

# AALS CLINICAL SECTION

Newsletter – April 2016

*Welcome to the April 2016 AALS Clinical Section Newsletter! We, your editors, are pleased to bring you exciting information and updates from both the Section and from schools and programs around the country. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our contact information is listed below and we'd love to hear from you!*

## Clinical Section Co-Chairs' Report

It's been a pleasure to serve as your co-chairs this year. One of the many benefits of this role is the opportunity we have to work closely with many of our colleagues doing great work around the country. We want to start by thanking, once again, Jayesh Rathod (American), our past chair, for his service, and welcoming two new members to the Executive Committee, Patience Crowder (Denver) and Lisa Smith (Brooklyn).

The work of the section started off quickly this year with submission of a **Statement of Position Regarding Proposed Changes to ABA Accreditation Standards 304 and 305** on Field Placement. This statement was the product of the thoughtful and hard work of our Policy Committee, Chaired by Ragini Shah (Suffolk), and our Externship Committee led by Daniel Schaffzin (Memphis) and Kendall Kerew (Georgia State University). Thanks to you all for your meaningful work. As many of you no doubt know by now, on March 11, the ABA Council on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar voted on two significant changes to the Standards relating to externships:

- It approved changes to the Standards that govern field placement courses, repealing former Standard 305(e) and creating a new Standard 304(c).
- It removed the interpretation that banned credit for field placements at which students receive compensation, revoking what has come to be known as the "paid externship" rule.

These changes need to be confirmed by the ABA House of Delegates before the changes will be required of law schools.

## In This Issue

- Page 1 Clinical Section Co-Chairs' Report
- Page 4 Committee Reports
- Page 5 Program Updates
- Page 8 Message from CLEA
- Page 9 Honors, Accolades, and Victories
- Page 12 Conferences and Meetings

Erma Bonadero, University of Houston Law Center ([ecbonade@central.uh.edu](mailto:ecbonade@central.uh.edu))

Natalie Nanasi, SMU Dedman School of Law ([nnanasi@smu.edu](mailto:nnanasi@smu.edu))

Adrienne Smith, Boston University School of Law ([ans@bu.edu](mailto:ans@bu.edu))

Leif Rubinstein, Touro Law ([LRubinstein@tourolaw.edu](mailto:LRubinstein@tourolaw.edu))

We've also been working on a number of other fronts:

**2016 Baltimore Conference.** We're of course all gearing up for Baltimore. Thanks to our conference organizers for what looks like another great gathering. Please place on your calendars:

- A. **Tribute to Gary Palm**, Tuesday, May 3, 12:30-1:45 p.m.;
- B. Presentation of the **Shanara Gilbert Award** to Perry Moriearty (Minnesota), Sunday, May 1, 12:00-2:00 p.m.;
- C. **Joint CLEA Membership Meeting/Clinical Section Town Hall**, Saturday, April 30, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Harborside E—open bar!; and
- D. **Executive Committee-Committee Chairs Meeting**, Saturday, April 30, 12:30-1:45 p.m., at Harborside D.

**Section Committees.** On which note: thank you, too, to all of you who've recommitted or stepped up to lead and staff our committees. In addition to the Executive Committee, we have 18 other committees that work on awards, membership, nominations, policy, diversity—and more. Our Section cannot function without them. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please let us know. Also, committees will be meeting at the conference and you should feel free to join any group that is of interest. The dates, times, and location of these meetings will be in the conference program materials.

**Shanara Gilbert Award.** We are pleased to announce that Perry Moriearty, Vaughan G. Papke Clinical Professor in Law at the University of Minnesota School of Law, has been selected as this year's recipient of the Clinical Section's Shanara Gilbert Award. The award will be presented to Perry during a luncheon at the Clinical Legal Education Conference in Baltimore on Sunday, May 1, 2016. We hope that many of you will be able to join us in celebrating her work. Thanks to the Nominations Committee, chaired by Margaret Barry (Vermont) and supported by Dionne Gonder (North Carolina Central), Lisa Martin (Catholic), and Sameer Ashar (UC-Irvine) for their work on this award.

