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The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics, "Clinical Perspectives: Fall 2013" (2013). *Clinical Perspectives*.
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PERSPECTIVES

Clinics Enter New Era in New Home



In late June the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics made their much-anticipated return to the main Law School campus from temporary quarters on Pennsylvania Avenue. While the clinics' location at the corner of 20th and G Streets, NW, is the same as it used to be, the look, size, and functionality of their new address at 650 20th Street is anything but. After almost two peripatetic years, with several rounds of planning, packing, moving, and unpacking, the clinics have finally found permanence in a place they are proud to call home.

"This new and improved space provides an important support to the clinics' pedagogical and public service mission," remarked Phyllis Goldfarb, Jacob Burns Foundation Professor of

Clinical Law and Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs. "We deeply appreciate the commitment to clinical education at the Law School that this building represents, and we will honor that commitment as we build programmatically. Doing so in a building that is simultaneously new and historic links the clinics in a compelling way with both the past and the future."

The goal of the two-year Clinics Townhouse Project was to convert the turn-of-the-century townhouses at 2000, 2002, and 2004 G Street, NW—the first two of which the clinics formerly occupied and the third a fraternity house—into a single cohesive space appropriate for a large, urban clinical program. In addition to the clinics that it housed previously, the building is also

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VIEWPOINT

Notes from the Clinical Dean

By Phyllis Goldfarb

The front facades of the historic buildings housing the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics appear as they always have. The same cannot be said for the interior. On the inside, the renovated



Phyllis Goldfarb

townhouses at the corner of 20th and G have been transformed into office suites that are wonderfully new, functional, and sparkling. After two years of displacement while the renovations proceeded, the clinical faculty are delighted to have returned home to our former address on the Law School campus.

News

Tri-Clinic Collaboration Responds to Client's Need

One of the lessons of clinical education is that legal problems do not typically arise in a form that is neatly divided into topic areas. Instead, legal problems can span multiple interlocking fields, requiring analytic, problem-solving, and collaborative skills to enable students to tailor their work to individual cases. In spring 2013 Lea Colasuonno, JD '13, and Greg Murray, '13, student-attorneys in the Neighborhood Law and Policy Clinic (NLP), supervised by Professor Jessica Steinberg, learned this lesson vividly.

Colasuonno and Murray represented a client who had applied for a subsidized housing voucher under the Local Rent Supplement Voucher Program. The program provides housing vouchers to extremely low-income D.C. families who can demonstrate that they are homeless and that they meet at least one of five "special eligibility requirements." These requirements are deemed to be those that pose significant barriers to increasing income or achieving housing stability. One of the special eligibility requirements is met when a domestic violence survivor can show that the violence has created a barrier to employment.

Initially the D.C. government denied the application of Colasuonno and Murray's client on the grounds that she did not meet any of the five eligibility criteria. After working with the client for a period of time, however, Colasuonno and Murray discovered that the client had a history of grave domestic violence spanning almost three decades. She found it difficult to discuss the violence and to articulate how it had created a barrier to working. Indeed, despite her experiences with violence, she had not identified herself as a domestic violence victim and had not noted her domestic violence history on her housing voucher application,



(l-r) Professors Joan Meier, Jessica Steinberg, and Laurie Kohn.

failing to check any of the five boxes under the special eligibility requirements.

In developing the rapport that enabled the client to divulge sensitive information about her life, Colasuonno and Murray were aided by the fact that they had previously represented this client in a matter involving a termination from a homeless shelter where she had lived for more than a year. Due to this prior experience, they started with a basis for trust. Given their short window of time for contesting the housing voucher—two weeks—their previous relationship proved especially useful.

As the students carefully developed the facts of the housing voucher case over the course of the next two weeks, they uncovered the possibility that the client's domestic violence history had created a mental health barrier to her employment. Although they could offer testimony in support of this argument, they felt it important to determine whether there were other means to bolster their client's claims. This thought process led the students into a valuable collaboration across three clinics.

On the students' behalf, Professor Steinberg consulted with Professor Laurie Kohn, Director of the Family Justice Litigation Clinic, about how to assess whether domestic violence creates mental health barriers to employment. Professor Kohn referred Professor Steinberg's students to a psychologist at George Mason University. The psychologist recommended a number of assessment tools to determine if the client was experiencing mental health problems as a consequence of domestic violence.

After receiving advice from the psychologist, the students asked the client to complete three of the recommended

assessments. Her responses on these evaluations were symptomatic of depression and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Upon receiving these results, the students had their client evaluated by a psychologist in an effort to determine whether she suffered long-term effects from domestic violence that could create employment difficulties for her. The psychologist's evaluations confirmed the initial findings of PTSD.

Next Professor Steinberg turned to Professor Joan Meier, who directs the Domestic Violence Project (DVP) and the Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project (DV LEAP). In a coincidence of timing, Professor Meier and DVP student Andrew Pinon, JD '14, were researching an amicus brief that concerned the consequences of domestic violence-related mental health issues on employment and employment prospects. Professor Meier shared with the NLP students her social science literature review on these issues.

After Colasuonno and Murray read and analyzed the literature, the students sought to determine whether their client had the kind of domestic violence history that might limit her participation in the labor market. They found that the client's experiences closely tracked the kinds of experiences that the social science literature linked to reduced capacity for employment.

Through multiple interviews, the students were able to connect the client's history to patterns of behavior that made it difficult to maintain steady employment. Within two weeks, the students were able to develop and document the

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Clinic Students Bring Hope and Help to the Unemployed

Among the employment law cases undertaken each semester by the Public Justice Advocacy Clinic (PJAC) are appeals from the denial of unemployment benefits. Economic times like the present provide PJAC with an unrelenting supply of such cases. Most of the clients who seek representation from PJAC student-attorneys have recently lost their jobs. They are often in financial distress, sometimes facing repercussions such as potential eviction. Their unemployment compensation claim typically has been denied on the grounds that they have been terminated from employment due to misconduct.

If student-attorneys can successfully challenge the allegations of misconduct in administrative proceedings, then the clients may receive unemployment compensation. To PJAC Director Professor Jeffrey Gutman, these unemployment cases provide a laboratory for clinic students to engage in the process of case development, proof, and advocacy. The cases also provide them abundant insights into the struggles of low-wage workers and the opportunity to form meaningful professional relationships with clients.

The 2012–13 academic year brought many examples of engagement with this experiential learning process. PJAC students, supervised by Professor Gutman and Friedman Fellow Nancy Craig, undertook more than a dozen unemployment compensation cases, representing clients who had held positions such as home health care aides, construction workers, restaurant employees, and retail workers. Nearly all of these cases involved an evidentiary hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) in the D.C. Office of Administrative Hearings, and resulted in the award of benefits to each client. Illustrating the power of this clinical method of learning, the following are examples of these cases:



Friedman Fellow Nancy Craig speaking to prospective clinic students about PJAC's caseload.

Jeffrey Whalen, JD '13, and Ben Hur, JD '13, represented a client who was seeking unemployment compensation after having been fired by his employer due to repeated lateness to work. The client lived quite a distance from his workplace, and was struggling financially, so it was often difficult for him to arrive at his job site on time. When the students met the client, he was homeless and distraught. As part of their lawyering efforts, the students saw their role as “comforting an emotional client who depended so much on our help to get back on his feet.”

At the hearing that followed, Whalen and Hur argued to the ALJ that their client was exactly the sort of person for whom unemployment compensation is intended, demonstrating the efforts that the client had made to get to work promptly each day. At the conclusion of the hearing, the ALJ took the unusual step of immediately finding for the client. Upon hearing the result, Whalen and Hur were rewarded to see their client's expressions of tremendous relief and gratitude.

Lilyanne Ohanesian, JD '13, and Rosanne Niforos, JD '13, represented a client who reported that after a fire destroyed his home and all his possessions, he had received permission from his employer to take a week off from work to deal with the aftermath. Nonetheless, soon after he returned to work, his employer fired him for habitual absences, constituting misconduct that disqualified him from receiving unemployment compensation.

At his hearing, Ohanesian and Niforos sought to demonstrate that these absences had been excused, supporting the claim by subpoenaing their client's time sheets and introducing them into evidence, cross-examining the employer, conducting a direct examination of their client and his fiancée, and delivering a closing argument. Subsequently, the students learned that they had prevailed and that their client would receive unemployment benefits. They reported that through this experience, they “gained enormous satisfaction from helping a deserving individual get the benefits to which he was entitled.”

Lindsay Smith, JD '13, and Amanda Skeen, JD '13, also appealed the denial of unemployment compensation on behalf of their client. Although the client's termination letter stated that she had been fired for insubordination, Smith and Skeen did not view the incidents described in the letter as rising to the level of insubordination. At the client's hearing, the students presented testimony and evidence demonstrating that none of these incidents constituted misconduct, and that they represented unreasonable demands being placed on the client by the employer. The ALJ agreed and found their client eligible for unemployment benefits.

Smith reported that developing the case and preparing for the hearing required researching the case law on unemployment cases in the District and

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Susan French Brings Anti-Trafficking Expertise to Clinics



Susan French (l) and Martina Vandenberg, leading anti-trafficking attorneys, speaking on a panel about "Human Trafficking Awareness."

In 2012–13 adjunct faculty member Susan French joined Professor Arturo Carrillo to co-direct the Anti-Trafficking Project of the International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC). Professor French has years of experience fighting human trafficking, a human rights issue of significant proportions. Before joining the clinic, she had been prosecuting human trafficking cases for 14 years from her position at the U.S. Department of Justice.

