

# AALS CLINICAL SECTION

Newsletter—Spring 2018

*Welcome to the Spring 2018 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

Dear Friends:

We hope your spring semester is winding down nicely and you are looking forward to the 41st Annual Clinical Conference in Chicago beginning on Sunday, April 29, 2018 - Wednesday, May 2, 2018. It will be a good time to refresh, reflect and reconnect.

The program is packed as usual beginning with the New Clinicians Workshop on Sunday. Must do activities during the main conference include the keynote address by Yale Professor James Forman, Jr. Prof. Forman's expertise includes education law and he led what has been described as an "extraordinary" transformation of a failing DC public school. The substantive programming includes sessions designed to address administrative challenges, cross cultural competency, ethics, interdisciplinary collaborations, the clinical teaching market and more. You will also not want to miss the Clinic Community Town Hall: Gathering Momentum for Racial Justice on Monday evening.

Get ready to be inspired by the award recipients this year! Thanks to the good work of the Awards Committee (Co-Chairs Patty Roberts and Claire Raj), we will present Prof. Alina S. Ball of UC Hastings with the Shanara Gilbert Award at the luncheon on Monday. This award recognizes outstanding contributions of an emerging clinician. Prof. Ball's accomplishments include establishing the first corporate law clinical course at UC Hastings serving small businesses and nonprofits. Tuesdays' luncheon with CLEA includes a social justice presentation along with the CLEA Awards.



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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))

Committee meetings will also be held during the conference. Check with your chairs for times and room assignments. If you are interested in learning more about a committee, this would be a good time to do so. Perhaps stop by the meeting or chat with members. The Section would not be the success it is without the good work of the committees. You can see the Communications Committees' (Co-chairs Natalie Nanasi and Adrienne Smith) hard work in this Newsletter. An updated Clinicians Desk Reference will be out soon thanks to the Membership, Outreach and Training Committee (Co-Chairs Jodie Balsam and Jamie Lee). We wish time and space would allow us to properly recognize everyone. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for all you do!

There's much to do and eat in Chicago, so try to make some time to enjoy the city! As of the writing of this message, it was snowing :/; but we've coordinated with weather officials and spring will be here in time for the conference! See you soon! Warmly,

Allison K. Bethel (John Marshall, Chicago)  
Scott L. Cummings (UCLA)

## Join your colleagues at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual AALS Clinical Conference!

*Sun, April 29 – Wed, May 2, 2018  
Chicago, IL*

*Gathering Momentum: Learning from the  
Past, Responding to the Now, Planning for  
the Future*

Visit the [website](#) for more information:

- [Program](#)
- [Registration](#)
- [FAQs](#)

We look forward to seeing you in  
Chicago!



# Program Updates

The **University of Alabama School of Law** is pleased to announce the following: in 2017, Courtney Cross joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Instruction and Director of the Domestic Violence Clinic and Allyson Gold joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Instruction and Director of the Elder Law Clinic. In their first year, Professors Cross and Gold have enhanced our clinical program with their enthusiasm, expertise, and commitment to students. Casey Faucon will be joining the faculty this fall as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Instruction and Director of a new Entrepreneurship & Nonprofit Clinic. The University of Alabama would also like to announce that after 11 years of service, Anne Hornsby retired in December. During her tenure at the law school, Anne served as the Associate Dean for Clinical Programs, Director of the Civil Law Clinic, and Director of Externships, running the law school's successful Federal Externship program, through which Alabama students spend a semester in Washington, DC. In 2011 after tornadoes devastated Tuscaloosa, Anne developed the Disaster Relief Clinic. This award-winning clinic provided essential services to families affected by the tornadoes. We will miss Anne tremendously and cannot thank her enough for her investing her passion and talents in the students, the school, and the community! Following Anne's retirement, Yuri Linetsky, Director of the Civil Law Clinic, has been appointed Director of Clinical Programs.

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The **University of Baltimore (UB) School of Law** has launched the nation's first [post-J.D. Certificate in Family Law](#), which is in its second semester of instruction. The program addresses a growing demand for a family law curriculum that offers a holistic blend of theory and practice, and is intended for new attorneys beginning to practice family law and for attorneys seeking to add family law expertise to their practice areas. Students can complete the 16-credit program over 12 months or at their own pace.

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**Boston College Law School** has announced that Professor Judy McMorrow will be its newest Dean of Experiential Learning. Judy has been actively involved in the BCLS externship program for many years and is an ethics scholar. She has also taught experiential and doctrinal courses globally, most recently in Beijing and London. In her new position, Judy, as a member and frequent contributor to GAJE, will also be overseeing BCLS's international initiatives. She will succeed Professors Brian Quinn and Paul Tremblay as the experiential dean as of July 1, 2018.