**Conference/Project Funding.** As many of you may know, the Executive Committee recently adopted new funding guidelines that expand our ability to support the good work of clinicians. In addition to funding regional and substantive conferences, we are now looking to fund initiatives and ideas designed to promote and support the advancement of clinical legal education. Thanks to your dues and the work of our treasurer, Julie Lawton (DePaul), we have been able to fund four conferences this year: Transactional, Externship, New England, and Northern California. One of our priorities continues to be making your dues work by funding these conferences and other projects. We currently have a proposal to fund an initiative before the Executive Committee but we continue to seek proposals for consideration. If you have ideas for projects that need funding, please feel free to reach out to any member of the Executive Committee for information.

## Join your colleagues at the AALS Clinical Conference! *April 30 – May 3*

This year's theme, *Clinics and Communities: Exploring Community Engagement Through Clinical Education*, explores issues particularly salient in the chosen site, Baltimore, MD.

To view the program, [click here](#).

To register, [click here](#).

Thank you, we look forward to seeing you in Baltimore!

- **The Planning Committee for the 2016 Conference on Clinical Legal Education**



AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS  
ASSOCIATION OF

**Upcoming Clinical Conferences.** As you know, we will hold our next conference in Denver. In 2018, we will go south, to Austin, Texas.

**AALS Listservs.** As we write, the AALS is creating listservs for our Section and each of our committees. Motivated by the International Committee's request, we will soon have additional, more dedicated, and more inclusive (subscribers need not be Section members) platforms by which to communicate. We'll keep you posted on their progress.

**Conversations with Deans' Forum.** Spurred by the California and New York bars' requirements on experiential learning, we have initiated a conversation with the Steering Committee of the AALS Deans' Forum, the organization of all AALS deans, in an effort to find common ground regarding such mandates. Our discussions thus far have been productive: we've agreed to share information, see if we can agree on a definition of "experiential" legal education, and explore holding a joint meeting or summit at the 2017 annual meeting. We'll keep you posted.

**2017 Program at AALS Annual Meeting.** Which brings us to our final update: thanks to Tirien Steinbach (East Bay Community Law Center) and Liz Keyes (Baltimore) for putting together a great 2016 program at the annual meeting. We've appointed Praveen Kosuri (U.Penn.) and Gemma Solimene (Fordham) to organize our program for the next annual meeting. At that meeting, we also have agreed to co-sponsor a **joint program with Section on International Legal Exchange** on practical approaches to developing and assessing experiential, meaningful placements for J.D. and LL.M students. Thanks to Lisa Smith for leading the EC's work on this joint program.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact either of us for questions, suggestions, or concerns. See you in Baltimore!

Eduardo R.C. Capulong (Montana)

Christine Cimini (Vermont/U. of Washington)



# Committee Reports

The **Scholarship Committee** of the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education offers every clinician an opportunity for supportive, non-evaluative feedback on a scholarly work-in-progress from a clinical colleague with shared substantive expertise. We have already matched many writers and reviewers. If you have a work-in-progress and would like to be paired with a clinical colleague at another school, send a request to this address: [clinicalpeernetwork@gmail.com](mailto:clinicalpeernetwork@gmail.com). Also please email the same address if you are willing to offer constructive feedback and want to join our amazing database of subject-matter experts. If you have questions, email Michele Gilman at [clinicalpeernetwork@gmail.com](mailto:clinicalpeernetwork@gmail.com). Happy writing!

The following members have been appointed for a three year term to the Clinical Section's **Teaching Methodologies Committee**: **Kendall Lynn Kerew**, Assistant Clinical Professor and Director, Externship Program, Georgia State College of Law; **Karla McKanders** - Associate Professor of Law, University of Tennessee College of Law; **Michele Pistone** - Director of Clinic for Asylum, Refugee and Emigrant Services (CARES) & Professor of Law, Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law; **Jean Phillips** - Clinical Professor, Director of Clinical Programs, Director, Project for Innocence and Post Conviction Remedies, University of Kansas School of Law; **Joy Radice** - Associate Professor of Law, University of Tennessee College of Law; **Paul Radvany** - Clinical Professor of Law, Fordham University School of Law

Their commitment to innovative teaching is key to the success of this committee. I know that we all look forward to sharing our ideas with the academic community.

