Breakfast and Swearing-In Ceremony for TJS's New Attorneys

“It feels like the completion of a very long journey,” said Jessica Bedford on the day that she and several fellow TJS alumni were getting sworn-in to practice law in California after passing the bar.

“It was a long road to get to this point,” said Elisabeth Donovan. “And I’m so happy to be back among the alumni and my friends from TJS. It’s starting to feel real.”

“This is a most joyful thing we do two times a year,” said Associate Dean for Student Affairs Beth Kransberger, welcoming the alumni to TJS’s New Attorney Breakfast, held at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina on Harbor Island. “You worked so hard to get here and, according to a Rand Corporation study, California’s bar exam is twice as hard as in any other state. And the faculty has an unending commitment to our students.”

Several of the new attorneys had praise for their professors.

“The TJS professors are amazing,” said Tristan Younghaus, who is planning to take the Texas bar in February.

“The professors are awesome,” said Eduardo Garcia, who is working with Ordaz Law in Chula Vista and is hoping to practice corporate and international law.

“The professors are so willing to take questions outside of the classroom,” said Elizabeth Walker, who is now assisting with the Criminal Justice Act.

“TJS taught me everything I needed to know to pass the bar,” said Parker Smith. Smith is now working with the consulting firm of Booz Allen, doing contracts.

Continued on next page...
Vanessa Peña is a study in determination. She has two small children and, with the help of her husband Dan, not only passed the bar, but lined up a position with Winet, Patrick, Gayer, Creighton & Hanes in Vista, as a litigator. "I am very excited to be done with studying," said Peña.

"Now I can call you a colleague," said TJSL Trustee Randy Grossman at the breakfast celebration. "You are attorneys."

Assistant Dean of Academic Success and Bar Preparation Leah Christensen congratulated the new attorneys and shared something they all could relate to: she’s studying to take the California bar exam as well.

“A lot of people helped you along the way,” said Dean Christensen. She singled out several people on the bar prep team, including Blair Matsumoto, Mike Neal, Jennifer Cooper and Adjunct Professors Dennis Saccuzzo and Nancy Johnson of the Bar Secrets® Program.

"There is a strong community of people who want to help you," said TJSL Alumni Association President Eric Ganci ’08. He urged the new lawyers to reach out to alumni with questions and to stay connected.

Dean Kransberger also urged the alumni cum new lawyers to stay in touch. “We are family. We share everything,” she said.

After the breakfast, attended by family and friends who were the major supporters of the bar passers, it was time to raise their right hands and be sworn-in to the state and federal bar by a panel of judges.

It is one of the most proud and unforgettable moments of any lawyer’s career.

After the new attorney’s had taken the oath, Chief U.S District Court Judge Barry Ted Moskowitz put everything into perspective as he reminded them of the true significance of what it means to become a lawyer: “You are entering the profession of John Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Sandra Day O’Connor...and now you.”
The Board of Trustees of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law has elected three new board members. They are San Diego Superior Court Judge Browder Willis, who is a 1983 graduate of the law school; Fred Gerson, a certified public accountant who recently retired after 12 years as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the San Diego Padres; and UC Irvine School of Law Professor Bryant Garth, who previously served as Dean of Southwestern Law School from 2005 to 2012 and as Dean of the Indiana University-Bloomington School of Law from 1986 to 1990.

"The Board is extremely pleased to announce the additions of Bryant Garth, Fred Gerson and Browder Willis as Trustees. Each is highly skilled and regarded as leaders in their respective fields," announced Randy M. Grossman, a San Diego attorney and 1994 graduate of Thomas Jefferson, who serves as Chair of the Governance and Long Range Planning Committee of the TJSL Board of Trustees.

According to Grossman, "Professor Garth brings a wealth of knowledge from his background in legal academia, which spans more than 30 years. He is also a native San Diegan. Mr. Gerson has 40 years of experience in the area of finance, which is crucial in today’s climate. He has served as CFO and chaired audit committees for companies listed on the NYSE and NASDAQ. Judge Willis has a sterling reputation and will provide excellent advice and sound judgment to the Board. He is an alumnus of Thomas Jefferson School of Law."

Judge Willis has been a San Diego Superior Court Judge for the last 12 years, since working in the District Attorney’s Office. Before law school, Judge Willis served as an officer in the U.S. Army. He has previously served on the Board of Directors for the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, was Vice President of the Deputy District Attorneys Association, and has served on the Public Lawyers Committee of the San Diego County Bar, the Inns of Court and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Judge Willis’ recognitions include the 2008 Judicial Officer of the Year awarded by Chief Probation Officers of California, the 2008 Thomas Jefferson School of Law Alumnus of the Year, the 2010 STAR Award and the San Diego County Juvenile Justice Commission Outstanding Jurist Award in 2011.

Before joining the Padres, Fred Gerson had 22 years of experience as a CFO for various high technology companies, including four publicly traded companies and several closely held entities. He began his career as an audit manager for Ernst & Young in their San Jose office. Gerson is currently on the board of directors of Major League Baseball’s captive insurance entity, and works closely with other senior baseball financial executives in shaping insurance products for the needs of teams.

