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Correction: In the Spring/Summer 2011 issue of New York Law School Magazine, Dean Emeritus E. Donald Shapiro was mistakenly described as having taught at “Bar-Han” University in Israel. The correct name of the university is Bar-Ilan University.
Wow! What a Place!
By Richard A. Matasar

I have always had a difficult time saying goodbye to those I love. Usually, I start a day or so before I have to leave, stretch out the hours before having to go, and stay on the phone until the door closes on the plane and someone yells at me to turn off all electrical equipment.

We’ve been together for almost 12 years, since I had the privilege of being chosen to be New York Law School’s Dean. We’ve seen our school through difficult times and shared in joyous occasions. We’ve seen friends and colleagues suffer through illnesses and we’ve attended numerous celebrations. We’ve shared the horror of seeing our city under attack and enjoyed its resurgence. We’ve waited for elevators, watched plaster peel, and looked at dingy walls in our old buildings and now share a magnificent new home. We are a family of those who call New York Law School the cornerstone of our professional lives. We love the place; we love it for what it is!

What is it? It is a place of incredible dedication to law in action. Each community member has fire in their belly. Our people accomplish incredible things and make their mark in law, government, industry, and philanthropy. It is a place with passionate faculty, whose teaching indelibly has shaped generations of graduates and whose scholarship has pushed public policy to become sharper and more just. Our graduates give back generously, not just to their school, but to our society—helping clients, shaping the government, and leading their organizations to success. But to me it is and always will be primarily the students.

The students come to New York Law School with dreams. We help them achieve those dreams. They come from nearly every state, but they become New Yorkers (in attitude)—hard-working, open-minded, adventurous, passionate, dedicated to service, funny, and tough on the outside (with gooey centers). New York Law School students give our school its character, keep us alive to the possibility of change, and force us every day to get better. They inspire us to constantly evolve and grow.

While deans come and go, students, faculty, and graduates remain, vigilantly living the core values of the Law School. They innovate, improving ways of doing old things and inventing solutions to new problems. They maintain the integrity and professionalism that undergird our legal system and the rule of law. They seek justice for the diverse world in which we live. The heart of New York Law School beats strongly for each student, faculty member, and graduate.

As I move on to the next phase in my career, I now can reflect on the school that we have become, the daily pleasures of working with my wonderful colleagues, and the knowledge that countless students have used their education to fulfill their dreams. I leave knowing that there are many wonderful new goals to reach in the years ahead, but that they always seem just out of our grasp. But we thought the same thing nearly 12 years ago . . . and look at where we are now. Wow! What a place!
Rick Matasar has been an incredible leader at New York Law School. While our brand new and very beautiful building is physical proof of his vision and his capacity to drive home a difficult project, his impact runs deeper and wider through the very ether of New York Law School. He has led us all to new ways of thinking about the Law School and legal education in the 21st century. He has taught us how to understand how we need to differentiate the types of learning which various groups of students require. He has reinvigorated our commitment to the legal profession. Rick Matasar has brought us to a new plateau at New York Law School, and we honor him for his service and dedication to our community during his time with us.

Kathleen Grimm ’80, NYLS Board of Trustees

Richard Matasar is a star. He brings intellect, honesty, professionalism, ethics, inspiration, scholarship, and much more to each and every task before him as a dean. He is also a financial wizard and fully understands all aspects of the business part of education. I have known Rick for over 25 years. I will truly miss his leadership and friendship.

Professor Ronald H. Filler

Dean Matasar’s contributions go well beyond the call of duty. Whether stopping in to say hello to the Campus Advocates during orientation or assisting a final round bench of the Moot Court Association with exacting questions, he is readily available. My fondest memory is sitting with him while he explained a new scholarship opportunity and his easygoing nature with faculty, staff, alumni, and students alike. His presence will be missed.

Alexa Jordan Silverman 3L
“From the time that Rick Matasar became our new Dean, replacing the late Harry Wellington, I was privileged as Board Chair to be a partner with Rick in all of the workings of the Law School. Others, as they should, will talk about the visible and tangible accomplishments under his tenure like our distinguished faculty, the state-of-the-art campus, and the endowment. But to Rick, what really mattered most were the students. They were the ultimate object of all that he did. Rick always put our students’ interests first. Many were part of his extended family. They knew that he cared deeply about each of them. His primary goal was to make each student’s experience special and unforgettable. His influence on those students will continue for years to come. What greater satisfaction could there be than for an educator to positively influence the minds of so many students? Rick has set an extremely high standard for all of us to follow. He should take great pride in the legacy that he leaves behind. The New York Law School community owes Rick our gratitude for a job superbly done.”

Arthur N. Abbey ’59, Chair, NYLS Board of Trustees

Dean Richard A. Matasar has long encouraged students to take what they learn at New York Law School and make a difference elsewhere. Now he is following his own advice. He plans to use his experience at NYLS—part of more than 30 years in legal education—to tackle a new challenge: working with a younger, broader group of students to find better paths to opportunities in higher education.

Dean Matasar led the School through the challenge of regrouping after the 9/11 terrorist attacks just blocks away and the more positive task of opening a state-of-the-art academic building—the first major institutional project completed in Lower Manhattan after 9/11.

Along the way, he helped the Law School define its mission and spearheaded significant curricular changes. He oversaw an increase in the bar passage rate, welcomed many new faculty members, and developed a reputation as a reformer. Through it all, he has shown tireless enthusiasm for New York Law School.

Just after welcoming his 12th class of first-year students to NYLS, the dean reflected on his time at the Law School and discussed challenges ahead.
As you prepare to leave NYLS, what are some of the fondest memories you will take with you?
The people of NYLS are of course at the top of the list: the incredible, caring, wonderful people, including faculty, students, staff, and alumni. Everywhere you turn, there are great people at NYLS.

One of the themes at NYLS is “People, Place, and Program.” We also have a wonderful place. We built a great facility. And we’ve made extraordinary changes to the program. That’s probably a pretty good summary of my memories: people, place, and program.

Looking back on your tenure as Dean of NYLS, what do you feel have been your most significant achievements, the ones that will have the most lasting impact?
As far as personal achievements, none. The dean is just one person among many at the Law School. The achievements have all been institutional. We had a need for a new physical plant; we were able to create that. We had a need for a residence hall for students; we were able to achieve that. We had a need to improve the bar pass rate; we did that. The achievements are the collective achievements of the School and the people in the community. And they’re quite wonderful, I think.

What have been some of the greatest challenges you’ve faced as Dean?
We’ve had our share. Of course, 9/11 was the single most challenging moment for any of us here. It showed how important we were to each other and the role the School played as a place of comfort, a place we could be together and support each other. And it redoubled my commitment to the Law School, to helping to move it forward. That was definitely the greatest challenge because no one knew if downtown New York would even survive.

We also lost several faculty members to illness over the years, and those losses are painful to the faculty, staff, and students. Almost always those are the greatest challenges we deal with on an individual level: comforting members of the community who’ve lost friends.

Seven strategies emerged from the strategic planning discussions (2000–04):
1. Provide meaning to the concept of theory and practice working together.
2. Customize education for every student.
3. Require every student to have a minimum level of technological proficiency.
4. Provide first-rate facilities and integrate NYLS into the greater downtown community.
5. Ensure that all student services are excellent and establish a service culture.
6. Develop the faculty’s professional expertise in scholarship, teaching, service, and institution building.
7. Build the NYLS community into a culture of “doers” who share core values and a commitment to maximizing the potential of every community member.

RICHARD A. MATASAR, DEAN OF NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL 2000–11 • By Andrea Juncos

2000
- Richard A. Matasar, renowned scholar in civil procedure and federal jurisdiction, is named 15th Dean and President of NYLS.
- Engaging the entire New York Law School community, the dean launches an intense, ongoing process of self-assessment and strategic planning, aimed at improving what the Law School has to offer.
- NYLS establishes the Online Mental Disability Law Program.

2001
- NYLS develops the curricular themes “Learn law. Take action.” and “The Right Program for Each Student.”
- The Justice Action Center is established.
- The Center for Professional Values and Practice is established.
- In the wake of the terrorist attacks on September 11, Dean Matasar provides responsive leadership and a consistent message of support and purpose for students, faculty, staff, and alumni.
How is NYLS different today than when you took on the role?
Fundamentally, it’s a grown-up institution. We had many systems issues that are now much better—things just work better. We’ve had wonderful staff additions in the Registrar’s Office and Student Services. And wonderful faculty additions. There are a number of incremental things that are not that visible to the world but make a big difference to the School. The Law School is just a very mature, resilient institution.

How is it the same?
There’s a tremendous unity and loyalty among the people who work here. Many of the faculty members have been here their entire careers. They’ve been here through many deans, and they’ll be here through many more. That’s true with the staff, too. The constant presence of loyal people at the Law School is important.

The alumni are also a constant source of support for the Law School—for hiring its students and achieving great things in their own names but also in the name of the Law School.

And this is still a downtown place. Downtown is edgy. It’s sort of at the cool end of New York. It’s a place where culture and business and supercharged energy take place. And that’s really what NYLS is: it’s a downtown place.

Over the years you have met hundreds of students, faculty, staff, and alumni of NYLS. What would you say distinguishes each group from those at other schools?
There’s always a story at NYLS. Every faculty member, every student, every alumnus has a story about how they ended up being here and what they’ve done with their education. It’s just not a generic place. At lots of law schools, people go because it’s the thing to do, it’s the place to be, and it’s expected of them. Defying expectations is what NYLS is about.

How has each group changed since you’ve come on board?
I think the pride in the Law School has increased tremendously over the last 12 years. People were always proud of NYLS, but they’re prouder now than they’ve ever been. From wearing our logo on their clothing, to displaying bumper stickers, to proudly declaring they’re graduates of the Law School when they apply for jobs. That’s a big improvement.

Obviously people are very proud of our new building. It’s not just classrooms; it’s also a place of beauty and art. It’s a welcoming environment that is our home, not just a place to work. NYLS has become less of a commuter school. Students come and stay all day. It’s much more of a destination for students and for alumni.

2002
• At the School’s Spring Benefit Gala, Dean Matasar is honored by the Board of Trustees for his outstanding leadership and support of the NYLS community in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.
• In keeping with the “student-centered” curricular approach, Dean Matasar creates a training and professional development program for staff that focuses on providing students with the best customer service.
• The faculty restructures the New York Law School Law Review, merging it with two existing student law journals and hiring a full-time faculty publisher. Beginning in 2003–04, the top 15 percent of students are selected to become new Law Review members, and it is transformed into a journal for significant symposia papers.
• The John Marshall Harlan Scholars Program, a rigorous honors program designed for students who perform at the top of their class, is established.

2003
• The Institute for Information Law & Policy is established.
• NYLS begins offering the Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Taxation.
• The Comprehensive Curriculum Program is established to provide intensive support to struggling students.
• The Law School joins the Law School Survey of Student Engagement (LSSSE) to better understand the nature of its services and the perceptions of its students.
You were Dean when the World Trade Center was attacked on September 11, 2001. What do you remember most about the experience of being here that day and how the School responded?

Like every New Yorker who was close by, I have lots of indelible images. It was such a beautiful day. And we were packed because it was Election Day. I was in my office, and I heard the first plane fly over and hit. From that time to the time the second plane hit, to the time the towers came down, to closing the School, it was like a blur. But at the same time, it was in slow motion.

I remember closing the buildings after the power went out and walking home to Chelsea, with what was left of the towers behind us. It was so eerily empty downtown. And I remember walking through the Village and seeing people having dinner at cafés. It was such a juxtaposition—the end of the world behind us and life going on in front of us. And that became sort of a symbol for the School, too.

After the disaster, we grew stronger, more confident, more active, and more committed. 9/11 taught us that some things are beyond our control, and that we need to control what we can—our programs, our treatment of each other, our talent put to use to add value, our outreach to those in need, and our mutual respect. It taught us to make the best of those things, to learn from the past, and then to look forward. Even though the events of 9/11 are now a decade behind us, their impact and the lessons they have taught us will remain forever.

You spearheaded several curricular innovations at the Law School over the years, including introducing the themes “Learn law. Take action.” and “The Right Program for Each Student.” Why are these themes important to you?

They’re important to us; not just to me. The themes come from looking for the right verbal formulation or shorthand to describe how the School has come together over the years.

“The Right Program for Each Student” describes how we’ve made the School work for each individual. It would not be good for us if we tried to cram students into a particular way of doing business rather than letting them take advantage of the resources and become the people they want to be. It’s a way of recognizing that we are a big school with lots of opportunities and lots of ways to customize the experience for everyone’s needs.

And “Learn law. Take action.” is just a way to describe exactly what NYLS is about and what the people of NYLS are about. The people who come here are in a hurry to do something. It’s the idea that it’s all for a purpose, that we learn law in order to make a difference in the world.

There’s no dean that’s going to come in and change that idea—that this is a place for activists. More than 100 years ago, we were founded by a group of fearless innovators, and that willingness to be bold and stand up for what’s right has been deeply embedded in our DNA ever since.
Under your leadership, the Law School opened a brand-new academic building in 2009. How has the new facility changed/improved the experience students have at NYLS?

The classrooms are great. You can hear, you can see, you can speak. They’re comfortable. It’s a place where nothing interferes with learning.

At the same time, you can hang out. You can spend the day. You get great meal service. You can sit out on a patio and have a view of the Manhattan skyline. You can walk around the building and see a piece of art or a piece of history.

It’s a place where every student can find a room or a cranny or a discussion area to study with friends. It’s a place where students can spend time and not resent it. They can actually feel good about coming to school.

You’ve said that reform begins with what a school can control—its curriculum and how it treats its students. How have you reformed NYLS in these ways?

There are lots of invisible things that add up to being incredibly important. The treatment of students by staff and faculty and the respect for students is remarkably better than it was a while ago. Part of that is a change in overall culture and expectations of students. There is now a real consumer expectation: students expect to be treated well when they come to a school, and we do that.

At the same time, it’s a place of incredible discipline. The bargain is twofold. Students expect to be treated well, but at the same time they expect that the School knows better than they do. We say yes to lots of things, and we say no to lots of things because the faculty has a clear, purposeful view of what a good legal education looks like, so we’re not going to bend to consumer expectations.

You don’t come here if you’re not willing to buy into our vision of what the School should look like and be, but at the same time, if you come here, the return to the student is really high. Students are treated well. That’s one of those invisible turnarounds. It takes a long time to become student-centric and student-oriented, and I think this is a very student-centric, student-oriented community.

2006
- The first group to complete the Comprehensive Curriculum Program gives the School its highest bar pass rate in recent memory: 84 percent (up from 58 percent in 1999). Since then, the rate remains in the 80s and 90s, with an all-time high of 94 percent in 2008.

2007
- The Center for Real Estate Studies is established.

2008
- The Center on Financial Services Law is established.
- The Safe Passage Immigration Project of the Justice Action Center wins the New York State Bar Association’s President’s Pro Bono Service Award.
Your role as a reformer of legal education has garnered much attention, and some scrutiny, in the press. How does it feel to be in the public eye as a leader for reform?

We know that the world is questioning us. We got bad publicity from The New York Times. Some of the blogs see us as a school that doesn’t provide good value for the students. But what is described by outsiders who have nothing to do with us bears no resemblance to what people here believe. Pride has actually flowered and strengthened over the last several months.

What’s visible with your own eyes and visible in the evidence on the ground is so much more powerful than what an outsider will say. That’s really an important lesson we have all learned.

Academic institutions, which for most of my life have been places where candid conversations that include self-criticism and a desire to improve could take place, have become institutions where these matters are ones of public debate and not private study. I think that’s not a good thing. It’s chilling, because it encourages people to stop taking positions that might be challenged. It puts a huge burden on people to realize that whatever they say, whatever they believe, whatever they argue for, is going to be subject to being taken out of context and possibly used for others’ purposes. That said, it doesn’t stop me, and it doesn’t stop our faculty and students from taking these positions.

What we do as an institution is only what we are permitted to do by regulators and the world we live in. What we can control is the only thing we should feel an obligation to defend. What we can’t control should be able to point to and call for it to be changed.

What do you tell those who say legal education cannot be reformed?

They say that about lots of stuff. Just about every industry can’t be reformed until it is. The education that students receive today is so much better than it has ever been in the history of legal education. Even the middle of the pack law school today is better than the best law school 30 years ago. The real trick is to get even better in that environment.

These improvements have come at a high cost to students, and a high cost to society. Unlike many places outside the U.S., we don’t have deep subsidies for education. That means that going to law school or going to graduate school of any kind will put a student in a difficult position unless they come from a family of great wealth or have other resources to pay for their education. It is very difficult for students to find a first job that will allow them to live comfortably with the debt they’ve incurred. That said, the world needs lawyers. Law makes society better, and individuals and corporations and governments have a need for more certainty in legal systems and more justice in legal systems. As long as that’s the case, we’ll need more lawyers.

So we must make legal education accessible. For NYLS, we have to find ways of stabilizing the price first and lowering the cost later. And that means being creative. We won’t be 10th in line on that; we’ll be first in line. The regulatory regime and the system will have to find ways to let institutions respond to the need to deliver more for less.
How would you brief your successor for the job of dean of NYLS?
Work hard. Have fun. There’s lots of little advice, but essentially, if you put the time and effort in, you’ll have a great time in this job because the people are so wonderful.

What’s next for you? What are you most excited about in your new role?
I am going to New York University, taking on a role as Vice President for University Enterprise Initiatives. It’s a position that looks for ways of delivering education that are different, trying to be creative with the resources of a big university to find connections and add value.

It’s always good to take on new things and to challenge oneself to learn. I would be a terrible dean or a terrible educator or a terrible lawyer if I just did the same thing over and over. So this new role is both to expand what I know but also to take my experience into a new arena and help people find connections.

Legal education is good for that. We look to precedent to inform us, but we also look for new ways to deal with fact patterns. What I have to do in this new role is to look for things I know about and see how they translate to groups of people and students I’ve never worked with before, and I think that’s a really exciting challenge.

Why did you feel it was time to move on from NYLS?
I’ve been a law school dean for 21 years. I’ve been in law school education for 31 years. I’ve increasingly become convinced that the place to deal with growing educational needs is with younger students.

To grow up in this country, it takes seven years after high school if you want to be a lawyer or eight years if you want to be a doctor. It takes a long time with a lot of expense to become a grown-up.

We in legal education, and those in graduate education in general, are accustomed to taking students who have already mortgaged their futures to get that education. So getting involved earlier with those who can deliver education more quickly or productively or efficiently is something that’s exciting to me.

More and more, a graduate degree is going to become a requirement just to be allowed to compete for a job. In that case, all those preliminary steps should be lowered in cost and increased in quality in order to make possible the final study years that are the preparation for taking on productive roles in society.

For me, being involved in those earlier years with a broader group of students is an important, exciting responsibility. Multiple pathways are possible; we just have to find them.

How will your experience at New York Law School shape how you approach your next role? What lessons will you take with you?
The notion of seeing the world through the eyes of the students is distinctively the NYLS way. Doing whatever we are doing in the classroom through the lens of what’s best for the students. I think I can carry that to the new job to set a cultural and spiritual tone for the people I’ll be working with there.

And it’s always good to listen. It’s always good to have unshakable principles. It’s always good to have faith that smart people will find solutions to difficult problems. And to be willing to make huge mistakes in order to have significant gains.

And to laugh and smile a lot.

NYLS launches Legal Practice, an innovative, reworked curriculum that integrates skills teaching and experiential learning into the first year of law school.

The Law School has a record fund-raising year, bringing in $10,000,000. During Dean Matasar’s tenure, the School has increased its endowment and reserves from $30,000,000 to nearly $250,000,000.

