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Faculty/Staff News

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FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

John B. Anderson, Visiting Professor of Law, serves as President of the World Federalist Association. In that capacity, he recently signed the Joint Statement of NGOs appealing to member states of the UN which are working on a Draft and Declaration of the Rights and Responsibilities of Individuals, Groups, and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Freedoms. This joint statement urges that an acceptable text embracing core human rights is essential on this long-delayed Declaration.

Susan Bennett, Professor of Law, was elected to serve as a co-chair of the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

Robert Dinerstein, Professor of Law, serves as a member of the President's Committee on Mental Retardation. In November, along with other WCL faculty, he visited Risumeikan University in Kyoto, Japan for a joint conference on various aspects of law. He also made presentations on "Legal Clinics Initiative," including establishing an International Human Rights Clinic, at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

Robert Goldman, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Center, was elected Second Vice President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in March. He serves as the Commission's Rapporteur on Colombia, and in that capacity, he traveled to Colombia in February to help promote settlement in a series of high profile cases.

Claudio Grossman, Dean and Co-Director of the Center, completed his tenure as President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. He served as keynote speaker at the D.C. Courts' Hispanic Heritage Committee's CORO Awards (Community, Outreach, Recognition and Opportunity), and in December, he participated in a panel discussion at the OAS on "Human Rights and Democratic Consolidation Into the 21st Century." In February, he traveled to Brazil on behalf of the Commission and also attended the U.S. Southern Command's second human rights conference.

Charlotte Oldham-Moore, Program Director for MDRI's Central and Eastern European Advocacy Initiative, made a presentation on "Protection and Rights of Children" at the Academy for Educational Development's Conference on Children with Disabilities in Developing Countries. In February, Ms. Oldham-Moore conducted a fact-finding mission in Romania on the conditions of children and adults with mental disabilities in orphanages and long-term psychiatric facilities.

Nell Newton, Professor of Law, gave a number of presentations this winter, including "Evolution of the Doctrine of Tribal Sovereignty" at a symposium entitled "Stewards of the Land: Indian Tribes, the Environment, and the Law" at Dartmouth College and the University of Vermont Law School. She is currently a visiting professor at another law school.

Diane Orentlicher, Professor of Law, is Director of the Tribunal Research Office. She has recently been appointed to the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law and begins her three year appointment in April. In December, she participated in an experts' meeting in The Hague on the ICTY, sponsored by the European Action Council for Peace in the Balkans and the International Crisis Group. She was interviewed by Fox Morning News in January on the subject of diplomatic immunity. In February, she spoke at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum about cases before the ICTY involving sexual assault.

Nancy Polikoff, Professor of Law, served as a pro bono consultant to the Human Rights Campaign and to other congressional lobbyists on proposed legislation limiting the ability of gay men and lesbians to adopt children.

Ira Robbins, Professor of Law, was recently appointed to the D.C. Board of Prisons. He also made presentations on the death penalty, habeas corpus and prisoners' rights and consults regularly on death penalty litigation.

Eric Rosenthal, Executive Director of MDRI, was the keynote speaker at the Annual Convention of the Hungarian

Psychiatric Association in February, where he discussed MDRI's recent report, "Human Rights & Mental Health: Hungary."

Herman Schwartz, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Center, organized and chaired a workshop for new constitutional court judges in Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine and Azerbaijan that was held in Budapest in December and a similar workshop for new constitutional court judges in Kazakhstan, Khyrgyzstan and Mongolia that was held in Paris in March. He also served as a member of the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance's mission to Romania early this year.

Rick Wilson, Professor of Law, gave a presentation in December on "Clinical Legal Education as a Means for Access to Justice," at a conference in Managua, Nicaragua sponsored by the International Human Rights Law Group. During 1996, he also published a number of papers including: "Clinical Legal Education for Human Rights Advocates," and "Environmental, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of the Indigenous Peoples of Chiapas, Mexico." ☉



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