

AALS CLINICAL SECTION NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2017

From the Clinical Section Chair

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the section's chair this year. Serving in this role has given me a chance to work closely with many of you, and to learn so much about incredible work being done by our section members; work that benefits all of us professionally. The extraordinary contributions of section members is one of the reasons that our section was selected as co-recipient (together with the Section on Women in Legal Education) of the AALS inaugural Section of the Year Award. I am thrilled to have the work of clinicians be recognized by the AALS, and that we share this honor with the Section on Women in Legal Education. As you know, the clinical section is one of the largest sections in the AALS. Your work on behalf of the section and your engagement in service for the AALS is an important way for the voice of clinicians to be heard on matters that are important to our profession, our students, and to the cause of justice. I want to thank all of the section committees that do so much for our community while they are also busy being great teachers. I also thank my colleagues on the Executive Committee, who made service to the section such a

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pleasure: Co-chairs Elect Allison Bethel and Scott Cummings; Secretary, Patience Crowder; Treasurer, Lisa Martin; and Executive Committee Members Kimberly Ambrose, Wendy Bach, Leah Hill, Fatma Marouf, and Daniel Schaffzin.

Section Committee Update

Thank you again to all of the committee chairs and members who worked hard this year to move initiatives of the section forward. We created a new committee this year, the Joint AALS Clinical Section and CLEA Working Group. This group was formed to encourage collaboration among the two organizations and to investigate and research matters relating to ABA site visits, the effect and interpretation of ABA Standards for clinics and externships, and other matters of concern to clinicians in a way that maximizes our resources. Our Policy Committee rolled out an updated version of the *Section on Clinical Legal Education Glossary for Experiential Education* together with *A Pre-Law Student Guide to Experiential Learning: Clinics, Externships, Practicums and More*. Both of these documents can be found at the bottom of the section's webpage at

https://memberaccess.aals.org/eWeb/dynamicpage.aspx?webcode=ChpDetail&chp_cst_key=2546c8e7-1cda-46eb-b9f3-174fc509169b.

Clinical Section Elections

The Clinical Section will hold its official annual business meeting at the beginning of our Clinical Section Luncheon on Friday, January 5th from 12:15pm to 1:30pm at the San Diego Ballroom C of the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina. The sole order of business will be electing new officers and a member of the Section's Executive Committee.

The nominees are:

Co-chairs Elect: Allison Bethel (John Marshall Law School) and Scott Cummings (UCLA)

Chair Elect: Patience Crowder (Denver)

Secretary: Wendy Bach (Tennessee)

Member of the Executive Committee: Elizabeth Keyes

Many thanks to the Nominating Committee, consisting of Co-Chairs Natalie Chin (Brooklyn) and Margaret Jackson (North Dakota), Bob Jones (Notre Dame) and Emily Suski (South Carolina).

Following the business meeting portion of the lunch, we will honor our colleague Carol Izumi (UC Hastings) with the William Pincus Award.

I hope you have had a wonderful year and look forward to seeing many of you in San Diego.

Best wishes,

Lisa Bliss (Georgia State University)

Committee Reports

The AALS Clinical Section has over 650 members. Annual dues are \$15 per person, and advance clinicians' professional development by providing financial support for programs such as the regional clinical conferences and the Bellow Scholars workshop, celebrating clinicians' achievements through conferral of the Bellows, Pincus, and Shanara Gilbert awards, and advocating on behalf of clinicians by financially supporting efforts to gather and disseminate information about clinical legal education through programs such as CSALE and the publication of resources developed by Section Committees, such as the Glossary of Experiential Education and the Student Guide to Experiential Education. Institutions have the option to renew memberships as a group by submitting the form found at: <https://www.aals.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/clinicalform-9.8.15.pdf>. We encourage you to renew your membership in the Section if you have not yet done so this year, and we thank you for your continued support!

