Katrina Faculty, Students Honored by Louisiana Supreme Court and State Bar Leaders

(Continued on page 41)

Above left, Prof. Laurie Morin, Above right, Prof. Will McLain, at right, Prof. Susan Waysdorf

Prof. Christine Jones Awarded Tenure! Congrats!

Prof. Joe Tulman Named Bellow Scholar

Professor Joseph Tulman is one of three new Bellow Scholars in the U. S. for 2007 by the American Association of Law Schools. As part of that designation, he is concentrating on how to quantify and proliferate the successes of our efforts to reverse the school-to-prison pipeline by using

(Continued on page 10)

ABA, UDC Honor Prof. William Robinson

Distinguished Professor William L. Robinson’s leadership in promoting American Bar Association initiatives on legal issues arising out of the AIDS epidemic is legendary. In recognition

(Continued on page 10)

Dean Broderick Pres. of ACLU/NCA, “Hero in Law”

(Continued on page 11)

Sunday Post Praises Prof. Howells, Clinic For Columbia Heights Tenant Purchase

(Continued on page 10)

UDC-DCSL Honored for Katrina Work

Prof. Batipps, Judge Pryor Honored by American Association of Law Schools

Named Top Clinic and Classroom Teachers

High Marks for UDC-DCSL!

Princeton Review rated UDC-DCSL in the top-ten of all American law schools in four categories:
1st most progressive law student body;
3rd most welcoming of older students;
6th most diverse faculty; and
10th best for minority students!

UDC-DCSL’s four top-ten ratings was second most in America!

UDC-DCSL Named Law School of the Year

The UDC David A. Clarke School of Law has been named “Law School of the Year” by The Pro Bono Project for the Greater New Orleans area for the outstanding volunteer legal services provided

(Continued on page 41)

Celebrating Faculty Achievement
# Inside This Edition of the Advocate . . .

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Clinical legal education teaches us that learning comes with reflection. As I reflect back over the last year, several highlights illustrate the very special nature of the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. Our Katrina experience is perhaps the best of many examples. This edition of the Advocate leads with the story of our Katrina course and the special "alternative spring break" one week practicum in which nearly 40 of us worked on the ground in New Orleans. The front page announces that in November, UDC-DCSL participants were honored by the Supreme Court of Louisiana and the Louisiana State Bar Association and in December, we were honored by The Pro Bono Project of Greater New Orleans as Pro Bono Law School of 2007. Please read the stories on pages 1 and 4 that describe the three projects undertaken by our team of faculty, students, alumni and administrators.

Extraordinary energy and commitment by faculty, alumni and students made the experience so special and so successful. The course was conceived by three talented faculty members, William McLain, Laurie Morin and Susan Waysdorf, who came to the idea from very different perspectives—one a Mississippi civil rights lawyer, one an expert in community development and one with a strong interest in labor and poverty issues. All three, perhaps because of their experience in both the classroom and the clinic, insisted on a service component where students would serve the legal needs of Katrina victims.

Alumni helped at every level to ensure the success of the project. Miles Swanson, ’06, while serving as an Americorps volunteer in New Orleans, sent out a call for help to the School of Law and worked tirelessly in both the planning and implementation of our three projects. William McLain IV, ’06, volunteered full-time during the week. Tom Collinson, ’06, left his practice in Maryland to join the effort. Bill Lurye, ’80, a prominent labor lawyer in New Orleans also helped in the planning by providing introductions to key advocates in the city. He addressed the students when they came, and worked with faculty afterwards to secure funding to support continuing legal services. Many alumni were critical to the project’s success by donating to offset the travel and housing costs for UDC-DCSL students.

Finally, our students went the extra mile over and over again. Many who couldn’t participate themselves, raised and contributed funds and provided extraordinary emotional support and cheerleading. Those who did take part, gave up time with family and time that otherwise could have been spent working, catching up on studies or vacationing at the beach in Florida. Once in New Orleans, students worked all day every day and attended seminars, workshops and a tour of the devastation nights and weekends.

Best of all, students really made a difference for their clients. In one case, Yancey Burns and John White refused to give up on a client whose case was completed but who could not be contacted by previous volunteers. Yancey and John knocked on doors in a FEMA trailer park, followed leads to a convenience store and a minister and ultimately found their client. In the end, as a result of their efforts, she received FEMA “road home” funds long overdue.

Nilo Cuervo, Sarah Tomkinc, Adrianna Vlacich-Cepetelli and Layne Pierre walked thirty-nine people out of jail who had already served more time than they would have if convicted and given the maximum sentence. A whole cadre of students met with day laborers at 6 a.m. to learn about their legal needs which included the failure of unscrupulous contractors to pay their wages. The students then convinced the local Small Claims Court judge to consider developing an expedited process to allow laborers their day in court. On the last day, Associate Dean Janice Washington and I joined seven students who insulated a home for a widow who had been living in a FEMA trailer for eighteen months.

I am so proud of our community for the work in New Orleans and for the ongoing work here at home in public interest, public service and public policy settings across the District of Columbia. Read about our Community Service, clinical, and internship in our next issue. I know you’ll be delighted!

In closing, to the entire School of Law community and friends, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your love and support this year when my family especially needed it. We are all so deeply appreciative. You are the best!

Enjoy this issue!

Cheers,

- Shelley Broderick
Celebrating Faculty Achievement: Curriculum Development

**Katrina and Beyond Course & Service**

**Katrina and Beyond: Disaster Prevention and Recovery, Social Justice and Government Accountability**

**Faculty-Led Spring Break Service Trip to New Orleans Provides Pro Bono Legal Services to Victims of the Disaster**

During the Spring semester 2007, Professors William McLain, Laurie Morin and Susan Waysdorf co-taught a seminar focusing on the legal issues raised by Hurricane Katrina and the governmental response. The devastation brought by Katrina throughout the Gulf states, and the flooding of New Orleans caused by the breaking of the levees, exposed dramatic flaws in the government's capability (and in some cases willingness) to respond effectively and judiciously to the needs of the people and communities affected. The hurricane and floods also exposed the fault lines of systemic poverty and racism in these communities, and highlighted for the nation and the world the glaring gaps in the legal system's ability to respond to events of this magnitude, as well as the failures of federal, state and local governments to collaborate in disaster prevention, response and reconstruction.

Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath raised more questions than have been answered. What has been the role of the legal system in helping victims of the hurricane to recover their devastating losses? What legal actions can we bring against government agencies and others responsible for the failure to respond and to protect the Gulf Coast residents? What law reform mechanisms and systemic changes should be implemented now to prevent future tragedies of this scale? The seminar addressed these and other issues in both the classroom and in our practice.

In addition to the three-credit seminar, the course offered students the opportunity to engage in a one-credit service trip to New Orleans during Spring break, where they provided pro bono legal services in three practice areas – probate (“succession,” in Louisiana legal terminology), workers' rights, and general Emergency Management Agency, but also the military, play? Why were so many vulnerable citizens -- the poor, people of color, the children, single mothers, the incarcerated, the sick and the elderly -- in the direct path of Hurricane Katrina and floods? Where do we draw the line between the natural disaster and the disasters caused by the government’s failure to prevent the destruction, and then to protect the victims? What

*Send lawyers, law students and money?*

*This rough-looking gang was spotted hanging out in St. Bernard Parish...*
law, and criminal law. On March 3rd, a group of thirty-five students, alumni and faculty members traveled to New Orleans for this “alternative spring break.” Members of the group included Professors William McLain, Laurie Morin and Susan Waysdorf, Dean Shelley Broderick, Associate Dean Janice Washington, alumnus Tom Collinson, '05, former UDC-DCSL student Jennie Mayberry, and twenty-nine law school students. We were joined in New Orleans by two other members of our alumni: Miles Swanson and William McLain IV, ’06.

The succession law group worked with clients of the New Orleans Pro Bono Project to open succession proceedings required for families to receive insurance proceeds and government grants to rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. In New Orleans' African-American community, successive generations traditionally and frequently acquired residential properties from previous family owners without reformation of titles through probate; insurance and public rebuilding funds, however, can only be distributed to clear title holders, and some 25,000 requests for pro bono probate assistance are presently pending. UDC-DCSL students interviewed clients, gathered documents and information, researched legal questions, and prepared the pleadings necessary for the initiation of succession claims.

This group was supervised by Professor Morin, and included alumnus Tom Collinson and students Kristen Acuna, Shana Bailey, Yancey Burns, Tom Copperthwaite, Bob Davis, Brandi Garcia, Celena Gill, Roman Jankowski, Betty-Chia Karro, Matthew Kozik, Joicelyn Nelson, Susannah Rourk, Kathy Savoy, John White, and Morgan Whitlock.

The workers' rights group assisted the New Orleans Workers Center for Racial Justice in efforts to organize laborers lured to the city by the prospect of plentiful post-Katrina reconstruction jobs, only to be exploited by contractors refusing to pay wages owed to undocumented immigrants. UDC-DCSL students participated in a “street law” project to help immigrant workers understand their basic employment rights and remedies; students conducted interviews and did legal research necessary to script a Spanish-language videotape for training organizers to explain to day laborers how to bring pro se small claims court actions for unpaid wages.

This group was supervised by Professor Waysdorf, and included students Elizabeth Baker, Mark Borbely, Stacy Cash, Gregory Faloye, Jasmine Mize, Maria Mier, Yesenia Polanco-Galdamez, Alysia Robben, Alejandro Soto-Vigil, and Scott Trowbridge.

The criminal law group worked in the New Orleans Public Defenders Office, where Katrina's impact has principally been experienced as a burgeoning caseload crisis for New Orleans' indigent defense system. UDC-DCSL students assisted the one staff lawyer assigned to handle the public defender office’s misdemeanor docket of approximately 370 cases. Louisiana law provides that a misde-
meanor case must be dis-
missed if not brought to
trial within one year of ini-
tiation of the prosecution;
in just three days, stu-
dents helped to obtain 39
such dismissals, and pro-
vided other assistance
both in and out of court.

This group was su-
pervised by Professor
McLain and included stu-
dents Nilo Cuervo,
Adrianna Vlacich-
Ceppetelli, Layne Pierre
and Sarah Tomkins.
They were joined on sev-
eral days by Dean Shelley
Broderick and Associate Dean Janice
Washington.

A group of faculty, administrators
and students also spent one day vol-
unteering with the St. Bernard’s Par-
ish Project to rebuild homes devas-
tated by the Hurricane in this working
class neighborhood of New Orleans.

Upon their return to Washington,
D.C., students integrated their ser-
vice learning experience into assess-
mements of the broader
questions posed by
the Hurricane Katrina
catastrophe. Stu-
dents generally
agreed that their time
in New Orleans en-
riched their under-
standing of legal
practice; as one stu-
dent put it, “As a re-
sult of the week we
worked on legal is-
ues affecting the
people of the Gulf
Coast, we returned
with a fresh perspec-
tive on the practice of
law. The opportunity to be thrown
into the tangles of legal problems,
and to navigate a way through to
solutions, proved to be an essen-
tial marker of our abilities and de-
sire to practice law. Sitting face-
to-face with criminal defendants
‘lost in the system,’ with home-
owners struggling to prove owner-
ship in order to receive govern-
ment and insurance funds to re-
construct their homes and lives,
and with workers seeking relief
from abusive and non-paying con-
tractors brought us to the realiza-
tion that when we leave law
school, we will possess the ability
and the tolls to use the law to help
people in need,” the student said.

