In Service to Our Community
University of the District of Columbia

Vivian Canty
UDC Employee Of the Year!
(Photos, Page 39)

First Year: Community Service Program

Second and Third Year: The Clinical Program

Summer Public Interest Fellowships

Public Interest Legal Internships

School of Law Mourns Death of Charles Noble Mason, Jr.
Engineer, Attorney, Activist, Philanthropist & Gratuitous Servant of the District of Columbia.
(Story, Page 56-57)

Vivian Canty
UDC Employee Of the Year!
(Photos, Page 39)
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At left on Sound Advice, Dean Broderick interviews representatives of the D.C. Bar (Pg. 30-32); Above, center and right, new faculty members Samuel Jefferson and Roy Balleste (Pg. 33).

Award-winning Prof. Burgdorf, Pg. 35; UDC Alumni Trustee, Joseph Askew, ‘98, Pg. 38; UDC Employee of the Year, Vivian Canty, with UDC President William Pollard, Pg. 39.

The New Screen Justice film series kicked off with a documentary on the life of Peoples’ Lawyer, Arthur Kinoy (Pg. 42; Perspectives of Racism Discussion, Pg. 44-45; Alliance for Justice President Nan Aron at UDC with the film Quiet Revolution (Pg. 47);)

For Constitution Day, Deborah Anderson, ‘05 described her experience being investigated by the federal government (Pg. 48); U.S. District Court Judge Emmet Sullivan, Pg. 50; The Award-winning Cahn Phi Alpha Delta Chapter, Pg. 55!
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

With this edition of the Advocate, we mourn the loss of a great champion, Charles Noble Mason, who served as a founding father, a moral compass and a generous benefactor of the School of Law. We also celebrate Charlie's great legacy, the School of Law's extraordinary success in meeting the mission that he and his adored wife, the Honorable Hilda H.M. Mason, so carefully crafted, of providing access to legal education to a diverse student body and serving the legal needs of the vulnerable D.C. residents through an extensive program of clinical legal education.

Please read a wonderful biography of Charlie Mason, written by his niece, Vicki Sadrazadeh, at page 56. Vicki describes his privileged New England background, his stellar academic credentials, his extraordinary activism in the most important causes of the era, and a few of his fabled eccentricities. I knew and loved Charlie Mason for more than twenty-five years. I want to add a few of my own reflections and recollections and to try to capture his many and substantial contributions to the School of Law.

First, as noted above, Charlie's middle name was Noble, and that resonates perfectly with all of those who knew him during his 95 years. Vicki's article describes his nobility of spirit beautifully.

I have so many memories, I will mention only a few.

Charlie was an inexhaustible fount of information about countless topics, ranging from every aspect of the urban renewal landfill project in Boston's Back Bay (which took place more than 80 years ago!), to train schedules throughout the Northeast corridor, to the minutia of the legislative process in the District of Columbia. I sat on many a bench, at many an event, listening to Charlie talk about his unusual passions.

His wife kept him on a strict diet of nuts and berries, carrot sticks and celery, and the like. I was stunned once when visiting him in the hospital, to see him demolish a hamburger. He is also said to have kept a secret candy stash which he shared with his grandchildren.

I once asked Charlie how he and Hilda, an interracial couple with wildly different backgrounds, got together. "We had similar interests," he replied. What an understatement! Those interests led them to participate in civil rights demonstrations throughout the South in the 60's, in anti-nuclear activities in the 70's and 80's, and in the life of the All Souls Unitarian Church for more than 60 years.

When I learned that Charlie and Hilda were traveling to Provincetown, Massachusetts, by train, I mentioned that my brothers owned a restaurant on Cape Cod. A few days later, my sister-in-law called to say that an elderly couple had arrived at the restaurant that day- - carrying all of their luggage -- via the local jitney bus. They had convinced the driver to drive them miles off his normal route to the restaurant. Charlie explained that "Shelley said we'd be in big trouble if we didn't come by."

Charlie, a shy and somewhat stiff man befitting his New England upbringing, danced, and yes, smooched with his wife, all the time, even when he was well into his 80's.

I was stunned once when visiting him in the hospital, to see him demolish a hamburger. He is also said to have kept a secret candy stash which he shared with his grandchildren.

Charlie was crazy about Hilda!

Charlie's work with the School of Law illustrates the way in which he lived his values. I got to know the Masons very well in the 1980's when Antioch University decided to close its law school. At that time, Mrs. Mason was Chair of the Education and Libraries Committee for the DC Council. Charlie worked full-time (for free!) with her, as legal counsel and advisor. The Masons and D.C. Council Chair, David Clarke, decided that the District couldn't afford to lose the legal services provided by Antioch students. The question became, why not transform Antioch into the public law school for the District of Columbia? Charlie made it happen. Step one was to craft the social justice mission to guide the School of Law. Charlie was determined to establish a law school that was affordable and accessible to people who did not look like him and did...
not come from wealthy families. He was the principal draftsman of our statutory mission: To recruit and enroll students from racial, ethnic and other backgrounds traditionally underrepresented at the bar and to represent the legal needs of low-income District residents to the maximum extent feasible through the School’s legal clinics.

The Masons also understood that leadership would be key. They were hands on about this, as well. We were under great time pressure to complete the last section of the enabling legislation for the School, which involved naming the five member Board of Governors. For some reason, I was in Boston’s Logan Airport on a pay phone as Charlie worked through a series of potential board candidates. The conversation went on so long that I found myself waving dollar bills at passersby trying to secure enough change to stay on the phone. Charlie’s picks for the founding Board of Governors were perfect: Joe Rauh, his college classmate and legendary civil rights lawyer; Fred Abramson, the second African American President of the D.C. Bar and mentor to scores of young lawyers; Vince Gray, then Executive Director of the D.C. Association for Retarded Citizens, and a warrior for people with disabilities; Tom Mack, the extraordinary last dean of Antioch Law School whose vision and tenacity saved the School; and Virginia Morris, a gifted former president of the Board of Education and community activist from Ward 8. Charlie knew that a strong and committed Board of Governors would be critical to ensuring the School’s survival. He chose wisely and well.

The School of Law faced one more insurmountable hurdle in its first year. As an as yet unaccredited school, students were not eligible for federal financial aid. This meant that the very students we most wanted to bring in to the School, could not afford to attend. Faced with this dilemma, Charlie and Hilda said, “Wouldn’t it be great if we had scholarships named for civil rights heroes like Joe Rauh, like Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks, like Julius Hobson and Jean and Edgar Cahn?” Before long, the names of fourteen heroes were listed and the Mason’s wrote a check for $100,000 to fund scholarships in their names. The founding class had 54 members. Tuition was $2,500 for D.C. residents and $5,000 for non-D.C. residents. Imagine the difference $100,000 in scholarships made that first year, and every year thereafter to this day. And, the Masons increased their gift to $250,000 per year during the campaign for full American Bar Association accreditation, in all giving more than $4 million to support the School of Law.

I am so pleased that Charlie Mason lived to see the achievement of full ABA accreditation, to see the dedication of the Charles N. and Hilda H.M. Mason Law Library, and to celebrate Hilda’s 90th birthday last June 14th, Flag Day, at the School of Law. I know that our School and especially our students and alumni were a source of great pride to Charlie. We will miss him every day, as we keep faith with the missions he cared so deeply about.

Meeting the Mission: Our Students

How proud Charlie Mason would be of our entering class this year! More than 1,300 applicants vied for 95 seats. Our entering class size increased by 16% this year with 64% women and 36% men. The class is 44% students of color, of
which 31% are African American and 7% are Hispanic or Latino. Fifty-nine percent hail from the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area. Thirteen percent hold graduate degrees. Class members hail from 22 states and 70 colleges or universities including major feeder schools George Washington, Howard, George Mason, University of Maryland, and Penn State; from all of the local schools including Georgetown, American, Trinity and UDC; many HBCU’s like Morgan State, North Carolina A&T., and Lincoln; many public schools like the Universities of California, Chicago, Arizona, and Texas; and from many private schools like Smith, Ithaca, Macalester, and Emory.

Meeting the Mission: Our Service to the Community

Our students are serving the community at an amazing pace. This year alone, students have and will provide more than 75,000 hours of legal services on behalf of the District of Columbia’s most vulnerable residents. Read the Advocate to learn about our first-year students in the Community Service Program (page 6). Students work throughout the city, for example, at the National Coalition for the Homeless; Whitman-Walker Clinic Legal Services Program; the D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings; the Office of the Attorney General; the Neighborhood Services Program; the D.C. Public Defender Service, and the D.C. Office of Human Rights.

Keep reading (page 20), to discover the extraordinary efforts provided by first and second-year students in the Rauh Equal Justice Works, Women’s Bar Foundation and Hynes Goodman Summer Fellowships. Students worked in the California Appellate Project; the Time Dollars Youth Court Diversion Program; the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) Office of Tax and Revenue; the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; the D.C. Public Defender Service; the National African American Drug Policy Coalition; the Orange County Public Defender’s Office; the New Jersey Public Defender’s Office; the Department of Homeland Security; Planned Parenthood Legal Counsel; and MANNA, Inc., and in our own HIV-AIDS and Juvenile Clinics.

This issue also describes the clinical work of our students (page 11), where every student spends a minimum of 700 hours - - and many many more - - during the second-year (350) and third-year (350) of law school, representing women and children with HIV or AIDS, children with special education needs, tenants fighting illegal rent increases and those seeking to purchase and renovate their buildings, seniors, immigrants, small business owners, community activists and government whistleblowers.

Finally, read about our Internship students (page 28), who worked at the Legal Aid Society; the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary; the CAIR Coalition; the Center for Immigration Law & Practice; the D.C. Public Defender Service; the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law; the D.C. Superior Court; the D.C. Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking; the D.C. Department of Health; the Office of the General Counsel; for the Whitman-Walker Legal Clinic; and the National African-American Drug Policy Coalition.

Charlie Mason’s memory will live on in the very special social justice education our students receive and in the extraordinary services they provide to those most in need. Thank you Charlie!

Enjoy this issue!
Community Service Profiles

by Sarah Tomkins

Colleen Archer – Time Dollar Youth Court

Colleen went above and beyond the required forty hours of community service in her work as an Advocate Judge at the Time Dollar Youth Court. The Youth Court is part of a juvenile diversion program, which allows juveniles charged with a first offense to have their cases heard and decided by a jury of their peers. Colleen served as an Advocate Judge, hearing cases with the Youth Court jury and facilitating the jury in making decisions and handing out sanctions for individual cases. Through her work with the jury, Colleen was also able to match up children who came before her Court with valuable social service resources. Reflecting on the cases she heard during the course of her service, Colleen notes: “So many youths are arrested for issues that should be taken care of within the community […] Youth Court makes me feel that I am making a small contribution toward addressing those social problems, which are the roots of all of our problems.”

Devin Baer – National Coalition for the Homeless

Devin worked through the National Coalition on legislation to protect the homeless from hate crimes by including homelessness and housing status as a protected class in current legislation. Devin did a state by state survey of hate crime statutes, following the publicized beating of a homeless man by three teenagers, which had prompted three different states to propose hate crimes statutes that protected the homeless. Watching the tireless efforts of the acting director of the National Coalition to combat injustices against the homeless, Devin reflected: “When one is an advocate, it is more than just a 9-5 job. They are living it 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.”

Thomas C. Batchelor - Whitman-Walker Clinic Legal Services Program

Thomas worked with people infected with HIV and AIDS to assess their level of disability and eligibility for public benefits programs and to enroll them in the appropriate programs, like Medicare, food stamps and Social Security benefits. Thomas was able to work on a basic level with many clinic clients, conducting interviews to assess their eligibility for resources and programs. Struck in particular by an interview he had with a clinic client his own age, Thomas wrote in his essay reflecting on his experience: “People who are living with AIDS and HIV are not only battling a deadly disease, they are also fighting extreme social stigmatization […] when I think about the pursuit of justice through the practice of law, so often I am disappointed in just how inadequate our legal ‘remedies’ are […] I am thankful for my opportunity to volunteer at the Whitman-Walker Clinic and to at least make sure some people get the assistance they are rightfully entitled to.”

Meredith Gitangu – D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings

Meredith volunteered at the Office of Administrative Hearings, an independent tribunal established to adjudicate contested cases and other disputes arising from administrative agencies in the District of Columbia. Meredith was able to observe a hearing involving an infraction by a taxicab driver. Seeing that the Judge at the hearing assuaged the respondent’s anxiety by assuring him that the Office of Administrative Hearings was an independent agency, Meredith concluded: “D.C.’s Office of Administrative Hearings is vital to modern society […] it takes the power of the citing governmental agency away so that citizens are not in the position of having to overcome an incredible bias in order to be exonerated.”

Samuel Kanupp – Office of the Attorney General: Neighborhood Services

The Neighborhood Services Section of the OAG works to improve neighborhood safety and the quality of life of D.C. residents through the provision of legal advice and coun-
approach the Government with more than just a sense of inequity.”

**Suzanne Sable – D.C. Office of Human Rights**

Suzanne handled the investigation of two cases before the D.C. Office of Human Rights, a District office that works to enforce the Human Rights Act of 1977, and to eradicate discrimination of all kinds in the District. Suzanne came up with investigative plans for her cases, did research and interviewed witnesses, and worked on a “letter of determination” or summary of the case for one of the two cases she followed. Suzanne said, “I wholeheartedly believe that I contributed to the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law and OHR’s vision of justice in D.C. While working at OHR, I was able to be part of a system that protects an individual’s freedom from discrimination, which I believe is a universal human right that is indispensable to the rule of law.”

**Maria Mier – D.C. Prisoners’ Legal Services Project**

Through her work at D.C. Prisoner’s Legal Services Project, a District of Columbia project devoted to advocating for humane treatment and dignity for citizens of the District convicted for criminal offenses, Mier read letters from prospective clients and responded to the concerns of the families of the incarcerated via telephone. Mier found that her community service experience at the Project galvanized her desire to serve and better the lives of the incarcerated. She writes: “The penal system is broken [...] My community service at the D.C. Prisoners’ Legal Services Project [...] reinforced my belief that the criminal ‘justice’ system is actually incapable of preventing injustice.
Recognizing this, I will continue to work for prison abolition and for the creation of alternatives to incarceration.

Terry Morris – Bread for the City

Terry worked as an intake interviewer at the South East location of Bread for the City, an organization founded in the 1970’s with the goal of providing comprehensive legal, medical and social services to the residents of the District of Columbia. Morris reviewed the financial eligibility of potential clients, and listened to the stories and legal issues of potential clients before helping refer them to services. Morris was reminded of his calling to be a public interest lawyer throughout his work, but he was also outraged by the injustice he saw during his placement: “I watched a car burn to the ground for an entire day before the Fire Department decided […] they were going to extinguish it. I cannot believe that the city allows this type of blatant injustice to continue.”

Yesenia L. Polanco-Galdamaz – Office of Administrative Hearings

Ms. Polanco-Galdamaz worked under the supervision of Judge Janet Mahon, and had the opportunity over the course of her community service experience to help draft a decision in a failure to haul case filed against a taxi driver for his refusal to transport an African-American passenger. Polanco-Galdamaz listened to the transcript of the hearing and carefully reviewed the testimony of the taxi driver and the passenger, and drafted her decision, explaining to her supervising Judge her opinion on the case using examples from her own experience of taxi-taking in the city and expressing her concern that allowing small acts of racism makes the city less safe for all involved. When commenting on her volunteer experience, Polanco-Galdamaz writes: “Change begins in small amounts. We must begin by preventing and remedying racial discrimination from within the infrastructure of our district in order to create social change.”

Keisha Potter – Office of Administrative Hearings

Keisha spent her time at the Office of Administrative Hearings working in both the Department of Employment Services and under the supervision of Principal Law Judge Mahon. Potter was able to observe hearings on unemployment insurance, filed cases, and revised and drafted Judges’ orders. Potter was also able to work on some special projects --- researching a comparison of OAH with other agencies, and helping to redraft a statute relating to unemployment insurance so that it would be easier and more accessible to laypeople. Potter enjoyed her time at the OAH, where she felt that she had the opportunity to witness the prevention of injustice. There, everyday citizens were given the chance to litigate important issues, instead of accepting fines from the government, or just accepting that they were denied unemployment insurance, without an explanation.

Denise Sanchez – District of Columbia Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Denise researched issues regarding transgendered law, homelessness, housing law, immigration, youth facilities and the advocacy programs of national domestic violence programs as part of her community service hours at the Coalition, a District of Columbia group that is trying to unify all existing local resources for domestic violence victims living in the District. Sanchez found that through her research she gained a new understanding of both legal issues concerning domestic violence, and the limited resources that are available to its survivors.