The Bellow Scholars Committee has selected four new Bellow Scholars for the 2017-2019 term:

- **Wendy Bach**, Associate Professor of Law, University of Tennessee College of Law
Project Title: *Investigating Criminalization of the In-utero Transmission of Opiates to a Fetus*
- **Davida Finger**, Clinic Professor, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
Project Title: *Using Eviction Data in New Orleans to Advocate for Housing Justice*
- **Jennifer Oliva**, Associate Professor of Law and Public Health, Director of the Veterans Advocacy Law Clinic, WVU College of Law
Project Title: *Justice System-Involved Veterans Reintegration Study (JIVRS)*
- **Jessica Steinberg**, Associate Professor of Clinical Law, The George Washington University Law School
Project Title: *Behavior of Judges with Self-Represented Litigants*

Colleen Shanahan of the Temple University Beasley School of Law (a former Bellow Scholar) is the new Committee Chair.

The Committee hosted the **11th Annual Bellow Scholars Workshop** at NYU Law School on Friday September 22, 2017. Every other year (the first year of the two-year Bellow Scholar cycle), the Committee hosts an invitation-only workshop in conjunction with the Clinical Law Review Writers Workshop, where the new Scholars receive intensive feedback on their projects from committee members and social scientists.

The Membership, Outreach, and Training Committee continues to facilitate a mentoring and peer-to-peer program for all interested clinicians. In 2015-16, we made 17 mentoring matches. In 2016-17, 17 mentoring matches and 2 peer matches were made.

Schools from every geographic region participated. Matches were made in response to every faculty need, including guidance relating to the clinic practice area, teaching, clinic design, scholarship, faculty status, and service. Clinic subject matter just about covered the spectrum: Civil Rights, Criminal Defense, Domestic Violence, Entrepreneurship, Externships, Family Law, Housing, Immigration, Juvenile Justice, Health law/Medical-Legal Partnership, Transactional Law, Veteran's Benefits, Workers Rights.

More information about the program is available in the Mentoring Handbook posted to the Clinical Section website. Anyone interested in volunteering to serve as a mentor or who would like to be matched with a mentor, should contact Jodi Balsam (Brooklyn) jodi.balsam@brooklaw.edu or Jaime Lee (Baltimore) jlee@ubalt.edu.

Program Updates

Penn State Law, led by new Dean Hari Osofsky, has two new clinics doing exciting community work: On Saturday November 4, 2017, the [Penn State University Intellectual Property Clinic](#), Directed by Professor Herder, in conjunction with several student groups (Woman's Law Caucus, Sports Law and Entertainment, Student Intellectual Property) hosted 33 Girl Scouts as they earned their Intellectual Property (IP) Patches. [The IP Patch](#) was developed as a joint partnership between the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital and the USPTO and in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Owners (IPO) Education Foundation. Penn State University Law School students led activities to teach the Girl Scouts about patents, copyrights, and trademarks. The event was held at the [Happy Valley LaunchBox](#), a Penn State University incubator for early stage start-ups. Photos of the event can be found [here](#). Complementing its coverage of the Vietnam experience, WPSU is airing a spotlight on Penn State Law's Veterans and Servicemembers Legal Clinic, featuring Professor Michele Vollmer and former student Justin Bish. Link to Article: <http://radio.wpsu.org/post/50-years-after-vietnam-war-veterans-law-clinic-helps-agent-orange-victims>.

In fall 2017, [Steve Yale-Loehr](#) launched a new clinical course at **Cornell Law School**, the [Technology, Innovation and the Law Clinic](#), in which law students wrote software applications for partner agencies helping low-income immigrants who can't afford a lawyer. One app focuses on documenting wage theft; another on preparing families who are at risk of deportation; and a third helps immigrants fill out a complicated green card application form online. A video of student presentations about the new apps is available [here](#).

