Building the Future

New Faculty and Newly Tenured Faculty
In Every Issue

4 Briefs
On Board with Manuel Quintana, Sasha Linney ’11, and Tyler Korff ’12; Expanded Resources for Public Service Office; Welcoming New Dean of Career Services and Director of Public Safety; Dual J.D./LL.M. Program Offered; New Glasser Scholarship Program.

Fall Events Recap
CUBE Launch; Religious Freedom and Equal Treatment Symposium; International Business Law Symposium Addresses Party Autonomy; Canadian Supreme Court Justice Abella; and more.

20 Between the Lines
A highlight of the best student notes from Brooklyn Law School’s scholarly journals.

21 Clinic Update
PipS Fellows selected and 2-year placements announced; Clinical coursework becomes mandatory.

34 Faculty Highlights
Faculty Notes: Professor Neil B. Cohen presented with two lifetime awards; Professor James Fanto named Gerald Baylin Professor of Law; Professor Norman Poser writes biography of Lord Mansfield.

44 Alumni Update
Alumni of the Year Awards: Gary Rosenberg ’74, Debra Humphreys ’84, and Hon. Claire Kelly ’93; Celebrating 25 Years of Summer Legal Process; Brooklyn Brewery Tour; and 1901 Society Relaunched

Q&A: Time on his Hands: A Conversation with Lon Jacobs ’81, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Time Inc.

51 Class Notes
Alumni Profiles
Amy Weinstein ’83: An Obituary for 3,000
John Oswald ’84: The Deal Maker
Three Graduates Receive 2013 Prosecutor of the Year Awards: Claire Kedeshian ’89, Carolyn Pokorny ’94, and Steven G. Sanders ’95
John Rudikoff ’06: Designing Change

62 In Memoriam
In Memory of Beverly C. Smith, a Trust Becomes a Scholarship; Remembering Mary Lee Bedford, Hon. Lewis A. Bedford Jr. ’50, and Ed Jurith ’76.

64 Closing Arguments
Professor Cynthia Godsoe’s piece, “Restitution and Recognition for Victims of Child Sex Trafficking,” appeared in The Huffington Post.
Building the Future
New Faculty and Newly Tenured Faculty
Making a Difference in the Legal Community and the Classroom

By Andrea Strong ’94

At the heart of every great law school is the faculty. They help shape the next generation of lawyers through their wisdom, experience, and mentorship. In this feature, we are proud to introduce the Law School’s newest faces—Christina Mulligan, Sabeel Rahman, Jodi Balsam, and Paul Gangsei—and highlight the work of our newly tenured faculty—Miriam Baer, Robin Effron, and Rebecca Kysar, whose high level of academic scholarship and work in the classroom has been invaluable to the Law School and its student body.

Where Are They Now?
From 1L to 3L, Seven Students’ Journeys

By Andrea Strong ’94 and Peggy Swisher

In the fall of 2011, we profiled seven first-year students for the cover story of the magazine. Now, three years later, they are poised to leave the nest. We caught up with them to learn about their activities and honors while in Law School and what lies ahead after graduation.
Brooklyn Law School has decided to cut tuition by 15 percent beginning in the 2015-16 academic year and freeze tuition for all students for 2014-2015. This decision has received sustained national attention and prompted a much-needed public discussion about skyrocketing tuitions at law schools.

BY NOW YOU HAVE NO DOUBT HEARD the news that our Board of Trustees has decided to cut tuition by 15 percent beginning in the 2015-16 academic year. This decision has received sustained national attention and prompted a much-needed public discussion about skyrocketing tuitions at law schools.

Brooklyn Law School’s tuition cut is the latest enhancement to an evolving package of student-centric initiatives, including continued merit scholarships; the creation of the Dean I. Leo Glasser ’48 Merit Scholarships for students with excellent GPAs; increased need-based aid; expanded loan repayment programs for graduates entering public interest or other lower-income positions; a tuition freeze for current and incoming students; and guaranteed below-market-rate housing for first-year students.

It’s fair to ask why our law school’s recent announcement has generated such an overwhelming response among educators, lawyers, and students. After all, while the upcoming 15 percent reduction is significant, tuition will still be expensive. Nor are we alone in tackling the issue. Other law schools have cut tuition in recent years for various reasons and through different means. It’s also reasonable to expect that many other law schools will find ways to make legal education more affordable to qualified students and to reduce the crushing debt load that too many graduates bear.

I wish we could do more, and I wish it could have been sooner so that our recent graduates—who have faced the toughest legal market in history—would have benefited directly from the tuition reduction. But we’re able to take action now, and we are determined to start attacking the problem.

Brooklyn Law School’s aggressive approach has hit a nerve. If you ask who can afford to go to law school or afford a lawyer, the answer is: not most Americans. Those who do manage to attend often graduate with excruciating debt. They’re compelled to take jobs with the highest paycheck to find some relief, rather than pursuing lower-salaried careers that might better fit their interests or that meet a critical demand. As a result, untold millions of Americans are deprived of access to quality legal services.

A January report by the American Bar Association’s Task Force on the Future of Legal Education noted that “a widespread practice is to announce nominal tuition rates, and then pursue certain high LSAT or GPA students by offering substantial discounts (styled as scholarships) without regard to the recipient’s financial need. Other students, by contrast, receive little if any benefit from discounting and must rely extensively on borrowing to finance their education.” Warning calls have also been sounded by the New York State Bar Association and New York City Bar Association.

The federal government isn’t making it any easier. Buried in the President’s budget proposal are changes that, if enacted, would gut the decade-old and successful Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF) and Pay As You Earn (PAYE) programs. The purported rationale for curtailing such programs that help make affordable legal services available to the public defies logic. Without any promise of deficit reduction benefits, the proponents give lip service to balancing the federal budget at
the expense of indebted students who dedicate themselves to working for low public interest and public sector wages.

It’s a shameful canard that student loans and indebtedness are the cause of high tuition. They are not. They’re the symptom, not the cause. Tuitions at law schools are soaring, as the ABA and other observers point out, because of the way law schools spend money in pursuit of rankings rather than investing in students, education, professional training, and scholarship. Yes, write to your Congressman, but in the meantime we must row away from the rocks.

With political currents eroding America’s historic and successful support for higher education, we can’t expect anyone else to help. We must do what we can to break this cycle ourselves. By making law school expensive for motivated, talented women and men, we’re shortchanging ourselves. In this country, lawyers have played the central role as guardians of our democratic republic and architects of economic opportunity and prosperity. They’ll be needed even more in the future.

Brooklyn Law School is taking a stand against spiraling tuition hikes. Our first step will be to freeze tuition for all students for the 2014-2015 academic year. Our second step will be to reduce tuition by 15 percent the following year. A tuition reduction in effect provides every student with a scholarship of equal amount. While we continue to award merit scholarships, we’ll be more selective and not fixated on LSAT scores alone. Already, alumni generosity in response to the announcement has enabled us to create new scholarships for incoming students.

We strongly believe that these measures—while not solutions in themselves—are important ways to begin to address the problem of law school affordability. Lower costs will provide greater access to more qualified students to Brooklyn Law School, as well as ease the debt burden that many students face. Being more selective in granting merit aid will allow us to spend more on need-based aid and enable greater accessibility and diversity.

Our tuition reduction is an effort to focus on the pursuit of quality education, qualified students, and world-class scholarship—while bucking the conventional wisdom that it is necessary to cater to a deeply flawed rankings system, like the hounds chasing but never catching the elusive mechanical rabbit at the Hialeah dog track.

Instead, we emphasize facts that matter in the real world—including our 94 percent bar passage rate for the Class of 2013; the 90 percent of graduates from that same class who are currently employed in professional jobs where the BLS J.D. is a demonstrable advantage; and our location in the world’s number one hotspot for technology, innovation, media, business, culture, and architecture, just to name a few.

So why would we throw money at propping up artificial rankings when we could be giving back to our students? As we continue to prudently manage our overall costs, strengthen our balance sheet, and benefit from the generosity of our alumni, we are going to invest even more in our students. Most law schools feel pressure to do less and charge more. We’re taking a different approach: doing more and charging less.

Granted, such decisions depend on a school’s financial circumstances. Like any institution, Brooklyn Law School is keeping a close eye on its finances and overall fiscal responsibility. Our management approach to cost-cutting as directed by the Board over the last two years could be classified as “hardheaded but big-hearted.” We’re asking tough questions and responding as necessary.

To that end, we repeatedly ask ourselves a very simple question: Why are we doing this? If the answer is, “Because we always have,” then it’s time to reflect and make decisions based on hard facts and careful analysis. This approach has yielded a number of improvements, such as smarter use of technology for greater efficiency and productivity; consolidation of our student and faculty housing and the sale of unneeded real estate at an opportunistic time; and an extremely successful and very generous voluntary staff-retirement program.

But when you’re on a diet, you still need to eat. As you’ll read in our cover story of this magazine, even in the midst of making noncurricular elements more effective and efficient, the faculty and the Board have approved tenure for three rising stars; added two scholars who are at the top of their respective fields nationally; welcomed an Executive Director of the Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE), who will also be teaching; and hired our new Director of Civil Externships, who will teach and provide even more training and supervision for our growing outstanding clinics (and to meet growing student demand for this work).

The overarching objective—driven by the Board and our faculty—is to improve the quality and relevance of legal education. We cannot cut into bone when we make reductions. Students are our purpose, not our excuse. Take one look at our feature article on seven 3Ls and you’ll see we’re doing something right.

Our approach won’t fit every institution, just as one approach to legal education won’t suit every student. (By the way, that’s precisely why we offer multiple J.D. options—2, 2.5, 3, 3.5, 4, and 4.5 years—to adapt to all prospective students’ needs.)

Brooklyn Law School is blessed with a 113-year history as a pioneer, having opened its doors to women, minorities, foreign students, children of working families, and the less advantaged long before other institutions did so, and provided a gateway to opportunity. We’re celebrated for producing extraordinary graduates who are well educated and well prepared to enter the profession.

Our tuition reduction plan continues that tradition. We’re justifiably proud that we have sparked a national conversation on something that affects us all.

Nick Allard

Joseph Crea Dean and Professor of Law
ON BOARD

Manuel Quintana: A Goal Oriented Leader

Manuel Quintana, an attorney with more than four decades of experience in private practice and government, joined the Law School’s Board of Trustees in January.

Quintana comes from a long line of lawyers; his great grandfather was the dean of the University of Buenos Aires Law School. Quintana graduated with distinction from Stanford University where he studied Psychology. He went on to attend New York University School of Law and graduated in 1975. While in law school, he spent two summers working on behalf of Native Americans and became interested in this area of the law. After graduation, he moved to Seattle to continue working with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. “Our office was in the lawn mower shed of the Indian grave yard,” he said. “That was all the land they had left. My job was to start the process of trying to recover what was taken from them.” Quintana worked with the tribe for one year, but realized that he was in over his head. “I was not equipped straight out of law school to help the tribe,” he said.

He returned to New York and joined Casey Lane & Mittendorf as a commercial litigation associate. He remained in private practice for ten years at firms including Kelly Drye & Warren, handling complex commercial matters in federal court. He decided to take his career in a different direction when a colleague was appointed chair of the New York City Housing Authority and asked him to join as its general counsel. Quintana ran the legal department, and began working on everything from advising the agency on contracts to private practice with a number former Eastern District U.S. Attorneys at the firm of Baden Kramer Huffman & Brodsky as of counsel. He also began teaching civil discovery and trial advocacy at Brooklyn Law School as an adjunct professor.

But the most significant challenge of his work was the crack epidemic that was rampant in city housing projects at that time. Under Fair Hearing procedures, it could take the Authority four to six years to evict drug dealers from an apartment. Quintana led a movement to expedite their eviction. “We came up with the notion that a leasehold interest in a public housing apartment was subject to federal civil forfeiture,” he recalled. “It worked, and it gave the residents a little hope and some relief from the terror of living with drug lords.”

His work earned him national recognition and in 1987, he received an award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Federal Seizure and Forfeiture Law Projects. Several years later, Quintana was nominated by President George H.W. Bush as a United States District Judge in the Southern District of New York. His nomination languished when the Senate could not schedule a confirmation hearing prior to adjourning for the 1992 Presidential election. Quintana returned to private practice with a number former Eastern District U.S. Attorneys at the firm of Baden Kramer Huffman & Brodsky as of counsel. He also began teaching civil discovery and trial advocacy at Brooklyn Law School as an adjunct professor.

He might still be in private practice, but for the 1994 World Cup. One of the conditions the Fédération Internationale de Football Association which runs the World Cup (FIFA) imposed on the United States was the creation of a professional football league—Major League Soccer—that started in 1996. Quintana, whose family is Argentine, had always had a passion for the sport; he had played through his years at Stanford. Quintana saw a future with the new U.S. league; not as a player, but as an agent. Quintana became the first American to be appointed a FIFA agent. Since 1996, he has run his own soccer agency, Bravo! Bravo! Sports, representing soccer players and coaches.

Quintana has only been on the Board for a few months, but he is already excited about the work ahead. “I am certainly honored to be a part of this distinguished group,” he said. “I look forward to learning what the needs of the Law School are and to working towards fulfilling them in the future.”

Two New Graduate Members Join Board of Trustees

In addition to Manuel Quintana, the Brooklyn Law School Board of Trustees appointed two outstanding recent graduates to join the Board for a two-year term: Sasha Linney ’11, an associate at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP; and Tyler J. Korff ’12, who has his own firm. “We are very pleased to have such bright young legal minds join the Board of Trustees,” said Stuart Subotnick, chairman of the Board of Trustees. “With the Law School experience still fresh in their minds, their contributions to the Board will be extremely valuable to the BLS community.”

Sasha Linney ’11, who is an associate in the Mergers & Acquisitions Group and Business Restructuring and Workout Group at Debevoise, studied languages as
an undergraduate. She earned a degree in Comparative Literature, magna cum laude, from Princeton University in 2002. After college, she lived in Malaysia through the Princeton in Asia program where she taught English as a Second Language in Penang. After one year, she moved to Spain to teach English to second graders at The American School in Madrid. When she returned to New York, Linney joined the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), which investigates police misconduct and abuses of authority. Over her four years at the CCRB, she rose from the position of Investigator to Assistant Supervising Investigator and was inspired to pursue a career in the law.

While at the Law School, Linney was the Managing Editor of the Brooklyn Law Review, an Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellow, and a member of the Moot Court Honor Society. She credits her interest in bankruptcy law to Professors Edward Janger and Michael Gerber. “I took bankruptcy with Professor Gerber and had contracts with Professor Janger,” she said. “They were such great professors and I felt a real affinity toward the subject matter.”

Linney spent her 1L summer as an intern with the Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project (now known as the New Economy Project) staffing a legal hotline and advocated for low-income New Yorkers aggrieved by abusive financial services and credit practice. “It was a great opportunity to help people who were suffering from steep debt in the post-financial crisis economy,” she said. During her 2L summer, she was a judicial intern for the Honorable Martin Glenn, a U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Following law school, Linney joined the Bankruptcy Group at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP and was part of the American Airlines team acting as special aircraft financing counsel in its New York-based Chapter 11 proceeding. In her current M&A rotation, she advised the Tribune Company in its $2.7 billion acquisition of Local TV, and AXA in its agreement to acquire 51% of Mercantil Colpatria’s insurance operations in Colombia.

“I am honored to be a part of the Board of Trustees, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to being a part of the exciting changes that are happening at the Law School under the vision of Dean Allard,” she said.

Tyler J. Korff ’12, who has an undergraduate degree from Columbia University, attended Brooklyn Law School and rabbinical school simultaneously. He received his rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva Rabbi Chaim Berlin in 2013, just one year after he obtained his J.D. For Korff, the combination of degrees was not all that unusual. His father, Grand Rabbi Y. A. Korff ’72, also earned a law degree at Brooklyn Law School, and serves as Chaplain of the City of Boston, as a Consul General for Austria, and as a consultant in international law and relations.

“My ancestry is full of rabbis, and there are many attorneys in the family as well, so I was certainly influenced to some degree by my dual family occupations,” Korff said. “At the same time, I did choose both ‘professions’ myself, and I hope to make a positive difference regardless of whether I’m working in a clerical or legal capacity.”

At the Law School, Korff was the Notes and Comments Editor on the Brooklyn Journal of Corporate, Financial, and Commercial Law and was a research assistant for Professor Anita Bernstein. “The defining moment of my tenure at Brooklyn Law School was first-year Torts, when I met Professor Bernstein,” he said. “It was a special privilege to work with her for nearly three years, and on such a wide array of projects. I like to think I made a small contribution to her work, but I certainly gained far more than she did.”

Following graduation, Korff opened his own practice where his focus is primarily corporate transactional work. “Drafting documents is one of the most rewarding parts of any transaction. Whether it’s corporate formation, purchase and sale agreements, or contracts and partnership agreements, a well-drafted document that anticipates all the contingencies and potential points of contention, however unlikely they may be, can prevent a gigantic headache later on.”

Korff also volunteers his time representing veterans. “There is still a remarkable lack of awareness about the issues our troops face when they come home,” he said. “Access to legal representation is consistently cited by veterans as one of their top three unmet needs. When I have the opportunity, I try to help veterans obtain the VA benefits to which they are entitled.” Korff was instrumental in organizing the symposium, “Fighting for Veterans: Meeting the Need for Legal Services in New York City,” held at the Law School in April.

Korff said he is excited to join the Board of Trustees and advance the interests of the Law School. “As a young alumnus, it’s truly a privilege to work with such a distinguished board,” he said. “I look forward to providing my own perspective and contributing to whatever extent I can.”
Brooklyn Law School has long been known for its commitment to developing a strong public interest/public service community among students and its graduates. Dean Allard announced a number of new staff, including a new director, Danielle Sorken, which reinforces this commitment.

The Office of Public Service includes (left to right) Director Danielle Sorkin, Program Coordinator Perla Bernstein, Associate Director Jacqueline Cheney, Post-Grad Fellow Gillian Kosinski '13, and Faculty Advisor Dan Smulian.

The Public Service Office has significantly expanded its capabilities. It will provide extensive career counseling, coordinate student pro bono activities and provide training for students involved in pro bono work, sponsor programs on pressing topics, and assist students seeking post-graduate public service grants and public interest fellowships. By continuing to build bridges between the Law School and the public interest/public service legal community, the Office will promote the interests of BLS students, creating access to local, regional, and national programs and projects.

“Brooklyn Law School’s prominence in the public service arena cannot be overstated,” said Dean Allard. “With our existing programs as a foundation, the Public Service Office has added powerful leadership and new services. The changes benefit our students who, at every turn, demonstrate their energy and dedication to social justice.”

Danielle Sorken, who has been with Brooklyn Law School since 2009, had served as Interim Director since 2012. In her new role as Director, Sorken will foster and maintain employee relations with over 150 public sector employers, as well as manage the administration of the School’s pro bono projects, public service programming, and leadership development. Prior to joining Brooklyn Law School, Sorken worked as an executive recruiter at the Peak Organization in New York City. She began her legal career as a New York City Housing Court attorney.

Sorken has served for three years as a Vice Chair for the Public Service Section of the National Association for Law Placement. She is currently the Chair of the Pro Bono Committee and has also served as the Government Vice Chair and the Mini Conference Co-Chair. She also sits on the Pro Bono Committee for the Brooklyn Bar Volunteer Lawyers Project and on the Advisory Board for Legal Services NYC-Brooklyn Borough Branch.

Dean Allard has made several additional appointments to support the Public Service Office. Professor Dan Smulian has been named Faculty Advisor. His responsibilities will include conducting training programs for students’ pro bono projects, advising applicants for prestigious post-graduate fellowships, acting as liaison to the faculty Sparer Fellowship Committee, and generally providing additional counseling to students.

Smulian joined the Law School in 2005, after many years working in public interest positions. He serves as Co-Director of the Safe Harbor Project and is also an active member of the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship Committee.

Jacqueline Cheney has been named Associate Director. Her responsibilities include counseling law students on career planning and job search strategy, counseling post-graduate fellows on interview preparation and placement, community building and employer outreach, developing student programming, and counseling
students seeking summer, externships, and post-graduate work in the public interest/public service sector.

Cheney previously served as Policy Analyst for the Council of State Governments Justice Center, as a freelance communications and development professional, and as Staff Counsel to the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, Research & Investigations. She is a graduate of Columbia University and Georgetown University Law Center.

BLS graduate Gillian M. Kosinski ’13 is the Public Service Office’s first Post-Graduate Fellow. Working part-time, she will assist with student pro bono projects, develop and carry out programs, and help publicize the Office’s work, among other responsibilities. A Vassar College alumna, Kolinski is currently a Law Fellow at the New York Asian Women’s Center, where she is working on designing and implementing a new Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. During law school, she was an Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellow and a member of the Safe Harbor and Immigrant Youth Clinics.

Perla Bernstein, who joined the Law School in 2012, continues in her role as Program Coordinator. She is responsible for organizing and producing student events, for streamlining and maintaining information and applications for the BLS Post Graduates’ Fellowship and the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship, as well as social media and student relations.

“This infusion of talent and person-power will make a big difference to the Office and will help our students enormously,” said Professor Stacy Caplow, Associate Dean for Professional Legal Education. “Danielle’s leadership already has infused new energy into the Office. The addition of Dan, Jacqueline, and Gillian will allow BLS to provide unparalleled services to our students and build strong bridges to the legal community.”

New International Opportunities for Students

With Dual J.D./LL.M. Program

Over the last decade, Brooklyn Law School has seen a dramatic expansion of international opportunities for students. There are seven semester-long exchange programs—in Argentina, China, England, France, Germany, Ireland, and Israel—through partnerships with prestigious law schools worldwide.

Now, with the Law School’s new international dual degree program (J.D./LL.M.), students can earn both degrees in three years. Built on the strength of existing international programs, the option enables BLS students to live abroad for two semesters during their second or third year, earning both a foreign LL.M. from the partner institution and credit toward their J.D. at BLS. Reciprocally, international students from partner institutions can earn either an LL.M. or a J.D. (if enrolled in the accelerated two-year J.D. program). The goal is to offer more choices for students interested in international law, whether it be transactional or public law.

Brooklyn Law School has partnered with Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3 (France), Universidad Pontificia Comillas (Spain), University College Cork (Ireland), and Bucerius Law School (Germany) for these dual degree programs, and several other partnerships are anticipated soon. Each partner institution will offer a full curriculum in international law, with courses such as Institutional Law of the EU, International Dispute Resolution, and International Banking Law.

“It is an incredible asset to study in regions of the world where the focus necessarily falls on cross-border relations,” said Lawrence Solan, Don Forchelli Professor of Law and Director of Graduate Legal Education. “The international dual degree J.D./LL.M. lends a truly global perspective, building not only personal credentials but also valuable contacts for the students.”

In tandem with the J.D./LL.M. program is the launch of the Legal Language Institute, which offers a one- to three-week summer Intensive Legal English course for foreign students. Starting this summer, the Institute will provide beneficial for visiting international lawyers and incoming international students—whether enrolled in BLS’s LL.M. program for foreign-trained lawyers or elsewhere—who want or need to improve their legal English.

As the Institute expands, it will include various intensive courses on legal terminology in other languages, helping American lawyers improve communication skills with foreign clients and peers. The Institute will be affiliated with the Law School’s Center for the Study of Law, Language and Cognition, renowned for its studies on how the cognitive sciences affect law at both theoretical and practical levels.

“We saw a gap in how students are trained for international law,” said Dean Allard. “A narrow curriculum or niche focus makes no sense in an interconnected world. The shift is toward a global mindset, which makes the international dual degree program a perfect fit for Brooklyn Law School. This is the borough of immigrants, multilingual and multinational—our mindset is inherently global. Our new programs reflect this core identity.”
On the Shelf: Alumni Authors Celebrate New Books

1 Arthur “Jerry” Kremer ’58, a veteran of the New York State Assembly, is out with a new memoir, Winning Albany: Untold Stories About the Famous and Not So Famous. Elected 13 times to the New York State Assembly, Kremer sponsored more than 250 laws including the “Lemon Law” to protect new car buyers. Tracing his career from his days as a cub reporter in Long Beach to the pinnacle of New York State politics as the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Kremer tells all in this memoir, including highlights from his lively encounters with the famous and not so famous.

Kremer is a partner at Ruskin Moscou Faltischek, a respected lobbyist in Albany, and a freelance writer and television commentator. He has written more than 400 opinion pieces for a broad spectrum of print and online publications. He is a much sought-after speaker and is considered an expert on the political happenings of the day.

2 Carl Steinhouse ’59 has published his tenth book, Now What? The Irreverent Memoirs of a Daydreamer, Counterspy, Prosecutor, Defense Attorney, and Adventurer. In this memoir, Steinhouse recounts the many phases of his career with a sense of humor and a practical approach to life. An intelligence analyst in the Army Counter Intelligence Corps, a public accountant, a federal prosecutor, and defense attorney in white collar and antitrust criminal and civil matters, he recounts the strange and humorous events that occurred in each of these phases of his career.