UDC-DCSL Dean Katherine
S. Broderick, who accompanied
students on the trip to New Or-
leans and worked with them
there, said “I have never been so
proud of our faculty and students,
who already serve vulnerable
people year-round in the District
of Columbia. They saw the
crushing need in New Orleans
and gave up their spring break to
lend a helping hand to a devas-
tated community.”

Above, Assoc. Dean Janice Washington insulating a
home. Below, Will Burns and Morgan Whitlock
“coaching” Dean Broderick on her technique.

Mardi Gras samba line or a parade of law students? Yesenia, Scott,
Marc, Greg, Liz and Maria out for a working lunch.

Will making a legal breakthrough?
“Katrina and Beyond:  Disaster Prevention and Recovery, Social Justice and Government Accountability.”  The focus is almost entirely on Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, social justice issues, and government responsibility. Living, as we do, in the nation’s capital, it is not far-fetched to believe that these issues may some day be directly relevant to the university and to the clients the School of Law serves. The course will identify and analyze the multitude of legal issues that have emerged in the wake of the human tragedy brought by Katrina and the floods including doctrinal analysis of key legal issues, research projects to help resolve pressing questions facing the residents of the area as well as those who were displaced, and an action component during spring break when students will travel together with the course professors to New Orleans to provide legal services to residents.

“Tax Practice and Procedure.”  In response to student demand, this upper level tax course will assist students in developing analytical, advocacy and communication skills in the context of a complex regulatory scheme.  It will meet the needs of students who have an interest in pursuing careers in tax law.

“Bar Skills Essay Writing.”  The School of Law is offering for credit a bar preparatory course as part of its pre-bar skills program in an effort to increase the test taking skills of students.  Students will engage in intense in-class essay writing exercises with opportunities for immediate feedback.  The course reinforces and strengthens the skills needed for the bar exam and may provide necessary remediation for certain students of substantive areas of the law.

“System Change: Theory and Practice.”  The seminar focuses on documented system failure with a particular emphasis on children of color,remedying system failure, and effecting system change in the juvenile justice system, foster care, the school system, and the system for dealing with children who are violent or suffering from acute mental illness.

On April 23, 2007, students taking the course Tax Practice & Procedure and student-practitioners in the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic visited the U.S. Supreme Court to hear oral arguments on a tax case, Hinck v. United States.  The students were joined by chief special trial judge of the U.S. Tax Court and UDC-DCSL Adjunct Prof., the Hon. Peter Panuthos, and the Director of UDC-DCSL’s Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, Prof. Jacqueline Lainez.

Celebrating Faculty Achievement: Curriculum Development / Faculty Development

New Courses

Morin Appointed

Prof. Morin Appointed to Serve as the School of Law’s First Director of Faculty Development

At the beginning of the 2007-08 academic year, Dean Shelley Broderick announced the creation of a new position dedicated to faculty development.  This will be a rotating two-year position, with Prof. Laurie Morin serving for the first term.  The Director of Faculty Development will plan, coordinate and facilitate a comprehensive program to support the growth, development and promotion of the faculty at the School of Law.  The program will include four primary areas of responsibility:

•  Assisting faculty members in the development, presentation and publication of their scholarly work;
•  Facilitating opportunities for faculty members to showcase their experience and expertise to internal and external audiences via committees, workshops, symposia, et al;
•  Promoting awareness of faculty scholarship and accomplishments in a variety of media outlets (newsletters, list-servs, radio programs, and the like):
•  Developing and coordinating workshops on legal education, clinical theory, pedagogy and teaching methods.

As her first initiative, Morin has planned a series of faculty development luncheons to provide an opportunity for faculty members to reflect and share ideas about teaching, scholarship and service.  Faculty scholarship workshops will serve two purposes:  (1) to educate and inspire faculty members to produce scholarship by providing info on the “nuts and bolts” of legal scholarship, requirements for promotion and tenure, etc.; and (2) to foster a nurturing environment for faculty members to exchange ideas about writing and works-in-progress.
The **faculty exchange** will provide an informal forum for faculty members to share information and ideas about the work they do. Some sessions will be organized around a specific theme or topic (such as the work of a specific clinic, a sabbatical project, etc.), while others will promote a general exchange of ideas among faculty members (for example, how clinics and related doctrinal courses can mutually support student learning; the law school's involvement in the community, etc.).

The **teaching and learning exchange** will provide a forum for faculty members to share ideas about their classroom experience. Some will be organized around a specific topic (such as drafting and grading exams), while others will provide an open forum for discussion about a general topic (such as challenges in teaching large classes).

The series was launched on August 29, 2007, when Professors William McLain, Susan Waysdorf and Laurie Morin led a discussion commemorating the second anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. A major theme that emerged from this discussion was the sense that we need to find ways to incorporate student enthusiasm for the Katrina course and practicum into our other courses and clinics.

On September 9th, Christine Jones, Bob Burgdorf and Susan Waysdorf led a lively exchange on faculty scholarship, “From Idea to Publication: Getting Started, Staying Motivated, and Getting it Done!” Some of the ideas that emerged from that discussion are summarized in an accompanying story.

On September 19th, Dr. Deborah Curry and Dr. Kevin Naiker, from the University’s Disability Resource Center, led a discussion about the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its application to the academic setting. They advised the law school faculty and student services administrators about the services available from the Disability Resource Center, and gave recommendations about how to comply with the requirements of the ADA.

The next two sessions were devoted to recommendations from the strategic plan’s working group on academic excellence, and resulted in the adoption of an enhanced faculty advisor program. (See accompanying story.)

On October 17th, Professor William McLain, Adjunct Professor Steve Mercer, and 3L Adrianna Vlacich- Ceppetelli presented their findings on un-counseled misdemeanor convictions in Montgomery County, Maryland. Ms. Vlacich-Ceppetelli, assisted by two legal interns, spent her summer observing guilty pleas by unrepresented, pro se defendants in misdemeanor criminal cases such as traffic offenses, drug possession, possession of drug paraphernalia, underage possession of alcohol, theft and the like. The team’s research documented a substantial problem, indicating that during the course of a year, more than 1,000 unrepresented misdemeanor defendants will be convicted or found in violation of probation, and over 300 of those uncounseled defendants will be sentenced to jail. This matters not only because of the possibility of incarceration, but also because of the very real and substantial collateral consequences of misdemeanor convictions such as, for example, limiting or extinguishing possibilities for public housing subsidies and financial aid for higher education, changes in immigration status, and increased exposure to incarceration for subsequent offenses. These systemic effects have, moreover, disproportionate impacts on poor minority defendants – particularly young African-American men – that amplify the system’s already significant impairment of their opportunities for eventual achievement and success.

Professor McLain is working on a law reform article that will delineate the causes and potential solutions to the problem, including litigation strategies and procedural or statutory reform.

On October 24th, Professors Joseph Tulman and Suji Sutler, co-teachers of the Juvenile Law Clinic, led a discussion about incorporating the competencies into course design and implementation.
Professor Tulman explained his process for assigning cases and teams to ensure that each student gets the opportunity to exercise the full range of competencies. Professor Sutler talked about the need to teach cases from a different perspective in order to move students from lower-level analytical skills to higher-level problem-solving skills. This led to an exchange with other clinical and doctrinal faculty members about how best to ensure that our students experience the full range of competencies during their legal education.

The series continued on October 31st with a presentation by Westlaw representative Kristen Knepper about using technology in the classroom. Drawing on the website developed by Professors Matthew Fraidin and Joyce Batipps for their HIV/AIDS clinic, Ms. Knepper conducted a demonstration of how to construct and implement a TWEN web course. She also gave a brief presentation about how to use Westlaw’s excellent cite-checking feature, Westcheck.

On November 28th, Roy Balleste, Director of the Law Library, conducted a guided tour of ExpressO, a new tool for submitting law review articles online. Prof. Balleste ended the semester’s series on December 5th, discussing his newly-published law review article, The Law of Babylon 5: Images of Peace, War and Human Rights.

Why write legal scholarship?
• Legal scholarship informs our teaching and creates a culture that is important to who we are in the world.
• Having concrete goals for your writing (i.e., advocacy for a position or development of the law) provides purpose and a sense of accomplishment.
• It permits you to establish yourself in a new field, or to make your interest a legitimate area of law.

Tips for getting started and keeping on track
• Just get started, even if you write on slips of paper and throw them on the floor.
• You don’t have to finish all your research before you start writing. Don’t stop the process just because you don’t know everything.
• Write a timeline and keep it going. Consult it regularly, update when needed, and stick to the plan when possible.
• Keep a schedule that gives you sustained blocks of time for thinking and writing.
• Organize your research by topic and sub-headings. You can put it in a notebook or folder, and just flip to the relevant section to work on a portion of the paper.
• Don’t get discouraged when you hit an obstacle. It is part of the process.
• Present your ideas at conferences to check their soundness in a supportive environment. The People of Color Scholarship Conference was mentioned as one good resource for this purpose.

Marketing your work
• Networking and self-promotion are effective in procuring opportunities to speak and publish.
• Take credit in areas where you have been a pioneer; for example, Professor Waysdorf in the area of AIDS and the elderly, Professor Burgdorf in the area of disability law, and Professor Robinson in the civil rights arena.

From Idea to Publication: Getting Started, Staying Motivated, and Getting it Done

On September 5th, Professors Bob Burgdorf, Christine Jones and Susan Waysdorf led the faculty in a lively discussion on the joys and hazards of legal scholarship. Their encouraging words resulted in a lively exchange about legal writing, with great ideas and pointers for both faculty and students alike. For those of you who were unable to attend, this is a summary of some of their best tips.
special education and disability rights on behalf of youth in the delinquency and criminal systems.

He continues to organize a group of law professors and lawyers around the country to revise and expand the 1998 publication that he co-edited and co-authored, *Special Education Advocacy Under the IDEA for Children in the Delinquency System*. He is also coordinating another group to produce a parallel publication that will address special education advocacy for children (and their parents) who are in the child welfare system. The other two Bellow awardees this year are Brenda Bratton Blom of the University of Maryland and Alan Lerner from the University of Pennsylvania.

(Continued from page 1)

of this work, the ABA honored him with the AIDS Coordinating Committee Founders Award at the ABA Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California, in August 2007.

Established in 1987, the Committee is charged with organizing the ABA’s HIV/AIDS-related activities, developing policy recommendations, and encouraging new ABA-sponsored HIV/AIDS-related programs. Of particular note have been the Committee’s continued contributions in establishing education and awareness programs for legal professionals and furthering a wide range of HIV/AIDS policy initiatives.

The Committee also has been instrumental in broadening the information available to legal professionals about the disease by the publication of a number of articles, position papers, reports and conferences on current HIV/AIDS-related legal topics.