Suffolk Law School Clinical Program News: Clinical Fellow David Colarusso will spearhead Suffolk's new Legal Innovation & Technology Lab ("LIT Lab"), a joint project of Suffolk's Clinical Programs and [Institute on Legal Innovation & Technology](#). Students in the Lab will provide consultation and legal technology/process mapping services to organizational clients that seek to be more effective in delivering legal services. David will also help oversee innovation and technology projects within Suffolk's Clinics more broadly and will support Suffolk's new [Online Legal Tech Certificate Program](#). Our Innocence Clinic is wrapping up its first semester, led by Adjunct Clinical Professor Shira Diner. Students work closely with staff and attorneys at the New England Innocence Project (housed at Suffolk) and the Committee for Public Service Counsel on wrongful conviction matters in the Commonwealth. Students enrolled in our Supreme Court Clinic last spring worked under the supervision of former Clinical Director and Professor Jeff Pokorak to draft and file amicus briefs in cases before the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth. Students represented non-profit clients and clinics in their amicus work. Under the leadership of Associate Professor Loletta Darden, Suffolk's Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic has received accreditation from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to prosecute applications before the agency. Suffolk Clinics Turn 50! Suffolk Clinical Programs celebrated 50 years with a sold-out dinner celebration of nearly 260 alumni, faculty and students in November. Justice Gaziano, an Associate Justice of the MA Supreme Judicial Court and Suffolk Clinical Alum, delivered the keynote. Retiring Clinical Professor Diane Juliar was recognized for her leadership of Suffolk's Prosecutors Program.

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University of Baltimore (UB) School of Law's Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts has launched the nation's first post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law. Associate Professor of Law Barbara Babb serves as director of the program, which addresses a growing demand for a family law curriculum that offers a holistic blend of theory and practice. For more information, visit the program's website at: ubalt.edu/familylawcert.

Earlier this year, **Georgetown Law** [launched](#) the Health Justice Alliance, a medical-legal partnership with Georgetown's Medical Center. Through the Alliance and a new clinic directed by Yael Cannon, who is currently on leave from the University of New Mexico, students learn to address legal barriers that impact the health and well-being of low-income families. Professor Cannon, her students, and the Alliance, were also honored as "[campus heroes](#)" by the local Fox 5 morning show.

The Puller Veterans Benefits Clinic at **William and Mary Law School** launched a Military Sexual Trauma clinic, taught by Elizabeth Tarloski; she was assisted by the clinic's on-staff psychologist, Dr. Judith Johnson, in development of the resultant mental health claims. The Puller Clinic will celebrate its tenth anniversary in spring 2018; during that time, veteran clients have received over \$1.5 million in past-due benefits and over \$25 million in lifetime benefits. Puller Clinic faculty also created an [online certificate](#) program in [Military & Veterans Health, Policy & Advocacy](#) that is designed for anyone who wants to become a knowledgeable and effective advocate for veterans seeking disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. William & Mary is offering an inaugural Business Law Clinic this spring, where students will gain exposure to the practical impacts of legal advice on the conduct of small for-profit and not-for-profit businesses. Sharon Owlett will teach the clinic.

The newly developed 5th & Front is the home of **Concordia University School of Law's** extensive portfolio of community-based and community-focused services and programs. Located on the Concordia Law campus in Boise, 5th & Front aims to provide access to justice for underserved populations – including juveniles, veterans, immigrants, refugees, and families living in poverty. Clinics cover a wide range of legal issues, such as housing, asylum and citizenship, criminal expungement, wills and estate planning, and domestic violence, to name a few. Since it opened in 2012, Concordia University School of Law has been committed to serving the people of Boise. In fact, "servant leadership" is one of the school's founding principles. Even though the requirement is for each student to complete 50 hours of law-related public service prior to graduation, the vast majority of students go well past that minimum number of hours. Why? Because it's part of the Concordia culture. That's the impetus behind 5th & Front – a "one-stop shop" for all of Concordia Law's many legal outreach programs. According to Dean Elena Langan, "This unique center helps close the social justice gap, bridging the disparity in legal services for people in need. These are services that either don't exist or are out of reach for many in our community. Our goal is to change that."

Harvard Law School launched the Protect Democracy and Rule of Law Externship Clinic in the Fall of 2017. Clinic students participate in an externship and a related class with [The Protect Democracy Project](#), a nonpartisan nonprofit founded by former White House and Department of Justice attorneys and dedicated to holding the President and the Executive Branch accountable to the laws and longstanding practices that have protected our democracy through both Democratic and Republican administrations.