When she came to GW Law in summer 2012, French changed tactics in the fight against human trafficking. No longer would she bring criminal cases against traffickers. Instead, she worked with Professor Carrillo and IHRC students to pursue civil remedies in federal courts against labor traffickers. In bringing these major civil lawsuits, IHRC works in partnership with outside organizations.

French assisted the clinic in the development of its docket of trafficking cases. In 2012–13 IHRC students investigated cases in which undocumented workers were kept in conditions of near-slavery under threats of force or deportation. (See IHRC Clinic profile on page 12 for more detail). Under her guidance, students traveled to other states and interviewed potential clients and witnesses, researching the multiple legal claims that could be brought on each trafficking victim's behalf. In the process, students learned to integrate legal theory and legal practice at a sophisticated level and to understand a profound human rights issue that occurs within U.S. borders.

French is a graduate of William & Mary Law School. In addition to her work at the Department of Justice, she served for a number of years as an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney in Winchester, Virginia. Students in the IHRC are benefitting from the abundant experience that she brings. ■

Tri-Clinic Collaboration from page 2

client's extensive domestic violence history. They obtained medical records and criminal records, used the social science literature, and assisted the client and witnesses in writing affidavits.

After exhaustive preparation, Colasuonno and Murray submitted a brief with supporting evidence documenting the connection between domestic violence, mental health issues, and barriers to work. They described the interactive effect of these factors on their client. On the morning of the hearing scheduled in the case, the agency that had denied the voucher determined that it should, in fact, be granted, based on the materials that the students had submitted. Thereafter their client gratefully reported that she had received her long-awaited housing voucher, which will provide stable housing for her and her family for the first time in many years.

Student-attorney Colasuonno noted that she relished the challenge of "in-depth fact investigation, client-counseling sessions, working with experts, and crafting a report for the court," but she valued most of all the attorney-client relationship. "Working with our client was a powerful experience," she observed, "because through this legal process she came to some realizations about herself and her life, and she has begun to ask for help through mental and social services that, in the end, will help her get more than just a housing voucher. She is living in a house with her children and grandchild, receiving holistic social services, dealing with some of her past and, hopefully, overcoming it."

As for the tri-clinic effort, Professor Steinberg observed that Professor Kohn's contacts and referrals were invaluable to the NLP students in developing the case and that the good fortune of finding Professor Meier doing a similar type of inquiry at the same time "led to a very energizing collaboration in a short time frame." As it developed, the case demonstrated the profound and varied kinds of learning that can emerge from discrete legal matters. It also demonstrated how a clinical program, working collaboratively, can be so much more than the sum of its parts. ■

The Eric Scott Sirulnik Fund

Would you like to support The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics? One way to do so is to make a donation to the Eric Scott Sirulnik Community Legal Clinic Fund. Established in 2003 by David Webster, LLB '64, to honor Professor Sirulnik's longstanding dedication to GW's clinical program, the fund is open to receive donations from GW alumni and other friends of the clinics. Your contribution enhances the ability of the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics to educate students through the provision of legal services to people in need of them.

To find out more about the Eric Scott Sirulnik Community Legal Clinic Fund, or to inquire about making a donation, please contact Rich Collins, Law School Development Office, at (202) 994-6117 or rcollins@law.gwu.edu.



Eric Sirulnik

Friedman Fellow Joins Faculty at University of Richmond School of Law

Jacqueline Lainez, who served as a Friedman Fellow in the Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic from 2010 to 2012, has been appointed to a tenure-track position at the University of Richmond School of Law. Beginning in the 2013–14 academic year, Lainez will be designing and directing the Law School's Intellectual Property and Transactional Law Clinic. Students enrolled in Lainez's clinic will provide

a variety of corporate legal services, including business formation counseling and contract negotiation and drafting, for both nonprofit and for-profit start-up clients, with a particular focus on the assessment and potential licensing of intellectual property rights.

Professor Lainez held previous positions as the founding director of the Federal Tax Clinic at the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law, and as an Assistant Clinical Professor and Director of Clinical Programs at the University of Memphis Law School, where she taught its Tax and Small Business Clinic. After her Friedman Fellowship, Professor Lainez spent 2012–13 as a Visiting Professor in the Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic, assisting Professor Susan Jones.



Professor Jacqueline Lainez discussing Small Business and Community Economic Development issues with students at the Clinics Open House.

Lainez remarks that she is “excited to take what I’ve learned working at GW and in Washington, D.C., and apply it to a new set of clients and students at the University of Richmond.” ■

Unemployed from page 3

applying this law to their client's situation. She observed that “the quick turnaround time of unemployment compensation cases presented a unique challenge that... demanded forethought, planning, and prioritization to ensure we met all deadlines, developed a theory of the case, and thoroughly prepared the client.” Not only did the students' work contribute to a good result for the client, it also gave them a chance to translate their legal education into law practice, and, in Smith's words, to “determine my own strengths and weaknesses as an advocate.”

Other third-year students who handled unemployment compensation cases in 2012–13 are Jenny Bone, Julia Burke, Justin Butler, Michael Groh, Mohamed Shihabi, Leah Socash, John Cohen, Portia Gant, Vicki Pace, Jordan Porter, Thomas Renkes, and Edward Smith. While PJAC has an excellent track record in serving its clients, the cases also reveal how well PJAC's educational method serves clinic students. By taking responsibility for client needs, students deepen their understanding of themselves and their role as lawyers. In a vivid, personal way, they come to appreciate what it means to undertake a professional life in the law. ■

Immigration Clinic Honored with Community Award

On October 19, 2012, Judge Marisa Demeo of the D.C. Superior Court presented the Community Agency Award to GW Law's Immigration Clinic. The award recognized the clinic's commitment to defending the rights of Latino immigrants and educating members of the

Latino community on their rights in the U.S. legal system. Professor Alberto Benítez, Director of the Immigration Clinic, accepted the award on behalf of the clinic.

The Community Agency Award is one of the annual Community Outreach Recognition Opportunity (CORO) Awards given to those who have demonstrated excellence in providing services to the Latino community in the District. The awards ceremony, held at the D.C. Superior Court, marked the culmination of the Court's celebration of Hispanic Heritage month. ■



Professor Alberto Benítez (holding award) accepted the CORO Community Agency Award, given annually by the Hispanic Heritage Committee of the D.C. Superior Court and D.C. Court of Appeals. In the picture he is accompanied by (l-r) his wife, Janice Salas, GW staff member Claire Duggan, JD '13, and members of the Committee.

Alumnus Q & A

Rodney C. Pratt, JD '01

Assistant General Counsel, NIKE, Inc.
Corporate Secretary, NIKE Foundation



Rodney Pratt is Assistant General Counsel at NIKE, Inc., the world's leading provider of athletic footwear, apparel, equipment, and accessories, and Corporate Secretary, NIKE Foundation. Mr. Pratt serves as a lawyer and advisor to many of NIKE's and its affiliate brands' internal business teams. He also serves as the Corporate Secretary of, and operates as the general counsel for, the NIKE Foundation. Among his various responsibilities, Mr. Pratt directs the legal operations for NIKE's Global Community Impact and Investment initiatives, which include the NIKE Foundation, Girl Hub (a United Kingdom nonprofit affiliated with the NIKE Foundation), Girl Effect, Access to Sport, Designed to Move, and NIKE N7.

Q: How did you come to be in your current positions at NIKE?

A: Like most things in life, it was by way of the intersection of opportunity, preparation, talent, and luck. I applied for a position at NIKE as I thought working

there would be fun and exciting. A few months after I applied, I received a call from a NIKE recruiter about a different position that was perfectly suited to my skill set. Although I was intrigued by NIKE, my wife and I had serious reservations about uprooting and moving to Oregon from the Washington, D.C., area with our firstborn child only eight months old at the time. In addition, virtually all of our family and friends were on the East Coast and we had no connections to NIKE or Oregon. After visiting the NIKE campus during the recruitment process, I was inspired by the idea of working every day in a college-style corporate environment for an iconic global company. At that point, I assumed I would love NIKE, but not necessarily living in Oregon. After receiving the official offer from NIKE, my wife and I walked out on faith, accepted the offer, and moved to Oregon. NIKE exceeded my expectations and has been a dream opportunity for me, and Oregon has been one of the best places my wife and I have ever lived. Most importantly, from a professional standpoint, my time with NIKE has helped me recapture my passion about the practice of law and becoming a lawyer.

Q: What is a typical day for you?

A: Every day is different. The fact that I get to help NIKE achieve its mission "to bring inspiration and innovation to every athlete in the world" is motivational to me. NIKE's co-founder, the legendary track and field coach Bill Bowerman said "if you have a body, you are an athlete." On a daily basis, I serve as the global legal thought leader for NIKE's corporate philanthropy, community investments, and commercial co-venture activities. No two days are the same because the needs of my internal clients evolve daily to meet the demands of NIKE's and the NIKE Foundation's global operations. Some days, I am focused exclusively on domestic legal issues. Other days, I am trying to formulate global best practices that factor in laws from all of the international legal jurisdictions that require our compliance. For example, I recently traveled to Rwanda, Ethiopia, and Nigeria to conduct legal trainings on U.S.

laws governing private foundations for the operations of the NIKE Foundation and Girl Hub in those countries. Meanwhile, throughout the trip, I negotiated a global distribution agreement with a major corporation for my NIKE sales clients in the United States and China.

