On Wednesday, June 4, 2014, Thomas Jefferson School of Law bar passers, their families and friends along with Alumni, faculty and staff came together on TJSL’s 8th floor to celebrate Thomas Jefferson School of Law’s newest attorneys.

“The law school really is a community,” said TJSL President and Dean Thomas Guernsey. “It is a community in which the alums are truly an important part. I just want to express my congratulations to all of you on a job well done. This is a great day for you!”

“What an incredible feeling,” said Robert M. Sagerian. “Today is very special for me and the rest of my colleagues as we are welcomed into the noble profession of law. Being sworn into the CA state bar is the culmination of three taxing years, where we all have overcome numerous physical, financial and emotional hurdles. A special thanks to my family, friends, and the entire TJSL faculty for all their support. No ceilings!”

The ceremony to swear-in all of the new attorneys to the state and federal bars took place at the Marriott Marquis Hotel earlier in the day.

“So excited, so happy, all of the hard work has finally paid off,” said Nastaran Parvizi ’13, who attended the reception hosted by TJSL’s Office for Alumni Relations & Development. “This is the biggest accomplishment of my life and now I am ready to get to work.”

“I am so happy and so excited,” said Kathy Schachar, the mother of Elise Trautvetter ’13. “I am a very proud mom.”

New Attorneys continued on next page...
“Being sworn was very emotional,” said Carinna MacGregor ’13 who stood beside her fiancé Shea Connely ’13 during the swearing-in ceremony. “Shea and I met during our first semester here at TJSL and today we were sworn-in together. It is so nice to be able to finish what we both started together.”

Being officially sworn-in to the state and federal bars represents a culmination of hard work, dedication and an opportunity to uphold the law with dignity and respect.

“Taking the oath was one of the most fulfilling moments in my life,” said Nastaran Parvizi ’13. “I have a new found respect for all my fellow students that have gone through this journey, and especially for international students like myself for which this road is additionally challenging. Today served as a reminder that hard work, perseverance, and stepping out of your comfort zone will pay off in the most gratifying way. Discipline is truly the bridge between goals and accomplishment.”

“Congratulations to all of you,” said TJSL Alumni Association President Jeremy Evans ’11. “We welcome and encourage all of you to become involved with the Alumni Association. It is a great way to interact with fellow graduates and a great way to network and develop business.”

On this day, Thomas Jefferson School of Law honored those who passed the California Bar Exam.

TJSL and Students Honored by the Legal Aid Society of SD

On Friday, May 30, Thomas Jefferson School of Law was honored by the Legal Aid Society of San Diego during the organization’s annual Pro Bono Program Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Assistant Dean for Career Services Beverly Bracker accepted the award on behalf of TJSL. For the fifth consecutive year, the Legal Aid Society of San Diego presented TJSL’s Pro Bono Program with an Outstanding Service Award. Many TJSL students and alums have volunteered their services to the clinics at Legal Aid Society. Those clinics include Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic Program, Restraining Order Clinics, Unlawful Detainer Clinic, Youth & Children at Risk, Homeless Advocacy Project and Conservatorship.

In addition to the award presented to Thomas Jefferson School of Law, a number of TJSL law students and graduates received the prestigious Wiley W. Manuel Award, named after the first African American Justice on the Supreme Court. “Being recognized by the Legal Aid Society of San Diego for pro bono legal service is one of the most memorable experiences of law school so far,” said Michelle Evenson (3L). “The pro bono team at Legal Aid are some of the warmest and kindest people I have had the pleasure of learning from. Today was made even more special by the support of the TJSL faculty and staff in attendance. I could not be more honored to be a student at TJSL and receive this recognition.”

“I am humbled to be a part of such an amazing group of award recipients,” said Michelle Mance (3L). “Volunteering with Legal Aid of San Diego was such a rewarding experience and I am truly honored to receive such a meaningful award among such great people.”
Congratulations to TJSL’s Veterans Clinic Scholarship Recipient

Monique Rodriguez (3L) has been awarded the Veterans Clinic Alumni Scholarship for the Spring 2014 semester.

“I am sincerely grateful and honored to be awarded this scholarship,” said Rodriguez. “It has been a privilege to be a part of the TJSL Veterans Clinic.”

Since 2006, the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic (VLAC) has successfully provided limited legal assistance, as well as full service legal representation, to the residents and alumni of Veterans Village of San Diego – a highly successful, residential program that provides housing, substance abuse assistance, mental health counseling, and job training services to formerly homeless veterans struggling to regain full participation in society. Under the direction of Professor Steve Berenson, the clinic offers students valuable hands-on experience in handling a wide range of cases spanning family, consumer, and administrative laws.