Professor Robinson was also honored by UDC with the Ronald H. Brown Distinguished Leadership Award for his continued contributions in establishing education and awareness programs for legal professionals and furthering a wide range of HIV/AIDS policy initiatives. He is also coordinating another group to produce a parallel publication that will address special education advocacy for children (and their parents) who are in the child welfare system. The other two Bellow awardees this year are Brenda Bratton Blom of the University of Maryland and Alan Lerner from the University of Pennsylvania.

(Continued from page 1)

for themselves and other low-income families.

This story could not have been written without the assistance of the David A. Clarke School of Law Community Development Law Clinic (CDLC), which has provided comprehensive legal services to the tenant association throughout this effort. It began with a phone call from alumni Tammy Seltzer, ’96 and Kim Jones, ’97 to Professor Louise Howells in the March of 2000. Tammy and Kim had read another *Washington Post* story, only this story was alarming. As part of a code enforcement measure, the District was planning to close four apartment buildings in and around the new metro station, without making provision for the low-income households residing in those buildings. Although the buildings were in poor condition, many in the city were in similar shape. What was most perplexing was that the District’s plan would turn vacant buildings in a rapidly gentrifying area over to the very people against whom the District was bringing its enforcement action.

In a remarkable collaboration, the D.C. public interest community pulled together to assist the low-income households in those four buildings. The Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs sponsored a successful injunction against the District to stop the eviction of the tenants, and others in the community came forward to bring about more positive solutions. For its part, CDLC has provided over seven years of intensive legal services to this community, including bringing tenant actions against the former owner, organizing the tenants’ various entities, negotiations with the former owner for the acquisition, assisting with financing and loan closings, contracting with architects, project consultants, and a construction contractor, devising a relocation plan for the families during construction, representing the association through the construction process, and working to see that all original families who wish to move back in are able to do so.

The new condominium is appropriately named the Condominium de Las Marias after several steadfast and hard working women named Maria, who served on the Board and formed the backbone of the efforts.
Prof. Susan Waysdorf participated in the 2007 Silberman Seminar for Law Faculty, June 4 through June 15, at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. The seminar, “The Impact and Legacy of the Holocaust on the Law” consisted of presentations and discussions analyzing the Holocaust and comparing it to post-World War II genocides and wars.

Prof. Waysdorf is one of eighteen constitutional and other law professors from around the country selected to be a Fellow in this internationally recognized seminar. Led by judges, including from the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Holocaust Museum officials and international law experts from around the world, the seminar addressed such critically important issues as reparations and restitution, UN covenants and declarations of human rights and their authority over current genocides and wars, government responsibility to respond to genocide, and the role of the judiciary when courts become complicit with government-induced or condoned racism and genocide. Seminar participants have access to the extensive archives and research resources of the Museum, which are recognized world-wide for their importance and volume.

The study of the Holocaust and its impact on current law has long interested Prof. Waysdorf, in part because her own father was a Jewish Holocaust survivor who lost all of his family in the Nazi genocide. As one of the three UDC law professors who taught the Katrina and Disaster Law course this past spring semester, and who spent Spring Break with thirty students doing recovery work in New Orleans, she is aware of the comparisons between that situation and the World War II era, when governments failed to respond or to intervene against the Nazis. Prof. Waysdorf wrote about the tragic similarities between the disaster in New Orleans and the entire Gulf Coast, comparing that situation — when disaster hits, government is unprepared and unresponsive, and lives, homes and livelihoods are destroyed (primarily of the poor, elderly and people of color) — with the World War II Holocaust. “While the scope of the disaster in New Orleans is of course quite different from the Nazi genocide, when we saw the enormous devastation down there, and the failure of our own government to even clear away the destroyed homes 18 months after the storm, the word that kept coming to my mind was ‘holocaust,’” commented Prof. Waysdorf.

(Continued from page 1)

Dean Shelley Broderick was elected President of the American Civil Liberties Union of the National Capital Area on September 5, 2007, after many years on the Board and Litigation Screening Committee.

Earlier in the year, Dean Broderick was honored by the Jack and Lovell Olender Foundation as a Hero in the Law for 2007 at a ceremony before a crowd of several hundred at the Ronald Reagan Building. (At the ceremony, six of our students were honored for their clinic work and awarded $1,000 each! They were: Nilo Cuervo, Daniel Piccaluga, Sarah Tomkins, Pamela Dieguez, Andre Barnett and Leslie Shedd, pictured below.)
**Prof. Joe Tulman and Marc Borbely, ’08 Team Up for Access**

Professor Joe Tulman, Dean Broderick, and 3rd-year student Marc Borbely recently engaged in an effort to ensure that the District will finally provide online public access to the D.C. Municipal Regulations, as it is required to do by law. Neighborhood activists and other concerned citizens in the District are often frustrated by how hard it is to find city regulations. Some regulations are posted on the DC.gov website, but as Tulman, Broderick, and Borbely pointed out in a letter to D.C. Documents Administrator LaShonda Holloway, they haven’t been updated since 2002. Citizens relying on those regs would be led to believe, among other things, that library books can be kept for 28 days (this was changed to 21 days in 2004), that housing inspectors are much freer than they really are to enter a tenant’s apartment without consent (this was changed in 2002), and that incoming ninth-graders have to pass only three years of math and three years of science to graduate from a DCPS high school (this was changed to four years in May 2007).

Most city regulations -- from those dealing with taxes, to traffic, to public health -- are not posted online at all. "Both Maryland and Virginia make their administrative codes freely available online, for both searching and browsing, and update them at least every two weeks," the three wrote. "We understand that the District currently charges citizens $628 for a complete hard copy of the D.C. Municipal Regulations. Providing the regulations online would help increase all citizens’ access to justice."

**National Community Reinvestment Coalition Projects**

Professors Louise Howells and Laurie Morin, along with alumna Angela Henderson, ’00, spent part of their summer working with the National Community Reinvestment Coalition on two projects to combat discrimination in the housing and insurance markets. The first project seeks to challenge practices by certain Northern Virginia realtors that restrict applicants to only two incomes to qualify for rental housing. This practice disproportionately disadvantages working families, especially in certain immigrant groups, who rely on more than two jobs to earn an adequate living. During the fall semester, students in the Community Development Law Clinic will serve as testers to develop evidence of whether the policy is being applied in a discriminatory manner against people of color and immigrant families. The second project is investigating possible insurance redlining in pre-Katrina New Orleans, seeking to establish remedies for poor and minority residents who were disproportionately impacted by the effects of the hurricane.

**Judge Lee to Preside Over New D.C. Fathering Court**

The Fathering Court will help an initial class of 45 non-custodial, recently incarcerated fathers become responsible for their children through a combination of needs assessment, case management, and linkage to community resources, including drug treatment, mandatory fathering classes, employment training, and family and parental education classes.

Judge Lee is quoted in an article published on the D.C. Bar Web site (www.dcab.org) about the challenge this new program represents. "Judges who hear child support cases can grow weary of excuses, just as those returning from prison can grow weary of job application rejections, and custodial parents can grow weary of not receiving court-ordered child support. And the children living without the benefit of appropriate financial and emotional support from both parents are the ones who suffer most. We know that children benefit from having both parents involved in their lives. Moreover, offenders are less likely to reoffend when they are appropriately connected to their families. In the end the community benefits when those returning from a period of incarceration have a meaningful opportunity to be productive parents."

Judge Lee joined the faculty of the District of Columbia School of Law in 1993 where he supervised students in the Juvenile Law Clinic. Judge Lee continued his focus in the classroom, teaching Evidence, Criminal Law and Procedure, Trial Advocacy, and Wills and Estates. In 1995 he received the Professor of the Year Award from the student body. He has continued to serve the law...
school community as an adjunct faculty member, and in 2004 again received the Professor of the Year Award. After serving on the **Superior Court Task Force for Families and Violence**, Judge Lee assisted in the development of the **Teen Court Diversion Program**. In addition, Judge Lee has been a consistent contributor to the **Criminal Practice Institute** and the **Neglect Practice Institute** as well as many other local bar programs. He has also taught in the **Harvard Trial Advocacy Program** for several years.

**Prof. Sutler Works with DCPS**

Professor Suji Sutler volunteered to work with the D.C. Public Schools (DCPS) to lead an effort to select new special education hearing officers. She reviewed resumes and conducted interviews, leading to a process of rating the applicants and submitting recommendations to DCPS administrators. As a follow-up to that effort, Professor Sutler, along with Professor Tulman, also coordinated a series of training sessions for the new and old DCPS special education hearing officers. The first of those training sessions was at the law school in August, and Professor Sutler hosted the event. As part of the preparation for the hearing officer training series, Professor Tulman attended a four-day training in Seattle, WA in May that the DCPS hearing officers also attended.

**Sutler & Tulman Plan Training**

Professors Sutler and Tulman also participated in the planning (through the spring and summer) and the execution (in October) of a two-day training for special education attorneys who accept appointments from the D.C. Superior Court. Both Professors Sutler and Tulman led sessions at this attorney training event.

**Prof. McLain on Un-Counseled Convictees**

On October 17, 2007, Associate Professor William G. McLain made a presentation to the UDC-DCSL faculty about his scholarship-in-progress on the subject of un-counseled misdemeanor convictions in Montgomery County, Maryland. Professor McLain described the methodology employed in a Summer, 2007, empirical research project, undertaken in conjunction with the Montgomery County public defenders office, to collect court observation data in order to assess the incidence of such convictions in the county’s District Court. The data revealed, he explained, that approximately 1,000 unrepresented misdemeanor convictions occur annually in the county (convictions that carry collateral consequences for convictees, including impairment of employment opportunities, loss of eligibility for public housing and student loans, and the like), with 300 of those convictees sentenced to a period of incarceration. In most of the cases, Professor McLain said, the defendants came from the ranks of the “working poor,” *i.e.*, defendants who earn too much money to qualify for free representation by public defenders, but who do not make enough money to pay for the services of private lawyers. Professor McLain concluded the presentation by discussing the apparent causes of the problem, and by identifying a number of possible litigation and legislative solutions.

**McLain Assists Mercer**

On October 16, 2007, in **Dyer v. State**, Maryland’s intermediate appellate court, the Court of Special Appeals, reversed a rape defendant’s conviction on the ground that his Sixth Amendment rights to confrontation and cross-examination were violated when the trial court permitted the mentally disabled alleged victim on the stand and elicited unsworn testimony from her, while refusing to allow the defendant’s lawyer to cross-examine the witness. Professor McLain provided *pro bono* consultation to the defendant’s counsel on appeal, UDC-DCSL adjunct faculty member **Stephen B. Mercer**.

**McLain Assists Abdur’ Rahman**

On October 19, 2007, in the **habeas corpus** case of **Abdur’ Rahman v. Bell**, the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit granted a petition for rehearing *en banc* sought by a death row inmate in Tennessee; for some years, Professor McLain has provided *pro bono* assistance to the inmate’s lead counsel.
Prof. McLain Moderates (No, not THAT way!)

