon is at work. For one, statistical simulations suggest that under random opinion assignment conditions, residuals greater than 3.0 are exceedingly rare. For example, for the Seventh Circuit under random assignment, we statistically expect to see less than two residuals greater than 3.0. Instead, Figure 2 shows 24 such instances.

In addition, many of the specific instances of specialization make intuitive sense based on the judges’ backgrounds. For example, Judge Michael Boudin of the First Circuit, a former deputy assistant U.S. attorney general in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, writes a disproportionate number of antitrust cases. Judge Frank Easterbrook of the Seventh Circuit, known for his academic work in

antitrust and corporate law, appears to specialize in antitrust and securities regulation. On the DC Circuit, Judge Harry Edwards, who was a labor law scholar and arbitrator, specializes in labor cases. Judge Douglas Ginsburg, who specializes in Federal Communications Commission (FCC) cases, is a long-time author of a casebook on telecommunications law, and Judge Stephen Williams, who specializes in Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) cases, is formerly an oil and gas law professor.

The explanation for these specialization patterns is likely an amalgam of factors, including individual preferences (both conscious and unconscious), internal court dynamics, and caseload pressures. Experts may prefer cases in their fields of choice not only because they are more interesting, but also because they can write opinions more efficiently and with less concern about errors. Similarly, non-experts may be willing to defer given that specialized subjects may appear less interesting, more time-consuming, and rife with potential pitfalls.

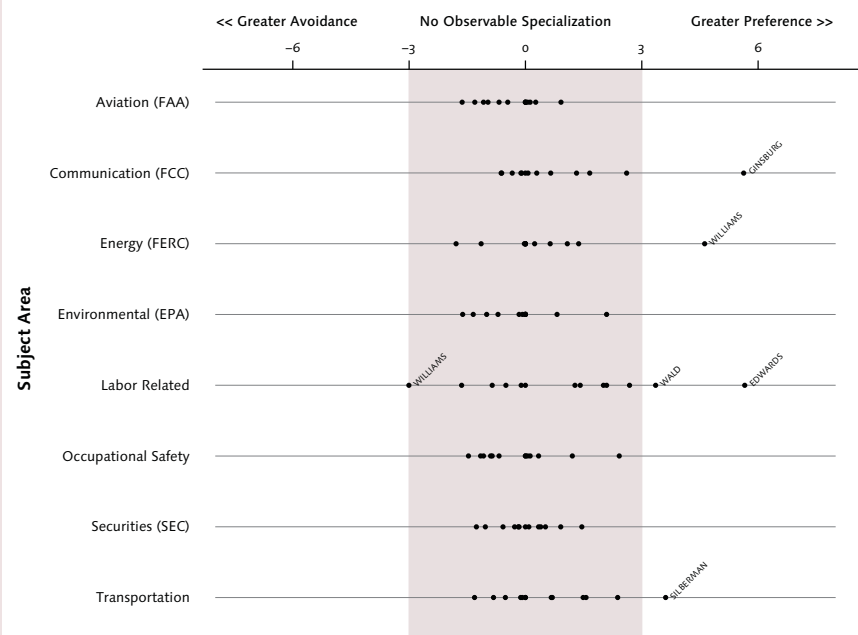


FIGURE 3
Agency specialization,
D.C. Circuit, 1995–2005



Professor Edward K. Cheng is an authority on scientific, expert, and statistical evidence. He is co-author of the five-volume treatise *Modern Scientific Evidence*, and his work regularly appears in law reviews around the country. Cheng holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he was the Articles, Book Reviews & Commentaries Chair of the *Harvard Law Review*. He also holds a B.S.E. in Electrical Engineering from Princeton and an M.Sc. in Information Systems from the London School of Economics, where he was a Fulbright Scholar. Prior to joining the Brooklyn Law School faculty, he clerked for Judge Stephen F. Williams of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, and he was the Searle Fellow at Northwestern University School of Law. He currently serves as the secretary and chair-elect of the Section on Evidence of the American Association of Law Schools.

A Mechanism for Reform

On a final note, it bears mentioning that beyond merely a quirky practice among a subset of judges, opinion specialization offers a new avenue of reform for those who have long argued for specialized courts. For proponents of specialization, the most important attribute of opinion specialization is that it is modest. It does not require a radical restructuring of the federal courts or an act of Congress. Instead, it can develop informally and incrementally through everyday judicial practice, a critical advantage whenever actors are wedded to the status quo. Faced with enormous caseloads and increasingly complex cases in specialized areas, judges will opt for opinion specialization simply because it is a convenient and useful way for the judiciary to help itself.

Whether solution or affliction, opinion specialization reveals an unexplored tension in the federal judiciary. Circuit judges appear to be more conflicted on the issue of specialization than the frequent posturing might initially suggest. Exposing this fault line will hopefully encourage judges and commentators to reexamine their attitudes toward specialization. After all, archetypes like the generalist judge are powerful mental images that constrain the imagination. Dispelling the myth may therefore liberate jurists and reformers alike from their traditional boxes. □

This article is a reprint of a forthcoming piece in *Judicature*, which is an abridged version of "The Myth of the Generalist Judge," a forthcoming article in the *Stanford Law Review* (2009). A draft of the complete article that includes all footnotes and acknowledgements is available at www.edwardcheng.com.



NEW COURSES *open* NEW PATHS *to* SUCCESS

Opportunities to Study Interdisciplinary and Cutting-Edge Fields Abound

In the 2008–09 academic year, Brooklyn Law School added 31 new courses to its curriculum. The new courses reflect the Law School’s approach to building its curriculum on two fronts: increasing experiential learning for upper level students, whether by representing real clients or by working through specially-designed simulations; and providing advanced courses and seminars through which students may engage in the analytical rigor of in-depth study. The new courses are being taught by a mix of new and established members of Brooklyn Law School’s faculty, visiting faculty, federal judges, and practitioners whose experience makes their courses especially valuable to law students.

“We are proud to bring more and more elite educational opportunities to our student body,” says Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Lawrence Solan. “In-depth study of the most important legal issues of our time will prepare our students to become the profession’s next generation of leaders.”

Because it is attuned to the evolving needs of its students and the society they will serve, Brooklyn Law School will continue to add courses that employ innovative teaching techniques that augment traditional course offerings with instruction in emerging areas of law. “Our goal is to bring the highest level of educational experience to our students,” says Solan. “These new courses are making this an exciting time to be here.”

Seminars Offered in Cutting-Edge Topics

Seminars give students a way to explore complex legal issues in a setting that allows intimate discussions and one-on-one feedback from their professors. These courses, which are typically limited to 20 students, delve more deeply into specific topics and also offer students the opportunity to refine their writing skills. The new seminars reflect the school's commitment to exposing students to emerging fields in the study of law.

Professor Dana Brakman Reiser is offering a course titled For-Profit/Nonprofit Boundary, which she developed in order to explore some of the ground-breaking issues her scholarship addresses.

"In this course, we are investigating phenomena that blur the boundary between for-profit and nonprofit," explains Brakman Reiser. "For example, a for-profit hospital converting to nonprofit is a social enterprise with the dual goal of making a profit and doing social good." Students examine whether there are "universals" in such conversions which in turn leads to the question of how the law should respond to these trends. Brakman Reiser says the students, many of whom have experience working in both for-profit and nonprofit environments, appreciate the cutting-edge nature of the course. And she is also learning from the interaction with her students. "Through this seminar, I am learning more about the phenomena, too, which is leading to ideas about broader theoretical questions I can address in my work," she says.

Securities expert Professor James Fanto explores timely issues in the securities industry in his Broker/Dealer Regulations Seminar. The seminar also addresses how securities markets are regulated — an area that attracts more and more interest as the U.S. economy continues to struggle and legal experts are called in to right the ship.

The Law School's new Wrongful Convictions Seminar explores the factors that contribute to the conviction of men and women later proven to be actually innocent. These include eyewitness misidentification, false confessions, ineffective assistance of counsel, the excessive use of jailhouse informants, police and prosecutorial misconduct, junk science, and forensic fraud. Potential reforms and government treatment of persons after they have been exonerated will also be addressed. Professor William Hellerstein, an expert in criminal law and constitutional litigation, is teaching the course.

Another new seminar, Law and the Brain, applies insights from the mind and brain sciences to questions of law and policy. Discussion topics include issues of traditional notions of responsibility and how they apply to legal concepts such as retributive punishment and the insanity defense. Legal and ethical issues raised by emerging technologies — such as the use of pharmaceuticals that enhance memory and cognition beyond our natural abilities, and the use of brain imaging evidence in the courtroom — are also addressed. The seminar is taught by

NEW COURSES

Advanced Condominium & Cooperative Externship Clinic
Animal Rights Law
Brooklyn Law Incubator and Policy Clinic (BLIP)
Climate Change, Economic Development and Human Rights
Comparative Contract Law Seminar
Controversies in Corporate Law Seminar
Electronic Discovery and Evidence Workshop
Evidence Workshop
For-Profit/Nonprofit Boundary
Housing Law, Policy and Finance
Intellectual Property Colloquium
Immigration and Work
Immigration Law: Advanced Problems
Ideas of the First Amendment
International Commercial Arbitration Seminar (VIS)
International Human Rights Advocacy
Issues in Broker/Dealer Regulations Seminar
Law and the Brain Seminar
Legislative Process Seminar
Litigating a Patent Case
Payment Systems
Perspectives in Legal Analysis I and II
Real Estate Finance Workshop
Real Estate Public/Private Initiatives Seminar
Representing Health Care Facilities
Seminar on the Trial Jury
Sentencing Law Seminar
Strategic Applications of Federal Jurisdiction Seminar
Tax Policy Seminar
Transactional Law/Community Development Externship Clinic
Wrongful Convictions Seminar

Visiting Associate Professor of Law Adam J. Kolber from the University of San Diego.

This spring, a Comparative Contract Law seminar will explore the theoretical foundations of contract law by drawing on the resources of different legal systems. Taught by Assistant Professor of Law Robin Effron, the seminar's primary sources of study are the common law tradition represented by the United Kingdom and the United States, and the civil law tradition represented by Germany and France. Effron taught a similar course at the University of Chicago Law School prior to joining Brooklyn Law School this semester.

Also in the spring, Associate Professor Steven Dean, a tax expert at the Law School, will teach a Tax Policy Seminar, a new course designed to explore the policy concerns and the political process that have produced the U.S. income tax and the international tax regime. Topics will include fundamental tax reform, tax expenditures, tax shelters, tax treaties, ethical concerns, privacy, and lobbying.

Federal Judges Add to Seminar Offerings

Brooklyn Law School's proximity to the federal courts has long enabled the school to draw federal judges to the classroom. U.S. District Court Judge Carol Amon, of the Eastern District of New York, will teach a new Sentencing Law Seminar, which examines the complexities and challenges presented by the federal sentencing system.

U.S. District Court Judge Brian Cogan, also of the Eastern District of New York, offers the Strategic Applications of Federal Jurisdiction Seminar, an advanced seminar in civil procedure that gives students interested in complex litigation an intensive experience analyzing the strategies lawyers use to place their cases.

And U. S. District Court Judge Eric Vitaliano of the Eastern District is teaching a Legislative Process Seminar. Students in this

seminar explore legal issues that arise in the legislative branch, including the role of lobbyists, ethical constraints on legislators, campaign finance regulation, and privileges granted to legislators. The course also addresses how different perspectives on the legislative process might influence the philosophies of judges in their roles as statutory interpreters.

IP and Technology Courses Grow to Meet Demand

Brooklyn Law School is emerging as a leader in intellectual property and technology. New courses designed to build skills in those areas are in high demand with students.