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**Boston University School of Law** is pleased to announce the addition of two new programs for the fall of 2018, the Sex Crimes Practicum and the Consumer Debt Practicum. In the Sex Crimes Practicum, students will work on sex-crimes related projects – either litigation or policy-oriented – as a supplement to the Sex Crimes seminar. The practicum will be taught by BU Law graduate Eric Tennen, an attorney who specializes in issues related to sex offenses and collateral consequences. In the Consumer Debt Practicum, students will provide *pro bono* representation to low income defendants in small claims court on credit card collection matters. The practicum will be taught by Judge Raymond Dougan and Thomas Beauvais. In addition, BU Law is pleased to announce that Jim Wheaton has joined as Director of the Entrepreneurship and Intellectual Property Clinic, which provides legal counsel to campus-based entrepreneurs at MIT and BU on a wide range of legal issues faced by early-stage business ventures. Jim's previous career milestones include practice as a partner and practice group leader in an AmLaw 100 firm and as General Counsel of a public company. Finally, Ruth Greenberg will run BU Law's Wrongful Convictions Clinic, where students engage in screening applications from prisoners claiming innocence. Ruth has been practicing

criminal law since 1985 and teaches forensic neuroscience at BU School of Medicine.

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**University of Buffalo** clinicians and students have been in court representing the interests of veterans exposed to burn pits, drafting local cat ordinances, suing the City of Buffalo and restaurant owners on behalf of workers who are not paid a living wage, finalizing submission for a dedicated wetland of importance, drafting documents and appearing in court on behalf of women and children affected by family violence, and helping cancer patients with advance planning, insurance & benefits denials, and child care & custody. In addition to all this hands-on work, our Clinic has been working hard at raising money to help us continue to provide pro bono legal service to the WNY community and beyond. The State of New York awarded the Clinical Program one of five “Justice for Heroes” grants to develop a Veteran’s Legal Practicum to help serve the more than 140,000+ veterans in the 8 counties of WNY. The New York State Bar Foundation partnered with our Clinics to take over the Pro Bono Appeals Program in the Fourth Department. On the ground and in action, our students Puerto Rico Recovery Assistance Legal Clinic returned from Puerto Rico after assisting 80 people with FEMA appeals and providing on the ground legal support, along with over providing 800 families with humanitarian aid. You can read all about their experiences in our blog [www.ublawsponds.com](http://www.ublawsponds.com).

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In spring 2018, **Cornell Law School** launched the Low Income Taxpayer Law and Accounting Practicum, an interdisciplinary live client course in which law students and accounting students collaborate to provide tax law research and return preparation services for individuals and community organizations. Assistant Clinic Director Beth Lyon took the lead in establishing this new initiative that is working with migrant farmworkers,



rural Indigenous communities, exonerates, low-income residents of greater Ithaca, and various community partner agencies. Cornell Law also initiated a Protest and Civil Disobedience Defense Practicum where students are providing representation to persons arrested in connection with protest activities. In January 2018, Jordan Manalastas joined Cornell Law School’s Farmworker Legal Assistance Clinic as an Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Legal Fellow with funding from the New York State Family Security Project. The focus of his project is preventing deportation of child and youth farmworkers.

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In March, twelve students from the **University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law**, Dean Shelley Broderick, and Professor Lindsay M. Harris [spent their spring break in Berks County, Pennsylvania](#), working with ALDEA – The People’s Justice Center to assist immigrant families detained there. The Berks County Detention Center holds asylum-seeking families predominantly fleeing Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador. UDC Law and ALDEA were on hand to assist these men, women and children as they seek refugee status in the United States. On April 20, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, UDC Law faculty and the UDC Law Review hosted a symposium titled *FHA@50: Renewing our Commitment to Housing Equity*. The symposium was convened collaboratively with the Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs and the Equal Rights Center, and addressed such topics as the Fair Housing Act’s origins and progress; the future of the Fair Housing Act; the intersections between fair housing and education policy, criminal justice reform, community economic development and gender justice; the historical, legal and cultural implications of gentrification for the residents of the District of Columbia; and efforts to keep housing in the District of Columbia equitably distributed.

**Fordham University School of Law** introduced the Entrepreneurial Law Program and Clinic in August 2017. Students flocked to the Clinic, directed by Bernice Grant, Senior Director of the Program. During the semester, they formed quasi business and legal partnerships to provide a variety of services and representation such as forming entities, protecting intellectual and property rights, and negotiating agreements to clients.

There was also a high demand for business and legal acumen on the part of clients, primarily small entrepreneurs with a public interest component to their mission, who desperately need pro bono representation.