A noted international legal scholar, Bryant Garth is currently a Professor of Law at the UC Irvine School of Law. He is a magna cum laude graduate of Yale and earned his J.D. from Stanford in 1975 and a Ph.D. (European Doctorate of Law) from the European University Institute in Florence. He was previously the Director of the American Bar Foundation from 1990-2004. His scholarship focuses on the legal profession, the sociology of law and globalization. He is on the Executive Coordinating Committee of the “After the J.D.” project, the first longitudinal study of the legal profession; co-edits the Journal of Legal Education; and chairs the advisory committee of the Law School Survey of Student Engagement (LSSSE).

"The Board of Trustees will benefit greatly from these excellent additions to an already strong Board that is comprised of Trustees that are experts in their field and genuinely care about the future of Thomas Jefferson School of Law and its students," said Grossman, who also announced that current Chair Randy K. Jones, and Trustees Richard D. Prochazka and J. Dennis Burks were elected to new terms of service.

Other members of the TJSL Board of Trustees include: Charles Abdelnour, a 1974 TJSL graduate; Kendall DeMatteo Berkey, a 1994 TJSL graduate; the Hon. Lillian Y. Lim (Ret.), a 1977 TJSL graduate; the Hon. William McCurine, Jr.; and Mark C. Zebrowski.

More information about the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Board of Trustees can be viewed at www.tjsl.edu/about-tjsl/trustees.
2013 China Study Abroad Program Ends on a High Note

*Photos by TJSLS student Ian Seruelo*

Thomas Jefferson School of Law’s Summer Study Abroad Program in Hangzhou, China and proved to be as rewarding as ever for the students who attend and the professors who participate.

The program is held at the Zhejiang University Guanghua School of Law, in the heart of one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

The program’s founder and director, Professor Susan Tiefenbrun sent us this final message about the success of the China Study Abroad Program.

Dear Students, Colleagues, and Staff of TJSLS:  

The China Study Abroad Program 2013 has now come to an end. We are all experiencing the joys of exoticism, the challenges of living in a foreign land, and the sense of accomplishment having completed this program of international law study.

We studied with Chinese professors and Chinese students who will probably remain our friends for life. After we returned to Hangzhou from the invigorating trip to Beijing and the Beijing Supreme Court, we spent our last week studying hard for final exams, eating up our last bites of terrific Chinese food, or buying our last Chinese silk scarves and purses.

We attended our last brown-bag lecture by a corporate Chinese woman from Hangzhou and who has lived and worked in San Diego for the past 40 years. Lulu Hsu’s talk was all about women in business in China and in the U.S. She was very informative. She was especially helpful to students of international business transactions because of her first hand experience working with foreign parties.

Students in the program absolutely raved about their unique experience studying international business law in China, and many have told me they want to do the program again. This year was probably the best year in all the seven years we have been running this program.

*Story continued on next page...*
This was due, no doubt, to many factors: (1) the awe-inspiring presence of Judge Pierre Leval, (2) the active participation of Dean Rudy Hasl who actually taught a great course in Comparative Trial Advocacy, (3) the participation of Professor Aaron Schwabach who loves China, speaks Chinese, and is a superb teacher, (4) the participation of Professor Claire Wright who has been living and doing research here in China for the past three months and could share her deep knowledge not only of WTO but of China as well and (5) Lisa Ferreira whose positive attitude, open mind and helpful advice are always indispensable to all of us. The students this year were very respectful, open to learning new types of international legal issues, excited about the adventure of living and studying in China, and very appreciative of everything they were being given in this action-packed program of international law study in Hangzhou, China.

Thanks to all of you, especially the 4 Chinese professors and the 21 Chinese students who participated actively in the program and seemed to enjoy it immensely Until next year!

Be sure to check out Lance Henry’s awesome China Program video “Law Student’s Trip to China: http://www.youtube.com/watch v=mtxpvhc4wew&feature=youtu.be

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TJSL’s LA Alumni Chapter Mixer in Santa Monica

The LA Chapter of Thomas Jefferson School of Law Alumni Association gathered on May 16 at Copa De Oro in Santa Monica. This was the group’s first Westside mixer and many new faces came out to support this growing group of alumni.

The next mixer will be held on June 26 in Downtown Los Angeles. The goal is to reconnect with TJSL and Western State Alumni in Los Angeles County. Upcoming summer activities include a BBQ in Santa Monica, CA on August 10.

Interested alumni can contact Mona Mahdara Alcala’ and Sterling Williams at latjslalumni@gmail.com.
Community Lawyers, Inc. and TJSL Team up for Summer Program

What kind of lawyer do you want to be?

That’s a question the students who have joined the CLI-TJSL Summer Internship Program are hoping to answer.

CLI is Community Lawyers, Inc., a program founded in 2005 in Compton, California, to provide low and moderate-income people access to affordable legal services and develops innovative opportunities for attorneys and law students in underserved communities.

In other words – to help close the “access to justice gap.”

TJSL Professor Luz Herrera is a co-founder of CLI.

