

Editor's Note

The hope is that this newsletter will help us know what others have been doing and allow for connections that might not otherwise occur. **So thanks to those whose names are below and thanks in advance to those who respond to the next request.** – E.R.

Upcoming Conferences (notes follow list)

Feb. 11, 2011: "[Minorities in Family Law: Family Law as an Agent of Social Change and Empowerment for Minorities in the 21st Century](#)" hosted by The Scholar: St. Mary's Law Review on Minority Issues, San Antonio, TX.

Feb 18-20, 2011 [Yale's Rebellious Lawyering Conference](#), New Haven, CT.

Mar. 4-6, 2011: [24th Annual Robert M. Cover Public Interest Law Retreat](#), Peterborough, NH.

Mar. 18-19, 2011: [Masking and Manipulating Vulnerability](#), Emory Law, Submission Deadline Jan. 17, 2011.

Mar. 30-31, 2011: [Feminist Legal Theory Conference](#), University of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD.

Apr. 6-8, 2011: [State Bar of Texas' Poverty Law Conference](#), Austin, TX.

Apr. 15-16, 2011: [Symposium on Amartya Sen's *The Idea of Justice*](#), hosted by the Rutgers Law Journal, Rutgers-Camden.

June 2-5, 2011: [Law & Society Annual Conference](#), San Francisco, CA.

Oct. 6-7, 2011: [LatCrit XVI](#), San Diego, CA. LatCrit XVI is preceded by a Jr. Faculty Development Workshop on Oct. 6-7, 2011. The deadline to submit proposals is Apr. 4, 2011.

Note from Michele Gilman on the Feminist Legal Theory Conference: "The University of Baltimore School of Law's Center on Applied Feminism announces its fourth annual Feminist Legal Theory Conference, *Applying Feminism Globally*. The conference will take place on March 30-31, 2011 on the campus of the University of Baltimore, and will seek to explore how feminist legal theory operates in a global and international context. Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison will deliver a keynote address to kick off the conference on March 30, 2011 at 8 p.m. The theme raises a variety of questions: How has feminist legal theory affected the lives of women across the globe? How does feminist legal theory differ across cultures within and outside the United States? How could feminist legal theory from outside of the United States benefit American women and feminist scholarship? How do post-colonial perspectives on feminist legal theory apply in a domestic context? Can feminist legal theory improve our understanding of challenges facing immigrants within our own borders? How are human rights norms compatible with feminist legal theory? This conference will attempt to address these and other questions from the perspectives of activists, practitioners, and academics. The conference will provide an opportunity for participants and audience members to exchange ideas about the current state of feminist

legal theories and how those theories are being and can be actualized on behalf of women in a global context.”

Books and Book Updates

Tim Iglesias (Univ. of San Francisco): *A LEGAL GUIDE TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING* (2nd ed. ABA, Tim Iglesias and Rochelle E. Lento eds., forthcoming 2011). Tim authored a revised and updated chapter entitled “State and Local Regulation of Particular Types of Affordable Housing.”

Deborah Kenn (Syracuse): *LAWYERING FROM THE HEART* (2009). Overview:

In her book *Lawyering From the Heart*, Professor Deborah Kenn chronicles the experience of 22 public interest lawyers in different stages of their careers. Inspired by the many lawyers who choose a different career path to that of the traditional law firm, Professor Kenn decided to write about their stories to serve as a reference, particularly for law students and recent graduates considering careers in public interest law. The book includes poignant tales of lawyers who find that despite obstacles, particularly financial ones, the work itself is the most meaningful reward of all. “Echoed over and over in my interviews was the sentiment that people truly enjoyed going to the office... to see the people they work with,” wrote Kenn. “...the people who’ve become friends in the tireless quest for justice and equality.” By exposing success stories and dismantling myths about the difficulty of surviving on a public interest salary, Professor Kenn faces head-on the obstacles that deter some law students and young lawyers from pursuing a career in this field.

Articles and Other Publications

Ann Cammett (UNLV): *Deadbeats, Deadbrokes, and Prisoners* (forthcoming *Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy*).

Marie A. Failing (Hamline): *Ophelia with Child: A Restorative Approach to Legal Decision-making by Teen Mothers*, 25 *LAW AND INEQUALITY* 255 (2010); *Levinas, Law Schools and the Poor: They Stand Over Us*, 35 *OKLA. CITY UNIV. L. REV* 115 (2010).

Jonathan Barry Forman (Oklahoma): *Using Refundable Tax Credits to Help Low-income Taxpayers: What Do We Know, and What Can We Learn From Other Countries?*, 8(2) *EJOURNAL OF TAX RESEARCH* 128-61 (December 2010).

Tim Iglesias (Univ. of San Francisco): *Our Pluralist Housing Housing Ethics and Public-Private Partnerships for Affordable Housing in AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS* (Robin Malloy and Nestor Davidson eds. 2009); “Housing Paradigms” in *THE INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF HOUSING AND HOME* (2010).

Thomas Mitchell (Wisconsin): *Forced Sale Risk: Class, Race, and the "Double Discount,"* 37 *FLA. ST. U. L. REV.* 589 (with Stephen Malpezzi and Richard K. Green).

Michele Benedetto Neitz (Golden Gate): *A Unique Bench, A Common Code: Evaluating Judicial Ethics in Juvenile Court*, 24 *GEO. J. LEGAL ETHICS* __ (2010).

Ann Piccard (Stetson): *The United States' Failure to Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Must the Poor Be Always with Us?* (forthcoming The Scholar: St. Mary's Law Review on Minority Issues).