C. Benjie Louis, Chair  
Visiting Associate Clinical Professor of Law and Attorney-in-Charge,  
Disaster Recovery Clinic, Maurice A. Deane School of Law, Hofstra  
Law

## Mentorship Opportunities Available!

Sign up for a mentor or to be a mentor through the AALS Membership, Outreach and Training Committee's Helping Hands Mentoring Program.

Be a mentor: sign up [here](#).  
Request a mentor: sign up [here](#).

### *The Membership, Outreach, & Training Committee*

Jodi Balsam (Brooklyn) Co-  
chair [jodi.balsam@brooklaw.edu](mailto:jodi.balsam@brooklaw.edu)

Jaime Lee (Baltimore) Co-  
chair [jlee@ubalt.edu](mailto:jlee@ubalt.edu)

Lauren Aronson (Louisiana  
State) [lauren.aronson@law.lsu.edu](mailto:lauren.aronson@law.lsu.edu)

Sabrina Balgamwalla (North  
Dakota) [sabrina.balgamwalla@law.und.edu](mailto:sabrina.balgamwalla@law.und.edu)

Yael Cannon (New  
Mexico) [cannon@law.unm.edu](mailto:cannon@law.unm.edu)

Christina Pollard  
(Idaho) [christinap@uidaho.edu](mailto:christinap@uidaho.edu)

Kathryn Ramsey (George  
Washington) [kvr Ramsey@law.gwu.edu](mailto:kvr Ramsey@law.gwu.edu)

# Program Updates

Tiffany Sizemore-Thompson joined **Duquesne Law** as an assistant clinical professor to launch the Juvenile Defender Clinic, help to supervise the Unemployment Compensation Clinic, and plan the Education Law Clinic, which will open in fall 2016.



Sizemore-Thompson came to Duquesne after serving as deputy director for the Juvenile Division at the Office of the Public Defender in Allegheny County.

**Georgetown Law** is delighted to announce several new additions to its clinical faculty. Aderson Francois will direct the Institute for Public Representation's Civil Rights Clinic, as well as the newly-created Voting Rights Institute. Previously, Aderson directed the Civil Rights Clinic at Howard University School of Law, where he also taught Constitutional Law, Federal Civil Rights, and Supreme Court Jurisprudence. Erica Hashimoto will join Georgetown as director of the year-long Appellate Litigation Clinic. Erica comes from the University of Georgia School of Law, where she was Associate Dean for Clinical Programs and Experiential Learning, Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor, and Allen Post Professor of Law. Finally, Brian Wolfman will return to Georgetown to create and direct a new semester-long Appellate Litigation Clinic. Most recently, Brian was at Stanford Law, where he was a Professor of the Practice of Law and Co-Director of Stanford Law School's Supreme Court Litigation Clinic. From 2009 to 2014, Brian served as a Director of Georgetown's Civil Rights clinic.

In the Spring of 2015, the **Northern Illinois University College of Law** faculty voted to make a clinic or externship mandatory for all College of Law students.

Starting this fall, **Boston University School of Law** will offer a **Technology & Cyberlaw Clinic**. Clinic students will advise MIT and BU students on laws and regulations that may affect their innovation-related academic and extracurricular activities. Andy Sellars, an attorney at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet and Society, will join BU Law as director of the Technology & Cyberlaw Clinic. In addition, BU Law is pleased to announce that Gerard O'Connor will direct its **Entrepreneurship & IP Clinic**.

This fall, Professor Christine Cimini will become the Associate Dean for Experiential Education at the **University of Washington School of Law**. Currently Christine is at Vermont Law School where she serves as Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development and directs the school's externship program. Christine has served the clinical community on CLEA's board and the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar. She currently is Co-Chair of the AALS Clinical Section.

Professor William Wesley Patton has recently decided to change to Emeritus status after having taught for 32 years at both **UCLA** and **Whittier Law Schools**. Professor Patton will remain an Assistant



Clinical Vol Professor at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry where he teaches medical ethics, forensic child and adolescent psychiatry and medical policy analysis and advocacy.