Q: You participated in the Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic (SBCED). What was that like?

A: I participated in the SBCED Clinic as a 3L. I had just finished a summer associate program with a D.C. firm and realized that I did not want to be a litigator. The SBCED Clinic enabled me to gain actual experience in, and exposure to, corporate and transactional law, which is hard to obtain in law school. The SBCED Clinic solidified my interest in corporate and transactional law, and exposed me to nonprofit law. I leverage this experience daily in my work for NIKE and the NIKE Foundation.

Q: How have the skills you learned in the SBCED helped in your career? How does that differ from what you learned in your doctrinal courses?

A: Through the SBCED Clinic, I had the privilege of working with Professor Susan Jones, the clinic's supervising attorney. Professor Jones taught me that being a great lawyer involved more than just knowing the law. Professor Jones stressed the fact that, for certain situations, lawyers need to develop the necessary "legal bedside manner" to deliver legal services in a compassionate way to assist clients that may be at a vulnerable or stressful moment in their lives or businesses. Although doctrinal courses provide the sustenance of a solid and well-rounded legal education, doctrinal courses are not adequately equipped to provide the client service skills you learn from the SBCED Clinic. These skills are essential to being a successful attorney. I continue to use the client service skills nurtured in the SBCED Clinic, which have helped me differentiate myself from my peers and provide valued legal services to my clients.

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Insight: Clinic Profiles

Domestic Violence Project and Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project

Students in the Domestic Violence Project (DVP), directed by Professor Joan Meier, worked on a wide spectrum of law and policy issues through their placements with a variety of domestic violence legal organizations, while in the classroom they related these experiences to broader issues in domestic violence advocacy. DVP students at Break the Cycle, the leading organization combating domestic violence among teens, assisted teens in cases in which they sought protection from dating violence. At the Tahirih Justice Center, they assisted immigrant survivors of domestic violence, filing petitions with the Department of Homeland



Professor Joan Meier (l) and speakers at the BMCC press conference.

Security to obtain legal status under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). At a local state's attorney office, student-attorneys worked in court as prosecutors with their own caseloads of domestic violence matters.

system reform. Feldman states that her DVP experience has taught her “to be more sensitive to my clients’ needs and desires as I lead them through an otherwise confusing and often overwhelming legal process.”

Rachel Dane, JD '14, worked intensively at the National Network to End Domestic Violence on the contested 2013 reauthorization of VAWA. During her DVP semester, Rachel had the opportunity to listen in on conference calls with the White House, conduct 50-state research supporting some of VAWA's

and directed by Professor Joan Meier, co-hosted the 10th annual Battered Mothers' Custody Conference (BMCC) at the Law School. The BMCC was launched in upstate New York ten years ago to bring together mothers who have faced unjust court outcomes in custody litigation when trying to protect their children from abusive fathers. Professor Meier reports that, in her estimation, mistreatment of battered mothers in these custody cases has increased over the past decade.

Conference attendees and planners were pleased to be hosted at GW and in the nation's capital, where they could join other activists in lobbying Capitol Hill on these issues. Lynn Rosenthal, the White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, spoke at the conference. She indicated that battered mothers' custody issues are front and center both for her and for Vice President Biden. Professor Meier spoke about encouraging developments at the federal level, including the adoption of new provisions in VAWA and the launch of a federal inter-agency working group to address family courts' failures. Anne Hoyer, daughter of Representative Steny Hoyer (D-Md.), also spoke about her experiences with these issues. These presentations helped encourage many who have labored for years to battle the wrongs inflicted on victims of abuse when family courts misunderstand the facts and issues at stake. ■

“[I learned] to be more sensitive to my clients’ needs and desires as I lead them through an otherwise confusing and often overwhelming legal process.”

— Sharon Feldman, JD '14

Security to obtain legal status under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). At a local state's attorney office, student-attorneys worked in court as prosecutors with their own caseloads of domestic violence matters.

Sharon Feldman, JD '14, worked as an advocate for abused women at DC SAFE, an agency that seeks to ensure the safety and self-determination of domestic violence survivors through emergency services, court advocacy, and

provisions, review legislation before it was proposed, and assist VAWA's public spokespersons, who often appeared in nationally televised news interviews. She reported that she felt fortunate that DVP had enabled her to participate in such an exciting legal project, “working behind the scenes on legislation that helps millions of women.”

On May 9, 2013, the Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project (DV LEAP), founded

Family Justice Litigation Clinic



Student-attorneys Michelle Bieber (l) and Melissa Weeden outside the courtroom after their client's case was heard.

The Family Justice Litigation Clinic (FJLC), taught and supervised by Professor Laurie Kohn and Friedman Fellow Caroline Rogus, engaged third-year law students in developing professional skills as they litigated cases involving family law and domestic violence. During the 2011–12 academic year, FJLC students Katie Thompson, '12, and Danielle Ryan, '12, had tried a case on behalf of a father who endured years of court battles to gain visitation rights with his 7-year-old

daughter. After winning a favorable visitation order for the father in March 2012, FJLC student-attorneys returned to court this year to seek enforcement of his hard-won visitation rights. On behalf of the father, who lives in Florida, Michelle Bieber, JD '13, and Melissa Weeden, JD '13, filed a motion for civil contempt for failure to comply with the visitation order. In response, the child's mother filed a motion to modify the order. On March 28, 2013, Bieber and Weeden conducted a full evidentiary hearing in D.C. Superior Court. After prevailing on both motions, the client was able to look forward to long-awaited visits with his daughter.

In 2012–13 several other FJLC student teams helped clients obtain civil protection orders in cases of domestic violence. Joanna Funke, JD '13, and Jeremy Fischler, JD '13, represented a client who had been stalked by her ex-husband, receiving more than 140 voicemails from him over the course of two months. Prior to trial, Funke and Fischler were able to settle the case with a favorable consent order. Rosie Dawn Griffin, JD '13, and Corrie Brite, JD '13, also handled a case involving stalking, winning their client extensive safety protections and successfully persuading the opposing party to seek counseling. Sonia Weil, JD '13, and Diana Alvarez, JD '13, worked with a client who had been assaulted by her husband. In settlement negotiations, they were able to craft a

protection order that gave the client security and also committed her husband to seek the help he needed.

FJLC students and faculty also provided countless hours of assistance to the D.C. Superior Court, volunteering as facilitators in the Family Court Self-Help Center and as attorney-negotiators in the Family Court. At the Self-Help Center, student-attorneys assisted pro se parties in drafting pleadings and providing information to help them navigate the family court process. As attorney-negotiators, the students assisted judges in mediating custody and divorce cases. As a result of these efforts, many cases were settled without further court involvement. ■

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Calling All Clinic Alumni!

Law Alumni Weekend is scheduled for Monday, September 23, through Sunday, September 29, 2013. On Tuesday, September 24, the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics will be hosting a breakfast for our clinic alumni and friends. The breakfast will be held in our newly renovated offices. Join us and be among the first to experience our brand new space! We hope to see you there.

At the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics, we are continuing our efforts to create a clinics affinity group, connecting clinic participants of past years with one another and with clinic participants today. For more information—either about the clinics alumni breakfast or about becoming a part of a clinics affinity group—please contact Pallavi Gullo, Managing Attorney, Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics at pgullo@law.gwu.edu or (202) 994-3086.



Associate Dean Phyllis Goldfarb describing plans for renovations of the clinic building at the September, 2012 reception for clinic alumni.

Federal, Criminal, and Appellate Clinic

Students in the Federal, Criminal, and Appellate Clinic (FAC), taught and supervised by Professor Anne Olesen and Friedman Fellow Wyatt Feeler, provided criminal appellate representation in the Maryland Court of Special Appeals to a dozen clients in 2012–13. Katelin Buell, JD '13, and Carlos Morales, JD '13, appealed a case of first impression under Maryland law. Their client had been charged with manslaughter based on “mutual affray,” the ancient crime of consensually fighting in public, which the state of Maryland has upheld as a valid, common law crime. Buell and Morales researched whether the facts of their case—an altercation in a side yard visible from a sidewalk—supported a finding of fighting in public, and whether self-defense can be found upon such a charge. (The trial judge had denied the defense request to issue a self-defense instruction.) Many of the relevant cases in their research were from the 1800s and from other jurisdictions. At oral argument, the Court of Special Appeals asked the students questions about applying an antiquated common law to a modern situation when there is no corresponding statute or penalty.

In another unusual case, Laura Welikson, JD '13, and Leah Maloney, JD '13, were able to represent an appellee in a case in which they were defending a judge's lower court ruling rather than appealing the judge's decision. The State was appealing the lower court's finding of ineffective assistance of counsel when the client's attorney had failed to notice that the jury verdict sheet did not match the charging documents. Welikson and Maloney's client was able to attend the oral argument in the Court of Special Appeals—a rare event in criminal appellate practice—because the lower court ruling had enabled her release.

Will McAuliffe, JD '13, and Eduardo Zermeno, JD '13, represented a client serving a ten-year sentence for charges related to fleeing the scene of a fatal accident. McAuliffe and Zermeno discovered a sentencing impropriety in the case: special factors were required to exceed the standard five-year sentence for this offense, and no special factors were asserted at trial. Researching the legislative history, they determined that the judge had imposed a sentencing enhancement without allowing the jury to find the factual basis for the enhancement, contrary to the Supreme Court's ruling in *Apprendi v. New Jersey*, 530 U.S. 466 (2000). The students prevailed on this argument. The case is the first post-*Apprendi* ruling in the state of Maryland regarding this particular provision.