Also since 2000, Dean Matasar has increased support for the faculty’s scholarly projects, enabling them to produce more than 100 books and numerous law review articles, and allowing them to successfully pursue academic interests in every pressing area of the law.

Rick Matasar has been a transformational dean for New York Law School. He has led us in refocusing the institution so that we can respond to the needs of a changing legal profession, and he has led us through a complete transformation of our physical space so that it is better suited to support that effort. He also led us through the traumatic events of 9/11, resulting in a stronger institution with a firm foundation for the future.

Professor Arthur S. Leonard

For a good chunk of my second semester as a 1L, I rode the elevator with Dean Matasar and his Diet Coke. He wished me good morning every time. It became a little routine I looked forward to, because it’s not often you hear that the dean of a law school chats with a student while riding an elevator.

Petal Hwang 2L
Dean Matasar took action when presented with a concern by the students about more diversity in the full-time faculty. Shortly after he took the time to speak with me and another student about the lack of Hispanic professors, an offer was extended to and accepted by our second full-time Latina professor.

Jorge L. Rodriguez 4L, Vice-President, Evening Division, Latin American Law Students Association

I’d sometimes see Dean Matasar on the 1 train heading to the school, and no matter what time or how crowded, he’d come over and we’d ride and then walk to the school. Some executives choose to have their travel into work be their own time, but he’d ask me how things were going and how I was doing. It was sincere. He’d listen and we’d talk—real talk. We know he does this with students, but he also applies this to the administration too. That makes you feel really good about who you are and where you work.

Kevin Hauss, Assistant Vice President, Human Resources

Dean Matasar’s single-minded focus is on putting students first and making sure that every aspect of our curriculum and institution supports that goal. . . . Thanks to Rick’s leadership and the faculty’s deep commitment to students, I received an excellent legal education at NYLS that equipped me to succeed in corporate practice at a leading law firm and as a law clerk to a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Now I have the great privilege of being a part of this mission every day as a member of the Law School’s instructional faculty.

Marcey L. Grigsby ’06, Faculty Publisher, New York Law School Law Review

For anyone who doubts that one person can make a difference, Rick Matasar proves that not only can one make a difference; the difference can be transformative! Rick’s leadership of NYLS gave us a vastly superior student-centric environment with a tremendous academic and applied experience, a powerful endowment, spectacular fund-raising achievements, a law school building second to none . . . and a leading voice within the academy on the direction of legal education. The students, faculty, and alumni of New York Law School have all benefited from his vision, action, and leadership.

Gerald C. Crotty ’76, Vice Chair, NYLS Board of Trustees

Rick brought energy, innovation, and ambition to NYLS. His passion was infectious and took the Law School to new heights in a challenging environment. He has left NYLS in a much stronger position, and the Board thanks him for a tremendous job.

Charles E. Phillips Jr. ’93, NYLS Board of Trustees

We are indebted to Dean Matasar . . . who has helped to transform NYLS into a place where deeds are valued as much as words. Dean Matasar has created a culture of action and excellence, and his presence at the Open Video Conference was a reminder of how much he will be missed as he moves on.

Christopher Wong ’08, Postgraduate Fellow, Institute for Information Law & Policy

Rick Matasar has been an outstanding dean, inspiring the School to reorganize and strengthen large areas of its curriculum, guiding it through the development and completion of a fantastic building and renovation program, and orienting it over more effectively toward preparing our students for the practice of law in a rapidly changing legal profession and a rapidly changing world.

Professor Edward A. Purcell Jr.

Rick built a modern campus, strengthened the faculty, and led it to create innovative programs adaptable to the diverse interests and needs of our students. The School is blessed to have had such a dean.

Professor David Schoenbrod

When I first met Rick Matasar as Dean-Designate, he asked me what he could do for me. I told him I needed to witness an execution in order to better understand the punishment of death. He blanched for a moment, but made it happen. Since then, I’ve watched him with respect, sometimes awe, as he made things happen for so many others, and most especially for this ongoing community we call NYLS.

Professor Robert Blecker

In the summer of 2000, Rick Matasar met with the faculty and asked, ‘Who wants to try some innovative teaching?’ I was thinking maybe we could offer some courses online.’ I raised my hand, and have spent the last 11 years developing our Online Mental Disability Law Program that now includes 13 courses, a master’s degree, and an Advanced Certificate. We have trained students all over the world, and these students have been involved in the most cutting-edge litigation in the U.S., Africa, and Europe. This was all Rick’s vision, Rick’s spirit, Rick’s concept of what legal education (and social justice) could be and should be. He has been an extraordinary dean, and I am already going through serious withdrawal pains.

Professor Michael L. Perlis

As the faculty have been discussing the traits we would value in the next dean, it has struck me that in many ways, the person we are describing is Rick Matasar. We are fortunate to have had his leadership for the past decade. We will be even more fortunate to find someone else with his special combination of vision, knowledge, and skills. As much as Rick Matasar has been appreciated during his tenure here, he will be even more so in hindsight.

Professor David Chang
Ten Years Later: NYLS Commemorates the 10th Anniversary of 9/11
By Thomas Adcock

Ten years after a crisp September morning that shook the world, New York Law School hosted a series of commemorative events that together form a picture of how a great city and nation—and a Manhattan campus blocks away from what is universally known as Ground Zero—became reshaped by terror, sorrow, resilience, the application of law for better or for worse, and a quintessentially New York determination that tomorrow must be a better day.

Distinguished panelists, not shy about disagreeing with one another and occasionally given to emotionalism, took part in a lively pair of campus-based seminars. The third event was a conversation about rebuilding at Ground Zero, an effort that The Wall Street Journal termed “the most complicated real estate deal in New York City history.”

No matter their respective views, participants and onlookers at all three events were united in a fierce remembrance of Tuesday, the 11th of September, 2001, and the meaning of that brutal day. As recounted in the foreword of Eight Blocks Away, a collective memoir authored by the NYLS community:

[T]he school buildings . . . lost their ties to the world: electrical power ceased, phone lines went down, computers were out, Internet connection was severed. For two weeks, regular activities were suspended . . .

[Y]oung students . . . had never known an America that was other than invincible and prosperous . . . [N]o one was unscathed, for all were witnesses to a horrific moment that would change the country, in ways still difficult to tell, forever.

Four NYLS alumni perished on 9/11: Craig Lilore ’98, Weirong Lin ’98, Joseph Lostrangio ’78, and Richard Madden ’92—all of whom were working in offices in the World Trade Center. The Law School community continues to mourn these losses and honor the memories of these alumni today.

Despite an omnipresent gloom in the days following 9/11, Sommer Everson ’04 wrote the following for the NYLS memoir: “People have asked me if I am going to pack my bags and run home to Colorado. The answer is no. To do that is to let terrorism win. I will not be scared . . . I am furious . . . [W]e are survivors, and will triumph in the end. And we will, because we are the people of the United States of America.”

That spirit of survival permeated the Law School’s campus in the weeks and months after the attacks and, led by Dean Richard A. Matasar, the community rallied together in a collective show of strength and support. In a new introduction to Eight Blocks Away (2011 edition), Dean Matasar wrote: “Before 9/11, I worked at New York Law School. After 9/11, I embraced New York Law School as my home and saw our community as my family. These events remade me and our school.”
Co-sponsored by the New York Law School Law Review and the NYC Bar Association’s New York Affairs Committee, the "Lawyers and the Law in New York City" seminar was held on September 8. Featured speakers were Joseph W. Armbrust Jr., a partner at Sidley Austin; New York City Corporate Counsel Michael A. Cardozo; Kenneth R. Feinberg, Special Master of the 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund; and Donna Lieberman, Executive Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Moderating was Dean Matasar, who provoked discussion by focusing on legal questions in the aftermath of 9/11, including legal claims by the families of those who perished and lawsuits by emergency first responders.

Feinberg, who eventually settled the lion’s share of these claims with a payout of $7 billion covering 97 percent of claims, said the unprecedented federal legislation creating his agency was “the right thing to do, but it was a very close question.” He added, “The idea that one person was delegated to pay thousands of people billions of dollars, with very little oversight, does not sit well.”

Cardozo was a partner at Proskauer Rose on 9/11, attending a breakfast meeting in a midtown skyscraper, where he was seated at a window table with a sweeping view of Lower Manhattan. “I saw smoke,” he recollected, “and had no idea at the time that it would change my life.”

Soon thereafter, he was overseeing a law department bivouacked in 44 donated office spaces throughout the city, with displaced staff attorneys working on borrowed laptops. Among other pressing matters, the attorneys dealt with 10,600 plaintiff petitions brought by private contractors suffering toxic injuries from the long clean-up effort.

“The contractors had virtually no insurance,” said Cardozo. “Claims were in the billions, but our city liability [insurance] was limited to $350 million.”

Clearly, the tort system could not handle the situation—monetarily or morally. As city defendant in such a context, Cardozo asked, “Do we want to be fighting our heroes? If there’s a next time, without a federal system what is the city going to do?”

If indeed a next time should come, Boston-born Feinberg said, “We now know that New York has not only demonstrated resiliency, but that it flourishes. The city has gone through a national tragedy that rivals Pearl Harbor, the Civil War, and the assassination of John F. Kennedy. New York doesn’t roll over so easily.”

Questions of the “new normal” for the private bar and citizens’ constitutional rights were addressed, respectively, by Lieberman and Armbrust.

“New York City has become a surveillance society, where video cameras are everywhere and there are few to no safeguards in place to protect against abuse and wrongful disclosure and use of the massive video and data archive that’s been collected,” said Lieberman, who also decried “waterboarding and sexual taunting” allowed by the Bush administration as tactics for interrogating terror suspects.

She closed her remarks by recalling the late John Perry, a New York police officer and a board member of her organization. On the morning of 9/11, Perry was filing for retirement. The emergency call ordering all officers to duty sent him rushing to the World Trade Center, where he died in the collapse of the North Tower.

“John was a figure of authority who questioned authority,” said Lieberman. “[He] reminds us that we can be both safe and free; indeed, we have no choice.”

On the morning of 9/11, Armbrust was en route to Los Angeles. When his plane was forced to land in Omaha, he rented a car to drive back to New York—while on the phone with colleagues at Sidley Austin, then headquartered at the World Trade Center. A switchboard operator for the firm died that day, and “several others were injured, physically or psychologically, and never would return,” he said.

A “sense of community” in the days following 9/11 has “certainly dissipated over the years,” said Armbrust. He added, “We have witnessed the acceleration of a trend toward the depersonalization and, in some respects, the commoditization of the practice. Nothing exemplifies this more vividly than the letter I have received in the last few years from general counsels of certain long-standing clients that were addressed, ‘Dear Vendor.'
Civil Liberties 10 Years After 9/11
September 9, 2011

Civil liberties were addressed at greater length at the daylong “Civil Liberties 10 Years After 9/11” seminar hosted by NYLS Professor Nadine Strossen, former President of the ACLU, and co-sponsored by the School’s Justice Action Center and the New York Law School Law Review.

Wide-ranging viewpoints came from speakers including: Professor David Cole of Georgetown University Law Center; Professor Peter Shane of the Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University; Jamil N. Jaffer, Associate White House Counsel under President George W. Bush; Joanne Mariner, Director of the Human Rights Program at Hunter College’s Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute; Professor Geoffrey Stone of the University of Chicago Law School; Michael Chertoff, former Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security; Sigal P. Mandelker, a deputy attorney general under President Bush; Anthony Romero, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union; and John Yoo, controversial author of the so-called “torture memos” when he was with the Office of Legal Counsel under President Bush.

Professor Cole accused the Bush administration of believing it could “get away with lawlessness,” but that thanks to pushback from civil libertarians to such things as the euphemistic “extraordinary rendition” program, mass wiretapping, and secret offshore prisons, “the rule of law and the values they represent [proved] much stronger and tenacious than many cynics thought.”

Yoo, whose appearance prompted audience placards reading “Shame on Yoo,” rejected “the idea that any kind of questioning of prisoners that does not follow Miranda is automatically torture”—not that anyone suggested such a notion. He maintained that civil liberties have actually grown since 9/11 because “we’ve had more public debate on the topic maybe since the time of the Constitution’s framing.”

Professor Shane had doubts, informed by his experience flying from Ohio to New York. He said an airport official greeted him with a question, backed by a threat: “Where are you going, and why? If you’re not willing to answer, you’ll be subject to enhanced interrogation.”

In comparing the response to 9/11 by President Bush and national crises of the past, Professor Stone said “wholesale condemnation of our government is unwarranted” and that citizen pushback cited by Professor Cole amounted to “a triumph for civil liberties.”


Responding to criticism of the USA PATRIOT Act, Mandelker said that roving wiretap surveillance, among other measures newly permitted by the act, simply produced “tools of national security” in line with criminal justice methodology.

But Mariner said severe criticism of the “parade of horribles” brought by the Bush administration was indeed warranted—and characterized insistence by former Vice President Dick Cheney and others that “torture kept us safe” as “empirically wrong, and a really dangerous claim.”

Chertoff—whose appearance also elicited vocal audience objection until silenced by the discussion moderator, Chief Judge Dennis Jacobs of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit—said hindsight reaction to Bush administration actions ignored the exigencies of 9/11.

“What we didn’t know on that morning was how many more people were left in the U.S. poised for another attack,” said Chertoff. “It’s not all about justice, it’s about security and protecting your loved ones.”

Romero, a self-described “optimistic fellow,” was nevertheless troubled by the presumption of innocence being “struck down” by Bush-era policy and what he sees as denial of civil rights to Muslims and Arabs.

“And what of the right to be left alone? I don’t even know how much information the government has on us,” he said.

“How has the justice system worked?” Romero asked. “In large measure, no.”
The morning talk, “Redeveloping the World Trade Center,” featured leaders of a unique private-public partnership in the cause of a rejuvenated Lower Manhattan—Larry A. Silverstein, the visionary real estate developer, and Chris Ward, Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. It was held in the 10th-floor visitors’ center in the newly-built 7 World Trade Center building, the first skyscraper to rise from the ashes of Ground Zero. The event was hosted by Professor Andrew R. Berman, Director of the Center for Real Estate Studies at NYLS, and Professor Ross Sandler, Director of the School’s Center for New York City Law.

With a nod to the view over the massive construction site recently visited by President Barack Obama, Ward reflected on September and October of 2001 and the immense tasks ahead for government and corporate leaders. Now a decade later, he put it to his audience: “What else could we do but say, ‘We will rise, we will rebuild.’”

The melding of public and commercial interests to rebuild required “monumental negotiations” and years of “major battles,” said Ward.

“Looking out the windows today is incredibly heartening,” said Silverstein, principal developer of the new World Trade Center. “Ten years ago, people thought downtown Manhattan was finished. Everyone said, ‘Silverstein, you’re nuts. You’ll never be able to rent your space.’ But I learned a long time ago, never bet against New York.”

Ten years ago, however, Ward said Silverstein withstood a “hailstorm of criticism” to protect his vision for what is now coming to pass. Ward himself, appointed to his Port Authority post seven years after 9/11, received a test-of-fire education in the thorny business of integrating the needs of government and private enterprise.

“I thought at first, a little jiggling here and there and it would be relatively easy,” said Ward. “But what [state and city government] leaders had to do was to find a political way that was hardly easy. On all sides, this rebuilding project required an incredible amount of imagination.”

In the days following 9/11, said Ward, Ground Zero was “truly defined as a pit—a pit that we could quickly lose by delaying development.”

But by the end of 2013, the once debris-clogged 16 acres of Ground Zero will be what Ward sees as a World Trade Center “built not for the next 10 years, but for the centuries.” The new World Trade Center will be a round-the-clock, mixed-use residential and commercial neighborhood anchoring a robust Lower Manhattan—complete with restoration of geometric street grids, and a connective network of underground thoroughfares to ease tourist traffic and vehicle deliveries to all the new buildings.

“Many families [of those killed on 9/11] pleaded for no development of any kind,” Silverstein recalled, noting that four of his own employees had died in the attacks. “That’s understandable. But at the same time, there were the voices of thousands of other New Yorkers with the sense that we had to rebuild this powerhouse of activity.”

In the end, said Silverstein, a private-public cooperative effort “moved thousands of tons of cement and steel and glass, to restore the iconic buildings of Manhattan”—buildings that are environmentally state-of-the-art, to be enhanced by a central cultural center and the 9/11 memorial dedicated by President Obama.

Silverstein added, “And this is all happening because New Yorkers refuse to give up.”
### Meet the 1Ls!
**Spotlight on NYLS Family Connections**

By Andrea Juncos and William D. Perez

In fall 2011, New York Law School welcomed another class of impressive first-year students eager to start their legal careers. This enthusiastic group of future lawyers is as passionate as it is diverse. Students come from all across the globe and bring a range of talents, interests, and ideas for putting their legal degrees to use. And this year, the entering class boasts 17 students who are continuing a family tradition by attending New York Law School, demonstrating that our alumni are often the best advocates for the School.

*New York Law School Magazine* caught up with some of these first-year students and their alumni relatives, and their stories are highlighted on the following pages. But first, here are some facts about the 1L class as a whole:

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<th>Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<td><strong>The new class boasts 481 members</strong>—371 full time and 110 part time—selected from a pool of 5,997 applicants.</td>
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<td><strong>Students come from 36 states and U.S. territories. The top five states represented are New York, New Jersey, Florida, California, and Pennsylvania, in that order.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Students also hail from 15 foreign countries: Bulgaria; Canada; China; Colombia; Ethiopia; Honduras; India; Jamaica; Netherlands; Peru; Philippines; Russia; South Korea; Trinidad and Tobago; and Ukraine.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>After English, the most common languages spoken by first-years are Spanish and Russian.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Women make up 55 percent of the class, compared to men at 45 percent.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Their ages range from 20 to 55, with the average age of 24 for full-time students and 28 for part-time students.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Thirty-five percent identify themselves as people of color.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>They received degrees from 195 colleges and universities. The three most popular undergraduate schools represented are NYU, Rutgers, and Fordham.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Seven percent have earned at least one graduate degree.</strong></td>
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Christine Carballo, sister of second-year student Vivian Carballo, is studying in the part-time Evening Division. Christine is a 2009 graduate of Johns Hopkins University, where she completed her B.A. in Public Health. She seeks to work in the area of law and public policy. Christine is presently a fitness instructor. She formerly worked at Montefiore Medical Center as a medical staff auditor. While an undergraduate, she mentored Latino youth through Líderes, a nonprofit organization; interned with the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program of the USDA’s Food and Nutrition Service; conducted interviews as part of an HIV testing study; and volunteered as an English tutor.

“My advice for Christine, as she embarks on this one-of-a-kind journey, is to have a positive attitude. Like any challenging experience in life, a huge mental component is required to succeed. While in law school, make sure you keep at least one non-school activity in your life that creates for you positive energy. The first year will be tough but memorable, and you will own it, as long as you keep the right attitude for the challenge.”

Vivian Carballo 2L

Eric Felcher follows his father, Howard Felcher ’80, to New York Law School. Eric completed his B.B.A. in Entrepreneurship cum laude at the University of Miami in 2011 and has interests in international, business, and real estate law. He was active in Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity and has experience in sales and marketing. He also spent several summers as a camp counselor. Eric directed his community service energies to volunteering with children, through StandUp For Kids and Children’s Miracle Network.

“NYLS is the perfect fit for Eric because it will provide him with both an understanding and appreciation of essential legal theory as well as a practical approach to the practice of law. The School’s proximity to the courts and its access to dynamic New York City law firms will no doubt spur on his career as it did mine.”