The book starts out in his early years and continues with adventures of him surviving in the Army; losing a Buick Roadmaster in the fierce winter winds of Trieste; getting though night law school; becoming a federal prosecutor in New York, Hawaii, and Cleveland; adjusting to dealing with clients as a defense attorney and partner in a prominent law firm; going to the mattresses during hostile corporate takeovers; experiencing the unusual in his world travel; and finally, in retirement, being introduced to and attempting to master the game of golf.

3 In his memoir, A Whistleblower’s Lament: The Perverted Pursuit of Justice in the State of New York, Judge Stuart Namm ’61 recalls his 16-year tenure on the bench in Suffolk County, his life in the law and politics, and the events that brought it to an end.

Dubbed by the Hollywood Reporter as “the Serpico” of judges, and by his detractors as the “Hanging Judge” and “Maximum Stu” for his willingness to frequently hand out the maximum 25 years to life sentences in intentional murder convictions, Judge Namm spent most of his career trying to expose the corruption in the Suffolk County’s elite Police Homicide Squad and District Attorney’s office.

In 1985, he wrote Governor Mario Cuomo to request the appointment of a Special Prosecutor to investigate the county’s criminal justice system, believing that cases were being manufactured to obtain convictions in major homicide trials. After a three-year investigation by the State Investigations Commission, his “whistleblowing” resulted in numerous forced resignations and transfers in the police department, at the highest level of county government, and in the police laboratory.

4 In Smooth Failing: Top Industry Leaders Share Their Secrets for Turning Pain Into Profit, Barbara Weltman ’76 investigates the early pitfalls of successful businesses and how one thrives through them. She explores how to come back from failure and to bounce back stronger and wiser on the often rocky road to success.
After graduating from Brooklyn Law School in 1976, she developed a reputation as being one of America’s leading experts of tax, legal and financial issues facing small businesses. Today, she is a corporate speaker, author of over a dozen books, publisher of “Big Ideas for Small Business®” and “Idea of the Day®” at barbaraweltman.com and has hosted a weekly radio show called, “Build Your Business.” She is a sought-after media commentator and has been featured in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and on CNBC and Fox News.

In his latest novel, It’s Raining Tonight, Eralides Cabrera ’86 tells the story of a young interracial couple and their experiences with love, conflict and the obstacles of both family and society. The book provides a hopeful look at the difficulties surrounding interracial relationships in a modern world.

Originally from Cuba, and having spent many years in Spain, Cabrera came to the United States more than 50 years ago. He spent his first four years of practice after graduating from law school in active duty in the U.S. Navy. Since then, he has been in private practice in New Jersey. In his spare time, he writes fiction. His other books include Let the Breeze Blow and Gloria’s Cradle, among others.

Seventeen years ago Charles Archer ’01 and a partner started the non-profit enterprise Evelyn Douglin Centre for Serving People in Need Inc. (EDC-SPIN) to provide service for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. The non-profit has grown to a $25 million service operation for the disabled community, with a staff of over 500.

Archer’s first book Everybody Paddles: A Guide to Achieving Partnership, Association, Collaboration and Togetherness, published in 2012, focused on producing a management tool designed to build company consensus. “It is a book about understanding who you are as a leader but also understanding what your success is with everyone else,” said Archer.

His latest book, Everybody Paddles: A CEO Strategic Guide to Building Company Consensus provides an outline for successfully building company consensus and developing effective behavioral dynamics within an organization.

Art consultant and author Lauren P. Della Monica ’01 is out with her second book, Painted Landscapes, Contemporary Views. The book explores American landscape painting today, its relevance in the contemporary art world, and its historic roots. Her book profiles 60 individual living artists whose contributions distinguish important aspects of the genre and address land use, nature appreciation, and ecology through landscape painting. Encompassing every style from traditional realism to abstraction, these contemporary artists range from today’s art stars to emerging or regionally recognized talent.

In addition to her law degree, Della Monica has a degree in Fine Arts from Vanderbilt University, and a graduate degree from Christie’s Education in Connoisseurship. She worked at the Michael Rosenfeld Gallery, a well-regarded American paintings gallery in Manhattan, as well as with the Citibank Private Bank Art Advisory Service. Della Monica practiced commercial litigation and art law before she established LPDM Fine Art Consulting in 2004. Her first book, a visual survey of 19th century maritime painting called Flying the Colors, was published in 2009.
Karen Eisen Named New Assistant Dean of Career Development

Karen Eisen joined Brooklyn Law School as Assistant Dean of Career Development in November. Eisen comes to the Law School with a wealth of experience in the public sector as a prosecutor and in private practice as a legal recruiter and director of professional development at several global law firms. “Karen is an accomplished leader and has a deep understanding of the economic pressures of today’s job market,” said Dean Allard. “After an extensive national search, which produced many outstanding candidates, we are more than confident that she is the right person to lead our Career Center at this moment in time.”

A graduate of the University of Florida College of Law, Eisen began her career as a staff attorney with the Mental Hygiene Legal Service, First Department and then joined the New York County District Attorney’s Office in 1987, where she was an Assistant District Attorney in the Appeals Bureau for 14 years. She transitioned to legal recruiting in 2001, and since then has dedicated her career to professional development, mentoring, and recruitment of paralegals, attorneys, and partners at firms such as Gibbons, Budd Larner, Sill Cummis & Gross, Chadbourne & Parke, and most recently, at Winston & Strawn.

“I have always loved to recruit students from Brooklyn Law School,” said Eisen. “The school has had a well-deserved reputation of producing lawyers who have strong substantive knowledge and who can hit the ground running. I am very excited to have the opportunity to work at a school that I have always held in such high regard.”

While Eisen has worn several hats throughout her career, what has remained constant is her focus on assisting students in their career development. As a prosecutor, she mentored undergraduate and graduate students, recruited summer and permanent candidates to the Manhattan DA’s office, and developed and led training and career development programs. As an Adjunct Professor in Legal Research and Writing at New York Law School, she counseled first-year students as they sought summer employment. For the past 12 years she has served as a legal recruiter and director of professional development.

“My focus is to enable students to create skills for lifelong career and professional development, in tune with the changing landscape of the legal industry,” said Eisen. “It is not enough to get the students “up and out” of law school; we must prepare them for career-long trajectories and moves. I look forward to helping students open doors to rewarding careers.”

Mercedes Ravelo Joins BLS as Director of Public Safety

Mercedes Ravelo has been named the Law School’s new Director of Public Safety. With public safety responsibilities for the Brooklyn Law School community, she will oversee the security operations for the Law School’s two academic buildings, 250 Joralemon and One Boerum, and its main residence building, Feil Hall.

A graduate of New York Law School and the City University of New York, Ravelo has over 30 years of experience in campus law enforcement and security management. Most recently, she served for 14 years as the Senior Assistant Director of Public Safety at Hofstra University. At Hofstra, Ravelo was responsible for the safety and security of 4,000 students who live on campus and 9,000 commuter students.

She has also been the Crime Prevention Manager at New York University, the Assistant Director for Crime Prevention/Training at Columbia University, and the Public Safety Manager for Roosevelt Island.

“I am already developing services for the students and the community,” said Ravelo. “This is a great opportunity, and I look forward to being a valuable member of the BLS community.”

Ravelo’s appointment was a result of an exhaustive search with the help of Stafford & Associates, the highly regarded security consultant firm. “I am confident that Mercedes has the experience, leadership skills, and understanding of academic institutions and legal education to assure both the vibrancy of an open, diverse, active community and the public safety needs for a safe and secure environment,” said Dean Allard.
Brooklyn has become a world magnet for new businesses. Today, the Brooklyn Tech Triangle (DUMBO, Downtown Brooklyn, and the Brooklyn Navy Yard) alone boasts more than 500 new businesses, nearly half of which expect to at least double in size in the next two years. Brooklyn Law School is intent on playing an integral role in ensuring the borough’s promise as the home for future innovators and entrepreneurs.

Its newest initiative, The Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE), was designed to capitalize on this energy and to provide a hub for exploring legal issues surrounding entrepreneurship. “CUBE’s express purpose is to offer the legal tools to support and help build the start-up successes of tomorrow and beyond,” said Dean Allard. “The Center will reinforce and capitalize on Brooklyn’s role as a haven for business, media, energy, technology, creative arts, and social enterprise innovators.”

On November 14, the Law School hosted a day-long series of events to mark the launch of CUBE. The day was kicked off with a welcome breakfast hosted by Chairman of the Board Stuart Subotnick ’68. Guests included then Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, and EVP and Chief of Staff Benjamin Bram of the NYC Department of Economic Development, CUBE donors, affiliated faculty, student ambassadors, and members of the media. Tours of the new CUBE offices at 55 Washington and 15 MetroTech followed the breakfast. The group returned to the Law School for faculty/student presentations, including a clinic simulation with Professor David Reiss and students, and an interactive sampling of Brooklyn Law Incubator & Policy Clinic (BLIP) projects presented by Professor Jonathan Askin and students. Professors Dana Brakman Reiser and Steven Dean spoke about their recent scholarship on social enterprise.

**CUBE Lead Donors:**

- Evan B. Azriliant ’92
  Partner, S & E Azriliant, P.C.
- Robert B. Catell
  Chairman, Advanced Energy Research & Technology Center, Stony Brook University and Former Chairman and CEO of KeySpan/National Grid
- Irwin Cohen ’58
- Lawrence I. Feldman ’74
  Chief Executive Officer, Subway Development Corp., and Diane Feldman
- Stanley M. Grossman ’67
  Senior Counsel, Pomerantz Grossman Hufford Dahlstrom & Gross, and Nancy Grossman
- Debra G. Humphreys ’84
  Founder and Chair of Board of Trustees, Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School, and David C. Humphreys, President and CEO, Tamko Building Products Inc.
- Deborah Riegel ’93
  Partner, Rosenberg & Estis P.C.
- Gary M. Rosenberg ’74
  Partner, Rosenberg & Estis P.C.

**Fall Events**

Every semester the Law School hosts a variety of scholarly events that explore cutting-edge legal issues and burgeoning areas of the law. Here is a snapshot of this past fall’s event season.
The luncheon featured an Entrepreneur Lawyers Showcase which brought together alumni and students who are exploring new ways to represent innovative entrepreneurs. CUBE panelists included a group of impressive BLS graduates who have all charted careers at the intersection of law and entrepreneurship: Alison Besunder ’98, CEO and Founder, IPSA LLC, and Founder, Alison Arden Besunder, P.C.; Erik Dykema ’10, Founder, CaseRails; Lawrence Feldman ’74, CEO, Subway Development Corp.; Liberty McAteer ’10, Counsel, Tipping Point Partners and AppOrchard; Peter Pottier ’16, Law Student/Entrepreneur; and Phil Weiss ’12, IP and Start-Up Attorney.

The panel was moderated by Professor Askin, the founder of BLIP, whose CUBE title is “Innovation Catalyst.” “My objective is to allow my students to revolutionize as I catalyze,” he said. “Many of the folks on this panel have had the courage to embark on adventure, and have taken their law degrees and have tried to use them to make a more virtuous, meaningful, sustainable environment for entrepreneurs. That’s a very noble path.”

“The leadership at Brooklyn Law School has brought us the opportunity to not only teach entrepreneurship, but to live the subject through CUBE.”

— Lawrence Feldman ’74

IN JANUARY, Paul Gangsei was appointed the Executive Director of CUBE. Over the course of his career, Gangsei has built a reputation representing not-for-profit educational, healthcare, social service and cultural institutions and public entities in real estate and development transactions. His roster of projects includes developments for MoMA, the South Street Seaport Museum, The New School, the Manhattan School of Music and numerous health care providers.

As CUBE’s Executive Director, Gangsei has been charged with developing a new model for putting Brooklyn Law students on the front lines of entrepreneurship. Working with the faculty, he will develop the Center’s core curriculum, a combination of foundational coursework, in-house clinics, and industry-specific courses and workshops that promote substantive knowledge and skills training for entrepreneurial attorneys. As an entrepreneurial insider, he will continue to raise the profile of CUBE as a home for the next generation of pioneers in business, media, energy, technology, the creative arts and social enterprise and the lawyers who represent them.

“I am honored and excited to be a part of CUBE,” said Gangsei. “My role brings together many of the various pieces of my background and encompasses a broad range of experiences from my professional and volunteer life—in education, in real estate development, in start-up financing and in working with new ventures. I am sincerely grateful to Dean Allard for this opportunity and I share his vision for this new Center.” (See more about Paul Gangsei in the new faculty feature on p. 26)
New Scholarship Honors
Former Law School Dean Judge I. Leo Glasser ’48

To honor the life and career of Brooklyn Law School’s fifth dean, Judge I. Leo Glasser, Class of 1948, the Board of Trustees created The Glasser Scholarship. In this inaugural year, The Glasser Scholarship program provided 58 first-year students with an annually renewable scholarship in the amount of $20,000, a significant help for students trying to manage debt while in law school.

A judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York since 1982, Judge Glasser has long maintained that a student’s record of outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements over an entire college education is an excellent and perhaps the best predictor of success in law school. True to that view, the Glasser Scholars who enrolled in 2013 all excelled in college, and were graduates of prestigious undergraduate institutions.

On Friday, January 31 at the Subotnick Center, a luncheon was held to honor Judge Glasser’s career and this new scholarship. Dean Allard welcomed the scholars along with Judge Glasser, faculty, and Dean of Admissions Henry Haverstick, who developed the program. “There are many pleasures and rewards, many unexpected psychic gifts one receives as a law school dean,” said Dean Allard. “One shining example for me has been getting to meet and begin to know Judge Glasser. I have found him to be a profoundly wise and thoughtful man who is one of those rare birds: a true intellectual and accomplished professional. His beautiful mind is out of this world, while both feet are firmly planted on terra firma in this world.”

Judge Glasser has strong ties with the BLS community; several members of his family share Brooklyn Law School as their alma mater including his wife Grace Glasser, Class of 1953, who served for many years the Law School’s director of career services; his father-in-law, Louis J. Gribetz, who graduated in the ’20s; his nephew David, Class of 1977; his son James, Class of 1985; his nephew Kenneth, Class of 2003; and his niece Rachel, Class of 2014, who attended the luncheon.

The luncheon was also a wonderful opportunity for the Scholars to meet Judge Glasser and to learn more about his career and life history. “It was an incredible experience to meet the honorable Judge Glasser and to be honored with a scholarship that is named after such a prestigious man,” said Daniel Schmertz ’16. “I received such inspiration and motivation from hearing stories of his career and his advice for the students. It is advice that I will cherish and never forget for the rest of my law school years and my entire career as a lawyer.”

“The scholarship was a major factor in both my decision and ability to attend Brooklyn Law,” wrote scholarship recipient Austin Minogue ’16 in a thank-you note to Judge Glasser. “I want to tell you how honored I am to have received your namesake scholarship. I hope to make you proud and to promise to work “overtime” as often as I have to in order to do so.”

“I celebrate the Trustees and the Dean for creating a scholarship for deserving students for whom a law school education might otherwise have been out of reach. That it bears my name was an astonishing surprise and a deeply appreciated honor.”

— Judge I. Leo Glasser ’48
T
his October, human rights advocates and academics from around the world converged at Brooklyn Law School for a symposium entitled, “Religious Freedom and Equal Treatment: An International Look.” The two-day symposium was organized by BLS Professors Nelson Tebbe and Susan Herman, along with Louise Melling, Deputy Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Bella Sankey of the British civil liberties group Liberty, and Priscilla Smith, Senior Fellow and Director of the Program for the Study of Reproductive Justice at the Information Society Project at the Yale Law School. It was co-sponsored by Brooklyn Law School, the International Network of Civil Liberties Organizations (INCLO), Yale Law School’s Information Society Project, and the ACLU.

The event brought together 25 distinguished global experts from the academy and the advocacy community to share information about how legal systems across the globe are responding to threats to religious freedom, as well as to the use of religious liberty claims to limit equal treatment. The speakers came from Europe, Canada, the United States, Africa, South America, and the Mid-East and addressed attendees from various academic institutions, advocacy organizations, foundations, law firms, and other organizations.

The speakers discussed new theoretical and doctrinal approaches to the potential conflict between fundamental individual rights. Discussion on these topics was focused around four key panels: Religious Freedom: Expressing Religion, Attire and Public Spaces; Reproductive Freedom and Claims of Conscience; Equal Treatment for LGBT People and Claims of Conscience; and Case Studies: When Religious Opposition Prevents Recognition of Basic Rights.

Several actions have already resulted from the conference. Papers presented at the symposium will be published in a forthcoming issue of BLS’s Journal of Law and Policy, the most-cited policy journal in U.S. courts. In addition, INCLO will launch a newsletter, “Global Developments in Religious Freedom and Equal Treatment,” which will provide information about major litigation and legislative developments concerning the topics addressed at the symposium. Also, INCLO is now exploring, with Yale’s Information Society Project and Brooklyn Law School, the prospect of jointly publishing a report that surveys key policy debates and litigation ongoing around the world, comments on developing jurisprudence, and offers recommendations for ways to respect rights of religious expression and equality rights of all people at the same time.

This symposium was an important first step toward creating a “big picture” view of the legal and policy landscape around the globe with regard to religious freedom.”

— Prof. Nelson Tebbe

Panelists from around the world explored how legal systems across the globe are responding to threats to religious freedom. The speakers also focused on new theoretical and doctrinal approaches to the potential conflict between religion and fundamental human rights.
Zaretsky Roundtable Explores Bankruptcy and the Z-Score

On November 18, Brooklyn Law School hosted the 13th Annual Zaretsky Roundtable and Dinner Discussion entitled, “Avoiding Chapter 22: Predicting Success in Chapter 11.” The Roundtable is sponsored by the Brooklyn Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation, and is held in honor of the late Barry Zaretsky, who taught at Brooklyn Law School for 19 years until his untimely death in 1997.

At the Roundtable, Professor Edward Altman of the New York University Stern School of Business presented the most recent results of his ongoing study of Chapter 11 cases. For the last three decades, Altman has been tracking the success and failure of Chapter 11 cases. He has developed a financial model, known as the Z-score. The Z-score model, among other things, converts the capital structure of cases that exit bankruptcy to the equivalent of a bond-rating. His findings suggest that Z-scores below a certain threshold indicate that the case is more likely than not to result in a future filing or other significant restructuring. The paper will be published in the fall issue of The Brooklyn Journal of Corporate, Financial and Commercial Law.

After the presentation, a robust conversation was held about the possible uses of the Z-score at various decision-making points in Chapter 11 cases. Z-scores or similar data might be included or required in a debtor’s disclosure statement. A court might treat a low Z-score as a presumptive indication that a plan is likely to fail. Parties might find the Z-score data useful in deciding whether to accept or reject a plan of reorganization. More importantly, creditors and other interested parties might be able to use such financial data to negotiate for a capital structure that carries less debt and more equity.

The discussion was led by members of the Zaretsky Roundtable Steering Committee, which includes distinguished alumni, judges, and other practitioners who are leaders in the bankruptcy field. The discussants raised a variety of questions about the Z-score, including whether one could trust the inputs without further expert testimony, whether requiring such data would needlessly add to the expense of a case, and whether refiling was the best measure of success or failure of a case, particularly if the refiling happened many years later.

The Zaretsky Roundtable is organized by Professors Michael Gerber and Edward Janger, a Co-Director of the Center for Business Law and Regulation, both of whom are prominent experts in the field of bankruptcy law. It was also made possible by the considerable work done by student Zaretsky Fellows, Brendan Buschman ’15, Kevin Cooper ’14, Douglas Keeton ’14, and Lauren Lipari ’14. They prepared an excellent set of backup materials that linked the financial analysis of Professor Altman to legal issues faced by bankruptcy lawyers which are available online at brooklaw.edu.

“I Do, I Do, I Don’t: The Drafting and Enforcement of Pre-Nuptial Agreements”
A Discussion and Reception with Stanford Lotwin ’54

In September, Stanford Lotwin ’54, Chair and Partner (retired) of Blank Rome’s Matrimonial Practice Group, provided alumni and students with an insightful look at matrimonial law and pre-nuptial agreements in today’s family law practice. Throughout his 50-year legal career, Lotwin represented many high-profile clients, including Donald Trump, Robert Duvall, Carl Icahn, Al Pacino, Steve Tyler of Aerosmith, Sean “Puffy” Combs, and Howard Stern. Following Lotwin’s presentation, guests carried on the conversation at a networking reception.
Canadian Supreme Court Justice Abella Visits Law School

ON OCTOBER 24, the Honorable Rosalie Abella, Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, visited Brooklyn Law School to discuss global human rights with an enthusiastic group of students and faculty. Sponsored by the International Law Society, the event featured a lively conversation between Justice Abella and Dean Nick Allard about disparities between U.S. and Canadian legal procedures and culture.

Justice Abella, who is the first Jewish woman to sit on the Canadian Supreme Court, was born in a displaced persons camp in Stuttgart, Germany, where her father, a lawyer, was defense counsel for displaced persons in the Allied Zone of Southwest Germany. A pioneering leader of the legal profession for more than four decades, advocating for equality and human rights, Justice Abella is the recipient of 27 honorary degrees, and is a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. She was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002.

Justice Abella spoke at length about U.S. and Canadian perceptions of equality rights. Whereas U.S. laws aim to offer all individuals the same opportunities, regardless of background or status, she described Canadian law as seeking to attain equality by acknowledging the differences among different communities. “We [in Canada] have a ‘rights plus’ approach,” she explained. “We have civil liberties plus human rights.”

A spirited question and answer session followed with a thoughtful debate about American and Canadian differences in the protection of free speech and the utilization of the Constitution in creating legal precedents, as well as the present political atmosphere of Washington, D.C.

Justice Abella and Dean Allard ended the discussion of the similarities between the U.S. and Canadian legal systems—the concern with ensuring access to the court system to the majority of individuals—and a call to work toward active and open change.

Health, Science and Public Policy Center Hosts Program on the Future of Brooklyn Hospitals

IN NOVEMBER, TOP HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATORS and healthcare professionals gathered to discuss the future of health care delivery in Brooklyn in the face of financial crises at a number of Brooklyn hospitals. The Town Hall Meeting, “Transforming Health Care in Brooklyn,” was sponsored by the Center for Health, Science and Public Policy and The Brooklyn Hospital Center in partnership with its Young Leader’s Council.

The event was moderated by Vice Dean and Professor Michael Cahill who led an engaging discussion about Brooklyn’s hospital crisis with panelists Richard B. Becker, M.D., President and CEO, The Brooklyn Hospital Center; Wendy Z. Goldstein, President and CEO, Lutheran Health Care System; Karen S. Heller, Executive Vice President, Greater New York Hospital Association; Salvatore Russo, Adjunct Professor of Law, Brooklyn Law School and General Counsel, New York City Health and Hospital Corporation; and Miriam T. Vincent, M.D., Ph.D., J.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine SUNY Downstate Medical Center.

“A spirited question and answer session followed with a thoughtful debate about American and Canadian differences in the protection of free speech and the utilization of the Constitution in creating legal precedence, as well as the present political atmosphere of Washington, D.C.

Justice Abella and Dean Allard ended the discussion of the similarities between the U.S. and Canadian legal systems—the concern with ensuring access to the court system to the majority of individuals—and a call to work toward active and open change.

The panelists described changing federal and state policies regarding health care delivery and the challenges of successfully running an acute care inpatient hospital. The hospital administrators and health policy experts on the panel called attention to the plight of local hospitals that lack access to capital and as a result are unable to service debt rendering them incapable of making the changes that the health care system demand. A growing focus on preventative care, lower reimbursements for hospital-based care, and a reduction in funds for charity care, they argued, have caused many Brooklyn hospitals to become financially fragile.

“As a member of the local community, Brooklyn Law School is very interested in the health care issues facing our community,” said Cahill. “We are participants in the health care system as well as an institution that takes an academic and intellectual interest in these issues both locally and nationally.”

“The Center for Health, Science and Public Policy provides students with the substantive knowledge and practical skills necessary to become excellent lawyers in fields related to health and science,” said Professor Karen Porter, Executive Director of the Center, who organized the program. “Programs such as this Town Hall Meeting play an important role in educating future leaders and moving health care and science law into the future.”
Top Leaders in Compliance Examine New Developments in FCPA Enforcement

THE FOREIGN CORRUPT PRACTICE ACT (FCPA) criminalizes making payments to foreign government officials in exchange for improper business advantages and establishes books and records requirements for public companies. Passed in 1977, the FCPA was designed to stamp out bribery as a way of doing business. In recent years, the Securities Exchange Commission and the Department of Justice, the two federal agencies tasked with enforcing the FCPA, have brought this Act to the fore by opening record numbers of enforcement actions. In 2004, the agencies initiated five total enforcement actions. In 2010, that number was 74.