Janet Foster, JD '13, and Zach Berne, JD '13, appealed the conviction of a man who had been approached by the police as he was driving a car on a crowded street outside a Baltimore club. At trial, the police had testified that the defendant was in the driver's seat, two passengers were seated in the back seat, and that in

Student-attorneys Foster and Berne were elated to learn that their arguments had been heard and that their clinic work had redressed an injustice.

the unoccupied front passenger seat the police found a handgun. At the driver's trial for possessing and transporting the gun, the two backseat passengers testified that a third passenger, seated in front, had left the car just moments before the police arrived, making a gesture as though he was dropping something. The defense argued that the defendant could not have possessed the gun because he did not know that the gun was there or have time to exercise control over it.

During jury deliberations, jurors sent the judge a note asking, “Does 30 seconds of knowledge constitute possession? Is there an element of time involved?” Over defense objection, the judge answered “no” to the second question. Aided by Foster and Berne's appellate brief and oral argument, the Court of Special Appeals found that, while time was not a legal element, it was relevant to the defense in this case and that the trial court should have told the jury that time was a factor it could consider. Finding that the trial court had abused its discretion when it effectively told the jury that time was not relevant to the question of possession, the Court of Special Appeals reversed the client's conviction. Foster and Berne were elated to learn that their arguments had been heard and that their clinic work had redressed an injustice. ■



Professor Anne Olesen (second from right) and Friedman Fellow Wyatt Feeler (second from left) teaching a class to FAC students.

Health Rights Law Clinic

The Health Rights Law Clinic, directed by Professor Suzanne Jackson, serves seniors and individuals with disabilities who reside in D.C. Students enrolled in the clinic help to resolve problems or secure benefits related to health insurance, access to health care, public health programs, or unpaid medical bills. Clinic students work as counselors in the Health Insurance Counseling Project (HICP), which is the State Health Insurance Assistance Program for the District of Columbia. In one semester, each student will assist between 15 and 20 clients with matters large and small. High performers may assist 50 or more clients in a semester. Over the course of one year, clinic students help more than 300 people.

In 2012–13 students in the Health Rights Law Clinic visited Delta Towers, a senior living facility in the District. Students helped residents with a variety of issues, such as applying for programs designed to assist Medicare beneficiaries, resolving problems

with unpaid medical bills, deciphering bills from providers and notices from Medicare, and determining whether existing prescription drug coverage would meet a resident's needs after annual changes were implemented. Residents were grateful for the help, which in some instances saved them thousands of dollars a year or eliminated thousands of dollars of medical debt.

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Clinic student Allison Kole, JD '14, interviewed a woman who had undergone a tooth extraction rather than a root canal, because her dentist had said she could get a partial bridge to fill the gap left by the extraction. After the tooth was extracted, the woman's insurance company refused to cover the bridge, arguing that she needed a gap from at least two missing teeth to

qualify. Kole helped her client, who was having difficulty eating because of the missing tooth, to challenge this decision. She interviewed dentists, researched legal and medical implications of leaving the gap unfilled, and worked with her client to prepare for an administrative hearing, submitting in advance several doctors' letters and more than 40 pages of medical information. At the hearing, counsel for the insurance company agreed to extend coverage so that Allison's client could obtain the bridge she needed.

Since the Health Rights Law Clinic opened in 1995, it has been housed at 2136 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., in a University structure large enough for the HICP staff as well as the clinic. After the University decided to raze the building housing the clinic and HICP, the Law School made the decision to incorporate them both into the clinic's townhouse renovations. As a result, summer 2013 not only marked the completion of the clinic building renovations, it also marked the very first time that the Health Rights Law Clinic was joined with the other Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics in a single unified structure. ■



HICP staff members (l-r) Cheryl Smith, Michael Knipmeyer, Richard Jones, Geraldine Doetzer, and Professor Suzanne Jackson.

Immigration Clinic

During the 2012–2013 academic year, student–attorneys in the Immigration Clinic, directed by Professor Alberto Benítez, represented numerous clients seeking asylum. Denisse Velarde-Cubek, JD '13, represented a young woman from Afghanistan who, with her father's assistance, had attended school in the United States. Angry at these actions, Afghani religious leaders threatened both the client and her father to the extent that, in an effort to protect her, he lied and reported that she had died. The Immigration Clinic enabled the client to obtain asylum.

Student–attorneys Elizabeth Barnes, JD '13, and Emma Brown, JD '13, represented two clients, a same-sex couple from Kenya, who had been threatened numerous times due to their sexual orientation. In December, both clients learned that they had been granted asylum. Barnes also represented a Roman Catholic man from Benin who had fled the country after being threatened for his refusal to practice voodoo. On the day of the client's hearing in March, opposing counsel informed Barnes that the government would not oppose the claim and would stipulate to a grant of asylum. The client will remain in the United States and hopes one day to become a citizen.

Binta Mamadou, JD '13, represented a client who had been imprisoned in Ethiopia for her political activities. Her sister and her uncle had been “disappeared” for their involvement in the same activities. After the client had been released from prison, she went into hiding, preparing to flee her country and come to the U.S. During this time, police came to her home. When they did not find her there, they detained and beat her mother. Mamadou completed the work begun by Immigration Clinic students from previous years, and succeeded in obtaining asylum for the client in the U.S.

In March Cleveland Fairchild, JD '13, conducted a two-hour affirmative asylum interview for another client from Ethiopia. The client, a social activist, had advocated on behalf of women, youth,



Professor Alberto Benítez (l) and the 2012–13 Immigration Clinic students.

the disabled, and others. Because of this activism, the client had been detained six times by the government. When he learned of a plot by government officials to have him killed, he fled to the United States. After the interview, the client learned that he had been granted asylum.

For several years, the Immigration Clinic has represented a client from Turkey, a Kurdish man who had been arrested and tortured several times on the basis of his religious and political beliefs. Two years after the client's 2011 asylum interview, the clinic learned that asylum had been granted. A number of clinic students had worked on the case over the years, most recently Anca Grigore, JD '13. The client's wife and four children had remained in Turkey as they awaited a ruling in the asylum case. The Immigration Clinic is now working to reunite them.

Since 1998, eight student–attorneys in the Immigration Clinic have represented a client from the Cameroon, helping him first to obtain asylum, then lawful permanent residency. With the help of Keren Sohahong-Kombet, JD '12, the client recently obtained U.S. citizenship. In a letter to Professor Benítez the client wrote, “As I reflect on the often arduous journey, I cannot help but be reminded, and forever grateful, of the assistance you and your staff have provided to me. I have accomplished many positive things in this country, such as becoming a nurse, owning a home in a thriving, affluent community, and being able to provide a good life for my family. I now have the security of being a citizen, which, as I stated, had been a lifelong dream. To date, this has been my greatest achievement. ■

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— Immigration Clinic Client

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International Human Rights Clinic



Professor Arturo Carrillo (l) met with Ian Wilkinson, Queen's Counsel and President of the Jamaican Bar Association, at an event held in Kingston by the NGO Jamaicans for Justice.

Students in the International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC), directed by Professor Arturo Carrillo, engage in litigation and research to promote the recognition and protection of a range of international human rights. In 2012–13 the clinic undertook a variety of matters related to this goal.

In the fall and spring semesters, IHRC students worked with Professor Carrillo and Visiting Scholar Annalise Nelson on a major comparative law research project, collecting and analyzing many countries' laws on crimes against humanity. The final report, titled *Comparative Law Study and Analysis of National Legislation Relating to Crimes Against Humanity and Extraterritorial Jurisdiction*, was published in August 2013.

In April 2013 students Briann Peterson, JD '13, and Rosemary Yogiaveetil, JD '14, members of the IHRC's Inter-American Litigation and Advocacy Project, traveled with Professor Carrillo to Kingston, Jamaica, to meet with clients and their organizational partner, Jamaicans for Justice (JFJ). The students interviewed and retained three new clients, counseling them on their litigation options in the Inter-American system. Two of the new clients are girls who were placed in state custody for non-criminal matters. These clients were subjected to deplorable conditions in the company of both adults and girls with criminal convictions. On behalf of these clients, the clinic and JFJ have

requested precautionary measures from, and submitted a petition to, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).

The third new case involves the fatal police shooting of a young Jamaican man more than 15 years ago. After repeated failures by the Jamaican legal system, the clinic plans to bring a case to the IACHR on behalf of the victim's family, seeking some measure of justice for them and bringing international attention to the issue of police brutality and impunity in Jamaica. The clinic already represents several other Jamaican clients whose cases—involving harassment, brutality, and impunity by the police—are currently pending before the IACHR.

Other clinic students, members of its Anti-Trafficking Project, traveled three times this year to interview victims of human trafficking for two potential civil cases alleging violations of the federal anti-trafficking statute. In developing these cases, IHRC has formed partnerships with two highly regarded non-governmental organizations, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC). Student-attorneys, supervised by Professor Carrillo and adjunct faculty member Susan French, interviewed trafficking victims and analyzed the law and the facts in an effort to determine which claims establish viable statutory causes of action.