Professor Laurie Kohn, director of the Family Justice Litigation Clinic at **George Washington University Law School** has been awarded clinical tenure. The award recognizes Laurie's talents as a teacher, scholar, and advocate for low-income families and her skills in clinical pedagogy.

(continued)

**Boston College Law School (BC Law)** has promoted Francine Sherman from Associate Clinical Professor to Clinical Professor with tenure equivalent. Prof Sherman has been teaching Juvenile Justice and Children's Rights & Public Policy for the past twenty years and she founded and directs the Juvenile Rights Advocacy Program. Mary Holper has also been promoted, from Associate Clinical Professor to Associate Clinical Professor with tenure equivalent. Prof. Holper is Director of the Immigration Clinic.

BC Law is proud to introduce several new clinics: the Entrepreneurship & Innovation Clinic, where students will provide a broad range of business law, intellectual property and transactional services to under-resourced clients in the Greater Boston area on issues relating to new and emerging businesses; the Prisoner Disciplinary Hearing Clinic, where students will represent prisoners in prison disciplinary hearings; and the Amicus Brief Clinic where faculty identify an important legal issue being considered or soon to be considered by a court and guide a small student team in the process of researching, writing, editing, and submitting an amicus brief to the court for consideration.

The faculty of the **University of Maine School of Law** voted to promote Anna R. Welch, faculty supervisor of Maine Law's Refugee and Human Rights Clinic, to Clinical Professor of Law.

Professor Welch joined the Maine Law faculty in 2012 to design and launch the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic. Professor Welch also teaches the Law School's Immigration Law course.



The **University of Baltimore School of Law (UB)** is pleased to announce several promotions and new hires. Margaret Johnson, Director of the Family Law Clinic has been promoted to full Professor. In addition, Jaime Lee, Director of the Community Development Clinic, has been granted tenure.

Hugh McClean, who has directed the Bob Parsons Veterans Advocacy Clinic at UB, has been appointed to a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Law. Lila Meadows has been appointed a Clinical Fellow in the Mediation Clinic for Families. Lila is the recipient of a Yale Initiation for Public Interest Fellowship and comes to UB after teaching in the University of Maryland Gender Violence Clinic.

UB is also starting a new Pretrial Justice Clinic, to be taught by Colin Starger and Zina Maher. The Clinic will challenge unfair and improper bail determinations on behalf of indigent criminal defendants. Zina has worked on human rights and poverty issues in Egypt and Malawi, and with the Wounded Warrior Project.

**Rutgers Law School** has hired Alexis Karteron, to join its clinical faculty and to direct and teach in the Constitutional Rights Clinic (CRC). She is taking over the work of Distinguished Professor Frank Askin who is retiring this spring after 50 years on the faculty. Alexis is currently a senior supervisory attorney at the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU) and was lead counsel in one of the three high profile and successful federal civil rights challenges to the NYC police department's



"stop and frisk" policy (Ligon v. City of New York). Alexis previously worked on the national staff of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund as a voting rights specialist and at the White House Staff Secretary's Office.

Tasha Willis, ADR Director and Mediation Clinic Director at the **University of Houston Law School** has been Promoted to Associate Clinic Professor.

**Washington and Lee University School of Law** has named Professor J.D. King to be the [Director of Experiential Education](#).

**Washington University School of Law** is adding two new clinical offerings. Students in the new **Guardian ad Litem Clinic** will provide free legal services to foster children who are victims of abuse and neglect. The clinic will be taught by Kathryn P. Banks, legal services director for Voices for Children. In the new **Urban Revitalization Clinical Practicum**, students will focus on the laws and policies governing urban areas and will work with attorneys to address revitalization matters in the St. Louis region.