On October 30, the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law and the Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation co-sponsored a panel discussion entitled “New Developments in FCPA Enforcement.” Professor Miriam Baer, who organized and moderated the event, welcomed a distinguished panel of practitioners working at global law and financial firms with extensive experience both in building FCPA compliance programs and representing companies confronted with FCPA enforcement actions.

The panelists discussed a wide variety of topical issues including government investigations and prosecutions, the collateral effects of heightened FCPA enforcement, the burden on multinational corporations to educate its foreign subsidiaries in U.S. law, and the importance of having comprehensive internal procedures to record expenditures and identify red flags.

Professor James Fanto, Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation, concluded by questioning whether the government should be attempting to bring the rest of the world in line with U.S. legal standards and whether the government has gone too far in its unwieldy approach to enforcement. As the SEC and DOJ continue to advance their regulatory agendas and extract record settlements, the panelists were in agreement that the growing importance of the FCPA from a corporate compliance perspective is a trend with no end in sight.

Good Council: Representing Brooklyn

FOR MANY STUDENTS, one of the greatest draws of attending Brooklyn Law School is the opportunity to learn and work in the heart of Brooklyn. “Representing Brooklyn,” a panel discussion, brought students, graduates and community members together to reflect on the multitude of voices that make up City Council District 33, which includes the neighborhoods of Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Downtown Brooklyn, Brooklyn Heights, and Park Slope. These diverse and vibrant neighborhoods—residential, commercial, and industrial in nature—have experienced transformational change over the past 40 years.

The panel, held in October, included the individuals who have represented District 33 since 1975: Ken Fisher, Esq., Cozen O’Conner; Hon. Abraham Gerges, Kings County Supreme Court; Stephen Levin, current Council Member; and David Yassky, then Chair of the Taxi & Limousine Commission.

Professor David Reiss, an expert in the area of real estate finance and community development, and the founding director of the Community Development Clinic, moderated the discussion, which focused on the history of the district and the public policy conflicts the panelists have faced in representing it. Reiss described the panel as a “political junkie’s dream” because of the focus on policy shaped by realpolitik through the 40 years covered by the representatives.

Judge Gerges, the district’s representative from 1975–1991, cited affordable housing as the greatest concern during his tenure on the Council. The other representatives echoed his concerns, especially Stephen Levin, who was elected in 2009. Levin discussed the impact of gentrification that has defined his time in office. In particular, he noted the lack of new housing for seniors, since the pressure of the real estate market has pushed many elderly residents out of their homes. David Yassky, who served from 2001–2009, pointed to the secondary issues like overcrowding of schools and transit.

Looking forward to a new mayoral regime, the panelists agreed that the district will continue to change and develop and that the diversity of interests and communities will continue to shape their work and the district’s impact on the greater city.
Pomerantz Lecture Explores Theory of “Publicness”
Governance Decisions Shift from Wall Street to Main Street

On September 26, Brooklyn Law School hosted the 14th annual Abraham L. Pomerantz Lecture discussing the theory of “publicness” and the shift of the corporate governance model from one of private ordering to one of public regulation. Co-sponsored by the Brooklyn Law Review and the Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation, the Pomerantz Lecture was organized and moderated by Professor James Fanto, Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation.

Hillary A. Sale, the Walter D. Coles Professor of Law and Professor of Management at Washington University in St. Louis, as well as an expert in corporate governance, securities regulation, and leadership, delivered the keynote speech to an audience of students, faculty, scholars, alumni, attorneys, and members of the Pomerantz firm and family.

In her talk, entitled “Corporate ‘Publicness,’” Sale argued that corporations have treated “private ordering as a right rather than a privilege,” but in failing to self-regulate, they have revealed the fallacy of that assumption through both the process and outcome of publicness. To understand the process of publicness, she argued, one must recognize that non-regulators also monitor for failures of internal governance. “When non-regulators, such as the media, internet, and ordinary citizens, press for more external governance,” Sale explained, “the process of publicness results, moving governance decisions “from Wall Street to Main Street.” This scrutiny of failures results in the outcome of publicness: increased public governance, for example Occupy Wall Street and bloggers, and regulations, such as Sarbanes-Oxley and Dodd Frank.

Commentator John C. Coffee, Jr., the Adolf A. Berle Professor of Law and Director of the Center on Corporate Governance at Columbia University Law School, stressed that in light of publicness, corporations cannot simply be defensive, but must take the offensive, publicly addressing concerns first. Commentator Jill E. Fisch, the Perry Golkin Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Institute for Law and Economics at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, argued that the lens of publicness could be expanded by considering whether Sarbanes-Oxley and Dodd Frank are removed enough from private ordering to claim a true shift has occurred or whether the changes are more incremental, an “evolution.”

“Having been involved in the creation of these wonderful lectures I am pleased that it continues to provide the school with first rate speakers and articles for our Law Review,” said Arthur R. Pinto, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law at Brooklyn Law School.

The Abraham L. Pomerantz Lecture commemorates the life and work of Abraham Pomerantz, a 1924 graduate of the Law School. He is considered by many to have been the “dean of the class action bar.” Pomerantz pioneered suits by small shareholders against officials of big corporations and specialized in so-called derivative suits, in which the company receives the award and passes it on to all stockholders. The biennial lecture focuses on topics of corporate securities law and related issues of professional responsibility. The law firm of Pomerantz Grossman Hufford Dahlstrom & Gross LLP, of which Abraham Pomerantz was the founding partner, provides continuing support for this series.
Can Parties to International Contracts Choose the Law That Governs Them?

International Business Law Symposium Addresses Party Autonomy

GLOBALIZATION OF COMMERCE has resulted in a significant increase in the volume of international business transactions. Indeed, transactions cross national borders more easily than do the laws that govern them. The result can be considerable difficulty in determining which nation’s laws govern international transactions. Can the parties themselves select the law? This was the subject of the symposium, “What Law Governs International Commercial Contracts? Divergent Doctrines and the New Hague Principles,” held on October 18 at Brooklyn Law School.

The symposium brought together faculty, students, alumni, and members of the international bar. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law and the Brooklyn Journal of International Law and was organized by Professor Neil B. Cohen, the Jeffrey D. Forchelli Professor of Law, and Professor Robin Effron, Associate Director of the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law.

Marta Pertegás, First Secretary of the Hague Conference on Private International Law, kicked off the symposium with a discussion of “Party Autonomy and its Limits.” Professor Pertegás, along with BLS Professors Aaron D. Twerski, the Irwin and Jill Cohen Professor of Law, and Robin Effron, explored the rationale for allowing parties to select the applicable law as well as the limitations on that power.

The symposium continued with a panel on “The Choice of Non-State ‘Rules of Law’ to Govern a Contract.” Principal speaker Geneviève Saumier, Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law at McGill University, and Symeon C. Symeonides, the Alex L. Parks Distinguished Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus at Willamette University College of Law, and Professor Neil B. Cohen, explored the rationale for allowing parties to select the applicable law as well as the limitations on that power.

The symposium concluded with a panel on “Choice of Law in Arbitration.” Principal speaker Lauro Gama, Jr., Adjunct-Professor of Private International Law and Contracts at Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro Law School, and Professors Donald Earl Childress III of Pepperdine University School of Law, and S.I. Strong of University of Missouri School of Law, addressed the application of the principle of party autonomy to choose the applicable law in the increasingly common context of international commercial arbitration.

The panelists generally supported the principle of party autonomy to choose the law governing international contracts. As Professor Symeonides commented, “Party autonomy is like motherhood: nobody is against it, and most lawyers enthusiastically endorse it.” Yet, the contours of that principle, and the limits on its application, remain a work in progress, and the symposium papers promise to be a significant contribution to that work.

Faculty, students, alumni, and members of the International Bar gathered for a spirited discussion of party autonomy and choice of law in international contracts.

“A panel on “Choice of Law in Arbitration” concluded the day. Principal speaker Lauro Gama, Jr., Adjunct-Professor of Private International Law and Contracts at Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro Law School, and Professors Donald Earl Childress III of Pepperdine University School of Law, and S.I. Strong of University of Missouri School of Law, addressed the application of the principle of party autonomy to choose the applicable law in the increasingly common context of international commercial arbitration.

The panelists generally supported the principle of party autonomy to choose the law governing international contracts. As Professor Symeonides commented, “Party autonomy is like motherhood: nobody is against it, and most lawyers enthusiastically endorse it.” Yet, the contours of that principle, and the limits on its application, remain a work in progress, and the symposium papers promise to be a significant contribution to that work.

► Articles from this symposium will appear in Volume 39 of the Brooklyn Journal of International Law.
Between the Lines
The Best Student Notes from Brooklyn Law School’s Scholarly Journals

The Law School publishes five student-edited law journals: *Brooklyn Law Review*, *Brooklyn Journal of International Law*, *Journal of Law and Policy*, *Brooklyn Journal of Corporate, Financial & Commercial Law*, and the online journal, *Practicum*. The journals are widely cited and an important voice in the community of scholarly legal discourse. In fact, the *Journal of Law and Policy* was the policy-related law journal most cited by courts in the last eight years, according to a recent ranking conducted by Washington and Lee University School of Law.

"Journal notes are educational and important for their authors and editors as well as their readers," said Vice Dean and Professor of Law Dana Brakman Reiser. "The process of creating a note demands thorough research, thoughtful analysis, and careful expression; the finished product offers its audience comprehensive coverage of a significant and topical legal issue. Student notes are central to our journals’ mission."

Included here are summaries of the best note from each journal, as voted on by the Editors-in-Chief of each journal.

**Randal Meyer ’14**
*Brooklyn Law Review*

Meyer’s note, “The Twin Perils of the Al-Aulaqi Case,” explores the legal implications of the President of the United States’ unilateral authorization of the use of lethal force (in this case a drone) against a U.S. citizen accused of terrorism absent any judicial process. Analyzing the case under the Treason Clause and the Equal Protection Clause, his note concludes that while the Equal Protection Clause strict scrutiny analysis prohibits such action in most circumstances, the Treason Clause represents an absolute bar on such conduct given the current state of American Treason law.

Meyer was inspired to pursue this topic after his first year Constitutional Law exam, which included a hypothetical about the Due Process implications of the al-Aulaqi case. “I thought the question was fascinating, as it pits the ultimate right against the zenith of presidential authority,” said Meyer. “I wanted to give the question more consideration. Ultimately, I hope to see the process for adjudication in these cases change to a judicial process rather than a classified executive process.” Meyer credits Professor Nelson Tebbe with guiding his analysis and mentoring him through the writing of the note.

**Elizabeth Hersey ’14**
*Brooklyn Journal of International Law*

Hersey’s note, “No Universal Target: Distinguishing Between Terrorism and Human Rights Violations in Targeted Sanctions Regimes,” contends that there is a trend in international law toward states’ use of domestic legislation to punish individuals in other countries. It is quasi-accepted that states may enact “targeted sanctions” against individuals associated with terrorism. However, two new laws attempt to target suspected human rights violators in foreign territory: the United States’ Magnitsky Act and the Russian Federation’s Dima Yakolev’s Law (better known as the Russian adoption ban). The note argues that these extraterritorial laws violate international principles of state sovereignty and human rights.

Based on her note, Hersey was awarded the “2014 Distinguished Legal Writing Award” by the Burton Awards for Legal Achievement. Hersey is the sixth Brooklyn Law School student to win this prestigious award.

“I’m hopeful more people will consider the appropriateness of targeted sanctions under international law, particularly as they are being used against Russian officials in this international disagreement over Crimea,” said Hersey. “I find the concepts of territoriality and state sovereignty very interesting and look forward to seeing how they evolve in this context.”

**Jourdain Poupore ’14**
*Brooklyn Journal of Corporate, Financial & Commercial Law*

In a note entitled, “Mortgage Takings and Municipal Finance: A Solution for Preserving Home Ownership,” Poupore examines the proposed use of eminent domain by municipalities to condemn underwater mortgage notes. Since the summer of 2012, various communities throughout the U.S., suffering the after effects of the housing crisis, have been considering eminent domain as an option for preventing foreclosures. In discussing the constitutional, procedural, and practical issues...
that municipalities and communities will likely encounter, Poupore actually set up a step-by-step legal analysis that municipalities can use to implement systematic mortgage condemnations.

Poupore was inspired to write about this topic by his interest in mortgage finance, in particular the securitization of mortgages. “The proposal to condemn mortgage contracts had no real precedent,” he said. “The novelty of addressing all the issues related to eminent domain, mortgages, local government, and homeowners proved quite stimulating.”

In researching his note, Poupore consulted Professors Alan Trammell and Neil Cohen. “Professor Trammell provided constant support throughout the process,” he said. As his note took form, he also consulted Professor Cohen, who helped to narrow his focus on some of the more arcane commercial law issues.

Sarah Merry ’14
Journal of Law and Policy

In “Eye See You: How Criminal Defendants Have Utilized the Nerd Defense to Influence Jurors’ Perceptions,” Merry explores the so-called “nerd defense,” in which a defendant wears unnecessary eyeglasses aimed at persuading a jury of the defendant’s low propensity to commit a crime.

A defendant who utilizes the so-called nerd defense circumvents character evidence rules by unofficially introducing into evidence the positive character traits that are associated with eyeglasses. Under the Federal Rules of Evidence, when a defendant’s identification is not specifically at issue in the case, the prosecution is unable to counter this unofficial introduction of character evidence. While dressing a defendant in a suit and tie, altering hairstyle, or applying makeup can also affect juror perception, such changes do not falsely represent a handicap or a physical defect, argued Merry. “The real problem lies in concocting a handicap that brings with it powerful social stereotypes because such intentional misdirection undermines the truth-seeking principles of the judicial system.”

Merry concludes that by providing a jury with a modified change-of-appearance instruction, a court will enable the jury to have a more complete and truthful base of knowledge when considering the facts of the case and the jury will be better equipped to consider the defendant’s strategic change in appearance.

Merry closely followed the Casey Anthony trial and observed how much of the media coverage focused on the defendant’s eyeglasses. “When it came time to narrow down a note topic, my initial research revealed that eyeglasses drastically change one’s perceived appearance,” said Merry, who will begin work as an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx County District Attorney’s Office in September. “Further studies indicated that eyeglasses are a particularly powerful tool with which to alter juror perceptions.”

Clinical Education at BLS Becomes Mandatory

BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL has long been known as a trailblazer in providing clinic experience. Recently, BLS faculty took this reputation a step further, mandating that students complete at least one clinic or externship course before graduation.

The new guidelines, which take effect with this fall’s entering class, are not a radical departure for the Law School: Nearly all BLS students already fulfill the clinic requirement. In last year’s graduating class, 452 of 484 total students—both full-time and part-time—took at least one semester of a clinic or externship. The new mandate not only addresses increased emphasis on experiential learning in legal education, but also reinforces the Law School’s priority on graduating new lawyers who have real-world practice.

The announcement coincides with a National Jurist survey that included BLS among the top 20 “law schools for clinics.” The magazine ranked 200 law schools nationwide based on “most clinical opportunities,” dividing the total number of filled slots in full-time clinical course offerings by the number of full-time students.

Brooklyn Law School offered 378 clinical positions in 2013, according to the report, reflecting enrollment in 25 clinics—one of the strongest showings in the country. Worth noting is that the number did not include the 750 students enrolled in externships during the 2012-2013 academic year. Surely if it had, the Law School would have ranked at the very top of the survey.

“Our program is so rich and deep that students are faced with the enviable dilemma of deciding which clinics to take,” said Professor Stacy Caplow, Associate Dean for Professional Legal Education, who has served as Director of the Clinical Education Program since 1984. “It’s long been part of our vision—and now it is a requirement—that our students spend time accruing significant and high quality experience as they make the transition from school to practice.”
Brooklyn Law School Names Public Interest/Public Service (PipS) Fellows

Last fall, Brooklyn Law School inaugurated the Public Interest/Public Service Fellowship (PipS), a new two-year program in partnership currently with 12 governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations. Encompassing the third year of law school and first post-graduate year, its mission is to improve the practical skills of new lawyers, while providing essential legal services to underserved populations.

Today, nine BLS 2Ls have secured PipS Fellowships following an extensive selection process. This fall they will begin full-time positions in what is the first program of its kind on the East Coast, modeled after a similar program at UC Hastings. The Fellows will serve at some of New York’s most highly respected nonprofits and government agencies:

**Brooklyn Defender Services**
Elana Rodman ’15 (immigration)

**Legal Aid Society**
Janeen Hall ’15 (immigration)

**NY Legal Assistance Group**
Lauren Price ’15 (special litigation),
Alexander Hu ’15 (immigration), and Sara Friedman ’15 (matrimonial and family law)

**NYC Law Department**
Ryan Murphy ’15, Diana Manakhimova ’15
(torts division)

**NYC Transit Authority**
Daniel D’Costa ’15

**Youth Represent**
Eric Eingold ’15

The growing roster of partners also includes the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project; Catholic Charities; Community Service Society; NY County District Attorney; Public Health Solutions; and Safe Horizon. Each partner will accept between one and nine Fellows.

“PipS allows students to transition to law practice and have a guaranteed job for at least one year after graduation in settings that enhance access to justice for individuals and expand capacity for nonprofit organizations and government agencies,” said Professor Stacy Caplow, Associate Dean for Professional Legal Education, who spearheaded every aspect of the program’s implementation. “It’s an important ingredient in Brooklyn Law School’s recipe for more flexible legal education options.”

The traditional three-year law school structure has been a flashpoint in the national conversation about legal education. Many practicing lawyers complain that newly graduated lawyers do not know how to perform in the workplace. The PipS program is designed to integrate students into a professional setting where they can be trained and develop essential lawyering skills during law school.

While the PipS experience will vary depending on the focus of each partner organization, the overall format applies to all Fellows. Each Fellow commits to working full-time for the employer for two years, and after nine months of work and evening classes, Fellows will attend a seminar that satisfies the professional responsibility course, teaches important skills, and explores the values, organization, and structure of the legal profession.

Following graduation, Fellows will have time to prepare for the bar exam. They will then return for another full year of work, with salaries provided by the partner organizations. At the end of the two-year cycle, the employer may opt to offer the Fellow a permanent job.

Both BLS and the employer screened candidates through a rigorous application process. Fellows were selected based on numerous factors, including their record of academic success, strong research and writing skills, and their ability to meet New York Court of Appeals and ABA requirements.

“What drew me to PipS was the guarantee of employment at a starting salary in the Fellowship’s second year, and hopefully beyond,” said Eric Eingold ’15. “The organization that I applied to work with, Youth Represent, also appealed to me for its direct services to clients, its advocacy for the reform of laws concerning mass incarceration, and its focus on educating community partners about their rights. I am very excited to spend my third year in law school becoming a better lawyer so that by the time I graduate, I’ll be ready to serve as an advocate.”

Clockwise from top:
Where are They Now?
Seven Students’ Journey from 1L to 3L

By Andrea Strong ’94 and Peggy Swisher

IN THE FALL OF 2011, we shared the stories of seven incoming students in the cover story of this magazine. Entitled “Brooklyn Beginnings,” the feature included a group of first-year students who entered Law School with an impressive range of professional, academic, and personal experiences, from a Marine who was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, to a Teach for America Corps member who taught fifth grade in Crown Heights, to a White House staffer responsible for archiving President Obama’s personal effects. The students featured came from as far away as Istanbul and Singapore and as near as Long Island and New Jersey.

Three years later, they have not only cleared the hurdles of first year classes, and survived the Socratic Method; they have flourished, taking full advantage of all that Brooklyn Law School has to offer. They received real world practical training through Brooklyn’s renowned professional legal education program, participating in clinics representing clients and writing and arguing motions in moot court competitions. They also took full advantage of the Law School’s first-rate location by participating in numerous externship opportunities. And they honed their intellect as members of scholarly journals or by assisting faculty with their research.

In just a few short weeks, these seven students are poised to graduate at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and move on to the real world of law, whether clerking for a judge, working at a law firm or corporation, or joining a government agency. Before they move on to the next chapter, we had a chance to catch up with them to learn more about their law school experiences and their plans following graduation. While some of students followed the path they expected to take, several headed in a surprising new direction. “It’s funny seeing the bold-faced transition from an interest in international law/social justice, to a career in commercial real estate,” said Welds, who will be an associate at Simpson Thacher in the fall. “It’s a testament to the fact that we really know very little about what we will enjoy coming into law school.”
Teisha Ruggiero

The Surrealist Painter with an Interest in Financial Markets

- Member of the Brooklyn Law Journal of International Law
- Scholar of the National Italian American Bar Association and the National Italian American Foundation
- Internship with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- Externship with the Securities and Exchange Commission
- Internship with the Honorable Judge Baer of the Southern District of New York
- Participant in the Tax VITA program and Employment Law Clinic
- Vice President of Brooklyn Law School’s Tax Law Association
- Participant in the Bucerius Law School international exchange program
- Will join KPMG’s International Tax practice as an associate

Upton Au

The Philosopher with an Interest in Law and Morality

- Articles Editor, Brooklyn Law Review
- Published “Toward a Reconceived Legislative Intent Behind the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act: The Public-Safety Rationale for Prohibiting Bribery Abroad,” in the spring issue of the Brooklyn Law Review
- Internship with Judge Frank S. Maas of the Southern District of New York
- Interned in the Legal and Compliance Division of Morgan Stanley
- Interned in the Legal and Compliance Department of The Carlyle Group
- Participant in the Tax VITA program and Employment Law Clinic
- Vice President of Brooklyn Law School’s Tax Law Association
- Participant in the Bucerius Law School international exchange program
- Will clerk for Justice Gorman in the Supreme Court of Maine from August 2014–August 2015

Melissa Martin

The Teacher with an Interest in Public Service

- Awarded the Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Fellowship
- As a Sparer Fellow, worked with low-income victims of domestic violence at New York Legal Assistance Group
- As a research assistant for Professors Cynthia Godsoe and Melissa Mortazavi, researched topics ranging from school lunch reform to litigation strategies in same-sex marriage cases
- May return to Sidley Austin after graduation, either in Hong Kong or Singapore
Leanne Welds  
*The Musician with an Interest in International Law and Social Justice*

» Executive Articles Editor, *Brooklyn Law Review*
» Recipient of the Lorraine Power Tharp Scholarship offered by the New York State Bar Real Property Section
» Member of the Community Development Clinic
» Secretary of the Black Law Student Association
» Interned at Chartis Insurance (now AIG)
» Externed with Enterprise Community Partners, an affordable housing firm
» Externed with Tempo Networks, a Caribbean television station based in New Jersey
» Summer associate with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

• Will join Simpson Thacher’s Real Estate Group this fall

Setenay Akdag  
*A Native of Turkey with an Interest in International Human Rights Law*

» Served as co-chair of the student pro bono Immigrant Visa Assistance Project
» Member of Moor Court Honor Society
» Won first place in the Americas round of Price Media Law Moot Court Competition with her team last year
» Coached the Moot Court Immigration Law Competition team this spring

• Offer from the Department of Justice, Executive Office of Immigration Review as a judicial law clerk, beginning in the fall

Christopher Liegel  
*The Former White House Staffer with an Interest in National Security*

» Interned with the U.S. Attorney’s Office, EDNY, in the Violent Crimes and Terrorism Unit
» Interned with the New York County District Attorney’s Office
» Awarded the CALI Award in Appellate Advocacy
» Served as a summer associate at the global law firm Clausen Miller P.C.

• Will join Clausen Miller P.C. as an associate in August

Nathan Cox (NOT PICTURED)  
*The Marine Deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan*

» Member of the *Brooklyn Journal of International Law*
» Participant in the Military Legal Clinic
» Will join the Marines as a Judge Advocate General at MCAS Cherry Point, NC
Christina Mulligan
Assistant Professor of Law

**EDUCATION**
B.A., Harvard University; J.D., Harvard Law School

**EXPERIENCE**
Yale Law School, Information Society Project; University of Georgia School of Law, Assistant Professor of Law

**SELECT RECENT SCHOLARSHIP**

Christina Mulligan is a lawyer for the digital age. A former postdoctoral associate and lecturer in law at the Information Society Project at Yale Law School, she joins the Law School this fall from University of Georgia Law School, where she has been teaching Internet Law, Cybercrime, and Intellectual Property.