Howard Felcher ’80

Jack Ferreri comes to New York Law School from Boston College, where he received his B.A. in Economics in 2011. While a student there, he studied in Madrid, Spain. He is the son of Richard Ferreri ’69. As an undergraduate, Jack was active in Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and mentored underprivileged children and teens as a member of Loyola Volunteers. He has been a lifeguard, shipping fulfiller, tutor, and camp aide.

“For me, going to New York Law School was a real New York experience. The professors are tough, smart, pragmatic, and realistic. In addition to having an intellectual atmosphere, it’s a school with street smarts. I don’t think anything can prepare you better for the law or for life. My experience at NYLS has served me well, and I know it will be a great opportunity for Jack.”

Richard Ferreri ’69
Joshua Gelb, son of James Gelb ’80, is a 2009 History graduate from SUNY Albany. While a student there, he spent a semester at Tel Aviv University. At Albany, he was active in Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity and served on the university’s Inter-Fraternity Council. After interning with the New York State Assembly and a brief stint at Best Buy®, Joshua served in the Israel Defense Forces, earning the rank of Corporal.

Thomas Howley, a 2010 graduate of Skidmore College with a B.S. in Business, is the son of John Howley ’89. Before coming to NYLS, Tom was a content analyst at Exent Inc., and he spent two summers interning with Level Up! International, an online computer game developer in the Philippines. He was a varsity lacrosse player in college and has interests in intellectual property, anti-trust, and alternative dispute resolution.

“It’s clear from our conversations that Tom’s experience at NYLS is very similar to my own—excellent professors with high expectations of their students and a willingness to help them achieve their potential. The only advice I have for Tom is the same advice one of my own NYLS professors gave me: Take it one step at a time and enjoy the ride. The law is fascinating and even fun if you throw yourself into it.”

John Howley ’89

Terrence (TJ) Hull is the son of Terrence Hull ’83 and nephew of the late James Cardiello ’53. TJ is a 2011 Marketing graduate of Villanova University, where he was active in community service with children’s organizations. He completed two financial service internships, one with Smith Barney and the other with Prudential Financial, and worked for a health club for several years. His interests in law study include criminal and civil litigation and intellectual property.

“Law school can be a very challenging experience, but the rigors and challenges TJ will face at NYLS will prepare him well for the legal career that lies ahead. A successful law school experience requires a strong work ethic and dedication. The best advice I can give to my son, as both a law student and future litigator, is always be prepared!”

Terrence Hull ’83
Madeleine Karel is a 2011 graduate of Franklin & Marshall College and the daughter of Luise A. Barrack ’80. In college, Madeleine majored in Business and Sociology. She studied abroad at the Institute for American Studies in Aix-en-Provence, France. Madeleine has worked summers at the law firm of Rosenberg & Estis and at Meringoff Properties, a real estate management company. She also interned with Hon. Judith J. Gische of the New York State Supreme Court. Madeleine is currently interested in dispute resolution and is enjoying her first year at NYLS.

“I loved attending NYLS even when it was not the beautiful urban campus it is today and despite the fact that the area had not yet developed into the terrific area that it is now. Now it is both a beautiful facility and in a wonderful area, in addition to the features it always had, which include being located close to the courts and city government. . . . I hope first and foremost that Madeleine will develop the same love of the law that I developed and that she has the opportunity to experience all that the Law School offers.”

Luise A. Barrack ’80

Charlotte Miller, daughter of Gilbert Miller ’83, graduated cum laude in 2009 from the College of William & Mary, where she double majored in Middle Eastern Studies and Psychology. While an undergraduate, she enrolled in an Arabic language immersion program at Middlebury College. She has worked as a bilingual educational and instructional design associate for Bon Education, an education technology consultancy based in Dubai. She was an English teacher and cultural exchange intern for AMIDEAST in Sana’a and Aden, Yemen. Charlotte also interned with the Center for American Progress’s Middle East Progress Project in Washington, D.C. She was active in the Muslim Students Association while in college.

“I received an excellent legal education at NYLS in the early ’80s. It introduced me to legal issues, taught me legal skills, prepared me for the bar, and gave me the foundation upon which I’ve built a successful legal career. I’m thrilled that Charlotte will have the same educational opportunity as I did at NYLS.”

Gilbert Miller ’83

Sara Ortiz is the daughter of Frank Ortiz ’86; her cousin Connie Gibilaro is currently a third-year student. Sara has worked as a paralegal in Manhattan since receiving her B.A. in Economics from New York University in 2009. While an undergraduate, she spent a semester studying in Florence, Italy. As a college student, she was a design intern and a law library intern.

“It’s exciting for my daughter to be attending the same law school I attended—perhaps sitting in some of the same chairs at the same tables used by me many years ago . . . . I advised her to stay organized and well prepared and never fall behind . . . I hope she experiences the unique aspect of NYLS as a law school only, where the sole focus is a legal education—that and the wide array of internships, clerkships, and summer employment opportunities available through the Placement Office in the downtown New York area.”

Frank Ortiz ’86
John Porretta and Lauren Porretta, son and daughter of Paul Porretta ’95, are both enrolled in the part-time Evening Division. Older sibling Lauren is a 2007 graduate of Vanderbilt University, where she was extremely active in the Human Rights Campaign, ESL tutoring, Habitat for Humanity, and the Vanderbilt Lambda Association. She has worked for the New York Law School Lawyering Skills Center since 2009. Brother John received his B.A. in Journalism in 2009 from Fairfield University, where he was active on The Fairfield Mirror, the university’s newspaper. He is also a musician, playing guitar, keyboards, and drums for multiple bands.

“I was genuinely thrilled to attend New York Law School, and thrived in the challenging atmosphere created by the faculty, staff, and fellow students. I conveyed this enthusiasm to my children, and their visits to the Law School were exciting and memorable occasions . . . My hope is that [they] will take full advantage of the extraordinary faculty and resources at [the] School; I am confident that they will be as fortunate as I have been in receiving an excellent legal education and having a rewarding personal experience at New York Law School.”

Paul Porretta ’95

Helen Quigley, a 2010 graduate of Hamilton College, is the daughter of Theresa Koncelik Quigley ’82, niece of Jean Koncelik Fleischner ’78, and cousin of Adam Fleischner ’08. At Hamilton, Helen was a varsity rower, winning a scholar-athlete award in 2009, as well as a student ambassador, among other activities, and was recognized as a student leader in her senior year. She interned with the U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Her experience includes serving as a camp counselor, lifeguard, restaurant worker, legal assistant, and assistant to a hotel owner.

“The experience of New York Law School was life-changing for me and very positive, and I am proud of Helen for who she is and for ultimately choosing NYLS . . . Helen is bright and pragmatic and has a strong sense of community and a love of what a variety of many different peoples can offer. New York Law School is a great fit for her because it is a small, tight-knit community of people who care about the well-being of the students and of each other and yet is situated in the middle of vibrant New York City.”

Theresa Koncelik Quigley ’82

Lauren Riesenfeld, daughter of the late Stanley Riesenfeld ’80, comes to New York Law School as a 2010 graduate of Northeastern University. Lauren has worked as a junior accountant since high school, interned with a media company, and worked in a retail clothing store. A member of Delta Zeta Sorority, she has also been an active volunteer with the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America for more than eight years.
Breaking Down Walls, Building Solutions
New York Law School Students Participate in LawWithoutWalls

Center Updates
Center on Financial Services Law • Center for International Law • Center for New York City Law • Center for Professional Values and Practice • Center for Real Estate Studies • Diane Abbey Law Center for Children and Families • Institute for Information Law & Policy • Justice Action Center

Spotlight on the Securities Arbitration Clinic
Breaking Down Walls, Building Solutions
New York Law School Students Participate in LawWithoutWalls

By Edie Sachs

Last spring, four NYLS students took part in LawWithoutWalls (LWOW), a part-virtual, collaborative academic seminar involving law students and faculty from institutions around the world. Inaugurated in 2011, the program brings students, faculty, practitioners, and entrepreneurs together to work on solutions to specific problems in legal practice and education.

NYLS is a founding member of this program along with Fordham University School of Law, Harvard Law School, Peking University School of Transnational Law, University College London Faculty of Laws, and the University of Miami School of Law, which spearheaded the initiative.

The participating students, Christine Garg ’11, Corey Gaul ’11, Mara Slakas ’11, and Amanda Willis ’11, were all affiliated with the Center for Professional Values and Practice (CPVP) and fulfilled their CPVP capstone requirement through LWOW. Professor Elizabeth Chambliss, Co-director of CPVP, is one of the lead faculty members of LWOW as well as one of its academic mentors.

Each student in LWOW is paired with another student from a different institution. The teams then develop a "Project of Worth" focused on a controversial or unsettled topic in legal education or practice, such as the challenge of law school debt, or access to justice for disadvantaged client populations. Over the course of the spring semester, the two students work collaboratively with each other and with two mentors, one academic and one practitioner, to explore their topic and design a solution. The final product can take many different forms, such as a Web site, computer program, architectural model, educational course or degree, marketing materials, or organizational manual.

Garg was paired with Kara Romagnino, a second-year student at Miami Law. Their topic was "The Outsourcing of Legal Services: The Struggle Between Ethics and Efficacy." For their project, the two designed a master’s degree program for students who want to enter the field of legal process outsourcing (LPO).

“We had a really nice experience,” says Garg. “Coincidentally, both of us had previously done academic work in the LPO area, with me focusing on India and Kara on Latin America and South America.”

The partners collaborated with each other and with their LWOW advisors mostly via Skype and phone. At the final “ConPosium” at Miami Law in April, Garg and Romagnino gave a multimedia presentation of their project, which received a top 5 placement from a judging panel of venture capitalists, entrepreneurs, and legal practitioners.

Garg, who now works at Cleary Gottlieb, says her LWOW experience has impressed her superiors at the firm. “They say, ‘You’re really paying attention to all the changes in the legal profession, unlike many other practicing lawyers.’”

Professor Chambliss says that LWOW was conceived as a response to the increasingly global and cross-cultural nature of law practice. “The idea is to equip students to be able to move into a fast-paced, uncertain market for legal services where all kinds of new skills are becoming important,” she says. “I think a lot of the skills students acquire in the course have to do with overcoming various fears—fear of technology, fear of team projects, fear of different cultures, fear of looking stupid. It’s a transformative experience, and we’re proud that NYLS is involved.”

Other schools are now clamoring to join LWOW, and in 2012 four more will enter the program: Stanford Law School, Indiana University Law School, the University of Sydney, and the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland). More information is available at www.lawwithoutwalls.org.
On April 21, 2011, the Center on Financial Services Law hosted “Swaps Clearing in the Post Dodd-Frank Era,” a major CLE event that addressed various issues relating to the clearing of over-the-counter (OTC) financial products as is now required by the Dodd-Frank Act, the sweeping financial regulatory reform law signed by President Obama in 2010.

Professor Ronald H. Filler, the Director of the Center, made introductory comments and welcomed the audience of more than 200 attendees. New York Law School Adjunct Professors Alessandro Cocco and Alisa Ruvinsky, both of whom work in the legal department at JPMorgan Chase, were the keynote speakers. They discussed in detail how swaps clearing will occur under the new legislation, the various regulations being proposed by both the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regarding swaps clearing, issues relating to customer asset protection, the role of the clearing member firm, and many other important topics.

Professors Cocco and Ruvinsky teach a course in the School’s LL.M. in Financial Services Law Graduate Program called Mastering the Master Agreement. Professor Cocco also teaches another LL.M. course called OTC Clearing and Trading. The Center on Financial Services Law is committed to providing a series of CLE programs, speaker forums, and other events involving the global financial services industry.

On April 4, 2011, the C.V. Starr Lecture series hosted William Burke-White—a member of the Policy Planning Staff of the U.S. Department of State (2009–11) and Professor of Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School—who gave a presentation on “The Challenge of Global Governance in a World of Rising Powers.”

Professor Burke-White addressed how global governance—the collective management of problems at the international level—is currently at a critical juncture as the growing number of issues on the international agenda, and their complexity, are outpacing the ability of international organizations and national governments to cope with them. He also discussed how to ensure effective global governance in a world of rising powers, conflicting state interests, and increasing transnational challenges.

“What is it that will ultimately determine whether we are able to adapt the institution of governance to the challenges that we’re facing?” asked Professor Burke-White. “I think it’s a matter of two things: One is political will, and two is an alignment of interests.”

As a member of the Policy Planning Staff, Professor Burke-White provided Secretary of State Hillary Clinton with direct policy advice on global governance and international institutions. At the University of Pennsylvania, he teaches courses in international law, human rights and national security, sovereign bankruptcy, and transitional justice.
On February 4, 2011, the Center for New York City Law hosted a breakfast featuring Hon. Michael B. Mukasey, former U.S. Attorney General, who spoke on “The War on Terror: Where We Are and How We Got There.”

Mukasey provided a compelling history of Islamist terrorism in the United States and abroad from the 1980s to the present day. He defended controversial Bush administration policies and commented on the Obama administration’s approach. Mukasey credited the former CIA Interrogation Program with yielding a “huge trove of information” and preventing successful terrorist attacks on the U.S. for several years while also exploring alternate approaches to handling the war on terror.

“Because we are facing a militant ideology that is not focused in any one particular place, the only way that we can prevail is to try to stay a jump ahead of those who are intent on translating that into concrete action, and the only way to do that is through intelligence gathering,” Mukasey said.

Mukasey served as Attorney General of the United States from November 2007 to January 2009. Previously, he was a judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, where he presided over the criminal prosecution of terrorists Omar Abdel Rahman and El Sayyid Nosair. He is currently a partner at Debevoise and Plimpton LLP in Manhattan.

At the final event in the Future Ed conference series, held at the Law School on April 15–16, 2011, NYLS and Harvard Law School announced the winner of a yearlong contest that challenged the legal education community to propose specific innovations for improving legal education. Thirteen proposals were presented to an audience of more than 100 deans, law professors, and lawyers from the U.S. and abroad. Each conference registrant was given $1 million in virtual currency to allocate among the most promising proposals based on feasibility, likely impact, and cost.

The winning proposal, “Apps for Justice: Learning Law by Creating Software,” presented by Ron Staudt of Chicago-Kent College of Law and Marc Lauritsen of Capstone Practice Systems, calls for students to learn more about the law by creating software applications that would empower people to address their own legal problems. The authors say that their proposal is “self-consciously focused on institutionalizing an organic engine for growth of new resources to support education in new skills that are now critical for lawyer competency while, at the same time, supporting legal services to the poor.”

The runner-up, “Seriously Gamifying Legal Learning,” presented by NYLS Professors David Johnson and Tanina Rostain, calls for the creation of a network of law schools, law professors, practitioners, law students, and others to collaboratively develop and distribute interactive online games and simulations designed to enable legal learning.
The Center for Real Estate Studies (CRES) launched a new initiative during the 2010–11 academic year: The Rooftops Project. Founded and directed by Distinguished Adjunct Professor James Hagy, the Project provides real estate programs, workshops, and Web and print resources to not-for-profit organizations. Its mission is to host an ongoing dialogue among social sector and real estate industry professionals, to celebrate the diverse roles played by real estate in supporting the missions of not-for-profit organizations, and to increase awareness of the contribution that a disciplined approach to real estate can make.

On May 20, 2011, the Project presented its First Annual Rooftops Conference, focused on the role of real estate—owned, leased, and hosted physical facilities—occupied by not-for-profit organizations in connection with their charitable purposes. The event was organized as a series of informal panel discussions, with representatives of not-for-profit organizations, real estate professionals, and government, addressing themes relevant to all types of not-for-profits. Issues covered include: the role of real estate in not-for-profit performance; effective team-building for real estate projects; funding approaches and alternatives; occupancy opportunities and challenges in a down economy; facilities assessment and operating strategies; sustainability and “green” initiatives; and the impact of not-for-profits as urban neighbors. Panelists came from 20 organizations nationwide, including the Children’s Aid Society, the Wildlife Conservation Society, and The Starr Foundation. The Rooftops Conference 2012 will take place on April 19, 2012 at NYLS. Find out more at www.nyls.edu/rooftopsproject.

What does it take to reform a dysfunctional juvenile justice system? On April 29, 2011, distinguished panelists convened at NYLS to discuss all phases of New York’s juvenile justice system—from police-youth interactions through post-adjudication detention and alternatives—at the “Juvenile Justice Reform in New York” symposium, presented by the Diane Abbey Law Center for Children and Families and organized by Professor Stephen A. Newman; Professor Carlin Meyer, Center Director; and Genevieve Wachtell, Center Associate Director. Panels included: “Follow-Up to the Governor’s Task Force Report,” “New Institutions in the Juvenile Justice System,” “Adjudication Reform,” and “Entry to the System: Police, Youth, Race, and Prevention.” Gladys Carrion, Commissioner of the New York State Office for Children and Family Services, gave opening remarks, and Jeremy Travis, President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Chair of the Governor’s Task Force on Transforming Juvenile Justice, delivered the keynote speech. The task force, formed in 2008 by former New York Governor David Paterson, recommended broad reform of the system, including greater use of alternatives to incarceration, better means of preparing incarcerated youth for reentry into the community, and a stronger emphasis on rehabilitation of youthful offenders.

“New York’s juvenile justice system is in crisis,” said Professor Newman. “This symposium helped propel the fundamental reforms that must take place to create a functioning, decent, and just system of juvenile justice in New York.”
Heroes Symposium hosted at NYLS.

On March 25, 2011, the Institute for Information Law & Policy hosted David Kappos, Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Kappos, an early proponent of the Institute’s Peer to Patent project, spoke with students, alumni, practitioners, and guests about the Peer to Patent project and patent reform in general.

Kappos touched on the success of Peer to Patent, noting that “having the ability to connect through Peer to Patent can be a way to get that breakthrough in the patent system.” He also hinted that the broader lessons learned from the prior and current Peer to Patent pilots would be implemented on a larger scale in upcoming attempts at legislative patent reform. He said Peer to Patent was pro-small business and independent inventor, explaining that the intent behind the program was not to “take cheap shots at your patent,” but to create a mechanism that leads to stronger patent examination methods and improved patent quality.

Kappos stressed the importance of patent reform in the overall legislative agenda and advocated for a generational shift. Fee restructuring was on the table, he said, but the USPTO would use its best judgment in making certain to incentivize best practices. He argued that although many major patent applicants are thinking about first-to-file reform due to its prominence internationally, it would not create a significant change in the USPTO’s backlog.

On March 14, 2011, the Justice Action Center, the Dean’s Office, and the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) honored two “Freedom Riders,” Hon. Ernst Rosenberger ’58 and Hon. George Bundy Smith. The year 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of the 1961 Freedom Rides, where individuals transcended racial and economic boundaries to protest discrimination and racial segregation.

Judge Smith, then a student at Yale Law School, was among the many Freedom Riders arrested in 1961. After graduating in 1962, Judge Smith worked as an attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. Justice Rosenberger worked on public accommodation and voting rights cases throughout the South in the 1960s. At the same time, he volunteered his services in the defense of Freedom Riders arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, earning him the title of “honorary Freedom Rider.”

The speakers described the troubled era to a captivated audience of students and guests. They explained how Freedom Rides demonstrators traveled via bus to various points in the South with the purpose of challenging local laws and customs that enforced segregation. Riders submitted to arrest, imprisonment, and prosecution to draw attention to the deleterious effects that segregation had on individuals and society.

Charita Wahlcott ‘11 and Tommy Vasser ’11, President and Vice President of BLSA respectively, presented the honorees with plaques expressing the current generation’s appreciation for the selfless and perilous work of these unsung heroes.
The spring 2011 semester was a productive one for the Securities Arbitration Clinic, which offers students opportunities to help small investors who have suffered damages due to misconduct by their stockbrokers and brokerage firms. Led by Professor Howard S. Meyers, Director of the School’s Center on Business Law & Policy, students advise clients through the arbitration process and represent them before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). During the spring, students procured several favorable settlements for their clients and launched a new Web site. Below are highlights from some of their most successful cases.