On October 26, 2007, in a symposium at the Howard University School of Law, sponsored by the Howard Law Journal on “Katrina and the Rule of Law,” Prof. McLain moderated a panel on “Politics and Activism: Reshaping the Political Landscape,” which examined how changes in the political process in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina have created and may continue to contribute to an environment that is conducive to significant law reform.

Broderick Reappointed to the LSAC Minority Affairs Committee; Bar Assn. of D.C., and D.C. Appleseed

Dean Shelley Broderick has been appointed to a third two-year term on the Minority Affairs Committee of the Law School Admission Council. She has previously for four years chaired the Pre Law Undergraduate Students (PLUS) Subcommittee which, among other activities, approves about $1 million per year to support eight one-month on campus summer law school programs designed to build the pipeline to law school for minority undergraduates.

She was also re-elected to a three year term on the Board of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia on which she chairs the Legislation Committee. She also serves on the D.C. Appleseed Board, chairing the Nominations Committee.

Broderick, Howells & Fraidin Train New Poverty Lawyers

UDC-DCSL participated in a Consortium of Legal Services Providers training at the D.C. Bar for 60 new poverty lawyers funded in part by the D.C. government with a new $3.2 million appropriation per year. Dean Broderick’s presentation, on the “History of the National and Local Legal Services Movement,” highlighted the central role played by School of Law Professor Edgar Cahn and his late wife Jean Camper Cahn in establishing both what is now the Legal Services Corporation and the Antioch School Law, predecessor to the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. Professors Fraidin and Howells and several new alumni working at Neighborhood Legal Services Program, Bread for the City and Advocates for Justice and Education participated in the training along with law graduates from across the country.

2007 AALS Workshop on Clinical Legal Education

The School of Law was well-represented at the Association of American Law Schools’ conference on Clinical Legal Education held in New Orleans from May 2-6, 2007. Several UDC-DCSL professors participated in panels on the conference theme, “challenging assumptions.” Profs. Matt Fraidin and Edgar Cahn led a discussion entitled “Enlisting Clients to Become Partners in Social Justice Advocacy.” Profs. Louise Howells, Laurie Morin and Susan Waysdorf created an interactive presentation to challenge assumptions about the appropriate role for lawyers in an information and technology-based society, where the general public has access to a potentially wide array of legal resources and computer-based services that used to be within the exclusive domain of the legal community. The panel was designed to engage participants in self analysis about what lawyers do that only lawyers can do, and conversely, what services lawyers might relinquish to “expert systems.” The panel also explored how expert systems can be used to address unmet legal needs of people who have limited access to legal representation, focusing specifically on the legal problems that confronted individuals in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

One of the highlights of the conference was the presentation of the prestigious Bellow award to Prof. Joseph Tulman for his work in the juvenile justice field.

Conference attendees also had the opportunity to observe how New Orleans was faring nearly two years after Hurricane Katrina. Those who took tours for the first time were aghast at the level of devastation; and those returning from previous trips we chagrined at how little progress had been made in re-building the city. Even though the streets were full of people attending the New Orleans Jazz Festival, one had to wander just a few blocks to observe damaged and destroyed neighborhoods. The Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) held an informative session to develop a plan for how law schools could better assist the people of the Gulf Coast with the legal problems arising from the Hurricane and its aftermath. Lawyers and community groups from around the Gulf Coast advocated for the model the School of Law adopted last year with its supervised service trip to New Orleans. Although the need for volunteers is great, it puts too much of a burden on the legal system’s scarce resources unless those volunteers come with built-in supervision. Re-building the Gulf Coast will continue to require a collaborative effort by attorneys from around the country for years to come.
Prof. Tulman and Emmanuel Nwazuo Agbara, a former law student in the Juvenile and Special Education Law Clinic, argued an important case before the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. The case seeks to enforce an agreement by the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) to provide compensatory education under the Individuals with Disabilities Act to a D.C. student with learning disabilities who was subsequently imprisoned in Maryland.

Professor William McLain, assisted by 3L student Adrianna Vlacich-Ceppetelli, conducted research in Montgomery County District Court, investigating guilty pleas by unrepresented, pro se defendants in misdemeanor criminal cases such as traffic offenses, drug possession, possession of drug paraphernalia, underage possession of alcohol, theft and the like. Professor McLain’s research documented a substantial problem, indicating that during the course of a year, more than 1,000 unrepresented misdemeanor defendants will be convicted or found in violation of probation, and over 300 of those unrepresented defendants will be sentenced to jail.

Prof. Joe Tulman has been in demand as a speaker locally and around the country.
- In March in Baltimore, he was a keynote speaker for the 400 participants at the annual conference of the Council of Parents Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA), a national special education rights and advocacy organization.
- Also in March, Professor Tulman delivered the keynote address at the annual D. C. Neglect-Delinquency Practice Institute.
- In early May, at a strategy session on stopping the School-to-Prison Pipeline, hosted by the Southern Poverty Law Center and the Southern Disability Law Center in New Orleans, Prof. Tulman was one of the invited speakers for a small gathering of national experts.
- Also in New Orleans in May, Professor Tulman was a presenter at the annual AALS Clinical Section Conference on a panel with the two other new Bellow Scholars.
- In September, Tulman presented at a follow-up Bellow Scholars event at the University of Maryland School of Law.
- Also in September, Prof. Tulman was a contributor in the creation of a training video, produced by the American Bar Assn’s Children’s Rights Litigation Committee on “Interviewing the Child Client”.
- In October, Tulman led a session for approximately seventy-five special education attorneys in the District of Columbia.
- Also, in October, he led a standing-room-only workshop at the Juvenile Defender Leadership Summit in Portland, OR and was a panelist for another session at the summit. Tulman has taught at this national event for ten of the eleven years since its inception.
- In November, Prof. Tulman conducted a continuing legal education program for juvenile defenders and child welfare attorneys in Syracuse, NY.
- He also went to Tucson, AZ to lead a session and participate on another panel at the annual conference of the National Legal Aid and Defender Association.

Professor Roy Balleste, Director of the Law Library presented at the American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting in New Orleans, July 7, 2007. In the session entitled “Public Services in the 21st Century: Beyond Traditional Reference Service,” he discussed the new technologies of the Web 3.0. Professor Balleste also spoke at the OCLC CAPCON Annual Meeting in Washington DC, where he discussed social networks, the Web 2.0 and the Web 3.0.

Professor Matthew Fraidin presented on "Reasonable Efforts to Prevent Placement of Children in Foster Care," in June at the Potomac Valley Writer’s Workshop in Washington, D.C. His other professional presentations this summer were "Staying Public: Building and Maintaining a Career as a Public Interest Lawyer," at the Washington Council of Lawyers and "HIV/AIDS Legal Services in the District of Columbia," at Planned Parenthood of Washington, D.C.

Dean Shelley Broderick was the moderator of a panel, "The Law and Ethics of a Public Health Response," at the well-attended Quarantine and Isolation Symposium. Professor William McLain, one of the designers of the newly-approved School of Law course, "Disaster Law: Katrina and Beyond," served as a member of the panel.

Professor Alice Thomas, a Carnegie Lead Scholar, presented three workshops at the International Society of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Sydney, Australia, last summer. She was joined by professors and deans from Howard Law School and John Marshall Law School.
PUBLICATIONS

Professor Matthew Fraidin is nearing completion of an updated Bibliography of Clinical Legal Education. The Bibliography is a research tool for the national community of clinical legal educators and is uniquely tailored to highlight the important work of clinicians around the country and to catalyze ongoing scholarly work in all aspects of clinical education.

Professor Matthew Fraidin’s article, "Recent Developments in Family Law in the District of Columbia: June 2004-June 2005," was published in the District of Columbia Law Review.

The University funded the summer research of three School of Law faculty members. Professor Roy Balleste, Director of the Law Library, conducted research and worked toward publication of an article on the intersection of popular culture and international law, particularly the duties of nations to observe civil and political rights within states of emergencies.

Professor Robert Burgdorf continued publishing his scholarship on the law before and after the Supreme Court’s Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) rulings and began work on a law review article on ADA coverage and breast cancer.

Professor Samuel Jefferson is completing and publishing his article on the dynamics of law and power and how they impact marginalized groups in the District of Columbia in the affordable housing context.

Prof. Balleste has co-edited “Law Librarianship in the Twenty-First Century”, which was published in January 2007. Providing public access to the law is a crucial duty of librarians. In the years since the last law-librarianship textbook was published, much has changed, and with the emergence of new technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing, law librarians must master a thorough understanding of the latest technologies. Reviewers say the book “should be required reading for all law librarians and those interested in entering the profession.”

Prof. Balleste has also been informed by THE LOYOLA LAW AND TECHNOLOGY ANNUAL that it is publishing his article, "The Internet Governance Forum & Technology: A Matter of Human Development" in the upcoming edition.

NEW FACULTY

Heather Bupp-Habuda
Adjunct Professor of Law

B.A., Penn State University; J.D., Washington College of Law, American University

Upon her graduation from law school, Prof. Bupp-Habuda joined the Office of Solicitor at the U.S. Department of Labor as a litigation attorney where she handled matters of wages, hours, safety, health, ethics, compensation law, freedom of information, government contracts and whistleblower discrimination. From 1997 until 2003, she was in private practice, specializing in a variety of civil litigation matters before federal and state courts.

Prof. Bupp-Habuda was appointed Legal Ethics Counsel at the D.C. Bar in 2004, and for three years, provided expertise and training on legal ethics and taught continuing legal education classes about legal technology, legal ethics, and practice management. She also spoke at numerous local and national conferences as an expert on the D.C. Rules of Professional Conduct. Prof. Bupp-Habuda has returned to practicing law and is on the adjunct faculty at the Washington College of Law at American University and at Georgetown University. She teaches Professional Responsibility at UDC-DCSL.
**Kevin P. Kelly**
Asst. Professor of Law

B.A., John Jay College of Criminal Justice; M.B.A., C.P.A., Adelphi University; J.D., Quinnipiac Law.

Kevin Kelly joined the faculty in 2007 and directs the School of Law's Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC). Professor Kelly has specialized in tax matters since 1991 when he accepted a position at the Internal Revenue Service. In 2003, he opened a private law practice in New York, specializing in commercial transactions for small businesses, tax matters, and applications for minority and women-owned business enterprises. As part of his pro bono activities, Prof. Kelly directed a grant-funded low income taxpayer's clinic for three years. Prior to joining the UDC-DCSL faculty, Professor Kelly taught graduate school courses at Adelphi University and business law and accounting at Queensborough Community College.

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**Robin C. Alexander**
Associate Professor of Law

B.A. University of North Carolina at Greensboro; J.D., George Washington University.

Associate Professor Alexander joined the UDC-DCSL faculty in 2007 and will teach Contracts and other courses. She began her legal career in private practice, developing a specialty in bankruptcy law. She served as Asst. Bar Counsel in the District of Columbia for three years before moving to Chicago and accepting an appointment as Ethics Counsel at the American Bar Assn. During her five years there, she advised judges, lawyers and the public on professional responsibility issues, participated in the development of the Model Rules for Professional Conduct, and helped evaluate lawyer disciplinary systems throughout the country. Prof. Alexander then served the District of Columbia in its Office of Corporation Counsel (now Attorney General), with a brief hiatus as an associate at one of the 50 largest multi-state, international law firms in the country. Beginning in 1992, she worked as trial counsel at the University of the District of Columbia, and was promoted to General Counsel of the University in 1998. Professor Alexander has taught professional responsibility at the Howard University Law School and legal research and writing, ethics and civil trial procedure at George Washington University.

