This year’s Barristers Ball held at Petco Park on Saturday, March 28 was a huge success.

“The venue was absolutely breath taking,” said SBA Social Events Director Michelle Ribaudo. “It was fun watching everyone walk onto the field and gaze around at the vast and open stadium in awe. The ambiance of the event was light and fun and the night was filled with great tunes provided by The Innocent Bystanders.”

Throughout the evening, awards were handed out for:

- **1L Professor of the Year of the Year:** Professor William Slomanson
- **2L Professor of the Year:** Professor Marybeth Herald
- **3L Professor of the Year:** Brenda Simon
- **Adjunct Faculty Member of the Year:** Professor Karen Harkins
- **Staff Member of the Year:** Jody La Salle
- **Student Organization President of the Year:** Rose Kabir
- **Student Appreciation Award:** Lauren Audette

**SBA Appreciation Award:** Phil Shapiro ’85

**Lewis and Clark Award for Innovation and Dedication:** Professor Lilys McCoy

**Thomas Golden Alumnus of the Year Award:** Eric Ganci ’08

**Charles T. Bumer Civil Libertarian Award:** Daven Raj Ghandhi

“I would like to give a special thanks to all of our sponsors for their donations,” said Social Events Director Michelle Ribaudo. “The students who dedicated their time to help ensure the night ran smoothly, and to all of our guests, all of whom made the night a success!”
ANNUAL CONFERENCE DISCUSSES WOMEN AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The 15th annual Women and the Law Conference held on Friday, March 27, focused on women and the criminal justice system and created a broad based and relevant dialogue among panelists and attendees.

“Gauging our progress requires looking backwards. Looking at the present and then planning for the future,” said Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp, in her opening remarks regarding the need to continually revisit the issues women face in the law and setting the tone for the conference.

The first panel, moderated by KPBS reporter Amitta Sharma, explored the ways in which the criminal justice system treats women differently than men. Speakers on the panel included Federal Defenders of San Diego attorney Bridget Kennedy, San Diego criminal defense attorney Rebecca Jones and Editor-in-chief of the Thomas Jefferson Law Review Cassandra Lawson. The discussion included women criminal defendants’ ability to successfully incorporate battered person syndrome into their defense and the hurdles women defense attorneys face as arguing these types of cases to bodies of decision makers generally made up of men.

Retired criminal defense attorney and author of The Defense is Ready: Life in the Trenches of Criminal Law, keynote speaker Leslie Abramson delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture. Best remembered for representing defendants such as the Melendez brothers and Phil Spector, Abramson candidly talked about the lessons she learned throughout her career as a woman and a defense attorney. “What I think is something necessary to be a great criminal lawyer is something I think women already have, a desire to understand people and human relationships.” As in her book, she admits, “I never thought of myself as much as feminist but as someone with a mindset that they can’t stop me from doing what I want to do, and that’s all there was to it.”

Attendee Maura Kate Benford-Combs said, “Seeing the passion for justice is liberating and invigorating. The quality and caliber of people who are caring and fighting provides a whole different point of view for what is possible with justice. It has reactivated my passion and my belief in people.”

Professor William Slomanson moderated the first afternoon panel, titled “Pathways to Power: Trailblazing Women in Criminal Law.” Panelists gave presentations about the first female attorney on the west coast Clara S. Foltz, the first female Chief Justice Rose Bird, and the first female court martial judge in the U.S. Army. Panelist Maya Schenwar, author of Locked Down, Locked Out and Editor-in-chief of Truthout, elaborated on the need to protect children by seeing ways for preserving the mother-child relationship while women are in prison.

San Diego civil rights attorney, Julie Yoo furthered the discussion by explaining the Prison Litigation Reform Act and the obstacles it presents for female inmates attempting to report sexual abuse. “Even though the prior suggestion that there could be consensual sex between prison staff and prisoners is not the standard, it was eye-opening to hear about the brief time limit to file a prisoner’s sexual assault claim and the requirement that a prisoner prove physical injury to move forward,” said attendee Alma Guereque of Yoo’s presentation.

“We’ve been organizing this for months and we’ve had a terrific team who all pitched in and made the conference possible,” said conference organizer Marjorie Cohn. “The panelists have been top notch and the themes covered are of interest to students, lawyers and the community alike. I am excited with the turn out and the discussion during the question and answer period. I hope what we will take from this is not just discussion but real political action to remedy these problems.”

said criminal law fellow Martha Youssof 1L, “I learned about many trail blazing figures I had never heard of and I gained a much better understanding of the impact of the criminal justice system on women.”

The third panel moderated by Professor Julie Greenberg, titled “Women in Prison,” focused on the experience of women in prison and the need for reforms to allow them to reintegrate into society. Panelist and former federal prison inmate Adriana Buelna said, “I am overwhelmed to be on such an amazing panel; I wanted to give a voice to women who are locked up and talk about the things that happen in prison.” Buelna voiced great concern for the effects on women’s children while they are in prison, the length of sentences given for nonviolent felonies, and the difficulty transitioning back into society as a former federal felon. Panelist Maya Schenwar, author of Locked Down, Locked Out and Editor-in-chief of Truthout, elaborated on the need to protect children by seeing ways for preserving the mother-child relationship while women are in prison.