After establishing a summer program for law students in Los Angeles, CLI has teamed up with TJSL’s Career Services Office to bring the program to San Diego. The TJSL students will all be doing summer internships at several non-profit organizations that do public interest work: Employee Rights Center; Fair Housing Council of San Diego; Utilities Consumer Action Network and the Housing Opportunities Collaborative.

“It’s exciting to pilot our popular summer internship program here in San Diego,” said Professor Herrera. “The Community Lawyers Summer Internship program introduces students early in their legal career to the opportunities that exist to impact underserved communities and develop rewarding careers.”

“I was very excited to help launch this program,” said Associate Director of Career Services Maysa Eissa, who coordinated the program for TJSL. “Students often have little time to reflect and really think about what they want to do with their law degree, specifically which populations and causes they hope to impact. As the program grows over the years, we hope that this will be an opportunity for our law students who are committed to social justice to gain exposure early on to not just nonprofits within San Diego County, but also private firms that serve underrepresented populations. Throughout the summer, I hope each student will have found a mentor who can join them as they explore and begin to navigate their public service career.”

The students participating in the CLI-TJSL Summer Law School Program are: Danielle Taillleart 2L, Charlene Mayers 1L, Karen Barragan 2L, Fernanda Oviedo 2L, James White 2L, Phillip Jackson 1L and Edith Polanco 1L.
Lucy Arnold a May 2013 grad will begin her legal career with the San Diego office of Duane Morris LLP. Duane Morris LLP, based in Philadelphia, PA, is an AmLaw Top 100 international law firm comprised of more than 750 attorneys in 24 offices across the nation and overseas. International offices are located in Hanoi, Singapore, Vietnam, Oman and London. Currently, Lucy serves as the firm’s HR Transactional Specialist. In this role, she provides HR guidance to clients and drafts all employment-related documents for the attorneys. She is also the go-to person for California compliant employee handbooks. Upon passing the California Bar Exam, Lucy will transition to an Associate position in the firm’s Employment Law group, where she will be focusing on both transactional and litigation matters.

Prior to beginning her legal studies, Lucy earned a degree in Sociology at UC San Diego. Upon receiving her undergraduate degree, she started a family and began a career in human resources. Immediately prior to law school, Lucy worked at Cymer, a large San Diego-based semiconductor company, as an HR analyst.

She also worked for several years as an HR representative in both the biotech and manufacturing fields. Lucy soon realized that the most fascinating aspects of HR were the legal issues that came across her desk, and this inspired her to pursue a legal career. While working towards her law degree, Lucy continued to work full-time at Cymer and then transitioned to Duane Morris LLP as the firm’s HR Transactional Specialist in November 2011. She has been with the firm since then and was thrilled to receive a post-grad associate offer. She will be taking this summer to study for the bar exam and will return to the firm in mid-August after a well-deserved cruise throughout Scandinavia, with stops in Germany and Russia as well.

“I want to thank Thomas Jefferson School of Law for keeping its promise that I would not have to quit my day job in order to gain legal experience,” said Lucy. “I could not be more excited to work at such an amazing firm with such talented, thoughtful and humble attorneys. Duane Morris LLP is all I could have hoped for in terms of securing my dream job.”
John Anwesen (2L) Has Exciting Diversity Internship with Sempra Energy

By Randolph C. Reliford Esq., Associate Director of Career Services

Rising second-year law student John Anwesen will be working as a Legal Intern at the Office of the General Counsel for Sempra Energy. He was able to obtain a placement with Sempra Energy through the prestigious and highly selective San Diego County Bar Association Diversity Fellowship Program. Anwesen was one of 11 students from area law schools selected to participate in the program.

About his experience for the summer, he remarked, "I can only imagine the variety of legal work I will be doing for such a large company. I am not certain on the areas of law I will be working with, but expect to be researching Employment and Contract law and statutory regulations. Sempra Energy’s energy assets and joint ventures are spread not only around the country, but throughout Central and Southern America, so I might get some experience in the area of International Law as well."

In addition to the top notch work experience as a Diversity Fellow, he will also have the opportunity to network at events that the San Diego County Bar Association develops for the program participants during the summer. He will undoubtedly make connections that could lead to his next internship or permanent position.

Anwesen is looking forward to working for Sempra because of its size and position in the energy industry, and the attorneys with whom he will work. He says, "This is an opportunity for me to gain invaluable skills from the attorneys at Sempra Energy. One of the most exciting parts to this internship is that what I have learned during the first year of law school will be put to the test."

Anwesen utilized TJSL’s Career Services to help him identify internship opportunities and prepare for his interview. In part, he was successful during his job search process because he developed a unique skill set in law school and with the United States military. He was able to showcase his talents during his interview and relate them to the practice of law. He is humble and also has a host of other characteristics that will make him successful.