In February, students Sarin Chee ’11, Melissa Ferraro ’11, Oscar Hagstrom ’11, and Rahim Virani ’11 negotiated a settlement for their client, a Korean immigrant and single mother whose investment advisor neglected to follow her instructions to liquidate her brokerage account during the recent market crisis. Although the respondent was represented by an experienced defense counsel, the students’ many hours and weekends of hard work analyzing documents, preparing witnesses and hearing exhibits, and developing their opening and closing statements paid off for their client.

Also in February, students obtained a settlement for a 70-year-old retiree whose stockbroker had recommended and sold her an investment that was unsuitable based on her age, investment objectives, and risk tolerance. Because the hearing for this case was scheduled during the fall semester, the Clinic’s spring students, Christine Garg ’11, Kate Howard ’11, Ravin Patel ’11, and Justin Sherman ’11, had to learn all the details of the case quickly to prepare.

In March 2011, Elitsa Encheva ’11, Gloria Gotlibovsky ’11, Jennifer Harris ’11, and Jennifer Lin 3L also obtained a favorable settlement for their client, a Chinese immigrant whose investment account with a brokerage firm had been hacked and numerous unauthorized trades made in one day. Similar to the above case, the students prepared for this case in a relatively short time frame, even working over winter break to prepare for the hearing. They had to select an arbitrator, analyze documents, develop direct and cross examination questions, draft discovery cases, and communicate with opposing counsel.

In each of these cases, Clinic students were lauded for their knowledge and skills, as well as their interactions with clients. “Counsel for Fidelity Investment Services—one of our adversaries—personally complemented the students’ professionalism on more than one occasion,” Professor Meyers said.

Clinic students also created a new Web site at www.securitiesclinic.org to provide investors with critical information about the world of investing and to promote the Clinic’s services to the community at large. The site features tips for investors; things one needs to know before and after investing; guidance on what to do if a problem arises with an investment; resource tools; information about arbitration and the Clinic; and news about the Clinic’s latest arbitration cases.
New York Law School’s Center for New York City Law is the place to go for New York City administrative decisions. Launched in 2000, the Center’s CityAdmin Web site, www.CityAdmin.org, has grown to be the largest single source of New York City agency decisions. The site tracks decisions from 26 New York City agencies, boasts 80,000 separate decisions, and garners 12,000 visits a month from city officials, developers, attorneys, and other researchers. The City of New York links its own Web site, www.nyc.gov, to the Center’s site. It also lists CityAdmin under “Most Requested Services and Information” and names it as a government legal resource.

The Center’s CityAdmin site began inauspiciously. In 1999, administrative law judges (ALJs) from NYC’s Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH) had difficulty sharing their written decisions with those outside their chambers, as most decisions were stored on the ALJs’ personal computers. Frustrated at the lack of public access to their decisions, the ALJs looked to the Web for a solution. They presented their dilemma to NYLS Professor Ross Sandler, Director of the Center for New York City Law, who suggested that the Center host OATH decisions. The ALJs agreed, and soon after the Center launched www.CityAdmin.org, a free, searchable online library with full-text administrative decisions.

Based on this success, Center staff approached other city agencies and convinced them to post their decisions on CityAdmin as well. Today, all of the land use agencies post their decisions on the site, as do the Department of Consumer Affairs, Conflicts of Interest Board, Environmental Control Board, Taxi and Limousine Commission, Tax Appeals Tribunal, and Business Integrity Commission.

Professor Sandler says that “the Center’s site has become a permanent part of the civic world, thanks to the efforts of the Center’s staff and New York Law School’s Office of Information Technology staff.” CityAdmin is still growing, and new agencies are still being added. In August 2011, the site added the Health Tribunal, and in September, the New York City Civil Service Commission also went online.
Meet the authors

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PROFESSOR MARK CONRAD '81
Lays Down the Rules Outside the Game

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PROFESSOR RICHARD K. SHERWIN
Tackles Visual Literacy and Jurisprudence
Not long ago, sports journalists spent most of their time writing about games. Their stories focused on what happened on the field or on the court, sprinkled with quotes from what the players and coaches had to say in the locker room or in a post-game press conference.

Today, there’s just as good a chance that sports journalists are reporting from outside a courthouse or a Manhattan office building about what has become known as the business of sports. It’s not about what happens inside the lines so much as what’s written in the lines of a contract or some other legal agreement. And for many sports journalists, it’s unfamiliar and sometimes confusing territory.

That’s where Adjunct Professor Mark Conrad ’81 comes in. Professor Conrad is the author of The Business of Sports: A Primer for Journalists, 2nd ed. (Routledge, 2011), a book that explores the business aspect of sports with an emphasis on those topics that are most relevant to journalists. Professor Conrad, who originally published the book in 2005, found plenty to update for a newly printed second edition, which includes updates on disciplinary policies throughout the major sports leagues, expanded discussion of intellectual property issues and merchandising, and new sections on ethical issues in sports, aimed at journalists.

“I wanted to write a book that outlined the issues in a pretty concise way regarding the business of sports because I found that there was a general confusion about some of the key issues,” says Professor Conrad, who teaches Sports Law at NYLS. He is also an associate professor and Chair of the Legal and Ethical Studies Area at Fordham University’s School of Business Administration, where he teaches Sports Law, Media Law, and other law classes, and a lecturer in Columbia University’s graduate program in Sports Management. “[My publisher and I] felt there was a void there, and one of the purposes of this book is to fill that void in a readable and comprehensive way.”

The book provides a perspective on professional, college, and international sports organizations, including structure, governance, labor issues, antitrust issues, collective bargaining agreements, stadium financing, and media deals, and includes cases to illustrate how business concerns play a role in the reporting of sports.

“This second edition was a considerable amount of work because so much has happened in the business of sports in the last half decade,” says Professor Conrad, who received his J.D. from NYLS and an M.S. from Columbia University’s Graduate School of Journalism.

Among the key developments he writes about are the labor battles in the various professional leagues, including recent lockouts and a season canceled in the National Hockey League, and disputes leading to this year’s National Football League and National Basketball Association lockouts. He also writes about the rise in social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, which have had a major impact on the sports business.

Professor Conrad, who has published in The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal and is a frequent blogger for Sports Law Blog, already sees new developments on the horizon that he’ll need to tackle in a future edition of his book, including labor agreements for the NHL, NBA, and MLB; upheavals in the NCAA; and the ongoing development of new media.

“We also don’t know the question about the tension between intellectual property and the First Amendment regarding the use of one’s name and likeness and fantasy sports,” he says. “The courts have been inconsistent in talking about one’s rights to control their image. So that’s going to be a continued battleground.”
On hearing Professor Richard K. Sherwin discuss “the digital baroque” and “the visual sublime,” some might suspect they have been transported to an advanced art theory class, far from the domain of the courtroom. But for Professor Sherwin, Director of the Visual Persuasion Project at New York Law School and author of the recently released *Visualizing Law in the Age of the Digital Baroque: Arabesques and Entanglements* (Routledge, 2011), dissecting the world of images is a crucial component of contemporary jurisprudence.

From digital crime reconstructions to victim impact videos, images inundate lawyers, judges, and jurors in the modern-day courtroom. In *Visualizing Law*, Professor Sherwin addresses this phenomenon, drawing on the work of great thinkers in art theory, philosophy, cultural studies, and—of course—law. “The power of digitization and of capturing images is huge, but as practitioners and educators, we often find ourselves dealing with a failure of visual literacy,” he explains.

To illustrate his point, he references *Scott v. Harris*, a 2007 Supreme Court decision involving motorist Victor Harris, who fled police in a high-speed chase, was paralyzed in the resulting accident, and pressed charges against the police officer responsible. A key piece of evidence was a police video of the chase, and the Court ultimately ruled against Harris in an 8-1 decision. Notably, Justice Scalia compared the video to the iconic chase scene in *The French Connection*, arguing that “the images speak for themselves.”

But not everyone agrees. Professor Sherwin points out that the idea of a single, objective reading of any visual representation is hugely problematic in litigation. “When we say things like ‘the images speak for themselves,’ we ignore the fact that the images are imposing their perspectives of the world on others,” he says.

*Visualizing Law* explores how people are conditioned to respond to visual narratives, but are often unaware that their responses are highly subjective and experiential. The layers of meaning embedded in increasingly digitized visual representations culminate in a problem Professor Sherwin describes as “the digital baroque.” As with the baroque in art or music, the digital baroque in law is characterized by saturation of detail and ornamentation.

In the realm of the courtroom, this saturation might include a digital slide show of a crime victim’s life, complete with artistic renderings of the victim’s imagined suffering, or a computer animation that reconstructs a crime, ascribing a sinister facial expression or threatening posture to a suspect when no actual images of the crime are available. In the absence of adequate visual literacy, even seemingly inconsequential decisions about how visual representations are made, used, and interpreted can have a huge impact on courtroom outcomes.

To address this problem, *Visualizing Law* ultimately calls for “an explicit focus upon rhetorical craft, and in particular the cultivation of visual literacy and its engagement with visual eloquence,” which “requires greater fluency in the construction, deconstruction, and reconstruction of argument.” The book also recommends a more general emphasis on “revival of core humanist ideals of situated invention, creative intuition, and eloquence in the service of ethical wisdom and fact-based justice.” In other words, if practitioners are better prepared as critical interpreters of the visual world of argument and evidence—through explicit instruction and practiced analysis—they will be better able to recognize how visual evidence may create bias in the courtroom and beyond.

As a pioneer in this new realm of legal scholarship, Professor Sherwin certainly has his work cut out for him, but he relishes the challenge. “Every introduction of new technology causes anxiety and alarm,” he explains, “But the question is, how do we address it?”
Full-Time Faculty Activities

Adjunct Faculty Activities

Prepping 1Ls to Be Lawyers: New York Law School’s New Legal Practice Program
Full-Time Faculty Activities
Compiled by Melissa Scalzo

The following items represent a sampling of the activities of our full-time faculty from the spring 2011 semester.

Deborah N. Archer
Appointments
Elected the National Affiliate Affirmative Action Officer of the American Civil Liberties Union (June 2011).

Scholarly Presentations

Tamara C. Belinfanti
Appointments
Elected to the Board of Trustees of the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York (June 2011).

Lenni B. Benson
Awards and Recognition

Appointments
Member, AALS’s National Planning Committee for Annual Meetings, for a three-year term (April 2011).

Consultant to the Administrative Conference of the United States (ACUS), working on a report on immigration adjudication for the Executive Office of Immigration Review within the Department of Justice (2011).

Scholarly Presentations
Panelist, “Redefining Borders: Comprehensive Immigration Reform in the United States” symposium, Rutgers School of Law–Newark, New Jersey (March 2011).

“Possible Administrative Reforms in Immigration Law in lieu of Comprehensive Statutory Reform,” presented as part of the “Administrative Action as an Alternative to Immigration Reform” panel, sponsored by the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the New York City Bar Association, New York (March 2011).

Publications

Co-contributor as peer reviewer, U.S. anti-discrimination laws, to Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) (Spring 2011) (with M. Roffer ’83).

Andrew R. Berman
Scholarly Presentations


Moderator and panelist, “Unto the Breach, Dear Friends! The Expanding Role of Preferred Equity in Rescuing Commercial Properties,” at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law’s 2011 Real Estate Law and Business Forum “Look to the Future,” Los Angeles (March 2011).


Robert Blecker
Publications

Media References and Appearances
Judiciary Committee Gets Earful About Killing Death Penalty, East Haven Patch (March 2011).
Robert Blecker: We Have a Moral Obligation to Execute, Hartford Courant (March 2011).
Death Penalty May Await Venice Senior Citizen, Herald-Tribune (Sarasota, Florida) (January 2011).

Elise C. Boddie
Scholarly Presentations

Michael Botein
Appointments
Joined the 2011 Rockwood Fellowship in Media, Communications, and Information Policy program, conducted annually by the Rockwood Leadership Institute, for the fourth consecutive year (2011).

Elizabeth Chambliss
Publications
Queensland Law Firms Partner with Regulators and Researchers to Improve Firms’ Ethical Culture, JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS) (January 2011).

Projects
Lead faculty member and academic mentor, LawWithoutWalls, an online international seminar involving six law schools worldwide, including New York Law School (see article p. 23) (Spring 2011).

Media References and Appearances
How Minorities, Poor, Are Kept Out of U.S. Law Schools, CounterCurrents.org (February 2011).

David Chang
Publications

Tai-Heng Cheng
Scholarly Presentations
"When International Law Works: Bridging Political and Theoretical Divides," Nanjing University, China (April 2011).
"Why New States Accept Old Obligations,” Florida State University, Tallahassee (Spring 2011).
Publications

Media References and Appearances
Somali Pirates, Al-Jazeera English News (February 2011).

Richard H. Chused
Scholarly Presentations

Ronald H. Filler
Appointments
Selected as a member of the Advisory Committee on Governance for the National Futures Association (2011).
Elected to the Executive Committee of the Futures Industry Association (FIA) Law & Compliance Division (2011).

Scholarly Presentations
Moderator, “Soup to Nuts: Contemporary Topics in the Post-Dodd-Frank World, or How Do You Give Advice When No One Knows the Answers? (Parts I & II)” and “The Protection of Customer Funds and Other Collateral Issues in U.S. vs. UK,” at the 33rd Annual FIA Law & Compliance Division Conference on the Regulation of Futures, Derivatives, and OTC Products, National Harbor, Maryland (May 2011).

Publications

Projects
Served as an arbitrator in a National Futures Association arbitration (June 2011).

Testimonies and Legal Consultation
Testified before the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) at their joint public roundtable discussion on proposed dealer and major participant definitions under the Dodd-Frank Act, Washington, D.C. (June 2011).

Doni Gewirtzman
Awards and Recognition
Received the Class of 2011 Teaching Award at New York Law School’s 119th Commencement (May 2011).

Scholarly Presentations
Moderated a conversation on marriage equality and Proposition 8 litigation with Therese Stewart, Chief Deputy Attorney for the City of San Francisco, for the NYLS Chapter of the American Constitution Society, New York Law School (March 2011).

James Grimmelmann
Scholarly Presentations


Publications
First-Class Objects, 9 Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law 421 (Spring 2011).


David Johnson

Media References and Appearances

In Cyberspace, a War Over Names, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (March 2011).

Randolph N. Jonakait

Scholarly Presentations
Panelist, discussion on race in the criminal justice system, in conjunction with the Florida Studio Theatre’s production of David Mamet’s play Race, Florida Studio Theater, Sarasota, Florida (March 2011).

Molly Land

Appointments

Scholarly Presentations

William P. LaPiana

Scholarly Presentations

Arthur S. Leonard

Awards and Recognition
Honored at the New York City Bar Association’s Annual Reception and Cocktail Party Celebrating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month 2011; after the award presentation, the NYCBA announced that the award will be named in his honor, New York (June 2011).

Gay City News won several awards in the annual Better Newspaper Contest hosted by the New York Press Association, including first place in Advertising Excellence; second place for Best News or Feature Series, Editorials, and Best Use of Color; and third place for Crime, Police, and Courts Coverage (April 2011).

Scholarly Presentations
Panelist, “Transcending Boundaries: Creating an Inclusive Environment for Gay & Lesbian Diversity in Medical Education,” sponsored by the Office of Faculty Diversity in Medicine and Science at Weill Cornell Medical College, New York (February 2011).


Media References and Appearances
Marriage Changed “Radically and Forever,” MERCATORNET (June 2011).

Same-Sex Marriage and the Empire State: A Legal Roundup, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (June 2011).


False Allegation of Homosexuality Remains Defamatory, Judge Says, NEW YORK LAW JOURNAL (June 2011).

Interviewed about three issues: King & Spalding’s withdrawal in the Defense of Marriage Act litigation; the motion to vacate the Prop 8 ruling based on the fact that the judge has a same-sex partner; and a recent en banc decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit regarding the Full Faith and Credit Clause, THE MICHELANGELO SIGNORILE SHOW on Sirius Radio (April 2011).

Richard A. Matasar
Awards and Recognition
His article, Does the Current Economic Model of Legal Education Work for Law Schools, Law Firms (or Anyone Else)? (NYSBA JOURNAL, October 2010), tied for best feature in the NYSBA Journal’s “Best of the Journal 2010” (June 2011).

Scholarly Presentations
Panelist, “Combating Junior Lawyer Fallout” at the “Law & ReOrder” event co-sponsored by Proskauer Rose LLP and Practical Law Company, New York (June 2011).


Panelist, “Can There Be Full Academic Freedom Without Tenure?” and “Putting LSSSE Data to Use: A Roundtable of LSSSE Experts” (hosted by LSSSE) at the Association of American Law Schools’ (AALS) 2011 Annual Meeting, San Francisco (January 2011).

Publications

Shifting the Focus from Inputs to Outputs, NEW YORK LAW JOURNAL (April 25, 2011).

Beth Simone Noveck
Awards and Recognition
Received a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to develop the prototype law, technology, and policy for an open business intelligence system (2011).

Appointments
Appointed Senior Advisor to British Prime Minister David Cameron to work on the U.K.’s online open government initiative (2011).

Media References and Appearances

Baroness Wilcox Launches Peer to Patent in the U.K., WEB NEWSWIRE (June 2011).


Exchanging Banter at Cass, FINANCIAL TIMES (May 2011).

George Osborne at Google Zeitgeist, THE GUARDIAN TECHNOLOGY BLOG (May 2011).

Rosetta Stone for Corporate IDs Would Simplify Accountability, FEDERAL COMPUTER WEEK (May 2011).

Beth Noveck, Former U.S. Deputy CTO in Interview (Three Parts), ASIA PACIFIC FUTUREGOV (March 2011).

Rudolph J.R. Peritz
Projects
Conducted seminar series on U.S. competition policy and intellectual property law at the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law, Hong Kong (Spring 2011).

Michael L. Perlin
Awards and Recognition
Awarded the Ralph and Eve Sedeoy Charitable Trust Fellowship via the University of Auckland in New Zealand, where he was also a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the University’s Law School, teaching courses on criminal procedure (May–June 2011).
Scholarly Presentations
Delivered keynote speech (on “Mental Disability Evaluations in the Criminal Trial Process”) and concluding remarks at the Procedural Reforms for Mental Health Assessments in Criminal Cases conference, sponsored by the ABA’s Rule of Law—Asia China Office and the China University of Politics and Law, Beijing (June 2011).

Gave public addresses and presented papers on “Promoting Social Change in Asia and the Pacific: The Creation of a Disability Rights Tribunal;” “Sanism and the Mental Health Professions,” and “There Must Be Some Way Out of Here: Why the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Is Potentially the Best Weapon in the Fight Against Sanism,” at events sponsored by Monash University’s Schools of Law and Psychology; Deakin University and the Australian Society for Intellectual Disability; the University of Auckland’s School of Nursing; and two chapters of the Australia and New Zealand Academy of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Law; Australia and New Zealand (May–June 2011).

“All Abandoned Love: The Impact of Wyatt v. Stickney on the Intersection Between International Human Rights and Domestic Mental Disability Law,” presented at the University of Alabama School of Law’s conference on “The Right to Treatment and the Road Ahead: Reflections on the Close of Wyatt and Bryce Hospital,” Tuscaloosa, Alabama; presented a version of the paper to a faculty development workshop at the University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, Florida (April 2011).