Leigh A. Snyder – Neighborhood Legal Services Project

Ms. Snyder worked for NLSP, an independent organization that has provided low-cost and high quality legal services to low-income residents of the District of Columbia for the last forty years. Snyder worked with a colleague long past the forty hour requirement to research and develop the Project’s financial resources by coming up with a list of grants which Snyder and her partner ultimately presented to the Board. While frustrated by some of the outcomes of
her work, Snyder writes: “My experience at the NLSP was valuable. I learned how difficult it is to create and maintain a public interest law firm.”

Alyssa Patzoldt – Time Dollar Youth Court

Patzoldt was struck, during her experiences working as a Judge Advocate at the Youth Court, by the divergence between the severity of the offense and the sanctions sometimes awarded by the jury to juvenile offenders and she noted that the jury sometimes seemed “more concerned with the context in which the circumstances arose, and how the youth responds to the process.” Despite the conflict between some of the jury’s decisions and traditional notions of justice, Patzoldt concluded: “for justice to be real, that it is taking into account the full person and investing power in the proper place, the process is necessarily messy […] but letting the process of justice unfold in the hands of people means that the result will often be more honest.”

Now that the Class of 2009 is immersed in first year studies and the chill of the fall is finally settling upon us, I’m delighted to join in welcoming the Class of 2009 to the School of Law, and would like to take the opportunity to introduce – or reintroduce – myself. I began as Career Services Director in the Summer of 2003. At the School, I counsel students and alumni on how to use their legal education, host programs and speakers who talk about different career paths, and, of course, help students and alumni find internships and jobs; in the judiciary, public and private sectors, and many other areas of practice.

Highlights for the 2005-2006 academic year included the inauguration of The Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia on-campus recruitment program, where students interviewed for summer jobs and permanent positions. Other major employers, such as the U.S. Department of Justice and the Judge Advocate General Corps also came to meet and recruit students in the fall. Tamra Testerman ’04, a Presidential Management Fellow at NASA, worked diligently with students who were applying to the program. We were all thrilled to learn that Amy Loveridge and Bryan Reeves were chosen as Fellows for the Class of 2006!

The Bar Association of the District of Columbia (BADC) remains keenly interested in working with our students, and sponsored two spring events: a panel discussion on finding private firm jobs in DC, and a mock-interview program hosted by the law firm of Sonnenschein Nash & Rosenthal. More than a dozen students met individually with BADC attorneys to sharpen their interview skills, and mingled afterwards at a "networking" reception. Other events included a "speed networking" program sponsored by the Diversity Committee of the Washington Area Legal Recruitment Administrators Association, the Equal Justice Works national public interest job fair in October, and the Greater Washington/Baltimore job fair in January.

Any one who knows the School of Law knows it is our passion to foster public interest careers. We are proud to offer a stipend to ALL first-year students who work full-time in the summer for working in the public interest sector. In 2006, participating students included Andre Barnett, who worked on matters concerning the new DC baseball stadium at the DC Office of the Attorney General. Andre Henderson and Chris Leone were exposed to labor law at the American Federation of Government Employees. Shanee Buffington, Nil Cuervo, Toni Fashola, Daniel Piccaluga and Theo Casey got a first-hand look at the judicial system through internships with DC Superior Court Judges. Melisha Souders interned for a federal district judge in West Virginia. Other placements included the Neighborhood Legal Services Program, the offices of a U.S. Senator a member of the House of Representatives, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

In 2006, UDC students were represented across the nation. Matthew Kozik is hard at work in New Orleans, with the legal aid society, combating the legal issues in Hurricane Katrina’s aftermath. Teresa Fulford and Erin McFarland worked with the California Appellate Project. Devin Baer worked with a public defender, in New Jersey, and Melissa Millar and Alea Harmon were with Planned Parenthood in Washington. Through our fellowships and internships, students learn how to interview clients and others, conduct factual investigations, research and analyze case law and statutes, observe negotiations, and make connections invaluable to their future careers.

Again, welcome, Class of 2009. I am looking forward to meeting you and to working with you!

- Dena Bauman
October 10, 2006

Dean Shelley Broderick
David A. Clarke School of Law
University of the District of Columbia
4200 Connecticut Avenue MW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Dean Broderick:

Thank you for your letter updating me about the status of the David A. Clarke School of Law.

My office has benefited greatly from the talents of several of your students. We currently are enjoying the services of our third student from the Legislative Clinic. In addition, Sarah Tompkins served me well last summer as an EJC intern, and I have on my staff a graduate of the law school.

I look forward to continuing my fruitful relationship with the law school and I count on you to continue to keep me supplied with talented students and graduates.

All the best in the good work that you do.

Sincerely,

Kwame R. Brown
New Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic

During the Spring 2006 Semester, the inaugural Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) officially opened for business. The LITC quickly grew from one client to thirty-seven active cases thus far in 2006. Moreover, tax information was provided to an additional twenty-five taxpayers who called in for assistance and either did not meet the financial guidelines for representation, or did not have an active case or controversy at issue. In total, the LITC has provided tax services to over sixty taxpayers in the DC metro area in the past nine months. Not included in this number is the tax advice provided to local social service agencies and area nonprofits that contact the LITC for advice on behalf of their clients.

So far, the LITC has completed one Offer in Compromise (OIC), mailed in early July, prior to the change in IRC § 7122 requiring a 20% down payment for lump sum offers. The OIC was completed by 3L James Barbieri, whose astute financial analyst skills were particularly valuable throughout the semester. For example, with James’ trained eye spotting a potential capital gains issue, 3L Leslie Shedd was able to assist an LITC client who had inherited stocks after the death of her mother. Due to the fact that the client had not filed tax returns for several years, the subsequent sale of these inherited stocks was not treated by the IRS as a capital gains issue. To correct this, Leslie filed five years of tax returns in order to claim the capital gains, which included preparing complicated Schedule Ds to accompany each tax return. Leslie was able to save the client a considerable sum, almost completely wiping out the client’s initial tax debt of over $20,000.

LITC students have also been called upon to assist other UDC-DCSL clinics in deciphering the Tax Code. For example, in addition to handling client cases, 3Ls Andre Barnett and Meredith Saladyga drafted memoranda to address a Housing Clinic query, among the issues: Whether a tenant must pay taxes on property when the landlord purchases the property from the tenant; and Taxability of a Settlement, Award or Judgment in a landlord-tenant context.

The majority of cases handled by the LITC are in collection. This means that a deficiency, or amount due, has been assessed against a taxpayer’s IRS account. The LITC works to make sure the taxpayer actually owes the amount due, by reviewing IRS transcripts and taxpayer records, including tax returns for all years at issue. If LITC students find a taxpayer did not receive appropriate credit (e.g. Earned Income Tax Credit, or EITC), they work to correct the issue. This may require filing or amending tax returns, collecting documentation from the taxpayer and negotiating with the IRS. The LITC also handles state tax issues; however, since the clinic receives federal funds to operate, a taxpayer must have a primary federal tax controversy.

In Service to Our Community—the UDC-DCSL Clinical Program

Leslie Shedd

Andre Barnett

James Barbieri
Many collection issues handled by the LITC frequently involve cases where the IRS has issued a lien or a levy. This means the IRS has placed a tax lien on the taxpayer’s account, which will show up if the taxpayer applies for a loan or a line of credit. When a tax lien is present, it alerts all potential creditors that the IRS is first in line. The IRS may also issue wage and bank levies. A bank and/or wage levy serves to collect back taxes directly from a taxpayer’s bank account, or from a taxpayer’s paycheck. In order to release a wage levy LITC students will either set up a payment plan, or if the taxpayer is in a financial hardship, conduct a financial analysis to determine whether the taxpayer can be placed in Currently Not Collectible (CNC) status.

Most LITC clients cannot fully pay their tax debt, especially with interest and penalties accruing on the original tax amount owed. Installment Agreements are the most frequently used payment option, even when deficiency amounts are relatively small. In cases where the tax debt can be paid off in 120 days, or four months, students can secure an extension of time to pay, thus avoiding the $43 surcharge to set up an Installment Agreement.

LITC clients are diverse, with the common denominator being an active controversy with the IRS and meeting the income guidelines. Nearly 50% of LITC clients are Spanish-speakers. However, the LITC hopes to soon open an Ethiopian/Amharic language tax services program, so UDC-DCSL students fluent in written and spoken Amharic are welcome to contact Prof. Lainez at jlainez@udc.edu.

The U.S. IRS on the UDC-DCSL LITC:

“The Low Income Tax Clinic Program Office is pleased with the progress that UDC-DCSL has made during its startup year. Even as a new clinic, UDC-DCSL LITC is on track to exceed its goals in controversy representation and in many ways has exceeded the expectations the LITC Program office has (made for) a start-up clinic. The clinic has an excellent program plan, and an accomplished and dedicated Clinic Director/QTE [Qualified Tax Expert] and students working to accomplish the program goals of the LITC. The clinic is successful in marketing its program and delivering its services to the community.”

Before the clinic settled a case involving Newton St. tenants, student attorneys, Ben Kull, Barrie Lynn Tapia, Theo Casey, and Chan Tei Durant, had six full days of trial between them and entered over 100 exhibits. Theo and Chan Tei probably have the most trial experience in their class. They argued esoteric points of res judicata and statutes of limitation. Their lengthy direct and cross examinations became more polished and probing with each additional witness. The tenants alleged fraud, abysmal living conditions, and myriad illegal charges. The just-completed agreement (also resolving companion cases involving private attorneys) awarded up to $40,000 to each of our clients.

More than a dozen students have represented Latino clients living in a gentrifying neighborhood of Northeast. Assuming an aggressive litigation posture, the tenants sued their present and prior landlords for rampant roach and rodent infestation and mold. Bi-lingual students from the entire student body generously volunteered to interpret and translate. Every clinic student in the Fall semester, including Sean Canavan, Elliot Teel, Nakia Wagoner, Megan Allburn and Carol Donayre, disposed one of the defendants. Under the leadership of experienced number-cruncher Sean Canavan, students settled with the former landlord a year ago and may be close to settling with the present landlord. The proposed package includes substantial abatements, long term rent reductions, consent decrees ordering housing code abatements, and generous move-out settlements for those tenants who are so inclined. Because the majority of our clients are Spanish speaking, the clinic is exploring the possibility of hiring a full time interpreter.

In miscellaneous actions, student attorneys also pursued their individual cases: Jill Harris became the col-

HOUSING CLINIC

Three years ago, the housing clinic had four jury trials, one for nearly every two enrolled students. By contrast, this has been a year of productive settlement negotiations.

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lection guru, making substantial progress on collecting a major judgment. In a substantial bench trial, Elliot Teel mastered the art of hanging the opposing party on his own petard by his mastery of documents and appropriate deft cross examination. On behalf a Latino family, Megan Allburn successfully finished a rent control hearing, based on blatant reduction in services, which straddled two semesters. Theo Casey wrote a writ of mandamus to disgorge a long awaited decision from a lethargic consumer agency. Sean Canavan won the clinic’s first Rule 11 motion, apparently convincing the court that plaintiff’s case was utterly without legal merit.

HIV/AIDS LEGAL CLINIC

During the 2005 - 06 school year, thirty-two students enrolled in the HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic. The student representatives in Fall 2005 were Martha Coble-Beach, Surayyah Colbert, Sunny Eaton, Sebastian Krop, Rhyan Linthicum, Rachel Mace, Blair Miles, Carlos Piovanetti, Dana Riccoboni, Ali Salimi, Valerie Scott, Afsoun Semsar, Candace Sergio, Jennie Torres-Lewis, Eleni Tsipouras and Erica Veazey. The Spring 2006 students were Anilia Arneus, Amanda Billyard, Sudani Davis, Oluwatoyin Fashola, Matthew Frawley, Adam Gold, Andre Henderson, Kent Mackzum, Athena McMahon, Heather Molina, Kathryn Nonas, Melisha Souders, Sarah Tomkins, Elmir Veliev, Oveta Walker and Jeannine Winch. The Spring 2006 students were Anilia Arneus, Amanda Billyard, Sudani Davis, Oluwatoyin Fashola, Matthew Frawley, Adam Gold, Andre Henderson, Kent Mackzum, Athena McMahon, Heather Molina, Kathryn Nonas, Melisha Souders, Sarah Tomkins, Elmir Veliev, Oveta Walker and Jeannine Winch. The Spring 2006 students were Anilia Arneus, Amanda Billyard, Sudani Davis, Oluwatoyin Fashola, Matthew Frawley, Adam Gold, Andre Henderson, Kent Mackzum, Athena McMahon, Heather Molina, Kathryn Nonas, Melisha Souders, Sarah Tomkins, Elmir Veliev, Oveta Walker and Jeannine Winch. These students provided legal representation to well over 70 clients, assisting individuals with matters such as the transfer of custody of minor children, domestic violence petitions, child support, uncontested divorces, adult guardianships, advance directives such as durable powers of attorney and living wills, individuals’ Last Will and Testaments and Social Security disability claims. The students were fortunate to have the trust and confidence of these District residents, as they helped clients with their legal needs.

STUDENT CASE WORK: Custody, Standby Guardianship, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse and Neglect and Adult Guardianship

With their newly gained knowledge and their developing legal skills, the students made a dramatic impact on the lives of their clients. Students Andre Henderson, Sebastian Krop, Kent Mackzum, Erica Veazey and Oveta Walker each appeared in court on behalf of their clients in matters of child custody, and assisted parents in planning for the care of their children. Anilia Arneus and Adam Gold filed petitions for Standby Guardianship which were granted without a hearing, and Dana Riccoboni and Jennie Torres-Lewis assisted clients in executing Standby Guardianship designations. These students’ work will allow a designated caregiver to step in if a parent is incapacitated or dies, allowing for an easier transition for the affected children.

Along with Kent Mackzum, Athena McMahon represented a client who is the grandmother of a child in the child abuse and neglect system, who seeks to become the child’s permanent custodian. Eleni Tsipouras and Surayyah Colbert filed a motion in the same abuse and neglect case. Amanda Billyard and Heather Molina filed a number of motions in several child custody and child support cases. Candace Sergio worked tirelessly to assist an extended family who shared custody of a deceased family member’s child. The family was at odds over the rearing of the child and visitation schedules. Today the family has reached some resolve and worked out a mutually agreeable plan.

Afsoun Semsar appeared on behalf of a client seeking child support in a complex multi-jurisdictional dispute. Jeannine Winch reached a successful negotiated resolution of a client’s domestic violence petition against the father of the client’s children.

Oluwatoyin (Toni) Fashola represented a sister who was seeking guardianship of her adult brother who has developmental delays and mental illness. Toni completed the
very complicated filings in the Superior Court and represented the client at the hearing on the matter. The sister was appointed guardian and now can conduct business and make important decisions on her brother’s behalf.

Wills & Advance Directives

Most of the students prepared wills and advance directives for clients, thereby assisting the clients in planning for their futures.

Social Security Disability Claims

Students represented clients before the Social Security Administration, advocating for their clients’ disability claims. Martha Coble-Beach wrote a highly persuasive brief in support of the disability claims of one of the clinic’s child clients, and made a successful appearance before an Administrative Law Judge in the same matter. The final result was an award of nearly $30,000 in retroactive disability benefits, due to the lengthy period that had elapsed since the client initially applied for the benefits. Sarah Tomkins and Ali Salimi won victories for their clients at hearings, winning thousands of dollars in back benefit payments for their clients. Elnur Veliev made his debut at the Social Security’s Office of Hearings Appeals by having his very first hearing, followed by his second hearing an hour later! Elnur set the all time clinic record with this “double header.” Both of the clients prevailed and are now receiving disability benefits due to Elnur’s diligence. Rachel Mace and Kathryn Nonas represented a client who was denied benefits on his first application. Rachel began the representation and the building of evidence for the case. When Rachel’s rotation in the clinic ended, Kathryn continued the efforts and this client, too, eventually won his disability claim.

Matthew Frawley was a powerful advocate for his client, a single father, who had been told that Social Security paid his child, a child who has both HIV and a rare metabolic disorder, too much in benefit payments. Social Security was demanding that the father repay the alleged overpayment. Matthew argued that the overpayments were no fault of the father or the child and requested that Social Security waive these overpayments. He repeatedly requested a hearing on behalf of his client, arguing the client’s procedural due process right to a hearing and stayed Social Security’s ability to begin collecting the overpayment. On a sad note, Matthew worked diligently for another client and won benefits for this man who was critically ill. However, as a result of various processing delays in the Social Security Administration’s evaluation procedures, the client died the same week his disability benefits were to start.