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**Wilhelmina M. Reuben-Cooke**
Professor of Law

B.A., with distinction, Duke University; J.D., Univ. of Michigan School of Law.

Wilhelmina M. Reuben-Cooke served as Provost from July of 2003 through 2007. After graduation from law school, she was an Associate Attorney at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering working in communications, antitrust, tax, securities, criminal and general corporate law. In 1977, she accepted a position with the Citizens Communication Center (CITIZENS) where she was responsible for litigation before the Federal Communications Commission and the federal courts, including the Supreme Court. When the Center merged with the Institute for Public Representation at Georgetown University Law Center, she became its Associate Director, adding management and fundraising responsibilities to her duties.

In 1986, Provost Reuben-Cooke began teaching at Syracuse University College of Law, where she became Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in 1992 and for the next two years directed its academic program. She has served actively on the Board of Duke University for 12 years as its first African-American female member.

Prof. Reuben-Cooke will teach Property, Wills & Estates, and Communications Law, among other courses.
Last Spring, the School of Law embarked on a strategic planning process to chart its future, post-accreditation. Guided by consultants Heather Berthoud and Bob Greene, the faculty and administration put together an Internal Facilitation Task Force (IFTF) to generate ideas and data, and to act as a liaison to the rest of the faculty, administration, staff and student body. Initial members were Dean Shelley Broderick, Asst. Dean Vivian Canty, Law Librarian Roy Balleste, Professors Laurie Morin, Tom Mack and Alice Thomas, and alumna Camille Blake, ’97. Prof. Christine Jones joined the committee in Fall 2007.

The first phase of the plan involved data collection. Surveys were sent to law school alumni, current students and staff members. Faculty and key administrators were interviewed by members of the IFTF. Two alumni and one staff focus groups were held. The response rate for all of these activities was extraordinarily high, and a large amount of data was generated. The consultants did the initial look at the data, and issued a report on June 12, 2007, identifying five key issues the law school should address in its strategic plan:

1. Mission: Based on the data gathered from surveys and interviews, the consultants concluded that, “While there is commitment among all stakeholders to the mission, it is also true that stakeholders have different and firmly held meanings for key parts of the mission.” The elements of the mission are not seen as creatively negotiated or synthesized, especially with respect to three core elements of the mission: (1) the meaning of the law school’s public interest/social justice/public service mission; (2) the role of the law school in nurturing people of color and others under-represented in the bar and serving as an HBCU; and (3) being the public university, clinical law school serving residents of the District.

2. A Compelling Niche for the School of Law: The consultants also encouraged the IFTF to consider the challenges of marketing the law school in today’s environment. What is the law school’s current and compelling niche that provides a competitive advantage when recruiting students and faculty? Some key trends and challenges in the environment affect how the law school can pursue its mission: (1) the student body is more white, middle class, less politically radical and younger; (2) competition for the best students, especially students of color, is more intense, and the number of potential applicants from the District is limited; (3) the law school lags behind in technology, and student expectations are not being met; and (4) many would like to see the law school provide more up-to-date content, including technology issues, immigration, globalization/international law, and environmental justice.

3. Academic Excellence: Over the years, student and alumni support of the academic program has been consistently strong—giving consistently strong ratings to the program of study and the quality of the teaching. However, there have been some shifts with the changing demographics; the results of interviews and surveys indicate that the classroom and clinic are seen by a significant number of students and alumni as independent, even antagonistic, and not reinforcing one another. This is especially true for women and students of color, who are more likely to report that their courses have not adequately prepared them for the bar exam. Concerns have also been expressed that courses and clinics need updating, that there is not a strong enough academic support program, and that the academic program is not systematically evaluated.

4. Resources and Facilities: The preliminary fact-finding suggested that the law school needs more resources and systems to advance the mission, including faculty and staff salaries; staff/administrative support; academic and career services; building and facilities; and technology. Other issues that were identified include the need to work with the University to create a seamless administrative system; personnel policies that are clear and consistently followed; effective systems to hear and resolve complaints; and a plan to deal with turnover caused by faculty retirements.

5. Organizational Culture: Surveys and interviews suggest that the law school’s organizational climate is viewed as congenial and informal, but there remains a need to develop a culture that reflects and advances the mission in the current context. Areas for focus include faculty relations, diversity, staff/faculty relations, and consistency of systems and procedures.
Moving the Process Forward

During the Summer 2007, members of the IFTF formed working groups to consider the key issues and make recommendations for moving forward. Each working group generated a report that was distributed to all faculty, staff and administrators and used as a starting point for discussion at a community-wide strategic planning retreat held on August 21-22nd.

Some over-arching themes emerged from the retreat. First, there is widespread commitment from faculty, administrators and staff members to the school of law’s mission. Participants at the retreat agreed that we are at our best when we’re working fully engaged as a team on a common, mission-driven project or enterprise. The School of Law is an institution grounded in idealism and passion around values, and nurtured by “radical amazement”—the passion and zeal of coming together around a common cause.

Secondly, participants agreed that the School of Law holds a compelling niche in legal education. We have the most extensive community service program and required clinic program in the nation, providing hands-on training. We are one of the most diverse law schools in the country, and our small size provides a welcoming environment. Being located in the nation’s capital, we provide excellent opportunities for internships and fellowship placements at non-profit organizations, governmental agencies and law firms. Our admission and financial aid process looks at the “whole person,” not just the numbers; most of our students receive financial aid to subsidize our already low-cost program. As an HBCU and the only urban land grant law school in the country, we occupy a unique place in legal education. The School of Law could become even more compelling by building a new “green” building, developing a part-time program, and otherwise actively capitalizing on our strengths.

These are just a few of the ideas that emerged from the retreat. Recommendations have now been sent back to the IFTF, which is working to develop goals and strategies to move the School of Law closer to its vision and potential. We are looking for students who are interested in participating in a working group to provide input on the strategic plan. If you would like to hear more, please contact Dean Shelley Broderick.

Faculty Advisor Program

Each year, members of the incoming class are assigned to a faculty advisor to provide guidance on course selection, choice of bar exam, and other academic issues, and to oversee the student’s community service. In the Fall semester 2007, the strategic planning working group on academic excellence proposed an update to the faculty advisors program to develop stronger relationships between students and faculty, and to provide a supportive learning environment for all members of the first year class. Members of the working group included Associate Dean Ann Richardson; Professors Derek Alphran, Matt Fraidin, Laurie Morin, William Robinson, and Joseph Tulman; Research Librarian Helen Frazer; and alumni Camille Blake, ’97 and John Terzano, ’99.

At a kick-off event on October 4th, the 1L class was introduced to the entire faculty. This was the first opportunity for many upper-level professors to meet the 1L’s. After the introductions, faculty advisors met in small groups with their advisees, providing an informal opportunity to see how things were going and how the advisor could be helpful. Each group was also given a learning contract, in which they agreed to serve as a peer-led collaborative learning group for the purpose of developing a course outline and taking a practice exam in one of the first-year courses. Studies have shown that peer-led collaborative learning, such as study groups, is an effective tool for improving student performance, especially in the first year. By modeling this program in the faculty advisor setting, the faculty hopes to help students develop self-directed study skills that will follow them throughout their academic careers.

If the lively conversations that took place in Room 201 are any indicator, the 1L’s enthusiastically embraced the opportunity to have more contact with their faculty advisors, and of course, to enjoy the free pizza.
The Law Review of the District of Columbia held a symposium on April 20, 2007, entitled Law, Justice, Democracy and the District of Columbia Courts. The Symposium, convened in partnership with the Council for Court Excellence, examined the legal and constitutional history of the DC courts and prosecution function, the appointment process for judges, and the organization and funding of the DC court system.

The panel discussions featured Steven Schneebaum (Greenberg Traurig), Charles Miller (Covington and Burling), Patricia Worthy (Professor Howard University School of Law, former Chair, Judicial Nominating Committee), Hon. Gregory Mize (Retired DC Superior Court Judge, Judicial Fellow at the National Center for State Courts, John Payton (former DC Corporation Counsel, former President of the DC Bar, Wilmer Hale—and incoming President and of the NAACP LDF), Bob Spagnoletti (former Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Schertler & Onorato, LLP and President-elect of the D.C. Bar), Joseph DiGenova (former United States Attorney for the District of Columbia), diGenova & Toensing, LLP), Jo-Ann Wallace (President and CEO of the National Legal Aid & Defender Association), Peter Kolker (Zuckerman Spaeder, LLP), and Jon Bouker (former legislative director, office of Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, Arent Fox).

D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton delivered the keynote address.

School of Law News and Events
The 2007 School of Law Honors Convocation Keynote Address was delivered by Vernon Jordan. The Advocate for Justice award was given to alumna Susan Jones, ’81 and former US Secretary of Transportation William Coleman received the Equal Justice Award. In addition to the Dean’s Cups, Dean Shelley Broderick also presented special Lamplighter awards to Profs. Morin, Waysdorf and McLain, a special award for leadership and guidance to her “right and left arms” Dean Ann Richardson and Dean Janice Washington; “Go the Extra Mile awards to Kim Walker and Barbara Green; and Prof. Ed Allen won the David A. Clarke Advocacy Award. The Ogletree Book Award was won by Nilo Cuervo and Chris Leone, ’07.

School of Law News and Events

15th Annual Rauh Lecture by NPR’s Totenberg

Each year since the passing of founding School of Law Board member and acclaimed civil rights lawyer Joe Rauh, the School of Law has celebrated with an annual lecture from one of the nation’s leading top legal figures. This year, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Director (and Joe Rauh Professor) Wade Henderson interviewed National Public Radio’s Supreme Court reporter, Nina Totenberg—who has spent decades analyzing the law and politics surrounding the U.S. Supreme Court.

Past Rauh Lecturers

2006 - Theodore M. Shaw
2005 - Congressman Barney Frank
2004 - Congressman John Lewis
2003 - Marian Wright Edelman
2002 - Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, Ralph Neas, and Wade Henderson
2001 - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg
2000 - Charles Ruff
1999 - The Sleep Room (an award-winning film about Joe Rauh’s last case)
1998 - Jack Greenberg
1997 - Elaine Jones
1996 - Father Robert Drinan
1995 - Rick Seymour
1994 - Judith Lichtman & Roger Wilkins
1993 - William Taylor

Below left, UDC-DCSL Dean Shelley Broderick; below, Chair of the DC School of Law Foundation Board, Mike Rauh (Joe Rauh’s son). At bottom, Wade Henderson “turning the tables on” and interviewing NPR’s Totenberg.
School of Law News and Events

Above, Totenberg and Henderson; immediately above, center, Mrs. Olie Rauh, Joe’s window; above right, William T. Coleman
Mary Hynes, a beloved professor at UDC-DCSL, and Beth Goodman ’84, a revered alumna of the Antioch School of Law, passed away, respectively, in 2001 and 2002, in the prime of their lives and careers. In honor and in memory of Mary and Beth, on March 29, 2007, UDC-DCSL hosted a speech by Georgetown Law Professor David Vladeck and presented Judge Patricia Wald with the first annual Hynes/Goodman Juvenile Justice Award. The well-attended event was also the kick-off for the annual Hynes-Goodman Fellowship drive to fund UDC-DCSL law student summer child advocacy legal work.