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Loyola Law School, Los Angeles will dedicate its new Loyola Law School Social Justice Clinic (SJC) this spring. The new Center is an impressive aggregation of Loyola's criminal defense, immigration, post-conviction relief, and education rights clinics and clinics focused on other important issues under one roof. Thanks to a dramatic renovation of nearly 23,000 square feet of Loyola's Founders Hall, the new SJC houses together for the first time multiple Law School clinics: the Collateral Consequences of Conviction Project, International Human Rights Clinic, Juvenile Innocence & Fair Sentencing Clinic, Juvenile Justice Clinic, Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic and Youth Justice Education Clinic, to name just a few.

The **University of Tennessee College of Law** Legal Clinic is proud to announce the launch, by new faculty member Eric Franklin Amarante, of the Community Economic Development Clinic. The CED clinic is dedicated to providing a rich educational experience for students interested in transactional law's capacity to promote social justice. In its inaugural semester, the clinic has helped an organization that provides free dental services to women transitioning out of homelessness, a thrift store that dedicates its proceeds to social services in rural Tennessee, and a nonprofit dedicated to resettlement of East African refugees.



This fall the Children and Youth Advocacy Clinic (CAYAC) at the **University of Washington School of Law (UW)** became part of a team (of faculty, students, and community partners) at UW to address the problem of homeless youth. With \$1 million in state funding over two years, The Doorway Project, as it is called, was recently created. The CAYAC will co-lead this unique, interdisciplinary research and advocacy project to end youth homelessness in Seattle's U District. The project is in collaboration with the University's School of Nursing and School of Social Work, as well as with local community service providers and partner organizations. <http://www.washington.edu/news/2017/11/27/uws-doorway-project-kicks-off-services-to-homeless-youth/>. The University of Washington (UW) Entrepreneurial Law Clinic worked in conjunction with the US Patent and Trademark Office and UW's Center for (CASRIP) to develop the Washington Pro Bono Patent Network. The Network connects low income entrepreneurs with pro bono patent attorneys and UW Law students to work on real cases. Student enroll in a newly designed patent practicum that provides them substantive background while at the same time working in conjunction with experienced practitioners on patent work. University of Washington School of Law (UW) has decided to utilize the expertise of a UW Drama Professor Judith Shahn, who has over 25 years of experience teaching drama and her own career in the theater. For the last five years, litigators in Seattle have increasingly called on her for help with their communication skills. Shahn has achieved dramatic transformations that revealed the authentic, persuasive core beneath the stiff lawyer exterior. Professor Shahn is now regularly teaching a class at UW.

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The Elder & Health Law Clinic at the **University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law's** Community Legal Services (CLS) was identified in the 2017 Sacramento County Elder Death Review Report for its work in financial abuse cases.

http://www.sacda.org/files/6114/9686/2424/2017_EDRT_Report_-_Final.pdf. Along with supervising attorney Melissa Brown, clinic students and Clinical Fellow, Nicole Egan, successfully litigated six cases over the last two years, resulting in monetary settlements and the return of their client's homes. Partnering with a local theater company, the clinic created short vignettes, taken from these cases, that illustrate how undue influence, scams, and fraud resulted in over 9.1 million dollars taken from elders in Sacramento County alone last year. CLS will be formally launching its Homeless Advocacy Clinic (HAC) next year, as part of a medical legal partnership. Staffed by Clinical Fellow Lacey Mickleburgh and staff attorney, Caro Marks, the HAC provides civil legal services to help mitigate barriers to housing and employment on site at health care clinics, shelters, and transitional living centers. Former Associate Dean for Experiential Learning, Dorothy Landsberg, has happily returned to the legal clinics as the HAC supervising attorney.