Sudani Davis, through his diligence and hard work, also helped two clients get waivers to repay the Social Security Administration for overpayments it said were made to the clients. Sudani argued that the clients were without fault and had no means to repay any monies already received and spent, because the funds were used as intended -- to support those needs brought on by their disabilities. Valerie Scott also got the Administration to stay its collection efforts for repayment of money it said was overpaid to an elderly Social Security disability claimant until the matter was adjudicated finally at a hearing. Rhyan Linthicum represented two sisters, one disabled by HIV and the other by developmental delays. She amassed a massive amount of evidence from the children’s schools and healthcare providers and demonstrated how the children failed to function like their same age peers.
in school and in their social interactions.

Valerie Scott, Oluwatoyin Fashola and Sebastian Krop amassed supportive medical evidence and used this evidence as the basis for briefs they wrote in support of their clients’ disability claims. Their clients prevailed on the claims and were awarded Social Security benefits. Now these individuals, who were unable to work because of their disabilities, have a small amount of money to provide for their basic needs and guaranteed medical coverage.

Sunny Eaton began the arduous task of collecting and reviewing voluminous medical records for a client with several impairments and a long medical history. While this client is still awaiting her hearing on this claim, the early groundwork done by Sunny and the subsequent students assigned to this case is making it possible for the current student assigned to the case to draft a persuasive brief.

Students Kent Mackzum, Heather Molina, Kathryn Nonas, Sarah Tomkins and Jeannine Winch were so committed to their clients they asked to continue assisting their clients over the summer months, even after they had officially completed their clinic course obligations. Kathryn Nonas and Sarah Tomkins were the first recipients of Equal Justice Works Summer Fellowships, generously funded by the Women’s Bar Association Foundation, and maintained responsibility for 15 or more clients apiece during the summer months.

**Clinic Professors’ Activities:**

**Professor Matthew Fraidin** presentations included:


And he is scheduled to present:


**Professor Joyce Batipps** was a member of the faculty, presenting at the D.C. Bar’s Pro Bono Program on Social Security disability law. Professor Batipps also made outreach presentations on Social Security disability issues before the Family Ties Project’s “Coffee Talk,” the Family and Medical Counseling Service and the Housing Counseling Services of the District of Columbia. During this period, Professor Batipps was awarded a promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor.
Community Development Law Clinic Highlights

Many Americans dream of some day starting their own small business. Students in the Community Development Law Clinic help to make those dreams come true for low-income residents of the District of Columbia. During the 2005-6 academic year, students assisted more than thirty small businesses and fifteen non-profit organizations with formation, contracts, intellectual property, tax-exempt status, and other legal issues.

The CDLC’s clients have no shortage of creative ideas for businesses that would enhance their communities – everything from a small publishing house to a natural cookie bakery to a limousine service for people with disabilities. Ideas for assisting other District residents were also in ample supply – including a restaurant training center for disadvantaged youth, a charter school, a financial literacy program, and a faith-based theater program. Students were able to help their clients realize these dreams and many more by setting up organizations with the District government, applying for trademark protection with the US Patent and Trademark Office, drafting employee and vendor contracts, and filing tax documents with the Internal Revenue Service.

In addition to assisting individual clients, CDLC students work on team projects to find solutions to some of the District’s most pressing issues. During the Fall 2005 semester, Barrie Lynn Tapia, Roy Levy and Pasha Eatedali explored alternatives that would permit a group of immigrant women to sell their home-made tamales and enchiladas without violating DC’s street vending laws. Jo Kelly, Tara Lawlor and Donald Parks considered options to increase the number of living-wage jobs for young, low-income D.C. residents. Adrienne Jones, Summer Quinn and Stacey Cobb researched community development issues affecting New Orleans residents who were displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

The team projects continued to develop during the Spring semester. Lynn Yasui, Daniel Piccaluga and Greg Faloye followed up on the employment initiative by investigating legislation that would require the developers of the D.C. baseball stadium to train and hire D.C. youth for both construction and post-construction positions. Debra Topor and Leslie Shedd explored legal strategies that would require large developers in the District to incorporate affordable housing into their projects. Lance Butler, Joicelyn Nelson, Sharifa Jarrett and Amirah Bellamy investigated legal strategies to provide better opportunities for small minority and women-owned businesses to procure contracts with the D.C. government. Lauren Edwards and Alysia Robben researched the legal issues facing low-wage workers in the District and proposed legal strategies for addressing those issues.

Together, these students made a big difference in the lives of their clients, and enhanced the quality of life for many low-income people in the District by assisting businesses and non-profit organizations that provide economic opportunities, affordable housing, and valuable social services to D.C. residents and communities.

Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinical Highlights

In the fall semester of 2005 and the spring semester of 2006, students working with Professor Tulman continued to handle special education cases both at the administrative hearing level and in federal court. The students had two remarkable victories in federal court. In the first case, Massey v. District of Columbia, 400 F.Supp.2d 66 (D.D.C. 2005), the court granted – without our having exhausted the ordinary administrative hearing requirement – a preliminary injunction placing the student in a private, special education school. Ben Kull, ’06, litigated this matter and achieved this exceptional and perhaps unprecedented result. In the second case, Hester v. District of Columbia...
In Service to the Community — the UDC-DCSL Clinical Program

Columbia, 433 F.Supp.2d 71 (D.D.C. 2006), we successfully enforced a consent order granting to our client – who is incarcerated in a Maryland prison – a remedy of compensatory education from a private provider for a period of about five years following his release from prison. The District of Columbia has appealed the ruling, and the case is now pending in the D.C. Circuit. Over the years, a number of law students have worked on this case. Caragh Fay '05 drafted and filed the original federal court complaint. Ethan Wolf '05 did much of the litigation preparation in fall '04; 2006 graduates Todd Burns, Andrew Sowell, Donald Park, and Erica Veazey wrote the successful summary judgment motion during spring '05. Emmanuel Agbara '07 is handling the appeal in the D.C. Circuit and has filed a motion for summary affirmance.

At the administrative hearing level, Jamie Cleaver '06 won a hearing that established her client’s rights both to his preferred school placement and to an award of compensatory education. Mirelle Tshitaya '06, during the fall semester of '05, prepared her client for a hearing, and Elizabeth Baker '07 represented the client at the hearing during the spring of 2006, obtaining for the client’s daughter a placement, at public expense, in a private special education school. Gina Botti '07 obtained a favorable settlement and hearing officer’s determination in a complicated case regarding a young child with multiple disabilities. Erin McFarland '07, working on behalf of a homeless client who has traumatic brain injury and who is incarcerated at the D.C. Jail, established that the client’s legal residency is in Maryland and secured for him a Maryland placement with comprehensive wraparound and supervised living services. Working with the client’s criminal defense attorney, we are seeking an outcome in the D.C. criminal cases that will allow the client to enter into the Maryland program.

Two LL.M. students from Georgetown University Law Center’s fellowship program spent the spring 2006 semester in residence at UDC-DCSL co-supervising students in the Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinic. Professors Tulman and Sutler enjoyed the opportunity to work with these two newer attorneys and to collaborate with them on classroom teaching and student supervision.

Government Accountability Project Clinic

It’s that time of the year again—to share some of the many significant contributions made by the students of the University of the District of Columbia School of Law Whistleblower Advocacy Clinic. We here at GAP were pleased to welcome back more “student attorneys” from UDCSL for the 2006 Spring Semester. GAP is proud to lend continued support to the historical relationship between this exceptional institution and our organization.

Spring Semester brought a number of noteworthy projects for our clinic students I am pleased to say that each one rose successfully to the challenge:

Anthony Adeleke and Amy Loveridge: Both Anthony and Amy worked primarily with the law offices of Clifford and Garde. (Billie Garde, ASL ’86) Anthony was involved in examining how corporate reorganization can affect the ability of a whistleblower to recover damages rightfully given to them at the conclusion of settlement/litigation. Amy was very helpful in calculating

Anthony Adeleke

Government Accountability Project Clinic
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Justin Constantino worked with the office of Councilmember Jack Evans and the Committee on Finance and Revenue which the councilmember chairs. Among other responsibilities, Justin provided major input and assistance on the Committee’s consideration of legislation to reform the Board of Real Property Assessments and Appeals, and played a major role in the drafting of the Committee’s report and recommendations on the 2007 FY budget for the District. He was also involved in the drafting of other committee reports and several bills.

Jeffrey Marcum was assigned to work with the office of Councilmember Phil Mendelson, who chairs the Committee on the Judiciary. Jeff did considerable significant work on the Omnibus Public Safety Act, including researching the constitutionality of provisions dealing with street gangs. He also was very involved in work to assist the Committee in its consideration of the Office of Police Complaints Amendment Act, including developing a draft of a committee report, and with input on legislation to attach a period of obligated service to those who are trained to join the police force.

Justin Constantino

Joe Carroll:

Though rather soft spoken and seemingly one of the quieter GAP student attorneys, Joe had by far one of the most exciting cases. Working with adjunct attorney Richard Condit (ASL ’86) at PEER, Joe helped to revive a stagnant case. It had been some time since this particular lead exposure claim was first filed and there was the looming possibility that it would be dismissed. Joe did extensive research and contributed compelling arguments that went way beyond his experience as a second year law student. In short, his work brought the case back to life.

Pamela Dieguez, Samar Malik and Alterik Wilburn: All three students were assigned to our regular adjunct attorney, Jason Zuckerman. In addition to the preparation of pleadings, drafting client letters, conducting new client interviews and examining issues affecting discovery and litigation, all three student attorneys drafted memos pertinent to many “hot button” issues. I am pleased to say that Pamela and Alterik continued to work for GAP and Jason after their classes had officially ended. All three students put forward phenomenal efforts and enthusiasm for their assignments.

Betty-Chia Karro and James Barbieri: Last but certainly not least, these two students worked directly with our General Counsel, Joanne Royce and the GAP Legal Director Tom Devine (ASL ‘80). Betty-Chia wrote extensively on several issues pertaining to our active litigation docket. James (who worked with GAP before taking the clinic) assisted Tom with former clients and one of our World Bank Claimants. Additionally, James (with a little bit of help from Tom) put together a great class presentation on the federal Whistleblower Protection Act. On his own, he elected to do extensive research and provided helpful readings for his colleagues.

Angela Oh

Legislation Clinic Highlights

During the Spring 2006 semester, the students in UDC-DCSL’s Legislation Clinic worked with offices of the members of the DC Council on a variety of important legislative projects. Justin Constantino

Pamela Dieguez

Joe Carroll

Betty-Chia Karro and James Barbieri

Angela Oh
Information Emergency Amendment Act” bill to ensure that records generated by MRDDA entities, including the Fatality Review Commission, that do not contain personal medical information, shall be made available for inspection and review. Regarding other entities within the Committee’s jurisdiction, Kathy drafted major portions of committee reports on the Interagency Council on Homelessness and on legislation to establish a Commission on Poverty in the District of Columbia. She also drafted emergency legislation to provide the Mayor with rule-making authority to implement the Day Care Policy Act of 1979 and to increase the amount of grants that can be provided under the Act.

Professor Burgdorf reported very positive feedback from the Council offices on the performance of the spring semester Clinic students. “They generally used such terms as ‘great job,’ ‘terrific,’ and ‘excellent’ to describe our students’ work,” he said. “While I hope and believe that the intensive classroom work on legislative advocacy in our Clinic was a factor,” he added, “the lion’s share of the credit for their excellent performance belongs to the students.”

Angela Oh worked with the office of Councilmember Jim Graham who chairs the Committee on Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. In that role, she worked on an array of issues, including “green building” legislation, medical malpractice liability, small claims reform, 4th Street NW reconstruction, domestic violence, limits on registered lobbyists, rent ceilings, and condo conversions. She also researched and produced a memorandum regarding adverse possession of public spaces.

Reena Patel assisted the office of Councilmember Kwame Brown who chairs the Special Committee on a Comprehensive Policy for Local, Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. She did research and drafted a bill that proposed the creation of a “Local Small Business Healthcare Insurance Tax Credit” to provide an incentive for such employers to offer health insurance for their employees. Similarly, she developed a bill to give landlords a tax credit for leasing their property to small, local businesses. Among other additional products, she also developed a comparative analysis of the proposals offered by the Mayor and the Committee on the Judiciary regarding the Omnibus Safety Act of 2006, and a summary of the “fixed costs” section of the FY 2007 proposed budget.

Katherine Savoy worked with the office of Councilmember Adrian Fenty who chairs the Committee on Human Services, and assisted the councilmember and the Committee on a range of projects. These included oversight of the Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities Administration (MRDDA) and problems with services and care provided to former residents of Forest Haven; among other results of this work, Kathy drafted a “Release of Non-Confidential Information Emergency Amendment Act” bill to ensure that records generated by MRDDA entities, including the Fatality Review Commission, that do not contain personal medical information, shall be made available for inspection and review. Regarding other entities within the Committee’s jurisdiction, Kathy drafted major portions of committee reports on the Interagency Council on Homelessness and on legislation to establish a Commission on Poverty in the District of Columbia. She also drafted emergency legislation to provide the Mayor with rule-making authority to implement the Day Care Policy Act of 1979 and to increase the amount of grants that can be provided under the Act.

Susannah Rourk was assigned to work with the office of Councilmember Carol Schwartz, who chairs the Committee on Public Works and the Environment. Susannah made a major contribution to legislation calling for the creation of an organ donor registry by researching the issue, developing recommendations, and helping with the drafting of such a bill and a committee report on the legislation. Among other accomplishments, she also assisted with questions and research relating to the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission, and developed substantial portions of the Committee’s report on the Department of Public Works in regard to the 2007 budget.

Reena Patel

Kathy Savoy

Susannah Rourk

Katherine Savoy
This summer I worked for the California Appellate Project, and spent the second half of the summer working on different phases of three clients’ appeals and habeas corpus petitions after murder convictions and being sentenced to death. I went back to San Quentin State Prison to interview two clients on death row. To prepare for the interviews, I had to read the client’s files to familiarize myself with the cases. I also wrote several memos in support of my supervising attorney’s Reply Brief for a client’s direct appeal to the California Supreme Court following his death sentence. The memos required countless hours of legal research, and one such memo focused on concealment of racial bias during voir dire and whether or not it was proper for the juror in our case to be dismissed. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work for a cause I truly believe in, but I realize that I am not interested in getting involved with capital work. I would rather do trial work and hopefully limit the amount of death sentences issued.
Shanice Adams

I had an internship with the District of Columbia’s Office of the Attorney General. From the very beginning, my attorney trusted me with settlement memos, interrogatories, and depositions. One week in, we started working on a case that gave me a new passion for the law. This case involved a man who had been shot by a police officer. There were only two people at the scene of the crime, and of course, you wanted to believe the police officer. As I delved more into the case, reading the file, digesting the depositions, I got the feeling that this was not an ordinary case. This man was crazy, and the family tried to blame the District for his illness, even though the evidence clearly showed that he was crazy way before the incident. I had a gut feeling that we were going to win the case, but the day before the trial, the case was settled. The next case involved a young black man who claimed to have been assaulted by three white police officers. The case was interesting because all of the evidence favored the plaintiff. I identified with the plaintiffs, and although I knew that we were on the side of the police, I couldn’t help but wonder if the assault was racially motivated. The case was significant because it taught me that I had to separate my personal feelings from the case and focus on my client, and how we could win the case for the District.

Colleen Archer

I worked at the Time Dollar Youth Court Diversion Program this summer, which I began as a part of the community service requirement mandatory for all first-year UDC law students. I served as a Judge Advocate, whose position is to run the hearings, instruct the jurors on the law, and help the jurors come to a proper decision. The hearings include but are not limited to: simple possession, simple assault, truancy, and destruction of property. The program is designed to keep the youth out of the juvenile justice system and to give them a second chance, instead of being condemned for childhood mistakes. The sentences imposed include jury duty, community service, assignment to a mentor, educational services, life skills, apologies to the parent and/or the victim, and written essays. On the days when there are no hearings, I worked in the office following up with the cases and organizing mentoring programs to promote good mental, emotional, and physical health for the youth. From the cases that I have seen, the children that have truancy and aggression issues are also the students that have educational problems, are embarrassed by those problems, and as a result act out and get into trouble. I hope that through participation in Youth Court, we can encourage the administrators of the DC Public School System to take advantage of a better way to deal with delinquency and behavioral problems.