Jason Mazzone, an associate professor at Brooklyn Law School with expertise in both constitutional law and intellectual property, is teaching an Intellectual Property Law Colloquium for the first time this fall. The colloquium offers students the opportunity to engage with cutting-edge scholarship on issues of copyright, trademark, and patent law. Structured around a series of weekly guest speakers who present papers, the class requires that students read the papers in advance, prepare questions, and participate actively in the discussion. Other Brooklyn Law School professors have used the colloquium format, including Professors Edward Cheng, Christopher Serkin, David Reiss, and Associate Dean Solan.

Mazzone says the idea for the new course grew from another IP seminar he taught last year that addressed how the old rules of intellectual property law apply to the new forms of data that have appeared in the digital age. "There is a great demand for IP courses here," he notes. "We built the colloquium on the success of the last course."

He says that the format of the IP Law Colloquium is more like a faculty workshop than a typical law course, and that presenters and students alike have responded to the course with overwhelming enthusiasm. "These are students who have an IP background, so the conversations about the papers have been great," Mazzone says. He is even co-authoring his next law review article with Matthew Moore '09, a student from the colloquium. Scheduled to be published in late 2008 in the *Wasburn Law Journal*, the article, "The Secret Life of Patents," critiques the role of trade secrets law in the digital age.

Other new courses are being offered to satisfy student demand for IP courses. Newly hired Assistant Professor Derek Bambauer is teaching a course on Internet law and a seminar on topics in intellectual property. Bambauer, a former principal

"There is a great demand for IP courses here. We built the colloquium on the success of the last course."

—Professor Jason Mazzone



Victoria Cheng '09 and Julia Levin '09 (left to right) lead a class discussion on corporate social responsibility in Professor Brakman Reiser's For-Profit/Nonprofit Boundary Seminar.

systems engineer at Lotus Development Corp., spent two years as a research fellow at the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard Law School, where he received his J.D. Associate Professor of Clinical Law Jonathan Askin, who also began teaching this fall, is offering a telecommunications law course and a clinic called Brooklyn Law Incubator & Policy (BLIP), a unique course that functions like a law firm representing Internet, new media, communications, and other tech entrepreneurs and innovators on both business and policy advocacy. Askin, with more than a decade of experience as a practicing attorney in the communications industry in both the public and private sectors, played a key role in the technology task force of President-elect Barack Obama's campaign. Two partners at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, Leslie Gordon Fagen and Andrew G. Gordon, are teaching *Litigating an IP Case*, in which students follow the evolution of a trademark litigation in federal court from inception to the eve of settlement or trial. In the spring semester, two partners from Baker Botts, Gary Butter and Eliot Williams, will teach *Litigating a Patent Case*, which is similarly structured.

Courses of Immediate Social Importance Expanding

Reflecting the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of the study of law, other courses combine emerging areas such as housing and finance, climate change and human rights, and immigration and work.

For instance, *Climate Change, Economic Development and Human Rights* examines the legal mechanisms and institutions that are currently available, or are proposed, to help the

international community confront the widespread impacts of climate change. The course, taught by Stephen Kass, a partner at Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP, focuses on the roles that lawyers, courts and other national and international institutions can play in mitigating or adapting to climate change while preserving or enhancing economic development, protecting local and global environments, and respecting internationally recognized human rights.

Federal, state and local governments have long struggled to formulate effective and efficient ways to encourage the private sector to create a sufficient supply of housing for low- and moderate-income people, the homeless, and those with special needs. Students in the new *Housing Law, Policy and Finance* course are studying the relative advantages and disadvantages of the different tools available to intervene in the housing markets, including subsidization, regulation of financial institutions, government sponsored enterprises, zoning, and regulation of lands and rents. The course is taught by Arlo Monell Chase, who is senior vice president for policy initiatives at the Housing Finance Agency and Mortgage Agency of the State of New York.

Bolstering its position on the cutting-edge of health care law, Brooklyn Law School is now offering *Representing Health Care Facilities*, a course that explores the modern health care facility as a complex organization that has numerous relationships with a vast array of stakeholders. Taught by Salvatore Russo, who serves as deputy counsel at the New York City Health & Hospitals Corporation, the course gives students a practical perspective on the issues facing lawyers who represent health care facilities.

As the issue of illegal immigration continues to dominate the political and social landscape in the United States, lawyers who specialize in immigration law are becoming more and more valuable in the legal marketplace. *Immigration and Work* offers students at Brooklyn Law School the opportunity to focus on the immigration laws of the United States and their intersection with issues involving employment, policy, and the role of the immigration lawyer. The course also offers a practical component in which students engage in some of the aspects of employment immigration practice.



Guest presenter Martin Schwimmer speaks with Heather Weiner '08 and Matthew Moore '09 after class in the Intellectual Property Law Colloquium. Schwimmer, who is of counsel to the law firm of Moses & Singer and author of *The Trademark Blog*, spoke to the class about the recent decision by U.S. District Judge Richard J. Sullivan (SDNY), in *Tiffany v. eBay*, that eBay could not be held liable for contributory trademark infringement when its sellers marketed counterfeit Tiffany products.

Other Courses Sharpen Skills

Helping students to hone their practical skills is as important as providing them with the theoretical basis for understanding the law. Brooklyn Law School offers a broad range of clinics, workshops and externships to help students develop their lawyering skills. New clinics offered this academic year include the Advanced Condominium & Cooperative Externship Clinic, Brooklyn Law Incubator & Policy Clinic (described above), and the Transactional Law/Community Development Externship Clinic. In the Advanced Condo & Co-op course, students work at the Real Estate Finance Bureau of the New York State Department of Law, under the supervision of assistant attorneys general, performing legal writing, research, investigation, enforcement, and dispute resolution for actual offerings for the sale of individual units in condominiums, cooperatives, and homeowners associations. In the Community Development Externship, students are placed in a variety of non-profit and government organizations that address issues of housing and economic development.

Two new workshops address the art of evidence. The Electronic Discovery and Evidence Workshop keeps students attuned to the revolution in how discovery is handled in the 21st century. The course follows a case from pre-litigation counseling on

electronic document retention policies, continues through the collection and production of electronic matter during the course of pre-trial litigation, and concludes with issues involving the admission and use of electronic evidence at trial.

An Evidence Workshop provides experience with issues involving the admissibility of evidence from a real-world perspective. Students learn to lay a foundation for the admissibility at trial of various kinds of evidence, and then in clinical exercises that simulate a trial, they practice moving documents into evidence and objecting to their admissibility. And a Real Estate Finance Workshop examines themes that a practitioner is likely to confront in connection with the formation of a joint venture and the development, financing, and operation of a real estate project. □

“In-depth study of the most important legal issues of our time will prepare our students to become the profession’s next generation of leaders.”

—Associate Dean Lawrence Solan

Professor Victoria Szymczak Leads Library

Tech Background Helps Build BLS Digital Resources

Victoria J. Szymczak has been appointed Library Director and Assistant Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School. With her unique combination of interests in international law and technology, she also teaches Advanced Legal Research and International and Foreign Law Research at the Law School, and she serves as the library liaison to the *Journal of Law and Policy*.

Professor Szymczak began working at the Law School 12 years ago as an evening reference librarian, after spending a year at Pace University, where she became interested in the technology side of library research. At Pace, she helped build a case law database containing the decisions of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. "I taught myself HTML and database design," she explains. "My older sister is a programmer, so I was exposed to Internet technology before it boomed."

After finishing college at SUNY-Buffalo State and securing a job as a paralegal, her original goal was to practice international law, which was still a relatively new area in the 1980s. "I enjoyed working with people from all over the world," says Professor Szymczak. "The deals were complex, and I was learning about finance, which I found really interesting."

At Duke University School of Law, she found herself attracted to working in the law library, and she was hired there as an international and foreign law research assistant. She helped found and then served as executive editor of the *Duke Journal of Comparative and International Law*. After graduating with a J.D./LL.M. in comparative and international law, she returned back east (she is a native of Brooklyn) for an internship with the Attorney General's office in the Eastern District of New York. While she found criminal law fascinating, she was still interested in teaching and research, so she pursued a masters in library and information science at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn.

While attending Pratt at night, she worked as a senior reference librarian for the New York office of what was Thelen Reid Brown Raysman & Steiner LLP. "Once I earned my degree, I had to finally decide whether to practice or continue on in school," she says. "I told the firm I wanted to go into academia." Her next job at Pace led her to Brooklyn Law School a year later, in 1996. In addition to working on the Second Circuit database at Pace, she taught international and environmental legal research.

Professor Szymczak's scholarship addresses the role technology plays in information literacy, library services, and legal education. An active member of the American Association of Law Libraries, she chairs its Computing Services Special Interest Section. She has conducted many workshops about legal technology, including presentations for the AALL, the American Bar Association, and private corporations and organizations. Her publications have appeared in journals such as *Legal Reference Services Quarterly*, *International Journal of Legal Information*, *Brooklyn*

Journal of International Law, and the *Journal of Law and Policy*. Her co-authored article "Teaching Foreign and International Legal Research" was selected as one of the top 20 articles on library instruction for 2001 by the American Library Association.

As the new Library Director, Professor Szymczak is further developing the collection and services of the Law School's research facility. She established Brooklyn Law School as one of the charter law schools to receive access to Bloomberg's news and legal databases,



and she helped to create the BLS Library Blog. The move from books to electronic sources is complicated, she explains, adding, "I love the challenge of negotiating our contracts. Publishers and vendors approach their licensing contracts in very different ways, especially in other countries." Westlaw is a Canadian company, and LexisNexis is Dutch. "In a way, I'm back where I started, practicing international law!" she says.

Still working to satisfy the curiosity that has made her such a successful librarian at Brooklyn Law School, Professor Szymczak says she enjoys helping the Law School to build its digital collection. "My future research directions include defining output measurements for law libraries and analyzing the impact of open source initiatives on law library operations," she says. □

FACULTY Highlights

Faculty Notes



Jonathan Askin

Jonathan Askin

PRESENTATIONS

- “Convergence: Policy and Legal Issues,” Telecom, Cable and Wireless Conference, University of Texas
- “Election ’08: How the Internet Is Re-shaping National Politics,” New Museum, New York
- “The Future of Voice and Video and Communications in an Internet-Enabled World,” Federal Communications Bar Association, Washington, D.C.
- “Competition Policy: Seismic Eruptions and Disruptions in an Internet-Enabled World,” Voice and Video on the Net Conference, San Jose, California
- “The Power of Social Networking,” Consumer Electronics Show, Las Vegas

APPOINTMENTS

- Internet Regulation Tech Task Force Leader, Barack Obama’s U.S. Presidential Campaign
- Chair, Cyberspace Committee, Federal Communications Bar Association

MEDIA

- Quoted or referred to in a number of publications and media outlets, including International Herald Tribune, Bloomberg, Crain’s, WNYT, Telecommunications Reports, Communications Daily, RCR Wireless, and VON Magazine, concerning Internet and communications law issues

Miriam Baer

PUBLICATIONS

- *Corporate Policing and Corporate Governance: What Can We Learn from Hewlett-Packard’s Pretexting Scandal?* __ U. CIN. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2009)
- *Linkage and the Deterrence of Corporate Fraud*, 94 VA. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2008)
- *Insuring Corporate Crime*, 83 IND. L.J. 1035 (2008)
- *Comments, Criminal Law Conversations* (P. Robinson et al. eds.), at www.law.upenn.edu/cf/faculty/phrobins/conversations