In August 2017, **Southwestern Law School** launched the Community Lawyering Clinic at California State University, Northridge ("CSUN"). Under the supervision of Professor Julia Vazquez, Southwestern law students assist CSUN students with a variety of immigration-based legal services, including adjustment of status, special immigrant juvenile status, and naturalization needs, among others. While the clinic's focus is on immigration, its student volunteers will refer clients to free or low-cost attorneys or agencies for other legal matters. Although the clinic predominately focuses on immigration issues, Vazquez notes that "Community Lawyering is about lawyers learning to respond to the legal needs of underserved and under-resourced communities which they endeavor to serve. We do exactly this in the new Community Lawyering Clinic. Whether my students and I are representing a client with their immigration application or helping a CSUN student get their rental deposit back from an unscrupulous landlord; we are responding to CSUN students legal needs and problem solving in real time." William Watkins, CSUN's vice president for student affairs, called the launch of the clinic "a proud moment for CSUN and an important building block in our relationship with Southwestern."

Washington University School of Law has added another new clinical offering: **Post-Conviction Relief Clinical Practicum**. The new offering brings to 18 the number of clinical opportunities for students each semester. Students in the clinical course receive instruction in the laws, procedural rules, and policies governing post-conviction relief in capital and life without parole cases coupled with lawyering experience in assisting the instructors with their ongoing cases in Missouri and other capital jurisdictions. Washington University School of Law's **Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic** is partnering with WashU computer science faculty and students to save government climate and environmental data before it's scrubbed from EPA and other websites. The clinic is coordinating work on behalf of its client with other organizations doing similar work around the world and posting the saved data back to the web for public use. This work began last December and continues today, a race against time.

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Earlier this month, **SMU Dedman School of Law**'s faculty voted to change the title of full-time, non-tenure eligible faculty teaching in the clinical program from "Lecturers," to "Clinical Professors." Primary among the reasons for the change was the goal of conveying to existing clinical faculty and students the importance the faculty attaches clinical education. The SMU campus was the site of a one-day workshop co-hosted by SMU and **Texas A&M University School of Law** entitled, *Supporting Success in the Experiential Curriculum*. More than 20 faculty members from 6 of the 10 Texas law schools attended the program which co-hosts SMU Associate Dean for Clinics, Mary Spector and A&M Associate Dean for Experiential Education, Luz Herrera, designed to reinforce best practices among full-time and adjunct faculty and to begin building a collaborative experiential community within the state. Keynote speaker, Alexander W. Scherr, Associate Dean for Clinical Programs and Experiential Learning at **University of Georgia School of Law**, provided important context, while small group sessions enabled participants explore pedagogical and ethical issues common to their programs as they developed (or, in some cases, deepened) professional relationships. Lastly, the Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women at SMU published, after a year-long study, "Taking Aim at Family Violence: A Report on the Dallas County Gun Surrender Program" (www.law.smu.edu/gunsurrenderreport).



A new **UCLA Law** clinic is offering essential legal assistance to the most vulnerable of the military veterans in Southern California. Located at the Department of Veterans Affairs campus in West Los Angeles, the **Veterans Legal Clinic** allows **UCLA Law students to help veterans gain access to benefits and address criminal justice issues**. In spring 2018, UCLA Law will launch a **Documentary Film Legal Clinic**, where students will work with documentary filmmakers on matters such as making public records requests and seeking location approvals; obtaining copyright clearances; drafting agreements to secure content or talent participation; and navigating intellectual property. Launched with a \$20 million gift in April 2017, the **Promise Institute for Human Rights** at UCLA Law is leaping into its first academic year. In the institute's first foreign foray, UCLA Law Clinical Project Director **Joseph Berra** will lead students to Honduras in January to do work on behalf of indigenous people adversely affected by the 2009 government coup.

Boston University School of Law has launched a new Small/Mid-Size Law Firm Externship Program. The program will be led by Sheila Bridges. Among Bridges' many accomplishments, in addition to her law degree she earned a Master of Philosophy in Gender Studies from the University of Cambridge where she wrote a dissertation on the micro politics and practices of attorneys in large and midsize firms in Boston. Bridges will teach a course designed to introduce students to the major legal and professional issues that arise in the practice and management of small and medium-sized law firms, as well as the skills needed to succeed in such firms.

