BLS Announces the Launch of New Online Journal, Practicum

Brooklyn Law School is pleased to announce the official launch of *Practicum*, an online supplement to the Law School's four print journals. This student-run journal was created as a new forum to allow for dynamic discussion among practitioners, academics, and other members of the legal community. *Practicum* is seeking submissions from BLS graduates. The student editors are looking for brief commentaries or articles in response to recent cases, legislation, or current events, as well as responses to pieces published in any of the four BLS journals. Read more.

Law School News

International Business Law Center Hosts SEC Commissioner Troy A. Paredes
The Dennis J. Block Center for the Study of International Business Law hosted a discussion with SEC Commissioner Troy A. Paredes, moderated by Professor Dana Brakman Reiser. Commissioner Paredes spoke on a range of topics including the rule-making process at the SEC and the global securities market. Read more.

Prof. Karmel's Students on Winning Streak: Papers Selected for Business and Law Journals
Four of Professor Karmel's students have had papers selected for publication in well-respected business and law journals. Julia Zukina '13 also won the Elliot A. Spoon Business Law Writing Competition. Read more.

Seventh Annual Sara Robbins Spelling Bee Raises Money for Memorial Scholarship
Nearly 30 spellers competed in the Sara Robbins Spelling Bee, judged by Associate Dean Michael Cahill and Professors Chris Serkin and Nelson Tebbe. Proceeds from the event go toward the Sara Robbins Memorial Scholarship, awarded each year to a deserving student who exhibits generosity and commitment to the Law School. Read more.

Symposia and Lectures:
3/14 - Sparer Public Interest Law Forum: Legal Perspectives on Disaster Preparedness...
4/11 - TSI Symposium: Keeping Your Secrets Secret
4/23 - Real Estate and Land Use
Upcoming Events

**NYCLA Speed Networking Event**  
Thursday, March 21  
Join the New York County Lawyers’ Association's Young Lawyers’ Section for a speed networking event co-sponsored by Brooklyn Law School. [RSVP Online.](#)

**On the Road: South Florida**  
Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21  
South Florida alumni are invited to a cocktail reception in Bal Harbour on Saturday and Sunday brunch in Boca Raton. Please join us for one or both of these celebrations hosted by fellow BLS graduates. [RSVP Online.](#)

**Grand Central Terminal Tour and Reception**  
Wednesday, May 1  
As Grand Central Terminal celebrates its centennial, join us for a tour of the terminal, led by Anthony Robins, author of *Grand Central Terminal: 100 Years of a New York Landmark*. A reception will follow. [Learn more.](#)

**Student-Alumni Events**  
This spring, many student organizations are hosting alumni dinners and receptions, which are wonderful networking opportunities for graduates, faculty, and students. [View the full list of events](#) to reconnect with those BLS organizations that have been most meaningful to you.

Faculty Spotlight: Bennett Capers

The Law School’s newest faculty member, Professor I. Bennett Capers, was featured on a WNYC radio broadcast discussing the high-profile trial of Gilberto Valle, the so-called “Cannibal Cop,” a NYC police officer charged with conspiracy to kidnap, kill, and eat women. Capers is an expert in criminal law and procedure, and a prolific writer and commentator on these topics. Prior to teaching, he spent nearly ten years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York. This past fall, Capers was elected to the American Law Institute (ALI), where he will continue his ongoing service on ALI’s Model Penal Code: Sexual Assault and Related Offenses Project. [Listen to the full WNYC interview.](#)

Recent Class Notes

Dennis M. Brown ’83 was appointed the Suffolk County Attorney. The County Attorney handles all civil legal business of the Suffolk County government and
its agencies. Brown previously served as Bureau Chief of the Municipal Law Bureau in the Suffolk County Attorney's Office.

**Larry Bortstein ’94**, founder of The Bortstein Legal Group, was awarded a 2013 Lexology Client Choice Award USA & Canada in the Information Technology category for the New York Region. Recipients of the 2013 award were selected from a pool of over 2,000 nominations submitted by corporate counsels from around the world.

**Dean Kusakabe ’95** was appointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to the New York City Family Court. Prior to becoming a judge, he served with the Legal Aid Society in the Juvenile Rights Division and maintained his own practice specializing in family law.

**Sarah Whittle Spooner ’96** was appointed executive director of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA). In this position, Spooner serves as the chief operating officer of the agency and is responsible for management of agency-wide administrative offices.

**Melissa Norden ’99** was appointed senior vice president and general counsel of The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. She joined the ASPCA as staff counsel in 2000 and most recently served as senior vice president, chief of staff and acting general counsel.

Read more Class Notes.

www.brooklaw.edu

Brooklyn Law School
250 Joralemon Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

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