PRESENTATIONS

- “Corporate Policing and Corporate Governance: What Can We Learn from Hewlett-Packard’s Pretexting Scandal?” The Dysfunctional Board, Causes and Cures Securities Law Symposium, University of Cincinnati



Miriam Baer

Debra Bechtel

PUBLICATIONS

- *Forming Entities to Negotiate Community Benefits Agreements*, 17 J. AFFORDABLE HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEV. L. 145 (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Social Justice Lawyering and Community Needs: Opportunities and Barriers in a Clinical Setting,” AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Tucson, Arizona

APPOINTMENTS

- Co-chair, Affordable Co-op Subcommittee, New York State Bar Committee on Condominiums and Cooperatives

Ursula Bentele

PUBLICATIONS

- *Mining for Gold: The Constitutional Court of South Africa’s Experience with Comparative Constitutional Law*, __ GA. J. INT’L & COMP. L. __ (forthcoming 2009)

Margaret Berger

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Uneasy Relationship Between Science and Law: An Essay and Introduction*, 73 BROOKLYN L. REV. 847 (2008) (with L. Solan)

Anita Bernstein

PRESENTATIONS

- Panelist, “Teaching Tort Theory to 1Ls,” Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Palm Beach, Florida
- “Asbestos and Gender,” faculty workshops, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and Brooklyn Law School

Michael Cahill

PUBLICATIONS

- *Grading Arson*, 2 CRIM. L. & PHIL. __ (forthcoming 2008)
- *Retributive Justice in the Real World*, 85 WASH. U. L. REV. 815 (2007)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Attempt by Omission,” Prawfsfest Conference, Hofstra Law School and Fordham Junior Faculty Colloquium
- “Grading Arson,” Evolution of Criminal Law Theory Conference, Rutgers Institute for Law and Philosophy
- Panelist, “Disclosure of Medical Errors,” Mt. Sinai School of Medicine



Michael Cahill



Stacy Caplow



Edward Cheng



Neil Cohen



Steven Dean



Richard Farrell

Stacy Caplow

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Gaelic Goetz: A Case of Self-Defense in Ireland*, __CARDOZO J. INT. & COMP. LAW __ (2008)
- *Putting the “I” in Wr*t*ng: Drafting An A/Effective Personal Statement To Tell a Winning Refugee Story*, 14 J. LEGAL WRITING INST. 249 (2008), reprinted in BENDERS IMMIG. BULL. DAILY Ed., Mar. 26, 2008
- *Punch Lines, in Law Stories: Tales from Legal Practice, Experience, and Education*, 76 U.M.K.C. L. REV. 831 (2008)
- *ReNorming Immigration Court*, 13 NEXUS L.J. 85 (2007-2008)

APPOINTMENTS

- Consultant, Promoting Sustainable Reforms in Higher Legal Education, Public Interest Law Initiative Higher Education Program Project, Yerevan State University, Armenia, Tbilisi State University, Georgia and Kiev, Ukraine

Edward Cheng

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Myth of the Generalist Judge*, 61 STAN. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2009)
- *Will Quants Rule the (Legal) World?* 107 MICH. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2009) (reviewing Ian Ayres, SUPER CRUNCHERS (2007))
- *Opinion Specialization*, 92 JUDICATURE __ (forthcoming 2008) (abridged version of *The Myth of the Generalist Judge*)

PRESENTATIONS

- “The Admissibility of False Confession Testimony,” New York City Bar Committee on Criminal Justice

Neil Cohen

PUBLICATIONS

- CASES AND MATERIALS ON CONTRACTS (Foundation Press 7th ed. 2008) (with A. Farnsworth et al.)
- SELECTIONS FOR CONTRACTS (Foundation Press 2008) (with A. Farnsworth et al.)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Comparing International Instruments Relating to Secured Transactions,” Joint Meeting of Secretary of UNCITRAL, Secretary-General of UNIDROIT and Secretary-General of the Hague Conference on Private International Law
- “Choice-of-Law Issues in Cross-Border Secured Transactions,” Globalizing Secured Transactions Law: Current Problems, New Directions Conference, Thomas Jefferson Law School
- “Foreign and Cross-Border Secured Financing,” 41st Annual Uniform Commercial Code Institute, Washington, D.C.

- “Proposed Amendments to Article 1 of the Uniform Commercial Code,” American Law Institute annual meeting, Washington, D.C.
- “Coordinating International Initiatives on Secured Transactions Law,” 14th Biennial Meeting of International Academy of Commercial and Consumer Law, Bamberg, Germany
- Co-chair, The UCC and Beyond: Current Developments in Commercial Law Conference, Fordham University School of Law

Steven Dean

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Incomplete Global Market for Tax Information*, 49 B.C. L. REV. 605 (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- Commentator, Conglomerate Junior Scholars Workshop
- “Tax Deharmonization: Radical Asymmetry in the International Tax Regime,” NYU Junior Tax Scholar’s Workshop, and the Law and Society Association annual meeting, Montreal

Elizabeth Fajans

PUBLICATIONS

- WRITING AND ANALYSIS IN THE LAW (Foundation Press 5th ed. 2008) (with M. Walter et al.)

Richard Farrell

PRESENTATIONS

- Lectured on developments and trends in the law of evidence and civil procedure at numerous bar association and trial lawyers’ programs, including the Brooklyn Bar Association, MICLE, New York Academy of Trial Lawyers, New York City Bar, New York County Lawyers Association, and the Suffolk/Nassau Academy of Law

Linda Feldman

PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, LSAC Academic Support Workshop, University of Maryland School of Law (part of team training new academic support professionals in study skills, outlining and exam writing)

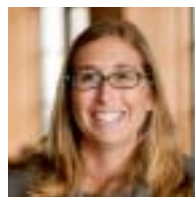
FACULTY Highlights



Maryellen Fullerton



Marsha Garrison



Cynthia Godsoe



Joel Gora



William Hellerstein



Susan Herman

Maryellen Fullerton

PRESENTATIONS

- “Extraterritorial Procedures and Evidentiary Standards: the Caribbean Example,” Colloquium on International Refugee Law, Cuenca, Spain
- “Lessons from Comparative Research in Asylum Law & Policy,” Immigration Law Teachers’ Conference, University of Miami
- Moderator, “‘Individual Threat’ and the Qualification Criteria for International Protection in the European Union,” European Refugee Fund Seminar and Roundtable, Budapest, Hungary
- Moderator, “International Law and Climate Change,” “Suspending the Rule of Law: State of Emergency in Pakistan,” and “Justice Through Accountability: The Evolution of International Criminal Justice Since Nuremberg,” International Law Society programs, Brooklyn Law School

Marsha Garrison

APPOINTMENTS

- Member, International Advisory Board, CHILD AND FAMILY LAW QUARTERLY

Cynthia Godsoe

APPOINTMENTS

- Chair, Juvenile Justice Committee, New York City Bar

Joel Gora

PUBLICATIONS

- BETTER PARTIES, BETTER CANDIDATES, BETTER GOVERNMENT: A REALISTIC PROGRAM FOR CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM (forthcoming 2009) (with P. Wallison)
- *The Source of the Problem of Sources: The First Amendment Fails the Fourth Estate*, 29 CARDOZO L. REV. 1399 (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- Presented to a special ACLU Board Committee in charge of reviewing all of the ACLU’s current policies in campaign finance

HONORS

- Concluded more than 25 years of service as a member of the Board of Directors and general counsel of the New York Civil Liberties Union

William Hellerstein

APPOINTMENTS

- Member, Task Force on Wrongful Convictions, New York State Bar Association (examining all cases of wrongful convictions in New York State over the past 30 years to extract their causes and make recommendations for their reduction)

Susan Herman

PUBLICATIONS

- Editor, TERRORISM, GOVERNMENT, AND LAW: NATIONAL AUTHORITY AND LOCAL AUTONOMY IN THE WAR ON TERROR (Praeger Security International 2008) (co-editor P. Finkelman)
- *Reading between the Lines: Judicial Protection for Socioeconomic Rights Under the South African and United States Constitutions*, in PENELOPE ANDREWS AND SUSAN BAZILLI, LAW AND RIGHTS: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON CONSTITUTIONALISM AND GOVERNANCE (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- Panelist, Annual PLI Supreme Court Review
- Panelist, “Local Police Fighting International Terrorism,” Law and National Security Committee, 2008 ABA annual meeting
- Speaker, Street Law Program on the Supreme Court for high school teachers
- Speaker, LA Terrorism Early Warning Group and at the Federal Judicial Center conference for senior staff attorneys, Rand Corporation
- Panelist on the Supreme Court, Federal Judicial Center seminar for 500 federal defenders (with E. Chemerinsky and P. Rashkind)
- Convenor and panelist, Decentralizing Rights: State-Level Strategies to Promote Justice and Equality Symposium, Brooklyn Law School
- “Evil and the State,” Interdisciplinary.net conference (presented on judicial evaluation of state surveillance)

Edward Janger

PRESENTATIONS

- Commentator, “Harvard-Texas Conference on Commercial Law Realities,” Harvard Law School
- “Securitization and the Subprime Crisis,” 14th Annual Paul Robeson Conference, Columbia Law School



Edward Janger



Aliza Kaplan



Claire Kelly

Aliza Kaplan

APPOINTMENTS

- Member, Equal Justice Works National Advisory Committee

Roberta Karmel

PUBLICATIONS

- “Corporate, Economic and Financial Law,” *___ FORDHAM INT’L L. J. ___* (forthcoming 2009)

PRESENTATIONS

- Panelist, Judicial and Legislative Developments, and Ethics, PLI’s SEC Speaks, Washington, D.C.
- Panelist, “Fifty Years of European Community Law,” Fordham Law School
- Organizer, The Future of Financial Regulation Conference, Brooklyn Law School
- Lecturer, “Should Securities Industry Self-Regulatory Organizations Be Considered Government Agencies?” RS-DeGroote Business School Luncheon Lecture Series, Toronto

APPOINTMENTS

- Chair, “Have Securities Regulation Reforms Hit the Mark?” Section on Securities Regulation, AALS meeting, New York

HONORS

- Recipient, Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award 2008, American Bar Association (see story this page)

Claire Kelly

PUBLICATIONS

- *Institutional Alliances and Derivative Legitimacy*, 29 *MICH. J. INT’L L. ___* (forthcoming 2008)
- “Understanding the Role of Global Governance Institutions in the Regulation of International Business Transactions,” *The Law of International Business Transactions: A Global Perspective* conference, Hamburg, Germany, at www.ialsnet.org/meetings/business/papers

PRESENTATIONS

- “The International Sale of Goods: The Back and Forth of the CISG and National Law,” *The UCC and Beyond: Current Developments in Commercial Law*, ALIABA, New York

ABA Commission Honors Professor Roberta Karmel

2008 Margaret Brent Award Presented

Roberta Karmel, the Centennial Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School, was recognized on August 10 for her path-breaking achievements by the American Bar Association’s Commission on Women in the Profession.

Professor Karmel, along with five other outstanding women in the legal profession, received the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award. Established by the ABA in 1991, the award recognizes and celebrates the accomplishments of women lawyers who have excelled in their field and have paved the way to success for other women lawyers. Past recipients include federal judges on the circuit courts of appeals, state judges, accomplished partners at firms across the country, deans of law schools, and

lawyers who actively pursue social justice for women and other groups.

An internationally recognized expert in international and domestic securities regulation, Professor Karmel is widely called upon to teach and lecture all over the world on this subject. She is a former Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission and Public Director



of the New York Stock Exchange. In private practice for many years before joining academia, she studied the harmonization of securities laws in the European Union as a Fulbright Scholar and is a widely published author. In addition to numerous scholarly articles on securities regulation and international securities law, she also authors a monthly column on securities regulation that appears in the *New York Law Journal*.