“All His Sexless Patients: Persons with Mental Disabilities and the Competence to Have Sex,” presented at the annual conference of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association, Salt Lake City (April 2011).


As a visiting scholar at the University of Nebraska, participated in a think-tank sponsored by the University’s Law and Psychology program and the Weibling Project for the Psychologcal Study of Discrimination, Lincoln, Nebraska (April 2011).


Panelist, “Making Online Courses Succeed” (with Heather Ellis Cucolo ’03) at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Toronto (March 2011).


Sadiq Reza
Scholarly Presentations
Faculty, 11th Annual Specialization Course in International Criminal Law: “The Sharia: Sources of Law and Selected Legal Aspects,” International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC), Siracusa, Italy (May 2011).

Michael H. Roffer ’83
Appointments

Publications

Houman B. Shadab

Media References and Appearances

SAC’s Trading Mimics Insider Dealings Identified by Prosecutors, Bloomberg News (February 2011).

Richard K. Sherwin

Scholarly Presentations

Keynote speaker, “New Perspectives in Juridical Comparison” conference presented by Associazione Italiana di Diritto e Letteratura (AIDEL) and the European Law Students’ Association, University of Trieste, Italy (May 2011).

Publications


James F. Simon

Media References and Appearances

The Civil War: 150 Years Later—Court, Like the Nation, Divided by Civil War, 33 The National Law Journal (March 2011).

Faith Stevelman

Scholarly Presentations


Spoke about the role of legal precedent in Delaware corporate law decisions at “Irreconcilable Differences: Director, Manager, and Shareholder Conflicts in Takeover Transactions,” a conference presented by the Delaware Journal of Corporate Law at Widener University School of Law, Wilmington, Delaware (April 2011).

Invited guest of the Adolf A. Berle, Jr. Center on Corporations, Law & Society at Seattle University School of Law, and participant in “Berle II,” the Center’s Second Annual Symposium on Corporations, Law, & Society, Seattle (January 2011).

Publications


Media References and Appearances


Nadine Strossen

Appointments

Appointed to the International Foundation for Online Responsibility’s (IFFOR) inaugural nine-member Policy Council—specifically to occupy the designated position for an expert on freedom of expression (June 2011).

Scholarly Presentations


Participated in a daylong roundtable discussion sponsored by the Brookings Institution to provide guidance for a forthcoming Brookings report on tensions between liberty of conscience and health care, Washington, D.C. (June 2011).

Debated Scott Klusendorf, President, Life Training Institute, on “Abortion—Right or Wrong?” on three campuses: Westminster College in Santa Barbara, California; The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia; and Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona (April 2011).

Moderator, “Is (should) Brandenburg (be) Good Law in a Post-9/11 World?” panel at the Annual Symposium on Criminal Law and the First Amendment at Texas Tech University School of Law, Lubbock, Texas (April 2011).

Delivered the 13th annual Henry J. Abraham Distinguished Lecture, named for Professor Emeritus Henry J. Abraham, a leading authority on constitutional law, civil rights and liberties, and the judicial process, at the University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, Virginia (April 2011).


Delivered “The State of Civil Liberties in the U.S.,” lecture in the Cultural Affairs Series at Furman University, Greenville, South Carolina (March 2011).

Publications


Ruti G. Teitel
Awards and Recognition


Scholarly Presentations

Keynote address, “Assessing the Impact of the International Criminal Court,” the kickoff conference of the Post-Conflict Justice and “Local Ownership” Project of the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies at Leiden University (for which she is a member of the steering committee), The Hague, Netherlands (May 2011).


Presenter, London School of Economics Distinguished Speakers Series, London (February 2011).


Panelist, “State Boundaries as a Normative Problem” at the “Constitutionalism in a New Key?” international conference held at Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany (January 2011).


Publications


Debt, Dictatorship, and Democratization, Project Syndicate (with R. Howse) (April 4, 2011).

Media References and Appearances

Will the Responsibility to Protect Usher In New Global Paradigm? The Washington Diplomat (June 2011).

Ann F. Thomas
Media References and Appearances


Mark Webbink
Appointments

Named editor of the open source blog Groklaw (May 2011).

Scholarly Presentations


Presented on “Innovation and the USPTO” to the Intellectual Property Section of the North Carolina Bar Association at its annual meeting, Concord, North Carolina (March 2011).
Adjunct Faculty Activities
Compiled by Melissa Scalzo

The following items represent a sampling of the activities of our adjunct faculty from the spring 2011 semester.

Marc S. Bekerman
Scholarly Presentations


Publications
Credit Shelter Trusts and Portability—Does One Exclude the Other? 25 Probate & Property 10 (May/June 2011).

Steven Bennett
Scholarly Presentations
Speaker, "Social Media and Its Impact on Agreements for Attorneys," Webcast presented by The Knowledge Congress (February 2011).

Publications

R.B. Bernstein
Scholarly Presentations
"The Age of Experiments in Government," lecture sponsored by the Society of the Cincinnati, University of Richmond, Virginia (March 2011).


Publications
The Education of John Adams (Oxford University Press, forthcoming).


Berwin Cohen ’99
Media References and Appearances
Interviewed on New York Law School's Media Reporter series about the feature film 1/20, for which he provided legal and production services; the program aired on New York Public Access and is available on Vimeo (Summer 2011).

Lucas A. Ferrara
Media References and Appearances

Marc Firestone
Awards and Recognition
Named General Counsel of the Year by the Association of Corporate Counsel and the International Law Office at the fifth annual Global Counsel Awards ceremony in New York (June 2011).

Publications

James Hagy
Appointments
Affiliated Transnational Professor of Law, Peking University School of Transnational Law, Shenzhen, China (2011).


Publications
Guest Editorial: A Charitable Look at Real Estate, 1 Corporate Real Estate Journal 196 (June 2011).

A View from the Rooftops: The Role of Real Estate Occupancy in Not-for-Profit Organizations, 29 ACREL News 12 (American College of Real Estate Lawyers) (February 2011).

Projects
Founded and directs The Rooftops Project, a new initiative at the NYLS Center for Real Estate Studies (CRES) focused on the role of real estate—owned, leased, or hosted physical space—occupied by not-for-profit organizations in pursuit of their charitable purposes (Fall 2010); authored The Rooftops Project Report Summarizing Results of a Survey of Not-for-Profit Organizations (New York Law School, December 2010); and planned and moderated The Rooftops Conference 2011, CRES’s first symposium focused on the role of real estate occupied by not-for-profit organizations in connection with their charitable purposes. (May 2011).

Taught the courses “International Real Estate Transactions” and “Real Estate and Contract Documents Seminar” as an affiliated transnational faculty member at...
Peking University School of Transnational Law, Shenzhen, China (April 2011).

Anna Kozoulina ’00

Appointments
Special Counsel to Large Business & International (LB&I) Division Counsel for the IRS, Washington, D.C. (May 2011).

Martin P. Levin ’83

Publications

Media References and Appearances
All I Know About Management I Learned From My Dog, Forbes (March 2011).

Marc M. Lewis ’95

Scholarly Presentations

Publications
Tax Privilege in Virtual Data Rooms, Journal of International Taxation (Spring 2011).

Andrew H. Lupu ’84

Scholarly Presentations
Guest lecturer teaching Software and Technology Law for the second year at Hochschule Darmstadt, a technical university located in Darmstadt, Germany (in addition to teaching Privacy in the Digital Age at NYLS) (Spring 2011).

John Meringolo ’99

Publications

Testimonies and Legal Consultation
Served as counsel for Armando Rea, who was charged in a RICO indictment with multiple acts, including murder; and obtained a non-incarceration sentence from Hon. Jack Weinstein in the Eastern District of New York (United States v. Armando Rea, et al.) (2011).

David T. Moldenhauer

Publications

Avraham C. Moskowitz

Appointments
Elected a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers (Spring 2011).

Steven E. Pegalis ’65

Scholarly Presentations
Chairman and moderator, “Communicating in the Courtroom,” a CLE program of the New York State Trial Lawyers Institute, New York (May 2011).

Moderator, “Intersection of Law and Medicine to Promote Patient Safety,” the Second Annual Pegalis & Erickson Lectureship, jointly sponsored by the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center and the Diane Abbey Law Center for Children and Families at New York Law School, NYLS (April 2011).


Publications

David G. Samuels

Scholarly Presentations
Chair and participant, “Role of an Attorney on a Nonprofit Board,” a CLE program presented by the New York City Bar Association, New York (March 2011).

Richard J. Sobelsohn

Scholarly Presentations


Publications

How Attorneys Can Make a Difference When It Comes to the Greening of Buildings, PLI GREEN REAL ESTATE SUMMIT 2011: WHAT ATTORNEYS, DEVELOPERS, REGULATORS, TENANTS & LENDERS NEED TO KNOW (online seminar and course handbook) (March 2011).

Benjamin Weinstock

Appointments
Elected Second Vice Chair of the New York State Bar Association’s Real Property Law Section (2011).

Projects
Led legal team at Ruskin Moscou Faltischek, P.C. in the sale of a 196-apartment condominium unit in New York City (purchase price $209 million) on behalf of clients and building property owners Philips International and Rhodes NY to TIAA-CREF (July 2011).

Eric Zohn ’92

Scholarly Presentations
The fall 2011 semester marked the launch of New York Law School's new first-year skills program, Legal Practice, which features a redesigned curriculum that provides students with a comprehensive introduction to lawyering skills at the beginning of their law school careers.

“The goal of this program is to integrate the teaching of skills in the first year, so that students really see how analysis, research, and writing are interconnected with lawyering skills like client interviewing, counseling, and negotiation,” says Professor Anne Goldstein, Director of the Legal Practice Program.

New York Law School has long been committed to providing first-year students with an extensive introduction to the professional skills needed to become good lawyers. The School’s existing first-year Legal Writing and Lawyering courses were reworked after extensive faculty planning and discussion to more thoroughly integrate experiential learning with legal analysis.

The program comprises a new two-semester required course, Legal Practice I and II. The course is designed to prepare students for their first legal work experience and presents them with challenging scenarios that call on them to problem-solve and apply the law in context. Students learn analytical reasoning, develop the legal research and writing skills necessary to draft a range of legal documents, and argue cases they have briefed.

A major component of the new course is the opportunity for students to work with “standardized clients,” trained actors with whom students practice their interviewing, fact-gathering, and counseling skills. This approach is modeled after the “standardized patient” exercises in medical schools. As actors play their parts as clients, they assess students on various criteria, including how students talk to them, what questions the students ask, and whether they, as clients, feel satisfied at the conclusion of their interaction. Students are also required to evaluate themselves with a self-assessment checklist after each simulation.

Simulations are recorded and subsequently viewed and discussed by students and faculty in small group critiques. Students learn to consciously think through what they are doing and why—how to approach fact gathering, and whether they did enough research or asked the right questions to be able to analyze the client’s problem. This process teaches students the importance of planning and preparation and how to be flexible in situations when things don’t go exactly as expected.
Legal Practice is taught in small sections of approximately 20 students each by 15 full-time faculty members, most hired over the past two years to build the program. The faculty is a diverse group with a variety of perspectives gained from their prior experience across a range of settings, from academia to public interest to large law firms. The small class size allows opportunities for in-class exercises and classroom interaction and participation by all students. It also allows faculty to have more time to give students targeted feedback on written and oral assignments, and to hold small-group critiques and individual writing conferences. While the faculty as a group is committed to the shared goals and design of the program, each professor is encouraged to teach Legal Practice in a way that makes the best use of his or her own background and strengths as a teacher. From the student’s perspective, this translates into a perception of an “authentic” presence in the classroom and a more individualized experience in the course.

The faculty members of the Legal Practice Program are:

1. **Jodi S. Balsam**  
   Associate Professor of Law  
   Jodi S. Balsam joined the NYLS faculty in fall 2011. Her scholarly and teaching interests also include professional responsibility, civil procedure, judicial administration, and topics in sports law. Prior to joining NYLS, she taught at New York University School of Law. Before joining academia, Professor Balsam was the National Football League’s Counsel for Operations and Litigation and a litigation attorney with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP.

2. **Melynda H. Barnhart**  
   Associate Professor of Law  
   Melynda H. Barnhart teaches Legal Practice and Immigration Law. Her other areas of scholarship and teaching include human trafficking, nationality law, criminal law, and administrative law. Prior to joining New York Law School, she was an Abraham Freedman Teaching Fellow at the Beasley School of Law at Temple University, and earned an LL.M. from New York University. Before teaching, Professor Barnhart served as the Director of Anti-Human Trafficking Programs at the International Rescue Committee.

3. **Heidi K. Brown**  
   Associate Professor of Law  
   Heidi K. Brown joined NYLS in fall 2011. She was previously an associate professor at Chapman University School of Law in Orange, California, where she taught Legal Research and Writing, Civil Discovery and Depositions, and an upper-level Legal Writing Skills course. Professor Brown was also Of Counsel at the Washington, D.C.-based law firm of Moore & Lee, LLP, where she specialized in commercial construction litigation and was the firm’s chief brief-writer. She was also a litigation associate at the New York firm of Thacher, Proffitt & Wood.

4. **Kirk D. Burkhalter ’04**  
   Associate Professor of Law  
   Kirk D. Burkhalter ’04 returned to NYLS in fall 2010 to teach Legal Practice. Previously, he was the Visiting Assistant Professor of Academic Support at Hofstra School of Law, where he taught Legal Methods and helped students adjust to the academic demands of law school. Professor Burkhalter was formerly the Associate Director of Academic Affairs and an adjunct professor at NYLS, where he provided academic counseling and taught Principles of Legal Analysis.
5. Parisa Dehghani-Tafti  
Associate Professor of Law  
Parisa Dehghani-Tafti joined NYLS in fall 2011. Previously, she was a staff attorney in the Special Litigation and Parole divisions at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, where she litigated issues of constitutional and systemic magnitude. Professor Dehghani-Tafti’s scholarly interests include the effects of parole on the over-incarceration of racial minorities, and the effects of the FBI’s CODIS regulations on post-conviction DNA testing.

6. David M. Epstein  
Associate Professor of Law  
David M. Epstein has been a faculty member at NYLS since 1991, during which time he has taught Legal Reasoning, Writing, and Research and Principles of Legal Analysis, as well as upper-level electives. In addition to Legal Practice, Professor Epstein currently teaches Drafting: Contracts. He has also served as the Law School’s research specialist, aiding students with their basic legal research skills. Professor Epstein is the author of the current edition of Eckstrom’s Licensing in Foreign and Domestic Operations and the co-author of the New York Evidence Courtroom Manual.

7. Mercer ("Monte") Givhan  
Associate Professor of Law  
Mercer Givhan joined NYLS’s Legal Practice faculty in fall 2011 after teaching clinics for three years at CUNY Law School and Fordham Law School. Professor Givhan was previously a trial attorney with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, and he also has extensive experience in grant-making and operating community-based nonprofits. His scholarly and advocacy focus is the impact of criminal justice policies on economic development in low-income communities of color.

8. Anne Goldstein  
Professor of Law; Director, Legal Practice Program  
Anne Goldstein came to NYLS from the University of Connecticut School of Law, where she taught in both the clinical and first-year Lawyering Process programs and was Director of Lawyering Process for two years. Her teaching has emphasized pro bono legal service. Professor Goldstein was a member of the firm of Livingston, Adler, Pulda, Meiklejohn & Kelly PC in Hartford, Connecticut, where she practiced for more than 10 years in the areas of labor and employment law.

9. Kim Hawkins  
Associate Professor of Law  
Kim Hawkins joined the NYLS faculty in fall 2011. Previously, she was the Director of the Peter Cicchino Youth Project of the Urban Justice Center, one of the first legal centers in the country to provide direct legal services to homeless and at-risk lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered youth. Professor Hawkins also taught at New York University School of Law in its Lawyering Program.

10. Cynara Hermes ’03  
Associate Professor of Law  
Cynara Hermes ’03 returned to NYLS in fall 2011. Prior to joining the faculty, Professor Hermes worked at St. John’s University School of Law as an adjunct professor of law and as a fellow in the Ronald H. Brown Center, where she advised undergraduate and law students regarding law school applications, exams, and curriculum. Previously, she was a litigation associate at Proskauer Rose LLP.
11. Chaumtoli Huq
Associate Professor of Law
Chaumtoli Huq joined NYLS in fall 2011. Previously, she was Director of Litigation at Manhattan Legal Services, which provides free legal services to low-income New Yorkers and deals with a wide range of legal issues, including housing, consumer rights, and employment. Her expertise lies in labor and employment, immigrant workers, and human rights. Professor Huq was an adjunct professor at City College of New York and Rutgers University.

12. Marcia Levy
Professor of Law
Marcia Levy joined NYLS in fall 2011. Most recently, she was Special Counsel for Pro Bono and Director of Professional Development at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP. Previously, she spent 14 years in legal education, serving as a professor and dean of skills programs at Hofstra, as the director of clinics at the University of Denver, and as a clinical law professor and director of public interest programs at Rutgers School of Law. She was an assistant federal defender in the E.D.N.Y., and a prisoners’ rights attorney with the Legal Aid Society. An expert in advocacy training, she directs and teaches in programs for NITA, and internationally, for a number of organizations, including ABA ROLI.

13. Lynnise E. Pantin
Associate Professor of Law
Lynnise E. Pantin joined NYLS in fall 2011. Previously, she was an associate at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, where she represented private investment funds and their sponsors in all matters related to the formation and operation of domestic and international hedge funds. Professor Pantin was also an adjunct instructor of Legal Writing for first-year students at Brooklyn Law School.

14. Lynn Boepple Su
Associate Professor of Law
Lynn Boepple Su is an expert in legal writing. Before joining the Legal Practice faculty, she served as Co-director of the School’s Writing Program, overseeing the first-year writing curriculum and upper-level writing electives. She has taught Drafting; Contracts; Legal Reasoning, Writing, and Research; Memorandum and Brief Writing; Persuasion; Principles of Legal Analysis; and Written and Oral Advocacy. Prior to entering academia, Professor Su was in private practice concentrating in employment and commercial litigation. She was also an assistant district attorney in Bronx County, New York.

15. Daniel A. Warshawsky
Associate Professor of Law
Daniel A. Warshawsky joined NYLS to teach Legal Practice after 15 years at the Office of the Appellate Defender (OAD), New York City’s second-oldest provider of representation to indigent people convicted of felonies. As the Deputy Attorney-in-Charge of OAD, Professor Warshawsky helped structure and run the office and its training program, while representing hundreds of clients on appeal. Prior to joining OAD, Professor Warshawsky was a trial-level public defender in New Jersey.

16. Erika L. Wood
Associate Professor of Law
Erika L. Wood joined NYLS in fall 2011. Previously, she was a Deputy Director at the Brennan Center for Justice, where she designed and launched major reform campaigns and provided legal counsel and strategic guidance to advocates, legislators, and policy makers nationwide. Professor Wood has litigated complex civil rights cases and is a frequent speaker on voting rights, criminal justice reform, and racial justice issues. She previously taught as an adjunct clinical professor at NYU Law School.
CLASS OF 2011: TELL US WHAT YOU ARE UP TO!

The ABA and NALP (National Association for Law Placement) require New York Law School to report our graduate outcomes. You are the best source of accurate information!

- Are you employed? Are you enrolled in an LL.M. program? Are you seeking employment, or not looking right now?

- If you are employed, tell us about your job:
  - Is it a legal position? Non-legal?
  - Part-time? Full-time?
  - Short-term? Long-term?
  - With a law firm? With a public interest employer? With federal, state, or local government?
  - Working in a business?

We need to know!

Visit www.nyls.edu/gradsurvey to complete the graduate outcome survey posted on New York Law School’s “Career Services for Alumni” Web page.