The case involves undocumented agricultural workers threatened by crew leaders and farmers both with weapons and with assertions that they would notify immigration authorities if workers left the job or worked too slowly. Students have investigated the facts of the case and conducted legal research under federal statutes and state tort law. Student-attorneys are working on locating additional victims and witnesses, preparing requests under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain relevant records and reports, and conducting additional legal research on viable claims under state wage law and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

In November 2012 IHRC obtained a \$13 million default judgment against two defendants in the first human trafficking case the clinic had filed. In October the IACHR awarded a reparations package

worth more than \$300,000 as compensation for the material and moral harm suffered by the Vélez Restrepo family in *Vélez Restrepo and Family v. Colombia*, a case litigated by Professor Carrillo and a succession of IHRC students. The Court found that IHRC's clients, a Colombian television cameraman and his family, had been victims of serious human rights violations committed by Colombian police. Microsoft supported the Vélez litigation as part of the Law School's Global Internet Freedom and Human Rights Project. ■

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Law Students in Court

Law Students in Court (LSIC) is a clinical program for students from a consortium of D.C. law schools, including GW. LSIC students provide free legal assistance in civil and criminal cases to people unable to afford attorneys.

In 2012–13 Civil Division student–attorney Deaven Demarco, JD '13, represented an immigrant family of four living in a dilapidated apartment. Demarco successfully negotiated a settlement requiring the landlord to forgive past due rent and make repairs to address housing code violations. Civil Division student–attorney Robin Overby, JD '13, represented a man, legally blind and with other significant health issues, who was forced to move out of his apartment after his landlord, violating a specific court order, refused to provide heat. Because the client had withheld rent, when he returned to the apartment to collect his belongings, the locks had been changed and his belongings, thrown outside, had been largely destroyed or taken. Through her courtroom advocacy, Overby enabled the client's return to his home.

[...Robin] Overby testified before the D.C. Council at a hearing on the budget for the Office of Tenant Advocacy (OTA), which provides financial resources to D.C. legal services providers, like LSIC, who represent low-income tenants.

In April Overby testified before the D.C. Council at a hearing on the budget for the Office of Tenant Advocacy (OTA), which provides financial resources to D.C. legal services providers, like LSIC, who

represent low-income tenants. Overby recounted for the Council the story of her client's case, demonstrating the importance of OTA's resources in supporting the representation needed to protect tenants' rights in the District of Columbia.

In the Criminal Division, Meredith Dempsey, JD '13, supervised by adjunct faculty member Moses Cook, argued an appellate case involving complex constitutional issues before the D.C. Court of Appeals in December 2012, securing the dismissal of all charges in three separate cases. Dempsey also represented a client before a grand jury and tried the case of an adolescent client, which ended with acquittal. Subsequently, Dempsey challenged the adolescent's related suspension from school.

Other Criminal Division students achieved notable victories as well. Christie Babinski, JD '13, secured a mid-trial dismissal in a theft case. After months of litigation on pre-trial motions, Jacob Chervinsky, JD '13, obtained the dismissal of his client's drug charges. Due to her sentencing and post-conviction advocacy, Rachael Krane, JD '13, secured her pregnant client's eligibility for a first-time offender's criminal record expungement. The judge expunged her client's criminal conviction during the same week that the client gave birth to a baby boy. Jill

Dickinson, JD '13, represented a homeless war veteran who was charged with stealing electricity when he sought shelter in a public building during Hurricane Sandy. Although the prosecutor asked for incarceration, Dickinson's argument that the client should not be taken into state custody prevailed. ■

Meredith Dempsey, JD '13, argued an appellate case involving complex constitutional issues before the D.C. Court of Appeals in December 2012. Dempsey also represented a client before a grand jury and tried the case of an adolescent client, which ended with acquittal. Subsequently, Dempsey challenged the adolescent's related suspension from school.



Robin Overby, JD '13, (center) testifying at the D.C. Council. On the right is her supervisor, Richard Goemann.

Neighborhood Law and Policy Clinic



Emily Theriault, JD '13, and Michael Johnson, JD '13, at the D.C. Council following their testimony.

Now in its second year, the Neighborhood Law & Policy (NLP) Clinic continues to evolve as it responds to the needs of the local low-income community. The clinic, taught and supervised by Professor Jessica Steinberg and Friedman Fellow Anne Smetak, has focused on civil legal matters related to subsidized housing programs and homeless shelters, as well as “re-entry” cases involving early termination of parole and expungement of criminal records.

During 2012–13 the clinic represented a family with four children, successfully challenging the family’s termination from a permanent, supportive D.C. housing program. The clinic also represented a number of clients in expungement cases. Will Barrett, JD '13, and Eileen McNamara, JD '14, undertook an expungement case in which they faced the challenge of demonstrating that their client was factually innocent of the charges in her record. Whitney McOwen, JD '13, and Madeleine MacNeil, JD '14, also handled an expungement case in which errors in the record led to significant consumer law consequences, affecting information provided to landlords, employers, and credit agencies. Student-attorneys in the NLP sought to identify errors in the record, prove the errors, and redress the problems they generated.

Thomas Lodwick, JD '13, Corrie Brite, JD '13, Whitney McOwen, and Madeleine

MacNeil represented individuals seeking early termination of parole. In April, William Barrett and Eileen McNamara secured early termination of parole on behalf of a parolee who had made substantial progress toward treatment and stable living. He was released from the ten years remaining on his sentence.

In November Sarah Freuden, JD '13, and Sonia Weil, JD '13, handled one of the cases involving early termination of parole. Their client had been serving on parole since 2005, and had enjoyed considerable success as a parolee. He had maintained stable housing, seasonal employment, abstinence from drugs and alcohol, and a positive relationship with the parole officer who supervised him. At the hearing, the client’s work supervisor testified about the client’s exceptional job performance and his ability to remain calm and rational in heated situations. The student-attorneys also presented evidence that last spring the client had used himself as a human

jury found no probable cause to indict, and a court had ordered the client’s release. Even though the arrest had been based on unsubstantiated allegations, there were no findings of criminal or civil liability, and the law requires that arrests be supported by substantial evidence of guilt if they are to be used to deny early termination of parole, for now the client remains under parole supervision.

Although the purpose of parole is to enable parolees to successfully re-enter the community, sometimes the rules and limitations that parole imposes can have the opposite effect and enhance a parolee’s vulnerability. In the District of Columbia, a parolee can unintentionally violate parole in a number of ways, such as by failing to find housing in a city with a decades-long waiting list for subsidized housing or associating with a neighbor who happens to have a prior felony conviction. Freuden reported that her work in the NLP Clinic exposed her to “these realities, and convinced me

Although the purpose of parole is to enable parolees to successfully re-enter the community, sometimes the rules and limitations that parole imposes can enhance a parolee’s vulnerability. Sarah Freuden reported that her work in the NLP Clinic exposed her to “these realities, and convinced me that both parole and the process for early termination need to be reformed to make the system work better.”

shield to protect young children in his neighborhood from an attack by two 100-pound dogs.

Despite this evidence, and the legal requirement that parole terminate after five years if the parolee does not show risk of re-offending, the hearing examiner did not grant the request for termination. The denial was based on the fact that the client had been arrested and detained during the parole period (during which time his mother died of brain cancer), even though he had maintained his innocence, a grand

that both parole and the process for early termination need to be reformed to make the system work better.”

System reform through legislative and policy advocacy complements NLP’s direct service work. In September, Emily Theriault, JD '13, and Michael Johnson, JD '13, testified before the D.C. Council on a bill expanding opportunities to expunge criminal records. In addition, Professor Steinberg worked with a coalition of legal service providers formed to propose modifications to pending legislation. ■

Public Justice Advocacy Clinic

The Public Justice Advocacy Clinic (PJAC), taught and supervised by Professor Jeffrey Gutman and Friedman Fellow Nancy Craig, has a varied docket. Professor Gutman seeks out a range of civil and administrative cases that serve the public interest and provide rich learning opportunities for students. Some of the cases involve direct representation of low-income workers, many of them Spanish-speaking, who are seeking to recover wages they are owed or obtain unemployment compensation to which they are entitled. Other cases create opportunities for students to participate in federal litigation, such as class action lawsuits in civil rights matters, disability discrimination matters, or Freedom of Information Act cases.

In 2012–13 PJAC students provided legal services for more than two dozen clients. A number of these cases involved employment law matters, such as appeals from denials of unemployment benefits (see story on page 3) and wage and hour cases. Wage and hour cases, colloquially known as wage theft cases, involve bringing claims on behalf of clients who have not been paid the wages they are owed. PJAC's wage and hour clients often hold positions such as laborers, restaurant workers, social service providers, or home health care aides.

Third-year PJAC students Mohammed Shihabi, Jordan Porter, John Cohen, Portia Gant, Ben Hur, Vicki Pace, Edward Smith, Jeffrey Whalen, DeMaris Trapp, Ilanit Sisso, Catherine Morris, and Saranicole Duaban represented clients in wage and hour cases in both D.C. Superior Court and the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Most of these cases involved claims that employers failed to comply with federal and/or local statutes requiring payment of minimum wages and overtime. While several of these cases remain in litigation, clinic students obtained for their wage and hour clients approximately \$75,000 in judgments and settlements during the academic year.

In 2012–13 PJAC students also participated in federal civil litigation. Justin Butler, JD '13, and Leah Socash, JD '13, continued the work of former PJAC students Kevin Meehan, JD '12, and Jessica Newton, JD '12, in representing an unemployed widow sued by the U.S. Department of Education for failure to repay student loans received nearly 20 years earlier. The students successfully settled the case after assisting the client in obtaining renegotiated terms for an income-based repayment of the loans.