Mary G. Hynes, an expert on special education and child welfare law, was a faculty member at UDC-DCSL for six years. An author and noted legal activist on behalf of children with special education needs, Prof. Hynes inspired scores of graduates to become dedicated lawyers for people who are poor and who typically cannot find legal representation. Through her advocacy, she enabled significant numbers of D.C.’s most disadvantaged children to achieve academically and stabilize emotionally. Of profound importance to her was the fact that this advocacy often enabled families to remain intact or to reunify.

Beth Goodman was a tireless and outstanding advocate for children, who represented parents in special education matters in the District of Columbia and surrounding jurisdictions. During her 20-year career, Ms. Goodman was a local and national leader among special education attorneys. She was lead class counsel in Petties v. District of Columbia, a landmark case that effectively reformed the public schools’ approach to providing transportation and other related services to students with disabilities. She was also a founder of the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates, COPAA, a national association that works to secure high quality educational services for children with disabilities.

David Vladeck co-directs the Institute for Public Representation at Georgetown Law Center and is well-known, also, for his years as a leading public interest lawyer at the Public Citizen Litigation Group. Professor Vladeck was counsel for a parent in a 2006 special education case in the U.S. Supreme Court. Professor Vladeck provided an engaging summary of the development of special education law which included his work on a recent Supreme Court special education case. He also introduced the night’s honoree, Judge Patricia Wald, providing, by way of introduction, an overview of the nearly countless pioneering accomplishments of Patricia Wald and highlighted specifically her work as co-counsel for the plaintiffs in the early 1970s Mills D.C. special education class action consent decree that was the principal precursor of, and blueprint for, the federal special education law.

Judge Wald graciously engaged the crowd with an impromptu acceptance speech that inspired everyone in attendance to tackle injustice! - Joe Tulman
On February 27, 2007, UDC-DCSL celebrated a new book of interdisciplinary essays edited by Charles J. Ogletree and Austin Sarat. *From Lynch Mobs to the Killing State: Race and the Death Penalty in America*, tackles the looming question of how and why the connection between race and the death penalty has been so strong throughout American history.

Professor Ogletree was introduced by William Coleman, who served as Chairman of the Board of the NAACP-LDF for some 40 years and is a partner at O’Melveny and Myers. A rousing crowd engaged in a long question and answer period after Mr. Ogletree’s chilling discussion of the history of race and the death penalty in America.
Screen Justice Film Series

by Deirdre Evans-Pritchard

The Screen Justice Film Series screens documentary films that deal with legal and social justice issues, followed by a discussion of the film content and format and a chance for dialogue with audience members. The series is a partnership between UDC’s David A. Clarke School of Law and the Division of University Relations & Communications. Now in its second year, Screen Justice has grown into a law school staple and an opportunity for many in the Van Ness and legal community to engage in lively discussions with legal professionals and filmmakers. Many UDC law students attend the film series to benefit from the behind-the-scenes information given on the many court cases that have shaped the country’s judicial system.

In its first year the Screen Justice Film Series screened eight films that dealt with issues such as religious freedom, urban renewal, and death row exoneration. Two of the most well-attended screenings were of films highlighting famed lawyer Arthur Kinoy and Judge Thelton Henderson. Film directors were invited to the events, permitting members of the audience a dialogue with directors Abby Ginzberg (Soul of Justice: Thelton Henderson’s American Journey and Doing Justice: The Life and Trials of Arthur Kinoy), Slowomir Grunberg (School Prayer: Community at War), and George McCollough (All For The Taking: 21st-Century Urban Renewal). Some of the legal luminaries that served as guest speakers were Wade Henderson, Executive Director of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and Art Spitzer, Legal Director of the ACLU, National Capital Area. David A. Clarke School of Law
Films scheduled for Winter/Spring 2008 are: *Reckless Indifference* about a juvenile drug/murder impacted by the Rodney King case in California (January 28), *Beyond Conviction* about an innovative program in which victims meet incarcerated convicts (February) and a reconsideration of *The Thin Blue Line*, Errol Morris’ landmark film credited with being the first documentary film to directly impact the course of a criminal conviction (April).

By the end of the second year, we will also have taped many of the discussions about the films and once edited, these and the documentary films will be available for viewing at the Law Library.

This is a public program and we welcome all to attend the events, share the refreshments and join in the discussion. For details on screenings, please go to [www.udc.edu/films/justice.html](http://www.udc.edu/films/justice.html). If you would like to be on our mailing list, please send a note to Rahima Rice at rrice@udc.edu

At top right, death row exoneree Kirk Bloodsworth; above left UDC-DCSL Prof. John Terzano; at right, Screen Justice coordinator Deirdre Evans-Prichard; at bottom, Terzano, American University Prof. Richard Stack, author of “*Dead Wrong: Violence, Vengeance, and the Victims of Capital Punishment,*” and Kirk Bloodsworth.
In 2007, Sound Advice continued its mission to celebrate extraordinary legal services providers like the Legal Aid Society, the Children’s Law Center, the Public Defender Service Civil Division and Lawyers for Children America. The show also devoted three editions to the DC Office of the Attorney General, focusing on its new leadership in Linda Singer, and on some of its innovative programs. Finally, three very special shows explored the School of Law’s Katrina Project, and the work performed by faculty, staff, students and alumni during an alternative spring break in New Orleans. Sound Advice offers educational programming on social justice and law reform topics, D.C. Court operations and activities and a nuts and bolts introduction to the legal services provider community. Tune in on UDC Cable 19 and 98, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30 pm.

The Legal Aid Society celebrated 75 years of service in the District of Columbia this year. Executive Director Jonathan Smith, ’84, staff attorney Jodi Feldman, and LAS President Anthony Pierce of Akin Gump talked about the organization’s mission and its priorities including the recent establishment of the Economic Justice Unit. Host Shelley Broderick highlighted Mr. Smith’s profound role as moving force in establishing the District’s Access to Justice Commission, and the resulting $3.2 million in District funding to support new poverty lawyers to represent the legal needs of the 110,000 D.C. residents (one in five) who live below the poverty line. In a follow up show, Legal Director Eric Angel along with Senior Staff Attorney for Housing, Julie Becker, and Domestic Violence Program Director, Trisha Monroe, outlined the enormous need for legal services and some of the ground breaking ways in which the Legal Aid Society addresses those needs. Specifically, they talked about partnering with organizations east of the river like Advocates for Justice and Education and the Domestic Violence Intake Center at Southeast Hospital. They also explained the range of cases undertaken by Legal Aid and how to get help from the organization.

The Children’s Law Center is the largest civil legal services provider in D.C. and it provides comprehensive legal representation for children. Sara Scott, one of CLC’s guardians ad litem talked about the 500 children in the Abuse and Neglect System represented by CLC. Lise Adams, Director of CLC’s Family Permanency Project described the project’s efforts to recruit, train and mentor lawyers from 50 area law firms to represent families who care for children in need and to ensure that the necessary supports are in place to help these families succeed. Kenya Douglas, Case Advocacy Coordinator of the Foster and Adoptive Parent Advocacy Center, and an adoptive parent herself, gave personal testimony about the extraordinary help CLC gave her in adopting and caring for her younger brothers.

A second edition of Sound Advice, explored the Children’s Law Center’s Health Access Project at the Children’s National Medical Center with Tracy Goodman, Project Director; Laura Rinaldi, supervising attor-
School of Law News and Events

The Public Defender Service Re-entry Program represents some of the 60,000 previously incarcerated people in DC, employees and an $87 million dollar budget. Ms. Singer joined Sound Advice with Tonya Sapp, Deputy AG for Health and Human Services and Kim McDaniel, OAG’s Equal Employment Opportunity Director, to outline the range of cases undertaken by the office, from Medicaid recoupment to environmental injustice, and to talk about plans to make the agency a model for the nation. Two additional shows with the OAG demonstrate the breadth of the workload in just one division, the Child Support Division. Angela Harvey, Chief of the Paternity and Community Outreach Section of the Child Support Services Division and Julia Randall, Registrar of the Vital Records Division at the D.C. Department of Health, informed Sound Advice that over 6,000 children were born out of wedlock in D.C. in 2005. Children who do not have a legal father are more likely to live in poverty and to be dependent on welfare. They are also deprived of the economic security of child support, social security and veterans benefits in the event of the father’s death without proof of paternity. The OAG’s Paternity Establishment Program works to increase the rate of voluntary paternity acknowledgment as an important step in providing for the future for the 60% of D.C. children who are born out of wedlock. The OAG’s Child Support Services Division is also working to improve the lives of children who have parents in prison. They partnered with the Urban Institute to obtain a two year demonstration project grant designed to support key stakeholders in working together to modify or suspend child support orders during periods of the parent’s incarceration.

Sound Advice prior guest, Angela Harvey was joined for another show by Cory Chandler, Policy and Training Chief for the Child Support Services Division and Elaine Sorenson, Principal Research Associate of the Urban Institute. They noted that parents cannot pay child support while in prison, but for years the law allowed child support arrearages to grow anyway. As a result, parents released from prison were often driven into an underground economy to avoid paying vast child support debt. The worst impact was reduced child-parent contact. A more reasonable approach allows the child support order to be modified or suspended so that the parent can return to society and provide both financial and emotional support to their children.

Three special editions of Sound Advice celebrated the School of Law’s Katrina Project, focusing on three specific efforts undertaken by forty members of the School of Law community during spring break. Professor Susan Waysdorf along with students Maria Mier, ’08 and Alysia Robben, ’07 described their work to improve access to small claims court for day laborers. Professor Laurie Morin and alumnus Tom Collinson, ’05, explained the Succession Project in which students helped Katrina victims prove ownership so that they could secure FEMA “Road Home” funds.