Professor Manoj Viswanathan has been appointed to the faculty of **UC Hastings College of the Law**. Professor Viswanathan has been a visiting professor this year and has partnered with Professor Alina Ball to launch a new experiential learning course titled the Business Tax Practicum for Social Enterprises. Additionally, Professor Brittany Glidden will join UC Hastings College of the Law in June as the Director of Externships and Pro Bono Programs and Professor Ascanio Piomelli will pick up the mantle of Associate Dean for Experiential Learning effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Suffolk Law School** welcomes Nicole Rizzo Smith, who will direct the Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic. Nicole's IP background includes six years as a trademark and copyright associate at Sunstein, Kann, Murphy & Timbers, three years as an IP transactions and trademark associate and, most recently, as global trademark counsel for Axiom Global Inc. Please also join us in congratulating Maritza Karmely and Sarah Boonin, who were granted tenure this past December. Sarah will also be our new Associate Director of Clinical Programs. Kim McLaurin will be our new Associate Dean of Experiential Education and Director of Clinical Programs.

In the 2015-16 academic year, **New York Law School (NYLS)** began the Veterans Justice Clinic. Clinic students offer legal assistance to low-income veterans in New York City under the supervision of attorneys (members of NYLS' adjunct faculty) at Legal Services NYC. The course focuses on poverty law and veteran-specific legal issues. NYLS will also introduce for 2016-17, a Cyberharassment Clinic, which is a project of [The Tyler Clementi Institute for CyberSafety](#).



practitioner.

NYLS students will represent victims of online harassment, cyberbullying, and "revenge porn" under the direct supervision of a faculty member and experienced

Leah Hill is now the Associate Dean for Clinical and Experiential Education at **Fordham Law**. During her years at Fordham, Leah has worked at the intersection of Family Law and Social Work. As Associate Dean, Leah provides leadership for the extraordinary range of experiential opportunities.



In addition, Mike W. Martin was promoted to Director of Clinical Education and serves as the Executive Director of Lincoln Square Legal Services, Inc., Fordham's incorporated, not-for-profit legal services

firm. He supervises the Federal Litigation Clinic, and also runs Fordham's summer program study abroad program in Ireland.

**Seattle University School of Law** is pleased to announce a new Workers' Rights Clinic, a collaboration with the University of Washington. The clinic will be offered in partnership with the Fair Work Center, a community-based organization dedicated to enforcement of workplace protections and empowering workers. Students will focus on the enforcement of Seattle's \$15 minimum wage, paid sick and safe leave, and fair work (ban-the-box) ordinances. The Clinic will be taught by Liz Ford, Legal Director for the Fair Work Center and Distinguished Practitioner in Residence at Seattle University School of Law.

## Message from CLEA

With over 1300 members, CLEA's work focuses on supporting and empowering our clinical colleagues. CLEA's members are involved in a number of important issues such as national and state-level advocacy, clinical teaching through the biennial *New Clinicians Conference* and supporting scholarship resources, such as the Clinical Law Review. CLEA's major initiative this year is conducting a meaningful strategic planning process to address the future of clinical legal education. We appreciated your survey responses last fall about CLEA's work and future. We hope you can join us for our upcoming CLEA Membership Meeting, where we will provide updates and hold further discussions on strategic planning. We have worked with the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education to hold our Membership Meeting right before the Section's Town Hall. **The CLEA Membership Meeting will be Saturday, April 30, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. in Harborside E of the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront and we will have an open bar!**

In addition to strategic planning, CLEA has been busy with its advocacy work. This year, CLEA, led by its Externship and Advocacy committees, continued its advocacy against the ABA's proposal to remove the interpretation that banned credit for field placements when students receive compensation. Unfortunately, the ABA Council on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar did remove that interpretation. CLEA was successful in helping to shape changes to the ABA standards governing field placement courses, which confirms that field placement courses must be educational experiences taught by faculty, carefully supervised, and focused on the student's professional development. As always, CLEA's comments to the ABA along with its other committee work is located on our website, [cleaweb.org](http://cleaweb.org).

We look forward to seeing you in Baltimore!

Maritza Karmely and Margaret Johnson

Co-Presidents, CLEA





# Honors, Accolades and Victories

The Legal Policy Clinic at **Whittier Law School** recently scored a major victory by filing a white paper with the federal Department of Health and Human Services chronicling the daily CAPTA, FERPA, HIPPA, and Social Security confidentiality violations in Los Angeles Superior Court Dependency proceedings. After intervention by HHS the Superior Court substantially modified its court procedures to better assure that child abuse victims' and their family members' federal confidentiality rights are protected during those sensitive hearings.