Mulligan earned her bachelor’s degree *cum laude* in philosophy from Harvard University, but knew that law school was where she was heading. “I wanted to apply the process of philosophical inquiry to real-life questions such as: How should humans organize themselves? How can we best solve problems, use resources, and allocate responsibility? What are our obligations to one another? Going to law school was the natural path,” she said. While in law school, also at Harvard, she found herself continually attracted to the intersection of law and technology, and she served as a Production and Article Editor for the *Harvard Journal of Law & Technology*. “Technology puts pressure on legal institutions because it physically changes the world in which the law operates,” she said. “The Internet and computers especially complicate questions about where events happen, who caused them, what copying and theft means, what encourages and limits innovation. Trying to work out the answers is a fantastic challenge, and puzzling over them with students is particularly satisfying because great ideas emerge when heads get put together.”
Her scholarship explores the overarching theme of “information costs,” or the costs of gathering and processing the information necessary to do something. “When dealing with high volumes of data, as computers do all the time, legal rules need to be drafted with information costs in mind,” she said. “For example, literally hours of video footage is uploaded to YouTube.com every second. If YouTube were held liable simply for hosting every copyright infringing or defamatory video on the site, the business model of content hosting wouldn’t be tenable because there could never be enough time and employees to screen everything. So the law has developed selective immunities and notice systems to facilitate the existence of innovative businesses.”

Her most recent piece, “Technological Regulation and Freedom of the Press,” appeared in the S.M.U. Law Review in 2013. In it, she argued that the Free Press Clause requires the law to largely immunize intermediaries, like printing presses and web hosts, for the actions of speakers who use their platforms, so long as the intermediary doesn’t take an active role in content creation. “Holding intermediaries responsible for the illegal speech or copyright infringement of users will create ‘collateral censorship’ and incentivize intermediaries to censor any questionable speech—including legal speech—that the government would not be allowed to censor directly,” she explained. “Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act goes a long way toward protecting online speech, but abuses of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act’s ‘notice-and-takedown’ system illustrate how worry about intermediary liability can lead to censorship rather than intellectual property right protection.”

Another piece, “A Numerus Clausus Principle for Intellectual Property,” was also published in 2013, in the Tennessee Law Review. In this article, she explores the “Numerus Clausus Principle,” which holds that real and tangible property can only be transferred and held in a small variety of forms. “Law students will remember some of these forms as the fee simple, life estate and remainder, and defeasible fees,” she said. “My article investigates the reasons for these limitations and argues that a similar principle should animate intellectual property law, particularly to decrease the information costs associated with the transfer of intellectual property rights.”

Mulligan’s current research explores the tension in software-embedded goods between the simple rules for tangible property ownership and the flexible ways software can be licensed. “More and more of our appliances, from cameras and watches to thermostats and refrigerators, are running code and joining networks,” she said. “Traditionally, these objects have been personal property that one probably owns in fee simple. But when the software these objects run is licensed, one’s legal relationship to one’s own possessions changes. I’m exploring the implications of software license agreements in these situations and asking whether we should limit how much they can alter personal property rights.”

Mulligan is thrilled to be joining the faculty of the Law School, where she will be teaching Internet Law, Cybercrime, and Intellectual Property. “I’m always working to be an engaged professor—someone who is thinking about emerging issues, and able to advise litigants and businesses when those issues become concrete,” she said. She is particularly excited to be a part of CUBE. “I hope to help Brooklyn continue to become a destination for aspiring start-up and technology lawyers,” she said. “Brooklyn has already defined itself in these areas, and I am looking forward to building on those accomplishments and forging relationships between the school and the surrounding tech community.”

K. Sabeel Rahman
Assistant Professor of Law

EDUCATION
A.B., Harvard University; M.Sc and M.St, Oxford University, Rhodes Scholar; J.D., Harvard Law School; Ph.D., Harvard University

EXPERIENCE
Harvard College, Head Teaching Fellow; Harvard Law School, Reginald Lewis Fellow

SELECT RECENT SCHOLARSHIP

A scholar of public law, democracy, and economic policy, K. Sabeel Rahman will join the Law School in the fall of 2015. Rahman is currently the Reginald Lewis Fellow at Harvard Law School, where his research is focused on law, institutional structure, and democratic participation, with a particular interest in financial and economic regulation.
Rahman explained, “That doesn’t happen just by writing and publishing articles. You have to engage with people in the field. For me, it’s part of the ethic of legal research and scholarship.”

Rahman is excited about joining the BLS community, citing not only its academic community, but also the school’s commitment to practice. Said Rahman, “It’s a big part of what drew me to Brooklyn Law School, as a community that engages both the theoretical and the practical, and is steeped in the role of law in public service and social change.”

At the Law School, Rahman will bring his considerable experience to the classroom. His teaching interests revolve around administrative and constitutional law, and the role of law in shaping the modern economy, the nature of democratic politics, and the dynamics of social change. “I really enjoy teaching; it’s a large part of why I am in this business,” said Rahman. “I think probably the most important way ideas are communicated is in the classroom. It’s an informative time for students and to be a part of that conversation is really exciting.”

Rahman graduated from Harvard College summa cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He then attended the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar where he received a M.Sc in Economics, and a M.St in Socio-legal Studies. It was there that he began to consider a career in law and legal academia. “I realized that I was really interested not just in economics but in the political side of the equation,” he said. “I wanted to help make policies and institutions that are responsive to constituents.” Rahman then returned to Harvard for his J.D.-Ph.D. “In my work I try to engage the world of legal scholarship, advocacy, and institutional reform while bringing to bear some of the ideas that come from engaging deeply with history, social science, and political theory,” he explained.

Brooklyn Law School engages both the theoretical and the practical and is steeped in the role of law in public service and social change.

—K. Sabeel Rahman

In addition to his academic scholarship, Rahman works extensively with practitioners and policymakers in the fields of civic engagement and democratic institutional reform. Rahman earned his J.D. at Harvard Law School and his Ph.D. from the Harvard Department of Government.

Rahman’s scholarship has appeared in a wide range of journals in law, political theory, history, and international development. “My research focuses on the question of how to reform democratic institutions to make them more responsive to a full range of stakeholders especially when it comes to questions of economic policy,” he said. Rahman is currently finalizing a book on how a more participatory view of democracy can provide a response to current concerns about economic inequality and political dysfunction. He is also continuing work on academic research papers on democratic participation in the regulatory process, and the intellectual history of legal and normative debates about financial regulation.

Rahman also serves as Director of the Gettysburg Project and a Fellow at the Roosevelt Institute, where he works with leading community organizers, advocacy groups, funders, policymakers, and academics to develop innovative approaches to reviving civic engagement and reforming democratic institutions. He has also served as a consultant for the Governance Lab @ NYU, which focuses on harnessing new “civic technologies” to improve democratic governance, and the Brennan Center for Justice, an advocacy group on campaign finance reform. “The common thread in all of this work is looking for ways to link up academic research to what is happening in the real world,” Rahman explained. “That doesn’t happen just by writing and publishing articles. You have to engage with people in the field. For me, it’s part of the ethic of legal research and scholarship.”

Rahman is excited about joining the BLS community, citing not only its academic community, but also the school’s commitment to practice. Said Rahman, “It’s a big part of what drew me to Brooklyn Law School, as a community that engages both the theoretical and the practical, and is steeped in the role of law in public service and social change.”

At the Law School, Rahman will bring his considerable experience to the classroom. His teaching interests revolve around administrative and constitutional law, and the role of law in shaping the modern economy, the nature of democratic politics, and the dynamics of social change. “I really enjoy teaching; it’s a large part of why I am in this business,” said Rahman. “I think probably the most important way ideas are communicated is in the classroom. It’s an informative time for students and to be a part of that conversation is really exciting.”

Rahman graduated from Harvard College summa cum laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He then attended the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar where he received a M.Sc in Economics, and a M.St in Socio-legal Studies. It was there that he began to consider a career in law and legal academia. “I realized that I was really interested not just in economics but in the political side of the equation,” he said. “I wanted to help make policies and institutions that are responsive to constituents.” Rahman then returned to Harvard for his J.D.-Ph.D. “In my work I try to engage the world of legal scholarship, advocacy, and institutional reform while bringing to bear some of the ideas that come from engaging deeply with history, social science, and political theory,” he explained.

Jodi Balsam
Director of Civil Externship Program and Associate Professor of Clinical Law

EDUCATION
B.A., Yale University; J.D., New York University School of Law

EXPERIENCE
Hon. Charles L. Brieant of U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York; Hon. Dennis Jacobs of U.S. Court of Appeals for Second Circuit; Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP; National Football League; New York University School of Law, Acting Assistant Professor of Lawyering; New York Law School, Associate Professor of Law

Over the course of her 25 years in the law, Jodi Balsam has been a litigation associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, in-house counsel at the National Football League, and a law clerk for both the trial and appellate federal courts in Manhattan. But she is quick to point out that her current work as a law professor is the professional role she finds most rewarding. “There are phases to a career and what one finds rewarding at one phase is different than another,” she said. “What I am doing now—teaching, being in academia—is the
highlight of my career. I love the intellectual community, the mentoring of students, and the huge psychic rewards of participating in the transformation of students’ intellect and interests over the course of their law school career.”

Balsam majored in history at Yale University and was interested in law school from the beginning of her college days. She attended NYU School of Law and following graduation, clerked for Judge Charles Brieant on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. She then joined Simpson Thacher, where she was a litigator specializing in antitrust matters primarily for clients in the sports and entertainment industry. She was mentored by then litigation partner Dennis Jacobs; when he was appointed judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in 1992, she joined him as his first law clerk.

She transitioned into academia by joining the faculty of NYU’s Lawyering Program. She also wrote “The New Second Circuit Local Rules: Anatomy and Commentary,” which was published in BLS’s Journal of Law & Policy (2011). The article provides a history of local rulemaking generally and in the Second Circuit, and details the process and practical effect of the revision of the Circuit’s rules. She currently sits on the Second Circuit’s Attorney Advisory Committee on Local Rules.

Balsam became an Associate Professor of Law at New York Law School in 2011, joining the newly launched Legal Practice Program where she was responsible for developing curricula and teaching 1Ls in the year-long legal research, writing and lawyering skills course. She has also taught Sports Law and the Judicial Externship Seminar at NYLS, and supervised the school’s sports law blog. She is a frequent commentator in the press on issues pertaining to sports law, and conference presenter on topics ranging from the NFL concussion litigation to law school pedagogy.

At Brooklyn Law School, she will bring her varied and extensive experience to serve as Director of the Civil Externship Programs and Associate Professor of Clinical Law. “Brooklyn has always been a leader in clinical education, and its investment in a faculty member to direct the externship program is a strong statement of its commitment to this type of experiential learning,” she said. In that capacity, she will develop a new curriculum to support students enrolled in civil externships at the Law School, a number that is growing every day. (75 upper class students are enrolled in civil externships this semester. As of the fall of 2014, clinical education will become mandatory. Read more about our new clinical requirements on Page 22.)

I love the intellectual community, the mentoring of students, and the huge psychic rewards of participating in the transformation of students’ intellect and interests over the course of their law school career. —Jodi Balsam

From the Second Circuit, she channeled a love of football (she’s a Giants fan) into a job at the NFL, first as Counsel for Operations and Litigation and then Of Counsel for Football Operations. She remained there for 12 years, when Judge Jacobs called again. He had been appointed Chief Judge of the Second Circuit and was given an extra clerkship spot he asked her to fill. She did, and afterward continued with the Circuit, serving as Counsel to the Clerk of Court where she spearheaded the court’s project to comprehensively revise its local rules and internal operating procedures. “That year was transformational for me,” she recalled. “I loved the deep engagement with the law, the reading and writing about the law. That experience helped me realize that I wanted to continue that engagement as a professor.”

She will also develop systems to support and monitor field placements, build relationships with employers, and work with extern supervisors to improve their mentoring and supervision skills. “These employers have not been trained as teachers and we need to support them more,” she said. “Embedding students in the practice of law has tremendous potential, and I want us to realize that potential.”

Balsam is a huge proponent of activities that give students and young professionals what she calls “a 360-degree network.” “You have to be active in the bar association, you have to publish pieces that allow you to participate in the larger conversation about the law, and you have to go out of your way to mentor others. You have to pay it forward and backward and in every direction.”
Paul Gangsei
Executive Director of the Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE)

EDUCATION
B.A., St. Olaf College; J.D., New York University School of Law

EXPERIENCE
Hon. Lawrence W. Pierce of U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York; Webster & Sheffield; Partner, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP

In January, Paul Gangsei was appointed the Executive Director of the Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE). Over the course of his career, Gangsei has built a reputation representing not-for-profit educational, healthcare, social service and cultural institutions and public entities in real estate and development transactions. His roster of projects includes developments for MoMA, the South Street Seaport Museum, The New School, the Manhattan School of Music and numerous healthcare providers.

Gangsei’s first professional experience in education was as a member of The Teachers, Inc. (TTI), a start-up not-for-profit attracting recent college graduates to public school teaching. Through TTI, he became an English teacher at Westbury Junior High School. He then continued his work with TTI as Executive Assistant to the President, acting as the company’s “COO”—working with foundations, applying for grants, and building the company’s presence in new locations along the East coast. He also served on the organization's Board of Directors.

Following his work at TTI, Gangsei attended New York University’s Wagner School and studied Urban Planning. While there, he came to realize that the people behind the deals that interested him most—developing projects for communities—were lawyers. “I was interested in innovative individual projects that changed communities and institutions, particularly not-for-profits,” he recalled. “The Chairman of the New York City Planning Commission was Donald Elliott, a Brooklynite who was a trained lawyer, and I wanted to do what he was doing.”

Gangsei attended New York University School of Law, where he was an Associate Editor of the Law Review. He clerked for Judge Lawrence Pierce of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and then joined Elliott and former Mayor John Lindsay at the law firm of Webster & Sheffield, where his training in real estate development and entrepreneurship began in earnest. Gangsei represented not-for-profit educational, social service and cultural institutions, and public entities, as well as financial and commercial institutional clients, in innovative transactional real estate and development projects.

Fourteen years later in 1990, Gangsei moved his real estate practice to the offices of Kalkines, Arky, Zall & Bernstein LLP, which merged with Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP in 2003 to become the firm’s New York City office. During this chapter of his career, he focused on higher education through development of noteworthy projects for institutions such as The New School and The Manhattan School of Music, as well as representing e-commerce start-ups through multiple rounds of financing.

In his “spare time,” as a member and then Chair of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Children’s Museum, he spearheaded the Museum’s noteworthy expansion, making it New York City’s first green museum.

As CUBE’s Executive Director, Gangsei has been charged with developing a new model for putting Brooklyn Law students on the front lines of entrepreneurship. Working with the faculty, he will develop the Center’s core curriculum, a combination of foundational coursework, in-house clinics, and industry-specific courses and workshops that promote substantive knowledge and skills training for entrepreneurial attorneys. As an entrepreneurial insider, he will continue to raise the profile of CUBE as a home for the next generation of pioneers in business, media, energy, technology, the creative arts and social enterprise and the lawyers who represent them.

Gangsei sees CUBE as a portal to entrepreneurship—a door through which law students can become a part of the vast array of entrepreneurial activity happening in the not-for-profit, public, and commercial sectors in Brooklyn and beyond. “Brooklyn Law School is Brooklyn’s law school,” he said. “We are at the center of this hot bed of creativity, and thanks to CUBE our students can be an integral part of all that is going on here. The Dean and I believe that lawyers can be facilitators and problem solvers. Our goal at CUBE is to train students to be the kind of lawyers that will make new ventures a success.”
Miriam Baer, who teaches in the areas of corporate law, white collar crime, criminal law and criminal procedure, was granted tenure in December. She joined Brooklyn’s faculty in 2008 and is affiliated with the Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation and the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law.

Baer is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Law School, where she was the articles and managing editor of the Harvard Human Rights Journal. Following graduation, she became a law clerk to Judge Jane Roth of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. She spent two years as a litigation associate with Cravath, Swaine & Moore before becoming an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York, where she eventually focused on white-collar criminal prosecutions. In 2004, she left the U.S. Attorney’s office to join Verizon as an assistant general counsel for compliance.

It was her work in compliance at Verizon that inspired Baer to pursue a position in academia. “Compliance has both a policy component and an investigative component,” she said. “The investigative side was similar to my job as a prosecutor, but the policy component was really more of an intellectual discussion about what a compliance program should look like. That exercise was really interesting to me.” After a little more than a year at Verizon, Baer decided to pursue a position in legal academia. “I wanted go somewhere I could think about broad legal policy questions,” she said. Baer spent two years as an Acting Assistant Professor in New York University School of Law’s Lawyering Program before joining Brooklyn Law School’s faculty.

With a strong background in compliance and an interest in corporate behavior, Baer writes articles that are informed by law and economics and behavioral psychology. “I enjoy examining how the law incentivizes a person to act, and how that can help us come up with better policy solutions,” she said. “My scholarship is what allows me to think more deeply about certain issues, it informs my teaching and allows me to speak out on major issues. Being a part of legal discourse is important to me.”

Baer has been a stellar scholar from her start in academia. One of her first pieces, “Insuring Corporate Crime,” was among five papers showcased for commentary from corporate law scholars at the Conglomerate Junior Scholars Workshop in 2007, and was published in the Indiana Law Journal. A later article, “Cooperation’s Cost,” was published in the Washington University Law Review and was one of two criminal law papers selected for the 2010 Stanford-Yale Junior Faculty Forum.

Her forthcoming piece, “Confronting the Two Faces of Corporate Fraud,” will appear in the University of Florida Law Review. The piece examines two types of corporate misconduct: planned misconduct, like that of Bernard Madoff, and what she calls “spur of the moment misconduct,” which occurs when an individual yields to temptation. Baer argues that individuals can harbor different levels of motivations to do harm and tendencies to yield to temptation. As a result, both of these inclinations cause fraud and similar misconduct within corporations. To confront these two overlapping but distinct dispositions, Baer argues, corporate compliance departments must select from a number of tools. Those tools include policing, as well as structural regulation. One of Baer’s conclusions is that corporate compliance departments are oriented more towards internal policing, and less towards devising internal regulations that would prevent harm. This concern echoes her broader view that policing and punishment have unnecessarily eclipsed regulation. “We would be better off with more front-end regulation,” she said. This view, along with an exploration of why society prefers punishment over regulation, is the focus of another recent article, “Choosing Punishment,” which was published in the Boston University Law Review.

Baer’s most recent work, “Timing Brady,” will appear next year in the Columbia Law Review. It takes her lessons from the world of corporate deterrence and applies them to prosecutorial misconduct. “We spend a lot of energy thinking about how to get corporate CEOs and managers to comply with the law,” she explained. “We might apply some of that learning to how to get prosecutors and police to comply with the law.” In “Timing Brady,” she examines the Brady rule, which governs the prosecutor’s mandatory disclosure of material exculpatory
Robbin Effron always knew she wanted to be a professor. A philosophy major at Barnard College, Effron was considering pursuing a Ph.D., but decided on law school because she “wanted something a little more grounded in the real world than philosophy,” she joked. She attended New York University where she was Articles Editor on the NYU Law Review and then clerked for Alvin K. Hellerstein of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, where she discovered complex litigation, the subject that would become the focus of her career. “Judge Hellerstein had all of the 9/11 cases consolidated before him and that sparked my interest in the academic study of complex litigation and civil procedure,” she said.

After clerking, she spent an academic year in Germany as a fellow in the D.A.A.D. Program for International Lawyers and worked with attorneys in the legal department of a large investment bank to research questions of German and U.S. law. “I wanted to live abroad and become fluent in a foreign language and I figured that was the best time to do it,” she said. When she returned from Germany, she joined the University of Chicago Law School as a Bigelow Fellow and Lecturer in Law. Two years later in 2008, she joined Brooklyn’s faculty, teaching civil procedure and international business law courses. She serves as Co-Director for the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law.

Effron is an avid writer and her articles on complex litigation have been published in law reviews such as the Georgetown Law Journal, the Southern California Law Review, and the William and Mary Law Review. She also edits the Civil Procedure and Federal Courts Blog for the Law Professors Blog Network.

Effron’s latest piece, “Reason Giving and Rule Making in Procedural Law,” was published in the Alabama Law Review this year. In this article, she investigates problems with the procedural rules closely associated with a judge’s managerial capacity, and suggests a new paradigm for crafting and evaluating these rules by drawing on the administrative law principles of reason giving in decision-making. “For certain types of procedural rules, rulemakers should abandon the task of trying to regulate procedure by promulgating rules or standards regarding the desired outcome of the application of the device at issue,” she said. “Instead, they should turn their attention to regulating the process by which judges make procedural decisions.”

Borrowing concepts from administrative law, Effron argues that rulemakers should employ the technique of reason giving to regulate select procedural devices. She concludes by suggesting that commentators rethink the value of precedential opinions in some procedural decisions. “Rather than straining to identify uniformity in the application of vague standards, rulemakers should be satisfied that they have regulated an area through the delegation of authority and the promotion of a systematic use of that authority by judges as regulators and regulated subjects,” she said. “These sorts of decisions have the potential for developing stability and standards in certain areas of procedural law.”

Effron always looks forward to the beginning of the new academic year, when she has the opportunity to teach first-year students civil procedure. “I love teaching civ pro,” she said. “It’s closest to my area of research and it’s a first semester 1L class, and there is nothing like it.”

This past year, she took a novel approach in her civil procedure class. Instead of having her students purchase a casebook, which can run upwards of $200, she created her own open-source book, which she edited herself, and made it
available online and as a printout at the bookstore. “I essentially wrote my own casebook,” she said. “It was a huge project, but it’s much more affordable for my students, and it worked really well.”

Outside of the classroom, Effron is a classical singer who performs with the New York Choral Society. She has been singing since she was in elementary school and was part of the musical theater troupe in law school. “I thought about opera, but I think for me it was always more of a really great hobby.” She also plays guitar, piano and, in very Brooklyn hipster fashion, just started taking banjo lessons.

**Rebecca Kysar**

**Courses**

Federal Income Taxation, International Taxation, Legislation and Statutory Interpretation

**Select recent scholarship**


As an undergrad at Indiana University, Rebecca Kysar was a Religious Studies major and hoped to pursue a career in academia. But she wasn’t sure religion would be her field. “I feared that getting a Masters in Religious Studies would be too confining,” she said. “I felt that legal academia would give me the freedom to explore different areas throughout my career.” After spending a year abroad in Ireland, she returned to the States and attended Yale Law School where she became a Senior Editor of the Yale Law Journal and a Coker Teaching Fellow. Studying with Professor Michael Graetz, a renowned tax authority, she also discovered a surprising interest in tax law, a subject that would become her area of expertise.

Following graduation, Kysar served as a law clerk to Judge Richard Cardamone of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She went on to practice as an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore, where she worked in the tax group, advising clients on the tax aspects of complex domestic and international mergers and acquisitions.

She joined Brooklyn Law School in 2008, teaching federal income tax and international tax. “I still keep in touch with my students from my first class in international tax,” she said. “It was intimidating at first and very challenging to put it all together. It was a steep learning curve. But one of the most meaningful parts of my job is introducing students to a field in which they later practice. It is very rewarding to have students tell me that I sparked a lifelong interest in tax law.”

Kysar, who is an Edward V. Sparer Public Interest Law Fellowship Committee Member and is affiliated with the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law, still teaches and researches in the areas of federal income tax, international tax, and legislation. Her scholarship examines tax treaties, as well as the tax legislative process. Her articles have appeared in the Cornell Law Review, the University of Pennsylvania Law Review, Notre Dame Law Review, and the Yale Journal of International Law. She has presented her scholarship at various forums, including the Columbia Tax Policy Colloquium, the Northwestern University School of Law Colloquium on Advanced Topics in Taxation, the NYU Tax Policy Colloquium, and the UCLA Tax Policy and Public Finance Colloquium.

In her most recent article, “The ‘Shell Bill’ Game: Avoidance and the Origination Clause,” published in the Washington University Law Review, she examined the Senate’s power to amend revenue legislation, such as the Affordable Care Act and the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, which began as “shell bills.”

“My work in this area began with a project arguing that tax treaties violate the Origination Clause because, as self-executing Article II treaties, they wholly omit the House from the tax treaty process,” she said. “Having explored the Origination Clause, an often ignored part of our Constitution, in this context, I was inspired to delve into the Senate’s amendment power under the Clause once the Affordable Care Act challenge became a live issue. There are not any scholarly papers on the topic, and the seriousness of the challenge has been downplayed in the media.”

A new mom to a baby boy named Lucian, Kysar is looking forward to returning to teaching in the fall. She is currently working on an article on the interpretation of tax treaties and will be editing a casebook on international tax law.