“I would like to express my special thanks to Ms. Beverly Bracker and Mr. Randy Reliford for their continuous support to students seeking internships,” said Anwesen. "I would not have learned about this exciting opportunity without the efforts of the Career Services Office.”
Jesse Allen, May 2013, Secures Litigation Position with Vista Firm

By Randolph C. Reliford Esq., Associate Director of Career Services

May graduate Jesse Allen ’13 has received and accepted an offer to be a post-bar law clerk and later an associate attorney with Winet, Patrick, Gayer, Creighton & Hanes, in Vista, CA. There he will be a litigator, defending local public entities in matters involving personal injury, wrongful termination and constitutional law, among other issues. He will develop a great deal of litigation and client counseling skills. Among his responsibilities, Allen noted, “In concert with others, I will manage cases from initial receipt to final disposition, including meeting with clients and witnesses, conducting discovery, drafting and arguing motions and briefs, attending mediations and assisting with trial.”

Allen found the opportunity through the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Clinical Education Program. According to Allen, “I met with Professor Judybeth Tropp, who reviewed my materials prior to submission and advised me on the process. I was offered an externship for the Fall Semester 2011, and received school credit while gaining invaluable experience.” He also says, “I am very grateful to TJSL for helping me to obtain my first legal experience at the firm [with whom] I now hope to enjoy a long career.”

Like Allen, many students take advantage of the positions offered through the Externship office, the clinics, and the Career Services Office. By developing his skillset, working hard and making a name for himself, Allen was able to secure post-graduate employment at the firm where he worked. His drive and determination will undoubtedly help him make a positive impact on his community. If you have any questions about how to seek a permanent offer from a firm where you intern, schedule an appointment with Career Services.

“I was thrilled to be offered this position,” Allen said. “What excites me the most is the opportunity to litigate cases in a diverse and interesting area of law, and to work closely with highly skilled attorneys who are willing to teach and share their knowledge. Defending our local public entities faced with civil lawsuits, including San Diego area school districts and educational institutions, is very rewarding work and something I am proud to be able to do.”
Bryanna Drescher '13 Will Work at Sacramento County District Attorney's Office

By Maysa Eissa, Esq., Associate Director of Career Services, Adjunct Professor

Bryanna Drescher a May 2013 Grad has secured a coveted position with the Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office as a post-bar legal research assistant. Upon passing the California Bar Exam, Drescher will transition to serve as a deputy district attorney. The Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office is comprised of about 80 district attorneys prosecuting cases brought by nearly 40 state federal and local agencies. Located in the state capitol, the office is at the forefront of new legislature and policy changes. The Sacramento County DA’s office prosecutes a wide variety of crimes from vehicle theft to child abuse to gang related homicides. They also are an innovative office with programs in place to connect the community by recognizing outstanding citizens and raising awareness for crime prevention.

Drescher was inspired to become a district attorney from a very young age. She began observing criminal court proceedings and researching criminal cases while in high school. Growing up in Washington State, Drescher completed her undergraduate degree at Eastern Washington University and earned a degree in Pre-Law Studies. She served on the mock trial team and was awarded a Best Attorney award at the Northwest Regional Competition.

As an undergraduate, Drescher worked for a number of years as a legal assistant for a family law attorney and served on the Associated Students of Eastern Washington University. She also volunteered with American Cancer Society’s Camp Goodtimes East, working with the children affected by cancer. As a law student, Drescher maintained her strong commitment to prosecution. She interned with the Thurston County Prosecutor’s Office in Olympia, Washington as well as the San Diego County District Attorney’s Office. Drescher also was an active member of the mock trial team.

“Securing a spot with the Sacramento County DA’s Office is an opportunity to make my childhood dream to be a criminal prosecutor a reality," said Drescher. "I hope to one day focus my efforts on prosecuting violent crimes committed against extra vulnerable victims, including children, the elderly and women. I am so grateful that the Sacramento County DA’s Office has given me the opportunity to start my career and to learn from the best. It’s an amazing thing when your career and passion come together.”
TJSL Graduate Najmah Brown '13 Working with Al Jazeera America Network

New graduate Najmah Brown has accepted a position as Business and Legal Affairs Administrator at the Al Jazeera America network in Los Angeles.

“When I was offered the position, a colleague of mine from TJSL told me that Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook, said the best advice she ever received was ‘When someone offers you a seat on a Rocket Ship, Get On!’” said Brown. “I believe that Al Jazeera America is my Rocket Ship and I am very honored to be a part of the journey.”

As the BALA Administrator, Brown serves two roles she is the Executive Assistant to the EVP as well as the Department Coordinator. In addition to general departmental administrative duties, it is her responsibility to manage department workflow, maintain all filing systems, track option and term end dates using an online tracking database, handle special projects as needed, etc.

“Since my position requires me to read and digest a variety of legal documents, as well as research and report on different legal issues, Thomas Jefferson School of Law started preparing me for this job during my first semester of school through its rigorous legal writing program and esteemed contracts professors,” Brown said. “More recently, the Career Services Office assisted me with updating my resume and cover letter, which is what I used to apply for my position.” Further, I can’t go without mentioning how integral my experience as the Vice President of the Entertainment Law Society (at TJSL) was to my continued success in entertainment. Working with Professor K. J. Greene on numerous conferences placed me right in front of decision makers in the industry. I am forever grateful for the mentorship provided by my professors and the impact they had on guiding me through this process.