Leah Hill, Associate Dean for Experiential Education and Director of the Family Advocacy Clinic, has announced a partnership with the Rose F. Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, a program of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. The collaboration aims to promote and advocate for the well-being of children with developmental disabilities and special education needs. The Family Advocacy Clinic and the Bronx Defenders comprise the legal arm of the partnership with their expertise contributing to preparing a cadre of disability informed legal professionals, conducting public policy research, and providing direct problem-solving services.



The **University of Maryland Carey School of Law** is excited to announce the Erin Levitas Initiative for Sexual Assault Prevention. This new initiative, which is being spearheaded by Professors Leigh Goodmark (Gender Violence Clinic) and Deborah Eisenberg (Director, The Center for Dispute Resolution) will engage young men and women in educational activities designed to help them identify, question, and reject the destructive ideas that give rise to sexual violence. The Levitas Initiative will engage an expert in the field to work within and alongside

Maryland Carey's Gender Violence Clinic and The Center for Dispute Resolution. The Initiative will work on multiple fronts, including conducting outreach to the schools; training law students on the curriculum; coordinating presentations at the schools; and training teachers, principals, administrators, and parents. The Law School also announces a partnership between the Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic and five law firms in the Baltimore-Washington area. Baker Donelson; Gordon Feinblatt; Offit Kurman; Perkins Coie; and Womble Bond Dickinson have aligned with Maryland Carey Law to mentor law students as they develop IP and corporate law experience, and will provide guidance and advice to law students and their IPEC clients. With the generous support of the IPEC partner firms in addition to funding supplied by UM Ventures, Maryland Carey Law students will provide intellectual property and business law assistance to emerging companies and small businesses in both the College Park and Baltimore areas.

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The **University of Miami School of Law's Environmental Justice Clinic (EJC)**, launched in 2016 by Tony Alfieri, is excited to announce the addition of three new team members to support its work. Natalie Barefoot joins as the EJC's Practitioner in Residence and Lecturer in Law. Natalie brings with her a range of experience including: Executive Director of Cet Law, which works to further the protection of cetaceans and their ocean habitats; Programme Officer with the United Nations Environment Programme based in Geneva, Switzerland; Attorney-at-Law with Hogan Lovells US LLP; and prior to her legal career, as Financial Specialist/Program Manager with Pact, Inc., based in Washington, DC and Harare, Zimbabwe. Natalie is a Member of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law. Thanks to a generous grant from the Mysun Charitable Foundation, the EJC welcomed Daniela Tagtachian as its inaugural Mysun Foundation Fellow and Lecturer in Law. Daniela is a graduate of the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan Law School. After law school, Daniela received a fellowship to work with the Slave Labor and Human Trafficking Clinic at the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. Upon returning to the United States, she joined Hogan Lovells US LLP as a Litigation and International

Arbitration Associate. Recently, Daniela was recognized with the Dr. King Drum Major Award from PUSH for Excellence. Lauren Madigan joins EJC as Senior Program Manager, responsible for coordinating and managing programs and projects that support the EJC's vision and mission.

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The **University of New Mexico's** (UNM) clinical law program launched two new sections this past year. Prof. Serge Martinez created the Economic Justice Clinic section, which represents low-wage workers and low-income renters in litigation and supports cooperatively-owned businesses with legal assistance. The clinic has already recovered tens of thousands of dollars in unpaid wages for its clients and completed the pilot stage of a project that connects the clinic to unrepresented tenants in housing court. UNM also launched the Natural Resources and Environmental Law (NREL) clinic section, which represents low-income and underserved communities, including tribes, on a broad range of issues in this field. Gabe Pacyniak joined the UNM faculty from the Georgetown Climate Center to serve as NREL's primary faculty supervisor. This year students represented clients in matters related to discrimination in environmental permitting and in the federal Dakota Access Pipeline case, among others. The Child and Family Justice Clinic (CFJC), now in its second year, welcomed Prof. Sarah Steadman as its new primary faculty supervisor. CFCJ collaborates with UNM's medical school to provide a comprehensive medical and legal treatment and service model through the ADOBE program. Under the leadership of Prof. Quiche Suzuki, our long standing Community Lawyering Clinic and its Breastfeeding Task Force Project worked with community leaders and the local county jail to develop a lactation policy for breastfeeding female inmates. The policy, drafted by students and approved by the jail, permits lactating inmates to express breast milk for delivery to their infants, and allows skin-on-skin breastfeeding during visitation.

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As a result of a generous gift from Dave and Dawne Hickton, the **University of Pittsburgh** Legal Clinics have been renamed: the "Hickton Center for Community Legal Services & Clinical Legal Education." The Hickton Center for Community

Legal Services & Clinical Legal Education also has a new home in a newly remodeled state of the art space within the Barco Law Building. The Hickton Center houses seven in-house clinics (Health Law, Environmental Law, Immigration Law, Elder Law, Family Law, Securities and LITC) as well as the Veterans Practicum.

