J.TSL’s Women and the Law Conference 2015 will be held at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in rooms 323 and 325 on Friday, March 27, 2015. The daylong event will include prestigious panelists and a reception on the 8th floor terrace. All participants must register.

The conference will explore Women and the Criminal Justice System. Noted criminal defense attorney and author Leslie Abramson, who handled the Menendez Brothers trial and the Phil Spector case, will deliver the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture.

Since 2003, the WLC has featured the annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, thanks to the support of Associate Justice Ginsburg of the U.S. Supreme Court, who visited and lectured at the law school that same year.

A dynamic speaker, Abramson promises to give a spirited presentation. “Leslie is a funny and dynamic speaker and I’m confident she will give a great Ginsburg Lecture,” said conference organizer Professor Marjorie Cohn.

Other notables speaking at the conference include retired U.S. District Court Judge Irma Gonzalez, Alumna San Diego District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis ’76, and Santa Clara law professor Gerald Uelmen.

Panels will focus on timely and controversial subjects, including: Are Women Treated Like Men in the Criminal Justice System?, Pathways to Power: Trailblazing Women in Criminal Law, and Women in Prison.

The WLC is organized by the Women and the Law Project at TJS. The popular annual conference is open to the public and regularly draws a large audience of academics, legal practitioners, and other professionals as well as students from local universities.

Register for WLC 2015
After several years honing her skills at a premiere plaintiffs’ Civil Litigation firm in San Diego, Galente joined her husband Eric Ganci ’08, who she met while in law school to form Galente Ganci APC, Managing a thriving practice, particularly in civil defense, has allowed her to develop as an attorney, businessperson, and become a valued member of the local community.

“From the business side, the best part is owning my own practice and being the one who sets the tone for the brand, the environment, the types of cases that I take and my schedule,” Galente said. “From the practice side, it’s getting to help people who’ve been hurt. Everything I do makes a difference to someone, betters their lives or makes them feel better. I started working with pro bono attorneys and providing know-your-rights presentations, and we also expended a significant amount of resources to training new lawyers in the practice of immigration removal defense.”

“Before table instead of what others can do for you and you’ll get a lot further a lot faster.”

Appreciative of TISL’s support, Galente recalls those who encouraged and helped her through law school. “From the first day I walked in and had us all take a deep breath before we started. He always asked if I had questions and meant it. He was fantastic about asking questions and if you gave the wrong answer, he would ask more questions until you got to the right thing and that was incredible to know that the professors at the school thought I was doing something right.”

“Professor Eric Mitnick was an incredible source of calm from the first day I walked in and had us all take a deep breath before we started. He always asked if I had questions and meant it. He was fantastic about asking questions and if you gave the wrong answer, he would ask more questions until you got to the right answer on your own, so that you would learn the information.”

“Connecticut followed me in my practice and provided me with valuable experience and the opportunity to become familiar with the San Diego legal community. Knowles dedicated her time to numerous organizations, including the California Innocence Project, Casa Cornelia, Immigration Justice Project, and the San Diego Immigration Court. In addition to her work off campus, Knowles sought and took advantage of the opportunities on campus. “I would definitely say that my experience leading the Public Interest Law Foundation really put service into focus for me and helped widen my lens on the need for know-your-rights assistance.”

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“When asked what advice she would give recent graduates, in addition to taking advantage of the TJSL’s many resources, Galente added, “Create a five year plan. And be willing to change it or update it whenever you need to. If you’re not happy, then you need to change something. But give yourself something to work towards. Don’t let negativity run your life. It’s easy when you’re busy or struggling to let the negatives rules. When you find yourself there, acknowledge how you feel and then knock it off. You won’t attract anything good when you’re busy wallowing.” Lastly, Galente suggested, “Be nice to everyone. You never know when an action or a kind word will make all the difference to someone else.”
The 201 Bar on Capitol Hill was the place to be on the evening of Thursday, February 19 if you were a Thomas Jefferson School of Law Alumni because that is where TJSL grads gathered for the Washington, D.C. Alumni Reception.

"This alumni event was fun and informative. As a non-practicing TJSL graduate, it allowed me to touch base with my law practicing schoolmates," said Michael Jackson '94.