Brown is preparing to sit for the February 14 California Bar Exam and, after becoming licensed, she hopes to continue working in Business and Legal Affairs at Al Jazeera America as an attorney. Her long term goal is to become a VP or President of a network, if not owning and operating her own company.

“I am grateful to work in an environment where I can be myself, combine my passion for the law and television and move toward greater success,” Brown said.
Third-year student Sara Denton has secured an internship with Jacobs & Schlesinger LLP for this summer. Jacobs & Schlesinger LLP is a boutique law firm in downtown San Diego specializing in immigration and nationality law and appellate litigation, including civil, criminal and immigration appeals. Working alongside Ginger Jacobs, a top immigration attorney, Denton has been immediately immersed into the fascinating practice of immigration law. In her first week, she has already helped prepare witnesses for a trial concerning removal proceedings and has accompanied a client to his naturalization interview to secure citizenship status. She is also assisting with the completion of U-Visa applications for victims of crimes that, if granted, will allow these individuals temporary legal status with work authorization and the possibility of applying for citizenship. Over the next few months, Denton will gain additional exposure to help further her knowledge and skillset in immigration law.

Denton, a Las Vegas native, comes from a prominent Nevada family with deep roots in the legal community and civil rights movement, as well as the Democratic Party. Inspired by her grandfather, Ralph L. Denton, one of the longest standing attorneys and political activists in southern Nevada who advocated for human and civil rights, Denton was instilled with the values of humility, kindness and determination to help those who are not able to advocate for themselves.

Following the family tradition, Denton pursued an undergraduate degree at the University of Nevada, Reno in Spanish and in English Literature. There, she served as Vice-President of Development of Kappa Alpha Theta and as the Greek Standards Board Chair. She also solidified her Spanish language through a study abroad experience in Puntarenas, Costa Rica. After completing her undergraduate degree, Denton pursued a career in hotel management and worked for Hyatt Hotels and Resorts.

As a law student, Denton remains active by being a member of Phi Alpha Delta, Immigration Law Society and Alternate Dispute Resolution Team and serving as President of OUTLaw. She has also worked under Professor Slattery as a teaching assistant for Legal Writing I and plans to work with Professor Kaimipono Wenger on a research piece focusing on immigration issues within the LGBT community.

“I am so honored that Ginger Jacobs gave me the opportunity to work alongside such talented and passionate individuals who share the same goals,” said Denton. “I am proud to continue my grandfather’s legacy by helping those in need as I feel that we are a nation of immigrants who all deserve a chance. It is so important to provide everyone with the same opportunities that I have been given, and I hope a career in immigration law will allow me to carry out my dream while helping others pursue their own. I look forward to my summer with the Jacobs & Schlesinger team, and I am happy to know that I will be working alongside some great attorneys, including Emily Wietzel, a recent TJSL alumna (2011).”
TJSL Alumni, Student Receive La Raza Bar Stipends

Two Thomas Jefferson School of Law May graduates and one current student are recipients of the 2013 San Diego La Raza Scholarship Fund Bar Stipends.

Stacey Zapanta ’13 and Susana Inda ’13 are the two graduates and Rosana Barajas (3L) is the student. The three of them have been given $700.00 stipends toward the cost of their bar exam studies and living expenses.

“The Selection Committee received dozens of worthy applications from tremendously talented students,” said Nadia Bermudez, President of San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association, who presented the checks.

“I feel extremely honored and grateful to have been chosen as a bar stipend award recipient by the SDLRLA Scholarship Fund. It is a great privilege to be in the company of such great men and women today,” said Barajas, the lone TJSL representative who was able to attend. “I will do my best to continue to represent SDLRLA’s values and goals by furthering the cause of equality and continuing to empower Latinos through volunteerism and advocacy. Thank you again SDLRLA for your support and encouragement!”

The presentation ceremony was held on May 22 and sponsored by the Law Offices of Sergio Feria.

2013 Class Gift Is On Display

A vibrant art piece has been added to the walls of the 5th floor. The TJSL Class of 2013’s Class Gift is now the third art piece displayed in the hallway next to the student lounge.

"Rising City" was painted by recent TJSL graduate and artist Gregory Walt ’13 and depicts a beautiful night time skyline of San Diego in rich, bold colors. Thomas Jefferson’s image is imprinted above the skyline in the right upper hand corner and if you look closely, you will find Thomas Jefferson’s signature inscribed throughout the painting!

“I’m so excited that my work will hang on campus and allow stressed out students to stare at it and BREATHE,” said Walt. “My inspiration for the piece was the city itself. San Diego is my home town and I am influenced by the vibrant and energetic city life. My style of painting puts an emphasis on movement and depth to create very surreal and dream-like images. A new take on traditional landscapes.”

Plaques to the right of the painting will soon be installed to show a dedicational quote and the names of those who donated towards it.

The 2013 Class Gift was presented to TJSL by the Student Bar Association and graduating students of Thomas Jefferson School of Law.
TJSL and Students Honored by the Legal Aid Society of San Diego

On Friday, June 7, Thomas Jefferson School of Law was honored by the Legal Aid Society of San Diego (LASSD) during the organization’s annual Pro Bono Program Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.