Edward Smith, JD '13, and Saranicole Duaban, JD '13, worked on a federal court case involving claims under the Administrative Procedure Act. The case challenged the approval of plans under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Act that exclude or limit coverage of speech generating devices needed by individuals, like PJAC's clients in the case, who have communication disorders. Thomas Renkes, JD '13, Julia Burke, JD '13, DeMaris Trapp, Justin Butler, and Leah Socash participated in the litigation of a federal lawsuit filed on behalf of a homeless father and his disabled daughter who were placed on the third floor of a homeless shelter in a building without an elevator, despite the fact that the daughter uses a wheelchair. Alleging negligence, and violation of federal and local anti-discrimination statutes, PJAC served as co-counsel in the case with the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless. Although some of the claims in the case were settled, others are pending.

In addition, PJAC provided legal services to clients seeking information under the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Recently, PJAC won a FOIA case filed on behalf of Professor Brian Biles of the GW School of Public Health and Health Services. Professor Biles sought data from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) relating to the Medicare Advantage program, in which private insurers contract with Medicare to provide enrollees with coverage. Approximately 25 percent of all Medicare beneficiaries participate in the Medicare Advantage program. Professor Biles studies the relative costs and efficiency of traditional Medicare and Medicare



Professor Brian Biles, MD, MPH, of GW's School of Public Health and Health Services.

“Over two cases and three plus years, the Public Justice Advocacy Clinic and its director Jeff Gutman supported, and eventually prevailed in, a FOIA case to get the Federal Medicare program to release data on Medicare private health plans. This data was critical to our research that shows that proposals to privatize Medicare could increase, rather than decrease as claimed, total Medicare costs for the elderly and disabled.”

— Professor Biles

Advantage. Although HHS sought to withhold the requested data, arguing that its release would cause substantial competitive harm to the private health insurance companies, PJAC successfully argued in briefs supporting Professor Biles's motion for summary judgment that the data was not exempt from disclosure. PJAC will receive attorney's fees as a result of the victory. Professor Biles has received and has begun analyzing the data provided in an effort to enhance policymakers' and the public's understanding of the economics of these multi-billion dollar programs. ■

Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic

The Small Business and Community Economic Development (SBCED) Clinic, taught and supervised by Professor Susan Jones and Visiting Associate Professor Jacqueline Lainez, has continued to provide businesses, nonprofit organizations, and artists with an array of legal services. These services include corporate, tax, contract, regulatory, and intellectual property issues. SBCED students are eligible to apply to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for law student certification, which authorizes them to file trademark applications on behalf of their clients. In the fall semester USPTO-certified students filed four trademark applications and conducted extensive legal research on a fifth trademark matter. Adjunct faculty member Kevin Peska, JD '91, Managing Attorney in the USPTO's Office of Trademark Quality Control, supports the SBCED Clinic's trademark practice and consults with SBCED students on trademark cases.

Among the clients served during the 2012–13 academic year were a micro-loan fund, a culinary arts incubator, a technology start-up serving the Latino community, an 80-year-old social services organization serving Southeast D.C., an educational reform nonprofit, and organizations supporting creative entrepreneurs. The clinic also conducted legal consultations for a number of clients this year, including a green government contractor, a travel service, and a camp.

The culinary arts incubator represented by the clinic helps seed local nonprofits and culinary entrepreneurs including new neighborhood restaurants. SBCED students prepared the incubator's articles of incorporation, and prepared and filed its application for a 501(c)(3) federal tax exemption. SBCED students also drafted an agreement between their client and a longstanding culinary arts nonprofit, which will serve as the client's fiscal sponsor while the client's



Professor Susan Jones meets with SBCED student Blake Behnke.

application for a federal tax exemption is pending. A team of three SBCED students—Robert Lehman III, JD '13, Alex Giannattasio, JD '14, and Blake Behnke, JD '13—performed legal work on the case, which included extensive client counseling, responding to an IRS request for additional information, and filing the incubator's trademark application.

The SBCED Clinic has a long history of supporting and representing microlenders. Professor Jones, who has written extensively in the field, currently serves on the Association for Enterprise Opportunity's Enterprise Economic Impact Council, the first national advisory group focused solely on micro-business in the United States. Decades ago, the SBCED Clinic represented the first microloan program in D.C., which recently referred the District's newest microloan program to the clinic for legal representation. Given the extensive and complex nature of the legal work involved, the entire SBCED class participated in the representation. Student teams were assigned to the client's corporate, tax, regulatory, and contract issues.

In 2012–13 SBCED Clinic students continued to represent the American Museum of Peace. Dedicated to

exploration of the role of peace in society, the museum's purpose is to present exhibits, activities, and programs to increase awareness about the ideals, motives, and actions of Americans who have sought peace throughout history. The museum's founders also hope to encourage its visitors to consider how they too can contribute to peace efforts. A three-student team—Brian Flannery, JD '13, Alexander Javelly, JD '13, and Cynthia LeFerve, JD '13, filed a trademark application on behalf of the museum.

With two other Law School clinics—the International Transactions Clinic at the University of Michigan Law School, and the Social Enterprise and Nonprofit Law Clinic at Georgetown University Law Center—the SBCED Clinic is part of the Social Enterprise Clinical Support Collaborative, which represents Ashoka, a leading global nonprofit that identifies and invests in social entrepreneurs around the world. The goal of the collaboration between Ashoka and the Law School clinics is to advance the development of the legal sector that supports social entrepreneurship. The collaborative conducts research and produces legal toolkits for Ashoka, and provides Ashoka's numerous

continued on page 17

SBCED from page 16

social entrepreneurs with transactional and business legal support to help them launch and scale their enterprises, which are designed to address social problems on a systemic level. Through the clinics' affiliation with Ashoka, students at the collaborating law schools are able to participate in legal representation, strategic planning, and advocacy on behalf of social enterprise clients in the United States and abroad.

To deepen the students' clinical experience, offer them a broader perspective on their work, and help them to better serve clients, SBCED students also participate in carefully selected action research projects designed to address a legal problem and/or contribute to a law reform effort. In 2012–13 students worked on two white papers, the first involving arts incubators that are seeding new creative businesses and the second involving the connection between ex-offender reentry and small business opportunities. A third project, drawing on studies showing the District's challenging climate for small business development, addressed the need for regulatory reform by the D.C. government. The project resulted in a presentation in May to the newly created 30-person Mayor's Task Force on Regulatory Reform. Student teams were assigned to each of these projects and contributed to drafts, with Devin McKnight, JD '13, and Alex Giannattasio, JD '13, working on the final papers, and Michael Coffee, JD '13, producing the final report and leading the presentation to the task force.

On March 21, 2013, the SBCED Clinic provided a client education program—co-hosted by the GW Office of Planned Giving—titled “Tapping the Unrealized Potential of Gifts of Real Estate: What Small Nonprofits Need to Know.” Three panelists addressed the audience, which included past and present clinic clients, on issues designed to expand awareness of different fundraising options. Clinic students Michael Coffee and Debbie Lovinsky, LLM '14, helped to organize the event. ■

Vaccine Injury Clinic

Students in the Vaccine Injury Clinic, directed by Professor Peter Meyers and assisted by Cliff Shoemaker, Esq., litigate cases before the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for petitioners who are seeking compensation for vaccine-related injuries and deaths. In 2012–13 students in the Vaccine Injury Clinic obtained compensation for a number of individuals who had suffered serious injuries as a result of vaccines.

In one case, students Wendy Wasserman, JD '13, and Justin Crotty, JD '13, represented a young woman who had developed numerous serious health issues after receiving a tetanus booster in 2004. The students prepared the case for trial but, once there, received a \$250,000 settlement that will support the young woman's medical care for the rest of her life. Zachary Rosen, JD '14, and Daniel Rifkin, JD '13, represented a woman who had suffered many complications from an influenza vaccine and received a \$150,000 settlement. For another clinic client, a 13-year-old girl who developed a seizure disorder after receiving a vaccination, Lourdes Turrecha, JD '13, and Adam Mickley, JD '13, developed a life care plan, and obtained the resources that will allow her to receive throughout her life the medical care she needs.

Students in the Vaccine Injury Clinic also engaged in the regulatory comment

process to suggest improvements in the federal claims system which processes vaccine injury cases. Students submitted detailed comments to the Special Master in the Court of Federal Claims regarding guidelines for processing and evaluating vaccine injury claims. The final regulations are still pending.

Students researched and wrote an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of various vaccine injury organizations in support of the Respondent in Sebelius v. Cloer.

In addition, during the 2012–13 academic year students researched and wrote an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of various vaccine injury organizations in support of the Respondent in *Sebelius v. Cloer*, a case that interpreted a provision of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act. The specific issue concerned whether attorneys' fees may be awarded for claims filed in good faith and with a reasonable basis when their filing is ultimately ruled to have been untimely. In May 2013 the Court adopted the clinic's position and ruled 9-0 in favor of the Respondent. ■



Professor Peter Meyers with students in the Vaccine Injury Clinic's class.

Selected Presentations and Publications

Professor **Susan Jones** published “The Importance of Microenterprise Development in Community Economic Development Law,” a chapter in a book by Professors Susan Bennett, Brenda Blom Bratton, Louise Howells, and Deborah Kenn titled *Community Economic Development Law: A Text for Engaged Learning* (Carolina Academic Press, 2012).