Also, don’t miss links to other resources and programs designed for you on the Career Services for Alumni page at: www.nyls.edu/careeralumni.

If you’re still seeking the right opportunity, the Office of Career Services is here to help. Check the job listings on Symplicity, and don’t hesitate to call 212.431.2345 or e-mail career@nyls.edu to set up an appointment with a counselor.
Congratulations to the Class of 2011
New York Law School Recognizes Hon. Cory A. Booker, Mayor of Newark, New Jersey; Students; and Faculty at 119th Commencement

By LaToya Jordan

In 2011, TIME magazine named the Honorable Cory A. Booker, Mayor of Newark, New Jersey, as one of the most influential people in the world for his work as “Newark’s biggest cheerleader.” At New York Law School’s 119th Commencement on May 13, 2011 at Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall, Mayor Booker became a cheerleader for the Class of 2011, which gave him a standing ovation for his inspirational words.

“You were born with a particular genius,” Mayor Booker told the graduating class, which included 493 candidates for the Juris Doctor (J.D.), 63 candidates for the Master of Laws (LL.M.), and four candidates for the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Mental Disability Law Studies. “You have a God-given calling that you must every day try to answer. You must follow your own moral compass. ‘You were not,’ as my parents would say, ‘born to fit in, you were born to stand out.’ One of our great presidents, Abraham Lincoln said, ‘Everyone was born an original, but sadly most die copies.’ You cannot let that happen; you must stand up for who you are.”

Mayor Booker shared many anecdotes from his life, including one that stressed the importance of innovative thinking and determination. He recalled one of the first times he gave a speech, to a classroom full of students in East Palo Alto, California. The students were not receptive to his remarks, so he offered a $5 bribe to the person who could raise his or her hand the highest. When the shortest student in the class ran from the room, Mayor Booker believed the student was embarrassed, but instead, the boy told him he was trying to run up to the roof to make sure his hand was raised the highest.

Drawing inspiration from this story, Mayor Booker challenged the graduates to stand up for their beliefs through their actions. “Class of 2011, make this nation real, not by hoping it or wishing it; make it with your own bare hands, by every day standing up for your truth and for your love, by every day doing the kindness and decency and love that this nation yearns for. I believe that if all of you live with this courage of your convictions, that we as a country will move forward . . . that we as a nation will indeed find a way to get to the roof.”

Booker was sworn in as Mayor of Newark, New Jersey, on July 1, 2006, following a sweeping electoral victory. Under his administration, Newark has led the nation among large cities for reductions in shootings and murders since July 1, 2008, achieving decreases of more than 40 percent in both categories. The transformation of the Newark Police Department under Mayor Booker’s leadership, together with the deployment of more than 100 surveillance cameras throughout the city, has led to Newark setting the nationwide pace for crime reduction. At the commencement ceremony, Mayor Booker added an honorary Doctor of Laws to his impressive list of degrees, which includes a B.A. and M.A. from Stanford, a B.A. from Oxford, and a J.D. from Yale.

The ceremony also featured several awards given to students and faculty, as well as student remarks delivered by Joan Virginia O’Hara ’11. O’Hara reminisced about the lessons she and her fellow graduates learned at the Law School. “We have indeed learned a lot of very important and necessary rules in law school, but it’s how each of us in our own way chooses to use those rules that is significant,” she said. “With those rules, we bring our convictions to life. One of the most valuable lessons that our brilliant and supportive faculty at this law school has taught us is that as lawyers, who we are is just as important as what we know.”

Some of O’Hara’s fellow graduating students had the opportunity to share memories about their law school experiences and publicly thank family, friends, and professors for their support during law school in the “Shout-Out 2011” video presentation. The video was played before the commencement ceremony began and can be viewed on the Law School’s YouTube channel at: www.youtube.com/newyorklawschool.

The President’s Medal of Honor was awarded to Harry H. Wellington, Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus of New York Law School, who was unable to attend the ceremony due to advanced illness. Dean Richard A. Matasar accepted the award on his behalf, sharing the message that Dean Wellington was honored and humbled to receive the award. The Medal of Honor is given to the Law School’s most outstanding and accomplished alumni and its most generous benefactors, and acknowledges those who have made the most significant contributions to the history of the Law School by their exemplary professional lives and their generosity. Dean Wellington helped build New York Law School’s reputation by putting together and overseeing a first-rate faculty of renowned scholars. He passed away on August 8, 2011 and will be fondly remembered by faculty, staff, and alumni for his inspiring leadership, unwavering dedication to the rule of law, and devotion to teaching and to the legal profession. (See “In Memoriam” article on p. 76.)
We are pleased to present a snapshot of some of the many alumni events that took place throughout the spring 2011 semester.
In the first quarter of 2011, the Office of Development and Alumni Relations hosted a number of events designed to provide alumni with a platform to share their stories about how the legal training they received at New York Law School prepared them for success, and to give the Law School community practical advice regarding their areas of expertise.

On February 28, the Law School welcomed alumni who specialize in corporate finance. Guest speakers included James Egan Jr. ’65, Executive Vice President, CIT Group (Retired); John E. Estes ’95, Partner, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; and Charles J. Maikish ’74, Managing Director, Global Head of Real Estate, BlackRock.

A month later, on March 30, the School featured alumni in the music industry: Roger Gold ’96, Senior Vice President, Office of the Chairman and CEO, Recorded Music Americas and the U.K., Warner Music Group; and Michael Guido ’80, Partner, Carroll, Guido & Groffman, LLP.
January 27, 2011: New York State Bar Alumni Reception

This year, the Law School hosted its annual reception in conjunction with the New York State Bar Association’s Annual Meeting at Moda Restaurant at the Flatotel in Manhattan on January 27, 2011. Despite the snowstorm, approximately 40 alumni and friends participated in welcoming the most recent graduating class, the Class of 2010, to the alumni network.

March 1, 2011: Law Review Networking Breakfast

The New York Law School Law Review and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations hosted their inaugural networking breakfast for graduating Law Review students and alumni on March 1, 2011. Alumni in attendance met with students who had expressed an interest in their practice areas and fielded questions from students about their careers, transitioning from law school to law practice, and conducting a successful job search.
March 10, 2011: Harlan Fellowship Wine Tasting Reception

Sharon and Dean Richard A. Matasar graciously hosted the John Marshall Harlan Fellowship Wine Tasting Reception for more than 90 alumni and friends at their Manhattan home on March 10, 2011. Dr. Deo Rampertab, owner of Veritas Ridge Winery and Managing Partner of R-T Wine Ventures, LLC, introduced the guests to his award-winning Veritas Ridge wines.

Donors who contribute $1,000 ($250 for recent graduates) or more to the Law School’s Annual Fund each year are invited to attend a private Harlan Fellows cocktail reception. To find out more about becoming a Harlan Fellow, please contact Tara Tomlinson, Assistant Vice President of Development, at 212.431.2808 or tara.tomlinson@nyls.edu.

April 13, 2011: Scholars/Donors Luncheon

More than 100 student scholars, donors, trustees, faculty, and staff members gathered in the Law School’s Events Center on April 13, 2011 for the annual Scholars/Donors Luncheon in honor of Maurice R. Greenberg ’50 and The Starr Foundation. This annual luncheon provides the perfect forum for celebrating the generosity of donors and the potential of NYLS students, and enables donors to personally connect with their scholarship recipients. To learn more about establishing a scholarship at New York Law School, please contact Suzanne Davidson, Associate Dean and Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, at 212.431.2818 or suzanne.davidson@nyls.edu.
April 27, 2011: Dean’s Council Theater Night

Dean’s Council members and their guests met at Second Stage Theatre on April 27, 2011 for a private pre-show reception and conversation with Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur Award-winning playwright Lynn Nottage and Second Stage Artistic Director Carole Rothman. Attendees then viewed Nottage’s Off-Broadway play *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark*. The Dean’s Council recognizes generous alumni and friends who contribute $5,000 or more to the Annual Fund. To learn more about becoming a member, please contact Tara Tomlinson, Assistant Vice President of Development, at 212.431.2808 or tara.tomlinson@nyls.edu.

June 14, 2011: Donor Wall Celebration

Dean Matasar and the NYLS Board of Trustees hosted the second annual *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Donor Wall Celebration Reception and Unveiling of the New Donor Walls on June 14, 2011 as a special thank-you for all donors who so generously committed themselves to the future of NYLS by making gifts of $1,000 or more since January 1, 2008. Approximately 100 guests attended. To find out more about the *Breaking New Ground. Again.* campaign, please contact Suzanne Davidson, Associate Dean and Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations, at 212.431.2818 or suzanne.davidson@nyls.edu, or Tara Tomlinson, Assistant Vice President of Development, at 212.431.2808 or tara.tomlinson@nyls.edu.
Alumni Weekend 2011
April 29–30, 2011

New York Law School welcomed back more than 300 alumni at its second annual Alumni Weekend held on Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30, 2011.

The weekend commenced with a celebration of the life of the late Dean Emeritus E. Donald Shapiro on Friday afternoon. Approximately 100 alumni and friends gathered in the E. Donald Shapiro Classroom in the Law School’s new building and listened to reflections on the life of this extraordinary man from the perspectives of alumni, friends, colleagues, and Dean Shapiro’s widow, Merle Shapiro.

Immediately following this celebration, reunion classes ending in “1” and “6” convened in the Grand Gallery in the new building to renew old ties and catch up with friends and classmates at the Dean’s Reunion Cocktail Party.

On Saturday, alumni from all classes joined the Reunion classes for several events including a special writing workshop, “Mystery Writing for Lawyers,” led by media consultant Laurie H. Hutzler ’79; tours of the Law School and TriBeCa; and the Dean’s State of the Law School Brunch. Additionally, four continuing legal education seminars showcased the expertise of Law School community members in fields such as elder law, wealth management, technology and open government, regulatory compliance in the financial services industry, and the future of legal education. The weekend’s featured speakers included Distinguished Adjunct Professor Peter J. Strauss, a nationally renowned expert on elder law and a partner with Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.; Robert Abrams ’87, a highly respected health care attorney and co-author of Boomer Basics (McGraw-Hill, 1999); Blanche Lark Christerson ’86, Managing Director of Private Wealth Management at Deutsche Bank AG; Professor Beth Simone Noveck, former U.S. Deputy Chief Technology Officer and leader of the White House Open Government Initiative; Professor James Grimmelmann, a recognized expert on copyright law and the Authors Guild v. Google lawsuit; Professor Ronald H. Filler, Director of the Law School’s Center on Financial Services Law; Tim O’Neal Lorah ’96, Managing Director, Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc.; Guy Talirico ’86, CEO, Alaric Compliance Services; and Professor Elizabeth Chambliss, Co-director of the Center for Professional Values and Practice at New York Law School.

The weekend concluded on Saturday night with a tutorial, “Gambling 101,” followed by cocktails, an all-class reunion dinner, and gambling. Guests in attendance enjoyed an evening of blackjack, poker, roulette, and craps for great raffle prizes, including a weekend getaway to Canyon Ranch Hotel and Spa in Miami Beach, tickets to the award-winning Broadway play That Championship Season, an Xbox 360, an iPad2, a Wii game system, Subway Series baseball tickets, and more.
Save the Dates for Alumni Weekend 2012:
Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21, 2012
The Office of Development and Alumni Relations is in need of a few good volunteers from reunion classes ending in “2” and “7.” If you are interested in promoting the weekend amongst your classmates, please contact Tara Tomlinson, Assistant Vice President of Development, at 212.431.2608 or tara.tomlinson@nyls.edu.
This section of the magazine features updates on gifts made to the Law School’s capital campaign and the personal stories behind them. Hear from our donors about what inspired them to give and how their gifts are transforming the Law School.

63  •  Yvette Chang-Rampertab ’95 and Victor Rampertab ’94: A Couple Committed to NYLS

64  •  Emilio Fernandez ’94 Jumps at the Chance to Give Back

65  •  Karen Fine Saltiel ’82: Champion in a Changing Field

66  •  Andrew J. Franklin ’80 Supports NYLS from Across the Globe

67  •  Andrew J. O’Connell ’97 Remembers His NYLS Roots

68  •  Professor Thomas Prol ’01 Honors His Parents and Prepares Students for Success
For Victor Rampertab ’94 and Yvette Chang-Rampertab ’95, the reasons for giving back to New York Law School are clear. Both strongly believe that it is important for New York Law School alumni to give back, to provide the right educational tools and to create opportunities for law students and graduates to succeed. The Law School, in addition to offering them the educational foundation for two successful careers, also provided them with a chance to meet each other—at a staff meeting of the Law School’s Journal of International and Comparative Law. Chang-Rampertab later went on to serve as the journal’s Editor in Chief from 1994 to 1995.

“New York Law School gave me the opportunity to make connections and lasting bonds,” Chang-Rampertab says.

In 2010 the couple, who make their home in Manhattan, gifted the Law School with the Victor Rampertab and Yvette Y. Chang-Rampertab Book Award, which supports students in purchasing books for law school, and made a generous donation to the Second Century Scholarship Fund, a consolidated fund for scholarships designed to attract a diverse student body.

“The idea of giving to the Book Award program struck a chord with us,” Chang-Rampertab says. “We felt that the Book Award was a meaningful and tangible gift, one that would provide immediate assistance to law students, and one that would provide them with tools to succeed.”

As a law student, Rampertab was a recipient of the Second Century Scholarship. The couple feels that their donation to this fund is a way to help the Law School continue to develop a dynamic and diverse student body.

After graduating from the Law School, Rampertab spent four years as an associate at two leading international law firms focusing on bankruptcy and finance. In 1998, he made the move from law to banking and has spent the last 13 years as a banker in the financial services sector, where he serves a client base of global financial institutions.

Upon graduation, Chang-Rampertab practiced corporate law as an associate at both national and international law firms. Most recently, she served as in-house corporate counsel for five and a half years at Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC. She advised U.S. business teams and affiliates on transactional, corporate compliance, and litigation matters. Chang-Rampertab retired from Mercedes-Benz last year and is now involved in other organizations, including serving as a director on the board of the Asian American Law Fund of New York. She has been actively involved in bar associations and been a speaker at legal conferences and law school panels on women’s leadership, professional development, leadership and communication skills, and diversity in the law.

Chang-Rampertab has maintained close ties to New York Law School and its students since graduation. She was a director of the Law School’s Alumni Association and chair of the Alumni Association’s Student Outreach Committee. She has also mentored law students and made legal internship opportunities available to law students as a corporate associate and an in-house lawyer.

“I was fortunate to have mentors while I was a law student and junior lawyer,” she says. “I resolved to do the same when I graduated. I believe all of us can help create opportunities for each other and for law students. The more we help each other, the stronger a network we can create for and among ourselves.”
Emilio Fernandez ’94 Jumps at the Chance to Give Back

By Christine Pakkala

When Emilio Fernandez ’94 was a student at NYLS, he was the recipient of a welcome scholarship, one that enabled him to more easily afford law school. And he’s remained grateful ever since.

“An investment was made in my future and me, so when the opportunity came to make an investment in a law school student, I jumped at the chance,” he says of his gift to the capital campaign.

Law school was a “terrific experience” for the Miami native, who graduated cum laude and was Executive Articles Editor of the Journal of International and Comparative Law. He had already earned a B.B.A. and an M.B.A. from the University of Miami when he came to NYLS with a plan to practice corporate law.

He recalls that Professor Aleta G. Estreicher was “excellent at teaching corporate and securities law and translating difficult subject matter into easily understood terms,” and that Professor Nadine Strossen “could lecture for an entire period—and hold the complete attention of the class—without a single awkward pause.”

In addition to a great faculty, the School’s proximity to courts and Wall Street makes it easy to do internships and externships, he notes. Fernandez clerked with New York Supreme Court Justice Herman Cahn as a 2L.

“It was great to see how things work in a real courtroom and from a judge’s perspective,” he recalls. “Having an externship allowed me to see the interplay between the persuasive arguments made by lawyers before the court and the independent research conducted by the judge to assure the law is being interpreted correctly. I hadn’t fully realized how extensive the judge’s own research is before I clerked for Judge Cahn.”

After law school, Fernandez accepted an offer from Shutts & Bowen LLP. He wasn’t sure if he wanted to practice real estate law or corporate law, so he began working with two partners, one from each practice area, discovering that he liked the “tangible aspect” of real estate. He expanded his practice when he joined the real estate department of Holland & Knight LLP, where his work involved the acquisition and sale of commercial and residential real estate, institutional and private financing, commercial leasing, condominium development, and title matters. He represented a real estate investment trust (REIT) in the acquisition of a multi-site, multi-state commercial real estate portfolio worth more than $1 billion. In 2002, Fernandez was named partner in the firm’s Miami office.

That same year, the siren call of real estate led him to North American Title Group, one of the largest title insurance underwriters in the U.S., where he is now Executive Vice President. Fernandez oversees policies and procedures, federal and state compliance programs, ABA programs, and other national initiatives. In addition to his EVP responsibilities, in 2005, he was named President of North American Title’s two underwriters, which merged into one under the name of North American Title Insurance Company (NATIC) in 2007.

Fernandez is a member of a three-person board at North American Title Group, the holding company that owns NATIC among other real estate related businesses. He oversees all aspects of the company’s operations, and also belongs to several industry organizations including RESPRO, a trade organization that brings together a cross section of providers in the real estate/financing industry.

Fernandez envisions a long career at North American and continued growth for the company, despite a general contracting within the residential and commercial real estate market.

“We’ve been able to take advantage of the down economy and increase our market share from a small insurer to a mid-sized insurer. I’d like to see us become a 50-state solution for title insurance and all other settlement services needed to complete the purchase of real estate.”

Emilio Fernandez ’94

Jumps at the Chance to Give Back

By Christine Pakkala
Karen Fine Saltiel ’82: Champion in a Changing Field

By Christine Pakkala

Why give to the Law School’s capital campaign? Karen Fine Saltiel ’82 has an answer ready: “New York Law School gave me the educational springboard for a wonderful career. I gave back because I attribute my success to having good solid preparation at New York Law.”

Even in high school, Fine Saltiel knew she wanted to become a lawyer. But she also knew she had the people skills to work in human resources. Fine Saltiel found a way to marry the two fields as Executive Vice President, serving as the Chief Human Resources Officer, at Primerica, a term life insurance and financial services company.

The Elmont, New York, native moved to Duluth, Georgia, in 1995 to take advantage of a job promotion at Primerica. Her duties at the company are comprehensive and include overseeing all aspects of human resources for its 2,000 employees. She also handles real estate, community relations and foundations, and strategic marketing for Primerica.

In this position, Fine Saltiel has come to know the human resources structure of the company intimately. In 2010, when Primerica spun off from its parent company, Citigroup, Fine Saltiel was responsible for recreating the entire human resources function of Primerica, which included equity, benefits, a payroll system, and a 401(k) plan.

“We had six months to create the entire infrastructure, and I’m proud of what we accomplished,” she says.

The daughter of a TV repairman and a secretary, Fine Saltiel was the first in her family to attend college. She graduated from Cornell University, where she earned a B.S. in Industrial and Labor Relations in 1977. While attending New York Law School in the evenings, Fine Saltiel worked in human resources at the New York Public Library. In law school, she studied employment law, and after graduation, she spent 13 years as an in-house employment lawyer working in and out of human resources. She started out at American Express in 1982 and then through a series of mergers arrived at Citigroup, Inc., of which Primerica was a subsidiary.

Primeica, she notes, is a company that inspires its employees with its warmth and familial spirit. She recalls a 2011 convention in which Art Williams, the founder of A.L. Williams (which later became Primerica), addressed a roaring crowd of sales reps. A humble billionaire, Williams dressed casually in a t-shirt and khaki shorts, his knee brace visible to the audience.