Andre Barnett

This summer I worked at the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in the Office of Tax and Revenue under David Fisher, Chief Attorney General of Tax, Bankruptcy and Finance. Over the course of my internship I worked on the tax assessments for properties condemned in D.C.; I conducted legal research on specific issues regarding the D.C. auctions; I researched relevant statutes and cur-
rent case law regarding the issues litigated during the tax assessment proceedings; I went to court and observed the proceedings involving property condemned or auctioned off in D.C.; and I analyzed the D.C. statutes concerning tax assessment. Mr. Fisher and other attorneys from the real estate section invited me to meet with outside counsel concerning a dispute over condemned properties. The meetings were very informative and the attorneys allowed me to offer my input on many important topics. I understand more about litigation strategy as a result of many of these meetings. I saw the connection between attorneys who work for the government and attorneys who practice in the private arena. The experience was invaluable.

Amirah Bellamy

This summer I worked at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in the Office of Federal Operations (OFO), which is responsible for drafting appellate decisions for complaints of employees of the federal government. My internship began with a week of intense training in employment discrimination law, and by the second week, I was assigned several procedural cases for which I had to write appellate decisions. Writing my first few decisions was a very slow process because there was so much about employment discrimination law that I still did not know. I found that some cases were, to say the lease, quite challenging. I saw everything from non-sexual, sexual and hostile work environment harassment, discrimination on the basis of age, race, color, religion and sex, religious accommodation to settlement breach. I found that the best way to confront all these new issues was to do more research. I chose the internship at EEOC because I wanted to sharpen my writing and research skills. However, I have come to learn so much more. Primarily, I have learned the importance of effecting policy changes, and that there are individuals in society that need a voice in Congress. Working at EEOC has given me a new perspective on the value and necessity of equal employment opportunities.

Alyssa Patzoldt

As an investigative intern at the DC Public Defender Service, my primary function was to work in the field to locate and interview both defense and prosecution witnesses for my assigned cases. I found this work very challenging, very interesting, and a good window into the work of being a criminal defense attorney. Perhaps because of the challenges particular to the Juvenile Division, I have learned a great deal, including how to deal with people who really do not like or want to talk with me. I’ve had to develop a large amount of charm and the power of persuasion over the course of this internship to convince some people to speak with me. I also gained skills in taking statements from witnesses and have learned what information is useful or harmful to our case. Most importantly, I have learned about the interplay between facts and defense strategies, and how to develop facts during an investigation. I also quickly realized that our current criminal justice system victimizes people on both sides and does little to resolve the real issues behind cases. While doing defense work is extremely important, and I feel drawn to the work, I feel challenged by working in a system that, in my mind, victimizes people on both sides, while claiming that I am working for social change. My only solution so far is to remain aware of this challenge and make sure that I always keep this in my mind as I do this work.

John Hopkins

My internship with the National African American Drug Policy Coalition (NAADPC) was very inspiring. NAADPC is an organization that does research pertaining to the community-at-large’s perception and knowledge of drug abuse.
They gather feedback from the community through seminars and surveys, and report that information back to Congress. My initial assignment was to analyze and discuss the disproportionate punishments for crack cocaine and cocaine, and my research lead me to the conclusion that the differences in punishment for crack cocaine and cocaine are racially and economically motivated. To support my research, I cited *US v. Davis*, 864 F. Supp. 1303, in which the court found that crack and cocaine were scientifically synonymous in regards to substance and that different punishments for these drugs was unfounded. I also worked on a project that analyzes the legitimacy of zero tolerance and mandatory minimum sentences. One of my other tasks was to research drug abuse and public health oriented grants provided by the government and private organizations. This assignment turned me on to grants, and because of my internship, I have more ideas about where to take my legal career after graduation.

In Service to the Community — Summer Public Interest Fellowships

They gathered from the community through seminars and surveys, and report that information back to Congress. My initial assignment was to analyze and discuss the disproportionate punishments for crack cocaine and cocaine, and my research lead me to the conclusion that the differences in punishment for crack cocaine and cocaine are racially and economically motivated. To support my research, I cited *US v. Davis*, 864 F. Supp. 1303, in which the court found that crack and cocaine were scientifically synonymous in regards to substance and that different punishments for these drugs was unfounded. I also worked on a project that analyzes the legitimacy of zero tolerance and mandatory minimum sentences. One of my other tasks was to research drug abuse and public health oriented grants provided by the government and private organizations. This assignment turned me on to grants, and because of my internship, I have more ideas about where to take my legal career after graduation.

James Davis

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Erin McFarland

The 10+ weeks that I spent at the Orange County Public Defender’s Office were amazing. As the summer continued, the start date for the double murder trial began to grow closer and closer. The evidence continued to mount as more discovery flowed in and witness lists were exchanged. I got to assist with the witness preparation, view taped evidence for my supervising attorney and summarize the evidence for her. I wrote a memo on witness exclusion that took on a life of its own after it was written and started a process of hiring an expert based on my memo, filing a motion and awaiting a ruling. It was one of the most exciting things—to see my own work product elicit such a positive response for our case. One of my other great and memorable experiences at the public defender’s office was the week I spent in arraignment court. Even though the process is rushed, I truly felt that every client got a fair shake. One of the coolest parts about working arraignment court was going back in chambers and watching the arraignment public defender and district attorney debate issues and cases with the judge. Everyone receives the same amazing representation by attorneys who are dedicated to preserving the civil rights of those who have been arrested. It is not an easy job and it doesn’t exactly win people over when they learn what you do, but it’s a job that I believe in and hope I am lucky enough to do once I graduate.

In Service to the Community — Summer Public Interest Fellowships

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Devin Baer

My summer internship at the New Jersey Public Defender’s Office was divided into two sections. The first half of the summer was spent writing motions for Wade hearings and to rid a murder case of its capital punishment potential. The second half, meanwhile, was spent in Pre-Disposition Court (PDC), or Plea Court. In motion practice you have a set list of clients, and you get to follow the cases as they move along. In PDC, you talk with many more clients and finish representing your client within a month of meeting him, regardless of how he pleads. For PDC, our initial interviews with clients were at the County Jail, where we signed them up for our services and heard their side of the story. Throughout the day, I would talk to 10-20 clients, fill out the appropriate paperwork with them, and make the appropriate recommendations. Tuesday afternoons would be spent at the jails discussing the government offers for the clients, while Wednesdays and Thursdays were spent in PDC court. As a whole, the system works, and the attorneys are there to make sure that each defendant is given a proper defense. If the client was found to be guilty, then more times than not, the client was legitimately guilty. That was the attitude that I took with me when I showed up at the Office of the Public Defender every morning, and I had an outstanding time because of it.

Daniel Piccaluga

I completed my internship at the Department of Homeland Security, working for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). I had the opportunity to gain exposure in the field of general litigation through work in the Office of General Counsel for FEMA. As a legal intern, I performed several routine but important office tasks, which included summarizing lengthy cases and preparing memoranda and correspondence. I also conducted background research for court opinions and briefings that David A. Trissell (Associate General Counsel) gave in department meetings. Additionally, I participated in diverse research projects conducted by the agency. These projects required me to gather, assemble and synthesize information from a wide range of sources. I also drafted and proofread several motions issued by the agency. I found the internship both interesting and educational, enabling me to become familiar with the various internal offices that support the Department of Homeland Security. When time permitted, I observed congressional sessions regarding FEMA’s involvement in recent natural disaster relief efforts and also took advantage of outside lectures debating general relief patterns. The internship provided me with an excellent opportunity to enhance my understanding of the government system, and has added invaluable depth to my resume.

Meredith Saladyga

This summer I worked as an intern in the Equity Section for the District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General, General Litigation Division. The section (“Equity 2”) focuses on representing the District in class action suits, cases brought under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and civil lawsuits for non-monetary damages filed in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. I worked closely with several of the most senior attorneys in Equity 2, where my caseload primarily consisted of D.C. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) cases. I also worked on cases involving the District of Columbia Public Schools and the IDEA, as well as litigation involving constitutional claims. My daily assignments included performing legal research, drafting memoranda, attending meetings on behalf of the Office, discussing cases with office attorneys, and document review. Specifically, I was asked in my second week to draft a motion with a supporting memorandum of law, which involved significant legal research and reasoning. Aside from daily assignments, interns in Equity 2 occasionally went to both District and Superior Court to watch hearings, status conferences, and other court events.
Melissa Millar

I was a legal intern this summer for Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington (PPMW). My main tasks were to research statutes and case law relating to clinic access, specifically instituting buffer, fixed and floating “bubble” zones, and draft legislation to be introduced in the DC Council in January 2007. This legislation will help protect clinic patients and employees from the violence and harassment of those who routinely protest directly outside PPMW’s 16th Street location. I also did research into changes made to Medicaid via the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005. The Act will affect Medicaid beneficiaries, applicants, and health services providers by instituting citizenship documentation requirements and restructuring state Medicaid plans in such a way that could eliminate family planning services. Additionally, I researched Conscience Clauses with respect to contraception and abortion, which allow doctors and pharmacists to refuse services and deny a woman needed medication. My experience working with Planned Parenthood of Metropolitan Washington this summer has not only bolstered my legal research skills, but has convinced me that America needs nothing less than a firm commitment to making women’s health and unimpeded access to care a national priority.

This summer, I worked full-time for Manna, Inc., a non-profit housing developer committed to preserving affordable housing in the District. Over the course of the summer, I researched legal issues; wrote memos to staff and Cooperative Associations regarding tenancy, condominium sale, and tax issues; wrote a contract between Manna and a Cooperative Association; and assisted with completing applications and compiling legal documents related to acquisition and construction loan closings. A project that I was closely involved with was a tenant purchase project in the Columbia Heights/Petworth area. The tenants were very low-income, predominantly Latino, and had been engaged in a five-year struggle to make their building habitable and to exercise their purchase rights. The bulk of my work on the project was helping to secure the $1.8 million acquisition loan from the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) by compiling and completing loan application documents. I also worked with the staff Community Organizer with needs arising from the tenant purchase projects for which Manna was the developer.

Maria Mier

Kent Mackzum

I spent my summer as a law clerk for Commissioner Ishimaru of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). I worked on cases involving federal employees making employment discrimination claims, which involves the complaint being filed and investigated by the agency itself, seemingly a serious conflict of interest. I also got the opportunity to work on many Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cases. Unfortunately, I found that fifteen years after the ADA’s implementation it is not fulfilling its purpose as it makes it difficult for disabled persons to prove their disability. Also, it was disheartening to see all of the discrimination that still exists, both blatant old-fashioned discrimination and more subtle and sophisticated discrimination. Yet because there is still so much discrimination in the workplace, it was encouraging to be part of an organization that attacks employment discrimination through education, outreach, policy, and litigation. Overall, my internship was an incredible experience, exposing me to the judicial and legislative components of the EEOC. It was interesting to see the variety of issues and topics the Commissioner works on, fascinating to get a behind the scenes look at an executive agency, and exciting to know that everything I worked on would have long-term policy implications.
Summer Inside America’s Immigration System
- a special EJW report
by Jimmy Davis, ’09

“Piedmont, do you have prisoner number 5555?” The Clerk of an immigration judge in Arlington, Virginia speaks loudly to the television screen connected via satellite to Piedmont Regional Jail. Through this “teleconference” detained immigrants are supposed to advocate for themselves in front of the immigration judge. The trial attorney for the Department of Homeland Security sees this as an opportunity to help out. “Prisoner number 5555 cannot be there. Piedmont doesn’t hold females,” she explains hoping to speed up the often long Master Calendar Hearing. Sitting in the back of the court room, despite my better judgment I speak up — after all, I know this is a false statement. “That is not true,” I say loud enough for the entire room to turn their heads to me. I cannot believe I have just said that. “What?” asks the IJ. I gulp. “That is not true, they do house females. I have seen them there many times,” I say. The DHS trial attorney fires back, “well, they’re not supposed to house females.” Her last statement, unfortunately, was true. “I know, but they do—we see them there all the time,” is my last reply. The Clerk goes back to her search for the female detainee. Piedmont did not have her - not this time.

This is a court of law, and I just opened my mouth like I was in one of my UDC-DCSL classes. I felt bad for speaking up, but I had to. Someone had to. What the DHS attorney was saying was simply incorrect. At this point in the summer I had seen enough. I had been working for a small D.C. non-profit providing pro-bono representation to detained immigrants in the capital area. I had seen my share of atrocities, not the least of which is the housing of female immigrants in facilities for men. The immigration system, as a whole, is far and away the most complicated and poorly run bureaucracy in the U.S. Despite the national immigration debate, there has been virtually no discussion about the realities and limitations of our ability to deport those who have actually lost their immigration cases.

In Virginia, it takes three to five months to be deported after receiving a final order. Most await deportation in prison. With few immigrant-only holding facilities in America, many immigrants are mixed in with the general population. While some are being deported for their participation in various crimes, many are not criminals. They have been picked up in work raids, traffic stops, and even at their homes — sometimes after futile attempts to correct their status the “right way.”

Each would-be deportee has the right to be heard before an immigration judge. Throughout our existence as a non-profit, we have seen three US Citizens held in immigration custody awaiting their deportation. Had they not had their day in court, the U.S. would have deported its own citizens! On any given day, there are roughly 700 detained immigrants in Virginia. However, the Department of Justice Executive Office of Immigration Review has less than ten trial attorneys in Virginia. If all of the detained immigrants chose to fight their cases, that would create about seventy cases per trial attorney per day. Fortunately for the trial attorneys, many detained immigrants opt to shorten their time of waiting in prison by giving up on their immigration case.

At last count, the United States actually deported roughly 150,000 of what is believed to be 12 million undocumented immigrants in this country. Given the time it takes after a deportation order to be deported, it does not take a mathematician to realize that it is a physical impossibility for the US to deport all of the undocumented immigrants from this country.

To place the blame for this broken system on one section of the immigration service would be unwarranted. The DHS trial attorneys’ caseloads are suffocating; the prisons that house immigration detainees are over-crowded. Yet the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is currently conducting large-scale work raids that are locking up more immigrants to shuffle through the already overwhelmed system. To make matters worse, the vigilante sheriffs and “Minute-men” that take it upon themselves to report any suspicious-looking brown person with a foreign accent to the immigration service. Ironically, they are only compounding this problem of overcrowding and inefficiency—ultimately preventing the deportation of many of the people they are trying kick out in the first place. Apparently, the enforcement arm and the judicial arm of the immigration service have little communication with one another.

I slumped down into my seat at the back of the courtroom. Did what I say make any difference to the others in that room? Will someone with any real authority start asking the right questions to the right people? Will any of this change for the better? Probably not, unfortunately. But I cannot blame them. The Clerk, the Immigration Judge, the DHS trial attorney, they are all too busy, too overwhelmed, with the here and the now, to waste time trying to change the bigger picture. Just getting through one day of work at the Immigration Court in Arlington must be a real testament to one’s work ethic and determination.

The vigilantes will clog the immigration service’s phone lines with tips on where to catch Juan, the day laborer who so selfishly and illegally provides our booming area with reliable and honest hard work. ICE will round up another couple of hundred immigrants working in our nearly dead industrial sector to put on the court’s docket soon enough. Those immigrants will wait in our overcrowded prison system for an average of three to six months. They will have their day in court, if they choose to fight. And finally, at the end of the day, our immigration system will be worse of than before - more overcrowded, more inefficient, and more frustrating for all of those involved.

Whose interest does this serve?
In Service to the Community — WBA and Hynes/Goodman Fellows

Womens’ Bar Association Fellows

The Women’s Bar Association Foundation named Sarah Tomkins and Kathryn Nonas the inaugural UDC-DCSL WBAF Fellows. Tomkins and Nonas were each awarded $2,500 to provide 400 hours of representation to clients of the HIV/AIDS Legal Clinic during the summer of 2006. The students put the opportunity to good use, providing high-quality representation to dozens of clients and achieving excellent results.

Among the services provided by the students were two applications for disability benefits with the Social Security Administration, so that clients who are no longer able to work full time because of their illnesses may receive Supplemental Security Income. The students also prevailed in a hearing for Social Security benefits at the Office of Hearings and Appeals, obtaining for their client both a monthly income through Social Security benefits and more than a year of retroactive payments. The also helped a client obtain child support in the D.C. Superior Court, and obtained Standby Guardianship for a client, so that she no longer has to worry about who will care for the children she’s raising if she becomes incapacitated.

“The grant from WBAF enabled us to meet with the clients individually and at length, to assist them in determining their legal and non-legal goals, and to become, in a very small way, a part of their lives,” wrote Tomkins. “As a fellow supported by this grant, I have been able to visit a client in the hospital and work with her and her therapist to devise a way to make sure both she and her children are taken care of no matter how sick she may get. I have been able to represent clients at hearings before D.C. Superior Court and the Social Security Administration. I have been able to get to know my clients and their families before walking through the legal system with them. This has been incredibly helpful to my work on their cases and would have been impossible without the funding of the WBAF.”