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Professor Norrinda Brown Hayat will be joining the **Rutgers Law School** faculty and will become the new Director of the Rutgers Civil Justice Clinic and Associate Clinical Professor on the Newark campus this Fall. Professor Hayat is the current Director of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) Law School's Housing and Consumer Law Clinic. She is a graduate of Dartmouth College and University of Virginia Law School. She worked in the Housing Section of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice for several years where she specialized in major litigation challenging discrimination in the HUD low-income Section 8 voucher program before commencing at UDC Law School in 2015. Her publications include: Accommodating Bias in the Shared Economy, 83 BROOK. L. REV. 613 (2018) and Section 8 Is the New N-Word: Policing Integration in the Age of Black Mobility, 51 WASH. U. J. L. & POL'Y 061 (2016).

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**Saint Louis University Law School** received two generous gifts to support the Legal Clinic. The donations will help to fund clinical services and will fund a full-time social worker for the Criminal Defense Clinic. In light of a unique partnership between SLU LAW and a nonprofit public interest law firm, SLU LAW externship students now have opportunities to work on post-conviction relief matters in office space physically located within the law school building. With the addition of this new space, SLU LAW now offers externships with three different nonprofit organizations in the building while also providing essential in-kind support to help these

organizations further advance their missions. Additionally, the Law School has approved a new Business Law and Innovation (BLI) Clinic and BLI Practice course that will begin in the fall of 2018.

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**University of Saint Thomas School of Law** students have a new opportunity to gain hands-on experience in intellectual property. Supervised by UST graduate Brad Walz, the Trademark Clinic became the school's [12th legal clinic](#) in January 2018. Walz practices in trademark and brand management, copyright, franchise law, technology and intellectual property transactions, intellectual property litigation, and food and beverage law. Student attorneys counsel clients about trademark applications, prepare and file trademark applications, prepare responses to Office actions, and may bring or defend opposition or cancellation proceedings and argue before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. They will gain the analytical skills, practical knowledge and legal background to counsel businesses. The University of St. Thomas welcomes Rachel Moran to Launch a Criminal and Juvenile Defense Clinic. This July, the UST will welcome Professor Rachel Moran as a tenure-track faculty to launch a Criminal and Juvenile Defense clinic. The clinic will be located in UST's Interprofessional Center, where faculty and students from the disciplines of law, psychology, and social work collaborate to assist clients. Rachel brings a breadth of experience in criminal and juvenile defense, most recently as the [Clinical Fellow](#) in the Criminal Defense Clinic at the University of Denver, but also in private practice and as a public defender. As the 13th clinical offering at the University of St. Thomas, the Criminal and Juvenile Defense clinic will complement the Federal Commutations clinic (Professor Mark Osler), the Community Justice Project clinic (Professor Carl Warren), and the Immigration clinic (Professor Virgil Wiebe).

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**SMU Dedman School of Law's** Judge Elmo B. Hunter Legal Center for Victims of Crimes Against Women published the results of its year-long study on the Dallas County Gun Surrender Program, [Taking Aim at Family Violence](#). The study was conducted by students under the direction of Center Director, Associate Professor Natalie Nanasi. In late 2017, stakeholders entered into a Memorandum of

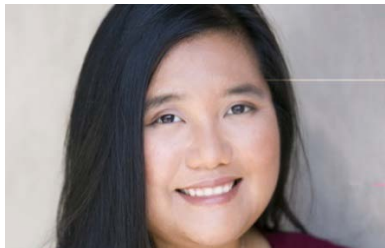
Understanding consistent with several of the study's recommendations and in early 2018, momentum surrounding the project brought a commitment from the City of Dallas and Dallas County officials for the creation of a Gun Surrender Task Force, bringing together key high-level stakeholders in an effort to improve existing efforts to disarm domestic abusers. In early 2018 SMU's Criminal Justice Clinic partnered with the Dallas County District Attorney for its Second Annual Expunction Expo. Representatives from the DA's office visited the Law School to train Criminal Clinic students and faculty to assist people who have records of arrest but were not convicted of a crime and those pardoned or exonerated. Early this spring, the Texas Bar Foundation awarded SMU's Civil/Consumer Clinic a grant to work with Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid (TRLA) to assist victims of Hurricane Harvey. The collaboration is believed to be the first of its kind between legal services agencies and law school clinics in Texas, and enables clinic students to work remotely on behalf of residents of the battered regions of the Gulf Coast in FEMA appeals. The grant will also provide stipends for students to continue their work during the summer. As students and faculty develop expertise in the types of legal issues that arise after a disaster, the Clinic hopes to leverage its expertise to provide legal assistance and outreach about legal rights and resources to local and regional communities and to be in a position to hit the ground running when the next disaster strikes.