“Monique’s work product was of the highest quality throughout the entire semester, said Director of the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic Professor Berenson. “She also put her background in psychology to great use in working with the clinic’s struggling veteran clients. It was always a pleasure to work with her.”

“The TJSL Veterans Clinic has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my law school career,” said Rodriguez. “It has been an honor to provide legal services to those who have sacrificed so much to protect our freedoms. Working in the TJSL Veterans Legal Clinic has provided me with invaluable legal experience and assisted me in understanding what takes to advocate for your client. It has been a pleasure working with such a talented and professional group of student colleagues under the guidance of Professor Steve Berenson and Professor Becky Neiman.”

“While working with Monique, it was neat watching her mature in her confidence with her cases and clients,” said Professor Becky Neiman. “She was extremely professional and responsible. I look forward to seeing the great things she’ll do as a practicing attorney.”

Veterans Clinic Alumni Scholarships are awarded to the most dedicated students serving the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic (VLAC). Recent recipients include: Janaye Martin and Matthew Ferrara in 2011, Conrad Ohashi (3L), Matthew Katsionis ’12, and Nicole Heffel ’13 in 2012 and Kristiana Erthner (3L), Kristen Green, Rachel Weckhorst Espejo ’13 and Lauren Hebl in 2013.

Scholarships are made possible by funds raised at the annual TJSL Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament. The next Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament will be held in conjunction with the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Alumni Weekend being held on October 10, 2014.
Successful Law and Magic Conference Held on Friday, June 6
Written by Lilia Rodriquez (2L)

The Law and Magic conference, held on Friday, June 6, focused on linking magic and the legal system through a collaboration between The Law and Humanities Institute and Thomas Jefferson School of Law. This event brought together panelists from across the country and abroad to illustrate the historical and present day dynamics between law and magic.

“It was a great conference,” said conference Chair and Discussant Professor Julie Cromer Young. “Overall, it presented something to interest everyone in the audience. If you are interested in constitutional or criminal law, it had that. If you are interested in U.S. history, it had that. If you really wanted to see a magical performance, it had that, too. That’s the great thing about Law and Humanities conferences - they aren’t strictly for legal scholars.”

Morning panelist Christine Corcos, Richard C. Cadwallader Associate Professor of Law and Women’s and Gender Studies Associate Professor of Law at Louisiana State University Law Center, led the discussion through an examination of the roots and evolution of ordinances banning and later regulating “crafty sciences,” such as fortunetelling, clairvoyance, tea leaf and coffee readings. Corcos further elucidated the dual impact of the First Amendment and the Spiritualist Movement on modern statutes. Adding another dimension to the discussion, panelist Paul Finkelman’s presentation drew the connection between the end of the Salem Witch Trials and the emergence of the rules of evidence.

The afternoon panels centered around more easily anticipated legal topics such as the protections that apply to a magician’s act both in the U.S. and abroad, as well as the significance of magic in the form of illusion and misdirection in the trial setting. “There was something for everybody in this conference because it attacked the subject matter from a lot of sides,” said Professor Cromer Young. Indeed, the conference included discussions on literature, such as the law in the Harry Potter series, and magical demonstrations in the form of mind-reading by corporate entertainer Curt Frye and magical illusions by French Professor Dr. Guilham Julia, who addressed intellectual property law and magicians in France.
Law and Magic Conference continued...

“Magic is an umbrella term for so many different things it was interesting to see how the law really has a tangible impact on this seemingly intangible concept,” said TJSLS student Kathy Rabii (1L). “It also proved a great opportunity to meet fellow students and network for the perfect internship.”

“It is important to show that there is something that can be an intense interest of yours that does not seem inherently legal but there is an aspect the law can influence, no matter what the topic,” said Professor Cromer Young. “It’s great to come to a conference where you get more ideas. You merge two ideas into a third idea for a paper or an article because it shifts your perception; which is cool, because that’s what magic does,” concluded panelist Jennifer Hagen.

“Often there is the misconception that the law is reserved for dry analysis and interpretation,” Professor Cromer Young. “What people often don’t realize is that any topic necessarily has a legal element. It is possible to combine your legal career with your hobby or interest, and the combination usually make both more fulfilling.”