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News from **American University Washington College of Law**: In response to the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program (DACA), students from multiple clinics joined together to present Know Your Rights sessions in the community and to create and staff a drop-in DACA Renewal Clinic for those eligible to renew their status. Despite having only weeks to implement their plans, the students and supervising faculty members responded quickly and effectively to spread accurate information throughout the local community and to assist as many people as possible with their renewal paperwork.

Our Glushko-Samuels International Property Law Clinic successfully petitioned the Copyright Office to renew two exemptions to the circumvention provisions in §1201 of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA).

The Community and Economic Development Law Clinic represents the James Reese Europe American Legion Post 5, one of the first American Legion posts founded by and for African American veterans. Over the years, Post 5, named after a legendary WWI band leader, accrued a collection of original documents and pictures dating from the Spanish American War through the 20th century, which comprise a previously undocumented history of African American life in D.C. Although the student attorneys were initially asked to advise on questions of governance and regulatory compliance, the representation has evolved to include a historic preservation mission, including a website and perhaps a future museum. The project has garnered local attention, and the Post has loaned some of its artifacts to the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture.

The **University of New Mexico School of Law** is beginning a new Child and Family Justice clinic section, part of the School of Law's clinical program's long standing Medical-Legal Alliance collaborative. It will serve at-risk children and their families who have health harming legal needs due to poverty and racial and social inequality. The section will be lead by Sarah Steadman, who has been an adjunct and visiting professor at UNM since 2013 and has developed the Youth Racial Justice, Immigrant Child Safety, and LGBTQ Youth projects to address individual and systemic inequities. Prior to becoming an attorney, Professor Steadman was a child and family therapist and served children with significant psychological and behavioral health needs and their families. Sarah brings invaluable insight and experience to our clinical program. UNM School of Law has also newly inaugurated a Natural Resources and Environmental Law clinic section, run by Professor Gabe Pacyniak. This new clinic section further enriches UNM School of Law's Natural Resources and Environmental Law Program by providing opportunities for students to work in and with many rural and tribal communities in New Mexico. The work of this clinic section focuses on a variety of issues unique to our state and its people.



Association of American Law Schools

Message from CLEA Co-Presidents

Through advocacy on the state and national level, programming at numerous conferences throughout the year, and collaboration with the AALS Clinical Section, the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) continues its 25-year tradition as a leader in the clinical community. Our major initiative this past year was to initiate the implementation of CLEA's five-year Strategic Plan, the content of which was shaped by survey responses from our members. Please look out for a new survey very soon from the CLEA Research Committee. It is designed to help us gather data regarding the impact of changes in legal education, as well as other concerns, that will help shape CLEA's advocacy work on behalf of its members.

Our next gathering will occur during the 2018 AALS Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA. We hope you will join us **Thursday January 4, 2018, at 6 PM** for the CLEA membership meeting, to be held at Thomas Jefferson Law School. The agenda will include updates on committee activities and advocacy work. The CLEA board of directors meeting will take place immediately before the membership meeting, from 5-6 PM, also at Thomas Jefferson Law School, and is open to the public.

We encourage all to become members of CLEA and to participate in the work of its committees. Membership is not limited to those who are clinical teachers but is open to anyone who is or has been involved in legal education in any capacity.

Lastly, please visit cleaweb.org for more information, including job postings, details about each of our committees, and a description of the CLEA-supported work of the *Clinical Law Review*. We look forward to seeing you in January.

Beth G. Schwartz and C. Benjie Louis,
2017 CLEA Co-Presidents



Honors, Accolades and Victories

Amy Applegate, Director Viola J. Taliaferro **Family and Children Mediation Clinic**, at **Indiana University Maurer School of Law**, and her research collaborator Amy Holtzworth-Munroe (Psychology and Brain Sciences) have been awarded the 2017 [Outstanding Faculty Collaborative Research Award](#) for their work in helping families experiencing the distress of separation or divorce. The two have conducted research on family law issues for more than 10 years, pursuing evidence-based analyses of family law interventions such as online parent education programs. They also are examining the safety and outcome of mediation for divorcing and separating parents with high levels of intimate partner violence, including developing a better screening tool for mediators to be aware of the violence. The award includes a \$15,000 stipend to support the team's research program.