Hynes-Goodman Fellows

Nilo Cuervo ’07 and Alterik Wilburn ’07 served as Hynes-Goodman Fellows in the summer of 2006 in the Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinic. Nilo worked under the supervision of Prof. Suji Sutler; Alterik with Prof. Joe Tulman. Both students took responsibility for a large number of clients who had been assigned to other law students last spring. Nilo negotiated with D.C. Public School representatives, defense attorneys, Rehabilitation Services Administration and Mental Retardation and Developmental Delay Administration case managers. He also arranged for compensatory education services for clients from private providers and drafted educational memoranda to judges on behalf of clients with pending delinquency and neglect cases in the D.C. Superior Court. Alterik retrieved school records and analyzed special education evaluations; he had many meetings with teachers, administrators, and parents to develop and address his clients’ short- and long-term objectives, and he prepared cases for due process hearings. Both law students attended IEP (Individualized Education Program) meetings and wrote letters to promote clients’ school placement preferences for the 2006-2007 school year. Reflecting on his summer as a Hynes-Goodman Fellow, Alterik wrote that “this experience has enhanced my desire to advocate for children’s rights.”

The Hynes-Goodman Fellowships are awarded in honor and in memory of Mary Hynes and Beth Goodman. Hynes, who died in 2001 at the age of thirty-seven, was a dynamic and successful advocate for children and families. A professor in the UDC-DCSL Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinic, Prof. Hynes and her students represented scores of children and parents, pioneering the use of special education law in the child welfare system. She also co-authored a 200-page manual on the use of special education advocacy for children in the delinquency system. Beth Goodman, who died in 2002 at the age of fifty, was a graduate of the Antioch School of Law (predecessor institution of UDC-DCSL). A leading special education attorney both in D.C. and nationally, she was the lead attorney in the Petties v. District of Columbia class action, a landmark case that effectively reformed the public schools’ approach to providing transportation and other related services to students with disabilities. Ms. Goodman also was a founder of a national special education advocacy association COPAA — the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates.

For the past five years, the School of Law school has hosted an annual 5K run as a memorial and as a fundraiser to support law students working in child advocacy summer positions. With this funding, UDC-DCSL students have worked in summer positions in the law school’s Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinic, as well as in organizations like the Children’s Law Center and University Legal Services (D.C.’s Protection and Advocacy Center). This year, in addition to the run, UDC-DCSL is instituting a Hynes-Goodman memorial lecture. More information will be forthcoming soon!
In Service to the Community - the UDC-DCSL Internship Program

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Through the UDC-DCSL internship program, law students gain “real-life” legal skills (and academic credit) while providing invaluable assistance to judicial, governmental, and non-profit entities in the DC metropolitan area. In the 2006 spring and summer semesters, twelve students experienced a wide variety of practice areas and issues including illegal immigration, special education and health care, national drug policy, as well as a perhaps unique experience to participate in the U.S. Senate hearings for two federal judges nominated to, and now Justices on, the U.S. Supreme Court.

Directed by Professor William Robinson, the program operates during the spring and summer semesters. This spring, Dean Shelley Broderick oversaw the class during Professor Robinson’s sabbatical. Professor Robinson returned for the summer semester.

Educational goals are to help students develop and improve their legal skills, explore career areas of particular interest, identify and analyze professional responsibility problems, and make connections with working lawyers and other professionals for future mentors and possible employment. Students meet during a weekly tutorial to examine the broader social, political, economic, and policy-related ramifications of their fieldwork, as well as to serve as a sounding board for each other. We hope you enjoy reading about their experiences!

This spring, Jennie Torres-Lewis ’06 worked for the CAIR Coalition, which provides immigrants with individual legal representation, and links other advocacy groups on issues of common concern. Her supervisor, Jaime Rodriguez, said that in addition to a “keen analytical sense”, Ms. Torres-Lewis had a “wonderful attitude and showed a genuine interest in our clients.”

Over the summer, Audrey Orteza ’07 assisted clients at the Center for Immigration Law & Practice. “Audrey does not leave any stone unturned. She is intellectually very curious and after finishing a project with perfectionist zeal, she is eager to get into a new one,” commented her supervisor, Silvia Alber-Glanstaeten.

At the Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia this spring, Camille Tilley ’06 focused on special education advocacy, including complaints against the DC Public Schools. “She became a strong advocate for our clients and was an excellent addition to our team,” writes supervisor Jamie Rodriguez, a “self-starter who learned the complicated legal technicalities with ease due to her desire to understand our clients.”

Special education was the focus of Kathy Savoy’s summer internship at the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law. Kathy, who will graduate in 2007, worked with attorney Tammy Seltzer, ’96 and other staff and pro bono attorneys on a federal class action lawsuit to help thousands of DC children with disabilities access help they need to succeed in school. Kathy, who plans a public interest career following graduation, felt challenged by her assignments, which included legal research and a written memo on charter schools. The memo was “of great help in the litigation,” said her supervisors. “Kathy is extremely dedicated to promoting the rights of individuals with disabilities. She demonstrated impressive skills over the course of the summer.”

Two students interned at the DC Superior Court. Bob Davis ’06, in the chambers of Judge J. Michael Ryan, was “able to observe lawyers in action, which really diminished the mystery of what actually occurs during a trial.” His research and writing assignments included a claim of First Amendment protection in defending a criminal solicitation charge. Judge Ryan noted his enthusiasm and willingness to learn and take on new challenges. Under the guidance of DC Superior Court Magistrate Judge Karen Howze, Sudani Davis ’07 handled a number of matters, with special attention to abuse and neglect proceedings. He “took the initiative to request assignments, approached his work enthusiastically and has very strong research and writing skills,” wrote Judge Howze.

Student interns were also placed with the DC Government. Anya Ahaghotu ’07 was eager to work at the DC Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking to learn more about financial law issues, which he did through legal research and analysis concerning a hedge fund, as well as possible enforcement action against an investment advisor. His supervisor, Lilah Blackstone, noted his “positive and confident attitude toward his work.”
This summer, Shanae Buffington ’07 sought a placement at the DC Department of Health, Health Professional Licensing Administration, to explore an interest in health law. Shanae’s work included a research project involving national licensing standards. Supervising attorney Van Brathwaite said the “end result” of her research “answered the question” on the matter he was handling.

Similarly this spring, Monique Tovar ’07 and Jamie Cleaver ’06 explored interests in health care law and public interest careers. At the Office of the General Counsel for the Whitman-Walker Clinic, which provides holistic services to men and women with HIV/AIDS, Monique used her educational and professional background as a registered nurse in her assignments. “It is rare to find an intern so responsible,” commented supervisor Nicole Greenridge-Hoskins. She praised Monique’s “thoroughness” and “professionalism.”

At the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, Jamie got involved with Medicare and Medicaid issues affecting thousands of DC residents. These were very complicated issues, noted her supervising attorneys, some of first impression. Jamie was “thorough, detail-oriented” and “approached each task seriously.” They were also impressed with her ability to work with many different kinds of people. This experience will stand Jamie in good stead as she begins her career in Fall 2006 as a staff attorney for the Children’s Law Center in Washington D.C.

On the national front, Adam Gold interned with the National African-American Drug Policy Coalition, whose mission is to coordinate a national effort to advocate for drug policies that will reduce crime and improve public safety while addressing the particularly deleterious effects of those policies in the African-American community. Under Judge Arthur Burnett and his law clerk Marshella Toldson, Esq., Adam undertook a state-by-state research project concerning juvenile offenders. They wrote, “Adam exceeds expectations in motivation, initiative, enthusiasm and confidence.” Judge Burnett looks forward to working with Adam on a law review article on this topic.

Finally, two major news stories this spring centered on the presidential nominations of John Roberts and of Samuel Alito to the U.S. Supreme Court. Bryan Reeves ’06 had a front-row seat at the hearings through his internship with the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary. His supervisor, Dimple Gupta, said “Bryan has proven himself to be a remarkable asset to our team, and has dedicated hundreds of hours to help support the daily demands of multiple committee counsels.” Bryan felt it was a privilege to work there, and was excited about a career in the federal government. Along with Amy Loveridge ’06, Bryan was chosen to be a Presidential Management Fellow following graduation. He began his fellowship this fall with the U.S. Department of Justice.

Certainly, the UDC-DCSL Internship Program is thriving. Dena Bauman, UDC-DCSL Career Service Director, worked with both Dean Broderick and Professor Robinson to help place the students, oversee their tutorial assignments, and bring in guest speakers on particular topics. Ms. Bauman commented, “It was an excellent opportunity to see the students in the classroom, and to help them reflect critically on the experience through in-class discussion and in their written weekly journals. I also enjoyed getting out and meeting their supervisors during the site visits, as it helps build relationships for future students and alumni at the School.”
Sound Advice is back! Host/Dean Shelley Broderick completed a new series featuring the D.C. Access to Justice Commission (2 shows), the D.C. Bar (2 shows), seven separate public interest/poverty law organizations (9 shows) and the School of Law’s legal clinics (7 shows). Sound Advice offers educational programming on social justice and law reform topics, D.C. court operations and activities and a nuts and bolts introduction to the legal services provider community. Tune in on UDC Cable 19 and 98, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 pm.

Sound Advice was honored to showcase both the D.C. Access to Justice Commission and the D.C. Bar in two programs each. Access to Justice Commission Chair, Peter Edelman, was joined by D.C Court of Appeals Associate Judge Hon. Inez Smith Reid and Jonathan Smith, (ASL ’84) Executive Director of the D.C. Legal Aid Society. In the first show, the trio explained some of the history of the provision of legal services in the District of Columbia, including the role of the Antioch School of Law and its successors, DC School of Law and UDC-DCSL. In the second show, Commission members outlined the extraordinary unmet need - nearly 100,000 D.C. residents living in poverty with just 10% of their legal needs addressed - which led to the establishment of the Access to Justice Commission by the D.C. Court of Appeals in 2005. Some of the Commission’s top priorities were also described including funding of $3.2 million to support 20 to 30 new lawyers for low-income residents and for loan repayment of up to $12,000 per year for new lawyers who accept low paying jobs in D.C. providing direct legal services on behalf of those most in need. New programs to improve language access for non-English speaking people in poverty are also in the works.

DC Bar President Jim Sandman, partner at Arnold & Porter, and President-elect Mel White, a partner at McDermott, Will & Emery, together with Mark Herzog, assistant director of the D.C. Bar Pro Bono Program, illustrated the wide array of projects underway at the Bar providing legal counsel as well as legal information and assistance to hundreds of D.C. residents. Each of the bar leaders spoke from the heart of their personal experience handling pro bono cases through the D.C. Bar and praised the hundreds of lawyer volunteers who participate every year.

Sound Advice also welcomed representatives from a series of public interest, public service and public policy organizations this season. The DC Employment Justice Center, celebrating five years of advocating to protect and expand the rights of low-wage workers in the workplace brought Executive Director Judy Conti along with pro bono lawyer Doug Parker to the show. They described both the range of cases accepted by EJC including wage hour cases, termination cases, worker’s compensation issues, EEO work, unemployment insurance matters and more, and the breadth and variety of EJC’s education program in which...
participants speak to groups all over the District of Columbia.

EJC’s second show highlighted the systemic advocacy and community organizing work of the organization. Karen Minatelli, EJC’s Director of Policy was joined by Ilana Lipsett, community organizer and Brenda Day of EJC’s Board of Directors in a discussion of the Injured Workers Initiative, the Living Wage Campaign, the Paid Sick and Safe Day Coalition and ex-offender re-entry legislation among other efforts in progress.

The American Civil Liberties Union of the National Capital Area also participated in two Sound Advice shows. In the first, speakers Ron Hampton, Executive Director of National Black Police Officers, Lillie Coney, Associate Director with the Electronic Privacy Information Center and student Colleen O’Connor advocated against surveillance cameras and in favor of more community policing. In the second show, Executive Director Johnny Barnes, Legal Director Art Spitzer and Bob Becker of the Society for Professional Journalists spoke in support of an ACLU law reform effort to pass the "D.C. Open Government Meetings Act."

Walter Smith, Executive Director of DC Appleseed, returned to Sound Advice this year with Program Associate Dorothy Smith and Board member Patricia Brannon of Hogan & Hartson. The team outlined Appleseed’s policy advocacy on the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative, the Child Support Project and the ongoing HIV/AIDS Project.

The DC Office of Human Rights was represented by Executive Director Kenneth Saunders, and Neil Alexander, Chief Hearing Examiner of the Commission on Human Rights. They described the mission of the office to investigate and process complaints of discrimination on behalf of DC employees. Last year, they successfully garnered $1,343,000 for employees as a result of D.C. agency violations of DC’s nationally heralded Human Rights Act.

Ed Lazere also returned to Sound Advice on behalf of his organization, the D.C. Fiscal Policy Institute, which studies economic trends in the District as well as budget issues that affect low and moderate-income residents. The DCFPI works closely with the Consortium of Legal Services Providers and other advocates and elected officials to shape policy decisions. Ed praised the recently enacted Living Wage of $11.75 per hour in DC. He also talked about efforts underway to ensure that DC residents receive job training needed for jobs resulting from the local building boom and that communities also benefit from major developer’s projects in local neighborhoods.

Sound Advice looked at predatory lending versus responsible lending with the help of guests Charles Lowery and George Brown of the Policy Council of the Center for Responsible Lending and Sidney Williams, the Executive Director of Self Help. The group outlined best practices and identified some appropriate funding alternatives available to low-income D.C. residents. They also noted some of the terrible abuses in predatory lending schemes.

Finally, seven shows were devoted to exploring UDC-DCSL’s legal clinics. In the kick off of the new season, Professor Jacqueline Lainez announced the start up of UDC-DCSL’s newest clinic, the Low-Income Tax Clinic which opened for business in January of 2006. Funded by an IRS grant, the clinic represents low-wage earners, many of whom are immigrants, who face a variety of issues in contested cases with the IRS.

Professors Joyce Batipps and Matt Fraidin, talked about the mission of UDC-DCSL’s HIV AIDS Clinic which is to provide comprehensive, holistic legal services to families affected or infected with HIV/AIDS by addressing access to public entitlements (primarily Social Security disability benefits and Medicaid) and drafting and executing last will and testaments, powers of attorney and advanced directives. They noted that parents with HIV/AIDS face an assortment of family law-related issues including the need to plan for the future care of their chil-
dren by transferring legal custody to another family member or friend when the parent can no longer care for the children.

The Juvenile and Special Education Clinic visited two editions of Sound Advice. In the first, Professor Joe Tulman and students Kathryn Nonas and Alterik Wilburn addressed some of the systemic issues undertaken by the clinic such as work to ensure that DC prisoners, who are housed in federal facilities, receive the special education services to which they are entitled. They also discussed the application of the Americans with Disabilities Act to juveniles with special education needs in a court room setting.

In the second show, Professor Susan Sutler and third-year student Sharifa Jarret appeared with Dr. Janet Onunu, the mother of a twelve-year clinic client, Uchema Onunu, who was born with Downs Syndrome. Dr. Onunu told an inspiring story of meeting Professor Sutler at the D.C. Council where she was delivering testimony about the work of the clinic. Dr. Onunu approached Professor Sutler with an impassioned plea to help Uchema, who was being discriminated against by his D.C. public elementary school. The teacher would require Uchema to sit in the hall rather than permit him to be included in the classroom. Over time, Professor Sutler, with a string of law students, turned the School into an energetic advocate for inclusion. The clinic also helped Uchema to gain admission to the Corcoran College of Art and Design, to produce successful art shows, and most recently, to incorporate his own business as an artist.

The Community Development Law Clinic participated in three editions of Sound Advice. Professors Laurie Morin and Tami Taylor, along with third-year student Jennifer Donaldson outlined two components of the clinic’s mission, to assist budding entrepreneurs to open their own businesses and to help visionary people with ideas to improve the community to start non-profit organizations and obtain tax-exempt status. Students in the clinic advise clients about the different types of business organizations, and their respective risk and liability; they draft charter papers, internal organizational documents and agreements and they help with permits, insurance, contracts and leases, among many other efforts.

Professors Louise Howells and Sam Jefferson did two shows, one with student Toni Fashola and another with student Nilo Cuervo. Both programs explored the clinic’s representation of tenant organizations which purchased and renovated their buildings. The path from tenant in a slum dwelling to owner of a handsomely renovated apartment is long and hard, involving a host of legal and other challenges addressed by students in the clinic. The end result transforms individual families as well as neighborhoods in the District of Columbia.