“Women and more women work outside of traditional employment relationships. Particular attention was given to the mismatch between employment laws, which were designed for mid-twentieth century conceptions of work, and the way people work in the sharing economy of the twenty-first century.”

Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp spent the third week of March in Modena, Italy, where every year since 2003, the Marco Polo Center has hosted an international conference devoted to international and comparative employment and labor relations. Professor Bisom-Rapp has attended the event annually since 2007, making this her ninth consecutive year as a conference participant. While in Modena, Professor Bisom-Rapp chaired a conference panel, participated as a commentator at the Young Scholars’ Workshop, had discussions about furthering cooperation between the MFB and Thomas Jefferson School of Law, and attended two committee meetings.

This year’s conference, “Employment Relations and Transformation of the Enterprise in the Global Economy,” brought together scholars from Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas, who analyzed the challenges involved in regulating employment at a time when

PROFESSOR BISOM-RAPP ATTENDS MARCO BIAKI CONFERENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MODENA

Before the event students were presented with successful networking tips including how to give an effective “elevator pitch,” from Director of Career Services, Jeffrey Chinn.

Once the event began, each attorney took a seat and spoke to TJSL students one-on-one. Every four minutes, an event organizer would call “time” and students would move to the next attorney.

Most of the participating attorneys practiced family and immigration law, including TJSL alumni David Beavons ’08, Elizabeth Knowles ’12, and Anna Romanovskaya ’07. Director of TJSL’s Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic, Professor Steve Berenson, also participated. Many of the attorneys gave students their business cards and distributed informational pamphlets about their organizations.

Immigration Law Society member Janate Valenzuela ‘16 said that this “was a good event for students to pick the attorney’s brain about what is expected of them once they get an internship or a job. The event aimed at allowing students to meet attorneys in their field of interest, in an approachable setting. Overall, the event was a success and we thank everyone that helped and those who were able to attend.”

This is Professor Bisom-Rapp’s fourth year of involvement with this portion of the annual conference events. “This year we heard and commented on papers from Ph.D. students from the U.K., the U.S., Italy, Hungary, and Nigeria,” she said. There were seven papers presented in all. Additionally, five other Ph.D. Candidates from Germany, the Netherlands, Estonia, Italy, and U.S. participated in a poster session, where they had an opportunity to informally present their work to interested conference participants.

“Creating ties with the new generation of comparative scholars is one of the most exciting parts of the conference,” said Professor Bisom-Rapp.

Professor Bisom-Rapp also attended three meetings during the conference. “This was a meeting of the MFB’s Scientific Committee, to which Professor Bisom-Rapp was appointed last year. The Scientific Committee, which is the Foundation’s academic advisory board, handles curricular issues associated with the Ph.D. program. The final meeting was a conversation between Professor Bisom-Rapp and administrators from the MFB and concerned increasing cooperation between the Foundation and Thomas Jefferson School of Law.
The TJSL National Trial team sent 8 competitors to the American Association for Justice Student Advocacy Competition being held in Santa Monica, California from March 19-21. The competitors were divided into 2 teams of four. Team K included: Ravi Mohan, Kierre Coghill, Jessica McCracken, and Leanne Wilder. Team L included: James White, Precious Harrison-Cobb, Katie Denson, and Leo Fuentes. All of the competitors are 3Ls. The fact pattern concerned a very relevant and dangerous topic, one that today’s drivers encounter all too often: texting while driving.

Both teams spent 2 months preparing for the three grueling days of back-to-back competition rounds. White and Harrison-Cobb, Defense counsel, represented Team L in the first round on Thursday night. Harrison-Cobb felt, “that we gave it all we had, and that we really showed our advocacy skills and our personalities, Leo and Katie could not have been better together and our hard work paid off with a unanimous win!” For seven of the eight members AAJ was the last competition they will participate in. “This was my fourth and last competition,” said Ms. McCracken, “and I am so glad I got to do it with my longtime teammates! We fought the good fight together and I couldn’t be more grateful for the experience.” Her fellow teammates could not agree more, making this competition a bittersweet ending for the May graduates.

From now until 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, TJSL 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 TJSL tax clinic is open for appointments only on Mondays from 5 – 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 – 5 p.m. Appointments can be made by emailing tax@tjsl.edu.

The Tax Law Society is advised by TJSL Professor Richard Winchester, a former attorney in the national tax office of PricewaterhouseCoopers, who is a national authority on employment tax policy and the taxation of the closely held business.

The 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.

By Leanne Wilder, 3L
Mock Trial Team Member

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For seven of the eight members AAJ was the last competition they will participate in. “This was my fourth and last competition,” said Ms. McCracken, “and I am so glad I got to do it with my longtime teammates! We fought the good fight together and I couldn’t be more grateful for the experience.” Her fellow teammates could not agree more, making this competition a bittersweet ending for the May graduates.