“Brooklyn Law School has always worked hard to nurture its young scholars who are on the tenure path,” she said. “Now that the running of the tenure clock is behind me, I am looking forward to pursuing longer-term projects.”
Faculty Notes

Nick Allard

**PUBLICATIONS**
- The Seven Deadly Virtues of Lobbying, 13 Election L.J. 210 (Feb. 2014)

**PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS**
- Speaker, New York Law School Deans’ Forum, New York State Bar Association, New York, NY
- Panelist, Plenary Session: “View from the Top,” AALS Annual Meeting, New York, NY
- Panelist, “Building Practice-Ready Graduates: Science Fiction or Forward Thinking?,” Law Library Association of Greater New York Educational Conference, New York, NY

**HONORS/AWARDS/APPOINTMENTS**
- Member, New York State Pro Bono Scholars Program Committee, and Member, Pro Bono Scholars Program Implementation Task Force
- Member, Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress and Special Committee on the Magna Carta Facsimile Traveling Exhibit, American Bar Association
- Member, Task Force on New Lawyers in a Changing Profession, New York City Bar Association; issued report titled Developing Legal Careers and Delivering Justice in the 21st Century
- Board Member, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership

**SELECT MEDIA**
- Op-ed, Law School Never Taught Me to be an Entrepreneur, Entrepreneur (Dec. 10, 2014)
- Op-ed, Obama’s Two-Year J.D. Concept Requires Balance, New Jersey LAW JOURNAL (Sep. 13, 2013)
- Interviewed for Dean: Law Schools Use Merit Scholarships to Boost Rankings, BLOOMBERG LAW (On-Air Segment, Oct. 11, 2014)

**Jonathan Askin**

**PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS**
- MC, Co-Host, and Speaker, “Data Privacy Legal Hackathon,” Independent Film Project, MadeInNY Media Center, New York, NY
- Speaker, “Terms and Conditions May Apply, Privacy in a World of Big Data,” Calyx Institute, New York, NY
- Keynote Speaker, “Brooklyn: Where Great Ideas Come From,” Brooklyn Entrepreneurs Meetup, Brooklyn, NY
- Host, “nyc Public Workshop,” New York, NY
- Moderator, “Collaborative Economy in NYC,” Suits to Silicon Alley, New York, NY
- Speaker, “Experiential Legal Education and Startup Law in America and Europe,” European Commission, Directorates General—Connect, Innovation, Ministry of Employment and the Economy, Enterprise and Innovation Department, Belgium, Brussels

William Araiza

**PUBLICATIONS**
- Another Article About Standing, Brooklyn Law School Legal Studies Papers (2013)
- Flunking the Class of One / Failing Equal Protection 55 Wm. & MARY L. Rev. 435 (2013)
OTHER PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
• Visiting Professor, Queen Mary University of London, Centre for Commercial Law Studies
• Board Member, Internet Society-NY
• Fellow, Columbia Institute for Tele-Information
• Founder/Advisor, iLINC Network of European law school startup clinics
• Advisor, MadeInNY Media Center
• Chief Legal Advisor, Museum of Science Fiction

SELECT MEDIA
• Op-ed, From Bleak House to Geek House: Will Europe Breed the Best, Next-Generation of Entrepreneurs and Lawyers?, The Huffington Post (Jan. 29, 2014)
• Op-ed, What The Facebook Didn’t Learn at Harvard, We Need to Teach at Law School, The Huffington Post (Dec. 19, 2013)
• Op-ed, A Remedy to Clueless Tech Lawyers, VENTURE BEAT (Nov. 13, 2013)

Miriam Baer
PUBLICATIONS
• Confronting the Two Faces of Corporate Fraud, 66 FLA. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2014)
• Teaching the White Collar Crime Course, 11 OH. ST. J. CRIM. L. __ (2014) (invited essay)
• Temporal Inconsistency and the Regulation of Corporate Misconduct, 2 VA. J. CRIM. L. __

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Panelist, Symposium: "Justice Sonia Sotomayor’s First Five Years on the Supreme Court," Yale Law Journal Online at Yale Law School
• Presenter, "Confronting the Two Faces of Corporate Fraud," Legal Theory Workshop, University of Michigan Law School
• Speaker, United States Sentencing Commission’s Economic Crime Symposium, John Jay College
• Organizer, “New Developments in FCPA Enforcement,” Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation and Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law, Brooklyn Law School

Christopher Beauchamp
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

Anita Bernstein
PUBLICATIONS
• Understanding Torts (LexisNexis Publishing, 5th ed. 2013) (with J. Diamond & L. Levine)
• Onlookers Tell an Extraordinary Entity What to Do, 79 BROOK. L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2014)
• Voluntary Recalls, 2013 U. CHI. LEGAL F. 359
• What’s Wrong with Stereotyping?, 55 ARIZ. L. REV. 655 (2013)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Panelist, “Exculpatory Evidence in Disciplinary Proceedings: Should Brady Apply to Us?,” National Organization of Bar Counsel Biannual Meeting, Chicago, IL
• Panelist, “Gender in Asbestos Law: Cui Bono? Cui Pacat?,” Temple Law School
• Panelist, "The Online World," Federal Criminal Practice Institute, New York County Lawyers’ Association, New York, NY

Bradley Borden
PUBLICATIONS
• Taxation of Corporations and Corporate Transactions (Aspen, in progress) (with S. Dean)
• Probability, Professionalism, and Protecting Taxpayers, 68 TAX LAW. __ (forthcoming 2014) (with D. Ventry, Jr.)
• Limited Liability Entities: State by State Guide to LLCs, LPs, and LLPs (Wolters Kluwer Law & Business 2012) (with R. Rhee) (multiple updates)
• Are Related-Party Acquisitions in Anticipation of Exchange Technically and Theoretically Valid?, 120 J. TAX’N 52 (Feb. 2014) (with K. Alton & A. Lederman)
• Section 179(f) Deductions and Recapture of Costs of Qualified Real Property, 120 J. TAX’N 4 (Jan. 2014) (with C. Lieberman)
• Avoiding Adverse Tax Consequences in Partnership and LLC Reorganizations, 23 BUS. L. TODAY (Dec. 2013) (with B. O’Connor & S. Schneider)
• Dirty REMICS, Revisited, 27 PROB. & PROP. 8 (Nov./Dec. 2013) (with D. Reiss)
• IRS Blesses Tax-Free Exchange of Negative-Equity Property, BLS PRACTICUM (Sep. 2013)
• Goliath Versus Goliath in High-Stakes MBS Litigation, 19 SEC. LIT. & REG. 3 (Sep. 2013) (with D. Reiss)
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• “REMIC Tax Enforcement as Financial-Market Regulator,” Faculty Colloquium, University of Washington School of Law
• Panelist, “North Central and Its Implications for Related Party Exchanges,” American Bar Association, Section of Taxation, Sales, Exchanges & Basis Committee Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
• Panelist, “Tax Planning Workshop: Drop & Swap and Section 704(c)(2) Strategies,” ABA Tax Section CLE Webinar and Teleconference
• Panelist, “Partnership and LLC Reorganizations,” American Bar Association, Business Law Section, LLC Institute, Alexandria, VA
• Speaker, “Individual and Partnership Tax Developments,” Tulane Tax Institute, New Orleans, LA
• Panelist, “The Very Rare Find: A Section 1031 Collectible Exchange with Definite Answers,” American Bar Association, Section of Taxation, Sales, Exchanges & Basis Committee Meeting, San Francisco, CA

SELECT MEDIA
• Interviewed for Tax Breaks Power PGA Tour Giving, ESPN Outside the Lines series (On-Air Segment, Dec. 13, 2013)

Dana Brakman Reiser
PUBLICATIONS
• Creative Financing for Social Enterprise, STAN. SOC. INNOVATION REV. (with S. Dean) (forthcoming 2014)
• Regulating Social Enterprise, 14 U.C. DAVIS BUS. L. REV. (forthcoming 2014)
• SE(c)(3): Catalyzing Social Enterprise Crowdfunding, IND. L. J. (forthcoming 2014) (with S. Dean)
• Hunting Stag with FLY Paper, 54 B.C. L. REV. 1495 (2013) (with S. Dean)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Presenter, “The Nonprofit Boundary,” Theory, Issues and Boundaries, 41st Annual Conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action, Hartford, CT

Michael Cahill
PUBLICATIONS

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Moderator, “Town Hall Meeting: Transforming Health Care in Brooklyn,” Center for Health, Science and Public Policy, Brooklyn Law School

Neil B. Cohen
PUBLICATIONS
• A TASTE OF CHOICE OF LAW: CASES AND MATERIALS (West Casebook Series, forthcoming 2014) (with A. Twerski)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Delegation member of the United States of America to Working Group VI of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) in its preparation of a Model Law on Secured Transactions, Vienna, Austria

Bennett Capers
PUBLICATIONS

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Panelist, Symposium: “Justice Sonia Sotomayor’s First Five Years on the Supreme Court,” Yale Law Journal Online, Yale Law School
• Panelist, “Stop and Frisk as a Policing Tactic: The Situation Post-Floyd,” AALS Hot Topic/Bridge Program, AALS Annual Meeting, New York, NY
• Speaker, “F.R.E. 803(10), Proposed Amendment,” New York Country Lawyers’ Association, New York, NY
• Speaker, “Sexy Searches,” Faculty Workshops: Iowa Law School; Temple Law School; Cardozo Law School; and Connecticut Law School

Stacy Caplow
PUBLICATIONS
• Commenter, Clinical Law Review Scholarship Workshop, New York University Law School
• Presenter, “The Refugee Situation in Israel,” International Law Society, Brooklyn Law School; New Israel Fund, New York, NY

HONORS/APPOINTMENTS/AWARDS
• Chair, Floyd v. City of New York Academic Advisory Council

HONORS/APPOINTMENTS/AWARDS
• Advisory Council, newly formed Immigrant Justice Corps
Professor Neil B. Cohen, Renowned Commercial Law Authority, Presented with Two Lifetime Awards

The Council of the American Law Institute (ALI) has voted to present Neil B. Cohen, the Jeffrey D. Forchelli Professor of Law, with the John Minor Wisdom Award. The award, which has been presented only a half-dozen times since its creation in 1990, will be conferred during the ALI Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday May 20, 2014.

The Wisdom Award was established by the American Law Institute’s Executive Committee to honor the late John Minor Wisdom, a member of the ALI Council and Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, who died in 1999. It is given from time to time in specific recognition of a member’s contributions to the Institute’s work.

In addition, the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers—an honorary organization of which Professor Cohen is a Fellow—awarded him its Homer Kripke Lifetime Achievement Award at the College’s annual meeting in April. The honor is presented annually to a teacher or practitioner who has made an outstanding contribution throughout his or her career to the law as it relates to commercial finance.

For over two decades, Cohen has been a key participant in major domestic and international law reform projects with respect to commercial transactions. He was the Reporter for Revised Article 1 of the Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) and for the American Law Institute’s Restatement of the Law of Suretyship and Guaranty; in honor of his accomplishments as Reporter for the Restatement, he was named as the Institute’s R. Ammi Cutter Reporter. For over 15 years, he has been the Director of Research of the Permanent Editorial Board for the Uniform Commercial Code.

Cohen, who was selected to be an ALI member in 1987, has been a Life Member of the ALI since 2012. In addition to the projects for which he served as Reporter, he has served as an Adviser or on the Members Consultative Group for numerous ALI projects. “For two decades, Neil Cohen has been a central participant in the ALI’s work about the UCC and other important commercial laws,” said Lance Liebman, the Director of the ALI and the William S. Beinecke Professor of Law at Columbia University School of Law. “He guides the Permanent Editorial Board of the UCC, thus keeping the Uniform Law Commissioners and the ALI on the right path. He is a scholar, a teacher, and a wonderful human being.”

Cohen has been active in the modernization, harmonization, and internationalization of commercial law, serving as a member of United States delegation to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) for its work on harmonizing and modernizing the law of secured credit. He has also been a member of Working Groups of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) in its development of principles for international contracts and of the Hague Conference on Private International Law for its development of the Hague Principles on Choice of Law in International Contracts.

In 2009, he was named to the United States Department of State’s Advisory Committee on Private International Law. Cohen is also a member of the International Academy of Commercial and Consumer Law. In addition, he has been a member of several drafting committees for revising various articles of the UCC.

A well-known lecturer on contract and commercial law issues, Cohen is a co-author of Farnsworth, Sanger, Cohen, Brooks, and Garvin, Contracts: Cases and Materials (Foundation Press 2013), one of the leading contracts casebooks. He has published numerous articles in top law reviews in the field of commercial law, and has also written in areas as diverse as bankruptcy, medical malpractice, probability and statistics, and baseball and the law.

“It is a great moment to honor someone who embodies the emphasis in the ALI on really knowing a subject in both academic detail and practical effect.” — Roberta Cooper Ramo, ALI President
Brooklyn Law School recently bestowed a special honor on Professor James Fanto in recognition of his outstanding teaching and scholarship. He was named the Gerald Baylin Professor of Law, which was established in 2010. Gerald Baylin was a World War II veteran, renowned New York City litigator, and dedicated alumnus of the Class of 1953.

“Professor Fanto epitomizes our very best,” said Dean Allard. “That he should receive this title is no surprise to those familiar with his scholarly work and influence on the legal academy. The endowed chair recognizes not only his past achievements, but also supports his current and future contributions to law. We are pleased to confer this honor on such an esteemed colleague.”

Fanto serves as co-director of the Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation, which provides a forum for scholarship that offers new perspectives on, and solutions to, real world business law and regulatory issues. Fanto teaches a roster of courses on banking, broker-dealer law, regulation and compliance, corporate and securities law, corporate finance, and comparative and international corporate law and governance. He has helped lead the Law School’s vast business and regulatory curriculum with an eye on innovation. His newest course, An Introduction to Compliance and Risk Management in Financial Institutions, emphasizes theory, practice, and networking. Fanto co-teaches the course with top compliance practitioners—many of them BLS alumni—who offer invaluable personal and professional perspectives to students.

A renowned scholar, Fanto has published several influential books such as Broker-Dealer Law and Regulation (Wolters Kluwer 4th ed., co-authored with Professor Norman Poser and updated annually) and Directors’ and Officers’ Liability (Practising Law Institute 2d ed., annually updated). He is also Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Practical Compliance & Risk Management for the Securities Industry (Wolters Kluwer); an editor of an electronic journal in the Social Science Research Network; an occasional faculty member at the FINRA Institute at Wharton; and an independent consultant and expert on corporate and securities law matters.

In the short time that the Center for Business Law and Regulation has been in existence, Fanto has organized, moderated, or served as a commentator on several programs unique to the academy. They bring academics who are adept in theoretical inquiry and policy analysis together with practitioners, regulators, and judges to study how best to improve the functioning of a market-based economy. Among the recent programs were a panel discussion on New Developments in FCPA (Foreign Corrupt Practices Act) Enforcement (See p.17), and an Investment Fund Roundtable that included scholars and high-level practitioners in the investment management and funds area. On March 25, he moderated a panel discussion on “The Compliance Role in Financial Institutions: How Dodd-Frank is Changing the Municipal Securities Industry,” which also included a networking component for students and alumni.

Fanto is also affiliated with the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law, and with the Center for Law, Language & Cognition.

Before entering academia, Fanto practiced banking, corporate, and securities law with the firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell in Washington, D.C., New York, and Paris, France. He was a law clerk to Judge Louis H. Pollak of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and to Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the U.S. Supreme Court.
• Participant, Immigration and Refugee Law, Permanent Editorial Board for the UCC, New York, MN
• Participant, Drafting Committee for Uniform Sales and UnIFORM Fraudulent Transfers Act, as advisor to the Committee in his capacity as Director of Research of the Permanent Editorial Board for the UCC, Minneapolis, MN

OTHER PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
• Named to Editorial Committee of The Hague Conference on Private International Law’s Working Group on Choice of Law in International Commercial Contracts

Steven Dean
PUBLICATIONS
• Taxation of Corporations and Corporate Transactions (Aspen Publishing, forthcoming) (with B. Borden)
• Creative Financing for Social Enterprise, STAN. SOC. INNOVATION REV. (forthcoming 2014) (with D. Brakman Reiser)
• Hunting Stag with FLY Paper, 54 B.C. L. REV. 1495 (2013) (with D. Brakman Reiser)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Moderator, “Now You See it, Now You Don’t: Salience in Taxation,” AALS Annual Meeting, New York, NY

Robin Effron
PUBLICATIONS

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Organizer and Host, Federal Courts Junior Faculty Workshop, Brooklyn Law School
• Presenter, Ex Ante Discovery, Prawfsfest, Pepperdine Law School; and St. Louis University School of Law Faculty Workshop

James Fanto
PUBLICATIONS
• Advising Compliance in Financial Firms: Meaning and Implications, 8 BROOK. J. CORP. FIN. & COM. L. 1 (2013)
• DIRECTORS’ AND OFFICERS’ LIABILITY, 2d. Ed. (Practising Law Institute, Oct. 2013)

PRESENTATIONS
• Participant, “Challenges in Global Financial Services,” Sullivan & Cromwell Conference, Yale Law School
• Panelist, “New Developments in FCPA Enforcement,” Center for the Study of Business Law and Regulation and Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law, Brooklyn Law School
• Participant, Fall 2013 Corporate Roundtable on Mergers and Acquisitions, Institute for Law and Economics, University of Pennsylvania
• Co-Organizer and Host, “Investment Funds: A Roundtable Discussion,” Brooklyn Law School

OTHER PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
• Faculty, Certified Regulatory and Compliance Professional Program, FINRA Institute at University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business
• Co-Editor-in-Chief, Wolters-Kluwer journal, Practical Compliance & Risk Management for the Securities Industry

Maryellen Fullerton
PUBLICATIONS
• State Citizenship in the United States: A Shadow of Its Former Self, Trento Law Faculty Conference Papers (forthcoming 2014)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Presenter, “The Meaning of Persecution in International Law” and “Illegitimate Motives and Fears of Persecution,” United Nations Global Learning Centre, Budapest, Hungary

Marsha Garrison
PUBLICATIONS
• U.S. Custody and Access Disputes: Continuity and Change, 27 KOREAN J. FAM. LAW 17 (2013)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Speaker, “Family Law, Family Court, Family Policy in a Changing World,” 50th Anniversary of Seoul Family Court Symposium, Seoul, Korea
• Speaker, “Les principes de protection du corps humain dans le cadre de la biomedicine,” Réseau Universitaire International de Bioéthique Symposium, Brussels, Belgium
Michael Gerber
PUBLICATIONS
• BUSINESS REORGANIZATIONS (LexisNexis Publishing, 3rd ed. 2013) (with G. Kuney)

Cynthia Godsoe
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Panelist, “School-to-Prison Pipeline” hosted by Teach for America, Brooklyn Law School
• Presenter, Ethics for the Family Court Attorney & Custody and Visitation Case Law Update, training session for NYU court attorneys, New York, NY
• Presenter, Bias in Administering the Family, State of the Family 2013 Symposium, University of Richmond School of Law

HONORS/APPOINTMENTS/AWARDS
• Chair, AALS Committee on Children and the Law

SELECT MEDIA
• Op-ed, Give Restitution to Victims of Child Pornography, But Also Recognize All Child Victims of Sexual Exploitation, THE HUFFINGTON POST (Jan. 28, 2014)

Joel Gora
PUBLICATIONS
• In Defense of Super PACs and of the First Amendment, 43 SETON HALL L. REV. 1185 (2013)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Presenter, Moot Court on McCutcheon v. FEC, Supreme Court Institute, Georgetown University Law Center
• Presenter, Thomas Healy’s “The Great Dissent: How Oliver Wendell Holmes Changed His Mind—and Changed the History of Free Speech in America,” Cardozo Law School

SELECT MEDIA
• Op-ed, Let Political Speech Be Free, NEW YORK DAILY NEWS (Oct. 28, 2013)
• Quoted on campaign finance issues in Chief Justice Roberts Holds Key in Campaign-Finance Case, USA TODAY (Sep. 13, 2013); and Get Over It: Campaign Finance Limits Don’t Work, NATIONAL JOURNAL (Oct. 17, 2013)

Susan Herman
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Chair, ACLU National Board Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
• Speaker, “Interaction of Personal Freedoms with Intelligence Operations and National Security,” National Intelligence University, Washington, D.C.
• Presenter, “Is the NSA Keeping Us Safe? Balancing Privacy and Security,” Moot Court Debate, American Jewish Congress, Westchester, NY
• Panelist, “The Moral Center,” Miami Book Fair International, Miami, FL
• Keynote Panelist, “Checks and Balances—The Voting Rights Act—The U.S. Supreme Court Decision—The Rationale of the Decision,” Nebraska State Bar Association General Assembly, Omaha, NE
• Speaker, “School to Prison Pipeline,” Hofstra University NAACP
• Keynote Speaker, Arthur Garfield Hays Civil Liberties Program 55th Anniversary, New York University School of Law
• Panelist, “For Whom the Whistle Tolls,” Brooklyn Book Festival, Brooklyn, NY
• Speaker, “Civil Rights Battles and Marriage Equality: Will It Ever Happen in Nebraska?”, University of Nebraska College of Law

SELECT MEDIA
• Op-ed, Protect Not Punish Whistleblowers, STAND (Winter 2014)
• Op-ed, The Second Circuit’s Ghailani Decision and a Departure from the Right to a Speedy Trial, JURIST FORUM (Dec. 26, 2013)
• Interviewed for Open Phones with Susan Herman, BOOK TV, C-SPAN (Nov. 23, 2013)

Edward Janger
PUBLICATIONS
• Ice Cube Bonds: Allocating the Price of Process in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy, 123 YALE L.J. 862 (forthcoming 2014) (with M.B. Jacoby)

Robert Karmel
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Speaker, “Implications of the JOBS Act for Foreign Private Issuers,” First Annual Institute on Corporate & Securities Law, Practising Law Institute, Hong Kong, China
• Speaker, “The Nature of the Corporation at Berle V, Capital Markets, the Corporation and the Asian Century,” The Centre for Law, Markets and Regulation, University of New South Wales
• Speaker, “A Law Professor’s Perspective on Too Big To Fail,” Banking Law Workshop, University of Ottawa
• Speaker, Will Law Firms Go Public? University of Washington School of Law

HONORS/AWARDS/APPOINTMENTS
• Recipient of the Practising Law Institute’s Seligman Award

SELECT MEDIA
• NEW YORK LAW JOURNAL Column, Credit Rating Agency Reform Update (Feb. 20, 2014); The Crowdfunding Proposed Rules (Dec. 19, 2013); Changes to the Gun Jumping Rules (Oct. 18, 2013)

Adam Kolber
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Presenter, “How to Smooth the Criminal Law,” New York Criminal Law Theory Workshop, New York University School of Law
• Presenter, “Will There Be a Neurolaw Revolution?”, Forensics and the Law III, New York State Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section, Fall Meeting, New York University School of Law
• Presenter, “The Contours of First Amendment Freedom of Thought,” Brooklyn Law School Faculty Workshop

HONORS/AWARDS/APPOINTMENTS
• Appointed to the editorial board of the peer-reviewed Journal of Law and the Biosciences

SELECT MEDIA
• Op-ed, Do We Own Our Memories?, THE HUFFINGTON POST (Oct. 25, 2013)

Rebecca Kysar
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Panelist, “Tax Reform and the Legislative Process,” AALS Annual Meeting, New York, NY
• “The ‘Shell Bill’ Game: Avoidance and the Origination Clause,” Fordham Law School Faculty Workshop

Gary Minda
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• The Struggle for a Right to Water: No More Deaths and the Limits of Legality, 19 WILLAMETTE INT’L L. J. 146 (2013)

Minor Myers
PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Presenter, “Workers in the Era of Financial Crisis,” Labor and Employment Law Section, AALS Annual Meeting, New York, NY
**Karen Porter**

**PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS**
- Presenter, “Perspective from the Law,” Telling HIV-Uninfected Youth about Their in Utero Exposure to ARVs: Clinical, Research, Ethical and Policy Issues Workshop, HIV Center Public Health, Policy and Practice Core at the New York State Psychiatric Institute and Columbia University
- Organizer, Roundtable Discussion: “Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired: Leveraging Law to Facilitate Citizen Epidemiology,” Center for Health, Science and Public Policy, Brooklyn Law School
- Organizer, “Town Hall Meeting: Transforming Health Care in Brooklyn,” Center for Health, Science and Public Policy, Brooklyn Law School

**Norman Poser**

**PUBLICATIONS**
- Chief Justice Vanderbilt and the Legacy of Lord Mansfield, New Jersey Law Journal (Dec. 9, 2013)

**PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS**
- “Lord Mansfield: Justice in the Age of Reason,” University of Nebraska College of Law; and Brooklyn Law School

**SELECT MEDIA**
- Received reviews in “A Just Precedent,” Wall Street Journal (Oct. 21, 2013); and Library Journal (Sep. 15, 2013) for Lord Mansfield: Justice in the Age of Reason in Choice (Feb. 2014)

**David Reiss**

**PUBLICATIONS**
- Dirty REMICs, Revisited, PROBATE & PROPERTY (Nov./Dec. 2013) (with B. Borden)

**PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS**
- Panelist, “The Future of Fannie Mae & Freddie Mac,” Urban Land Institute, New York, NY
- Moderator, “Good Council: Representing Brooklyn,” Brooklyn Law School
- “Enforcing Negotiable Mortgage Notes,” Justices of the New York State Supreme Court, Kings County, Foreclosure Committee, Brooklyn, NY
- “How Low is Too Low? The Federal Housing Administration and the Low Down Payment Loan,” Canadian Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada
- “Winding Down with GSE Preferred Shareholders,” The Future of Fannie and Freddie Conference, New York University School of Law
- “The FHA and Housing Affordability,” 2013 Policy Summit on Housing, Human Capital, and Inequality, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Cleveland, OH
SELECT MEDIA
• Quoted in Mortgage Bonds Reward Yield-Sensitive Investors, Reuters (Dec. 31, 2013)
• Quoted in JPMorgan Chase Settles. Is $13 billion for Role in Mortgage Crisis Fair?, Christian Science Monitor (Nov. 19, 2013)
• Quoted extensively as a real estate and consumer financial services expert in E-CommerceTimes.Com, Law360, MAINSTREET.COM, and numerous other media outlets

OTHER PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS
• Elected Chair, AALS Real Property Section
• Outside Reviewer, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS
• Outside Reviewer, POLITICAL SCIENCE QUARTERLY

Elizabeth Schneider

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

SELECT MEDIA
• Interviewed for Second Circuit Ruling on NY Stop and Frisk and Judge Scheindlin on ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, NPR (radio broadcast, Nov. 1, 2013)

Lisa Smith

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Speaker, The Law School Experience, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

HONORS/AWARDS/APPOINTMENTS
• Member, ABA Blueprints Project Steering Committee
• Reappointed to Kings County Judicial Screening Committee
• Newly appointed to Brooklyn Borough Public Safety Board

SELECT MEDIA
• Interviewed for Stalking and Domestic Violence on Talk Radio with Dr. Annie Abraham (radio broadcast, Oct. 2013)
• Interviewed for The CBS Murders, The Minister and His Wife, State vs. Samuels, Discovery ID Cable Network (varying times)

Lawrence Solan

PUBLICATIONS
• Is it Time for a Restatement of Statutory Interpretation?, 79 BROOK. L. REV. 733 (forthcoming 2014)
• Four Reasons to Teach Psychology to Legal Writing Students, 22 J. L. & POL’Y 7 (2014)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Presenter, “Precedent in Statutory Interpretation,” Conference on Statutory Interpretation, Notre Dame University Law School, London, UK

Nelson Tebbe

PUBLICATIONS
• Government Nonendorsement, 98 MINN. L. REV. 648 (2013)

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS
• Panelist, “Is the Constitution Special?”, Faculty Workshop, George Washington University Law School
• Presenter, “Blasphemy, Hate Speech, and Witchcraft in South Africa,” Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland
• Panelist, “Associations and the Constitution: Four Questions About Four Freedoms,” DePaul College of Law Center for Church-State Studies

SELECT MEDIA

Aaron Twerski

PUBLICATIONS
• A TASTE OF CHOICE OF LAW: CASES AND MATERIALS (West Casebook Series, forthcoming 2014) (with N. Cohen)
Alumni Luncheon Honors Gary M. Rosenberg ’74, Debra G. Humphreys ’84, and Claire Kelly ’93

On January 24, the Brooklyn Law School Alumni Association hosted its Annual Luncheon at the Plaza Hotel in New York City to honor three distinguished graduates: Gary M. Rosenberg ’74, Debra G. Humphreys ’84, and Claire Kelly ’93. After a warm welcome and “State of the School” from Dean Allard, Alumni Association President Eric Kornblau ’84 introduced the three honorees, each of whom spoke fondly about their Brooklyn Law School experiences.