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The **Syracuse University College of Law** Office of Clinical Legal Education is pleased to announce the arrival of two Legal Fellows. Kimberly Harbin is an Equal Justice Works/AmeriCorps Fellow. Kim is a 2007 graduate of Harvard Law School with experience in both the private and not-for-profit legal sectors. Kim will be working with our Children's Rights and Family Law Clinic and Criminal Defense Clinic on immigration cases and community education. Chantal Wentworth-Mullin is a 2007 graduate of the Syracuse University College of Law. Chantal also has experience in both the private and not-for-profit legal sectors, having spent six years with Legal Aid of North Carolina. Chantal has a Fellowship with our Wohl Family Veterans Legal Clinic, where she provides outreach in adjoining counties, and assists with the legal work of the Clinic.

Kathy Khommarath recently joined **Southwestern Law School** to launch its new Pro Bono Removal Defense Program. Kathy graduated from Southwestern in 2012 and was a student in the Immigration Law Clinic. Upon graduation, she went to work at the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los

Angeles (CHIRLA) where she quickly became an expert in Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals cases and handled various other immigration related



matters. The Los Angeles Justice Fund awarded the Legal Clinics at Southwestern Law School with a Capacity Building grant in a highly competitive selection process. In partnership with Loyola Law School's Immigrant Justice Clinic, the Fund gives Southwestern the resources to create a new Pro Bono Removal Defense Program to increase access to representation before the Immigration Court. The goal of the LA Justice Fund and Southwestern Law School Legal Clinics's Pro Bono Removal Defense Program is to "expand access to legal representation to individuals in Los Angeles County, who are in immigration removal proceedings and cannot afford an attorney."

**Washington University School of Law** is adding another new law clinic, an **Immigration Clinic**, beginning this fall. The new offering brings to 19 the number of clinical opportunities for students each semester. In the new Immigration Clinic, students will assist clients in immigration matters such as naturalization, adjustment of status, family-reunification, employment benefits, deportation defense, and petitions for asylum. Students will represent non-citizen clients in matters at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and Executive Office of Immigration Review, including appearances before the Immigration Court.

## AALS Conference

*Events of interest*

### CLEA Board Meeting:

CLEA will hold a board meeting, open to all members, on Monday, April 30, at 7:30 a.m., and a Membership Meeting, on Tuesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m.. Both meetings are in the conference hotel. CLEA will also staff a table at the conference where people can confirm their membership and pick up CLEA materials featuring the new logo.

### Georgetown Law Breakfast:

Georgetown Law will be hosting a breakfast for our faculty, fellows, and alumni during this year's AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education in Chicago on Monday, April 30, beginning at 7:30 a.m. in the Palmer House Hilton. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Chanyong Pak ([cp921@georgetown.edu](mailto:cp921@georgetown.edu)).



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# Honors, Accolades and Victories

In December, Professor Binny Miller, who co-directs **American University, Washington College of Law's** Criminal Justice Clinic, worked with five students to file an amicus brief in the Maryland Court of Appeals on behalf of four individuals effectively serving life sentences or de facto life sentences for crimes committed when they were juveniles. The AUWCL International Human Rights Law Clinic recently submitted, in partnership with an organizational client with on-the-ground expertise on the topic, a shadow report to the Human Rights Council at the United Nations. The topic of the report was the treatment of the HIV positive/AIDS population in Nigeria, to assist in the Universal Periodic Review of the country by the UN scheduled for later this year. In May 2018, the International Human Rights Law Clinic will publish a report for another organizational client titled "Shortchanged: The Big Business behind the Low Wage J-1 Au Pair Program." The report explains how the rules governing foreign au pair recruitment and placement enable unscrupulous individuals to take advantage of au pairs. One of our student teams in the Intellectual Property Law Clinic has been working with film production company Kikim Media to provide fair use analysis on over 1,000 clips and ensure that depictions of prominent figures complied with privacy law so that Kikim could release the upcoming Discovery Channel documentary film series "Silicon Valley: The Untold Story."