Professor Karmel is a trustee of the Practising Law Institute, a member of the American Law Institute, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and vice-chair of the International Coordinating Committee of the ABA’s Business Law Section. She serves as co-director of the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law at Brooklyn Law School, where she has taught securities law for over 20 years. □

FACULTY Highlights



Bailey Kuklin



Rebecca Kysar



Jason Mazzone



Gary Minda



Samuel Murumba



Minor Myers

Bailey Kuklin

PUBLICATIONS

- *The Morality of Evolutionarily Self-Interested Rescues*, 40 ARIZ. ST. L.J. 453 (2008)

Rebecca Kysar

PUBLICATIONS

- *Listening to Congress: Earmark Rules and Statutory Interpretation*, 94 CORNELL L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2009)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Listening to Congress: Earmark Rules and Statutory Interpretation,” 2008 Junior Tax Scholars Conference, New York University

Jason Mazzone

PUBLICATIONS

- COPYFRAUD AND OTHER ABUSES OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (Stanford University Press) (forthcoming 2009)
- *The Secret Life of Patents*, 48 WASHBURN L.J. __ (forthcoming 2008) (with M. Moore)
- *The Security Constitution*, in TERRORISM, GOVERNMENT, AND LAW: NATIONAL AUTHORITY AND LOCAL AUTONOMY IN THE WAR ON TERROR (Praeger Security International 2008) (S. Herman and P. Finkelman eds.)

PRESENTATIONS

- “When the Supreme Court is Not Supreme,” American University Washington College of Law, Federal Courts Junior Faculty Workshop
- “State Courts and Federal Rights in Historical Perspective,” Decentralizing Rights: State-Level Strategies to Promote Justice and Equality Symposium, Brooklyn Law School
- “Copyfraud and the Information Society,” Pratt Institute

Gary Minda

PUBLICATIONS

- *Oh My God It's Alive!*, 1 THE CRIT 1 (Spring 2008), at www.thecritui.com/articles/minda.pdf
- Book Review, N.Y.L.J., Aug. 27, 2008, at 2 (reviewing STEVEN LUBET, THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING HONEST: HOW LYING, SECRECY AND HYPOCRISY COLLIDE WITH THE LAW)
- *Remembering the Eighties: The Lizard Goes to the AALS*, 75 UMKC L. REV. 1161 (2007)

Samuel Murumba

PRESENTATIONS

- Lecture on the intersection of intellectual property and human rights law, Master of Laws Program, Monash University Law School, Melbourne, Australia

APPOINTMENTS

- Board Member Emeritus, Human Rights Watch Board of Directors
- Member, Board of Directors Policy Committee, and Member, Advisory Boards of the Women's Rights Division and the Africa Division, Human Rights Watch

Minor Myers

PUBLICATIONS

- *How Freedom Turned Talent into Olympic Gold*, WALL ST. J., Aug. 25, 2008
- *Supreme Court Usage and the Making of an “Is,”* 11 GREEN BAG 2D 457 (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- “The Decisions of Corporate Special Litigation Committees: An Empirical Investigation,” Fourth Annual Conglomerate Junior Scholars Workshop

James Park

PUBLICATIONS

- *Assessing the Materiality of Financial Misstatements*, 34 J. CORP. L. __ (forthcoming 2009)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Assessing the Materiality of Financial Misstatements,” Fourth Annual Conglomerate Junior Scholars Workshop
- Panelist, “Enforcement of Securities Law, Rules Versus Principles-Based Regulation and Its Impact on Enforcement” Symposium, Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, Capital Markets Institute, University of Toronto

Arthur Pinto

PUBLICATIONS

- *The European Union's Shareholder Voting Rights Directive from an American Perspective: Some Comparisons and Observations*, 32 FORDHAM J. INT'L L. __ (forthcoming 2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker on company law, FORDHAM INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL'S symposium on the 50th Anniversary of the European Union
- Guest lecturer on U.S. corporate law, LUIIS Ceraldi, Rome, Italy



James Park



Arthur Pinto



Norman Poser



David Reiss



Elizabeth Schneider



Lisa Smith

Norman Poser

PUBLICATIONS

- *Securities Fraud and the Common Law*, 1 J. SEC. & FUTURES L. 2, 3 (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Suitability Issues,” Executive Education Program, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

David Reiss

PUBLICATIONS

- *Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac: Socialization of Loss*, NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL (July 17, 2008)
- *Abridgement of The Federal Government’s Implied Guarantee of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac’s Obligations: Uncle Sam Will Pick Up the Tab*, Proceedings of the 2008 St. John’s Financial Services Institute Symposium

PRESENTATIONS

- “Social Justice Lawyering and Community Needs: Opportunities and Barriers in a Clinical Setting,” AALS Clinical Conference
- “Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac’s Public Mission: Are The Benefits Worth The Risk?” 2008 Junior Workshop on Banking and Consumer Financial Services Law
- Commentator, Subprime Conference, NYU Law School and Ford Foundation
- Moderator, “Policy Responses” panel, Subprime Conference at Seton Hall Law School
- Moderator, Eminent Domain Panel, Decentralizing Rights: State-Level Strategies to Promote Justice and Equality Symposium, Brooklyn Law School

APPOINTMENTS

- Executive Board, AALS Real Estate Section
- Empire State Development Corporation Atlantic Yards Community Advisory Committee, the Southwest Brooklyn Empire Zone, and the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation Community Advisory Committee
- Re-elected as treasurer and appointed chair of the Finance, Personnel and Law Committee for Brooklyn Community Board Six, in addition to serving as chair of the Economic Development Committee and as a member of the Executive Committee

MEDIA

- Quoted on the subprime mortgage crisis and eminent domain in a variety of media outlets including WNYC, New York Newsday, Financial Services Law 360, and TheStreet.com

Elizabeth Schneider

PUBLICATIONS

- *Revisiting Trauma and Recovery*, 36 WOMEN’S STUD. Q. 269 (2008) (Retrospective on J. Herman’s TRAUMA AND RECOVERY)

PRESENTATIONS

- Panelist, “Theories of Power, Poverty and Law, in Commemoration of the Contributions of Peter Bachrach,” American Political Science Association Plenary Session, Boston
- Panelist and moderator, Senior Roundtable for Women’s Justice, United States Department of State, Washington, D.C.
- Speaker, “Women’s Rights Lawyering in the 21st Century,” Honolulu, Hawaii
- Speaker, WOMEN’S STUDIES QUARTERLY Celebration, New York
- “Domestic Violence and Equality,” University of Hawaii Law School

HONORS

- Honored as one of 30 leaders making a difference in the lives of survivors of domestic violence, 30th Anniversary of the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Lisa Smith

PUBLICATIONS

- *Re-Entry & Collateral Consequences Committee E-News* (No. 1) (July 2008), at www.abanet.org/crimjust/committees/reentry/reentrynewsjuly08.htm

PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, Alternative Sentencing Programs, NYS Judicial Training Institute
- Speaker, “ReEntry of Ex Offenders: Programs and Progress,” Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York annual meeting
- Program Coordinator, “The Second Chance Act,” American Bar Association Conference

APPOINTMENTS

- Kings County Democratic Party Judicial Screening Committee, and the Fulton Mall Association Executive Board

MEDIA

- Court TV: commented on cases and trials including *People v. Benayer*, *South Carolina v. Gagnon*, *Massachusetts v. Toolin*, *Massachusetts v. Entwistle*, *the McGreevey Divorce Case*, *Vermont v. Rooney*, *Michigan v. Calalmita*, and *Ohio v. Hough*

FACULTY Highlights



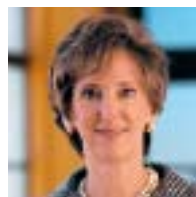
Lawrence Solan



Nelson Tebbe



Marilyn Walter



Joan Wexler



Deborah Widiss

Lawrence Solan

PUBLICATIONS

- *False Consensus Bias in Contract Interpretation*, 108 COLUM. L. REV. 1268 (2008) (with T. Rosenblatt and D. Osherson)
- *The Uneasy Relationship Between Science and Law: An Essay and Introduction*, 73 BROOK. L. REV. 847 (2008) (with M. Berger)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Definitions vs. Ordinary Language in Legal Interpretation,” Cardiff Roundtable on Language and Law
- “Lawyers as Insincere Actors,” Law and Society Association annual meeting, Montreal
- “Lawyers as Insincere Actors: The Challenge for Forensic Experts” and “False Consensus Bias in Contract Interpretation,” Aston University and Cardiff University
- “Statutory Interpretation in the EU,” Essex University

Nelson Tebbe

PUBLICATIONS

- *Excluding Religion*, 156 U. PA. L. REV. 1263 (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- “Condemning Religion: The Political Economy of RLUIPA,” Junior Faculty Colloquium, Brooklyn Law School
- “The Equal Protection Clause,” Legal Outreach
- “The Free Exercise of Culture,” Association for the Study of Law, Culture and the Humanities, Berkeley Law School

APPOINTMENTS

- Co-chair, Nominating Committee, and member of the Executive Committee, AALS Law and Religion Section

Marilyn Walter

PUBLICATIONS

- WRITING AND ANALYSIS IN THE LAW (Foundation Press 5th ed. 2008) (with E. Fajans et al.)

PRESENTATIONS

- Speaker, “Expanding Your Horizons: Going Global,” Legal Writing Institute Conference
- Participant, LexisNexis Legal Writing and Research Summit
- Presenter, regional faculty training conference, The British Council, University of Delhi Law School; and on research papers and persuasive writing, Amity Law School, New Delhi

Joan Wexler

PRESENTATIONS

- Panelist, Cornell Hillel Law Networking Program
- Moderator, “The Wisdom of Mandatory Retirement of Senior Attorneys,” New York City Bar
- Participant, President’s Council of Cornell Women

Deborah Widiss

PUBLICATIONS

- *Shadow Precedents and the Separation of Powers: Statutory Interpretation of Congressional Overrides*, 84 NOTRE DAME L. REV. ___ (forthcoming 2009)
- *Domestic Violence and the Workplace: The Explosion of State Legislation and the Need for a Comprehensive Strategy*, 35 FLA. ST. U. L. REV. 669 (2008)
- *Civil Rights/Discrimination*, in ENCYCLOPEDIA OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE (C. Renzetti and J. Edleson eds.) (2008)

PRESENTATIONS

- Panel moderator, Decentralizing Rights: State-Level Strategies to Promote Justice and Equality Symposium, Brooklyn Law School

HONORS

- 2008 Dukeminier Award, Williams Institute, University of California – Los Angeles School of Law for *Exposing Sex Stereotypes in Recent Same-Sex Marriage Jurisprudence*, 30 HARV. J.L. & GENDER 461 (2007) (with E. Rosenblatt and D. NeJaime)

Dean's Roundtable Luncheons Draw Prominent Alumni

Students Get to Know Lawyers from Range of Practice Areas



Jeffrey Gewirtz (right) welcomes students.

During the Spring 2008 semester, five Brooklyn Law School alumni participated in the Dean's Roundtable Luncheon series, a unique program that brings highly successful graduates back to the Law School to meet with students in an intimate setting.

At each Roundtable Luncheon, a group of students joined Dean Joan G. Wexler for lunch with a graduate who shared information about his or her career and accomplishments and answered questions from students. The lunches are very popular with students, who gain valuable insight into a variety of areas of the law, business, and government practice through the frank discussions with experienced lawyers and other professionals.