Gary M. Rosenberg, Class of 1974, is the founding partner, chairman, and former managing partner of Rosenberg & Estis, P.C., a New York City boutique real estate law firm established in 1975. During his first 15 years of practice, Rosenberg was involved in many significant precedent-setting real estate cases in the New York State Court of Appeals. Since then he has focused on real estate development and has been involved in several of New York’s largest and most complex developments including the development of the Condé Nast Building, the Bank of America Tower, and the lease of the Broadcast Facility located at 1 World Trade Center. He is currently active in the financing and development of over $1.1 billion of new construction. Rosenberg maintains close ties to Brooklyn Law School. He is a member of the 1901 Society and serves as a firm leader in the Law School’s Team Challenge. Rosenberg and his daughter, Janna, Class of 2006, recently endowed a scholarship which is awarded annually to a student who has demonstrated particular ability in real property or real estate law. He also played an advisory role and made a leadership gift to launch the Law School’s new Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE).

Debra G. Humphreys, Class of 1984, a former associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell, is a founder and Board Chair of the K-12 Thomas Jefferson Independent Day School in Joplin, Missouri. The school, whose enrollment is open to all, provides a rigorous college preparatory curriculum and boasts the highest percentage of merit scholars in Missouri. In 2009, she and her husband David established the Humphreys Fund for Residencies in Entrepreneurship and Business Leadership at Sewanee, The University of the South’s Babson Center for Global Commerce. After devastating tornadoes hit Joplin in 2011, the Humphreys made significant donations to the Salvation Army and the Red Cross to help assist storm victims and to help rebuild the city’s public schools. Humphreys is an ardent supporter of Brooklyn Law School. She is a member of the 1901 Society and recently endowed the Humphreys Family Scholarship, awarded annually to a female student who has shown exceptional promise in the areas of either tax or corporate law. Humphreys also played an advisory role in the creation of the Law School’s new Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE) and made a leadership gift to launch the Center.

The Honorable Claire R. Kelly, Class of 1993, was appointed a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade in May 2013. Before joining the bench, Judge Kelly was a member of the Brooklyn Law School Faculty for over 15 years. She served as the co-director for the Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law and as the faculty advisor for the Brooklyn Journal of International Law. She was also instrumental in the creation of Brooklyn Law School’s Trade Secrets Institute and the fellowships for this Institute. She has served on numerous bar committees as well as on the Board of Directors of the Customs and International Trade Bar Association (CITBA), chairing its Subcommittee on Trade Adjustment Assistance and co-authoring its “Primer on Litigating Trade Adjustment Assistance Cases.” She is also an elected member of the American Law Institute and past co-chair of the International Economic Law Group of the American Society of International Law. During her years on the faculty, Judge Kelly was a beloved and devoted teacher and an integral part of the Brooklyn Law School community. She was voted Professor of the Year three consecutive years in a row by the student body. She also served on countless faculty committees and worked tirelessly to promote the Law School and her students in the legal community.
1. Left to right: Dean of Admissions Henry Haverstick III, George Strauch ’59, Michael Fischer ’92, and Steven Cohn ’73.
2. Hon. Claire Kelly (center) with a group of students from her first legal writing class.
3. Alumni enjoy lunch at the Plaza Hotel.
4. Prof. Joel Gora, Dean Allard, and Mayor David Dinkins ’56.
5. Left to right: Stacy Kanter ’84 with her sister Leslie Kanter ’87, her husband, Eric Kornblau ’84, President of the Alumni Association, and Prof. Arthur Pinto.
6. Left to right: Prof. Bailey Kuklin, Bill Ban ’82, and Samuel Kramer ’82.
Celebrating 25 Years of Summer Legal Process

On October 23, Professor Linda Feldman, Director of the Academic Success Program at Brooklyn Law School, celebrated 25 years of the Summer Legal Process (“SLP”) Course. The ground-breaking program began under the auspices of the late Judge David G. Trager, then Dean, as a seven-week course administered in the summer to a select group of incoming students of minority backgrounds and/or non-traditional academic paths. He tapped Feldman to create the coursework and develop the curriculum. “The program was designed to ensure and to maximize students’ potential and their ability to thrive in the law school environment,” said Feldman.

Twenty-five years later, the program remains as vital as ever. Every summer, approximately 35 students spend six weeks immersed in a curriculum of legal writing and analysis designed to inspire success.

For the 25th Reunion, SLP alumni from nearly every class gathered to celebrate the program and all the members of the law school faculty, in particular Feldman, who have been so crucial to the program’s success over the years. One sentiment was held throughout the evening: Professor Linda Feldman is one of Brooklyn Law School’s most treasured resources, and the SLP program should be open to all incoming 1Ls. “Professor Feldman’s steadfast commitment to the program is a testament to her integrity and dedication to her family of current students and graduates of all ages,” said Dean Allard.

“I look back on the past 25 years with enormous pride,” said Feldman. “I have heard over the years repeatedly from students that this program was critical to their ability to succeed in law school. If you hear it often enough I guess you have to believe it.”

Alumni Events

ON THE ROAD: Long Island Alumni Reception

In October, over 70 Long Island area graduates attended an alumni reception hosted by Richard Fromewick ’72 (pictured below, left, center) at his firm, Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. located in Garden City. Graduates were excited to reconnect with each other and to learn more about the current news and events happening at the Law School from Dean Allard.

If you are interested in hosting one of our “On the Road” events in your city or town, please contact Caitlin Monck-Marcellino ’02, Director of Alumni Relations, at 718-780-0322 or by e-mail at caitlin.monck-marcellino@brooklaw.edu.
Recent Graduates Reception
Back in Brooklyn

Recent graduates returned to Brooklyn Heights in November for a packed reception at the Custom House. In addition to the many graduates who showed up, there was a great turnout of faculty members, providing an especially warm welcome to the newest members of the BLS alumni community, the Class of 2013.

Brooklyn Brewery Tour
and Reception

In December, Brooklyn Law School graduates and friends enjoyed a reception at the Brooklyn Brewery in Williamsburg. The Brewery’s knowledgeable and friendly staff offered guided tours and recommendations of its signature brews. Paired with a buffet from local favorite Mexicue, it was a fun and festive opportunity for old and new friends to network and reconnect.

The next Recent Graduates Reception will take place on June 5 at Hill Country’s latest location in Downtown Brooklyn.

Mentor Program: Graduates Offer Students Sage Advice

The Brooklyn Law School Alumni Mentor Program, which is now in its 21st year, pairs alumni with students who are particularly interested in their mentors’ field of practice, offering an invaluable opportunity to complement and enhance the students’ law school experience.

This year, the program matched over 110 students with lawyers practicing in just about every area of the law. Alumni participants not only offer their mentees career advice on a variety of topics, but also include them at various work-related activities and local networking events for the bar.

In October, mentors were formally introduced to their mentees at a reception hosted by Michael Grohman ’83, head of the New York office of Duane Morris and chair of its Wealth Planning Practice Group and Fred Cohen ’67, a partner of the firm and a member of the Brooklyn Law School Board of Trustees. Throughout the evening many of the graduates remarked on how impressed they were with their mentees and how special it was for them to be able to give back to the Law School in a meaningful way.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact Susan Bainnson, Associate Director of Alumni Career Services at 718-780-7578 or by email at susan.bainnson@brooklaw.edu.
Q&A

A Conversation with Lon Jacobs ’81
Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Time Inc.

TIME INC., THE NATION’S LARGEST MAGAZINE COMPANY, owns such household print titles as Sports Illustrated, People, and Time. But like many companies immersed in ink, it is at a challenging crossroads. In March, Time Warner announced that it would spin off its magazine publications into a new public company allowing its main business to focus more on its lucrative film and television assets. Time Inc. is being untethered at an uphill point in the market for magazines. Overseeing Time Inc.’s strategy and transition to an independent public company is a team of leaders that includes Chief Executive Officer Joseph A. Ripp, Chief Content Officer Norm Pearlstine, and Executive Vice President and General Counsel Lon Jacobs, Class of 1981.

Jacobs has long been a key player in the world of mass media. As general counsel of News Corp., where he worked for 15 years, he led the acquisitions of The Wall Street Journal and the social networking site MySpace. Aside from serving as general counsel, he was also one of seven executives who served in Murdoch’s Office of the Chairman, which acts as an advisory board of sorts for the company’s leadership.

Interestingly, Jacobs was a history major at Temple University, where he graduated summa cum laude. “My favorite topic was American history and all my heroes were lawyers: Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Abraham Lincoln,” he said. “So I decided to become a lawyer.” His first-year Constitutional Law Professor Joel Gora became a mentor and remains a dear friend today. Hoping to emulate Gora, he joined Squadron Ellenoff, which represents The New York Post and had a robust First Amendment practice.

Early on, Jacobs developed an affinity for transactional work. “I loved the corporate side,” he said. “I just liked the negotiating.” By 1991 Jacobs had become the relationship partner for News Corp., the parent of The New York Post and one of the world’s largest media companies. In 1996, he was recruited to become its deputy general counsel. Eight years later, he was appointed senior executive vice president and group general counsel, where he supervised a team of 300 international lawyers and handled all legal matters including business development, securities, governance, and compliance.

Managing Editor Andrea Strong ’94 spent some time with Jacobs at his office in the Time & Life Building chatting about his role at the helm of Time, the state of print media, and the best use his marital vice account.

You spent 15 years at News Corp. and left in the wake of the News of the World phone hacking scandal. Can you comment?
I know you probably want to hear some war stories, but I can’t talk about it. But I will say that when I was general counsel at News Corp., I thought it was the best job a lawyer could have. It was so much fun, and every day was different.

What were your plans after you left News Corp. in 2011?
I didn’t have any plans. I networked a lot, I taught Mass Media Law at the Law School, and I took some well-needed time to be introspective. I did some consulting work, which I didn’t love, because I never felt part of the team, and I like being a part of a company. I joined Empire State Development as general counsel, which was fascinating, but it was really outside my comfort zone. Some days I felt like a foreign exchange student. When I got the call about the general counsel job at Time, I jumped at it.
You’ve been here four months. Do you have an action plan as Time becomes an independent company? My first priority is to properly spin out as a public company, which we hope to do by May or June. After that is behind us we will have our own board and we will focus on recruiting the right people, because they will be critical to moving us forward as a public company in terms of our strategy. The chemistry is very important in that group and we need to make sure we have the proper dynamic. I also need to get to know my team. I have five direct reports, and there are 15 lawyers in this office and about 30 company-wide. Then I have to learn the company. We have 21 magazine titles in the United States, multiples of that in the U.K., plus Mexico. We have marketing, advertising, and fulfillment and each one is a separate complicated business. I have to get myself up to speed on the regulatory issues, and even postal service issues. I have a comfort level on many of these issues, but there is still a lot to learn.

You have a very organized desk. Those are the neatest piles of paper I have ever seen. What’s in each pile? I do have a little OCD! One pile is our major litigation with Anderson, and I am staying very close to that. We are in negotiations with the Writers Guild. That agreement is expiring and needs to be negotiated. There are documents relating to a number of new initiatives. And the rest of the piles have to do with the filing [with the SEC] and the spin-off. I’ve worked for many years for a public company, but I have never taken a company public.

Do you have a little “Public Companies for Dummies” book back there? Yeah! [Laughs]. I’ll never admit to that.

Take me through a typical day. I don’t even want to admit what time I get here. Let’s just say I am an early riser. I kiss my family goodbye in the morning and none of them moves a muscle. They are out cold! What I love about getting in early is that before the phone rings, and before email starts I can focus on substance. If I need to review a term sheet or a separation agreement, I can do that in quiet. Then the meetings start. They go on all day. But I am not a martyr. I get home at a reasonable hour to be with my wife and my two daughters.

This is a dream job, but certainly not a walk in the park. You are facing enormous challenges in the spin off, and the company just fired 500 people. How does it feel to be one of the captains of this ship? I feel I have been given a terrific opportunity. It’s so exciting to be a part of a company that is transforming itself and is about to become a public company for the first time. That said, you have to face up to reality. Print is a declining business. You can’t bury your head in the sand and pretend that it’s not happening. You have to address those issues, and confront new technology, as well as people’s reading and viewing habits. You take a company with these incredible brands and these talented writers and you’ve got to believe it has a place in the future. To get there, you have to stabilize the business, right-size the business, and then you have to invest in the future in new initiatives.

What are some of your new initiatives or strategies going forward? Joe [Joseph Ripp, the company’s new CEO] has been really busy developing our strategy, and a lot of that is a work in progress. We just announced “120 Sports” [in partnership with the NBA, MLB, NHL and NASCAR], a free App where you will go for all your major sports team highlights. And there will be more initiatives like that. Our Chief Technology Officer Colin Bodell just came over from Amazon. That’s a new position for us, and we are really excited about future innovations. There is nothing ready to announce, but whatever opportunities there are to use the assets we have are on the table.

Do you have any advice for graduating students hoping to work as in-house counsel? The advice I always give is to be a business partner with your client, whether it is a law firm client or an executive at an in-house job. A good lawyer is a problem solver, not a problem spotter. A really good lawyer anticipates problems and finds solutions before they happen. Also, lawyers are rarely presented with questions that have black and white answers. It is the job of a good lawyer to help his business partner (client) manage risk, not avoid risk altogether.

What do you do in your spare time, if you have any? I love history. It’s my hobby, and I am on the Board of Trustees of the New York Historical Society. My wife and I give each other a vice account each year. I am not allowed to yell at her for how she spends that money and vice versa. I used to spend it on cigars and expensive Scotch and I thought about it, and instead one year I joined the The New York Historical Society. It was the best use of money. And now I am healthy!

My wife and I are also very dedicated to the special needs community. Our 17-year-old has special needs and my wife and I started a 501(c)(3) called Family Member. Its primary purpose is to fight online hate speech. I am all for free speech but not when you can be anonymous about it. We are working with Facebook, which has been very responsive. We are hoping to make a difference.
1901 Society Launches “Leading the School” Programs

THIS YEAR MARKS THE BEGINNING of exciting new changes to the 1901 Society, an influential group of alumni and friends of Brooklyn Law School from varied backgrounds and careers in private practice, government, business, and industry who have made a commitment to support the Law School. The Law School has refocused the Society so that members can play a more active role in shaping the future of BLS.

Twice yearly, members will be invited to attend “Leading the School” events, designed to solicit input from members on a range of issues the Law School is facing. Through these interactive planning sessions, members, in partnership with Dean Allard, will work together to share insights in addressing key strategic challenges and opportunities for the Law School.

“We designed these programs so that graduates can become truly engaged with the direction and the future of the Law School,” said Dean Allard. “There is so much value that can be gained by listening to our alumni in this meaningful way.”

Michael Levy ’94, Managing Director at Morgan Stanley and a 1901 Society member, agreed: “The world is an increasingly complex and diverse place and education at all levels is going through a period of fundamental change and transformation,” he said. “By engaging with alumni who care greatly about the future of BLS and its students, BLS can tap into a wealth of experience and ideas to help shape the future and more effectively address this increasingly volatile landscape.”

Established in honor of the Law School’s centennial in 2001, the 1901 Society offers members networking opportunities through a variety of invitation-only programs, including social gatherings, professional symposia, and receptions for visiting dignitaries.

“As a young alumnus, I know the Society will connect me to a distinguished and diverse group of BLS graduates who are committed to advancing the legal community,” said Todd Batson ’09, a new 1901 Society member and an associate at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan.

To kick off this new series of programs, the Law School hosted “1901 Society Premiere: Shakespeare and the Law,” which took place on April 7 at the Theatre for a New Audience at Polonsky Shakespeare Center, Brooklyn’s most exciting new addition to the cultural renaissance. The event, which is the first of a series of events designed to recognize the valuable contribution of the 1901 Society to the BLS community, was a huge success. The evening included a backstage tour and cocktail reception, a welcome talk by the theatre’s Managing Director Dorothy Ryan, a unique discussion on the legal matters presented in Shakespeare’s collected works moderated by Dean Allard featuring the theatre’s Founding Director Jeffrey Horowitz, Director Arin Arbus, and Brooklyn College Professor Tanya Pollard, and breakout conversations among the 1901 members facilitated by BLS faculty and students.

Upcoming 1901 Society events include “Leading the School: Addressing Jobs and Law School Affordability in the New World of Law,” scheduled for September 18, 2014. During this planning session, members will discuss innovative strategies for increasing students’ job prospects and addressing the affordability of a legal education.

“With these new changes, the 1901 Society offers graduates a rare opportunity to influence some of the most serious challenges facing not only BLS, but most law schools, in the current environment,” said Susan Greenberg-Thrope ’81, Senior Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Secretary at New York Life and BLS 1901 Society member. “I am looking forward to participating in these unique events, which should promote lively and interactive legal discussions.”

To learn more about the 1901 Society and how to join, contact the Development Office at 718-780-7505 or at giving@brooklaw.edu or visit www.brooklaw.edu.
ClassNotes

1938 Henry R. Nusbaum celebrated his 100th birthday on March 30, 2014. After graduating from law school, he served in World War II and upon his return, he embarked on a 30-year career in government service, where he served a majority of the time at the U.S. Department of Defense in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps Office.

1953 Samuel P. Sporn, founder and partner of the securities law firm of Schoengold & Sporn, P.C., became a member of The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in Israel for the sport of tennis. Sporn also won a silver medal in the Grand Masters Tennis tournament at the 19th Maccabi Games in Israel in July 2013, bringing his total medal count to 14 gold, silver and bronze medals in 11 international Maccabi Games. Sporn serves as the USA chairman and co-chairman of Masters and Grand Masters Tennis and is an Executive Committee Member of Maccabi USA. He is the oldest living competitor in these tournaments. He teaches a civil practice workshop at the Law School.

1954 Richard G. Simon, who maintains his own practice in San Bernardino, CA, was presented with the Kearney-Nydam-Shouse Award for “exceptional service to Legal Aid and the underprivileged” by the San Bernardino County Bar Association in September 2013. Simon has served as the treasurer of the board of the Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino for over a decade.

1961 Joel Sikowitz, who maintains a private law practice in Babylon Village, NY and also serves as the Babylon Village Attorney, was elected to the board of directors of the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. Sikowitz previously served as the Town of Babylon’s special counsel and as co-chair of the Suffolk County Bar Association Grievance Committee.

1962 Arnold P. Etelson, a partner in the Suffern, NY firm of Etelson & Fassberg, was elected the Montebello Village Justice. Etelson has served for over 46 years as a justice in Rockland County, NY, including as a Spring Valley Village Justice and a Ramapo Town Justice.

Nicholas Scoppetta, of counsel to Scopetta Seiff Kretz & Abercrombie, was presented with the New Yorkers for Children Lifetime Achievement Award for Child Welfare by the nonprofit New Yorkers for Children at its 2013 Annual Fall Gala. Scoppetta founded the organization when he served as Commissioner of the Administration for Children’s Services, and he currently serves as its president emeritus. At the gala, former NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg honored Scoppetta with the announcement of the creation of the Nicholas Scoppetta Children’s Center.

1963 Ronald J. Schwartz, who maintains his own elder law practice on Long Island, was honored by the Parker Jewish Institute Foundation at its 2013 Annual Gala in December 2013 in recognition of more than two decades of philanthropic engagement.

1965 Paul H. Tocker retired to Delray Beach, FL from Schenectady, NY where he served as Deputy Corporation Counsel for the City of Schenectady and Assistant County Attorney. He also maintained his own practice for 40 years. Tocker helped to establish the Republican Club of Kings Point and is currently serving as its first president.

1968 Emily J. Goodman stepped down as a justice of the NYS Supreme Court and formed her own private practice after nearly 30 years of service. She also recently served as co-chair of the Letitia James Public Advocate Transition Team.

1969 Andrew Boyar, who maintains his own practice in Eldred, NY focusing on real estate law, was elected chairperson of the 2014 board of The Upper Delaware Council. Boyar previously served as a Highland, NY Town Supervisor and as chairman of the Sullivan County Board of Supervisors.

Larry M. Curtis is teaching business law and economics at Rift Valley University in Shashemene, Ethiopia. He previously taught international organizations, gender and the law, and construction law at Hawassa University Law School in Ethiopia. From 2010–2011, he served as the initial director the Free Legal Aid Centers in Hawassa, funded by the Federal Human Rights Commission. Prior to relocating to Ethiopia, Curtis maintained a private practice for over 30 years focused on criminal defense law.

Eugene R. Scheiman, previously counsel at Arent Fox in the firm’s Construction Law Group, joined the Cleveland, OH based firm of Kaufman & Company as a partner in the firm’s newly opened New York office to help lead the growth of that office. He focuses his practice in the area of complex commercial matters.


1974 Patricia M. Kane, who maintains her own practice in New Haven, CT, is serving as the chair of the New Haven Democracy Fund, a position she has held since 2013. The fund provides public matching funds and public financing grants to New Haven Mayoral candidates who voluntarily agree to abide by certain restrictions and limitations on how campaign funds are raised and spent.