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East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC) was founded 30 years ago by students at **UC Berkeley Law School** to provide high-quality legal services to low-income clients and clinical education opportunities to law students. Through the years, EBCLC has grown to become the largest clinical education offering at Berkeley Law, and a nationally recognized leader in community law, serving more than 5,000 clients and training over 100 students each year. The depth and breadth of EBCLC's work remarkable and ever expanding. With a diverse staff of 50, including 30 public interest attorneys, EBCLC attorneys and students deliver client-centered,

community-driven, and culturally-responsive full case representation, limited-scope assistance, information and referral, community legal education and outreach, policy advocacy, and technical assistance in five program areas: Immigration, Housing, Health & Welfare, Education Defense & Justice for Youth, and Economic Security & Opportunity. EBCLC's creates space for students to innovate. 2018 Sax Prize Winner Shelby Nacino co-created the Name and Gender Change Workshop, including the student application, training manual, and recruitment of clients. The clinic creates a safe space for transgender individuals to access legal services, providing crucial assistance to over 60 clients in its first year. EBCLC's multi-modal, holistic teaching and service delivery model is powerful. The organization's impact and recognition further supports the Berkeley Law Dean's vision of a clinical guarantee for all law students. It is not surprising, therefore, the prestigious California Law Review, decided to honor EBCLC in the 2018 Festschrift. We hope you'll enjoy reading about this outstanding organization and clinical program!

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The University of Baltimore's Center for Families, Children and the Courts, in partnership with Open Society Institute-Baltimore, hosted its tenth annual Urban Child Symposium on April 4. "Restorative Practices and the Urban Child: Rethinking School Discipline" focused on alternatives to harsh school discipline practices. Education, justice, and policy experts discussed ways in which restorative practices can address chronic absenteeism, school disengagement, and the school-to-prison pipeline.

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**Duquesne University School of Law's** Unemployment Compensation Clinic has two cases on appeal before the Commonwealth Court. In one case, students seek court review of the circumstances under which professors at a community college can receive unemployment benefits during their "summer semester." In the second, the issue is whether a bus driver's resumed use of a customary route after a

detour ended constitutes willful misconduct. The Allegheny County Family Court Division Judges hosted a reception for the Family Law Clinic to thank students for their work with pro se litigants. The Education Law Clinic participated in State Representative Dan Miller's Disability Summit. Assistant Clinical Professor Tiffany Sizemore testified before 14 state legislators, proposing reforms related to kids with autism and juvenile justice. The Clinic's work representing youth in delinquency offenses and school discipline is featured in [NextPittsburgh](#). The article details the work of the Juvenile Defender and Education Law Clinics, as well as an initiative with The Pittsburgh Foundation to use law, social work, and school psychology graduate students to provide holistic representation and support. The Veterans Clinic and Adjunct Clinic Professor Dan Kunz hosted the Veterans Court Graduation. 22 veteran clients graduated from Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Veterans Court. The clinic received a grant from the Duquesne Law Alumni Association to assist with their continued work. The Civil Rights Clinic represented three clients before the Pennsylvania Pardon Board. All three clients received recommendations for pardon. The recommendations are before Governor Wolf awaiting his signature. An additional received her signed pardon from the Governor in February 2018. She is the second client in the clinic to complete the full pardon process.

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**Georgetown Law's** Civil Rights Clinic made [headlines](#) with a recent suit on behalf of Brennan Gilmore, the former civil servant who received death threats after he filmed and shared video of the Charlottesville attack last year. The defamation [suit](#) targets conspiracy theorist Alex Jones, his site Infowars, and six others for their role in spreading falsehoods about Mr. Gilmore. The Institute for Public Representation (IPR) also made news this semester. The IPR Communications and Technology Law Clinic filed a groundbreaking [complaint](#) on behalf of more than 20 consumer groups regarding YouTube's failure to comply with the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. Similarly, the IPR Environmental Law Clinic, in partnership with the NRDC, won a [challenge](#) under the Clean Water Act to force the EPA to better measure pollution entering the Anacostia River, a finding that will have national implications.

In March, the Georgetown Law Juvenile Justice Clinic and Initiative (GJJI) partnered with [Rights4Girls](#) to co-author a report entitled "[Beyond the Walls: A Look at Girls in the DC Juvenile Justice System](#)." In the wake of the report, GJJI and Rights4Girls launched the L.O.U.D. Brown Girls (LBG) pilot initiative, designed to empower girls of color who have touched the juvenile or criminal justice systems, through their own experiences or that of a friend or family member.

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On November 2, lawyers from **Miami Law's** Health Rights Clinic, with Florida Legal Services and the Community Justice Project, sued DCF and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, on behalf of the Miami Workers Center, New Florida Majority, and a class of disabled individuals claiming that the system discriminated against persons with disabilities who could not endure these conditions. On November 3, DCF requested that USDA waive its in-person D-SNAP interview requirement to allow telephone interviews for elderly or disabled applicants who had completed a pre-registration application online. USDA granted this waiver – the first ever – on November 16. Advocates estimate that the relief awarded because of the two-day telephonic interviews is approximately \$3.7 million. The interviews were held on December 2 and 3 for individuals and heads of household who had pre-registered for benefits but had disabilities that prevented them from lining up and waiting at a central location to be interviewed in person.