Two years ago, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office designated **Indiana University Maurer School of Law's Center for Intellectual Property Research** as the Patent Hub for the State of Indiana. Since that time, the Center has partnered with the Office to establish and operate a network (the PatentConnect network) that links qualifying Indiana entrepreneurs with Indiana patent lawyers who have volunteered to provide pro bono patent prosecution services. Under the leadership of Professor Norm Hedges, Director of the Intellectual Property Clinic, PatentConnect volunteer lawyers have donated in excess of 600 hours of pro bono time in at least 50 matters – and this in a field where pro bono representations by private practice lawyers previously were nonexistent. Effective Nov. 1, the Office designated the Center as the new Patent Hub for the State of Kentucky.

A judge ruled in favor of the **Saint Louis University Law School Civil Advocacy Clinic's** argument that the State of Missouri owed \$26.3 million to more than 3,000 blind people who were underpaid by the Department of Social Services Blind Pension Fund. The attorney general of Missouri has appealed the ruling. John Ammann, Professor and Civil Advocacy Clinic, faculty supervisor has led this litigation.

University of Baltimore School of Law Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) -has received a grant from the Nebraska Administrative Office of the Courts to examine Nebraska's current court system and offer suggestions for moving forward with a Unified Family Court pilot project in Douglas County, Nebraska. The grant will culminate in recommendations for implementation presented to the Supreme Court Commission on Children in the Courts. Professor Barbara Babb, CFCC's Director, has focused her scholarship and advocacy over the last several decades on the creation of therapeutic, holistic Unified Family Courts. For more information, please go to <https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/unified-family-court-study-funded-douglas-county>

The [Supreme Court Clinic](#) at **UCLA Law** took two cases to the U.S. Supreme Court in 2016-17, winning both, and has another case scheduled to go before the justices in 2017-18. Under the direction of [Stuart Banner](#), UCLA's Norman Abrams Professor of Law, students in the Supreme Court Clinic research and write briefs and petitions for or against certiorari. The clinic represents clients and counsel who otherwise would not have the resources to pursue cases before the court.

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In June, the Georgetown Law's **Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic** obtained the release of Towanda Jones, a long-serving juvenile lifer in Maryland who served more than 28 years. In addition to its work with clients, the Clinic's program teaching legal writing at Jessup Correctional Institute was featured by one of the inmates in an article entitled "Georgetown's Criminal Defense & Prisoner Advocacy Provides Hope to Indigent Prisoners."

The University of Tennessee College of Law Legal Clinic is celebrating its 70th Anniversary. The year's events, designed to bring attention to the mission of the Clinic and establish an operating endowment, included a research and advocacy project focusing on the collateral consequences of criminal court fees and lectures by Vanita Gupta and Mark Curriden. The celebration culminated on November 17 with *Party With A Purpose*. All told, thanks to the tireless work of the clinic's Interim Director Penny White and the generosity of many, we have raised \$450,000 for the endowment so far! Our 70th service events also include judicial trainings on the collateral consequences of court costs, and community-based trainings on appellate practice, choice of legal entity, and estate planning. We also held a business law pop-up clinic as well as several community expungement and reentry workshops. The service projects culminated, on October 28th, with a community expungement event led by Joy Radice and run by a veritable army of faculty, clinic staff, students, activists, bar members, alumni, judges, prosecutors, and court clerks. On that rainy Saturday we served over 300 people seeking expungements and brought over 100 successful motions to waive all pending court costs.