The (new) Innocence Clinic at **SMU, Dedman School of Law** had a major victory this semester when students secured the release of their client – a man who had served 28 years in jail for a double murder he did not commit. The client was exonerated after a judge ruled that the bite mark evidence used to connect him to a 1987 murder was based on junk science. And even though the clinic has concluded, the students are so dedicated to their clients that they will be presenting yet another wrongfully convicted client to the Dallas County District Attorney's office for their consideration in a formal "Pitch Meeting" shortly after finals.

At **Northern Illinois University College of Law**, a grant for the foreclosure mediation clinic has been extended for two more years by the Illinois Attorney General. Additionally, the Illinois Bar Foundation ("IBF") chose NIU College of Law as one of the recipients of an IBF post-graduate fellowship. The College of Law has received funding from the IBF the past two years to supervise and support a recent NIU law graduate for one year of post-graduate legal work with the Civil Justice Clinic at the Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic, under supervision of Clinical Associate Professor Wendy Vaughn.

Recognized for its innovative approach to promoting geriatric health, the State of California has selected the [Medical-Legal Partnership for Seniors Clinic](#) (MLPS) at **UC Hastings College of the Law** as a finalist in its "[Let's Get Healthy California Innovation Challenge](#)." The Challenge honors community-based health initiatives at the forefront of furthering the state's goals of "better health, better care and lower cost in California." Congratulations to Professor Yvonne Troya and her students!

In April 2016, the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies at **UC Hastings College of the Law**, with the invaluable contributions of our Refugee and Human Rights Clinic students, William Guardado Castillo '13 and Stacy Kowalski '16, published a report, [Breaking Barriers: Challenges to Implementing Laws on Violence Against Women in Afghanistan and Tajikistan with Special Consideration of Displaced Women](#). The report focuses on whether the laws of Afghanistan and Tajikistan effectively protect women from violence. Guardado Castillo and Kowalski traveled to the region to engage in fact-finding and to co-lead trainings of lawyers and law students to increase legal aid capacity and access to justice for displaced women at risk of gender-based violence. The report is a culmination of a two-year project, *Women's Empowerment in Afghanistan and Tajikistan for Displaced Persons through Legal Aid and Training to Combat Violence against Women*, funded by the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women.

At **UC Berkeley Law**, the International Human Rights Clinic won a victory for Colombian victims of paramilitary violence. In March, a federal district court judge in D.C. ruled that the family members of Julio Henriquez, a human rights activist murdered by a notorious warlord, could join the criminal proceedings against the warlord under the federal Crimes Victims Rights Statute. This is the first time that a US court has recognized the rights of foreign human rights victims under the statute.

(continued)

Over 200 people attended the **University of Baltimore School of Law** Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) eighth annual Urban Child Symposium, “The Education of the Urban Child,” on April 7, 2016. Speakers focused on issues relating to educational inequality, the school-to-prison pipeline, and students with special needs. Keynote speaker, James Cole, Jr., General Counsel, Delegated Duties of Deputy Secretary at the U.S. Department of Education, spoke about President Obama’s “My Brother’s Keeper” initiative. CFCC also recently received three grants totaling more than \$132,000 for its Truancy Court Program (TCP), including a grant to support the TCP Attorney from the Maryland Judiciary’s Administrative Office of the Courts.

On February 11, 2016, the **Harvard Law School’s** Food Law and Policy Clinic, in partnership with Racing Horse Productions, released the short film [\*EXPIRED? Food Waste in America\*](#) in the *Los Angeles Times*. Additionally, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, the Legal Services Center hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> annual [People’s Law School](#), a series of workshops to educate and empower community members on a range of every-day legal issues. On February 16, 2016, the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation, Columbia Legal Services, and Sirianni Youtz Spoonemore Hamburger filed a [class action lawsuit](#) in federal district court in Seattle challenging Washington State Health Care Authority’s policy of rationing Medicaid coverage of prescription drugs that cure infection of the Hepatitis C virus (HCV). Finally, the Human Rights Watch and the International Human Rights Clinic [released a report](#) in April 2016 titled “[Killer Robots and the Concept of Meaningful Human Control](#).”