Professor Julie Cromer Young

Professor Cohn Attends Stanford Anti-Viet Nam War Movement Reunion

On May 16-18, Professor Marjorie Cohn helped to organize and attended the 45-year reunion of the Stanford anti-Viet Nam War movement. On April 3, 1969, 700 Stanford students voted to occupy the Applied Electronics Laboratory (AEL), where classified (secret) research on electronic warfare (radar-jamming) was being conducted at Stanford. That spawned the April Third Movement (A3M), which holds reunions every five to ten years. The sit-in at AEL, supported by a majority of Stanford students, lasted nine days, replete with a printing press in the basement to produce materials linking Stanford trustees to defense contractors. Stanford moved the objectionable research off campus, but the A3M continued with sit-ins, teach-ins, and confrontations with police in the Stanford Industrial Park. Many activists, from that era, including Professor Cohn, continue to do progressive work, drawing on their experiences during the A3M. This year, 100 people attended the reunion. They discussed the political economy of climate change, and the relationship between the counterculture of the 1960’s and the development of Silicon Valley.

Highlights of the weekend included three keynote addresses. Professor Cohn introduced and moderated the discussion after a talk by Daniel Ellsberg, who discussed “Truth-Telling: Whistleblowers in the Viet Nam and Modern Eras.”
Thomas Jefferson School of Law ranks as the number one undervalued law school according to Paul Caron of Pepperdine University School of Law, who writes for TaxProf Blog: A Member of the Law Professor Blogs Network.

In *Ranking Law Schools: Using Social Science Research Network (SSRN) to Measure Scholarly Performance*, 81 Ind. L.J. 83 (2006), Professors Paul Caron and Bernie Black compared the ranking of law schools in U.S. News with a prominent means of distributing legal scholarship: Social Science Research Network (SSRN) downloads of faculty scholarship. SSRN roughly measures which scholarship is read and presumably valued. TJSL tops the lists of schools that are undervalued by US News, by a factor of over 100 points, compared to SSRN ranking.

“Thomas Jefferson School of Law believes that the most important asset of any law school is its faculty,” said Dean Thomas Guernsey. “TJSL has experienced, caring and diverse faculty. Their credentials are first-rate, even world-class. Our professors have a wealth of real-world legal experience. They have structured business transactions at both the international and the domestic levels, and litigated before the World Court at The Hague, the U.S. Supreme Court, and federal and state trial and appellate courts.”

“Members of our faculty also have written leading law books that are in use by universities and practitioners in the United States and abroad,” said Dean Guernsey. “They have testified before Congress and state legislatures, have appeared as experts on national television and radio news broadcasts and have served as legal consultants to our government, the United Nations and several foreign governments. Faculty write cutting-edge legal scholarship, leading to such a prominent place on SSRN.”

Dean Guernsey added, “The value of this information is not the ranking, but the objective data it conveys about our faculty. Thomas Jefferson School of Law professors are prolific scholars as well as effective classroom instructors. Of course, Thomas Jefferson remains dedicated to its primary and traditional mission – providing a high quality legal education to students from diverse walks of life. What this report shows is that our faculty is, at the same time, passionate about research and deeply engaged in today’s scholarly and public discourse.”
**Professor Bisom-Rapp Presented at Minneapolis Conference**

On May 29th, Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp and her co-author Professor Malcolm Sargeant (Middlesex University Business School, London, UK) presented their paper “Age, Gender, and Lifetime Discrimination Against Working Women” at the Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, which this year was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The theme of the conference was “Law and Inequalities: Global and Local.” Professors Bisom-Rapp and Sargeant appeared on a panel titled “Rethinking Elder Law’s Rules and Norms.”

Their paper, which is forthcoming as an article in The Elder Law Journal, establishes a model of Lifetime Disadvantage that analyzes the factors that over the course of their lifetimes slows the economic progress of girls and women. The end result is that women are much more likely to fall into poverty in retirement than are men. How law and policy in the US and the UK lessens, makes worse, or ignores these factors is also considered.

“Our paper fit very well with the overall theme of the conference,” said Professor Bisom-Rapp. “Professor Sargeant and I are now expanding our thinking about the problem of women’s poverty in retirement, including possible life course-oriented solutions, and are planning to write a book on the subject.” With a retirement crisis looming in both their countries, as the baby boom generation begins to leave the labor market, Professors Bisom-Rapp and Sargeant have selected a timely and important topic.

Professor Bisom-Rapp is an internationally known scholar in the field of comparative workplace law, who writes about globalization, equal employment opportunity, occupational safety and health, and the rights of migrants.
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**July**

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SE Summer 2014 - Midterm - Criminal Procedure - Cohn 2:00 PM

SE Summer 2014 - Midterm - Business Associations 6:00 PM

SE Summer 2014 - Midterm - Evidence 6:00 PM

SE Summer 2014 - Midterm - Professional Responsibility 6:00 PM

TJ Padres vs. SF 4:15 PM