1976 Dale C. Christensen Jr., partner in the Litigation Group of Seward & Kissel LLP, was elected to the board of directors of the United Hospital Fund. Christensen
Amy Weinstein ’83
An Obituary for 3,000

Every object tells a story: A fire chief’s rosary; a single dust-covered shoe; the frame of Rescue 2; the elevator motor from the South Tower; and a piece of the antenna from the North Tower. A key person charged with breathing life into these objects is Amy Weinstein, Class of 1983. As Associate Director of Collections and Senior Oral Historian at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum, which opens May 21, Weinstein has been devoted to memorializing the lives of first responders, victims, and survivors of the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Weinstein followed in her father’s footsteps and attended Brooklyn Law School (Bernard Weinstein is Class of 1951). She began a career in banking and for nearly ten years worked in government relations at Chase Manhattan and as Associate General Counsel at Lehman Brothers. While she excelled at her job, her heart was not in her work, and when she was laid off after the market crashed, she decided to pursue a new path. “I felt like I owed it to myself to take some to think about what I really wanted to do,” she said.

Weinstein enrolled at Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, where she received an M.A. with Honors in the History of Decorative Arts and then became an Assistant Curator for Projects and Administration at the Museum of the City of New York. She found the work deeply satisfying and a natural fit for the skills she learned in law school. “When you’re at a museum you have to defend every sculpture, painting, or artifact you want to acquire,” she said. “Law school taught me to do that. It teaches you to learn to think on your feet, how to write clearly, and how to present your argument.”

In 2001, Weinstein joined the New York Historical Society as Associate Curator of the 20th and 21st Century Collections. She was already at the Upper West Side offices of the Historical Society when the planes struck the Towers. As she walked home to Brooklyn, she had a sense that what she was witnessing would need to be preserved. “My job was to focus on contemporary life in New York City, and contemporary life would never be the same again,” she said. “We at the Historical Society had an opportunity to be of service to the country by documenting what was going on.”

Immediately, Weinstein and her colleagues started collecting leaflets and signs, and taking pictures of everything. They canvassed firehouses, offering to preserve shrines, and began documenting the activity at the Fresh Kills landfill and at St. Paul’s Chapel, which served as a triage site for first responders. “I ended up becoming the field work captain for the museum,” she said.

In 2006, Weinstein joined the 9/11 Memorial & Museum—110,000 square feet of exhibition space built underneath the twin water pools that mark the Towers’ footprints. “We want to include something from every person who lost their life on 9/11,” she said. “Like the pocketbook of a 25-year old girl who had never been to New York before. She had just become engaged. Her life was just beginning,” said Weinstein. “But we also include interviews with her family. We have the opportunity to tell the world a little something about her and what made her special.”

Weinstein has interviewed nearly 800 survivors, first responders, and families of victims. A box of tissues sits on her desk. Somehow the loss of 3,000 lives is felt most acutely when listening to stories of individual loss: someone’s mother, father, wife, husband, daughter, or son. Full-length accounts can be heard in the 9/11 Museum’s library; edited segments are played at different points around the museum, and a compilation of police, firefighter, and survivor statements gives visitors a minute-to-minute account of what was going on inside the Towers.

“Every day I work here, I am grateful,” said Weinstein. “You realize you are so lucky to be alive. And you realize there is a whole universe out there filled with stories to be told.”

“...When you’re at a museum you have to defend every sculpture, painting, or artifact you want to acquire. Law school taught me to do that.”
represents clients in a broad range of areas, including banking, insurance coverage, products liability, environment, real estate and employment law. He also serves as a trustee of Lutheran Healthcare, and is chair of the hospital's Audit and Legal Committee.

Noah J. Hanft was appointed president and chief executive officer of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR), a leading independent resource helping global business and their lawyers resolve complex commercial disputes more cost effectively and efficiently. Hanft recently retired from MasterCard, where he served as general counsel and chief franchise officer; Hanft joined MasterCard in 1984 in its Law Department.

1977 Matthew J. D’Emic was appointed Administrative Judge for Criminal Matters in the NYS Supreme Court, Kings County. Justice D’Emic is an Acting Supreme Court Justice in Kings County, and he also presides over the Brooklyn Domestic Violence Court and the Brooklyn Mental Health Court. He joined the bench in 1996 when he was appointed a judge of the Court of Claims.

Victor Olds, First Deputy Commissioner for the NYC Department of Investigations, published a review of The Partner Track (St. Martin’s Press) in the NYLJ (11/22/13). Olds also serves as a Lecturer in Law at Columbia Law School.

1978 Richard E. Grayson, who maintains his own practice in White Plains, NY, was named as a 2014 “New York Area Best Lawyer” in the area of ethics and professional responsibility law. Grayson represents judges and lawyers facing sanctions for ethics violations or charges of misconduct.

Vincent F. Pitta, founding and managing partner of the law firm Pitta & Giblin LLP, and the lobbying, consulting and government relations firm of Pitta Bishop Del Giorno & Giblin LLC, was featured in the cover story of Crain’s, “City Hall’s New ‘In’ Crowd of Lobbyists,” (Feb. 10-16, 2014). Pitta practices in the areas of labor and management relations in both the private and public sectors.

Lawrence W. Sherlock, a shareholder in the Houston, TX office of Chamberlain Hrdlicka, was named to the 2014 list of the “Best Lawyers in America” in the tax litigation and controversy practice area. Sherlock’s practice focuses on negotiating and litigating federal tax disputes and representing businesses and individuals before IRS agents, the IRS Appeals Office, the U.S. Tax Court, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Federal District Courts and Federal Courts of Appeal.

1979 Charles Eric Gordon, who maintains his own investigative counsel firm on Long Island, was featured in a story in the New York Post, (Jan. 6, 2014), about the resolution of a cold case disappearance. Gordon’s practice focuses on difficult and unusual missing persons cases for the Bar and financial and real estate industries.

1980 Astrid Garcia was promoted to Vice President of Human Resources at Lee Enterprises, Inc. Headquartered in Davenport, IA, the company is a leading provider of local news and information with 46 daily newspapers and a joint interest in four others, digital products and nearly 300 specialty publications in 22 states. She has held top leadership positions in human resources and operations at The St. Louis Dispatch, the former Knight Ridder Inc., The Miami Herald, St. Paul Pioneer Press, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Daily News, and the San Jose Mercury News.


Glen E. Keene joined the New York City office of Hudson Abstract Services Professional as a title agent. He was previously with North Shore Abstract Ltd. for over 25 years.

Katherine O’Brien was elected Chief Human Resources Officer of New York Life Insurance Company. She is responsible for talent development, talent acquisition, the HR Services Unit, compensation and benefits, employee relations and the HR Business Partners function, and she has additional oversight over the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. O’Brien joined the company in 1995 as a litigator, specializing in employment litigation and benefits compliance. She most recently served as senior vice president and chief corporate counsel, leading all corporate practice teams in the Office of the General Counsel.

1982 Mark A. Canizio, a partner in the New York office of Duane Morris LLP was appointed vice chair of the firm’s Construction Group. Canizio practices in the areas of construction and commercial litigation.

1983 Francis J. Aquila, a partner in the New York office of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP and co-head of the firm’s General Practice Group, joined the board of directors of Uniting Against Lung Cancer, a nonprofit dedicated to funding innovative research and raising awareness to find a cure for lung cancer. Aquila practice includes negotiated and unsolicited mergers and acquisitions; complex cross-border transactions; global joint ventures; private equity transactions; and corporate governance matters. Aquila is also a member of the Brooklyn Law School Board of Trustees.

Ann L. MacDougall was appointed president of Encore.org, a national nonprofit that helps people transition to jobs in the nonprofit world and the public sector. MacDougall leads strategy, operations, program and initiatives for the company. She previously served as chief operating officer of Acumen, a global nonprofit that raises charitable donations to invest in companies, leaders, and ideas that are changing the way the world tackles poverty.

1984 Richard G. Gertler joined the Garden City, NY office of Davidoff Hutcher & Citron, LLP as a partner in the firm’s Commercial Litigation Group. He focuses his practice on the areas of commercial and bankruptcy litigation, corporate governance, transactional and real estate law.

Howard S. Saffan, president of the Bridgeport, CT real estate development company, Bishop Design and Development,
was featured in an article in the *Stamford Advocate* (Mar. 6, 2014). The article discussed the creation of Saffan’s company and his concurrent role as the president of the Bridgeport Sound Tigers hockey team and the Webster Bank Arena. Saffan also owns and operates the SportsCenter of Connecticut, a skeleton skating and recreation venue.

**1986 Frank Katulak** was appointed president and chief executive officer of GDF Suez Gas NA. Based in Houston, TX, the company imports and supplies liquefied natural gas (LNG) in North America. Katulak has been working in the natural gas and LNG industries for over 30 years, most recently serving as president and chief operating officer of Distrigas of Massachusetts.

**Gary B. Port**, founding partner of the Garden City, NY firm, Port and Sava, was featured in an article in the *Asbury Park Press* (Mar. 2, 2014) about his career, his service as a Judge Advocate General, and his family life. Port is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, assigned to the 78th Training Division and serves as the legal adviser and ethics officer to the Commanding General of the Division. He practices in the area of general litigation, with a focus on family law.

**1987 Maria F. Mejia-Opaciuch**, previously senior counsel at Gibney, Anthony & Flaherty, LLP, joined the Miami, FL office of Carlton Fields Jorden Burt as senior counsel in the firm’s Business Transactions and Immigration Groups. She represents a wide range of clients, from individuals to Fortune 100 companies, in matters relating to U.S. immigration and nationality law.

**1988 Therese M. Doherty**, a partner in the New York office of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, was appointed co-chair of the firm’s Litigation Department. Doherty, who is also co-chair of the firm’s Securities, Futures & Derivatives Litigation Practice Group, focuses her practice on derivatives, futures and securities in civil litigations and regulatory enforcement proceedings.

**Ronnie (Rifkin) Rosenberg**, previously a vice president in the litigation management department of AIG, joined Legal Fee Advisors as a senior vice president. The company provides advisory services in the implementation and maintenance of best practice strategies for the control of outside legal spending. Rosenberg develops and implements performance metrics designed to maximize efficiency of law firms.

**1989 A. Michael Furman**, a founding partner of Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP, was appointed chair of the New York State Bar Association’s Trial Lawyers Section. Furman previously served as secretary of the Section, and he also chair’s the Section’s Committee on Lawyers Professional Liability and Ethics. He concentrates his practice on defending lawyers, insurance brokers and other professionals in complex professional liability litigation.

**1990 Jennifer Coates** celebrated the third anniversary of the opening her firm, Jenny Coates Law, a boutique tax and business law practice with offices in Seattle and Bainbridge Island, WA. Prior to starting her own practice, Coates worked in the Tax Departments of Dorsey & Whitney in Seattle, and Sidley Austin LLP and Dewey Ballantine in New York.

**Ann Marie Henderson** was named senior vice president and general counsel for Raritan Bay Medical Center (RBMC). With hospitals located in Old Bridge and Perth Amboy, NJ, RBMC is a New Jersey state-designated primary stroke center. Henderson previously served as senior associate attorney for the North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System and associate vice president and deputy general counsel for Staten Island University Hospital.

**Andrea M. Sharrin** joined the U.S. Department of Treasury to serve as director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement at the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN). Sharrin supervises 35 employees, and has responsibility for FinCEN’s Bank Secrecy Act compliance and enforcement program, including developing and implementing compliance and enforcement strategies, investigations and other enforcement activities. Sharrin previously served a deputy chief of the Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**1991 Deborah J. Denenberg** joined the New York office of Messner & Reeves as of counsel in the firm’s Litigation Practice Group. Denenberg focuses her practice in the areas of product liability and general liability law.

**Andrew Finkelstein**, managing partner of Jacoby & Meyers, LLP, participated in a panel discussion on “Disruptive Innovation in the Market for Legal Services” at Harvard Law School in March 2014, where he addressed the issue of non-lawyer ownership of law firms in the U.S. Finkelstein concentrates his practice in the area of wrongful death and personal injury.

**1992 Jeffrey Berkowitz**, senior vice president of pharmaceutical development and market access at Walgreen Co. and president of Walgreens Boot Alliance Development GmbH, was appointed to the board of directors of Infinity Pharmaceuticals, Inc., a biopharmaceutical company. Berkowitz is based in the company’s Bern, Switzerland office and he leads all of Walgreens’ relations with branded and generic pharmaceutical manufacturers and related development programs worldwide. He also oversees Walgreen’s North American-based purchasing and branded pharmaceutical relationships.

**Michael J. Monahan** was named assistant office managing principal for people, community and culture for the Metro New York Cluster at the global public accounting firm, Grant Thornton, LLP. Monahan is also the principal-in-charge of the firm’s Northeast Compensation and Benefits Consulting Practice. He previously served as senior vice president and chief administrative office for the New York Blood Center.

**Jennifer E. Schwartz** became a partner of Ingram, Yuzek, Gainen, Carroll & Bertolotti, LLP in the firm’s Landlord & Tenant Practice Group. Schwartz’s practice encompasses all aspects of landlord/tenant law, including advising both commercial and residential owners and managing agents on a broad range of lease-related and occupancy issues.
In January of last year, 200 Brooklyn Law School students did something quite unusual. They gave up their winter break to remain in the classroom. Not to study law per se, but to take part in a unique Business Boot Camp, a three-day-long immersive mini-MBA program. Without the generosity of John Oswald ’84, President and CEO of the international merchant/investment bank Capital Trust Group, they would never have had this opportunity.

The idea for a Business Boot Camp was actually devised in 2012 by Professor Michael Gerber in conjunction with a team of business and finance professionals from Deloitte Financial Advisory Services. Gerber wanted students to understand not only how to think like lawyers, but to think like their clients as well. Gerber just needed a partner to help develop the curriculum and to underwrite it. Oswald jumped at the opportunity, funding the course, and spending long hours working with Gerber on the course work. Oswald not only worked behind the scenes, he attended the Boot Camp as well, joining faculty in moderating panels and helping students navigate the material.

“I thought it was great idea,” said Oswald. “These are very valuable skills that students were not learning and that they needed to understand. I applaud Barry Salzberg ’77, Chief Executive Officer of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, who was integral to getting this entire project off the ground and running.”

In its first two years, Business Boot Camp has been hugely successful with BLS students, inspiring other schools to adopt similar programs.

Oswald understands the value of a business background. A Certified Public Accountant, he began his legal career in 1984 at Arthur Anderson & Co. in their Tax Group, while attending New York University at night for his LL.M. in tax. Two years later, he joined Lord Day & Lord as an associate in its Tax Department. About a year into working at Lord Day, he was approached by a former tax partner whom he worked for at Arthur Anderson about a Middle Eastern client, which had a potential federal tax issue in excess of $70 million. Oswald settled the case for $7 million.

From that moment on, Oswald began working on cultivating business in the Middle East. He had been teaching Partnership Taxation as an adjunct professor at the Law School, but had to stop because of his hectic schedule. When he made partner in 1991, he didn’t send an announcement. “I didn’t want my clients to realize that I wasn’t one before,” he joked.

Later in 1992, Oswald joined his client Capital Trust to open its office in New York and to manage its worldwide advisory operations. Oswald also helped expand the investment banking operations of Capital Trust, advising on the privatization of a large oil refinery in Sweden, and assisting in negotiating franchising operations for a number of large U.S. franchises in the Middle East and North Africa. He also led the privatization of the Samir oil refineries in Morocco.

“John is an extraordinarily talented lawyer and businessperson, which has made him the perfect person to bring this program across the finish line.” — Prof. Michael Gerber

As many of Capital Trust client’s are located in the Middle East, 9/11 had significant implications on the bank’s U.S. operations, and Oswald began to help expand the business in Europe, focusing more on European private equity and real estate. In addition, the European and North African advisory business thrived through the 2008 crash, where he closed a $5 billion refinancing for a client three days after Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy.

These days Oswald and Capital Trust are busier than ever. Their deal book includes a variety of high-profile projects including: advising Sir Richard Branson on the financing of Virgin Galactic; advising on the construction of a new airport in Cambodia; working on the refinancing of a major European oil refinery; and advising a North African pharmaceutical company on a joint venture. While his plate is quite full, Oswald plans to return for Boot Camp 2015.

“John not only provided generous financial support to the Boot Camp,” said Gerber. “He played a critical role in developing the course materials, along with BLS faculty members and the Deloitte team. John is an extraordinarily talented lawyer and businessperson, which has made him the perfect person to bring this program across the finish line.”

John Oswald ’84
The Deal Maker
Three Graduates Receive 2013 Prosecutor of the Year Awards

Claire S. Kedeshian ’89 and Carolyn Pokorny ’94, both Assistant U.S. Attorneys at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Eastern District of New York, and Steven G. Sanders ’95, Assistant U.S. Attorney at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, District of New Jersey, were awarded a Federal Law Enforcement Foundation (FELF) “Prosecutor of the Year Award” in November. At a ceremony at the Waldorf Astoria, they were each honored by FLEF and recognized for their excellence in service during the preceding year.

Kedeshian received the award in recognition of her work on the team that successfully prosecuted former New York State Senator Pedro Espada, Jr. for stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from Soundview Healthcare Network, a non-profit health care center in the Bronx. Espada is a former New York State Senator for the 33rd Senate District in the Bronx, and was the State Senate Majority Leader from 2009 to 2010. Kedeshian’s work was focused on the forfeiture piece of the case; Espada was eventually forced to forfeit $368,088.

During her over 15-year tenure with the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Civil Division, Asset Forfeiture Unit, Kedeshian has prosecuted a wide variety of criminal and civil asset forfeiture and money laundering cases.

She has been awarded the prestigious Henry L. Stimson Medal from the New York City Bar Association and is a two-time recipient of the Attorney General Director’s Award for her work on civil racketeering and international narcotics forfeiture cases. She has also been honored with the United States Department of Justice’s John Marshall Award for outstanding achievement in asset forfeiture. In 2013, Kedeshian was a recipient of the U.S. Attorney’s Office’s Community Service Award for her outreach and non-profit efforts outside her commitment to public service. Kedeshian has been an adjunct faculty member at BLS teaching legal research and writing and has served as an alumni mentor.

Pokorny also received her award in recognition of her work as co-lead counsel on the Espada case. In May 2012, Pokorny and the rest of her team helped persuade a Brooklyn jury to convict Espada of four counts of stealing. Three months later, she helped negotiate Espada’s plea of guilty to lying on his 2005 tax return. In June 2013, Espada was sentenced to five years’ imprisonment, 100 hours of community service, $118,531 in restitution, as well as $368,088 in forfeiture.

Pokorny has been a prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Brooklyn since 1999. She has held various positions within that office, including Chief of Narcotics, Senior Litigation Counsel to the Public Integrity Section, and Chief of General Crimes. Currently, she is Deputy Chief of the Criminal Division, where she supervises over 100 AUSAs in all areas, including white collar crime, terrorism and public corruption. For over a decade, she has been an adjunct faculty member at Brooklyn Law School. Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Pokorny was a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Arthur D. Spatt, and an Assistant D.A. in the Bronx.

Sanders received the “Prosecutor of the Year” award for participating in the prosecution and conviction of former prosecutor and defense attorney Paul Bergrin on various charges, including racketeering and murder. This case required two successful government appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (both of which he argued) before culminating in a verdict.

Sanders has been with the U.S. Attorney’s Office Appeals Division in Newark, New Jersey since 2007. He previously was in private practice as a partner at the firm of Arseneault, Fasset & Mariano, and as an associate with Arkin Schaffer & Kaplan, and at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom. Immediately following law school he was a law clerk to the Honorable Robert E. Cowen of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.
Chief Compliance Officer. Headquartered in Tampa, FL, WellCare offers a variety of government and private health plans for families, children, and the elderly. Bova-Hiatt previously served as the deputy chief in charge of eminent domain proceedings at the New York State Department. Bova-Hiatt was subsequently named senior vice president of claims at ACE Group. His practice focuses on complex insurance coverage disputes, employment law, contracts, professional liability and trademark/copyright.

**Soo-young Chang**, special counsel in the Buffalo, NY office of Goldberg Segalla, was elected a director of the Western New York Trial Lawyers Association. Chang focuses his practice in the areas of product liability and general litigation.

**Mark L. Parmelee** became a shareholder in the New York office of Greenberg Traurig, LLP in the firm’s Litigation Department. Parmelee concentrates his practice in the areas of securities litigation and arbitration, corporate and securities law and commercial litigation.

**Robert L. Romeo** joined the New York office of Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance as vice president of claims, healthcare professional liability and construction lines. Romeo previously served as senior vice president of claims, medical risk, construction and construction defect at ACE Group.

**Laura K. Markovich**, a partner in the New York office of Sedgwick LLP, was named vice chair of the firm’s Women’s Forum, which was launched in 2004. Markovich represents insurers, negotiating and litigating first- and third-party commercial insurance claims.

**Charles N. Curlett** is the managing partner of the Baltimore, MD and Washington, D.C. based civil and criminal litigation boutique firm of Levin & Curlett LLC. The firm recently expanded to New York, opening a Midtown office in February 2014. Curlett represents clients in SEC investigations, FINRA arbitrations and in litigation on the federal and state court levels.

**Rio Guerrero**, co-founder of the boutique immigration firm, Guerrero Yee LLP, was presented with The Outstanding Filipino Americans in New York (TOFA-NY) award in the category of Public Service at TOFA-NY’s annual awards event in December 2013. Guerrero was recognized for his more than 15 years of pro bono legal service benefiting individuals and organizations in the Asian Pacific American community. He represents companies, organizations, and individuals with complicated U.S. visa, work permit, and green card matters.

**Shawn A. Miles**, group head, global public policy and regulatory strategy at MasterCard, co-chaired the HOPE Global Financial Dignity Summit working group, “Making Finance Mobile: Banking with Any Device, Anywhere for Everyone,” in November 2013. Miles is responsible for MasterCard’s global public policy and regulatory strategy efforts in all key markets outside of the European Union and he also leads the company’s consumer education initiatives.

**Richard B. Polner** joined the New York office of Rawle & Henderson LLP as an associate. He focuses his practice in the areas of commercial motor vehicle litigation, catastrophic construction liability, products liability, premises liability, and toxic torts.

**Michael K. Robles** was elected partner in the New York office of Crowell Moring. He concentrates his practice on matters relating to insurance and reinsurance dispute resolution.

**Colleen L. Caden**, a partner in the New York office of Pryor Cashman LLP and chair of the firm’s Business Immigration Group, was featured in Law 360’s “Female Powerbrokers Q&A” (Feb. 26, 2014). Caden focuses her practice on all aspects of immigration and nationality law and ensuring compliance with immigration laws, U.S. Department of Labor regulations, and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services program.

**Samuel S. Kohn** joined the New York office of Chadbourne & Parke LLP as a partner in the firm’s bankruptcy and financial restructuring group. Kohn practices in the area of business reorganizations, including complex Chapter 11 cases and out-of-court restructurings.

**Craig L. Price**, a partner at Belkin Burden Wenig & Goldman, LLP, was featured in an article in Real Estate Weekly (Dec. 12, 2013). Price’s practice covers all aspects of real estate law, contracts, professional liability and commercial insurance claims.
facets of real property law and institutional lending. The article chronicled his swift career rise, from a solo practitioner working out of his friend’s bagel shops to becoming a partner at Belkin Burden, the youngest in the firm’s history.

Steven B. Smith joined the New York office of Dickstein Shapiro LLP as counsel in the firm’s Financial Restructuring and Bankruptcy Practice Group. Smith focuses his practice on complex corporate restructuring and creditors’ rights, including in-court Chapter 11 and Chapter 15 bankruptcy cases and out-of-court workouts.

2000 Oleg R. Sabel, previously with Hogan Lovells, joined Otterburn P.C. as a member of the firm’s Real Estate Group. Sabel’s practice focuses on the buying, selling and financing of a range of properties, including multi-family residential complexes, office buildings, hotels, health care facilities and retail centers.

Gregory J. Spaun became a partner in the White Plains office of Welby, Brady & Greenblatt, LLP. Spaun concentrates his practice in the areas of construction and commercial litigation, insurance coverage litigation, and real estate and property litigation.

2001 Donald R. Boyce was appointed to the United States Senior Executive Service cadre as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to serve as Director of the Office of Emergency Management. Boyce oversees the federal government’s primary planning and response arm for public health and medical emergency support. He previously served as the regional administrator for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 1 at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Leah S. Karlov became a partner in the Los Angeles, CA office of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy in the firm’s Tax Group. Karlov’s practice focuses on the tax-efficient structuring of domestic and cross-border transactions for investment funds and multinational corporations.

Daniel Klein, previously an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx County District Attorney’s Office, joined the White Plains, NY office of Goldberg Segalla as an associate. He focuses his practice in the area of general liability.