The **University of New Mexico School of Law** has received a \$2.6 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to pursue justice and racial equity by addressing the legal needs that harm the health and well-being of New Mexico’s most vulnerable children and families – those marginalized by race, ethnicity, socioeconomic or other critical disparities. Associate Professor of Law Yael Zakai Cannon’s work and dedication was essential in the effort to secure this grant. Project plans include developing a diverse



cohort of law student Child and Family Justice Scholars; and increasing the number of law graduates, including those from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in social justice lawyering, who work in community organizations pursuing child/family justice and racial equity.

**Boston University School of Law** has seen several recent clinic victories. Criminal Law Clinical Program student Michael Gregory, supported by Sean McCauley and Nick Quinby, successfully conducted a two-day jury trial in the Boston Municipal Court. The trial resulted in a not guilty verdict for the client, who had been charged with Assault and Battery with a Dangerous Weapon. Professor Wendy Kaplan supervised. BU Law’s Civil Litigation Program successfully helped a client divorce her abusive husband and secure stable housing. She has also found a program to learn English and is building a violence-free life for herself and her son. Students Hannah Chapel and Adrienne Langlois worked on this case, supervised by Professor Naomi Mann. Immigrants’ Rights Clinic students Valerie Russell and Mireya Tinoco, supervised by Professor Sarah Sherman-Stokes, won asylum for a young Azerbaijani woman from Russia who was raped and beaten because of her race and religion.

(continued)

The Immigration Clinic at the **University of Houston** has had a busy semester. They successfully obtained a remand from the Fifth Circuit on a transgender Mexican withholding case, and also submitted an amicus brief relating to mental competency to the Board of Immigration Appeals (BIA), which resulted in a remand to the Immigration Court. In another case, the clinic was successful in a BIA appeal, which resulted in a remand and ultimately administrative closure before the court due to competency. In another amicus, the clinic successfully supported the Cornell Clinical Programs in winning their interlocutory appeal to ensure access to counsel for law students. The clinic also participated and held over 40 events during the past year and recently held the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Joseph A. Vail asylum law workshop focusing on families and children.

**Duquesne Law's** Civil Rights Clinic staffed pardon workshops with the Urban League of Pittsburgh. This spring, the clinic also hosted an expungement and pardon program at a local community center in coordination with a state representative and neighborhood nonprofit group. Five years after initiating the pardon process for one of its clients, the clinic helped to prepare the resident for a long-awaited appearance before the Pennsylvania Board of Pardons. Seven law students traveled to the state capital with Carol Ramsey for her hearing and were on hand when the board unanimously recommended approval to the governor. In other clinic news, the new Juvenile Defender Clinic held a series of juvenile record expungement sessions in the Tribone Center for Clinical Legal Education open to youths and adults with juvenile records. Also, two students in the Federal Litigation Clinic will argue a case in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit this spring. This summer Duquesne Law will open a western office of the Pennsylvania Innocence Project and launch clinical services in fall 2016.



The **University of Connecticut Law School's** Asylum and Human Rights Clinic organized a *pro bono* trip to assist immigrant detainees during spring break in March. Ten UConn Law students and a social work student spent the week interviewing immigrant detainees behind the walls of the York County Prison in Pennsylvania and preparing their asylum applications. The students worked with law professors Anna Cabot and Jon Bauer (who co-teach UConn's Asylum and Human Rights Clinic), UConn social work professors Megan Berthhold and Kathy Libal, and two clinic alumnae, Ellen Messali and Meghann LaFountain, who practice immigration law. Together they helped compile asylum applications and supporting documentation for eight people—four Central American women who fled dire situations of domestic abuse or death threats from gangs and four men from the horn of Africa and the Caribbean who have been persecuted for their political views, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

On April 11, 2016, the **Georgetown Law's** Juvenile Justice Clinic and Human Rights Institute co-sponsored the [Samuel Dash Conference on Human Rights](#). The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Susan Bissell, Director, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, and closing remarks were presented by Christine James-Brown, a member of the Steering Committee of the Campaign for the U.S. Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Panelists from the Juvenile Justice Clinic, the Juvenile Law Center, the Human Rights Watch Children's Rights Division, the National Prison Project, and the Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights addressed how the as yet unratified U.N. Convention on Human Rights can, and is, being used to enhance the rights of children in the United States. In addition, a panel from the Georgetown Human Rights Institute presented the findings of their study, "[Access to Education for Undocumented Children in the United States](#)."