While at the reception, Dean Guernsey, his wife Kathe Klare and Alumni Relations Director Stephanie Marquez connected with and welcomed the alumni to the mini reunion and networking event.

On Saturday, February 21, Marquez traveled to New York City and met with Dana Heitz '08, Ted Kuch '05 and Shantelle Christie '14 to discuss ways of bringing New York area grads together for future networking event.

During the celebration, a raffle was held where alumni t-shirts and business card holders were given to a few lucky winners.

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On the first Thursday of every month, all alums are invited to attend the San Diego receptions that are held once a month at Bottega Americano which is located in the TJSL building at 1155 Island Avenue in the East Village.

Please RSVP here to obtain free parking at the upcoming March 5th Alumni & Student mixer at 6:00 p.m.

At the 2015 Barristers Ball being held on Saturday, March 28, former president of the National Lawyers Guild Professor Marjorie Cohn will present the Charles T. Bumer Civil Libertarian Book Award to a TJSL student who best personifies the ideals of Mr. Bumer.

Mr. Bumer considered himself a “First Amendment Freak” and was a San Diego criminal defense attorney who performed pro bono work in support of civil rights and the anti-war movement. He was a long-time Guild member and the highly prestigious award was initiated following his death in 1996 and is given on behalf of the National Lawyers Guild.

The book awarded each year is Lawrence Tribe’s treatise on constitutional law, which was Mr. Bumer’s favorite book. His daughter, Elizabeth, is a 1983 graduate of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law.

Students my nominate themselves or may nominate other students. Charles T. Bumer Civil Libertarian Book Award nomination forms may be downloaded or picked up at the Students Services reception desk located on the 6th floor.

Completed forms must be returned to the Students Services reception desk no later than noon on Tuesday, March 17.

For those who have never considered a career in public interest, Knowles encourages new attorneys, “Be flexible about what your future might hold. Volunteer with a pro bono organization. So many people in the world desperately need assistance and you are in a great position to provide some. Learn something and help someone out while you’re at it. It feels good. It is good. You’re on your way, and if you’ve come this far, you can be certain that you have what it takes to be equally awesome at whatever is coming up next on your path.”

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Sincere gratitude for your selection of my "I would be remiss not to express my gratitude for the charter recipients of the first awards.

The scholarship is designed to enable successful applicants who demonstrate financial support to graduates from faculty, staff, alumni, and students.

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR TJSL BAR STUDY SCHOLARSHIP

The Thomas Jefferson School of Law is proud to announce the second installment of the TJSL Bar Study Scholarship that provides financial support to graduates studying to take the California Bar for the first time.

The scholarship is designed to enable successful applicants who demonstrate financial need and academic achievement to devote more time to pre-bar study.

Tony Nguyen and Alexander Green were the charters recipients of the first awards. "I would be remiss not to express my sincere gratitude for your selection of my receiving the TJSL Bar Study Scholarship for the February 2015 Bar Exam," said Nguyen. "As a recent graduate enduring the studies of the bar exam, this scholarship has not only been a financial alleviation for my Barbi Bar Study Course, but it has also served as TJSL's continuing emotional support for my career endeavors as a future education law attorney."

The awards are funded by contributions from faculty, staff, alumni, and students. "I would like to express my immense gratitude for your having elected to award me with a scholarship towards my bar study for the February 2015 California Bar Exam," said Alexander. "I am incredibly grateful that you looked favorably upon my application as well as to each and every one of the faculty, alumni, and students who donated to this cause."

The next scholarship will be awarded after the close of the spring 2015 semester. An application form can be downloaded or picked up on the 6th floor reception area. A combined faculty-staff committee will review all applications. The deadline to apply for the May 2015 graduation award is Friday, April 10.

Students and other members of the TJSL community can donate to this fund online through TJSL's Make a Gift website. Select "TJSL Bar Scholarship Fund" in the "Please direct my gift to" dropdown menu.

On February 27, Moot Court team members Edith Polanco, Elizabeth Atkins, Daven Ghandi, Rachel Travis, and Danielle Tailleart attended to Portland, Oregon to compete in the much-anticipated Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

Jessup is the world's largest moot court competition with over 850 law schools from more than 80 countries participating in the competition annually. One team is allowed to participate from every eligible school, and this year, Thomas Jefferson is sending the cream of the crop to bring back a victory.