TJSL competed against Pepperdine, USD, UC Davis, Santa Clara, and Chapman University. With a brutal cut down to only 4 teams after the third round, both TJSL teams were proud to not be far behind the top four teams, but ultimately did not advance to the semi-final round.

Harrison-Cobb said it best when looking at the life experience taken away from participating in competitions like AAJ and being a Mock Trial Team Member, “No judges’ scoring dictates our ability or who we are, nor does being labeled a winner. We worked our hard and that’s something that cannot be taken away from us, win or lose.”

Items you need to bring to the TJSL Tax Clinic to have your tax returns prepared are:

- Proof of identification
- Social Security Cards for you, your spouse and dependents and/or a Social Security Number verification letter issued by the Social Security Administration
- Birth dates for you, your spouse and dependents on the tax return
- Wage and earning statement(s) Form W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, from all employers
- Interest and dividend statements from banks (Forms 1099)
- A copy of last year’s Federal and State returns, if available
- Bank Routing Numbers and Account Numbers for Direct Deposit
- Total paid for day care provider and the day care provider’s tax identifying number (the provider’s Social Security Number or the provider’s business Employer Identification Number)
- To file taxes electronically on a married filing joint tax return, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms
- If you rented your home, the name and address of your landlord or property management company and their phone number
By Michelle V. Evenson 3L

TJSL’s Diversity Week events will take place April 6 - 10.

Professor Dyson and the student organizations producing the events believe it is important to increase access to justice for those communities that are underserved.

The Diversity Week organizers work to create networking opportunities for students allowing them engage with practicing attorneys in the community.

To devise the most successful Diversity Week possible, the committee decides what events to organize and what their focus will be based on interests and ideas. According to Professor Dyson, it is the student’s energy that makes Diversity Week a success.

This year’s schedule of events is as follows, and those who are interested in attending needn’t do anything special – As Professor Dyson put it, just “come with an open mind, a healthy appetite for the luncheon and prepare to be engaged!”

Events may change based on availability of speakers or other uncontrollable issues.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday, April 6th</th>
<th>11:30 - 1 p.m.</th>
<th>Diversity Workshop, International Law Society &amp; The National Lawyers Guild, 8th floor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 - 9 p.m.</td>
<td>Navigating Culture in the Workplace, Documentary/Panel of Community Attorneys, APRLSA, 8th floor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, April 7th</td>
<td>11:30 - 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Indestructible Roots, Armenian Law Students, Rm. 227. Featuring the CNN Documentary “On the Road” with featured speaker Professor Guzelian. A second documentary covering topics of genocide will also be presented time permitting</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4:30 - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Documentary, BlackTransmen, Outlaw, Room 320</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 8th</td>
<td>11:30 - 1 p.m., (day students)</td>
<td>Diversity Luncheon, Sponsored by All Student Groups, 8th floor</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5 - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>(evening students)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:30 - 6 p.m.</td>
<td>Diversity Issues in the South Asian Community, SALSA, Room 318</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Immigration Law Reform Roundtable, La Raza and Immigration Law Society: A panel on President Obama’s executive actions, DACA and DAPA. Prof. Durst is a panelist and a representative from San Diego Dream Team (college activists fighting for immigrant rights), Room 229</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, April 9th</td>
<td>11:30-1 p.m.</td>
<td>Critical Race Theory Paper Presentations, Room 320</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>Community Town Hall Panel including Joy Utomi and Efaon Cobb, Sponsored by La Raza, BLSA and PLSA, Room 229</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, April 10th</td>
<td>11:30 - 1 p.m.</td>
<td>Offensive Speech Forum: Inclusiveness &amp; Campus Climate, Professor Greene, Room 323</td>
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<td>6 - 7 p.m.</td>
<td>Minority Women in the Legal Field: Advantage or Double-Edged Sword?” Panel of Community Attorneys, Sponsored by BLSA, La Raza, and MELSA Room 227</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 - 8 p.m.</td>
<td>8th floor Networking Mixer. BLSA, and Lawyers Club San Diego</td>
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FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

**MARJORIE COHN**

Presentation
Drones and Targeted Killing. From Ukraine to ISIS to Drones: Why We Must Demilitarize US Foreign Policy, University of DC Law School, Washington DC (March 20, 2015)

**SUSAN BISOM-RAPP**

Presentations
Chair, Enterprise and Structure of the Value Chain in the Transnational Dimension, Employment Relations and Transformation of the Enterprise in the Global Economy, Marco Biagi Foundation, University of Modena, Modena, Italy (March 19, 2015)

Coordinator and Commentator, Young Scholars’ Workshop in Labour Relations, Marco Biagi Foundation, University of Modena, Modena, Italy (March 18, 2015)

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View All Faculty Citations

View the TJSL Event Calendar

View Scholarships

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View Legal Writing Competitions

DIVERSITY WEEK WILL RUN FROM APRIL 6 -10

**SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015**

**DOORS OPEN AT 9 AM**

**GRADUATION PROCESSION STARTS PROMPTLY AT 10 AM**

**COPLEY SYMPHONY HALL**

750 B STREET

SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

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.