Angie Valdiconza, Externship & Pro Bono Programs Coordinator, accepted the award on behalf of TJSL. “Legal Aid Society of San Diego presented TJSL’s Pro Bono Program with an Outstanding Service Award for the past year,” said Valdiconza. “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. TJSL students and alums recognized included Jacob Bloch, Gina Cucuzella, Melodie Dan, Julie Houth, Debbie Micev, Steven Noakes, Meghan Powell, Ariadna Ramirez, Elenasina Smolinski, Kale Sopoaga, Javier Vargas and Tanya Sanscartier. Alumni included Adam Brewer ’09, Loren Herrera ’12, Jason Kaplan ’11, Daniel Laguna ’10, Roman Partida ’13 and Caitlin Steele ’11.

“I am honored to receive the Wiley W. Manuel Certificate for Pro Bono Legal Services from the Legal Aid Society of San Diego,” said Kale Sopoaga (3L). “I am also extremely grateful to Legal Aid for recognizing my efforts to provide support and assistance to individuals who need it the most by giving me the Outstanding Service Award. I have worked hard for the past year to learn how to effectively help clients during difficult times. It has been a rewarding experience, and I plan to continue providing aid to underrepresented communities for the rest of my legal career.”

"Working for Legal Aid's Pro Bono Program has been one of the most rewarding experiences," said Meghan Powell (3L). “I feel extremely honored to receive an award for the public interest work that I cherish so much.”

This year, the luncheon was held at the Westin Hotel in downtown San Diego and was attended by more than 130 people. The luncheon brought the local San Diego pro bono community together to recognize the indefatigable efforts of the many volunteers and organizations committed to the LASSD outreach and pro bono programs over the past year.

“I volunteer at the Legal Aid Clinic in Southbay helping individuals file civil and domestic restraining orders,” said Tanya Sanscartier (2L). “I just finished my first year of law school and working at the clinic made me realize exactly why I'm in law school. It turned law school into something more than just reading and studying to do well on exams and allowed me to see the great impact we can make on people's lives. My work with the legal aid clinic has been extremely rewarding and opened my eyes to see how volunteering a couple of hours a week can really make a difference. We take for granted that many people do not know how to navigate the legal system, even if it is just to fill out paperwork to file a restraining order. What may seem like a little task to a person in law school or an attorney really are difficult tasks for other individuals because many do not know where to start. Individuals leave the clinic so grateful and it is such a rewarding feeling. I will definitely continue to volunteer with legal aid for the remainder of law school.”

“I love working with Legal Aid Society,” said Deborah Micev (3L). “It’s such a great combination of making friends with colleagues, learning to practice law and helping people with legal problems. The luncheon was fantastic and I feel so honored to be around so many people who really care about people and the law.

Gregory E. Knoll, Executive Director and Chief Counsel of LASSD, opened the luncheon by giving thanks to the attendees for “helping to bridge the ever widening gap to access to justice”. This year, volunteers donated more than 20,000 hours to the pro bono programs worth an estimated value of $3,000,000.

This summer, TJSL students Jacob Bloch, Michelle Evenson, Olga Gonzalez, Diana Malkin and Michelle Mance will volunteer with Legal Aid Society of San Diego.
The ASP faculty at TJSL rocked at the Annual AASE (Association of Academic Support Educators) Conference on May 29 and 30, at UNLV, Boyd Law School, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Professor Leah Christensen presented to a packed room of legal educators on "Teaching Law Students Who Learn Differently." Christensen also gave out copies of her book titled, Learning Outside the Box," published by Carolina Academic Press (2011). Professor Karen Harkins and Professor Jennifer Cooper presented on an innovative new teaching idea--how to teach legal analysis using mini-oral arguments. Professors Harkin and Cooper had an interactive presentation where law professors actually had to "attend" their class and make oral arguments. "We were well-represented at this AASE conference," said Professor Christensen. "The fact that our school had two presentations selected for this conference shows that legal education is appreciating the new and innovative ASP programming at our school. Other schools want to know what we're doing." The ASP faculty have had a good year at TJSL. Professors Christensen, Harkins and Cooper all received teaching awards at the 2013 Barrister’s ball. Professors Christensen says they are eager to build upon their success in the past year and to continue to add innovative academic success programming for all TJSL students.

**Citations Added June 2- June 10**

**Eric L. Lane**

**Articles:**

**Shorter Works:**
Legal Aspects of Green Patents in GREEN INNOVATIONS AND IPR MANAGEMENT (2013 Kluwer Law International)

**Julie A. Greenberg**

**Presentations:**
Same-Sex Marriage: Recent Judicial and Legislative Developments, Osher Institute, UCSD, San Diego, CA (June 6, 2013)

**Marjorie Cohn**

**Chapter in a Book:**

**Chapter in a Book:**
Training Torturers: The School of the Americas, in A WORLD OF TORTURE 233 (ACAT 2013 Report)

**Radio:**
Obama's speech, drones, AUMF and Guantanamo, Breaking the Set, rtamerica, Russia and worldwide

**Susan Bisom-Rapp**

**Presentations:**
Employment Discrimination Law in Common Law Countries: The United States, the United Kingdom, and the Insights of Social Science, San Diego World Affairs Council, North County Chapter, The Remington Club, Rancho Bernardo, CA (June 6, 2013)
PLEASE BE COURTEOUS...