“Art Williams exemplifies the spirit at Primerica,” she says. “It’s a successful business which is at the same time an unpretentious place to work and a friendly place to work. It’s involved a lot with the community and gives back.”

Giving back is something that appears to come naturally to Fine Saltiel. She is an active member of her community and belongs to several boards of philanthropic organizations. One, Rainbow Village, is devoted to the multiple needs of families suffering from homelessness, poverty, and/or domestic violence. Rainbow Village’s bio of Fine Saltiel states that “[h]er expertise in financial services, human resources, and law proves invaluable to our leadership team.” She also contributes her expertise to Artworks! Gwinnett, an initiative designed to cultivate the arts in Gwinnett County, Georgia, where Fine Saltiel resides with her husband, Jack. Together the two, who met seven years ago, have four children, ages 15 to 29.

Fine Saltiel says that the most surprising thing about her field is how much it has changed since she first launched her career. “It’s amazing how much it has grown—how it has evolved,” she says. “Discrimination laws as well as multiple employee legislation, such as the Family and Medical Leave Act, have changed the field of human resources. It’s made it more complex, more challenging, and more interesting.”
Andrew J. Franklin ’80 Supports NYLS from Across the Globe

By Christine Pakkala

There are 7,360 miles between Nairobi and New York City—a bit farther than the typical NYLS graduate travels to accept his first job. But living and working in Africa, no matter the distance, is a boyhood dream come true for Andrew J. Franklin ’80.

“I remember reading Tarzan books set in Africa and being fascinated by the region,” he says. “Even then, I knew I wanted to travel there.”

That’s exactly what Franklin did during winter break from law school in 1978. It was a two-week vacation, but Franklin liked Africa so much, he stayed for five. He recalls sending postcards from South Africa and war-torn southern Rhodesia to his classmates, who read them aloud when faculty asked where he was.

Now Franklin, who has lived and worked in Kenya for more than 30 years, plans to invest his business savvy, legal and military education, and knowledge of life in Kenya in a new company, Your African Source For Problem Resolution, Inc. The company will offer consulting advice in the fields of counter-money-laundering, anti-narcotics, counterinsurgency, nation building, security, and advising indigenous security forces. During a recent visit to New York, Franklin finalized the registration of the business as a New York State Subchapter S Corporation with his lawyer Jeffrey E. Jacobson ’80, who, Franklin says, joked that it was the culmination of a long journey.

“It may be slow to start up but allows me the opportunity to combine nearly 40 years of formal education and practical experiences all over Africa to earn a decent living, regardless of age, in an environment of counterinsurgency that happens to be in Africa—and,” he adds, “maybe get to play Marine.”

Franklin hardly needs to play the role of a Marine. He came to NYLS as a Marine Corps reserve officer who had served in combat units with plans to become a JAG officer after graduation. During law school, he spent one weekend a month as a troop leader in a reserve rifle company.

At his mother’s request, he filled out a form in the School’s career office, and listed Africa as the place where he would like to practice. Dan Weintraub, head of the International Division of Planned Parenthood, hired him to head its office in Africa. For 10 years, Franklin inspected equipment at health clinics and made sure routine tests were being performed properly. He also handled all the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) procurement regulations and developed a checklist for clinic operations.

The position ended when a new U.S. federal law disallowed the funding of any foreign organization that offered abortion, and Franklin transitioned to a career as a financial consultant, eventually launching his own firm in Nairobi. As head of Franklin Management Consultants Ltd., he brokers offshore financial planning products and services including unit trusts and related investments, hedge funds, and life insurance.

He says the financial services business remains lucrative “but is no longer as much fun,” and the underdeveloped local legal environment requires increasing amounts of “Know Your Customer” (KYC)/Source of Funds documentation in order to place business in compliant jurisdictions and earn commissions. Kenya has become the epicenter of “cleaning” money derived from criminal activities, says Franklin, so these regulations have become quite stringent.

Despite his distance, Franklin has once again given back to NYLS. “Donating money is a nice way of maintaining contact with the Law School. I like staying in touch since you never know who might need my peculiar skills. Besides, my job in Africa came out of the School’s placement office, thereby saving me from a life of boredom and three-piece grey suits. If all goes well, the daily dress code will be shorts, safari boots, and khaki shirts complemented by appropriate web gear and a floppy bush hat!”
Andrew J. O’Connell ’97 Remembers His NYLS Roots
By Christine Pakkala

The world is undoubtedly a safer place because Andrew J. O’Connell ’97 is in it. O’Connell has crafted a career in securing the safety and freedom of others, first as a Secret Service agent, protecting Presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, then as an assistant U.S. attorney, prosecuting terrorism and other federal crimes, and later as the co-founder and CEO of an international corporate investigations and security firm, Guidepost Solutions LLC.

O’Connell feels that attending New York Law School gave him the right start for his richly varied and demanding career.

“I decided to give back to [New York Law School] because the Law School was good to me,” he says of his gift to the School’s capital campaign. “I worked hard there and I did well, and my legal education has tremendously benefitted my career.”

He began that career before law school, in 1990, as a special agent with the U.S. Secret Service, where he was responsible for investigating federal crimes, including threats against the president, currency counterfeiting, and other frauds and financial crimes.

“It was the best job I ever had,” he recalls. “I’m an action-oriented person, so being paid to work out, shoot guns, and travel the world with the president right after college was exciting and fun. When the weekend came and I had time off, I couldn’t wait for Monday to roll around to get back to work.”

While Secret Service agents are well known as protectors, they’re also investigators of various federal crimes. In that role, O’Connell presented cases to prosecutors and was intrigued by that career. He decided to attend the Law School’s Evening Division. There he encountered Professor Robert Blecker, who became a mentor.

“I enjoyed his personality and teaching style, and of course, he’s brilliant,” he recalls. “He was a tough grader, but his Criminal Law classes were excellent.” Professor Blecker’s letter of recommendation to U.S. District Judge William Osteen Sr. helped O’Connell earn a clerkship after law school.

“Judge Osteen taught me that although being a trial lawyer often means fighting all day long, there’s more at stake than winning the fight. It’s also about how you conduct yourself with others—how you treat them—that makes a difference.”

As an attorney at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP from 1998 to 2002, O’Connell litigated civil, criminal, white collar, and government enforcement actions. But he still recalled the prosecutors he encountered during his days as a Secret Service agent, and decided to apply to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Criminal Division of the Southern District of New York. From 2003 to 2005, O’Connell prosecuted federal crimes, including terrorism, organized crime, and various complex frauds. His cases ran the gamut, from violent crimes to drug offenses to child exploitation. It was the latter that gave him the most satisfaction in fighting.

“As tough as those cases were to stomach, when you got the right result, it was a cause of joy and celebration.”

Now at Guidepost Solutions, O’Connell takes pride in his role as CEO where, along with partners and former Department of Justice attorneys Bart Schwartz and Viet Dinh, he oversees more than 50 full-time employees and hundreds of subcontractors in a business that has offices in several U.S. cities, London, and South Sudan.

“It’s a great feeling to create something from nothing. I feel very fortunate to be working with Bart and Viet in a business that helps solve problems and keep people safe,” he says, adding, “Any professional successes I have enjoyed flow directly from the excellent legal education I received at New York Law School.”
Professor Thomas Prol ’01 Honors His Parents and Prepares Students for Success
By Christine Pakkala

Thirsty Law School students will be in scarce supply, thanks to a contribution to the Breaking New Ground. Again. capital campaign by Adjunct Professor Thomas Prol ’01. Professor Prol donated funds to the campaign and named a water fountain on the first floor of the Law School’s new building in honor of his parents, Joseph and Ruth Prol of Franklin, New Jersey.

“Water is vital and essential, so the parallel to the role my parents played in my life is obvious,” says Professor Prol, who teaches Legal Reasoning and Writing and Appellate Advocacy, and is also a partner at a New Jersey law firm. “However,” he adds, “I make sure that my students know that a drink from the new water fountain, coupled with hard work and studying, brings good grades.”

Both parents (pictured below) helped inspire his decision to pursue a legal career. Ruth Prol was a stay-at-home mom during his early years. Later, she was an administrator at a mental health facility, and her work inspired Professor Prol, who early in his career represented people involuntarily committed to mental health facilities as a result of mental illness.

In addition, Professor Prol recalls being inspired by a mother who was unafraid to speak her mind. “I was instilled from an early age with a sense that I wanted to be an advocate and fight injustice, largely due to my mother,” he says. “Her ability to stand up for what she believes in has always been an inspiration to me, as a lawyer and as a person.”

His father, a Navy veteran who fought in World War II from the deck of the U.S.S. Currituck, was a bricklayer and member of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). “He got up early every morning and worked every day from 7 to 4,” Professor Prol says. “His work ethic had a tremendous influence on me and on my brothers and sister.”

Offering NYLS students a source of clean drinking water is an appropriate gift coming from Professor Prol. Not only is his legal practice concentrated in environmental law, including installation and operation of water treatment systems, but he served in the Peace Corps from 1994–96, coordinating sanitation programs with potable water projects on behalf of the Nepalese government. When he returned from the Peace Corps, he worked with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), enforcing U.S. hazardous waste laws—a job he did during the day while attending NYLS at night.

Professor Prol’s interest in the environment dates back to his days as an undergraduate at Emory University, where he was co-director of the student environmental group and interned at CNN’s environmental news program, Earth Matters.

While in law school, Professor Prol completed an internship with the New York City Commission on Human Rights and an externship at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Brooklyn. In his third year, he was elected as a second circuit governor to the American Bar Association—a national student representative position held by only a dozen law students in the country each year. Upon graduation he received the Daniel Finkelstein Commencement Writing Award.

As a teacher, Professor Prol conveys his high standards for writing excellence to his students as well as his passion for persuasive and effective advocacy. “In Dr. Seuss’s book, the Lorax speaks for the trees because the trees have no tongues,” he says. “Similarly, lawyers advocate for people who can’t always speak up for themselves. I tell my students that when they become lawyers, they get a figurative key to unlock the courthouse door, to provide access to justice to people who need it.”
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Send us your news!
Class Notes
Compiled by Melissa Scalzo

1960

Herbert A. Johnson published Gibbons v. Ogden: John Marshall, Steamboats, and the Commerce Clause (University Press of Kansas, 2010) as part of the “Landmark Law Cases and American Society” series. He is Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of South Carolina.

1963

Neil M. Frank writes that after 48 years, his practice, Frank and Associates, P.C., is still going strong, representing plaintiffs in wage/hour and discrimination litigation. The five-attorney firm is located in Farmingdale, New York.

1964

Lawrence Huntington was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Old Dartmouth Historical Society—New Bedford Whaling Museum in New Bedford, Massachusetts, at the 108th annual meeting of the society in May 2011. Huntington is the former Chairman of the Board of Fiduciary Trust Company International and of New York Law School’s Board of Trustees (1992–97). He received the President’s Medal of Honor from New York Law School in 2005, and currently serves on the Advisory Board of the Center for New York City Law. (New Bedford Whaling Museum)

1972

John Hilgeman was admitted to the Tennessee Bar in 2010 and intends to practice law part time in Chattanooga.

Now serving his fourth term, New York State Assemblymember Charles Lavine (D-Nassau County) has been elected President of the New York Chapter of the National Association of Jewish Legislators and was appointed Chairman of the Assembly Administrative Regulation Review Commission.

1973

The Reverend Mark O’Connell writes that he has been taking Spanish courses for the past four years because more than half of the parishioners at St. Peter’s Roman Catholic Church in Belleville, New Jersey, where he is the Parochial Vicar, are Latino.

1974

Gary Cortellessa was appointed Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Southern Title Insurance Corporation in May 2011. Previously, he served as Mid-Atlantic Regional Counsel for Southern Title, which is based in Richmond, Virginia. (ALPS Corporation)

1975

Marc Livanos, an admiralty law attorney, has been promoted to Project Manager of Ecology and Environment, Inc. in the firm’s Pensacola, Florida, office. He writes that the company works as the court-appointed monitor for the U.S. Department of Justice for many ship owners, such as Edison Chouest Offshore Vessels in Galliano, Louisiana, or as external auditors for ship owners such as Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics, Dalnave Navigation, or Evergreen International.

1977

Gary Dolan was inducted into the U.S. Army’s Rangers Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Columbus, Georgia, in July 2011. A Vietnam veteran, Dolan was honored for his heroic service as a member of this special unit of the Army, as well as for his ongoing advocacy for its causes. He resides in Farmingdale, New York, and operates his own law firm in Massapequa, New York. (Massapequan Observer)

1978

Arthur Rhine writes that as of 2011, three generations of his family have now graduated from New York Law School: his uncle, Mendel B. Rhine, Class of 1928; himself in 1978; and his son Jesse Rhine, Class of 2011.

1979

James Charne writes that he was named Chair of the Practising Law Institute’s (PLI) program “Representing the Games Industry Client 2011,” which was presented on October 19, 2011 at the PLI center in San Francisco. Charne is a solo practitioner based in Santa Monica, California, who focuses on the computer software and video game industries.

Mark Levy has relocated to southern Florida but remains Special Counsel at Hinman, Howard & Kattell, LLP in Binghamton, New York, and continues to concentrate in intellectual property.

1980

Gideon Rothschild was elected Vice-Chair of the American Bar Association Section of Real Property, Trust & Estate Law. He was also listed among the top 100 lawyers in New York City by Super Lawyers. Rothschild is a partner at Moses & Singer LLP in Manhattan.
Hon. Arthur M. Schack’s decisions regarding foreclosure fraud resulted in several media appearances throughout 2011, including coverage on PBS Newshour, MSNBC, NPR, and Fox Business. Schack is a Supreme Court Justice in Kings County, New York.

**1981**

Shelley Rossof Olsen joined JAMS, The Resolution Experts in September 2011. Based in the JAMS New York Resolution Center, she serves as an arbitrator, mediator, and special master for disputes in a variety of areas including aviation, business/commercial, construction, energy/utility, insurance, maritime/admiralty, personal injury/torts, and professional liability. (JAMS)

Douglas Zeigler was appointed Director of Security for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) in January 2011. In this role, he will oversee security for the MTA, including coordinating MTA security efforts with the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, National Guard, New York City Police Department, and State Police, as well as the MTA Police Department. He is a 37-year veteran of the NYPD. (MTA)

**1982**


Hon. Ralph T. Gazzillo, now in his 19th year serving on the Suffolk County (New York) bench, has been re-designated from County Court Judge to Acting Supreme Court Justice, handling civil matters. His first novel, The Dark Shield (iUniverse, 2010), received the iUniverse Editor’s Choice Award in 2011.

**1983**

Jane M. Stack has retired from the New York State Division of Human Rights in the Bronx, New York, where she served as a senior attorney.

**1984**

Michael Arcuri joined Hancock Estabrook, LLP in Syracuse, New York, as Of Counsel in February 2011. His practice focuses on litigation, government affairs, and corporate law. (Auburn Citizen)

Selinda Melnik joined DLA Piper’s new office in Wilmington, Delaware, in 2011 as a partner in the firm’s restructuring practice. (DLA Piper)

**1985**

Norine Krasnogor recently published the following articles: “Immigration Enforcement Efforts Put Attorneys on Edge” (Connecticut Law Tribune, July 2011, Vol. 37, No. 30); “An Immigration Primer: Issue Spotting for the Practitioner” (Connecticut Lawyer, April 2011, Vol. 21, No. 8); and “Between a Rock and a Hard Place” (Connecticut Law Tribune, October 2009, Vol. 35, No. 43). Krasnogor is a partner with Krasnogor & Krasnogor LLP, which has offices in Stamford, Connecticut, and Manhattan. She is the Chair of the Monthly Immigration Roundtable of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Connecticut Chapter (since 2008), and the Co-chair of the Employment Law Committee of the Fairfield County Bar Association, where she previously served as Co-chair of the Business Law Committee.

Nicholas Pellitta was named Chairman of the Hunterdon County (New Jersey) Chamber of Commerce in February 2011. He is a member of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A. in Bridgewater, New Jersey, where he specializes in litigation. (Norris McLaughlin & Marcus)

Scott Cagan was included in the list of Florida Super Lawyers 2011 for Employment & Labor specialists. He is a commercial litigator in the Fort Lauderdale, Florida, office of GrayRobinson P.A. (GrayRobinson)

Wayne Keeney was appointed to the Connecticut Judicial Review Council in 2011. The council investigates complaints against state judges, family support magistrates, and workers’ compensation commissioners. Keeney is a criminal defense lawyer based in Bridgeport, Connecticut. (Connecticut Post)

Christopher J. Morse and Brian J. Gorman ’97 published the second edition of New York Criminal Procedure: An Analytical Approach to Statutory, Constitutional and Case Law for Criminal Justice Professionals (Carolina Academic Press, 2010). Morse, an associate professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, is also serving on the Program Committee of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Conference to be held in New York City in 2012. He has also published, with Irving J. Klein, the 2012 edition of Constitutional Law for Criminal Justice Professionals.
1989

Agostinho Ribeiro was elected to the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association’s Board of Governors in June 2011. He is the managing partner at Ventura, Ribeiro & Smith in the firm’s Danbury, Connecticut, office, where he specializes in personal injury law. (Ventura, Ribeiro & Smith)

1990

Glenn Bieler joined The John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, as Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs in July 2011.

James Dixon was selected as Chairman of the National Association of Energy Services Companies (NAESCO), the leading industry organization for the energy services industry, in November 2010.

1991

Richard A. Heun joined the firm of Connolly & Connolly as Partner in August 2011. The firm, known professionally as Connolly, Connolly & Heun LLP, is located in West Caldwell, New Jersey, and concentrates on wills, trusts, estate planning, and estate administration.

1992

David P. Bonomo joined the New Jersey Housing & Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA) as Chief Financial Officer in December 2010. Based in Trenton, New Jersey, he oversees the independent agency’s $4 billion Capital Markets and Finance divisions.

1994

Steven Senior was elected a partner in Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP’s Environmental Law Group in January 2011. He is based in the firm’s Morrisstown, New Jersey, office. (Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti)

1995

Timothy McIlwain writes of his involvement in a class action lawsuit against EA Sports in an athletes’ right to publicity case. He defeated the motion to consolidate all the cases to California at the oral argument in New Orleans. McIlwain is a partner at McKenna McIlwain, LLP in Montclair, New Jersey.

Robert Tyler Tomlinson was recently appointed by the President Judge of Philadelphia County (Pennsylvania) to serve as a Judge Pro Tem to assist the courts in resolving civil litigations in the area of personal injury. Tomlinson is a shareholder and member of the Accident & Personal Injury Group of Stark & Stark in the firm’s Yardley, Pennsylvania, office. (Stark & Stark)

1996

Mia Bauer was featured in The Jewish Week on January 4, 2011, in a profile titled “The Princess of Cupcakes.” The article highlights the success of Crumbs Bake Shop, the cupcake empire Bauer started with her husband in 2003 on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. (The Jewish Week)

1997

In August 2011, Deborah Gonzalez launched Law2sm, LLC, a legal consulting firm focused on helping clients navigate legal issues relating to the new digital and social media worlds.

1998

Sy Stern was elected to the Board of Directors of Absolute Life Solutions, Inc. in January 2011. He is a partner at Stern & Stern, LLP in Lakewood, New Jersey, and the founder of the Stern Professional Group LLC. (Absolute Life Solutions)
Ross Weiland, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations for the National Archives, was featured on “Washington Post Live” on February 23, 2011, discussing the Archive’s hunt for missing Civil War documents. (Washington Post Live)

1999

Fernando Bohorquez Jr., a board member with LatinoJustice PRLDEF, was nominated as a MillerCoors “Líder of the Year” in 2010. As a result of his campaign in the Líder competition, LatinoJustice was able to secure corporate sponsorship for its new leadership institute for Latino youth from Pfizer, Inc. in 2011. Bohorquez is a partner at Baker Hostetler in Manhattan.