Professor Jones and Visiting Associate Professor **Jacqueline Lainez** are co-authors of an article titled, “Enriching the Law School Curriculum: The Rise of Transactional Clinics in U.S. Law Schools,” accepted for publication in the *Washington University Journal of Law and Policy*.

In May 2013 Professor Jones gave a presentation to the Mayor’s Task Force on Regulatory Reform regarding the SBCED Clinic’s action research initiative to improve business regulation in the District of Columbia.

Professor Jones presented “A Case Study of How Three Transactional Clinics Partnered to Expand Legal Services for Social Entrepreneurs Worldwide” at the Annual Transactional Law Teachers Conference in April 2013.

At the Conference on Clinical Legal Education sponsored by the Association



Professor Susan Jones meeting with an SBCED student team about their clinic case.

of American Law Schools (AALS) in May 2013, Professor Jones was a co-presenter for a concurrent session on “Adding Variety to Clinical Legal Education Through Service-Learning.” In January 2013 at the AALS Annual Meeting, she co-presented a poster on “International Impact Through Collaboration.” In June 2012 at the AALS Workshop for New Law Teachers she spoke on a panel on “Getting Started with a Scholarly Agenda—Identity, Scholarship, Networking.”

Professor **Laurie Kohn** presented her paper, “Engaging Men as Fathers: The Courts, the Law, and Father-Absence in Low Income Families,” at the Southeastern Law Scholars Conference for junior faculty in September 2012; in October she presented it at the *Clinical Law Review* Writers’ Workshop at NYU, and in December at the Mid-Atlantic Clinical Theory Workshop held in D.C. The paper has been accepted for publication in the *Cardozo Law Review*.

An excerpt from Professor Kohn’s article, “What’s So Funny About Peace, Love, and Understanding? Restorative Justice as a New Paradigm for Domestic Violence Intervention,” 40 *Seton Hall*

L. Rev. 517 (2010), appeared in Tracy A. Thomas, *Women and the Law* (West, 2012).

In January 2013 Professor Kohn conducted a domestic violence training for judges in the Domestic Violence Unit of the D.C. Superior Court. The training concerned the law that authorizes civil protection orders and other remedies.

In May Professor Kohn presented a paper on family law as part of the Feminist Legal Theory Collaborative at the 2013 Conference of the Law and Society Association held in Boston.

At the AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education held in April 2013 Professor Kohn co-presented a poster on adapting direct service litigation clinics to the changing legal market by incorporating critical legal system analysis, non-litigation projects, and service learning opportunities and pedagogies.

In October 2012 Professor **Jessica Steinberg** spoke on a panel titled “Teaching Social Justice, Expanding Access to Justice: The Role of Legal Education and the Legal Profession.” The panel was presented at a conference on “Access to Justice Through Community Collaboration and Clinic Design,” sponsored by the Society of American Law Teachers.



Professor Laurie Kohn (r) and Friedman Fellow Caroline Rogus.



Professor Jessica Steinberg speaking to students about the NLP Clinic.

In May 2012 Professor Steinberg spoke at the AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education on a panel on “Mind the Gap: (Re)Designing Clinical Teaching to Serve Cross-Generational Student Needs.” At the April 2013 Conference on Clinical Legal Education, she co-presented a poster, “Project-Based Clinical Methods: Oral Presentations for Organizational Clients,” which depicted the key competencies involved in giving such presentations to clients.

In June 2012 Professor Steinberg spoke at the AALS New Law Teachers’ Conference on a panel titled “Things I Wish Someone Had Told Me When I Started.”

In March 2013 Professor **Joan Meier’s** op-ed, “Home is Where the Harm Is,” was published in the *New York Times*. The op-ed concerned the troubling application of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction to cases where protective parents have fled with children to protect them from abuse.

In June 2013 Professor Meier testified to the U. S. Congress in a briefing on International Child Abduction and Domestic Violence.

In March Professor Meier conducted a training on domestic violence appeals for a new domestic violence appellate project in Chicago, a collaboration among the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago,

the Dentons law firm, and Allstate® Insurance. In April Professor Meier traveled to Japan to deliver three lectures to academics and legal practitioners on custody, abuse, and parental alienation syndrome.

In April Professor Meier gave a presentation about her holistic pedagogy for the Domestic Violence Project during the AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education. She also delivered a teleconference on Making a Record for Appeal for the ABA Commission on Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. In addition, she participated in a panel on poverty law appeals at the D.C. Bar and Judicial Conference.

Associate Dean **Phyllis Goldfarb** published “Back to the Future of Clinical Legal Education,” 32 *Boston College Journal of Law and Social Justice* 279 (2012).

In June 2012 Dean Goldfarb presented “Future Trends in Experiential Learning” at the AALS Workshop for New Law School Clinical Teachers.

In May 2013 Dean Goldfarb addressed a group of Ukrainian lawyers and law professors on “Public Interest Law and Pro Bono Legal Services” during a program sponsored by the Institute of International Education.

Friedman Fellow **Wyatt Feeler’s** LLM thesis, “Can Fiction Impede Conviction: Addressing Claims of a ‘CSI Effect’ in



Professor Joan Meier testifying at a Congressional briefing on International Child Abduction and Domestic Violence.

the Criminal Courtroom,” has been accepted for publication in the *Mississippi Law Journal*.

Friedman Fellow **Anne Smetak’s** LLM thesis, “Private Funding, Public Housing: The Devil in the Details,” has been accepted for publication in the *Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law*.

Former DVP student **Stephanie Smiertka, JD ’12**, published as a law review article the paper that she first submitted to the clinic. The article appears as “The Federal Fortress Surrounding Police Liability for Failure to Enforce Protection Orders,” 21 *Buffalo Journal of Gender, Law, and Social Policy* 87 (2012-13). ■



2012-13 Friedman Fellows (l-r) Wyatt Feeler, Nancy Craig, Anne Smetak, and Caroline Rogus.

Kudos



Professor Jeff Gutman

In June 2012 Professor **Jeffrey Gutman** was elected to the D.C. Bar's Board of Governors. He had just completed a year of service as Treasurer of the D.C. Bar.

In April 2013 Associate Dean **Phyllis Goldfarb** was named to a six-year term as an Editor-in-Chief of the *Clinical Law Review*, a peer-edited journal devoted to issues of lawyering theory and clinical legal education. For the past four years, Dean Goldfarb has been serving as an editor of the journal.

Dean Goldfarb is one of the lawyers featured in a new book titled, *Breaking Barriers: The Unfinished Work of Women Lawyers and Judges in Massachusetts* (2012). The book details "the extraordinary accomplishments of some of the most impressive members of the Massachusetts



Professor Arturo Carrillo, The Hon. Judge Yassmin Barrios, and Justice César Barrientos, Supreme Court of Guatemala. Justice Barrientos visited the Law School to speak on "Criminal Justice and Human Rights in Guatemala."

bar." All proceeds from the sales of the book support continuing legal education scholarships for legal services attorneys, private lawyers who accept pro bono cases, and other deserving lawyers with financial need.

Dean Goldfarb served on the 2012–13 Planning Committee for the Association of American Law School's 2013 Conference on Clinical Legal Education and its Workshop for Law Clinic Directors. The two consecutive programs were held in April 2013 for more than 700 participants. During the conference, Dean Goldfarb moderated two plenary panels and facilitated a large Town Hall meeting.

Due to their work on issues at the intersection of law and gender, Professor **Joan Meier** and Dean **Phyllis Goldfarb** have been named Affiliated Faculty Members with GW's Global Women's Initiative.

In 2012–13 Professor **Jessica Steinberg** served as Chairperson of the Poverty Law Section of the AALS.

In January 2013 Professor Steinberg served as program chair and co-moderator of the Joint Program of the Poverty Law

Section and the Section on Clinical Legal Education held at the AALS annual meeting. The program was called "The Debt Crisis and the National Response: Big Changes or Tinkering at the Edges?"

In 2012–13 Professor **Susan Jones** was co-chair of the Transactional Clinics Committee of the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education. In January 2013 she was appointed to the Executive Committee of the AALS Section on Transactional Law and Skills.

In April the Immigration Clinic, directed by Professor **Alberto Benítez**, co-hosted a naturalization ceremony. More than two dozen young people between the ages of 14 and 20 were sworn in as U.S. citizens in the Jacob Burns Moot Court Room.

In March 2013 Professor **Arturo Carrillo** moderated a panel presentation at the Law School on the continued detention of individuals at Guantanamo. The International Human Rights Clinic was one of the co-sponsors of the event. The IHRC also co-sponsored a talk in



Immigration Clinic students Emma Brown, JD '13 (l), Cleveland Fairchild, JD '13, (center, background), and Elizabeth Barnes, JD '13 (right, background) with Sarah Taylor, Director of the Washington, D.C., District Office of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, swearing in new citizens.

October 2012 on “Criminal Justice and Human Rights in Guatemala” by Dr. Cesar Barrientos, a Justice of the Supreme Court of Guatemala.

Professor Carrillo continued his work as co-coordinator with Professor Dawn Nunziato of the 2012–13 Global Internet Freedom and Human Rights Distinguished Speaker Series, co-sponsored by Microsoft.

As a member of the Family Court Training Committee, Professor **Laurie Kohn** helped to organize a family court conference in October for judges, lawyers, and advocates on “LGBTQ Teens,” and served as moderator of a panel about D.C.’s efforts to assist LGBTQ youth.