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At **Saint Louis University Law School**, Professor John Ammann and his students had a clemency victory and successfully settled the Missouri Blind Pension Trust.

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The **University of Washington School of Law's** Technology Law and Public Policy Clinic students Alexis Liistro, Gaites Swanson, Anastasia Mackert and Kyle Schroeder testified before the Technology and Economic Development Committee of the Washington State House of Representatives. The students provided information on the potential public uses of Blockchain/public ledger. UW's Children

and Youth Advocacy Clinic was awarded a Population Health Initiative grant to work in concert with the schools of Public Health, Nursing and Social Work to research and develop a One Health model that will bring a variety of health, veterinary, legal and social services to youth experiencing homelessness together with their animals. UW's Immigration Clinic students were able to gain the release of a client facing indefinite detention at the Northwest Detention Center. Clinic students were successful in advocating for the client's release during his custody review, emphasizing both his rehabilitation, that he is not now a danger to the community, and the fact that his country of nationality was unlikely to accept his removal. The clinic also obtained citizenship for a client whom US Immigration and Citizenship Services (USCIS) had previously denied naturalization. UW's Human Rights Clinic student, Gabriela Ocampo Ucha, was awarded the Osheroff and Clark Fellowship. The fellowship was awarded to Gabriela for her research and advocacy on the Clinic's project documenting the Northwest Immigration Detention Center's emphasis

on profit over immigrant dignity. Our Federal Tax Clinic had a very successful year in 2017 working 382 cases over the year culminating in taxpayers receiving \$65,244 in refunds and lowering their liabilities by \$2,738,690.

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**Washington University School of Law's** Civil Rights and Mediation Clinic won a unanimous decision from the Missouri Supreme Court in *Brainchild Holdings vs. Cameron* recognizing the right to a jury trial in landlord-tenant actions. Clinic students, working with the St. Louis Metropolitan Equal Housing & Opportunity Council, represented a blind tenant who alleged her landlord failed to address a number of problems with her apartment, including tripping hazards from unfinished floors. The tenant had been denied an opportunity to present her claim that the landlord's actions violated the implied warranty of habitability, but the court determined that tenants in rent and possession cases are entitled upon request to a trial by jury.

## Conferences and Meetings

The Parents Engaged for Learning Equality ("PELE") Special Education Advocacy Clinic will be hosting its 8<sup>th</sup> annual Institute for Special Education Advocacy ("ISEA") at William & Mary Law School. ISEA will be held from July 29 through August 3, 2018, and is co-sponsored by Wrightslaw, a national clearinghouse for information about special education advocacy.

The Institute provides an in-depth introduction to special education law, while being surrounded by experts and practitioners in the field. Sixty-five attorneys and advocates from across the country will attend, joining our network of over 300 alumni of the program. Academic credit for law students and a Certificate through William & Mary Law School are also offered.

The Institute serves as a major fundraiser for the PELE Clinic, in which law students at William & Mary advocate for low-to-moderate income families in special education matters. Law students work to ensure children with disabilities receive the free, appropriate public education guaranteed them by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) by advocating for these students at meetings with schools. Special education advocacy provides law students the unique and valuable experience of negotiating -- primarily with non-lawyers -- involving emotionally-charged matters. Students may also participate in mediation and administrative hearings.

Clinicians have attended the Institute in past years, largely to incorporate special education into their clinical or doctrinal course offerings. Natural pairings are found in medical-legal partnerships, children's law, and disability clinics. We encourage clinicians and law students to attend. [Click here for more information.](#)

# Committee Reports

The **Transactional Clinics Committee** continues to provide a forum for clinicians in the various transactional clinics (small business/ entrepreneurship, intellectual property, tax, and community economic development) to advocate for programing and policy within the Section on Clinical Legal Education.

The Transactional Clinics Committee met at the AALS Annual Meeting in San Diego to grow our membership and provide updates on our initiatives. Chief among the Committee's goals for the year is to communicate about the wide range of work that transactional clinicians are engaged in. As an example, UMKC School of Law and almost a dozen other law schools, organizations, law firms, and companies, with support from the Kauffman Foundation, have launched The Legal Technology Laboratory. This program connects entrepreneurial law school faculty and students with networks of innovators to solve complex problems in multidisciplinary ways. Read more about The Legal Technology Laboratory here, <http://www.thelegaltechlab.com/>. The Committee co-sponsored a program with the Section on Transactional Law and Skills at the Annual Meeting in part to facilitate communication about the work of the Committee, including news about The Legal Technology Laboratory, and the Section. Also in San Diego, a number of Committee members took part in a discussion group titled *Community Economic Development is Access to Justice*. A podcast of that discussion group is available here, <http://bit.ly/CEDisA2J>. The Committee's annual business meeting will take place in Chicago on Monday, April 30, 7:30am – 9am, in Wilson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of The Palmer House. Look forward to seeing current and new members there as we discuss our programming priorities for the new year.