Upgrade for UDC Cablevision!

The University, with the aid of a PEG (Public Education Government) grant from Comcast Cable, Inc., renovated its television production facility in 2005 and installed state of the art digital studio production equipment. This improvement gives UDC production interns access to industry standard television production equipment and assures Sound Advice and other University productions the highest video quality. Also, with the cooperation DC office of Cable Television and Telecommunication, UDC has automated the distribution of its daily program schedule which enables the University to offer its locally originated programming throughout a 24 hour cablecast schedule. According to General Manager Edward Jones, Jr, these and future technological advancements will position UDC Cable Television to effectively support the academic, research, and public service mission of the University. Each Sound Advice is initially scheduled on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 PM. Information on repeat times can be found on the UDC web site located at www.udc.edu.

School of Law News and Events—Sound Advice

UDC TV’s Ed Jones and Dean Shelley Broderick confer in UDC’s new studio.
Samuel Jefferson joins the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law this fall as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law.

Professor Jefferson earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Georgetown University, and a J.D. and an LL.M. at the Georgetown University Law Center. Upon graduation from law school, Professor Jefferson clerked at the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia for the Honorable Deborah Robinson and then joined the firm, Anderson Kill Olick & Oshinsky, where his primary practice area was insurance coverage. In 1996, he continued the practice of law at Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky where he represented various Fortune 500 companies in complex civil litigation and professional athletes and entertainers in numerous endeavors including formation of corporations, negotiating and drafting agreements, and intellectual property matters.

As a teaching fellow at the Harrison Institute Legal Clinic at Georgetown University Law Center, Professor Jefferson taught seminars and classes and supervised student teams in legal representation of clients for transactional matters related to the acquisition of multi-million dollar, multi-family housing projects. He also conducts seminars and workshops for the AYA Educational Institute throughout the United States for African-American men and women, focusing on empowerment and the examination of multicultural issues including racism, sexism, classism, and homophobia.

Professor Jefferson founded Amistad, Inc., a publishing company for community based poets, authored two books of poetry, A...Z...Infinity and Crucifixion of My Soul, and has performed his works of poetry for audiences from California to New York. After college, he played professional basketball with the Washington Wizards.

For academic year 2006-2007, Professor Jefferson will teach a section of Contracts and Community Development Clinic.

Roy Balleste is the new Director of the UDC-DCSL Law Library and a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Law.

Professor Balleste received his B.A. in Political Science from Jacksonville University, a Juris Doctor degree from St. Thomas University School of Law, a Master of Arts in Library Science from the University of South Florida, and a Master of Laws in Intercultural Human Rights from St. Thomas University School of Law. He is a 2007 candidate for a Doctor of Science of Law in Intercultural Human Rights from St. Thomas.

Professor Balleste worked at the St. Thomas University Law Library after earning his J.D., and then became law librarian at a private law firm. He was appointed Reference and Electronic Services Librarian at Nova Southeastern University Law Library and Technology Center in 2000 and Associate Law Library Director in 2004, gaining progressively responsible experience managing, developing and delivering traditional and technology-based library services.

At UDC-DCSL, he will be responsible for all aspects of the law library, including shaping the future of the library collection to support and promote the research and scholarship activities of the faculty and students, and developing and managing resources to enhance the use of information technology in legal education and improve the support of technology used by all members of the law school community.

Professor Balleste has written widely in the areas of Web design technologies, artificial intelligence, electronic reference services, and Internet governance and human rights. His teaching experience includes such courses as Computers and the Law and an online course, Law Librarianship.
The School of Law welcomes the three new adjunct faculty members who have joined the Legal Writing faculty this fall.

Professor Evans received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at East Carolina University and a J.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She will teach Lawyering Process this academic year.

Isaac Campbell has been a trial attorney at the United States Department of Justice for the past five years. In the Office of Immigration Litigation, he represented the U.S. Attorney General in appellate review petitions by aliens challenging orders of removal, denials of political asylum, and other immigration benefits. While working in the Federal Programs Branch, Professor Campbell was responsible for the defense against constitutional challenges to federal statutes, suits to overturn government policies and programs, and attacks on the legality of government decisions in the areas of discrimination, First Amendment challenges, and regulatory enforcement. Immediately upon graduation from law school, he worked at the firm of Wiley, Rein & Fielding in the telecommunications, litigation, and franchise practice areas.

Abigail Williams has had extensive experience as an Assistant State’s Attorney at the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office in Chicago, IL. In the Criminal Prosecutions Bureau, she prepared appellate briefs, litigated in bench and jury trials, participated in victim sensitive interviews to obtain facts of alleged sexual abuse from child victims, and advised police officers on evidentiary and legal situations. In the Juvenile Justice Bureau, she served as first chair, litigating civil cases involving child abuse, neglect, and custody issues, served as the liaison to community organizations, and was a member of a group that worked with hospitals to evaluate medical treatment and services for alleged victims of abuse and neglect. Professor Williams has served as a volunteer instructor at the Chicago Military Academy and for several years has been a mentor at Law Camp.

Professor Williams received a B.S. in biochemistry from Iowa State University and a J.D. from Howard University School of Law. She will teach Lawyering Process this academic year.

As an attorney volunteer with the Federal Communications Bar Association, Professor Campbell has provided legal assistance at a pro bono community clinic representing low income and indigent residents of Washington, D.C., on a variety of matters including landlord-tenant disputes, domestic abuse and custody hearings, immigration matters and employer-employee conflicts.

Professor Campbell received a B.A. from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and a J.D. from the Howard University School of Law. He will teach Moot Court this academic year.
Prof. Bob Burgdorf Testifies at Congressional Hearing on the ADA:

**ADA Restoration Act Legislation Based on his Drafting Introduced in Congress!**

On September 13, Professor Robert Burgdorf testified before the Subcommittee on the Constitution of the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives at a hearing on “The Americans with Disabilities Act: Sixteen Years Later.” The Subcommittee heard from four witnesses -- former member of Congress and ADA sponsor Tony Coelho, EEOC Chair Naomi Earp, California businessman Harry Horner, and Professor Burgdorf. In his written testimony, Professor Burgdorf, the drafter of the original version of the ADA, described the broad and bipartisan support that led to the passage of the legislation by overwhelming majorities in Congress, and pointed to the many important positive changes that the ADA has produced since its enactment in 1990. He cautioned, however, that “[p]roblematic judicial interpretations have blunted the Act’s impact in significant ways.” He described several issues on which the Supreme Court had made rulings that have had a negative impact on the protection of people with disabilities under the ADA, including, in particular, the Court’s endorsement of a very narrow interpretation of the concept of disability. Burgdorf told the subcommittee that “the Court’s harsh and restrictive approach to defining disability places difficult, technical, and sometimes insurmountable evidentiary burdens on people who have experienced discrimination.” To assist them in understanding and addressing such problems, Burgdorf referred the members of Congress to a report of the National Council on Disability (NCD) titled *Righting the ADA*, that Burgdorf had written for the Council. The report not only explains various problems created by ill-advised decisions of the Court, but proposes corrective legislation in the form of an ADA Restoration Act.

Burgdorf’s and NCD’s proposals took a major step toward realization when, on September 29, House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., (R-WI) and House Minority Whip Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) introduced a bill titled the “Americans with Disabilities Act Restoration Act.” The bill, H.R. 6258, was derived primarily from provisions that Professor Burgdorf had drafted and NCD had endorsed, and would reject the narrow interpretation of disability. Representative Sensenbrenner stated that the Supreme Court “has slowly chipped away at the broad protections of the ADA and has created a new set of barriers for disabled Americans.” Representative Hoyer added that “people with diabetes, heart conditions and cancer have had their ADA claims kicked out of court because, with improvements in medication, they are considered ‘too functional’ to be considered ‘disabled.’ This is not what Congress intended when it passed the ADA. We intended the law to broadly – not narrowly – interpreted. The point of the law is not disability; the point is discrimination.” The bill declares that “[t]he courts have significantly limited the intended reach of the Americans with Disabilities Act, allowing many individuals with actual or perceived impairments to be subject to discrimination,” and that, therefore, “[i]t is necessary to restore the intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act to fully remove the barriers that confront disabled Americans and to permit all people to fully participate in society.”
Burgdorf Receives Leadership Award

On July 26, the 16th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the National Council on Disability, the independent federal agency that originally proposed the ADA, honored the work of Professor Robert Burgdorf by granting him its Leadership Award. The award, which declared that it was given “In appreciation of outstanding contributions to the improvement of disability policy in the U. S.,” was bestowed in a formal ceremony at the opening session of a meeting titled “A National Dialogue on the State of Disability: ADA Town Hall Meeting” at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. The meeting was co-sponsored by the U.S. Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Labor, and Transportation, along with the U.S. Access Board, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Social Security Administration. In making the award, Lex Frieden, chairperson of the National Council on Disability, hailed Prof. Burgdorf as a “pioneer” who “not only helped to ensure that there was an ADA by writing its first draft,” but had “committed his life to ensuring that people with disabilities are able to reach their fullest potential.” He went on to thank Burgdorf for assisting the Council “as an advisor, consultant, contractor, and friend” over the years. Prof. Burgdorf was the staff author for the Council of the 1986 report Toward Independence in which the idea of an ADA was first proposed. In 1988, the Council’s report On the Threshold of Independence included Burgdorf’s draft of the ADA that was introduced in Congress in April of that year and formed the basis of the version of the legislation that was reintroduced in the next Congress in 1989 and enacted in 1990. He served as the Council’s Interim General Counsel and Director of Policy from November 1999 to January 2000. More recently, he wrote the Council’s report Righting the ADA (2004) which catalogues ways in which the Supreme Court has misinterpreted the ADA and presents an ADA Restoration Act bill for putting the ADA back on the right track. Prof. Burgdorf directs the Legislation Clinic at UDC-DCSL.

Tulman Travels, Trains, & Testifies

During the past year, Prof. Joe Tulman, of the UDC-DCSL Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinic, continued his practice of speaking about delinquency and special education topics at conferences around the country. In January, he spoke to a select group of state administrators and juvenile justice experts at a conference at the Wingpread Center in Wisconsin. In June, he presented at the annual conference of the Florida Bar Association. In September, he conducted a workshop at the state-wide conference of juvenile public defenders in New Jersey, and in October, Prof. Tulman spoke at the annual National Juvenile Defender Summit. In addition to speaking at conferences, Professor Tulman – along with Professor Suji Sutler – conducted a half-day special-education-law-and-practice training in March 2006 for attorneys at the law firm of Winston & Strawn who are interested in providing pro bono representation for parents of children with unmet special education needs. Professor Tulman testified several times during the past year in front of the Human Services Committee of the D.C. Council about various proposals relating to the processing of delinquency cases in the District of Columbia. Professor Tulman also testified at two fairness hearings (once in March and once in July) in D.C. federal district court in regard to a proposed consent decree in the Blackman-Jones class action.

Katrina and Beyond

Prof. Will McLain, Prof. Laurie Morin and Prof. Susan Waysdorf will be teaching a new course entitled, “Katrina and Beyond,” that will focus on disaster prevention, recovery and economic justice. The course will include a special practicum—in New Orleans over spring break in 2007—where students will provide legal services to Katrina survivors. The course will include a special practicum—in New Orleans over spring break in 2007—where students will provide legal services to Katrina survivors.
Prof. Edgar Cahn Presents New Book: Priceless Money

Thursday, September 28

The University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law was pleased to host Edgar Cahn for the special edition release of his book, Priceless Money: Banking Time for Changing Times.

The evening started at 6 p.m. with robust hot and cold appetizers and beverages. After a brief but endearing introduction by Dean Broderick, Edgar Cahn, co-founder of UDC David A. Clarke School of Law introduced the broad concepts and themes concerning Time Dollars, the topic of his new book, Priceless Money: Banking Time for Changing Times.

The Time Dollars program has been internationally recognized, and widely adopted. Edgar Cahn originated the program based on a new paradigm of reciprocity rather than entitlement.

No More Throw Away People, Cahn’s first book was given as a thank you gift to guests that contributed to Time Banks USA, and limited, numbered, special edition copies of Priceless Money: Banking Time for Changing Times was given to guests who contributed $250 or more.

Dean Broderick Moderates Congressional Black Caucus Panel

SECOND HBCU SCHOLAR’S FORUM: Is There a Rebirth of Legal Racial Segregation?

The Annual Congressional Black Congress weekend served as a perfect venue for the Second Historically Black Law School Scholar’s Forum. HBCU Law School deans partnered with Congressman Al Green (D. Houston, Tx.) and the Earl Carl Institute for Legal and Social Policy on September 8, 2006, to explore the question: “Is There a Rebirth of Legal Racial Segregation?” Speakers included former UDC Board of Trustees Chair Charles Ogletree; Barbara Arnwine, Executive Director of the Lawyers’ Committee on Civil Rights; Professor Ron Walters, (U. Maryland); Professor Gary Orfield (Harvard); Dr. Albert Samuels (Southern); Professor Kevin Brown (Indiana University); and Honorable Ernie Chambers, Nebraska state senator (on film).

The inspiration for the program was legislation approved in April of 2006 that would divide the Omaha Public School system into three distinct districts. Critics claimed that the Legislature was sanctioning government segregation in Omaha’s minority communities. The NAACP sued alleging that the vote was improperly based on racial considerations. State Senator Ernie Chambers of Omaha, the African American leader of the movement to break up the Omaha School system, alleged that the law would result in increased state aid to schools by $26 million, primarily for the benefit of low-income students.

Dean Shelley Broderick co-moderated a lively discussion between the panelists and questioners in the capacity crowd at the MCI Center event. "The issues of securing appropriate funding for all public schools and meeting the needs of children in poverty effect every one of us,” said Dean Broderick. "I was honored to participate in one of the most important conversations of our time. I look forward to continuing the debate and to identifying the best approach."

Editor’s Note: Nebraska’s Douglass County District Judge J. Michael Coffey issued a temporary injunction halting implementation of the law on September 18, 2006.
Joe Askew Elected
UDC Alumni Trustee

We’re pleased to report that School of Law alumnus and former student body President, Joe Askew, ’98, now Verizon’s Director of Government and External Relations, was the top vote getter in last spring’s alumni trustee balloting.

Prior to joining Verizon, Joseph was a commissioned officer for the United States Army Military Police Corp, stationed at Ft. McClellan, Alabama. Upon coming off of active duty he worked as a commercial lending officer for Bank of America, formerly NationsBank in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Joseph also interned for Congresswomen Lynn Woolsey (D-6th-CA) on education and social welfare issues and later for Councilmember Harry L. Thomas, Sr. (D-Ward 5 – DC) as the Clerk of the Committee on Public Works and the Environment.

In addition to his service on the Board of Trustees for the University of the District Columbia, he also serves on the Board of the DC Economic Partnership and the DC Business Improvement District. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, Greater Washington Board of Trade, DC Chamber of Commerce, George Washington Center for Excellence in Municipal Management, Washington Government Relations Group, Big Brother Big Sisters, Hannah House, Street Law, Prince Hall Masonry, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.

Joe graduated from Howard University with a Bachelor’s degree in Business Management and a minor in Public Administration. He holds a law degree from the District of Columbia School of Law where he served as the Student Bar Association President and lobbied successfully for the provisional accreditation and now fully accredited University of the District of Columbia School of Law. He has been admitted to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals Bar and the United States Supreme Court Bar.

Joe is a 17 year resident of the District of Columbia and is married with one son.
School of Law News and Events

UDC Employee of the Year: Vivian Canty!

At left, Assistant Dean Vivian Canty with University President, William Pollard. Above, with Arts and Sciences Dean Rachel Petty and Convocation speaker Thomas Todd. In the background. Below, with Thomas Todd, Dean Petty, and President Pollard.
School of Law News and Events

2006 Honors Convocation
**Doing Justice**

On September 12, 2006 the UDC Division of Community Relations and UDC David A. Clarke School of Law presented the documentary, *Doing Justice*, the first in a new film series “Screen Justice” that will be shown at the School of Law this fall. Directed by Abby Ginzberg, herself an attorney, the film presents a condensed life story of famed “peoples’ lawyer” Arthur Kinoy.

The evening started with wine, fruit and cheese at 5:30 p.m. Following the film, UDC-DCSL Rauh Professor of Public Interest Law, Wade Henderson (by day, Executive Director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights), a former student of Kinoy’s at Rutgers law and, later, a colleague, spoke briefly about Kinoy and the School of Law. The audience was also treated to an impromptu guest speaker from the audience. Phil Hershchkop, prominent attorney who successfully argued the groundbreaking case, *Loving v. Virginia*, before the Supreme Court in 1967 which invalidated laws prohibiting marriage between people of different race. Phil was a friend and colleague of Kinoy’s, and knew Jean Camper Cahn, co-founder of UDC David A. Clarke School of Law.