2002 Jennifer A. Broomfield relocated from Albuquerque, NM to Washington, D.C. with her partner, Dana, and their daughter, Tori, to become the program manager for the Department of Veterans Affairs National Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program. Broomfield is responsible for overseeing the implementation of policy, staff, and community partner training, as well as the coordination of domestic violence coordinators at VA medical centers. She previously served as the Veteran’s Justice Outreach Coordinator at the Albuquerque Veteran’s Affairs Medical Center.

Brian J. Grieco, previously an associate at Hogan Lovells, joined the Great Neck office of Ackerman, Levine, Cullen, Brickman & Limmer as counsel in the firm’s Financial Restructuring, Bankruptcy and Creditor’s Rights Department. He concentrates on business reorganization, bankruptcy and commercial law, debtor and creditor rights, and insolvency related litigation.

Lawrence W. Klein, previously an associate at Brand Glick & Brand, P.C., joined U.S. Legal Support, a litigation support company, as director of business development. Klein serves as a litigation consultant to corporations and litigators nationwide. With over 40 offices, the company provides court reporting, record retrieval, litigation, electronically stored information, and trial services to major insurance companies, corporations and law firms.

Gina M. Mavica-Farraj, previously as partner at Herrick, Feinstein LLP, joined the New York office of Baker & Hostetler LLP as a partner in the firm’s Real Estate Department. She focuses her practice on commercial real estate transactions, representing sellers, buyers, lenders, developers, and investors in acquisitions, dispositions, development deals, and financings.

Jessica S. Parise (Blatt), previously an associate at Fulbright & Jaworski LLP, joined the New York office of Bracewell & Giuliani LLP as senior counsel. Parise focuses her practice in the areas of intellectual property and litigation.

2003 Hanna Cao became of counsel in the Beijing office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP in the firm’s Corporate, Securities & Finance Group. Cao advises international clients on a broad range of China-related business matters, including investments and operations in financial services, healthcare, internet, technology, education, media, and manufacturing. She also assists Chinese companies with strategies to grow internationally.

Galete J. Levin became a partner at Cullen and Dykman in the firm’s Banking Department. She joined the firm following graduation and represents real estate lenders and financial institutions in commercial lending matters.

Nicholas J. Minella, previously an agency attorney in the Legal Division of the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, was appointed an Assistant Attorney General in the Enforcement Unit of the Real Estate Bureau at the NY Attorney General’s Office. Minella investigates complaints regarding cooperative and condominium securities offerings and prosecutes violators under the Martin Act and the New York Executive Law. He is also a Captain, Judge Advocate in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Dennis (Jack) Vilella, who maintains his own practice in New York City, founded 100 Lawyers Strong, an organization of attorneys designed to build an exclusive client referral network. The organization also provides professional support to its members.

2004 Aytan Y. Daihueky became a partner in the Century City, CA office of SheppardMullin in its Corporate Practice Group. Daihueky is a member of the firm’s Healthcare, Emerging Growth/Venture Capital, and Private Equity Industry Teams.

Deborah A. Johnson, an associate at the firm of Shanker Law Group, became a board member of the Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association. Johnson practices in the areas of commercial and construction litigation.
Alexander H. Ryley joined Volunteers of Legal Service as Director of its Elderly Project. Ryley most recently served as a staff attorney at The Legal Aid Society’s Brooklyn Office for the Aging, where he represented low-income elderly Brooklyn residents facing a variety of urgent civil legal problems.

Seth E. Spitzer became a partner in the New York office of Winston & Strawn. He focuses his practice in the areas of complex commercial and securities litigation and arbitration.

Stephen D. Zide became a partner in the New York office of Kramer Levin Naftalis & Franken LLP in its Corporate Restructuring and Bankruptcy Group. Zide represents official creditor and equity committees, Chapter 11 debtors, bondholders, investors, trade creditors, administrative agents and secured lenders in a variety of bankruptcy cases and distressed situations.

2005 Andrew B. Brettler became a partner of Lavely & Singer P.C., a Los Angeles based entertainment and litigation boutique firm co-founded by Martin D. Singer ’77. Brettler practices in the areas of entertainment litigation and commercial litigation.

Aaron R. Gardner became counsel in the New York office of Kaye Scholer LLP in its Corporate Department. A member of the firm’s Life Sciences Group, Gardner represents clients in a wide range of corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, public and private securities offerings, corporate finance, joint ventures and strategic alliances.

Seth Liebenstein became a partner in the real estate law firm, Belkin Burden Wenig & Goldman, LLP. Liebenstein practices in the areas of transactional real estate law, including commercial and residential leasing, acquisitions, dispositions, financing, and cooperative and condominium representation.

Timothy Oberweger, vice president and counsel at Fidelity National Title Insurance Company, was featured in the New York Real Estate Journal (Oct. 29 – Nov. 11, 2013). Oberweger oversees the generation of title work for multi-family, commercial, retail, hotel, office, and residential real estate transactions in New York and nationally for Fidelity.

Sascha Owen (Puritz) was appointed chief of staff to New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer. Owen manages the Office’s day-to-day functions and responsibilities and oversees the Department of Public Affairs, including Communications and Policy. She most recently served as deputy director for Stringer’s transition, and she previously served as deputy chief of staff.

Joshua D. Spitalnik became a member of the construction and commercial law firm, the Law Offices of Melvin J. Kalish, PLLC, founded by Melvin Kalish ’73. Spitalnik joined the firm in 2007 as an associate.

2006 Daniel C. Doeschner, previously an associate at Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, joined the labor and employment firm of Greenberg Traurig. Doeschner represents public sector unions in labor and contract matters.

Kent A. Eiler joined the Albany, NY law firm of Tully Rinckey PLLC, co-founded by Mathew B. Tully ’02, as a senior associate in its Military Law Practice Group. Eiler, who is a Captain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve JAG Corps, served as an Assistant Staff Judge Advocate before joining the firm.

David K. Ries joined the Health Plan of San Mateo, CA as its provider network manager. The Plan manages Medicaid and Medicare coverage for San Mateo County’s low-income residents. Ries is responsible for contracting with hospitals, medical practices and other service providers. He previously served as general counsel and compliance consultant for Human Capital Specialists, Inc. in San Diego, CA.

Benjamin L. Schiffman joined the Morristown, NJ firm of Crum & Forster, a provider of specialty and standard commercial lines insurance products, as corporate counsel. Schiffman focuses on regulatory and transactional matters. He was previously an associate at London Fischer LLP.

Jodi R. Siegel-Stein, previously an associate at Fox Rothschild LLP, joined the New York office of Herrick Feinstein LLP in the firm’s Land Use Group.


Manon M. Defelice founded and is serving as the chief executive officer of Inkwell, a global flexible staffing innovator focused on helping startups, small to mid-sized businesses, and nonprofits. Defelice is also the executive director and general counsel of the AHA Foundation, which works to protect and reinforce the basic rights and freedoms of women and girls. She previously worked for the New York City Mayor’s Office advising on human trafficking issues.

Shane Fuhrman, previously an associate in the Banking and Credit Group of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, co-founded and is serving as the general counsel of Atikus Insurance, a for-profit, socially focused enterprise that underwrites and insures commercial microcredit loans. The company has offices in both New York City and Kigali, Rwanda.

Ariel N. Weinstock became a partner at Katsy Korins LLP in the firm’s Real Estate Department. Weinstock focuses on all aspects of commercial real estate transactions and construction law. He is also co-chair of the New York County Lawyers’ Association Construction Law Committee and secretary of the Construction Law Committee of the Real Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association.

Nicole A. Zerillo was promoted to vice president of marketing at the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). Zerillo oversees PRSA’s marketing initiatives, including all print and digital collateral in support of ongoing campaigns and member services, and she supports all departments in the development of integrated campaigns. Zerillo previously served as PRSA’s senior marketing director.
John Rudikoff ’06
Designing Change

There are many ways to improve a community. Education, health care, and employment come to mind. But what if the answer is actually architecture? MASS Design Group believes it is, and John Rudikoff ’06, is an integral part of its mission as its General Counsel.

Launched in 2008, MASS (Model of Architecture Serving Society) is an international design firm leveraged on the radical idea that architecture can actually improve lives. Working in partnership with governments, NGOs, and private firms across much of Central and East Africa, as well as Haiti, MASS works to build facilities that serve as an engine for economic growth and empowerment. “There is a misconception about architecture,” said Rudikoff. “It is not just a luxury good for consumption but actually an opportunity to impact communities through the creation of dignity and economic development.”

MASS’s first project, built in partnership with Partners in Health and the Rwanda Ministry of Health, was the award-winning Butaro District Hospital in Rwanda. The facility filled a vacuum; there were no hospitals in the district beforehand. It now serves over 340,000 people and has resulted in an 80% drop in infant and maternal mortality rates in the district. But MASS did more than save lives with Butaro; it created a new paradigm for architecture. With every MASS project, the team uses indigenous materials instead of expensive imported products. They use available wind and light to save on electrical costs, they hire locally, and train unskilled laborers.

“In most designs, there is often not a lot of thought put into who is benefiting from the purchase of materials, how contextually appropriate are those materials to the region, and what labor is being leveraged,” said Rudikoff. “All of these factors are incorporated into the MASS model.”

Following the Butaro Hospital project, MASS continued its work in Rwanda with three additional projects, each with comparable impact. In 2009, it built the Umubano School: seven buildings, nine classrooms, and a library using local materials to spur the region’s economy, all designed with natural ventilation and clerestory lighting to reduce energy consumption. (It was short-listed for the 2013 Aga Khan Award for Architecture.) This was followed by the 2012 completion of Butaro’s Doctor Housing which was designed to support doctor retention in the rural Burera District (winner of the World Architecture Network Buro Happold Effectiveness Award), and the Butaro Ambulatory Cancer Center, the first comprehensive cancer center in rural East Africa.

While Rudikoff had served on the Board of Directors of MASS since its inception in 2008, he didn’t officially join MASS until 2013. With him, he brought both civil and criminal experience. A former Assistant District Attorney, he was a founding member of the Environmental Crimes Bureau within the Rackets Division of the King’s County District Attorney’s Office. “Environmental crime was often disregarded as overly sophisticated to prosecute at the DA level,” recalled Rudikoff. “Thanks to my BLS education in real estate and environmental law, we were able to engage with State and City Agencies, initiate grand jury investigations, and bring indictments against corporate interests whose criminal conduct previously went unpunished. Within a year of its founding, we were recovering six- and seven-figure fines to the people of Brooklyn.” He left the DA’s office to gain civil experience and worked as a commercial litigator for two years before joining MASS full time last year.

Since becoming general counsel, he has served as corporate secretary, managing its Board of Directors, oversee business development, and spearheaded the negotiation and drafting of the company’s complex international design and construction contracts. Beyond Rwanda, MASS currently has projects in Uganda (Kayanja Center for Global Health), Liberia (Redemption Pediatric Hospital), the Democratic Republic of Congo (Ilima Primary School), Malawi (Maternal Waiting Villages), Gabon (The Albert Schweitzer Memorial Hospital) and Haiti (The Tuberculosis Hospital and The Cholera Treatment Center, which includes a water purification system). All told, MASS is currently working in ten countries across the sub-continent and is exploring a variety of projects in the United States.

“When we conceptualize a building we are taking stock of the past and the future, not just the present,” said Rudikoff. “I am thrilled to be using my skill-set to support the MASS mission.”

“Architecture is actually an opportunity to impact communities through the creation of dignity and economic development.”

Pediatric Hospital), the Democratic Republic of Congo (Ilima Primary School), Malawi (Maternal Waiting Villages), Gabon (The Albert Schweitzer Memorial Hospital) and Haiti (The Tuberculosis Hospital and The Cholera Treatment Center, which includes a water purification system). All told, MASS is currently working in ten countries across the sub-continent and is exploring a variety of projects in the United States.

“When we conceptualize a building we are taking stock of the past and the future, not just the present,” said Rudikoff. “I am thrilled to be using my skill-set to support the MASS mission.”
2008 Elan A. Gershoni joined the Miami, FL office of Jones Walker LLP as special counsel in the firm’s Business & Commercial Litigation Practice Group. Gershoni represents estate fiduciaries, including corporate debtors, Chapter 7 and 11 trustees, official and ad hoc committees, secured and unsecured creditors, and other parties-in-interest in bankruptcy proceedings and out-of-court workouts. He was also named a coordinating editor for the ABI Journal.

Hayden Goldblatt, an associate at the media, entertainment, and advertising law firm of Frankfurt Klein & Selz, was named to Variety’s “Up Next List” in conjunction with its 2015 Dealmaker’s Impact Report. Goldblatt practices in the areas of entertainment, media, copyright, trademark, defamation and privacy tort law.

2009 Kiran N. Gore, an associate in the New York office of DLA Piper, was appointed secretory of the Legislation Committee of the New York City Bar for the term ending 2015-2016. She concentrates her practice in the areas of commercial litigation, international arbitration, dispute resolution and white collar disputes, focusing primarily on matters involving the natural resource, energy, shipping and transport sectors.

Vanessa C. Kaczmarek, previously an associate in the New York office of Clifford Chance US LLC, relocated to New Mexico and joined the firm of Modrall Sperling as an associate. Kaczmarek focuses her practice in the areas of federal taxation and estate planning.

Glenn P. Prives joined the Newark, NJ office of McCarter English LLP as an associate in the firm’s Healthcare Practice. He concentrates his practice on the areas of hospital-physician alignment, mergers, acquisitions, affiliations, alliances, joint ventures, numerous types of contractual agreements and health care information technology and regulatory matters.

2010 Rachel E. Green joined the Portland, ME office of Preti, Flaherty, Beliveau, Pachios as an associate in the firm's Business Law Group. She practices in the areas of corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, real estate and other transactions.

Daniel I. Jedell, an associate at Furman Kornfeld & Brennan LLP, became engaged to Katherine A. Stefanou ’11, an associate at Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossman LLP. The couple met at the on-campus café, Geraldo’s, in November 2008 and plan to wed in October 2014.

Laurie A. Keaton joined the New York office of Hogan Lovells as an associate in the firm’s Lender Liability Practice Group. Keaton previously served as a law clerk to Judge William C. Hillman of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Jonathan T. Savella became a law clerk to U.S. District Court Judge Michael Shipp in the District of New Jersey. Savella was previously an attorney at the New York City Housing Authority.

Daniel R. Wohlberg, previously an associate in the New York office of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, joined the Charlotte, NC office of Dechert LLP as an associate in its Finance and Real Estate Group. Wohlberg advises financial institutions, hedge funds, underwriters, issuers, institutional investors and assets managers in structured finance transactions and other complex financings.


Timothy J. MeKeon, previously an associate at Davidoff Hutcher & Citron, joined the Portland, ME office of Bernstein Shur as an associate in the firm’s Business Restructuring and Insolvency Practice. His practice focuses on business finance and restructuring proceedings, including chapter 11, asset sales and acquisition, and bankruptcy related litigation.


2012 Yonah Jaffe joined the New York office of the boutique trial firm Reid Collins & Tsai LLP. Jaffe previously served as a law clerk to Chief Judge Carla Craig of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of New York.

Jonathan P. Lax was appointed as a Special Assistant United States Attorney in the Business and Securities Fraud Unit of the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Eastern District of New York. The Unit investigates and prosecutes all corporate, securities, health care and investment fraud, as well as Foreign Corrupt Practice Act violations.

Robert B. Sobelman joined the New York office of Arnold & Porter as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Practice Group. Sobelman previously served as a law clerk to Judge Edward R. Korman ’66 of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

2013 Krista L. Faltin joined the Garden City, NY office of Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP as an associate, where she concentrates her practice in the area of commercial litigation and bankruptcy.

Christopher J. Logalbo joined Susquehanna International Group (SIG), a global quantitative trading firm, as an associate in Institutional Equity Sales. Logalbo works with SIG’s “Event-Driven Special Situations Team,” advising investors on complex and unique situations that various public corporations are currently facing, including, litigations, spin-offs, mergers & acquisitions and turnarounds.
In Memory of Beverly C. Smith, a Trust Becomes a Scholarship

Beverly C. Smith ’53, who passed away on June 20, 2013, named Brooklyn Law School as a special gift beneficiary of her trust in the amount of $250,000. The gift will endow the Beverly C. and Charles B. Smith Endowed Scholarship, in tribute to both Beverly and her husband Charles, Class of 1951.

“We are honored that Beverly thought so highly of the School that she bequeathed a gift in support of current and future students,” said Dean Allard. “Providing scholarship funds for students is critical to our mission and essential to the ability of so many students to attend law school.”

The late Charles B. Smith was a partner at Fish & Neaves and was very supportive of his wife when she went to law school. He also encouraged his secretary of 18 years, Rita Tartaglia, to go to Brooklyn Law School and she graduated in 1992. Tartaglia is now an attorney for Judge Gary Marton in Housing Court. “Without his influence I would not have gone to law school,” she said of the late Charles Smith. “He and his wife were so very encouraging and they were such fine people.”

While Beverly earned her law degree, she never practiced. “I think she went to law school to keep my father company,” joked her son, Christopher. She was a lifelong public elementary school teacher in Amityville, New York.

She was very specific in her bequest, directing that “the money is to be used to provide scholarship assistance to women students who attend the evening program and who are employed full-time in jobs during the day.”

“My father and mother set up the trust to benefit working women to ease the burden of juggling the responsibilities of school, work, and home,” said Christopher. “My mother was very proud of her education and they were both committed to giving back.”

Mary Lee Bedford, Extraordinary Assistant to Many Deans

Mary Lee Bedford, longtime executive assistant to deans and a pillar of the Law School community, died suddenly on October 8, 2013. Over nearly three decades, Bedford assisted four deans and numerous associate deans, worked with the faculty and staff, and assisted countless students with her unfailingly calming presence. She was an exemplar of professional skill and dedication, and her upcoming retirement more than well-earned.

Bedford joined Brooklyn Law School in 1985 on the recommendation of Roberta Trager, the wife of then dean, the late Judge David G. Trager, who knew Bedford from their Park Slope neighborhood. As an assistant to many Associate Deans of Student Affairs, Bedford played the role of “producer” at graduation, running the script, parceling out tasks, and keeping track of running the event down to the smallest of details. In addition, her nurturing, motherly way made her desk outside the deans’ offices a very popular reprieve for students. “Mary Lee had a very soothing effect on our students,” said Professor Michael Gerber, who served as Interim Dean for two years. “She had a capacity to calm troubled waters.”

Mary Lee at the Staff Appreciation Lunch with her grandson.

Before joining Brooklyn Law School, Bedford served as secretary to senior management at Touche Ross & Co., the firm that would later become Deloitte. Earlier in her career, she was an elementary school teacher in Brooklyn and Long Island, as well as at the Barnard School for Girls.

Dean Allard summed up her many experiences in a moving eulogy he delivered at her funeral: “Mary Lee was in the convent as a Dominican nun for 12 years, a parochial school teacher, a pioneering woman graduating from St. Francis College, a loving, devoted mother, grandmother, a valued co-worker and colleague, a tireless volunteer, our friend who will be missed beyond measure, and the guardian angel and unsung champion behind the scenes of all privileged to know her, including the hundreds of alumni who have already written to us about the benefits bestowed on them by her guiding firm hand,” he said.

Speaking about his first days on the job, he continued: “Our Mary Lee was of enormous service to this new law school dean as my trusted advisor. When I came to the Law School, it’s not just that I didn’t know anything about being a dean—I didn’t suspect anything. Even more than the fact that Mary Lee contributed significantly to every success we enjoyed, as important, she prevented me from making untold mistakes and averted many failures. We all are in her debt.”

Bedford is survived by her daughter Amy, a 2002 Brooklyn Law School alumna, her son Peter, her beloved grandchildren, and her many friends.
IN MEMORIAM

Edward Jurith ’76


Jurith is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and his sons, Theodore and William.
The Supreme Court this January heard arguments in Paroline v. United States about restitution for victims of child pornography. This case reflects the recent awareness among lawmakers, courts and the media about sexual exploitation. This is a welcome development. But a significant group of child victims remains unrecognized as such—children in the commercial sex industry.

The federal government has estimated that at least 100,000 minors every year are sold for sex in the U.S. The men who purchase and pimp them are rarely punished. And little is done to prevent this epidemic. Run-away shelters, safe housing and services for these children are perennially underfunded.

Instead, the most common reaction is to punish these victims. In almost every state, trafficked minors are routinely arrested, prosecuted and incarcerated for prostitution or related charges. Many of them are very young, entering “the life” at an average age of 11 to 14 years old. The evidence is clear that these children are extremely vulnerable, with over half of them having experienced sexual or physical abuse, and many of them taking to the streets to escape dysfunctional families. Experts estimate that once he or she has run away, a young person will be approached within 48 to 72 hours to engage in prostitution. Many of them, with no safe place to sleep and no money to buy food, have no other choice.

Undoubtedly, many police officers and judges do not want to lock up these boys and girls. Yet they are wary of letting them back on the streets to face beatings or worse at the hands of pimps and customers. As one Chicago cop asked: “What do you do with these [children]? … You need a place where they can stay where they can be safe.” I don’t blame these individuals on the front lines. But I do question why we as a society have made jail the only safe place for vulnerable kids.

All prostituted minors under 18 years old qualify as trafficking victims under the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act, regardless of whether they are born in Bosnia or Brooklyn. Most children in the commercial sex industry would also qualify as victims under statutory rape laws. Yet I could find not a single case of a customer of a trafficked child being prosecuted for statutory rape. Prosecutions under trafficking laws remain rare, a drop in the bucket compared to the numbers of minors prosecuted for prostitution.

Prosecuting and jailing these children is not only unfair, but also ineffective. Young people exit the system with no services or housing in place. Not surprisingly, then, most return to their pimps or to the families they fled. Treating these victimized youth as criminals also renders them less likely to seek assistance in the future.

This bleak picture is slowly starting to change. About 10 states have passed “safe harbor laws” permitting trafficked minors to be taken out of the criminal system. Yet all but one of these states still allow for the prosecution and incarceration of some youth, and none of these laws is adequately funded. Child sexual exploitation will continue to go largely unchecked until real resources are devoted to safe housing and therapeutic services. Children depicted in pornography, like “Amy,” whose images are at issue in the Paroline case, have suffered terribly. But so have the thousands of young people who are sold for sex on websites and dark streets. All these children deserve recognition and restitution as the victims they are.

The federal government has estimated that at least 100,000 minors every year are sold for sex in the U.S. The men who purchase and pimp them are rarely punished.”

Cynthia Godsoe teaches criminal and family law at Brooklyn Law School. She is an Assistant Professor of Law and is on the board of GEMS, an organization serving girls and young women who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking. This piece appeared in The Huffington Post on January 27, 2014.
Measures of Excellence
Brooklyn Law School has had an exciting year of recognition for its students, faculty, and alumni!

94% of BLS first-time test takers passed the July exam—far surpassing the 86% statewide average. The Class of ’13 bar passage rate is the Law School’s highest in the past 25 years.

Brooklyn Law School placed on the top 25 list for corporate leadership. A Pepperdine University School of Law study found Brooklyn Law School graduates are well represented in the corporate boardroom.

The Leiter Report, the most respected and comprehensive study assessing law school faculty scholarship, ranked Brooklyn Law School’s faculty 49th nationwide on the coveted list of Top 50 Best Law Faculties.

90% of the Class of 2013 were employed in professional jobs where the BLS J.D. is a demonstrable advantage. (As of 2/15/14—the official ABA reporting date)

Brooklyn Law School’s experiential practical training program received an A+ by The National Jurist and was ranked #6 nationally.

A National Jurist survey included BLS among the top 20 “law schools for clinics.” The magazine ranked 200 law schools nationwide based on “most clinical opportunities,” dividing the total number of filled slots in full-time clinical course offerings by the number of full-time students.
Upcoming Events

May 15  |  Alumni Class Reunions  
The New York Public Library, Astor Hall  

May 28  |  113 Commencement Ceremony at the Brooklyn Academy of Music  
SPEAKER: Barry Salzberg ’77, Chief Executive Officer, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited

May 29  |  First Day of Classes for Students in the 2-year J.D. Program

June 5  |  Recent Graduate Reception  
Hill Country, Brooklyn

Aug. 19  |  Convocation Ceremony  
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York  
Brooklyn, NY

Aug. 27  |  Fall Semester Classes Begin

Sept. 5  |  Golden Circle Celebration  
Reception for the Classes of 1965 and Earlier

Sept. 8  |  1901 Society Event  
“Leading the School: Addressing Jobs and Law School Affordability in the New World of Law”

Celebrating the launch of the Center for Urban Business Entrepreneurship (CUBE): Dean Nick Allard and Chairman of the Board Stuart Subotnick with CUBE donors, faculty, administrators and students in Brooklyn Bridge Park, just a short walk from CUBE’s new DUMBO offices.

For more information about events and dates, please visit our website at www.brooklaw.edu/NewsAndEvents.