-Lynnise Pantin (Boston College) & Ted De Barbieri (Albany) Co-Chairs

## Other Announcements

### **Call for Articles**

Professor Barbara A. Babb, CFCC Director and Editor-in-Chief of the *Family Court Review (FCR)*, invites members of the AALS Section of Family and Juvenile Law to submit articles for publication in *FCR*, the quarterly journal of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). Submitted articles are peer-reviewed. For more information, please refer to the AFCC website (<http://www.afccnet.org/Publications/Family-Court-Review/Submit-an-article>) or contact Professor Babb at [bbabb@ubalt.edu](mailto:bbabb@ubalt.edu) or 410-837-5661.

### **New NY Skills Requirement for Bar Admission**

New York has added another requirement for bar admission. Applicants must establish that they have acquired the skills and are familiar with the professional values necessary to practice law competently. See [nybarexamskills](#). This requirement is effective for J.D. students who began law school in fall 2016 or later. For foreign-educated applicants completing an LL.M. program to sit for the NY bar, it will first apply to students beginning their studies in fall 2018.

Applicants select one of five "Pathways" to establish skills competency. Three of the Pathways are relevant to law school study.

- a. Pathway 1 requires that each school develop a plan “identifying and incorporating into its curriculum the skills and professional values that, in the school’s judgment, are required for ... basic competence and ethical participation in the profession.” This plan must provide for coursework beyond the six credits mandated by ABA Standard 303(a)(3). Fordham’s Pathway 1 plan can be found here: [https://www.fordham.edu/certification\\_of\\_competency](https://www.fordham.edu/certification_of_competency)
- b. Pathway 2 is satisfied by completion of 15 credits of experiential coursework, of which six “credits” may be earned by performing paid or unpaid summer work.
- c. Pathway 3 is satisfied by completion of NY’s Pro Bono Scholars Program. [nycourts.gov/probonoscholars](http://nycourts.gov/probonoscholars).

For FAQ’s about the Skills Requirement, [please click here](#).

## In Memoriam

**Professor Roger Wolf.** Roger Wolf, a professor and pioneer of alternative dispute resolution, passed on December 30, 2017. Roger died peacefully at his farm in Maryland surrounded by family. Roger believed that the resolution of conflict by the people involved in the conflict promoted justice. Roger established one of the first mediation clinics at a law school in the mid-1980s before joining the Clinical Law Program at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law, where he remained for 30 years. In 2002, he founded the Center for Dispute Resolution at the University of Maryland School of Law. Now in its fifteenth year the Center continues Roger’s vision of promoting the power of conflict resolution to build a more just society. Even while teaching, Roger served on a variety of court rosters, volunteered for the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights and community mediation centers, and mediated for the United States Postal Service and the Maryland Department of Agriculture Programs. Roger will be missed by the numerous students, clients, and colleagues who benefited from his wisdom. Roger is survived by his wife, Judy, and their four children and six grandchildren. The family has asked that contributions in his memory may be made to his center, C-DRUM at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law: online: <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/CDRUMgift> or by mail: sending a check made payable to UMBF, Inc/C-DRUM to 500 West Baltimore St, Baltimore MD 21201.

**Professor Gwynne L. Skinner.** July 17, 1964 - Dec. 11, 2017. Gwynne died in Portland, after living bravely with ovarian cancer for nearly five years. Gwynne was born in Des Moines, Iowa. She attended schools in Shelby, Melvin and Sac City, Iowa. She went to college at University of Northern Iowa. She worked in politics before graduating with law degrees from University of Iowa Law School and Oxford University. Gwynne practiced law in Seattle, and also founded the Public Interest Law Group, before transitioning into academics. She taught at Seattle University Law School and presently at Willamette University School of Law, where she founded and was the director of the Human Rights and Refugee Law Clinic. She has litigated many high profile cases. She has inspired and mentored a new generation of lawyers who will advocate for human rights for all. She is survived by her spouse, Dr. Beth Skrypzak; and her beloved daughters, Lucy, 16, and Ella, 12; her mother, Joy Skinner of Wichita; her siblings, Brenda Lyttle of Cheyenne, Susan Skinner of Los Angeles, Steven Skinner of Wichita and Jill Skinner of Phoenix. She was preceded in death by her father, Robert E. Skinner, Jr. Tax deductible donations in her name may be made to Immigration Counseling Service and SOAR Immigration Legal Services.