*Doing Justice* takes viewers on a fast-paced journey through Kinoy’s life, times and litigation. Highlighted cases included his ultimately unsuccessful representation of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, convicted and executed for atomic espionage in 1953; his work on behalf of jailed African American demonstrators in Danville, Virginia in 1963; and as general counsel for the Mississippi Freedom Party in 1965. In his Mississippi work, Kinoy brilliantly used post Civil War Reconstruction statutes to remove to federal court state cases, in which demonstrators had been tried unfairly.

Perhaps the film’s most dramatic moment came when the diminutive Kinoy was arrested and physically removed from a 1968 Congressional hearing of the “House Un-American Activities Committee.” His crime? - Insisting on his right as an attorney to cross examine a witness against his anti-Vietnam war protesting clients! The conviction was later overturned.

*Doing Justice* also contained segments of Kinoy’s actual arguments before the Supreme Court, including *Powell v. McCormick* in 1979, and an illegal government sponsored wiretapping case in 1970, which involved the anti-war group, the White Panthers.

The School of Law was especially delighted to welcome students and faculty from two undergraduate history courses taught by Dr. Derek Musgrove and by Dr. Sandra Jowers. We look forward to seeing some of these students returning to UDC to study law on a path to becoming the “peoples’ lawyers” for the next generation!

**All for the Taking**

On October 5, 2006 the UDC Division of Community Relations and UDC David A. Clarke School of Law presented the documentary, *All for the Taking*, the second in a new film series “Screen Justice” currently showing at the School of Law this fall. Directed by George McCollough, the film examines the uses and abuses of eminent domain.

Following the film, there was a brief question and answer session with the director, and co-producer and Philadelphia community activist Joy Butts, along with Professor Louise Howells, Co-Director of UDC’s Community Development Clinic.

*All for the Taking* is an informative film that confronts the contro-
versial issue of eminent domain, including the impact on community. The historical context of eminent domain in *All for the Taking* originated in the 1950’s as an answer to urban blight, and evolved to its current use delineated in the 2005 Supreme Court ruling *Kelo v. City of New London*. In *Kelo* the Court ruled that local governments may acquire private property by force, through eminent domain, and transfer it to private owners.

Prior to *Kelo*, eminent domain was used to acquire private property for public use. The film documented Philadelphia citizens and their struggles against the powerful forces of eminent domain. Unfortunately, none of the citizens shown in the film were successful in their battle, and were forced to leave their homes. They received no due process, and were only notified after the City had approved the transfer of their property to developers. Under *Kelo*, eminent domain was used to acquire private property for public use.

The film documented Philadelphia citizens and their struggles against the powerful forces of eminent domain. Unfortunately, none of the citizens shown in the film were successful in their battle, and were forced to leave their homes. They received no due process, and were only notified after the City had approved the transfer of their property to developers. Under *Kelo*, this seemingly outrageous intrusion is legal.

The School of Law was especially delighted to welcome students and faculty from an American University history class, and Professor George Squires from George Washington University. There was enthusiastic discussion between audience members and the director and co-producer. We look forward to more thought provoking discussions at the next ScreenJustice film screening!

The film documented the stories of people who were wrongly convicted of crimes they did not commit based on misinterpreted forensic evidence. For example, Ricky Jackson, was convicted of murder based on finger prints later proven conclusively not to be his. He spent two years in prison before he was exonerated for the crime.

Jimmy Ray Bromgard spent fifteen years in prison for a sexual assault of a child, based on hair analysis. Mr. Bromgard was initially chosen from a suspect line-up for which he had volunteered while in jail on another matter. The Innocence Project re-tested evidence in Mr. Bromgard’s case, and he was vindicated.

Michael Bain is still in prison for a murder, for which he denies responsibility. Mr. Bain was convicted largely due to “same bullet” evidence. The evidence is based on a theory of bullet lead analysis, which claims that every bullet can be traced back to the original batch of bullets it was created with. This theory has little scientific support in part because each batch of bullets could contain as many as fifteen million bullets. The theory was also never peer reviewed. Only one lab in the country accepts the theory, namely, the FBI Crime Lab.

The film makes the point that generally, the forensic evidence field has no oversight; no federal regulations; few if any state regulations, industry wide standards, or licensing requirements; yet it holds the key to freedom for thousands of Americans each year.

Professors McLain and Mercer answered questions and offered insight into what appears to be an ever increasing problem in the criminal justice field of evidentiary treatment and analysis.

We look forward to more thought provoking discussions at the next ScreenJustice film screening! To receive e-mail notices of these films and other School of Law events, contact Joe Libertelli JLibertelli@udc.edu or 202-274-7338.

November 7, 2006 the UDC Division of Community Relations and the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law presented the documentary, *Reasonable Doubt, Can Crime Labs Be Trusted*, the third film presented in the “Screen Justice” series. The CNN documentary centered on the reliability of crime labs across the nation, and the consequences faced by innocent people when they are in fact, unreliable.

Following the film, there was a brief question and answer session led by UDC Law Professor William McLain, and Adjunct Professor Stephen Mercer (DCSL ’94.) Both professors have a wide breadth of experience in the criminal justice field, working with cases that involved evidence like that discussed in the documentary.

The film made the point that generally, the forensic evidence field has no oversight; no federal regulations; few if any state regulations, industry wide standards, or licensing requirements; yet it holds the key to freedom for thousands of Americans each year.

Professors McLain and Mercer answered questions and offered insight into what appears to be an ever increasing problem in the criminal justice field of evidentiary treatment and analysis.

We look forward to more thought provoking discussions at the next ScreenJustice film screening! To receive e-mail notices of these films and other School of Law events, contact Joe Libertelli JLibertelli@udc.edu or 202-274-7338.
The recent Black Law Student Association (BLSA) and Latino Law Student Association (LLSA) - organized “Perceptions of Racism,” was well-attended by students, faculty and staff. A panel composed of students Debra Topor, Melissa Wu, Yesenia Polanco-Galdamez and Ibidun “Bibi” Salaam started the conversation, moderated by Prof. Jacqueline Lainez of the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic. Comments generally focused on personal stories of coming to terms with race and the recognition of important distinction between racial and ethnic sub-groups. Several parents also described the special challenges involved in rearing inter-racial children. Various political statements were made, including that race is used to divert attention from control by the “fascist regime.”
A Conversation on Race and Racism
Rights of Psychiatric Patients

by Samia Ahmed, 2007

On Friday October 6, 2006, UDC hosted a discussion on psychiatric rights featuring Prof. Edgar Cahn, Jim Gottstein, President of the Law Project for Psychiatric Rights, and The Freedom Center, a group of mental health activists from Massachusetts. The event was organized by Galina Sergen, 2005, a staff attorney and Equal Justice Works Fellow with the D.C. Legal Aid Society.

Prozac for depression, but was not told of the side effects—namely, manic outbursts. He experienced such an outburst and as a result, lost his job and was hospitalized against his will for 2 years. The doctors misdiagnosed him as schizophrenic and kept him medicated until he stopped fighting back, and accepted their diagnosis. Once out, he joined the Freedom Center to help others who are taken advantage of due to their mental illnesses.

After a discussion on Time Dollars, a tool used in 37 states and a few countries around the world like Japan and Sweden, the discussion moved towards a more controversial topic – being “mad” in America. Mr. Gottstein discussed how the system in America doesn’t allow people to NOT take medicine. In some cases psychiatrists and pharmaceutical companies, who benefit from psychiatric drug usage financially, have gotten courts system to force people to take drugs and fail to warn them of negative side-effects.

“Will” is an activist from Freedom Center. He was prescribed Prozac for depression, but was not told of the side effects—namely, manic outbursts. He experienced such an outburst and as a result, lost his job and was hospitalized against his will for 2 years. The doctors misdiagnosed him as schizophrenic and kept him medicated until he stopped fighting back, and accepted their diagnosis. Once out, he joined the Freedom Center to help others who are taken advantage of due to their mental illnesses.

The main purpose psychiatric rights programs is to offer a variety of alternative to straight medication. Technically, the courts cannot constitutionally force drugs if there are less intrusive alternatives. Examples discussed were alternatives to hospital, and “peer properties,” a program designed to provide housing. At end, it is the community’s responsibility to influence public opinion and public policy makers to protect the rights of the mentally ill and make sure they are not taken advantage of. If more people volunteer, there is a possibility to make a difference.
By Tess Davis, 2007

On Wednesday, October 25, 2006, the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law proudly presented the documentary film, *Quiet Revolution, the Ultra Conservative Attack on Our Constitution*. The American Constitution Society, the National Lawyer’s Guild, OUTLAW, and the Women’s Law Society sponsored the event. Lunch was served.

The presentation was widely attended, with close to one hundred attendees including students and friends of the School of Law. Dean Shelly Broderick introduced the film, and Alliance For Justice President Nan Aron, a long time School of Law supporter.

The film documented the movement of the politically ultra-conservative to change the Constitution in profound ways. The movement started roughly twenty-five years ago, and continues today.

Details of agenda of this movement include expanding of executive power, narrowing basic civil liberties, and lessening consumer protections guaranteed by the Commerce Clause, among other items. The movement has been somewhat successful as recently highlighted with the 2005 ruling of the Supreme Court in *Kelo v. City of New London*, which found that the Constitution permits the government to seize private property by eminent domain for economic development.

The documentary featured legal scholars Cass Sunstein and Peter Edelman, who agreed that the movement requires the attention of and action by the American people in order to prevent the complete erosion of Constitution protections.

Nan Aron led a question and answer session following the film. She outlined the two points she thought most important to take away from the presentation. She asked viewers to reflect on how powerful the “right wing echo chamber is,” and upon the fact that ultra conservatives try to hide their agenda.

These observations were made clear with a brief glance back in history. For example, the film documented Justice Clarence Thomas saying that he would respect the laws that were settled, such as *Roe v. Wade*. Only after his confirmation to the Supreme Court was his agenda made clear to the American people in his dissent in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 1992, where he wrote: “We believe *Roe* was wrongly decided and that it can and should be overruled.”

Ms. Aron reassured the audience that all is not lost, but participation by the people in the political arena is key to stopping the radical right from realizing its dangerous agenda. This includes active participation in dialogue, awareness, and most of all, VOTING!!!

For more information, please contact Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, NW, 2nd Floor, Washington DC 20036, or log on to their web site, [www.allianceforjustice.org](http://www.allianceforjustice.org).

Nan Aron at left and above with Dean Shelley Broderick
Interestingly, the other alum, who is remaining anonymous, says he was told by federal agents who contacted him that the message had been left, apparently inadvertently, on a third party’s tape machine—a story he found entirely implausible since he keeps Ms. Anderson’s number on his cell-phone speed-dial and a check of his phone records revealed no errant messages.

Could this, therefore, be an example of illegal government wire tapping? Or perhaps, an example of “Echelon” technology—allegedly the use of supercomputers to illegally scan huge numbers of telephone messages in search of key words which trigger closer scrutiny?

Fortunately, faculty, alumni and other friends of the School of Law—including a major law firm—have risen to the occasion and are helping to protect our recent graduates’ rights.

Deborah Anderson, above left and at left with Prof. Will McLain.
School of Law Student Organizations and Leaders

Black Law Student Association: BLSA
President: Eric Abraham
Vice President: Alterik Wilburn
Director of Communications: Candice Ellison
Historian: Nelisabeth Ball
Moot Ct. & Mock Trial Coord: Tony Fashola
Director of Public Relations: Lance Butler

Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
Justice: Alterik Wilburn
Vice Justice: Anilia Arneus
Secretary: Leslie Shedd
Treasurer: Stephanie D'Angelo
3L Representative: Debra Topor

Student Bar Association
President: Erin McFarland
Vice President: Chris Leone
newsletter chair: Kathy Savoy
Treasurer: Ariel Shea
Secretary: Stephannie D'Angelo
Secretaries: Leslie Shedd
3L Class Senators: Kurt Groening
3L Class Senators: Heather Molina
3L Class Senators: Michelle Moye
3L Class Senators: Elmer Velie
3L Class Senators: Alterik Wilburn
2L Class Senators: Will Burns
2L Class Senators: Alex Harmon
2L Class Senators: Murad Khan
2L Class Senators: Veronica Morales
2L Class Senators: Ajene Turnbull
Parliamentarian: Nilo Cuervo
Ch. Student Services: Veronica Morales
Ch. Academic Standards: Suzanne Sable
Ch. Special Events: Anthony Dimillo
Ch. Community Relations: Coleen Archer

Outlaw
Co-Chair: Suzanne Sable
Co-Chair: Wayne Turner
Secretary: Kasey Dunton
Treasurer: Scott Trowbridge

Christian Law Society
Secretary: Elizabeth Baker
Vice President: Melisha Souders
President: Eric Abraham

Equal Justice Works
President: Melissa Millar
Auction Chair: Alyssa Patzoldt
Vice President: Chris May
Treasurer: Maria Mier
Secretary: Sam Kanupp

The Federalist Society
President: Jamie Carroll
Vice President: Naomina Gartee
Secretary/Treasurer: Melissa Souders

Womens’ Law Society
President: Athena Mcmahon
Vice President: Kathy Savoy
Executive Board: Nancy Combs

National Lawyers’ Guild (NLG)
Minister of Disinformation: Scott Trowbridge
Vice Chairperson: Alyssa Patzoldt
Chairperson: Maria Mier

International Law Society (ILSA)
President: Suzanne Sable
Vice President: Will Burns
Secretary: Anilia Arneus
Treasurer: Anthony Adeleke

Environmental Law Society
President: Alyssa Robben
Treasurer: Will Burns

Law Review
Editor in Chief: Meredith Saladyga
Deputy Editor in Chief: Lynne Yasui
Managing Editor: Amanda Bilyard
Articles Editor: Kent Mackzum
Notes Editor: Angela Oh
Legal Dev. Editor: Sarah Tomkins

Sports & Entertainment Law
Contact Person: Andre Barnett
Drug Policy Reform Group (DPRG)
Contact Person: Anthony Dimillo
ABA - LSD
Representative: Kathy Savoy

Asian and Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
President: Pamela Eclar Dieguez
Vice President: Angela Oh
Secretary: Lynne Yasui
Treasurer: Samar Malik

President: Alterik Wilburn
Vice Justice: Anilia Arneus
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ABA - LSD
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Each year, the School of Law invites local, appellate and federal D.C. judges to participate in our One L orientation process. This year, the School of Law welcomed the Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan of the Federal District Court for the District of Columbia (at left) — a judge whose tough decisions reining in federal government illegality have regularly made the national news.

The School of Law also welcomed the Hon. John R. Fisher, Associate Judge, D.C. Court of Appeals and the Hon. Rhonda Reid Winston, Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. (below, and below, left.)
It has long been recognized that despite the best of intentions to pursue public interest careers, many law school graduates cannot afford to live—and pay back huge law school loans—on public interest salaries. While many wealthy law schools have loan forgiveness programs, UDC-DCSL has succeeded in reducing debt “at the front end” by keeping tuition low and providing need-based financial and merit scholarships.

Never content with the status quo, however, Dean Broderick teamed up with alumnus Jonathan Smith, Director of the D.C. Legal Aid Society and a number of other Washington public interest lawyers involved with the Access to Justice Commission to draft D.C. Bar Loan Forgiveness Program and encourage the District Council to pass legislation that now provides hefty stipends—up to $12,000 per year—for recent law school graduates who sign up to perform client-service lawyering for indigent Washingtonians!

Administered by the D.C. Bar Foundation, whose attorneys came to the School of Law to explain the mechanics this fall, this program will open the doors to public interest practice for many of our graduates who might otherwise not been able to “afford” to work in the public interest!

And best of all, by law, UDC David A. Clarke School of Law graduates will stand first in line should the funds prove scarce!
Keri Nash, our Hossfeld Scholarship recipient, is a DC resident who received her BA from New York University (NYU) in Political Science. She has served in a wide variety of paid and voluntary positions including as a housing trainer in Washington, DC; a Council on Foreign Relations assistant; an executive assistant to Congressman Brad Carson; a site supervisor for the World Institute of Science and Technology; a communications intern at the Brennan Center for Justice (at NYU Law School); an intern for Congressman Jerold Nadler; an administrative assistant for the US Fund for UNICEF; and an intern for the American Fund for Global Education. Ms. Nash grew up in a single-parent family in Brooklyn NY in a working class, immigrant (West Indian) urban community. Her mother came to USA from Granada in 1979, pregnant and alone. Ms. Nash is interested in the policy making process, especially with regard to tenants rights, public education, health care, and other crucial issues crucial to working class and poor people. She wants to use her law degree to help people “normally marginalized by moneyed interests.”