# Conferences and Meetings

This 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Transactional Clinical Conference will be held on Friday, April 29, 2016 at the **University of Baltimore School of Law**, immediately preceding the AALS Clinical Conference. The TCC will explore how both lawyering and teaching employ “tools of translation.” The TCC 2016 Planning Community includes: Mary Landergan (Northeastern), Jaime Lee (U Baltimore). Frances Martinez (Texas), James Niemann (Mizzou), Jeff Ward (Duke), and Chip Lowe (Drake). For details and travel tips, visit [www.squadup.com/events/tcc2016](http://www.squadup.com/events/tcc2016).

The 2016 [Third National Symposium on Experiential Learning in Law](#), hosted by **New York Law School**, New York, NY, will take place on June 10-12, 2016. The Symposium will take a careful look at how to identify and effectively assess experiential learning outcomes in the legal education context. This symposium will offer highly interactive sessions that will provide learning designed to improve the quality of assessment in law schools’ experiential programs. [Register Here!](#)

On June 28-29, 2016, the Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic will host [“Reduce and Recover: Save Food for People.”](#) The conference will convene entrepreneurs, practitioners, policymakers, and enthusiasts to further a public dialogue on reaching EPA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s national food waste reduction goal of 50% by 2030.

The **Upstate New York Clinical Conference** will be held on August 9-10 in Ithaca, NY. The Conference is organized by the law schools at Cornell, Albany, SUNY Buffalo and Syracuse. There will be only one day of substantive workshops, preceded by an afternoon scholarship session dedicated to works-in-progress. Both days will include short hikes in our beautiful gorges. Cornell Law School will host the conference with no registration fee. For additional information, please contact Angela Cornell, [abc49@cornell.edu](mailto:abc49@cornell.edu).

The **Charlotte School of Law** (Charlotte, NC) will be hosting the Sixth Annual **Southern Clinical Conference** from October 13-15, 2016. This year’s conference theme is ‘Celebrating the Work: Innovations, Traditions and Disruptions in Clinical Legal Education.’ Stay tuned for a Request for Proposals and Registration Information. For questions in the meantime, please contact Rocky Cabagnet at [rcabagnet@charlottelaw.edu](mailto:rcabagnet@charlottelaw.edu).

**Boston University School of Law** is hosting the 2016 **New England Clinicians Conference**, entitled “Rebellious Lawyering: Rethinking how we teach students, practice law, and engage communities,” on October 21 & 22, 2016. Participants will address how legal education, particularly clinical legal education, can use contextual learning to address injustice, support communities, and respond to events of the day. For questions regarding the conference, please contact Sherley Rodriguez at [serodriguez@suffolk.edu](mailto:serodriguez@suffolk.edu), or Laila Hlass at [hlass@bu.edu](mailto:hlass@bu.edu).

**American University Washington College of Law** practitioners-in-residence have once again convened the Mid-Atlantic Clinicians’ Writing Workshops, held in both the fall and spring of 2015-16. We will also host a Summer Scholarship Kick-off in late April or early May where clinicians can discuss their summer scholarship projects. The 2015-16 Mid-Atlantic Clinicians’ Writing Workshops have been convened by Please email practitioners-in-residence Kate Elengold ([kelenko@wcl.american.edu](mailto:kelenko@wcl.american.edu)) and Brandon Butler ([bbutler@wcl.american.edu](mailto:bbutler@wcl.american.edu)) to be included on the mailing list – the more the merrier!

Readers of the AALS Clinical Section newsletter are invited to submit articles for publication in Family Court Review (FCR), the leading interdisciplinary academic and research journal for family law professionals. If you are interested to submit an article or to guest edit an FCR special issue, please refer to the [AFCC website](#) or contact Editor-in-Chief Professor A. Babb at [bbabb@ubalt.edu](mailto:bbabb@ubalt.edu) or 410-837-5661.