Smoking is prohibited at the entrances to TJSL, 5th and 8th floor terraces. Ash receptacles can be found on the east side of the TJSL building on Park Blvd. California law prohibits smoking within 20 feet of any public buildings because of the dangerous health effect of secondhand smoke.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!
FAN FICTION COPYRIGHT AND A PRACTITIONER'S PERSPECTIVE

SATURDAY JUNE 15, 2013 8:30 AM–12:30 PM

SPEAKERS

Professor Aaron Schwabach
“Fan Fiction and Copyright: Outside Works and Intellectual Property Protection”

Professor Julie Cromer-Young
“Harry Potter and The Three-Second Crime: Are We Vanishing the De Minimis Defense From Copyright Law?”

Professor Jeff Slattery
“Art Law in Transactional Practice”

Lacy J Lodes '08
Moderator

VENUE: CRYPTOZOIC ENTERTAINMENT
16279 LAGUNA CANYON RD, IRVINE, CA 92618

FREE TJSI Alumni
$75 General Public
3.0 Hours General MCLE Credits Available
RSVP June 11 to alumni@tjsl.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER
http://alumni.tjsl.edu/events/index.asp?eventid=294
Entertainment Law Section

Brand Wranglers:

Negotiating Branded Integration Deals for Live Events

How are brand integration transactions negotiated and structured for Live Events? Brands have increased their visibility at music, film, fashion, art festivals and other live events to tap new audiences and to seed and launch new products. Who is making these deals? Our panelists will explore the fundamentals key to brand integration deals including: sponsorship and endorsement deals, talent deals, production deals, and deals between brand strategists and brands. This program is a must for entertainment lawyers, agents and brand managers in this ever changing industry shaped by emerging media and business models.

Panelists:

Jordan Yospe, of Counsel, Eisner Kahan Gorry Chapman Ross & Jaffe
Todd Jacobs, Agent, Commercials and Endorsements, William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
Moj Mahdara, Brand Strategist and Co-Founder, Made With Elastic
Stu Tenzer, Attorney and Founder, Coast Road Media
Mona Mahdara Alcalà, Attorney at Law, Incite Law Group, Inc. (Moderator)
TJSL ’08

Date/Time:  
Wednesday, June 19, 2013
Lunch & Registration: 12:00 p.m.; Program: 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location:  
LAWRY’S, 100 North La Cienega Boulevard
Beverly Hills, CA. 90211 (free underground parking)
Meal Selection:  □ Prime Rib □ Fruit □ Vegetarian

Price:  
$70.00 for BHBA Entertainment / IP Law Section Members who pay in Advance*
$45.00 for BHBA Law Students members who pay in Advance* ($55 for non-BHBA law students)
$105.00 for BHBA Members who pay in Advance*
$125.00 for Non-BHBA Members who pay in Advance*($20.00 more at door for all)
*MINIMUM 24 HOURS - Refund with 48 hours notice - Raincheck with 24 hours notice

This event is FREE for members of The Order of Distinguished Attorneys

Section Chair: Adam Siegler, Esq.  Vice Chair: Judith Dornstein, Esq.
Program Co-Chairs: Lacy J. Lodes and Mona Mahdara Alcalà

MCLE CREDIT: This activity has been approved for Minimum Continuing Legal Education credit by the State Bar of California in the amount of 1.5 hours and the Beverly Hills Bar Association certifies that this activity conforms to the standards for approved education activities prescribed by the rules and regulations of the State Bar of California governing minimum continuing legal education.
Perfecting Your Presence:
Tips for Networking, Interviewing and Everyday

Thursday, June 20
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

SDCBA Conference Center
401 West A Street
Suite 120 (1st Floor)
San Diego, CA 92101

Free for SDCBA
Law Student Members

Big interview on the horizon? Wondering how to be a more natural networker? Looking to polish up your professional demeanor?

Learn from three experts who will share their insights and teach you how to refine your personal presentation technique so you shine in these situations.

This interactive program will feature a discussion with panelists:

- Carole Martin, The Interview Coach
- Randy Reliford, TJSI Associate Director of Career Services
- Todd Salovey, UCSD Theater Professor

Following the panel presentation, you will have the opportunity to put what you’ve learned into action by taking part in breakout groups for mock interviews, networking role play, and communication skills.

Beverages and light refreshments will be provided.

Register: www.sdcba.org/perfectingpresence
2013 NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ON ANIMALS AND THE LAW
STUDENT WRITING COMPETITION

The Committee on Animals and the Law of the New York State Bar Association is very pleased to announce the Fifth Annual Student Writing Competition. The deadline for submission is July 1, 2013.

The Committee on Animals and the Law was established to provide information resources for the New York State Bar Association’s members and the public about non-human, animal-related humane issues, which arise from and have an effect upon our legal system. This competition seeks to foster legal scholarship among law students in the area of animals and the law. This competition provides law students with an incentive and opportunity to learn more about this area of law.