The alumni who visited in February, March and April hold a variety of legal positions, from a litigation partner in a large, international law firm practicing securities law to a solo criminal defense lawyer representing high-profile defendants, and general counsels for a professional sports franchise, a non-profit global venture fund aimed at eradicating poverty, and a medical technology company.

Jeffrey B. Gewirtz '94

Senior Vice President and General Counsel

NEW JERSEY NETS

As senior vice president and general counsel for the New Jersey Nets, Jeffrey B. Gewirtz oversees all legal affairs for the franchise. He is also helping to bring the Nets to Brooklyn in his role as senior vice president and general counsel for Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment, a Nets affiliate that handles all of the commercial and sports marketing aspects of the team's planned relocation to the Barclays Center in downtown Brooklyn.

Prior to joining the Nets, Gewirtz served as general counsel and chief legal and government affairs officer to the United States Olympic Committee, where he oversaw all USOC legal matters, including litigation and arbitration; intellectual property issues; athlete and sport national governing body matters under the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act; anti-doping; real estate; and sponsorship, media, and licensing transactions. He has also held legal positions at Coca-Cola Company, IOC Marketing and Television Services, and the LPGA Tour. Gewirtz has taught sports law as an adjunct professor at Brooklyn Law School and New York Law School.

Antonio Yanez Jr. '96

Partner, Litigation Department

WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER LLP

Antonio Yanez Jr. is a partner in the litigation department of Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP. He represents issuers, officers, directors, underwriters, and accounting firms in securities class actions, SEC proceedings, and other matters. He also focuses on internal and independent investigations into financial and accounting matters. His major clients in securities class actions have included Molson Coors Brewing Co. in a case arising out of a merger; an accounting firm in a case involving alleged accounting improprieties at Oxford Health Plans; and underwriters in negotiations to settle an action arising out of accounting improprieties at WorldCom.

Yanez, who is fluent in Spanish, frequently speaks to international audiences. For example, he recently spoke in Panama City to the National Congress of Accountants and to the College of Certified Public Accountants about financial fraud. He has also authored and edited publications concerning liability under the Federal Securities Acts of 1933 and 1934 as well as financial reporting.

(continued next page)

ALUMNI Update

Ann L. MacDougall '83

Chief Administrative Officer and General Counsel

ACUMEN FUND

Ann L. MacDougall is chief administrative officer and general counsel of Acumen Fund, a non-profit global venture fund that uses entrepreneurial approaches to solve the problems of global poverty. Acumen Fund, which was incorporated in April 2001 with seed capital from the Rockefeller Foundation, Cisco Systems Foundation and three individual philanthropists, focuses on using philanthropic capital to make investments that will provide affordable, critical goods and services, such as water, housing and energy.

Prior to joining Acumen Fund, MacDougall worked for 17 years at PricewaterhouseCoopers in various senior roles. Most recently, she held the role of global deputy general counsel in Paris. Before joining PwC, she worked at US West and Sage Gray Todd & Sims, a Wall Street law firm in New York.

Jeffrey S. Sherman '80

Senior Vice President and General Counsel

BECTON, DICKINSON AND COMPANY

Jeffrey S. Sherman is senior vice president and general counsel of Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD). Headquartered in the U.S., with offices in nearly 50 countries worldwide, BD is a medical technology company that serves health care institutions, life science researchers, clinical laboratories, industry, and the general public. BD manufactures and sells a broad range of medical supplies, devices, laboratory equipment, and diagnostic products.

Sherman advises the corporation's board of directors, CEO and other senior executives and is also the primary legal advisor to the company's constituents, an officer of the corporation, a member of the senior executive team, and an administrator of the corporation's in-house legal department. Prior to joining BD, Sherman served as vice president and associate general counsel for Wyeth, and as a partner with Shereff, Friedman, Hoffman & Goodman, which was ultimately merged into Bingham McCutchen LLP.

Gerald B. Lefcourt '67

Attorney

GERALD B. LEFCOURT, P.C.

High-profile trial lawyer Gerald B. Lefcourt heads his own firm in New York, Gerald B. Lefcourt, P.C., which focuses on criminal defense and complex civil litigation. He has defended clients as diverse as Abbie Hoffman; the Black Panthers; Harry Helmsley; Michael Milken's co-defendant in one of the nation's largest securities cases; and Murder, Inc. Records' founder, Irv Gotti. He also represented one of the defendants in the federal KPMG tax fraud prosecution.

Lefcourt is a past president of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and of the New York Criminal Bar Association and is also a founder of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He is a frequent lecturer, panelist and author of publications on a wide variety of legal subjects including asset forfeiture, legal ethics, wire-tapping, plea bargaining, subpoenaing of lawyers, and representation of grand jury witnesses.



Ann MacDougall shares insights on global poverty.

Alumni Brunch in Westchester

Brooklyn Law School hosted an alumni brunch in Westchester, New York that drew nearly 100 graduates from the tri-state area. The spring event, which was held at the new Ritz-Carlton in White Plains, provided attendees with an opportunity to hear the latest news about the Law School from Dean Joan G. Wexler and to network with one another. This fall Brooklyn Law School was on the road again, traveling to Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and Boston.



Recent Alumni Celebrate Law Day in Manhattan



May 1, 2008 was Law Day in New York, and the Law School celebrated the occasion with an event for recent graduates at the restaurant Opal in Manhattan. Alumni from the classes of 1999–2007 gathered to reconnect with classmates. Recent graduates events, which are held twice yearly, continue to be a great success. More than 80 alumni attended the spring gathering. A fall celebration was held December 3, 2008 at the restaurant PS 450 in Manhattan.

ALUMNI Update

Class Reunions at Chelsea Piers

On May 15, 2008, members of the Classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003 celebrated their law school reunion at the Lighthouse, Pier 61 in Manhattan. Alumni enjoyed a festive evening of reconnecting with classmates and professors, reliving old memories, and creating new ones. Next year's class reunions will be held on May 14, 2009 at the Chelsea Piers again.



The Class of 1958 Celebrates 50th Reunion



This year's Golden Circle Celebration was held on June 13, 2008. Members of the Classes of 1929–1958 enjoyed a luncheon at the Law School, where they welcomed the newest members of the Circle, the Class of 1958. Many of the guests had not been back to the Law School since their graduation, and they were able to see how the school has evolved in the decades since they graduated. Dean Joan G. Wexler, faculty, and current students spent time with the alumni, providing them with a perspective on what life at the Law School is like today.



1927



Joshua S. Lev is 102 and in good health. After 60 years as a successful personal injury attorney in New York City, focusing primarily on automobile accident cases, he moved to Centennial, Colo. to live with his family. He has six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

1950

Dorothy T. Eisenberg, a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge for the Eastern District of New York, was presented with the New York Institute of Credit's 20th Annual Trustee Award at the Institute's annual awards banquet in June 2008. Founded in 1918, the Institute provides commercial credit education to the financial community. Judge Eisenberg was appointed to the bench in March 1989.

1953

Seymour (Si) L. Schorr is a partner in the Tucson, Ariz. office of Lewis and Roca LLP, practicing in the areas of real estate, corporate and general business law. Schorr is certified by the Arizona State Bar Board of Legal Specialization as a specialist in real estate law. He is also chair of the Arizona State Board of Transportation and a board member of the Regional Transportation Authority of Pima County.

1957

Robert M. Kaufman, a partner in the New York office of Proskauer Rose LLP, was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to serve on the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS for a four-year term. The Council provides advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary regarding programs and policies intended to promote effective prevention of HIV, and to advance research

on HIV and AIDS. Kaufman practices in the areas of health law, hospital law, multinational corporate law and personal representation. He is a member of the Law School's Board of Trustees.

Edwin Silberstang wrote an updated version of his 1979 book, *Winning Casino Craps*, which was published by Random House in October 2007. A former criminal investigator for the Army and an attorney in private practice in New York, he has written over 52 books including six novels and many gambling how-to books.

Edwin Torres, who retired as a justice from the New York State Supreme Court in 2007, was appointed by New York State Governor David A. Paterson to serve as commissioner of the State Athletic Commission, awaiting Senate confirmation. Judge Torres is also an accomplished author, having written three novels that were made into motion pictures.

1958

Robert M. Schwarzbart retired in 2002 after serving for 27 years as a National Labor Relations Board judge. He is currently serving a third elected term on the Friendship Heights Village Council in Montgomery County, Md. and is chair of Montgomery County's Friendship Heights Transportation Management Advisory Committee, which advises the County Executive and Council on transportation, pedestrian safety, and traffic issues. He is also a hearing officer in internal appeals for the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and Superior Court.

1960

E. Leo Milonas, a partner in the New York office of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, is one of 12 members serving on the Judicial Nomination Commission, which submits candidates for Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals to the governor. Milonas, a former Associate Justice of the New York State Appellate Division and Chief

Administrative Judge, practices complex commercial litigation, appeals, and alternative dispute resolution.

1967

Gerald B. Lefcourt, head of New York criminal defense firm Gerald B. Lefcourt, P.C., is one of 12 members serving on the Judicial Nomination Commission, which submits candidates for Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals to the governor. He is a past president of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and a past president of the New York Criminal Bar Association. Lefcourt is also a founder of the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

1969

Stephen D. Lassar became a partner in the New York City office of Marcum & Kliegman LLP, an accounting and consulting firm. He focuses on planning and problem solving for high-net-worth individuals and strategic planning for closely-held and family-owned companies. He was also named chairman of the New York State Society of CPAs' Estate Planning Committee.

1971

David Louis Cohen was elected to serve as vice-president for the 11th District of the New York State Bar Association's Executive Committee. Cohen also serves as counsel to the New York State Assembly on Codes, where he advises the committee chair on proposed criminal justice legislation, drafts legislation, and negotiates budget and legislative issues with the governor's office. He is also in private practice in Queens, primarily litigating in state and federal courts.

Robert H. Masnik, who spent a long career practicing in tax qualified retirement plan law in both the public and private sectors, joined Raleigh, N.C. restaurant The Borough as its alcohol beverage transportation specialist.

Vivian A. Maese '82 Named General Counsel of BIDS Trading



VIVIAN MAESE WAS NAMED GENERAL COUNSEL and corporate secretary of BIDS Trading, the alternative trading system established to increase competition and liquidity in the U.S. equity block trading market. In her new position, she provides strategic leadership and legal counsel for the firm and its board of directors.

“My entire career has focused on working in the heart of Wall Street at the intersection of technology, intellectual property and financial regulation, and I am very excited to be playing

a central role in the expansion of BIDS Trading as a block trading platform,” she said. “BIDS Trading is developing very innovative trading technologies, and I am fortunate to have the opportunity to help the company to grow.”

Prior to joining BIDS, Maese served as senior vice president and associate general counsel at NYSE Euronext, where she led the legal team that was responsible for modernizing the NYSE market structure. She was frequently in Washington, D.C. as an advocate for regulatory modernization as a result of the impact of technology and globalization on the U.S. securities markets. In addition, Maese supported NYSE Euronext’s U.S. trading business lines and handled technology legal issues, strategic technology acquisitions, and intellectual property protections.

Maese was among the first technology and intellectual property lawyers on Wall Street when she joined Salomon Brothers in 1984. An industry-leading attorney, she served as managing director at Citi until 2007. While at Citi, she also served as general counsel for its Global Transaction Services Division, a \$4 billion business line that provides cash, trade, securities services and fund administration services for corporate clients in over 100 countries.