Finally, Professor Will McLain and students Sarah Tomkins, ’07 and Layne Pierre, ’08 explained their service in the New Orleans Public Defender Service where the UDC team secured the release of nearly forty inmates who had served more time than they would have had they been convicted and given the maximum sentence.
Progressive Democrats of America (PDA), a new national political action committee, has held numerous meetings and national conferences at UDC since its founding in 2004. Above left, PDA Advisory Board Chair, actor Mimi Kennedy (Dharma’s mom!) addresses a group. Above, self-described “60s icon,” activist Tom Hayden expounds on the roots of—and possibly ways out of—the War in Iraq. Above right, petroleum policy analyst Antonia Juhasz of the Institute for Policy Studies chats with Hayden. At right, former New York U.S. Senate candidate Jonathan Tasini, at left, speaks with PDA Director, Tim Carpenter, with NY PDA Coordinator Frances Anderson in the background. At left, Florida election systems whistleblower and congressional candidate Clint Curtis. Below, a panel on voting systems featuring, from left, former DNC Political Director Greg Moore, Wharton professor Steve Freeman (author of “Was the 2004 Election Stolen”), NY State voting rights activist Allegra Williams and longtime progressive Democratic political consultant, Steve Cobble.
The School of Law hosts a wide range of public interest legal and political events, many of which are organized by other groups. Here, Co-Chairs of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, Lynn Woolsey (above, left) and Barbara Lee (left) show their support for The World Can’t Wait’s efforts to “Drive Out the Bush Regime.” Their fellow California Congressional colleague, Maxine Waters (above right) joined them at a UDC-DCSL-held panel and is pictured above with Leslie Kagan, an organizer of many of the nation’s largest anti-war rallies over the past several decades and currently directing The World Can’t Wait.

Mayor Signs Bill to Save the Children

On July 9, Mayor Adrian Fenty signed legislation to close a loophole that prevented thousands of D.C. children’s primary caregivers from obtaining legal custody. The loophole opened as a result of an Aug. 31, 2006 decision in the D.C. Court of Appeals, which found that a lower court overreached in giving custody to a child’s non-parent. Superior Court judges subsequently took the ruling to mean that only biological parents had standing to sue for custody, which, in bad cases, left kids vulnerable to kidnapping by estranged, biologically related deadbeats looking to cash in on housing benefits.

Among other problems caused by the appeals decision: “Non-parents couldn’t get kids enrolled in school, they couldn’t get them signed up for medical care,” says Matt Fraidin, a family-law expert and co-director of the HIV/AIDS clinic at the University of the District of Columbia law school. “Now they can.”

The “Safe and Stable Homes Act of 2007” makes it possible for non-parents to sue for custody. Fraidin was among the leading proponents of a legislative fix for the problem when it appeared the Appeals Court decision would stick. The bill was Tommy Wells’s first piece of legislation as a D.C. Council member. - The Hill Newspaper
HAITIAN EMBASSY CELEBRATION! On November 8, 2007, at the Haitian Embassy, the School of Law and various area Lutheran churches and activists teamed up to celebrate the 6th anniversary of the founding of the Center for Immigration Law and Practice (CILP). CILP is a non-profit law firm, created and funded largely by the Lutheran Church, ELA, the School of Law and its alumni, which has represented hundreds of our region's newest and most vulnerable neighbors since its founding in 2001. The large crowd was welcomed by CILP Vice President Elizabeth Quinn and was delighted by the harmonica playing of Haitian Ambassador Raymond Joseph! Dean Broderick gave her Dean's Cup to Hugh Miller, III, Treasurer, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church and to The Rev. Dr. Theodore Schneider, Bishop of Metropolitan Washington, DC Synod from 1995-2007, both of whom were instrumental in supporting the organization. Ms. Quinn presented the CILP award to our alumna, Amy Novick, '84 a long-time CILP Board Member. Ralston H. Deffenbaugh, Jr., President of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service gave a short address.

At left, Ralston Deffenbaugh. Above from left to right - and in height order - are: Bishop Schneider, Amy Novick, '84, Ralston Deffenbaugh, Elizabeth Quinn, Dean Shelley Broderick, alum Ernesto Torres, '98, and Hugh Miller.

Speaker Pelosi Names Irv Nathan New General Counsel of the House!

Speaker Nancy Pelosi has appointed DC School of Law Foundation Board Member Irv B. Nathan to be the new General Counsel of the House of Representatives.

“Irv” Nathan, a senior partner at the law firm of Arnold & Porter, previously served in the Department of Justice as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General and Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Enforcement in the Criminal Division. He also served as Minority Counsel for the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and senior counsel for the House Judiciary Committee. He currently serves, by appointment of the D.C. Court of Appeals, as the Vice Chair of the District of Columbia Board on Professional Responsibility.

Mr. Nathan joined the DC School of Law Foundation Board in 2007.

On November 9-11, the School of Law and University played host to Democracy 2007, a huge conference of election reform and voting rights activists organized by FairVote. Sponsors included the Advancement Project, the ACLU, Americans for Campaign Reform, Ballot Initiative Strategy Center, Brennan Center, Californians for Electoral Reform, Common Cause, DC Vote, Dēmos, FairVote, FairVote Minnesota, Free Press, Fund for Constitutional Government, Grassroots Leadership, Independent Progressive Politics Network (IPPN), Liberty Tree, Midwest States Center, National Popular Vote, New America Foundation, People for the American Way, Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC), Praxis Project, Prison Policy Initiative, Progressive States, Public Campaign, Sentencing Project, U.S. PIRG, Voter Action, Verified Voting, and the White House Project in addition to a number of state and regional groups. Speakers included DC Council Chair Vince Gray, Wade Henderson, Jamie Raskin, Spencer Overton, DC Vote’s Ilir Zherka, the ACLU’s Johnny Barnes, retired member of Congress and former presidential candidate John Anderson, Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform, Hendrik Hertzberg of the New Yorker Magazine, and scores of other experts on a wide variety of election and campaign related topics.
Amanda Dunlap – In the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, Ms. Dunlap represented an elderly client in a tax court case with issues dating back to the mid-80s, skillfully guiding the client to correct errors in all relevant tax years (including problems that the IRS had not yet discovered). When another taxpayer presented with overwhelming tax and consumer credit issues, Ms. Dunlap found that a large portion of the nearly $50,000 tax debt could be discharged in bankruptcy and located an attorney to handle that action. Ms. Dunlap is a Dean’s Fellow and Managing Editor of the Law Review.

Melissa Mathu – Through the Government Accountability Project Clinic, Ms. Mathu worked extensively with a flight engineer in furtherance of a claim brought under the whistleblower provisions of the Aviation and Investment Reform Act (“AIR 21”). Ms. Mathu briefed various issues during the litigation proceedings, including the Complainant’s protected conduct. Ms. Mathu’s assistance with the litigation, as well as compiling and organizing information from witnesses and representatives from the FAA, helped to highlight the fact that the government must continue to identify and address on-going airline safety issues. Ms. Mathu is a Dean’s Fellow, President of the Black Law Student Association and 3L representative to Phi Alpha Delta.

Yesenia Polanco-Galdamez – Ms. Polanco-Galdamez, as a member of the Housing and Consumer Clinic, initiated a preliminary injunction regarding conditions at the worst property the clinic has represented in years. Her client was moved to a better unit in the same property, and the landlord is fixing all the other units pursuant to a consent decree. She was the spark, the organizer, and the implementer of the most satisfying housing case of the year. She is also former President and now Political and Community Relations Chair of the Latino Law Student Association.

Kimberly Strickland – In the Legislation Clinic, Kimberly Strickland was assigned to the office of Council-member Marion Barry, where she worked on a variety of legislative issues including ex-offender nondiscrimination laws, school board legislation, economic effects of state smoking bans, the investment of District funds in entities doing business with the Government of Sudan, paid leave for DC government employees for voting in elections, and strengthening tenants’ rights in conversions of rental housing property to cooperatives.
Honoring Student Achievement

2007 Dean’s Fellows

Each year, students who achieve strong academic success are awarded with Dean’s Fellowships which include a substantial scholarship and a lunch at Dean Shelley Broderick’s home. This affords the Dean an opportunity to meet with and get to know some of our wonderful new “rising stars” in an informal setting.
This year’s Editorial Board, along with the senior and new associate editors, has been working hard to continue and enhance the good reputation of the law school’s journal. Our work began over the summer, as we began editing articles for Volume 11 of The University of the District of Columbia Law Review. We are planning on publishing two volumes over the course of this year’s academic calendar and hosting a symposium in February entitled Katrina’s Wake: Emergency Preparedness and Response from the Bayou to the Beltway.

2007-2008 Editorial Board:
Charles Jeane, Editor-in-Chief; Jenna Karr, Articles Editor; Suzanne Sable, Production Editor; Amanda Dunlap, Managing Editor; Wayne Turner, Symposium Editor; Jason Hart, Notes Editor.

Senior Editors: Alyssa Patzoldt, Stacy Cash, Jasmine Mize, Shane Mackey, Sam Kanupp

Associate Editors: Elena Sotnikova, Melanie Acuña, Phillip Sherman, Julie Akemann, Maria Mier, Tess Davis, Morgan Whitlock, Meredith Gitangu, Jenny Fein, Keri Nash, Ariel Shea, Vanessa Hagen, Nicole Mailman, Darren Shultz, Craig Batchelor, Beth Stephens, Kwame Willingham, Rebecca Wrightson, Erik Pinsonnault, Molly Hoffman, John White, Ibidun Salaam, Melissa Mathu, Will Burns

So Long Class of 2007!
(We’ll Miss You!)
School of Law News and Events

Katrina Course, Service, Report...and Fun!

Katrina Course Report Back

What is Succession? What does it actually do?

Succession is the transmission of the deceased's estate to the surviving title holders. The process involves verifying the deceased's will, if any, and administering the estate according to the terms of the will or, if there is no will, according to the laws of intestate succession. The personal representative (executor or administrator) is responsible for managing the estate, paying any debts and taxes, and distributing the remaining assets to the beneficiaries.
School of Law News and Events

Katrina Course, Service and ... FUN!
School of Law News and Events

Katrina Course, Service, Report...and Fun!
School of Law Honored by Louisiana Legal Luminaries

(Continued from page 1)

On October 1, 2007, UDC-DCSL faculty, students, alumni and administrators were honored in New Orleans at an award ceremony held by the Supreme Court of Louisiana and the Louisiana State Bar Association.

Professors McLain and Waysdorf traveled to New Orleans to represent the School of Law honorees.

At the award ceremony, Louisiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Pascal F. Calogero, Jr. noted in his remarks the particular contributions to the recovery process made by the University of the District Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. Held in the ceremonial courtroom of the high court of Louisiana, the event was attended by members of the state’s judiciary as well as leaders of the state bar, and the pro bono and legal communities. Other out-of-town lawyers who came to New Orleans to assist in the recovery process since September of 2005 also were present and recognized at the ceremony. At the ceremony, Professors McLain and Waysdorf also presented to Chief Justice Calogero and Louisiana State Bar President S. Guy deLaup letters of recognition from the School of Law’s Student Bar Association.

The certificates of appreciation received by Professors McLain and Waysdorf and the others recognized them “for the generous donation of legal expertise and dedication to helping the victims and families affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.”

New Orleans: UDC-DCSL Law School of the Year

(Continued from page 1)

by law students, professors and alumni in supporting The Project’s mission to provide access to civil legal services for the poor and indigent through volunteer attorneys of the private bar.

For the past 18 years, The Project has traditionally recognized individual volunteers and law firms at the Annual Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition Event. In the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, support from law students and law schools has formed a vital part of the corps of legal professionals providing services to those in need within the New Orleans region. In 2006, The Project began to recognize the law schools, their students, professors and alumni for their service. The 2006 award recipient was the University of North Carolina Law School, which will return for their fifth visit during the 2007-2008 winter break.