The [International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons](#) (ICAN), with which [Harvard's International Human Rights Clinic](#) (IHRC) collaborated during the negotiations of a nuclear weapons ban treaty, received the Nobel Peace Prize on October 6, 2017. The honor reflects international recognition of the humanitarian approach to disarmament, a movement that strives to minimize civilian suffering from inhumane weapons. In June 2017, the **Veterans Legal Clinic at the Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School** [filed a class action lawsuit](#) in Massachusetts Superior Court on behalf of Army combat veteran Jeffrey Machado and an estimated 4,000 veterans from Massachusetts who served in Iraq, Afghanistan, or elsewhere since 9/11, but were deemed ineligible to receive the state's \$1000 Welcome Home Bonus for service members honorably discharged from the military. On October 23, 2017, CHLPI and the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable (NVHR) released [Hepatitis C: State of Medicaid Access](#)—a report and interactive project grading all 50 state Medicaid programs, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, according to access to curative treatments for hepatitis C, the nation's deadliest infectious disease. On October 23, 2017, **Food Law and Policy Clinic** released the toolkit [Good Laws, Good Food: Putting Local Food Policy to Work for Our Communities](#) and the 4th edition of the [Food Law and Policy Career Guide](#), updated for 2017.

Congratulations

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Congratulations to the **Family Law & Benefits Clinic at Texas A&M University School of Law** for receiving the Community Partnership Award from the Tarrant County Bar Foundation. The award honored the clinic's **Veterans Project** for its contributions to providing legal services to veterans in Tarrant County through the Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans program. **The Family Law and Benefits Clinic** was also recently recognized by the Legal Aid of Northwest Texas with the Celebrating Pro Bono Award for their work facilitating and promoting involvement of local attorneys in providing pro bono legal assistance. We are proud of our colleagues for their contributions to our local community.

Students in the **University of Washington School of Law Tech-Law Clinic** successfully passed local and state legislation protecting privacy rights. Working with Shankar Narayan of the ACLU of Washington, Tech-Law students composed language, met with stakeholders, and persuaded Seattle City Council persons to pass CB 118930. The legislation received unanimous approval and will increase public awareness and involvement when Seattle considers obtaining new surveillance equipment or software. The new law, sponsored by Councilmember Gonzalez, expands the definition of surveillance equipment. On May 16th Governor Jay Inslee signed House Bill 1493.

The **Domestic Violence Clinic at William and Mary Law School**, co-taught by Darryl Cunningham and Lindsay Barna, was awarded a three-year, \$366,503 grant from DOJ's OVW, that will enable the clinic to provide more expansive holistic legal services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The **Virginia Coastal Policy Center (VCPC)**, directed by Elizabeth Andrews, hosted its 5th annual [conference](#), Defending Our Coasts: Ensuring Military Readiness and Economic Viability as Waters Rise, with over 200 people in attendance. VCPC was also [named](#) one of the Virginia Environmental Endowment's "Partners in Excellence." The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit [affirmed](#) a district court's finding in favor of appellee Larry Walker, a client of William & Mary's **Appellate and Supreme Court Clinic**, taught by Tillman Breckenridge. Professor Breckenridge was also designated the St. George Tucker Adjunct Professor for 2017-2018. The **Special Education Advocacy Clinic** hosted its 7th annual Institute for Special Education Advocacy ("[ISEA](#)"). Fifty-five attorneys and advocates participated in the intensive week-long summer training, earning a Certificate in Special Education Advocacy, under the direction of Christina Jones.

Washington University School of Law's [Civil Rights, Community Justice & Mediation Clinic](#) won a unanimous decision from the Missouri Supreme Court recognizing the right to a jury trial in landlord-tenant rent and possession cases (*Brainchild Holdings, LLC v. Cameron*). The Clinic teamed up with a former clinic student at the St. Louis Metropolitan Equal Housing & Opportunity Council to represent the tenant.

Family Law Writing Competition

The Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) and the School of Law at Hofstra University, in cooperation with the *Family Court Review*, are sponsoring the ninth annual Family Law Writing Competition. Topics that focus on international or interdisciplinary subjects are especially encouraged. First prize includes \$500 and consideration for publication in the *Family Court Review*. Deadline for submission is February 1, 2018. For more information, please go to:

<http://law.hofstra.edu/currentstudents/studentactivities/journals/familycourtreview/hflwritingcompetition/index.html>.

Upcoming Conference – Save the Date!

Suffolk Law School will Host Clinical Legal Innovation & Tech Conference April 9, 2018. The Conference will explore the intersection of legal technology, clinical pedagogy, and access to justice.



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