Of her studies at Brooklyn Law School, Maese said Professors Joseph Crea, Richard Farrell, and Henry Holzer and their wise teachings have stood the test of time. “Brooklyn Law School not only taught me about the law, but how to think.”

She graduated from Hunter College with honors, with a major in English literature and a minor in economics. She is a member of the ACCA Board of Directors for Greater New York and is the attorney coach for the Mock Trial Team at Newark Academy.

1974

Joseph S. Karp, principal of the Karp Law Firm in Florida, was a contributor to *The CPA’s Guide to Long-Term Care Planning*, which was published in March 2008 by

the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Karp practices estate planning and elder law. His firm was recognized in the *South Florida Business Journal’s* 2008 “Book of Law,” an annual list of the region’s top large law firms.

1975



Howard L. Dorfman, formerly chief legal officer of the pharmaceutical division of Bayer Healthcare LLC, joined the New York office of Ropes & Gray LLP as counsel in its life

sciences practice group. He focuses on regulation of pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies.

William J. Froehlich was appointed an Administrative Judge on the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Previously, he was a member of the senior executive service at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He played a key role in the prosecution of the Enron trading schemes and the subsequent negotiation of refunds to consumers.

1976

John H. Fitzhugh was elected president and chief executive officer of the Union Mutual of Vermont Companies, where he had previously served as senior vice president and general counsel. Located in Montpelier, the company provides personal and commercial insurance products. He also served as counsel to Vermont Governors Richard Snelling and Howard Dean.

1977

Avery E. Neumark, the partner in charge of employee benefits and executive compensation with the New York accounting and consulting firm of Rosen Seymour Shapss Martin & Company LLP, was elected as a director-at-large of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants for the fiscal year 2008–09. Neumark is a member of the ABA’s Employee Benefits Committee and is chairman of the Fringe Benefits Subcommittee. He also teaches as an adjunct at Brooklyn Law School.

Anthony I. Paonita '83 Leads *Corporate Counsel*



IN AUGUST 2008, ANTHONY Paonita was named editor in chief of *Corporate Counsel* magazine, the leading U.S. business magazine for chief legal officers at companies, government agencies and nonprofits across the country. *Corporate Counsel* is run by Incisive Media, which also owns the former American Lawyer Media's other

publications. Paonita was previously the executive editor of the magazine.

"It's an interesting time to be editing a business magazine," Paonita said. "Wall Street's current woes will, unfortunately, be good source material for years to come."

Paonita joined *The National Law Journal* in 1986 as an assistant editor, managing its freelance network. At the *Journal*, he was part of an editorial team that produced award-winning

special reports, including an in-depth study of death penalty appeals and a pioneering examination of Superfund sites and minority neighborhoods. He left the *Journal* in 1997 to work on computer publishing systems and freelance writing projects for publications such as *Business Week* and *More* magazine. Paonita then joined *Corporate Counsel* in 2001 as senior editor and was promoted to executive editor of the magazine in 2002.

He received his bachelor's degree from Brooklyn College. During his time at Brooklyn Law School, he found that he preferred journalism over law. "It wasn't the most direct way to my eventual profession," he said, "but I caught the bug writing a column for *The Justinian*, the Law School's former newspaper." He said his legal background now helps him explain complicated bits of constitutional law in everyday language and spot mistakes in legal analysis in stories he edits. "Plus, it helps when I'm interviewing lawyers as sources for them to know I'm one of them," he added.

Outside of his job, Paonita tries to spend as much time as he can in Italy, where he lives part of the year.

1979

Bradley S. Keller, co-founder of the Seattle trial law firm Byrnes & Keller LLP, was the lead attorney for the owners of the Sonics in their suit to move the NBA team from Seattle to Oklahoma City, which ended with a legal settlement allowing the move. Keller focuses his practice on business and tort litigation and has represented several Fortune 500 companies, including the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, in lawsuits brought by former smokers and the state of Washington.

Richard D. Ribakove, president of Mooney-General Paper Co. in Hillside, N.J., was elected to the board of directors of The United Group (TUG) in March 2008. TUG is a nationwide buying group owned and directed by independent distributors who target the janitorial/sanitary, food service, industrial-packaging, and safety equipment and supplies markets.

Richard Stern, a partner of New York bankruptcy, creditors' rights, and finance firm Luskin, Stern & Eisler LLP, announced that his firm merged with Hughes Hubbard & Reed to expand Hughes Hubbard's bankruptcy and restructuring practice. Stern, who joined Hughes Hubbard as a partner, is a fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and a member of the Bankruptcy and Corporate Reorganization Committee of the New York City Bar Association.

1981

Marcia Z. Gordon, previously a partner at Buchalter Nemer, joined the Los Angeles office of Holme Roberts & Owen LLP as a partner. Gordon, who has a broad practice representing local, national, and international clients in a variety of complex transactional real estate matters, is establishing the firm's real estate practice.

1983

Michael D. Grohman, chair of Duane Morris' estates and asset planning practice group, was named chief executive officer of DM Trust Company, an affiliated business of the firm. Grohman practices in the areas of tax and estate planning and administration, with particular emphasis on estate planning for owners of closely held businesses.

Mark S. Sochaczewsky was appointed by the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration as the Regional Chief Administrative Law Judge for the New York Region of the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review. The New York region includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Environmental Expert Andrew J. Perel '86 Joins Steptoe



ANDREW PEREL JOINED THE New York office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP as a partner in the firm's environmental practice group of its Regulatory & Industry Affairs Department. He is a member of the New York office's management committee and a member of the firm's executive committee.

Perel also represents financial institutions in structured finance transactions (asset backed securitization and commercial mortgage-backed securitization transactions), and real estate sales, acquisitions and development matters. "This firm provides an outstanding platform from which to continue to grow my practice," he said. "I am looking forward to enhancing and expanding Steptoe's presence in New York."

A recognized leader in environmental law, Perel primarily counsels clients on environmental compliance and due diligence and litigates complex environmental matters including environmental insurance disputes. Part of his job is to ensure that in all types of structured finance deals, his clients can deal effectively with the environmental conditions of the

underlying assets. "Our group's practice is not limited to litigation, transactional, compliance, or regulatory work," he explained. "We do all of them. On any given day, if a client has a need, we can handle it, which keeps the practice interesting and challenging."

Prior to joining Steptoe, Perel chaired the environmental practice group at Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft LLP. He joined Cadwalader in 2001 from the former Roseman & Colin, where he was also a partner and the co-chair of its real estate department. He began his legal career as an associate with Adams Duque & Hazeltine and Riker, Danzig, Sherer, Hyland & Perretti.

He graduated from Brandeis University, where he was a pre-med student with plans to become a doctor. But he also minored in legal studies and found he was more comfortable in a law office rather than the operating room. As a summer associate, he was given an environmental matter to work on, and "it all clicked," he said. "I understood the organic chemistry underlying the case. I'd found what I was supposed to do."

At Brooklyn Law School, Perel participated in the Moot Court Honor Society and was a member of Phi Delta Phi. In law school, he was inspired by Professor Richard Allen, whose understanding of the practice of law "helped catapult me to the next level of my career," he said.

1986

Robert D. Brownstone, director of law and technology at the California firm Fenwick & West LLP, was appointed to the National Employment Law Institute Advisory Board. Headquartered in Denver, NELI is a nonprofit educational organization devoted exclusively to employment law. Brownstone advises clients on electronic discovery, electronic information management, and retention and destruction policies and protocols.



Arthur K. Feldman, a partner in the tax certiorari department of Farrell Fritz, P.C., was elected to the board of directors of Literacy Nassau, an organization that provides

free tutoring for adults who are functionally illiterate in English. Feldman handles all aspects of real property taxation on behalf of developers and owners or tenants of commercial and residential property. He also serves on the executive board of the Long Island Real Estate Group and is a member of the Institute for Professionals in Taxation.

1987

Michael W. Gunzburg maintains his own practice in New York devoted to personal injury law. He is also a member of the Torts Panel of the New York City Bar Association's Legal Referral Service and a member of the National Crime Victim Bar Association.

1988

Jeffrey R. Ruggiero, previously a partner at Arent Fox LLP, joined the New York office of Arnold & Porter LLP as a partner in its FDA and health care group. He represents a variety of health care providers in corporate, transactional, regulatory, licensure, and litigation matters.

Deidre A. Sullivan joined the internationally acclaimed theatre company American Shakespeare Center as its director of development. Sullivan previously worked at the Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, S.C., where she was responsible for box office ticket sales and donor relations. She also served as associate producer of the Carolinian Shakespeare Festival in New Bern, N.C.

1989

Guy W. Francesconi, executive vice president and general counsel of Amcore Financial, Inc., was promoted to corporate secretary of the bank. Headquartered in northern Illinois, Amcore offers a variety of consumer financial products. Francesconi is responsible for the oversight and management of all legal resources and services, and he provides legal and regulatory advisory and strategic support.

1991

Matthew S. Cohen joined the New York office of Thompson & Knight LLP as a partner in its corporate and securities practice group. He practices in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, private offerings of debt and equity securities, public offerings, SEC reporting and securities law compliance, and executive employment law.

Andrew G. Finkelstein, managing partner of Finkelstein & Partners, LLP in Newburgh, N.Y., was elected to the board of directors of Legal Services of the Hudson Valley. Finkelstein practices personal injury law.

Luke T. Martland was featured in an *Albany Times Union* article in September 2008 about his position as the first director of the Office of Sex Offender Management, created by the New York State Attorney General's Office in April 2007. Martland advises state leaders on sex offender issues, leads inter-agency initiatives, conducts training, and runs the state's Sex Offender Registry and new civil confinement program. He was previously chief of the Federal Habeas Corpus Section of the New York State Attorney General, and he also worked in its Criminal Prosecutions Bureau.

Georges H. Nahitchevansky was named managing partner of the New York office of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP. A partner in the firm's intellectual property group, he focuses

on litigation and counseling on trademark, copyright, and Internet matters across a diverse array of industries in the United States and internationally.

1992



Michael F. Buchanan joined the New York office of Jenner & Block LLP as a partner in its intellectual property, white collar criminal defense and counseling, and securities

litigation practices. A former engineer, he practices complex litigation, focusing on intellectual property, corporate internal investigations, and the representation of corporate and individual clients in connection with criminal and civil investigations. Prior to joining the firm, he was chief of the Securities and Health Care Fraud Unit at the U.S. Attorney's Office in New Jersey. He also served as the deputy chief of the Office's Criminal Division and as chief of its Terrorism Unit post-9/11.

Samuel H. Rudman, a partner in the New York office of Coughlin Stoa Geller Rudman & Robbins LLP, was appointed to the board of directors of XTL Biopharmaceuticals Ltd. Rudman practices in the area of investigating and initiating securities and shareholder class actions.

1993

Jennifer Baum joined St. John's University School of Law as director of its Child Advocacy Clinic. She previously served as a senior staff attorney in the New York Legal Aid Society's Civil Law Reform Unit, where she brought impact litigation, provided legal support, and oversaw training and education in the area of immigrants' access to public benefits.

Scott A. Bersin, formerly assistant principal at Great Neck North High School on Long Island, became principal of Blind Brook High School in Rye Brook, N.Y. Prior to joining Great Neck North, he was an Assistant District Attorney in Bronx County.

Peter T. Blum joined the faculty of Valparaiso University School of Law as an assistant professor of law. He previously taught legal reasoning, research, and writing at Howard University School of Law. He also served as a staff attorney with the New York Legal Aid Society.