2000

Heather Poole published an article titled “International Affairs” in the June 2011 issue of Los Angeles Lawyer, the magazine of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Poole practices family-based immigration law in Pasadena, California. (Los Angeles Lawyer)

Brian Reynolds was a guest speaker at a free public seminar on wills and estate planning presented by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation (NJSBF) on January 18, 2011, at the New Jersey Law Center in New Brunswick. He is a shareholder with Mantell, Prince & Reynolds, P.C. in Murray Hill, New Jersey, where he specializes in estate planning, business and transactional tax planning, and estate administration. (NJSBF)

Andromachi (Andrea) Tsoukalas was named a partner at Forchelli, Curto, Deegan, Schwartz, Mineo, Cohn & Terrana LLP in January 2011. Based in Uniondale, New York, she concentrates her practice in zoning, land use, environmental, and municipal law matters.

2002

Daniel Curtin Jr. has been named Director of Operations for Austin Cycle Camp in Austin, Texas. In this role, he oversees the organization’s destination cycling camps, clinics, and other day-to-day operations. (Austin Cycle Camp)

Denis Sullivan joined Hiscock & Barclay, LLP as a partner in its Intellectual Property Practice Group in June 2011. Based in the firm’s Syracuse, New York, office, he focuses his practice on patent and trademark matters. (Hiscock & Barclay)

Elizabeth Valandingham was elected a partner with the firm O’Donnell McCord, P.C. in Morristown, New Jersey, in January 2011. She continues to practice real property tax appeal, municipal, and land use law.

2003

Thomas Citron was promoted to Associate Director with Cushman & Wakefield Retail Services in New York City in June 2011. He joined the firm in 2007 as a retail brokerage professional. (Cushman & Wakefield)

2005

Stephen Ginsberg was recently elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Multiple Sclerosis Research Center of New York. He is an associate at Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP in Garden City, New York.

Roberto Trujillo is the Director of Special Projects and Programs, Human Resources for the American Bar Association. He lives in Chicago and recently celebrated the birth of his daughter, Teagan Harper.

2006

Carra Greenberg, founder of Prop 8 Films, spoke about her documentary Till Death Do Us Part, which explores the same-sex marriage debate in California, at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center in New York City in February 2011. Greenberg is Executive Producer at Bucks Boys Productions, Inc. in Los Angeles.
April Hoellman Goebeler joined Casey Gilson P.C. in Atlanta as an associate in 2011. She concentrates her practice on defending individuals and businesses in cases involving acts of negligence and other tort claims. (Casey Gilson)

Ian Malin joined A J Walter Aviation as Treasurer and Chief Investment Officer in July 2011. Previously, he spent 11 years working in investment banking and asset finance. (A J Walter Aviation)

Aaron Miner and Erin Rose Efland ’08 were married on September 4, 2011. The two met at NYLS in January 2007 participating in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Miner is a litigation associate at Kaye Scholer LLP. Efland, who is changing her name, is Executive Compensation and ERISA Counsel for Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC. The ceremony and reception took place at the Rhinecliff Hotel in Rhinebeck, New York, and was co-officiated by Rabbi Daniel Fried and Miner’s uncle, Hon. Roger J. Miner ’56, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Jonathan Shechter became the head of the newly formed Securities Practice Group at Shiboleth LLP in 2011. Based in Manhattan, Shechter concentrates on corporate and securities law. (Shiboleth)

Cole Young joined Bernkopf Goodman LLP in June 2011 as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Practice Group. Based in Boston, he focuses his practice on commercial litigation, construction law, land use law, and real estate law. (Bernkopf Goodman)

Ken Biberaj helped ring the closing bell at the New York Stock Exchange on July 11, 2011 as a member of the NYC & Company Restaurant Committee to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Restaurant Week in New York. He is the Vice President of the Russian Tea Room in Manhattan.

Leni Morrison Cummins co-wrote “Corruption in Mitchell-Lama Co-ops! How Boards Can Fight Back: Part 1” (with Adam Leitman Bailey), published in Habitat magazine on January 21, 2011. On April 5, 2011, she was one of four panelists (along with classmate Ken Biberaj) to speak at “Careers in Real Estate: A Discussion with Recent NYLS Alums,” a master class hosted by New York Law School’s Center for Real Estate Studies. Cummins is an associate with Adam Leitman Bailey, P.C. in Manhattan, where she focuses on condominium and cooperative litigation and corporate representation. (Habitat)

Erin Rose Efland writes that she and Aaron Miner ’07 were married on September 4, 2011. The two met at NYLS in January 2007 participating in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Miner is a litigation associate at Kaye Scholer LLP. Efland, who is changing her name, is Executive Compensation and ERISA Counsel for Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC. The ceremony and reception took place at the Rhinecliff Hotel in Rhinebeck, New York, and was co-officiated by Rabbi Daniel Fried and Miner’s uncle, Hon. Roger J. Miner ’56, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Eugene Travers joined GoldmanHarris LLC in Manhattan as an associate in August 2011. Also a former fellow with NYLS’s Center for New York City Law, Travers specializes in land use and zoning.

Dr. Salvatore Pizzuro published an article in the New Jersey Newsroom titled “Cutting Programs for N.J.’s Blind Children Sets Them Up for Failure” on July 25, 2011. A graduate of New York Law School’s Online Mental Disability Law Program, Dr. Pizzuro is a disability policy specialist based in New Jersey. (New Jersey Newsroom)

Marissa Fierz started a new position as Judicial Law Clerk for Hon. Michael L. Ravin, New Jersey Superior Court, Essex County, Criminal Division, in September 2011. Previously, she served as a fellow with the Law School’s Center for New York City Law.

Lauren Mavroudis married Michael Camarinos on June 25, 2011 at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Manhattan. A reception followed at The Plaza. Mavroudis is a vice president of Rio Vista, a diversified real estate development and health care services conglomerate in northern New Jersey. Camarinos is a graduate of Fordham Law School, a former prosecutor, and an attorney in private practice.

Jason Wyatt joined the law firm Novy & Associates in April 2011. Based in Manchester, New Jersey, he focuses his practice on elder law. (Novy & Associates)
n memoriam

Class of 1960
John J. O’Connor Jr.
March 16, 2011

Class of 1964
Benton S. Clark Jr.
May 2, 2011

Class of 1974
Joseph Leshen
December 2, 2010

Class of 1978
Katharine Anne Clemens
April 7, 2010

Class of 2011
Jessica Altenor
August 18, 2011

ALUMNI

Suzanne DiLernia (Rising 3L)
August 18, 2011

STUDENTS

Hon. Sidney H. Asch
Professor of Law Emeritus
September 1, 2011

Maria Antonia Del Bagno
Assistant to the Dean, 1988–2000
January 3, 2011

Walter A. Rafalko
Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus
July 28, 2011

Harry H. Wellington
Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus
August 8, 2011

Donald H. Zeigler
Professor of Law
October 9, 2011

FACULTY, STAFF, AND ADMINISTRATION
The New York Law School community mourns the passing of Harry H. Wellington, Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus, who died at his home in Manhattan on August 8, 2011.

“New York Law School was truly fortunate to have one of the nation’s most prominent legal and academic figures lead the Law School into its second century,” said Dean and President Richard A. Matasar. “Harry will be warmly remembered by our board members, faculty, staff, and graduates and missed by us all.”

The course of Dean Wellington’s life was not at all predictable. In a leap of faith—both in himself and in New York Law School—he said goodbye to the familiar prestige of Yale Law School, where he had served as Dean for a decade and been made Sterling Professor Emeritus of Law, and became the 14th Dean and President of New York Law School in 1992. His decision to take the helm of an up-and-coming urban law school whose very foundations were revolutionary says much about his personal and professional courage. In fact, it was also a vote of confidence in NYLS.

Dean Wellington’s courage was in evidence much earlier in his life. He was born in 1926 in New Haven, Connecticut. Although money for college was scarce, and the prudent choice would have been Yale, his father’s alma mater, Dean Wellington craved independence and adventure. He attended the University of Pennsylvania, helping to pay his tuition by working as a fry cook at a luncheonette and by earning a scholarship. He was accepted to Harvard Law School and later awarded a clerkship with Justice Calvert Magruder of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. He served another clerkship with Justice Felix Frankfurter of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dean Wellington’s academic career began at Stanford Law School where he taught for one year. He then joined the faculty at Yale Law School where he flourished as a scholar and teacher, and where he served as Dean from 1975 to 1985. During his 10 years in the role, he became known as a nurturer of his faculty members. In 1983, he was named Sterling Professor of Law. While at Yale, Dean Wellington served as a consultant to domestic and foreign government agencies and commissions and was actively involved in bar association committees concerned with law reform.

In 1992, upon his retirement from the Yale faculty, Dean Wellington made an extraordinary move, joining the faculty at New York Law School to lead it as President and Dean. “At first, I said no, and when they asked me why, I told them that being a tenured professor at Yale Law School was the next best thing to being born rich,” he recalled. “But as I thought about the opportunity to help this place that I had come to love, I changed my mind.”

At NYLS, Dean Wellington had a major impact on the image and reputation of the School. He put together and oversaw a first-rate faculty, whose well-established scholarship continues to earn respect and admiration from the legal community. He remained Dean for eight years until 2000, and in 2007, he retired from teaching. He continued to serve on the School’s Board of Trustees. Dean Wellington was awarded the President’s Medal of Honor during the Law School’s 2011 Commencement Exercises for his significant contributions to New York Law School.

Dean Wellington is survived by his wife, Sheila Wellington; his sons, John and Thomas; his daughter-in-law, NYLS Professor Lenni Benson; and two grandchildren, Max and Lily. Contributions in his memory may be sent by check to NYLS’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Attention: Harry H. Wellington Scholarship Fund (checks payable to New York Law School).

Editor’s Note: A memorial service was held for Dean Wellington at Yale Law School on November 13, 2011. To read remarks from the event visit www.nyls.edu/inmemoriam.
The NYLS community mourns the loss of Professor Donald H. Zeigler, one of the School’s most revered and accomplished professors, who passed away on October 9, 2011. Professor Zeigler joined the faculty in 1984 and taught core courses in evidence, civil procedure, and federal courts for more than 25 years. He was also the Co-director of the School’s Center for Professional Values and Practice.

Professor Zeigler’s teaching style was marked by meticulous preparation for class, a collaborative in-class approach, and overwhelming respect for his students. He came to each class with a detailed “script” designed to organize the flow of thoughts for that particular lesson. The scripts included all of the questions he planned to ask students about a case, followed by leading and back-up questions. He encouraged exploration in the discussion, constantly creating as he went with ad-libbed questions sparked by students’ responses.

In an interview with New York Law School Magazine in 2008, Professor Zeigler described his exchange with students in the classroom as a “group effort—one that’s meant to be cooperative rather than competitive.” It was during these moments that Professor Zeigler felt most “in the moment, fully engaged.”

“Time passes differently,” he said. “I feel very strong. I feel creative. When class is going particularly well, I feel a deep sense of satisfaction.”

In 2007, the faculty asked Professor Zeigler to share his proven strategies with his colleagues. Always a willing mentor, he happily obliged, with the presentation in 2008 of his paper How I Teach, which outlines the approach he perfected throughout his teaching career. In addition to this valuable resource, Professor Zeigler helped many colleagues over the years—both at New York Law School and Pace University—by offering them his scripts as a preparation tool.

Professor Zeigler said one of his greatest challenges as a teacher was being prepared to walk into class every day with the energy and focus he needed to do a good job. The last five years proved especially trying for Professor Zeigler, who was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2006. But that didn’t stop him from doing everything he could to help his students succeed.

The love and respect that Professor Zeigler had for his students came across in everything he did, from his careful preparation, his openness with students, and even his dress code—always a jacket and tie. Students received the message loud and clear and responded with overwhelming admiration. Professor Zeigler was recognized by students with the “Teacher of the Year” award, given at Commencement, in 2005, 2008, and 2009.

Professor Zeigler graduated from Amherst College in 1966 and Columbia Law School in 1969. He was appointed a staff law clerk, first at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York from 1969–70, and then at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1970–72. In 1973, he joined the New York City Legal Aid Society as a staff attorney in the Special Litigation Unit. He became the head of the unit in 1975. While at the Legal Aid Society, he helped bring a number of federal civil class action suits seeking to reform the New York City criminal justice system. In 1978, Professor Zeigler joined the faculty of Pace University School of Law, where he taught for six years and was granted tenure.

Professor Zeigler is survived by his wife, Brannon Heath; his step-children, Tyler and Bennett Stewart; his son-in-law, John Eason; his father, Earle Zeigler; his sister, Barbara Zeigler; and his nephew, Kenan Sungur. Contributions in his memory may be sent by check to NYLS’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Attention: Zeigler Memorial Fund (checks payable to New York Law School).

Editor’s Note: A memorial service was held for Professor Zeigler at New York Law School on November 7, 2011. To read remarks from the event visit www.nyls.edu/inmemoriam.
Hon. Sidney H. Asch, Professor of Law Emeritus, died in North Carolina on September 1, 2011 at age 92. He was an authority on law and social change who served as a state assemblyman, law professor, and judge.

Judge Asch grew up in New York and earned his B.S.S. from City College of New York, his LL.B. from Columbia University, and his Ph.D. in sociology from the New School for Social Research. He was appointed Professor of Law at NYLS in 1948 and served in this role through the early 1950s. He later taught for several years as a member of the School’s adjunct faculty.

In 1996, the Law School awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, and in 1998, he was honored for 50 years of service to NYLS. Judge Asch also held teaching positions at City College and Mount Sinai Medical School.

Judge Asch was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1952, serving until 1961, when he was elected a Bronx Municipal Court judge. He became a Civil Court judge in 1962, remaining until 1970, when he was elected to the State Supreme Court, First Judicial District. In 1982, he was appointed to the Appellate Division, First Department, where he served until 1995. Among his accomplishments in this role, Judge Asch wrote the 1985 decision upholding a ruling by Mayor Edward I. Koch that banned private agencies doing business with the city from discriminating against homosexuals. He is survived by his daughters Jane and Nancy.

Katharine Anne Clemens ’78 died on April 7, 2010 in Brooklyn, New York, at age 67. Clemens grew up in Darien, Connecticut. She graduated from the University of Connecticut with a B.A. in English in 1965. In the late 1970s, Clemens worked at the law firm Braverman and Rosen and enrolled in New York Law School’s Evening Division. After graduating in 1978, she clerked for Hon. Constance Baker Motley, the first female African American federal judge. Clemens went on to work for the NYC Commission on Human Rights for six years, and then joined MFY Legal Services, where she spent 16 years working with community organizations to provide free civil legal assistance to those in need.

She later served as Deputy General Counsel for New York City’s Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Clemens is survived by her husband, Bill Gordon; her brother Peter and sister Barbara; and nephews Jesse and Tyler.

Walter A. Rafalko, Dean Emeritus of New York Law School, died at age 91 on July 28, 2011 in Timonium, Maryland. He served as Dean of NYLS from 1969 to 1973. Dean Rafalko also served as Professor of Law and Associate Dean of the University of Baltimore Law School, and Associate Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law.

Dean Rafalko grew up in Stoughton, Massachusetts. He attended St. Louis University, but paused his studies in 1942 to join the Army and serve in World War II. He survived D-Day in Normandy, France, and was later awarded the Purple Heart.

After the war, Dean Rafalko resumed his education at Boston University School of Law, where he earned his law degree in 1947. He earned LL.M. degrees at Georgetown University Law Center and NYU School of Law, and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from John Marshall University Law School. He taught at St. Louis University, St. John Fisher College, Duquesne University, New York Law School, and the University of Baltimore—from which he retired in 1990 after 16 years on the faculty. At NYLS, he focused on expanding career placement services for students, increasing alumni activity and giving, and promoting closer interaction among students and faculty.

He is survived by his wife, Katherine; nine of his 10 children; 20 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.
80

ARTHUR B. REEVE
MYSTERY WRITER
INSPIRED BY
STUDIES AT NYLS
It’s not a mystery how Arthur B. Reeve (1880–1936) became so clued-up for writing one of the most popular detective series of the early 20th century. He translated his penchant for science and criminal law—inspired in part by his studies at NYLS—into a successful career in literature.

Reeve was born on Long Island, New York, and spent most of his life in the New York area until he moved to Trenton, New Jersey, with his wife, Margaret Wilson, and their children. In 1903, he graduated from Princeton University, where he pursued a wide spectrum of interests that would later appear in his writing. In a 1915 article in The New York Times, he said, “At Princeton I studied pretty nearly everything that has an ‘ology’ or an ‘onomy’ at the end of it.”

He subsequently enrolled at New York Law School, where—he became fascinated by criminal law. Reeve never finished his law degree but instead used his schooling in criminal law as fodder for his fiction, and as preparation for reporting on many murder trials of the day as a journalist.

After his law school stint, Reeve transitioned into editorial work by taking a position as assistant editor at Public Opinion magazine, where he started contributing articles on science and technology. His formal writing career began in 1910, and culminated in a portfolio of approximately 30 books and numerous works found in a variety of publications including newspapers, popular detective pulps, and magazines on topics such as sports, law, science, and crime.

Reeve is most renowned for his character Craig Kennedy, a chemistry professor and unofficial detective (and precursor to the modern criminal scientist) who has been described as the American version of Sherlock Holmes. Reeve debuted the character in a series of short stories, “Adventures of Craig Kennedy, Scientific Detective,” which were routinely published in Cosmopolitan magazine from 1910 to 1918. The Cosmopolitan stories and others were collected into a popular book series, beginning with The Silent Bullet, published in 1912. Subsequent titles included The Poisoned Pen, The Gold of the Gods, and The Exploits of Elaine (also adapted for film), among many others.

The knowledgeable Craig Kennedy, or the “Up-to-Date Detective,” as deemed by The New York Times, was actually quite ahead of his time in his ability to scientifically and psychologically outwit his foes. In Reeve’s stories, he continually combats an arsenal of gadgetry, including a “pistol that shoots stupefying gas from its vapor-filled cartridges” (from The Unofficial Spy), with his own array of chemistry lab apparatuses and specialized devices with names often ending in “graph” or “phone.”

Reeve was not only known for his career in fiction; he wrote and contributed to a series of scientific journal articles, screenplays for motion pictures and film serials (some of which starred renowned escapologist and magician Harry Houdini), and a radio program on crime prevention. And for 15 years, he used his knowledge of criminal law to cover murder trials as a journalist. His reporting included coverage of the infamous 1935 trial of accused Lindbergh baby kidnapper Bruno Hauptmann, and a biographical series published by McClure’s magazine from 1912–13 on W.J. Burns, then Director of the Bureau of Investigation of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Reeve passed away at age 55 due to a respiratory illness, but he, Craig Kennedy, and his other characters live on in a two-volume bibliographic and autobiographical compilation, From Ghouls to Gangsters (Off-Trail Publications, 2007), which digs up both popular and obscure reprints of Reeve’s writings and uncovers details of his prolific career.
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Celebrating Outgoing Dean Richard A. Matasar

Ten Years Later: NYLS commemorates the 10th anniversary of 9/11

Meet the 1LS! Spotlight on NYLS Family Connections

Class of 2011: Tell us what you are up to!

Visit www.nyls.edu/gradsurvey and complete the graduate outcomes survey. (See p. 48 for more details.) Thank you!