Law students (which include J.D., L.L.M., Ph.D., and S.J.D. candidates) are invited to submit to the Committee on Animals and the Law an article concerning any area of Animal Law. All submissions will be reviewed by a panel of attorneys and other professionals practicing or otherwise involved in animal law. The winner will be chosen in accordance with the rules. The first place winner will receive $1,000 and a certificate of achievement. The second place winner will receive $500 and a certificate of achievement.

**TOPIC**

Any topic on Animal Law.

**ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for consideration, the submission must be written by a student currently enrolled (full-time or part-time) in an ABA-accredited law school. Students expecting to receive their degree in 2013 are eligible for consideration. The submission must be written by one and only one student, i.e. papers jointly written by more than one student or that have been subjected to line editing by professors or advisors shall not be considered. No paper that has been previously published in any form shall be considered. We will only accept one submission per entrant.

**DEADLINE**

Papers must be postmarked no later than July 1, 2013.

**AWARD CRITERIA**

Written submissions will be judged based on quality, clarity, originality and organization. All essays must also meet the following criteria:

**LENGTH:** Type written, double spaced, no less than 12 point Times New Roman font, on 8.5" x 11" paper, with 1 inch margins, and no more than 25 pages, including footnotes. Footnotes should be single spaced and no less than 10 point font.

**FORMAT:** One hard copy of the written submission and one electronic copy in Microsoft Word format on a disk or CD must be submitted by mail, postmarked no later than July 1, 2013, and addressed to:

Kim Hojohn, Liaison  
Committee on Animals and the Law  
New York State Bar Association  
One Elk Street  
Albany, NY 12207

**COVER PAGE**

Entrants must submit a cover page indicating the entrant’s name, law school, expected year of graduation, mailing address, email address and telephone number. All other references to identifying information, such as name, law school, and contact information should be deleted or redacted from the body of the submission.
The United States Court of Federal Claims Bar Association conducts an annual Law Student Writing Competition. The Court of Federal Claims Bar Association is a non-profit, voluntary bar association made up of nationwide members who practice law before of the United States Court of Federal Claims. The goal of this competition is to encourage law student scholarship on current topics that fall within the jurisprudence of the United States Court of Federal Claims. The winning entry in the competition will receive a $2,000 cash prize and an opportunity to be published via the Association's website.

The cases before the court are diverse and involve a variety of statutes. They include claims arising from tax refunds, government contracts, Fifth Amendment takings (which can implicate environmental and natural resource issues), Federal procurement "bid-protests," Federal civilian and military personnel matters, intellectual property disputes, Native American tribal rights, and the federal Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.

Entries to the contest may address any topic that lies within the procedure, substance, or scope of the jurisdiction of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

Entry deadline for the 2012-13 academic year is July 26, 2013.
THE SAN FRANCISCO INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

THE 16th ANNUAL
SFIPLA BAY AREA JOB FAIR

SUNDAY JULY 28, 2013

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, HASTINGS COLLEGE OF LAW
198 MCALLISTER STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

FOR DETAILED INFORMATION, INCLUDING REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL CAREER SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND REGISTER ONLINE AT https://law-sfipla-csm.sympli.com/students/

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN ON APRIL 29, 2013. YOU MUST COMPLETE YOUR REGISTRATION AND EMPLOYER SELECTION BY 5:00 pm (PDT), MONDAY JUNE 17, 2013.
Student Registration is open for the Boston Lawyers Group Annual Law Students of Color* Job Fair!

To register and for additional details please visit our website at www.thebostonlawyersgroup.com see the 2013 BLG Job Fair tab.

BLG Job Fair for Rising 2L Law Students of Color
Thursday, August 8, 2013 from 9 AM to 5 PM
Sheraton Hotel, 39 Dalton Street, Boston, MA
The deadline to register, upload resume and transcripts is midnight July 12, 2013.

*BLG members’ criterion focuses on deserving diverse students with preference to students with racial and ethnic backgrounds that have been historically underserved and underrepresented in the legal profession with strong ties to Boston. This criteria is in accordance with our mission to create a pipeline of talent, so that our members can “identify, recruit, advance and retain diverse attorneys” in the greater Boston legal community.

For more information, please contact Kia LeBeau Mahouassa, Program Manager for the Boston Lawyers Group at (617) 695-7137 or klmahouassa@thebostonlawyersgroup.com
18th ANNUAL ALUMNI & FRIENDS GOLF TOURNAMENT
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2013, 10:00 AM
SYCUAN GOLF RESORT 3007 DEHESA RD, EL CAJON, CA 92019

9:30 - 11:00 AM REGISTRATION & PUTTING CONTEST
11:00 AM SHOTGUN START, SCRAMBLE FORMAT
4:30 - 5:30 PM COCKTAIL RECEPITION
5:30 - 7:00 PM AWARDS DINNER

$130 TJSL ALUMNI, FACULTY AND STAFF ($150 AFTER 9/13)
$150 FRIENDS OF TJSL ($170 AFTER 9/13)
$70 TJSL STUDENTS

REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.TJSL.EDU/TJSL-ALUMNI/GOLF-TOURNAMENT
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