1995

Frederic J. Giordano, a partner in the Newark office of K&L Gates LLP, was named to the *New Jersey Law Journal's* 2008 "40 Under 40 List," an annual review of 40 promising young professionals in New Jersey's legal community. He practices complex civil and commercial litigation.

Stacy J. Kugler was married to Brian Ramelson in June 2008.

Scott E. Landau, formerly special counsel at Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, joined the New York office of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP as a partner in the firm's executive compensation and benefits practice group. He represents clients in acquisitions and divestitures, and IRS compliance for U.S. and foreign plans, programs and agreements, and he designs documents and counsels clients on executive compensation and nonqualified plan matters.

1996

Laurie Mintzer Edberg was promoted to senior counsel at Intermediary Legal and Business Advisors, a media and entertainment law firm in Washington, D.C. She focuses on copyrights, copyright royalties, trademarks, and other intellectual property law issues.

Jeremy S. Yellin '95 Wins Criminal Defense Award in Montana



JEREMY S. YELLIN, A CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYER in Havre, Montana, received a 2007 Lawyer of the Year Award from the Montana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers during its annual meeting in March 2008. Yellin was recognized for his successful defense of a death penalty homicide case to which he was appointed. He represented a Lakota Sioux tribe member who was charged with the death of a friend and fellow oil rig worker.

Yellin's criminal case load runs the range from defending DUIs in justice court to defending felony criminal charges in federal court. He has traveled throughout Montana defending cases. He also does appellate work in the Montana Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and practices family and personal injury law.

After completing his first year of law school, Yellin drove cross-country to Alaska. It was during this trip that he fell in love with the west and developed a fascination with Montana. During law school, Yellin worked for a small personal injury firm in Brooklyn. It was there that he met his first mentor and learned not only the mindset of a lawyer, but also how to manage a small business successfully.

He began his career in July of 1996 when he got his first job clerking for District Court Judge John Warner in Havre. Yellin then had the opportunity to work with the local public defender in North Central Montana, where he gained experience defending various criminal cases. "I didn't find criminal law — it found me," he said. "It is the most rewarding and gratifying work I could imagine doing."

"I am proud to have graduated from Brooklyn Law School," Yellin said, adding that he has fond memories of his professors whose words have stayed with him. He remembers Professor Richard Farrell reminding his class that "bigger doesn't mean smarter," which he said "has helped during times when I have been outnumbered in terms of manpower and resources." Professor Robert Pitler's lessons on evidence, he said helped him immeasurably in the court room. "His teaching style enabled me to maintain the rules in my mind with great clarity and understanding."

Glen Rosenberg joined Marx Realty & Improvement Co. as vice president and corporate counsel. Headquartered in New York, the commercial real estate company manages properties in 22 states and Canada. Rosenberg and his wife, Melissa, welcomed the birth of their daughter, Logan, in January 2008.

1997

Robert A. Acton, executive director of Cabrini Green Legal Aid, received an Alford-Axelson Award for Nonprofit Managerial Excellence from the Axelson Center for Nonprofit Management. During his four-year tenure at CGLA, which offers free legal assistance in the areas of family law, housing law, and criminal defense, he doubled the

size of the staff, tripled annual revenue and expanded the number of clients served from 550 to over 4,000.

Seth H. Borden joined the New York office of Kilpatrick Stockton LLP as counsel in its labor and employment practice group. He represents management in labor law matters throughout various industries.

Sun Min, formerly chief marketing officer for the College of Business and Administration at Southern Illinois University, became director of communications at Hofstra University School of Law. She previously served as a reporter and fill-in anchor at WSIL-TV in Carterville, Ill., and as a producer for New York-based network television shows "48 Hours," "20/20," and "PrimeTime Live." In 2002, Min was nominated for a National News Emmy Award for a "48 Hours" story on families affected by the 9/11 terrorist attacks. She also won the Edward R. Murrow Journalism Award and the Cinema in Industry Award.

David A. O'Connor joined Washington, D.C. communications law firm Wilkinson Barker Knauer, LLP as a partner. He counsels clients on a variety of regulatory issues before the FCC, principally focusing on media issues affecting the broadcast radio and television industry. O'Connor has served as a co-chair of the Federal Communications Bar Association's Mass Media Practice Committee since 2006 and currently serves on the FCBA's Nominations Committee.

1998

Charles N. Curlett Jr., an associate in the Baltimore office of Saul Ewing LLP in its white collar and government enforcement practice group, was appointed to the Felony Criminal Justice Act Panel for the District of Maryland. The Panel is limited to 100 lawyers in the state who represent indigent criminal defendants when the Federal Public Defender's Office has a conflict of interest or is otherwise unable to represent them.

Elissa D. Hecker, who maintains a private copyright, trademark and business law practice in Irvington, N.Y., was elected to the board of editors for the New York State Bar Association's *Bar Journal*. Hecker is past chair of the NYSBA's Entertainment, Arts, and Sports Law Section and editor of the section's journal. She is also co-chair and creator of the section's Pro Bono Committee. A frequent author, lecturer and panelist, she is also a member of the Copyright Society.

Christine Heenan (D'Ambrosia) became a partner in the Manhattan office of Kaufman Borgeest & Ryan LLP. She focuses on insurance coverage matters and coverage litigation. She and her husband, Hilary, welcomed their second child, Alison Rose, in April 2008.

Scott D. Krokoff, a singer/songwriter who recently retired from the practice of law to pursue a career in music, released his debut CD called *A Better Life*. His Web site, www.scottkrokoff.com, showcases his work.



Randi B. May (Seltzer) became a partner at Hoguet Newman Regal & Kenney, LLP, a litigation boutique firm in New York. She practices employment law, representing both employees and employers in all aspects of the employment relationship. She and her husband welcomed the birth of their second son, Oliver Lyle, in early 2008.

Boyd I. Rogers, formerly an associate in the Oregon office of Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll, LLP, joined JELD-WEN, Inc., a leading manufacturer of windows and doors with over 30,000 employees worldwide, as chief labor and employment counsel. He oversees the company's global labor and employment functions.

Jordan S. Rosenthal is a director in the South Florida office of Mestel & Co., one of the largest exclusively legal search firms in the country. He focuses on the placement of associates, partners and groups as well as law firm mergers and acquisitions.

1999

Alexandra Bourne (Derian), who maintains a private practice in Rock Hill, N.Y., and her husband, David, welcomed the birth of twins, Madelyn Ivy and Samuel Richard, in March 2008.

Laurie A. Grasso, a partner in the real estate practice group of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, was included in the 2008 edition of *The Legal 500 United States*, a United Kingdom-based directory that ranks firms and individual attorneys by practice area. Grasso counsels real estate development companies on acquisitions, financings, deal structuring, joint venture issues, zoning and land use matters, condominium, and development issues.

2000

Frank R. Dudis was promoted to counsel in the Public Assistance Crimes Unit of the Kings County District Attorney's Office. In March 2008, he presented and chaired a CLE program at the New York City Bar titled, "You Don't Practice Criminal Law & You Get That Midnight Call ... N.Y. Criminal Practice 101."

Lauren Breitman Tanen joined the New York office of Seyfarth Shaw LLP as an associate in the firm's labor and employment department. She focuses on employment discrimination litigation, compliance counseling, and wage and hour class action litigation.

2001



David K. S. Kim, a senior associate with the New York immigration law firm Bretz & Coven, LLP, was presented with a Public Service Award during the Asian American Heritage Month Celebration, which was co-sponsored by the Asian American Bar Association of New York, the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, and the South Asian Bar Association of New York.

He was also appointed a member of the Executive Office for Immigration Review's National Liaison Committee. Kim was also featured in an article in the *New York Law Journal* in September 2008 about his recent victory in a Second Circuit precedent-setting decision involving the Administrative Procedure Act.

2003

Heather M. Cohen, an associate at the New York firm Feldman, Weinstein & Smith LLP, where she specializes in corporate and securities law, was married to Roger Paul Levenson, a certified public accountant and partner in his family-owned accounting and tax firm.

Evandro C. Gigante, formerly an associate at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP, returned to the New York office Proskauer Rose LLP, where he previously worked, as an associate in the firm's labor and employment department.

2004



Christopher T. Bird received a master of laws in taxation from Boston University School of Law, graduating first in his class. He joined the Boston office Mintz Levin PC as an associate in its tax practice group.

Justin A. Greenblum joined the Newark office of K&L Gates LLP as an associate. He practices complex commercial litigation including construction, engineering, products liability, and policyholder insurance coverage litigation and counseling.

Christopher Massey was appointed assistant general counsel of Maxim Group, LLC. Headquartered in New York, the company is a full-service investment banking, securities, and wealth management firm. Massey was previously a securities litigation associate at Bressler Amery & Ross, P.C.

Annette Schuster (Frankel), a business affairs lawyer at the William Morris Agency in New York, was married to Michael Schuster, a founder and the director of business development at Mesoblast, a biotechnology company located in Melbourne, Australia.

Ledra Solomon (Horowitz), formerly with the New Jersey Attorney General's Office, became a court attorney to King's County Criminal Court Judge Michael Gerstein.

2005



Samantha V. Ettari joined the New York office of Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP as an associate in the firm's white-collar practice group. She previously served as a law clerk to the **Hon. Edward R. Korman '66** of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Sylvan Z. Garfunkel joined the Long Island firm Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein PC as an associate in the firm's corporate practice. Garfunkel concentrates on company mergers and acquisitions and general corporate representation for U.S.-based regional and national, as well as international, companies.

Desiree A. Johnson joined the Essex Junction, Vt. firm of Unsworth & Barra, PLC, where she practices in the areas of elder law, trusts and estates, and Medicaid planning. She was also accepted into the Elder Law LL.M. program at Stetson University College of Law, where she began classes this fall.

Timothy M. Kelly became chief operating officer of arena football team the New York Dragons, where he oversees the business aspects of team operations, including building and branding the franchise, and enhancing community and fan involvement with the team. Kelly was formerly chief operating officer of the professional indoor lacrosse team, the New York Titans.

Peninna H. Oren joined Gabay-Rafiy & Bowler LLP as an associate, practicing in the areas of general commercial litigation and insurance regulatory matters. The firm was founded by two Brooklyn Law School alumni, **Sari Gabay-Rafiy '00** and **Anne Marie Bowler '00**. Oren was formerly an associate at London & Fischer, LLP.

Anwesa Paul joined Epic Advertising, a leading online advertising company, as its privacy officer and associate general counsel.

Marisa C. Pizarro, manager of business affairs administration at Sony BMG Music Entertainment in New York, married Joshua White, owner of J. Grand Productions, a music marketing and promotions company, and disc jockey for Shade 45, a Sirius radio channel.

Samantha M. Rosenberg married Jonathan Darche in May 2008; both are assistant district attorneys in the Queens District Attorney's Office.

2006

James Attonito and **Mekhala Subramanian**, classmates in law school, were married in May 2008. Attonito is an associate in the mergers and acquisitions department of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Subramanian is an associate in the corporate department in the New York office Mintz Levin PC.

Carmela Miele joined the White Plains office of Goldberg Segalla LLP as an associate. She practices in the areas of construction worksite injury and general litigation.

2007

Tyra R. Saechao, an associate in the New York office of Clausen Miller PC, co-authored an op-ed piece for *The Washington Times* in May 2008 concerning aid for Myanmar and strategies for international relief.

2008



Brian A. Barbour joined the Hong Kong Refugee Advice Center, an NGO in Hong Kong that trains volunteer lawyers, interpreters, and other NGOs in the protection and

promotion of refugee rights. It also provides legal assistance for asylum-seekers who seek refugee status with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Hong Kong. Barbour will be supervising a number of pro bono lawyers from large firms in the area who represent refugees before the UNHCR.