Seth Gainer is our Beech Street Foundation Scholarship recipient. He graduated from Lewis and Clark College in 1997 with a BA in Foreign Languages/Minor Latin American Studies and has certificates in technical writing from the University of Washington, Seattle and in teaching English as a foreign language. His volunteer service has included mentoring inner city kids, work at a daycare center in an impoverished area of Santiago, Chile, and as an English tutor for Russian immigrants. His professional experience includes work as a legal assistant for a DC law firm, Wright Robinson; as a bi-lingual office assistant for the World Bank; as a regional project coordinator and in human resources for the National Crime Prevention Institute.

Diane Griffin is our Bristol Cone Foundation Activist Scholarship recipient. She earned her BA in Psychology from Clark Atlanta University and an MA in Sustainable Development from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont. Her professional experience includes work as a Women of Color Policy Associate for the National Minority AIDS Council in Washington, DC; as an English as a second language teacher in the American Language Village, Tao-Yuan City, Republic of China and in the Baojing #1 Middle School, Baojing, China. She has also worked as a Strategic Planning Intern at the United Nations in New York City, as a Resource Coordinator for the School for International Training in Brattleboro, VT; and as Program Director for the Georgia Coalition of Black Women in Atlanta.

Melissa Danjcezek is another of our Activist Scholarship recipients. She earned a BA in Criminal Justice from the University of Richmond. Ms Danjcezek has worked as an intern for criminal defense attorneys in Richmond, Virginia; as the head of the New South Wales Corruption Resistance Program in Sydney, Australia; for the FBI National Center for Analysis of Violent Crime and the Connecticut Rape Crisis Center. Her volunteer and experience includes work as a Court appointed Special Advocate in the Richmond City Jail, preparing inmates for their release; as the Kappa Alpha Theta Certified mandated reporter in child abuse and neglect cases; as a lecturer/facilitator of the New Generations Conference, a Connecticut state wide program for high school students on definitions, descriptions, accountability and actions related to rape crisis. She has served as a local Rotary International–Interact President in Monroe, CT for two years during which time she led high school student volunteers in work with senior citizens, Adopt-A-Highway, tutoring, Habitat for Humanity and local food banks and shelters.
School of Law News and Events


“What our generation has done is bring equality in the law. The next generation has to bring equality in fact.”

- Joseph L. Rauh, Jr.

Dean Shelley Broderick, with input from the School of Law faculty, the Assistant Dean of Admission, and the Director of Financial Aid, selects three District of Columbia residents each year who are provided with Joseph L. Rauh, Jr. scholarships in recognition of their outstanding performance in public interest-related work and study. For academic year 2006-2007, full tuition scholarships were awarded to Karen Malovrh, Teresa Fulford, and Pamela Eclar Dieguez.

Karen Malovrh, a member of the entering class, graduated from The George Washington University, in Washington, D.C., where she earned a B.A. in History with a double-minor in African Studies and English. Her undergraduate extracurricular activities reflect her public interest commitment. She served as Vice President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) – George Washington University Chapter, Community Service Director for the Black Student Union, and was an active member of the Feminist Majority and Latinos for Progress. Ms. Malovrh also founded the GW Action Coalition and Absolute Theatre Productions. Devoted to continuing the struggle for civil rights and the task of combating racism and discrimination through the legal profession, Ms. Malovrh intends to follow a public service career path. “As a lawyer, I will be able to successfully carry out my dream of continuing the struggle for civil rights and dedicate my skills, knowledge, experience – and privilege – to all my brothers and sisters who need a voice and fighting force on their side.”

Pamela Eclar Dieguez, a member of the Class of 2007, was selected for a Joseph L. Rauh scholarship for academic excellence in the Government Accountability Project (GAP) Clinic. Ms. Dieguez came to the study of law with a belief that the legal profession has already done a substantial amount to bring about major change in such areas civil rights and equal opportunity and that future contributions by lawyers must ensure that these laws are enforced. To quote Professor Karen Gray, Ms. Dieguez’ supervisor at GAP, “Ms. Dieguez’ did excellent work analyzing novel issues under the whistleblower provision of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Her superior research and writing skills assisted many clients in vindicating their rights under whistleblower protection statutes. Additionally, she provided significant and insightful feedback to both the adjunct attorneys and her student colleagues while working on various other types of whistleblower issues. She was a natural talent, conducting very thorough, extensive and detailed client interviews which provided essential information in preparation for litigation.”

Teresa Fulford, a member of the Class of 2008, was chosen for her excellent Law and Justice community service work at the Public Defenders Service for the District of Columbia Parole Division under the supervision of Olinda Moyd, a UDC-DCSL adjunct faculty member. Ms. Fulford engaged in different aspects of the Division’s representation of indigent clients at probable cause hearings and parole revocation proceedings in an effort to safeguard the Constitutional and statutory rights of the clients and thereby protect society’s interest in the fair administration of justice. Ms. Fulford wrote of her experience, “The U.S. Parole Commission is doing a disservice to the parolees, particularly at the probable cause hearings...it is depriving parolees of an opportunity to rehabilitate themselves and establish a healthy lifestyle...Although I was disturbed by the Parole Commission’s treatment of parolees, it confirmed my passion for becoming a criminal lawyer and reinforced my plan to fight for indigent individuals.”
On the 14th of July, the MEPAS students ventured to the District of Columbia Courts for a tour. The students observed the proceedings in the courtroom of the Honorable Maurice Ross. After the hearing ended, Judge Ross and his law clerk spoke to the students about their preparations for law school. The judge shared insights from his career as a former prosecutor, and as one of the founders of the Justice Department Weed and Seed program.

Following a brief lunch at the US Department of Labor cafeteria nearby, the MEPAS students returned to the DC Courts. They met with Heather Molina, Sudani Davis, and Andre Barnett, UDC law students interning at the courthouse for the summer. The students also had the opportunity to attend hearings before the Honorable Milton Lee in the Family Court. Afterwards, the students toured the DC Court of Appeals courtroom.

On 21 July, the MEPAS students visited the US District Court for the District of Columbia and the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit. The students met with law clerks and law student interns for the Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan. The interns imparted advice on law school and on federal district court internships. The students were able to explore Judge Sullivan’s new, high tech courtroom.

Following lunch in the courthouse cafeteria, the students visited the chambers of the Honorable David Tatel of the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit. The students spoke at some length with one of Judge Tatel’s law clerks about life at the circuit court. The students were able to walk around in the new courthouse annex. Overall, the tours provided the MEPAS students with an exposure to the local and federal courts in DC. Hopefully, the initial exposure to the court system will lead to internships, and one day, to clerkships in these courts.
Cahn Phi Alpha Delta Chapter Wins Awards!

Each year, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International chapters from across the country compete for several awards. This year, the Jean Camper Cahn Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta of the University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law was honored with three national awards. The Cahn Chapter won Second Place for overall membership in the fraternity with more than 55% of UDC Law students as members. In addition, the Cahn Chapter placed second in the Stanley H. Kohn Outstanding Chapter Competition, which ranks our Executive Board as one of the top three executive boards in the fraternity. Finally, the Cahn Chapter was selected as the Best Chapter in their district, District XXIII, for the second year in a row. Adding to these honors, District XXIII also won two national awards. Our District Justice, Tom Bentz, was selected as the Best District Justice in the fraternity for the second year in a row and District XXIII was named the Best District for the second year in a row.

Advance planning, a committee system and the involvement of the membership contributed to the success of this past year. Congratulations to then Justice Laura Perry, Vice Justice Anilia Arneus, Clerk Leslie Shedd, Treasurer Stephanie D’Angelo, and Marshal Alterik Wilburn for the tremendous job orchestrated on behalf of the Cahn Chapter!

Lavender Law 2006 Conference

Eight students represented UDC-DCSL at the Lavender Law Conference September 7th - 9th at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Lavender Law, coordinated by the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association, brings together students and professionals once a year for a chance to participate in workshops, a career fair, and social activities.

OUTLAW, the School of Law’s lesbian, gay, bi-

Shown in photo from left to right: Jason Hart, Scott Trowbridge, Suzanne Sable, Kasey Dunton, Wayne Turner, Anthony Dimillo, and Alysia Robben.

Above from left: Debra Topor, Brandi Garcia, Alterik Wilburn, Anilia Arneus, Ibeth Carcamo.
Charles Noble Mason, Jr.

Engineer, Attorney, Activist, Philanthropist & Gratuitous Servant of the District of Columbia

by Vicki Sadrazadeh

Charles N. Mason, Jr. (known as “Charlie” to all his friends) died October 1 at his Roxanna Road home in Northwest Washington, DC at the age of 95 from aspiration pneumonia.

Born January 20, 1911 in his grandparents’ home at 12 Louisburg Square, Boston, MA, the only child of Charles and Emily E. Reed Mason, a Mayflower descendant, Charlie was raised in an environment of social privilege and liberalism. His maternal great grandfather Sampson Reed influenced Ralph Waldo Emerson and his grandfather Reverend James Reed closely associated with Reverend Phillips Brooks; all were Harvard graduates and advocates for social service and a broad acceptance of humanity. Charlie’s paternal grandfather, a Massachusetts Superior Court judge who received a commission from President Lincoln, was known for his extreme care in delivering justice for even the humblest of citizens. Charlie would later manifest in his life work these same noble qualities and ideals.

Charlie lived in New York City until 3 or 4, then moved with his family to Montclair, NJ. When he was nine and while away from home, Charlie’s mother died, leaving a lifelong hurt that could not be fully expressed in his reserved New England home. He returned to New York with his father to attend grades 4-7, cared for by his Aunt Martha (Mason) and others. Throughout his childhood and youth, summers were delightful times spent rowing and sailing with his Aunt Jo (Josephine Reed Thacher) at her summer residence in Cohasset, MA. There Charlie played with his father on weekends, with grandparents, neighborhood children and later a high school friend. There Aunt Jo also exposed him to the liberal democratic ideals of the Unitarian Church.

Charlie graduated from Milton Academy, then went on to obtain a bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Engineering and a master’s in Applied Physics from Harvard University (1932-1934). He served as instructor at Green Mountain Junior College in Poulney, Vermont (1934-35) then as Assistant Engineer at Associated Factory Mutual Fire Insurance Companies in Boston (1935-38), and as Examiner and Civil Service Representative at the U.S. Civil Service Commission (1938-46), taking leave to serve as instructor at Harvard University (1944-46). When World War II veterans returned to the agency with job preference rights, Charlie was forced to leave. He finally made his way to Washington, D.C. to work in the Personnel Division at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory (1946-68) before retiring.
In Washington Charlie became active in civil rights through a circle of friends, many from All Souls’ Unitarian Church. He became involved in a wide range of activities to promote racial and gender equality, fair housing and job practices, quality education and enrichment activities for the poor, peace and environmental health, accessible and sensible public transportation, to mention only a few. Wherever there was a drive for change, there was Charlie.

It was through this activism that Charlie met and married former D.C. Council Member, Hilda H. M. Mason and embarked on a new road of heightened activism at every level—direct involvement in the lives of individuals, families, and organizations through direct involvement in the operations of government. Seeking more effective tools to bring about change, Charlie went on to earn a J.D. degree from Howard University (1971), graduating second in his class of 120 and one of only a handful of whites. He balanced his time that summer between studying for the D.C. Bar and working on his wife’s first successful campaign for public office as the Ward IV member of the D.C. Board of Education. From January 1972 on through Hilda’s years as a member of the D.C. Council and even into retirement, Charlie worked side by side with Hilda. Whether on the WMATA Board, or working for statehood for the District of Columbia or supporting the now University of the District of Columbia School of Law, the new law school would never have survived to have been merged with the University of the District of Columbia, Charlie was no mere armchair philanthropist. As his wife Hilda H. M. Mason’s “gratuitous servant” he was an integral part of the political and legislative team that drafted the legislation, engineered the School of Law’s political support, and protected it from the waves of well-intentioned, but shortsighted budget cutters. Without either Charlie or Hilda Mason, there would be no David A. Clarke School of Law. - Ed.

Between attending meetings and events, drafting legislation and documents, consulting and advising, Charlie was an avid reader. Even in his later years when sight failed him, he would describe the exact location of various volumes on the walls of overweighted shelves at home, then recall passages by section or even page. Beyond bound books, anything in print was of interest to Charlie, and over time he accumulated huge stacks of newspapers and periodicals, some floor to ceiling like room dividers. Many were subscriptions and others were small community papers and pamphlets picked up at waiting areas and Metro stops and stashed into closets, accompanied by many years’ worth of metro and bus passes. At one point Charlie possessed no less than 440 different titles of periodicals only, half by subscription or membership.

Charlie is a local legend, known for his brilliant mind, attention to detail, understated charm and dry wit. Visual memory of him abounds with images. His once perfect posture and clasped hands showed his Boston discipline and formality. His indifference to fashion—clothing, political or otherwise, was consonant with his frugality and self-effacement. His shirt pockets were always split from the overload of bus and train schedules, his shoes worn with multiple repairs, his Lowell House tie toted for evening attire literally worn to a shred. Charlie’s long recitations of memorized train and bus schedules, routes and history were often a topic of humor and amazement. Yet none could question his honesty and fairness. His generosity was a security system for individuals and institutions. He was kind, genuine, compassionate, gentle and at times even shy, yet always confident to speak out in righteous anger for justice and reason. Charlie’s enthusiasm for excellence and his vision of a greater society are a legacy to treasure for all who were privileged to know him. Charlie is survived by his beloved wife, Hilda Howland Minnis Mason, step-daughters Joyce C. Hamer Betts and Carolyn Dungee Nicholas, step-grandsons Jeston Hamer, Jr. and Stefan C. Nicholas, and step-great grandchildren Julian Cerise Hamer, Jeston Hamer III and Alexander C. Nicholas.

While absent Charlie Mason’s generous financial support of the District of Columbia School of Law, the new law school would never have survived to have been merged with the University of the District of Columbia, Charlie was no mere armchair philanthropist. As his wife Hilda H. M. Mason’s “gratuitous servant” he was an integral part of the political and legislative team that drafted the legislation, engineered the School of Law’s political support, and protected it from the waves of well-intentioned, but shortsighted budget cutters. Without either Charlie or Hilda Mason, there would be no David A. Clarke School of Law. - Ed.
On June 14th, 2006, the School of Law was pleased to host the 90th birthday party for School of Law legislative founder and longtime patron Hilda H. M. Mason. Mrs. Mason was in fine spirits, surrounded by hundreds of friends, family, former D.C. Council colleagues, current Council members, and a host of those seeking elected office or re-election, as well as her beloved husband, Charlie Mason, who—dressed to the nines—made his last public appearance before his recent death.

The crowd of well-wishers heard a series of poignant testimonials from a star-studded line-up of D.C. media personalities, elected officials, and progressive activists as well as generations of Mason family members.

Celebrating Hilda Mason’s 90th Birthday!

Above left: Charlie and Hilda Mason; above right, Hilda and her daughter, Carolyn Nicholas; at left, Hilda’s grandson, Stefan Nicholas; at right, Carolyn Nicholas with Alex Nicholas, Hilda’s great grandson. Next page from upper left: D.C. Council Chair Linda Cropp, WTOP Radio Commentator Mark Plotkin; All Souls Minister Rev. Rob Hardies; Sam Smith. Second row from left: former Mason staff members, Nadine Daniels, ’92 and Prof. Joyce Batipps, ’96. Marc Borbely, Hon. Kathy Patterson, Mrs. Mason, former D.C. Councilmember Jim Nathanson and Dean Shelley Broderick. Third row from left: D.C. Vote staffer and UDC Trustee Eugene Kinlow; David Split, Kinlow and DC School of Law Foundation Vice President/DC Vote Chair Daniel Solomon; UDC President William Pollard with Prof. Joe Tulman. At bottom: Faith and beaux, Mayoral candidate Marie Johns with Prof. Batipps and two of Mrs. Mason’s cutest “grandchildren.”
## School of Law Calendar

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<td>Alumni U.S. Supreme Court Bar Admission: Non-Argument Day</td>
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<td>Graduation: MCI Arena</td>
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</tbody>
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Joe Rauh Equal Justice Works Summer Fellowship
Auction — March 22!

*Your donated items and your participation greatly appreciated!*

Contact JLibertelli@udc.edu or 202-274-7338

Call 202-274-7338 for more information!