Ezra Rosser (American): *Abistorical Indians and Reservation Resources*, 40 ENVTL. L. 437 (2010); *Anticipating de Soto: Allotment of Indian Reservations and the Dangers of Land-Titling*, in HERNANDO DE SOTO AND PROPERTY IN A MARKET ECONOMY (D. Benjamin Barros ed. 2010).

Speeches and Presentations

Thomas Mitchell (Wisconsin): *Law as Transformative Agent: Thinking and Doing Property in New Categories*, AALS Sections on Real Estate Law and Property Law, Jan. 2010.

Ezra Rosser (American): "Children's Consumption of Migration: Remittances and Food Security," U. N. World Food Program Conference on Food Security and International Migration, Reno, NV, Sep. 2010; "New Institutional Economics and Good Governance Promotion," *Symposium: A Changing of the Guard: The Future of International Law and Development under Obama*, UNC School of Law, Jan. 2010.

Legislative and Regulatory Activities

Thomas W. Mitchell (Wisconsin): "As the Reporter for the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, Uniform Partition of Inherited Property Act, I successfully shepherded the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act through final passage at the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws annual meeting in Chicago in July 2010. In the Uniform Law Commission's 119-year history, I am just the second African-American to have served as a Reporter on one of their roughly 270 uniform act projects which have received final approval and the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act represents one of the very few acts the Uniform Law Commission has approved which seeks to promote the interests of poor and minority people. I am now working with the Uniform Law Commission's legislative counsel staff to interest states in considering the Act for enactment. At least one state is already considering enacting the Act at this time and the A.B.A. House of Delegates will consider giving its seal of approval to the Act at its midyear meeting in February in Atlanta."

Other

Davida Finger (Loyola New Orleans): The Loyola University New Orleans College of Law law clinic (Community Justice section) is local counsel on the *Ridgely, et al v. Federal Emergency Management Agency, et al*, Case No. 07-2146 (E.D. LA), in which a \$2.65 million settlement was reached (final approval Dec. 14, 2010). The class action lawsuit is about whether FEMA improperly denied continued housing assistance in connection with Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The law clinic joined with pro bono counsel from around the country on this case including attorneys from Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. Attorneys of record from the law clinic are Davida Finger & Bill Quigley.

Jonathan Barry Forman (Oklahoma): interviewed about his experience as the IRS Professor in Residence for the 2009-2010 academic year for Michael Joe, *Conversations: Prof. Jonathan B. Forman*, 129(2) TAX NOTES 181-85 (October 11, 2010). Jonathan was also selected for a 2011 *Abe Greenbaum Research Fellowship* at the Australian School of Taxation and Business Law, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. He will lecture and conduct research for about a month during the American summer of 2011, culminating in a paper on *Pension Reform: What Can the United States and Australia Learn from Each Other?* (with Senior Lecturer Gordon Mackenzie).

Ezra Rosser (American): Ezra would be happy to add people as either editors or guest bloggers for the Poverty Law Blog, <http://maximinlaw.wordpress.com/>, and if you are not interested in doing that but do have something (a forthcoming paper, a paper just published, or news of interest) that would be good for the blog, PLEASE email, crosser@wcl.american.edu.

Notes

From Libba Patterson (Univ. of South Carolina): I'd like to call everyone's attention to the Supreme Court's acceptance of certiorari in the case of *Turner v. Price*. This case argues for a right to counsel in civil contempt cases in which the contemnor faces a jail sentence. This is an important issue in regard to low-income child support obligors who have fallen behind in their support payments because of inability to pay. Incarceration for civil contempt is supposed to be a coercive measure to induce the contemnor to comply with the court's order (in this case, to pay the required support). If the contemnor is unable to comply, incarceration is improper. Yet many low-income child support obligors are incarcerated through the civil contempt process despite their inability to pay. Because the proceedings are civil, a number of states do not recognize a right to counsel for the alleged contemnor despite the potential for incarceration. The problems in this area are further elaborated in my recent article, *Civil Contempt and the Indigent Child Support Obligor: The Silent Return of Debtor's Prison*, 18 Cornell J. L. & Pub. Pol'y 95 (2008). *Turner* is being represented by Seth Waxman of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale & Dorr. Anyone desiring further information about the case can either contact me or get in touch with Sonya Lebsack at Wilmer Hale (sonyalebsack@wilmerhale.com).

Welcome to New Members of the Poverty Law Community

Marc-Tizoc González (St. Thomas): will be joining the St. Thomas faculty as an assistant professor in Fall 2011. His job talk was on "The Fabrication of Poverty." Marc-Tizoc is presently an adjunct professor at the Golden Gate University School of Law, teaching property, and a Chancellor's Public Scholar, 2010-11, and lecturer in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, teaching undergraduate law-related courses on Latinas/os, interracial justice and the history of legal services organizations in the SF Bay Area. A 2005 Berkeley Law graduate, from 2006-10, Marc-Tizoc served as a staff attorney at the Alameda County Homeless Action Center.

To anyone who is new to teaching or simply new to teaching Poverty Law, if you would like to be matched up with any of the more senior members of the community who have volunteered to help mentor, please email ecrosser@wcl.american.edu.

The End

Submissions to accompany the newsletter follow:

Appendix 1: University of Baltimore law students take the food stamp challenge

Appendix 2: Community Service, Problem Solving and “Hands On” Learning

Appendix 3: Section on Socio-Economics Newsletter