Jeb L. Singer, a law clerk for Chief Judge Stuart M. Bernstein of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court of the Southern District of New York, wed Dr. Elizabeth Sedlis, a second-year resident in internal medicine at the New York University Medical Center.

Editor's Note:

The Alumni Office receives information for Alumni ClassNotes from various sources. All information is subject to editorial revision. *BLS LawNotes* is produced a few months in advance of publication, and any ClassNotes information received after production has begun is included in the next issue.

Please send ClassNotes information for future issues to the following e-mail address: communications@brooklaw.edu.

Endowed Scholarships Provide Meaningful Support for Donors and Students Alike

On the evening of March 25, students, faculty, alumni, and friends filled the Forchelli Conference Center at Feil Hall for Brooklyn Law School's inaugural Endowed Scholarship Celebration.

Scholarship events are not new to Brooklyn Law School. For many years, in the fall the Law School honored recipients of both merit and endowed scholarships, along with loyal supporters, alumni, and friends. Over the years the fall ceremony grew so large that this year, for the first time, a separate celebration was held to highlight endowed scholarships.

Over 130 donors and students attended, along with spouses, siblings, and children. During the program, Dean Joan G. Wexler



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT:

- 1 (L to R) Salvatore Montemarano and Salvatore Scibetta 'o6, representing the Ralph J. Sansone Scholarship, with Dean Joan G. Wexler.
- 2 Shannon Haley 'o8, recipient of the Susan G. and Martin A. Fischer Scholarship, with Martin Fischer '64. Fischer, a member of the BLS Board of Trustees, and his wife, Susan, also helped to create the Lucie S. Jurow Scholarship.
- 3 Susanne Flanders 'o8, recipient of the Regina Crea Memorial Scholarship, with Professor Joe Crea '47.
- 4 (L to R) Nicholas Milburn 'o8, who received the Barse Family Scholarship; Benjamin Pearce 'o8, who received the Irving R. Rosenthal Memorial Scholarship; and Justin Ormand 'o8, who received the Robert A. Khan Family Law Scholarship.
- 5 Ashley Kelly 'o9, recipient of the Sara Robbins Memorial Scholarship, with Sara's sisters Marlene and Anne Robbins.

DEVELOPMENT Corner

discussed the challenges facing today's law student and the reality that the cost of a law school education is "stopping many highly qualified individuals from pursuing the degree." The Law School's ability to attract superb students and competitively advance is therefore "the result of the generosity of our alumni and friends" who have endowed scholarships, she said.

Two student speakers also addressed the audience: Justin Collins '09, the recipient of the Murray Klein Memorial Scholarship; and Janora Hawkins '08, the recipient of the Vito J. Pitta Labor Law Scholarship. Collins described how his goal of attending Brooklyn Law School was made possible because of the scholarship aid he received. Hawkins' experience is distinct in that she was one of a handful of law students to whom the Law School provided a home after the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina. She opted to

stay at Brooklyn Law School, in large part because of the aid she received from an endowed scholarship. Hawkins noted that she has remained in touch with the family of Kate Welling, who funded the scholarship she received last year.

Two scholarship donors also spoke at the event: Gerald Shargel '69, the Law School's practitioner in residence, and Samuel Sporn '53, an adjunct faculty member. They highlighted not only the importance of giving back to their alma mater but also the pleasure of meeting recipients and seeing their support affect the lives of future generations.

Dean Wexler also announced the newly endowed scholarships, and then donors, recipients, and family members had a chance to get to know each other on a more personal level, sharing stories about law school and their future ambitions. □

A Family Tradition of Giving Back

Donor Close-up: Howard H. Stein '67

At this past June's commencement ceremony, Howard H. Stein, Class of 1967, took part in a Brooklyn Law School tradition by sitting on stage and presenting his daughter, Ilene, with her law degree. It was a moment of pride for both father and daughter.

Stein has enjoyed great success in his career. He is the founding and managing partner of his own real estate practice on Long Island, Stein & Sheidlower, LLP, and also serves as the designated counsel for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in New York State. He combines his professional success with a desire to give back to the profession.

As an alumnus who has successfully capitalized on his Brooklyn Law School degree, Stein believes that a legal education provides the best way to effect change in society. In 2008, along with his wife, Bernice, and his two daughters, Haley and Ilene, he endowed the Benjamin and Gladys Stein Scholarship in memory of his parents. The Law School will award the scholarship annually to a student studying public interest law. Stein also made a pledge to endow a second scholarship in the next year: the Harry and Mary Symel Scholarship, in memory of Bernice's parents.

For the Steins, honoring their family's past is just one reason they created these scholarships; they also honor its future. The family has offered to mentor the recipients of each scholarship — an opportunity that provides Stein's daughters with a special way to give back to the Law School and to the next generation of lawyers. □



Philip Hoffer '33



Rose and Philip Hoffer

Philip Hoffer, one of Brooklyn Law School's most loyal alumni, died on June 17, 2008. Together with his wife, Rose, who also attended Brooklyn Law School and graduated in 1954, they made many generous contributions to the Law School to endow scholarships and support the construction of Feil Hall and other major capital improvements.

Born in 1910 in Brooklyn, Hoffer attended City College of New York before entering Brooklyn Law School in 1930. He graduated with an LL.B. *cum laude* in 1933, the same year that his close friend Dean Jerome Prince graduated. The Hoffers practiced law together, and they had two sons, both of whom became doctors. During World War II, Hoffer served aboard a U.S. Navy submarine. He then returned to New York, where he practiced as a trial and appellate lawyer in state and federal courts for over 60 years. Hoffer served as general counsel, vice president, and director of Empire Mutual Insurance Company.

The Hoffers created and funded the Rose L. Hoffer and Philip Hoffer Scholarship/Loan Fund, the Rose L. and

Philip Hoffer Prize in Torts, and the Rose L. Hoffer and Philip Hoffer Emergency Student Loan Fund. After Rose's death, Hoffer endowed a faculty chair in her honor. Today, Professor Elizabeth Schneider holds the Rose L. Hoffer chair at Brooklyn Law School.

In December 1969 Hoffer was the first recipient of the Law School's Alumni Association Award. He served as president of the Association for six years. He and his wife also co-authored a regular column for the Brooklyn Law School alumni publication *Veritas*, offering their thoughts on "Things You Do Not Learn in Law School." In 2001, the Law School held a birthday celebration for Hoffer on his 90th birthday to thank him for his support.

Hoffer dedicated himself to ensuring that succeeding generations of Brooklyn Law School students would have the same opportunities that he and Rose enjoyed as students and lawyers. In a 1996 letter to Dean Joan G. Wexler, he wrote that his career as a lawyer taught him "the importance of encouraging those who have selected a career of lawyering," and he compared the Law School to "a caring parent [that] has prepared its graduates well." Hoffer himself was a nurturing influence on his alma mater.

Hoffer is survived by his son, Mark, eight grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Bernice Zwanger '49



Bernice and Jerome Zwanger

Bernice Zwanger, a generous benefactor of Brooklyn Law School, died on July 29, 2008. Zwanger was a steadfast supporter of the Law School, and a succession of students have benefitted from the scholarship that she and her husband, Dr. Jerome

Zwanger, endowed in her name. She said that she established the scholarship to thank the Law School for the education she received at a time when few other law schools admitted women.

Born in Queens in 1926, she attended Queens College and went on to become one of three women law students in her Brooklyn Law School class. After practicing law for several years, she married Dr. Zwanger, a Long Island radiologist, in 1955 and moved to Massapequa Park.

In 2004, the Zwangers made a major gift which the Law School recognized by naming the national reading room in the library in memory of their daughter, Roberta Zwanger. "Bernice was a wonderful woman — always direct, always thoughtful, always thinking about what she could do for the Law School and the students," Dean Joan G. Wexler said. "She was everything that a dean could wish for in an alum, and we will miss her."

Zwanger was a patron of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and a member of its Visiting Committee on Arms and Armor. She also served on the board of directors of the Gurwin Jewish Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. In 2003, Zwanger and a group of other Brooklyn Law School graduates were admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States.

Zwanger is survived by her husband, three daughters, seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Bertram Bronzaft '61



Bertram and Arline Bronzaft

Bertram Bronzaft, a great supporter of Brooklyn Law School, died April 10, 2008. He practiced law for 38 years at the New York firm Garwin, Bronzaft, Gerstein & Fisher, where he was the managing partner.

Bronzaft helped to found the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship Program and was a devoted supporter of the Sparer Program throughout his life. In 2002, his daughter Robin Bronzaft Howald and other family members and friends helped to establish the Bertram Bronzaft Scholarship, which is awarded to a deserving student who has demonstrated academic excellence as a Sparer Fellow. Bronzaft's daughter Susan Santoro graduated from the Law School in 1991.

"Bert was a wonderful person who was tremendously enthusiastic about the Sparer Program. He celebrated every success and expansion of the program with love and joy," said Professor Elizabeth Schneider, Rose L. Hoffer Professor of Law and director of the Sparer Program, who stayed in close contact with Bronzaft and his family. "We will miss him terribly."

Born in 1934 in New York, Bronzaft attended Brooklyn College. He was on the staff of *Brooklyn Law Review* and worked closely with fellow student Edward Sparer, who was the editor of the *Law Review*. His law practice consisted mainly of representing stockholders in derivative actions, but he took on other clients and causes as well, according to his wife, Arline, a psychologist. "Bert always loved to represent the underdog," she said. He represented her in a successful attempt to stop CUNY from discriminating against its female teachers in the 1970s. He also championed the cause of a family friend who had been denied Social Security benefits for a mental disability. "We published a paper about this case, which we shared with our congressman who began the fight, in the 1980s, for mental health parity," Arline explained. "Bert was excited about the law, and he loved fighting for what was right."

Bronzaft is survived by Arline, their two daughters, four grandchildren, and his sister, Linda.

1931

Abraham Sperber
September 15, 2008

1936

Isadore H. Unger
July 16, 2008

1938

Isidore Sapir
July 1, 2008

1940

Marvin Schacher
May 31, 2008

1941

Albert R. Annucci
June 21, 2008

1948

William V. Bijesse
April 22, 2008

Sidney Kane
April 25, 2008

Edward D. Nolin
May 7, 2008

1951

John Galardi Jr.
April 6, 2008

Elliott Golden
July 25, 2008

Franklin I. Remer
July 6, 2008

Edward Resnick
May 1, 2008

Jerrad S. Siegel
July 21, 2008

1953

Shirley T. Schwimmer
June 1, 2008

Richard J. Weinberg
April 10, 2008

1954

Jacob Berman
June 29, 2008

Kenneth T. Edson
August 2, 2008

Louis R. Gallagher
July 19, 2008

Ralph A. Matalon
July 22, 2008

1957

Agnostino V. Stratico
July 14, 2008

1958

June A. McCarron
April 30, 2008

Daniel Sunshine
September 13, 2008

1959

Gerald Director
September 2, 2008

Richard Krauss
June 6, 2008

1960

Lawrence Babitch
May 16, 2008

1963

Joel J. Flick
August 21, 2008

1971

James W. Parker
May 21, 2008

1978

Robin A. Woodrow
June 25, 2008

1980

Joseph F. Cafiero
October 10, 2008

1981

Dorothy S. Morrill
January 23, 2008

1983

Michael A. Calano
June 28, 2008

1986

Patricia A. Smith
July 4, 2008

1990

Andrew M. Miglianelli
July 25, 2008

1991

Tovah Hechtman
April 4, 2008