In Fall 2013 Friedman Fellow **Anne Smetak** (2011–13) will be joining the faculty of the American University Washington College of Law as a Visiting Professor in the Community and Economic Development Law Clinic. ■



Friedman Fellow Anne Smetak speaking to 2012-13 NLP student Thomas Lodwick, JD '13, at the Clinics Open House.

In Memoriam

The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics lost a dear friend in April. Jane White Lewis, mother of the late Richard C. Lewis, an alumnus of the clinics, passed away at her home in Connecticut. Mrs. Lewis was a Jungian psychologist with a passion for singing and gardening.

After the death of her son Richard, Dr. Lewis had endowed the Law School’s Richard C. Lewis Memorial Prize Fund in Clinical Law. Every year the clinics award the Lewis Prize in Richard’s memory to a graduating clinic student who, like Richard, showed extraordinary dedication to clinics and unusual compassion and humanity toward clients and colleagues. Dr. Lewis’ family has asked that contributions in her memory be made to the Richard C. Lewis Prize Fund at GW Law School.

All of us at the clinics send our heartfelt condolences to the Lewis family.



Dr. Jane White Lewis.

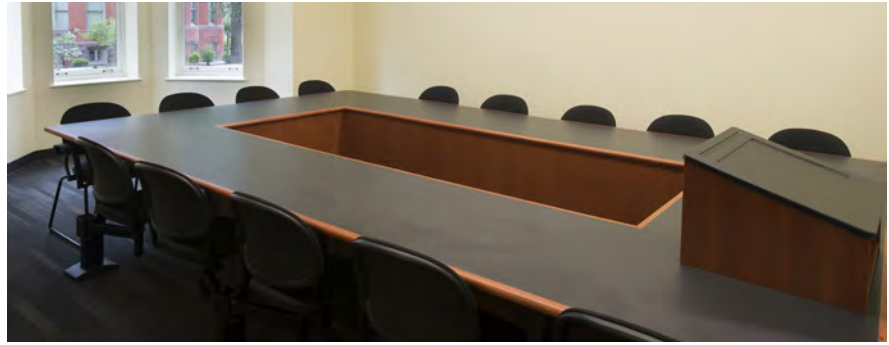
New Home from page 1

the new home of the Health Insurance Counseling Project, a legal services office affiliated with the Health Rights Law Clinic. In constructing the new physical plant, the exteriors of the townhouses were fully preserved (see box on page 23), and the interiors were enlarged, updated, and reconfigured to meet the clinics' expanded needs. The result is a modern, 27,111 square foot complex, purpose-built for educating students and serving clients.

Clients and visitors now enter from 20th Street into a spacious reception area. The installation of an elevator increases access to the facility for clients, visitors, and members of the Law School community alike. In addition to offices for clinical faculty, fellows, and staff, four interview rooms—a feature notably

“The Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics finally have a first class building designed exclusively for their needs. The faculty, students, and staff now have a quality space to serve all their clients in a comfortable, professional setting. But what has not changed in 43 years—when our clinics were first housed in a single storefront office—is our commitment to teaching our students to be fine lawyers as they zealously provide legal services in the nation’s capital.”

— Interim Dean Gregory Maggs



Top: New clinic classroom awaiting the arrival of new clinic students.

Bottom: The newly renovated clinic building at the corner of 20th and G Streets.

absent from the old clinics buildings—will allow for clinicians and student–attorneys to meet with clients in a confidential environment. Five classrooms have been equipped with the latest audio-visual systems including LCD screens. A newly renovated moot court room supplements those in the main Law School complex. Clinic students have designated work areas and the building is equipped with a kitchen and an outdoor patio.

While the purpose of the Clinics Townhouse Project was to support the expanded experiential learning opportunities that the clinics provide to GW Law students, considerable thought was given to how the building would be constructed. In keeping with University objectives, the project’s architects sought and earned a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver rating. The LEED system is intended to promote design and construction practices that reduce the negative environmental impacts of

buildings and improve occupant health and well-being. All materials used during construction—including pre-existing materials such as restored brick—have LEED recognition. Insulation is environmentally conscious and was selected for maximum energy efficiency. The building plan takes advantage of natural light to the extent possible, particularly in the new below-ground floor, which benefits from the use of skylights. New windows optimize energy performance. LED lighting, motion-driven water faucets, a state of the art water heater, and an HVAC system with controls in each room or area were installed with energy conservation in mind.

According to Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs Hank Molinengo, “We wanted to create a modern, 21st century complex that will be agile enough to adapt to changing technology and pedagogical techniques while maintaining the style and tradition found

continued on page 23

New Home from page 22

in the architecture of these wonderful structures. We have kept faith with our commitment to the environment, our mission of providing the best in experiential legal education, and in preserving the rich heritage of Foggy Bottom. This is attributable to the hard work of everyone involved.”

While the new complex is both beautiful and functional, it also serves to honor the legacy of the clinics’ namesake, the late Jacob Burns, LLB ’24, LLD (Hon.) ’70. The Jacob Burns Foundation has demonstrated generosity and dedication to legal education at GW in ways that are without parallel. The completion of the Clinics Townhouse Project represents a tribute to Jacob Burns and the foundation that bears his name while providing a fitting new home for a vibrant clinical program. ■

PRESERVING THE PAST: 2000 G STREET, N.W.

The building at 2000 G Street was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1976 and a District of Columbia Historic Site in 1979. In the early part of the 20th century, Archibald Butt—army officer and aide to Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft—lived at the address with friend and painter Francis Davis Millet.

Both men died on the Titanic, and there are several unverified accounts of Butt having acted heroically to save fellow passengers. The building’s name of record, however, is the “Underwood House,” after Oscar Wilde Underwood, nine-term member of Congress from Alabama, first House Minority Whip, and candidate for the presidency in



2000 G Street, then the Washington College of Law.

1912. Underwood’s residency covered the period from 1914 to 1924.

In 1924, 2000 G Street changed from a private residence to a Law School building. In that year, the building was purchased by the Washington College of Law (WCL). The WCL was the first law school to be founded by women, the first with a female

dean, and the first to graduate an all-female class. When WCL merged with American University in 1949, its operations moved to the American University campus. By expending considerable effort to preserve the facades of the original G Street townhouses, the Law School has preserved a remnant of this rich and storied history.

Clinical Dean from page 1

As I look around the clinics’ redesigned space, I can’t help but consider how well our transformed surroundings reflect what occurs within the clinics themselves. Clinical education is about transformation. Clinical experiences transform students into professionals. On the outside, individual students look unchanged. But after their involvement in the clinics, these students often report to us that they have developed their identities as professionals in ways that they didn’t previously imagine. In other words, they found their clinical education to be personally and professionally transformative.

So too can clinical programs help transform the lives of clients. Enabling a homeless person to obtain housing, a person fleeing sectarian violence to obtain asylum, a wrongly convicted person to regain liberty, a disabled person to obtain medical care, or a parent to reconnect with a child—these are the kinds of transformations that clinical programs regularly seek for their clients

and sometimes accomplish. You will read about transformative accomplishments like these in this newsletter. The clinic case descriptions will help you appreciate how clinical programs can have a transformative effect on all their participants.

In these pages you can also read about a three-clinic collaboration that helped a client understand herself better, obtain social services, and find a home in the process (see story on page 2), proving that there is no such thing as a small case. You can learn how teams of students worked together to help clients gain financial benefits that they desperately needed (see story on page 3). You can glimpse what these experiences mean to the students who have the privilege of learning about lawyering through clinical methods. As clinic students often discover, the multiple skills and insights that they forge in the context of a particular case are generalizable to other contexts, enabling them to carry their clinic lessons with them for many years as they engage in various kinds of law practice and professional work.

GW clinics alumni may remember experiences like these. If you have an indelible memory of a clinic experience that you’d like to share with us, we warmly invite you to send it to us. (My email address is pgoldfarb@law.gwu.edu.) We also invite you to join in the formation of our new affinity group for clinics alumni. We are hosting a clinics alumni breakfast in our renovated quarters during Alumni Week (see announcement on page 8). And we ask you to stay tuned for news of a ribbon-cutting event this spring when we will formally commemorate the opening of the new clinics building.

In a literal sense, the clinics building project has been completed. In another very real sense, the clinics building project continues. With an eye towards the future, mindful of the changes in legal education and the legal profession, we are building the sort of clinical program that meets the evolving needs of our students as they enter a changing legal market. That work in progress will benefit from everyone’s involvement, and we hope that you will join us. ■

ALUMNUS Q & A

Alumnus Q & A from page 6

Q: What advice would you give a current student deciding whether to enroll in a clinic?

A: For any law student, clinical experience is invaluable. Clinics offer the most realistic, hands-on experience you can obtain in law school. Through clinics, you have the opportunity to package what you learned in doctrinal courses into tangible legal services delivered to actual clients dealing with genuine and pressing legal issues.

Q: What do you know now that you wish you had known when you were in law school?

A: I would have prioritized my professional happiness and passion for my job more highly than I did in law school. Like many law students, the financial allure of big firm practice ranked disproportionately high on my list of priorities when formulating my definition of professional success.

Q: If you weren't doing what you do, what would you be doing?

A: I would be a stay-at-home dad to my two amazing and precious daughters (my older daughter is three years old and my younger daughter is ten months). Although they are demanding, I can't think of any better job. ■