The competition simulates a fictional dispute between countries and requires relentless time and dedication by the students who participate as it takes a year to work on the problem. However, as the old saying goes: "With great sacrifice comes great reward," and these students have earned themselves just that.

"Competing in Jessup has been the single hardest thing I've done in law school thus far," Elizabeth Atkins explained. "Being on Moot Court has given me the advanced skills necessary to thrive as a future lawyer. Since being on Moot Court I have written four appellate briefs, but writing an international brief (called a memorial) was something I never imagined I would do. The Jessup competition requires the advocates to learn international law by researching it, writing about it, and now arguing it; it expands the advocates' understanding of law around the world. Oral argument for Jessup is an entirely different beast than other competitions because the cases have names like 'Gabcikovo Nagymaros' and each piece of law and every case you bring up has to be proven to be persuasive to the court."

Daven Ghandi illustrated how the Jessup experience taught him multiple lessons that will be proven to be persuasive to the court.

Forming a shared bond over hardwork and restless hours, each member additionally shared the deepest of gratitude in the efforts of the professors who generously gave their time to helping the Jessup competitors be their absolute best. With Atkins stating, "Seeing the Professors take time out of their busy schedules to help us in practices was an honor. The wealth of knowledge of international law in our professors has been tremendously helpful, and we thank them generously."
From February 21 to April 13, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program operated by Thomas Jefferson School of Law’s Tax Law Society will provide free income tax return preparation for students, low-income families, senior citizens and others who can’t afford professional tax services or are unable to complete their own tax forms.

Since 1998, TJSLS students have annually offered this service to the San Diego community. The clinic’s student volunteers receive training to become IRS-certified, operate the TaxWise software, interview clients effectively and assemble a proper tax return. This year, approximately 15 students, who are IRS-certified will participate.

The TJSLS tax clinic is open to appointment only clients on Mondays from 5 – 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 – 5 p.m. The clinic will be closed on Monday, March 2nd, Saturday, March 7th, Monday, March 9th and Saturday, March 14th. Appointments can be made by emailing tax@tjsl.edu.

The TJSLS tax clinic is located in the Law Clinic office at the Thomas Jefferson School of Law in the East Village area of downtown San Diego. The entrance to the clinic is at 495 Eleventh Avenue. The Park & Market Trolley station is adjacent to the law school and there are commercial parking lots available nearby as well as limited on-street parking.
Have you always wanted your own TJSL designed apparel? Well, now is your chance! From now until March 31st, any member of the TJSL community can submit a T-Shirt design. We are planning to have the winning design available for sale on the Shop TJSL site.

DESIGN GUIDELINES

1. Design must be original work.
2. Submit design as JPG or Vector file.
   (JPG resolution should be 300 pixels per inch or higher)
3. The design should be universal and one-sided so that anyone can wear the design.
4. Please do not include the TJSL logo (the Shop already has the logo). We would like something new and creative.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN

Send your electronic file with your name and contact information to studentservices@tjsl.edu.
Want to Submit a TOUCHSCREEN FLYER?

If you are a TJSL organization and would like to have your information promoted on the Touchscreens, please follow these flyer guidelines:

- **Dimensions**: 6.6 inches (width) x 10.1 inches (height)
- **File Format**: PDF or JPG
- **Submit Your Flyer**: Touchscreenflyer@tjsl.edu

Please note that Touchscreen Flyers are not placed in The Advisor.

**Microsoft Word Users**: Change paper size by going to Page Layout tab > Size > More Paper Sizes.

California Government Code Section 7596-7598 prohibits smoking in an outdoor area within 20 feet of a main exit, entrance, or operable window of a public building. Smoking is prohibited at all entrances to the TJSL building as well as the 5th floor and 8th floor terraces.

The City of San Diego prohibits the use of e-cigarettes and vaporizers in the same locations where smoking of cigarettes and other tobacco products is prohibited. TJSL’s policy is consistent with the City’s ordinance and does not condone their use outside the designated smoking areas.

Thank you for your cooperation.