“While we have hosted many schools, UDC was the first to develop a semester curriculum and practicum around the effects of Katrina on the legal, cultural and social fabric of New Orleans and this resulted in students, professors and alumnae volunteering in this community,” explains The Project’s Executive Director, Rachel Piercey.

“The UDC students were a major contributor this year in helping us move through dozens of cases that may have languished for lack of volunteer manpower. Their help has been invaluable in bringing closure to many of our clients and we are so pleased to recognize and acknowledge their contribution, not only to The Pro Bono Project, but to the rebuilding of New Orleans.”

The Pro Bono Project’s continuing mission to provide free, quality civil legal services to the poor is more important than ever. By engaging volunteer attorneys to render pro bono services, The Pro Bono Project serves clients in Orleans, Jefferson, St Bernard, St Tammany and Washington parishes. With funding from the Justice For All Ball and other sources, locally and nationally, The Pro Bono Project works in collaboration with other social service providers to improve the quality of life for our clients and our community.
gutted houses and makes them livable again. The Project hosted a Women’s Build Week from Monday, October 8 through Saturday, October 13. For 6 days 100 volunteers worked at least 7 hours each day for a total of 4,200 hours of volunteer labor. They rebuilt families’ homes that Hurricane Katrina rendered uninhabitable. In addition to rebuilding the homes of Hurricane Survivors, the Women’s Build Week highlighted the integral leadership roles women play in the St. Bernard Project and other nonprofit organizations, local businesses and government agencies that are rebuilding the Gulf Coast Region.

The Women’s Law Society hosted a faculty auction on Sept 27, 2007. Entitled “Building Justice” the auction was a phenomenal success raising over $1000 in 90 minutes for the St. Bernard’s Project Women’s Build Week. The St. Bernard Project, a grassroots, nonprofit rebuilding organization, was formed in April 2006 to help families rebuild their homes and lives. Using donated supplies (or donated funds that are used to buy building supplies) and volunteer labor, the Project takes...
The pursuit of equal justice can, at times, require protest in addition to legal research, arguments and lawsuits. This fall, UDC-DCSL students led a rally in coordination with hundreds of other protests across the country. The law students led and School of Law faculty, staff and other University students and personnel followed in a boisterous protest on the corner of Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness St. There was much support among passing pedestrians and motorists!
Each year the School of Law’s Joe Rauh Equal Justice Works chapter organizes an Auction to raise funds for summer public interest fellowships. Students, faculty, alumni and School of Law Foundation members and other friends of the School donate everything from vacation homes to sports tickets to personal services! In 2007, Alyssa Patzoldt, ‘08 and other EJW Auction activists led students, staff, faculty, alumni and friends and set a new record of over $15,000!

For the first time in recorded history, long-time Auctioneer Prof. Tom Mack did not serve—but did provide some helpful hints to Alumni Director Joe Libertelli who sloshed about a bit in Mack’s “big shoes!”

Above right, Auctioneer Joe Libertelli. At left, Prof. Mack with Molly Hoffman, ‘09; below left, Auction Organizer, Alyssa Patzoldt, ‘08.
On November 5, 2007, The Christian Law Society (CLS) proudly hosted prominent area legal professionals to discuss their respective faiths and their impact on their practice of law. The “Faith and the Law” panel was a huge success thanks to our panelists and thoughtful questions from the audience.

Panel members shared the impact of their faith on their daily practice of law, specifically in the area of ethics. It was clear from the discussion that attorneys of faith can work in the field of law, whether in private practice or public service, without jeopardizing their religious beliefs. The panel also discussed hot topical issues such as the concepts of “freedom of” religion, versus “freedom from” religion coming from our Constitutional rights of religion freedom and the required separation between church and state.

Michael Goldman. Mr. Goldman is a Georgetown Law grad and has practiced law for over 32 years. He has specialized in EEO law and was the lead trial attorney in a case brought by the Labor Department against the Harris Bank in Chicago. At the time, the judgment for approximately 16 million dollars was the largest judgment of any civil rights case brought by the government. During the course of his career, Mr. Goldman has also worked in the U.S. Dept. of Justice in the Civil and Civil Rights Departments. In addition to EEO law, he specializes in Labor and Personnel law and has been involved in litigation, arbitration, negotiation and mediation. For most of his adult life, he has studied Judaism -- formally and informally. For the past five years, Mr. Goldman has been the Jewish Chaplain at Georgetown Law and Medical Centers.

Mayuris P. Alicea. Ms. Alicea obtained a B.A. from the George Washington U. in 1994 and a J.D. from Howard in 1997 and is now in her last year at Wesley Theological Seminary pursuing a Masters of Divinity. Since graduating from law school Mrs. Alicea has dedicated her professional life to underserved communities through her work in various not for profit agencies and has also served the church in various capacities on a local, conference, and national level. Mrs. Alicea is currently working to discern whether God is calling her to be ordained a Deacon in Full Connection in the United Methodist Church.

Mr. Sidney Thompson is a 1995 graduate of UDC-DCL. He received his BA degree in Chinese and Arabic from Georgetown University. After finishing law school, Mr. Thompson lived overseas and provided legal services for the Saudi Arabian Air Force in addition to teaching law and English language at a university there. Mr. Thompson has also acquired two additional Master’s degrees: the first one in Islamic Law including Koranic and Sharia Law, and the second one in Middle Eastern Studies. Currently Mr. Thompson owns a business that provides foreign language software in the critical languages which include Chinese, Arabic, and Russian.

-Melissa Wu
School of Law News and Events

Immigration Fora

Misconceptions about Latino Immigrants. On Nov. 18th, the Latino Law Student Assn. hosted a panel discussion aimed at debunking myths about Latino immigrants ascribed to by the general population. The event featured immigration experts who presented a balanced view based on their professional experiences. Immigrants, themselves, spoke and shared their personal experiences and perspectives. Fernando Colon-Navarro, Associate Dean & Associate Professor, Texas Southern University-Thurgood Marshall School of Law; Panravee Vongjaroenrat, Director of Immigration and Refugee Ministries, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR); Dr. Jeffrey S. Passel, Senior Research Associate, Pew Hispanic Center; and two special guests who shared their personal stories.

At top right, organizers Yesenia Polanco and Nadia Maldonado. Above from left: Fernando Colon-Navarro, Associate Dean & Associate Professor, Texas Southern University-Thurgood Marshall School of Law; Dr. Jeffrey S. Passel, Senior Research Associate, Pew Hispanic Center; Panravee Vongjaroenrat, Director of Immigration and Refugee Ministries, United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR); Yesenia Rivera, 1L; two special guests, and Jenifer Stach, 1L.

Last spring, alum Mike Maggio, ’78, professor and leading immigration attorney with Maggio Kattar, moderated a panel featuring Judge Wayne Iskra of the Arlington Immigration Court, Kathryn Doan of Central American Resource Center, alum Francesco Isgro, ’82 of the Dept. of Justice and Jay Katz.

Above right, and below, Mike Maggio; above from left, Judge Wayne Iskra, Kathryn Doan, Francesco Isgro, Maggio and Jay Katz.
Faculty / Staff Roast

Each year, students exact a humorous-but-deadly revenge upon faculty and staff for crimes real and imagined: various classes, professors and staff are “lovingly” lampooned. This year, the “Dean” announced an exciting new cooperative arrangement: the University of the District of the People’s Republic of China; Prof. Cahn subdued a Taco Bell employee who foolishly refused Time Dollars for the good professor’s chalupa; and Financial Aid Director Anne El Shazli’s Access Group kickbacks were revealed. And, once again, “good time was had by all!”
School of Law News and Events

2007 BLSA Awards
Support the Troops — Operation Goody Bag

Operation Goody Bag was organized by the Student Bar Association & The Federalist Society. Students and staff decorated brown bags and wrote inspirational letters to the troops abroad. The bags were then filled with candy and necessities which were sent to our troops fighting abroad to brighten their day. Some letters and drawings indicated support of the war, others included promises to work to end it and apologies for not stopping it. But all carried good wishes and sincere thanks for those serving overseas, placing themselves in harm’s way out of a sense of duty and patriotism.

Below, Registrar Barbara Green, Fatimo Atekoja and Delores Jackson; at right, Jenny Fein and Kasey Dunton; below left, Heather Molina and Elnur Veliev.
School of Law News and Events

Women’s Law Society Awards

In the fall, the UDC-DCSL Women’s Law Society hosted a luncheon and panel discussion featuring women lawyers from four Washington law firms rated as being among the top 50 firms for women attorneys and employees by Working Mother Magazine.

Each attorney spoke of her own career paths and the areas of law in which she practices, some spoke of juggling work, families and children. Then the Women’s Law Society presented each firm with a certificate recognizing them for their excellent rating!

Above right, Mary Gately, DLA Piper. Below left, Maya Wilson, Mayer Brown; Darlene Smith, Mintz Levin; Jesse Bawa, Bingham McCutchen. Below right, Wilson with Women’s Law Society Pres. Nancy Combs. Below that, Combs with Darlene Smith; at bottom law students listen intently.
On November 9, the School of Law Office of Admission held a very successful Law Day which featured a number of student and staff presentations and an energetic and entertaining guest lecture by Prof. Jeffrey Ford, an Antioch School of Law alumnus, on family and property law topics. Over 80 prospective law students attended and were invited to participate thereafter in the ongoing voting rights and election reform conference!

Above right, prospective law students in 201. At right, Jeff Ford, ’83. At far right, Molly Byron, ’09 and Shermena Nelson, ’09.

Each year, the School of Law invites sitting judges to share their perspectives with the incoming class. This year, longtime friend of the School of Law Federal District Court Judge Ricardo Urbina, D.C. Superior Court Judge Melvin Wright (who did his undergraduate work at UDC) and D.C. Court of Appeals Judge Anna Blackburne-Rigsby (who has taught Professional Responsibility at UDC-DCSL) outlined their careers, experiences and provided some sage advice to the Class of 2010.
Mphilo Dlamini was born in New York City, but grew up in Swaziland in southern Africa, which is a landlocked kingdom in between South Africa on the west and Mozambique on the east. He finished high school in Swaziland and moved to South Africa for two years of college and started working thereafter. Two years after that he came to Washington DC to further his higher education.

He enrolled at UDC and graduated in 2005 with a BBA in Finance. Throughout the course of his studies he worked in various departments at the University as a work-study student, including at the School of Law. After graduation, he worked for Bank of America for two years and then returned to his alma mater to work in the David A. Clarke School of Law as a financial analyst.

Mphilo writes, “I enjoy my work very much, plus it has been a pleasure to see and work with familiar people and also to meet new ones. In my spare time I enjoy reading and also listening to music.”

Please welcome Nailah Williams who will assume the position of Director of Law School Financial Aid effective January 16, 2008. Nailah is a native Washingtonian. She received her B.S. in Business Administration from Trinity College and M.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies in Management from University of Maryland University College. She has been in the student financial aid field for eight yrs and has worked in various capacities. Nailah is passionate about the field of education and student financial aid. “There is nothing more rewarding than helping someone achieve their dreams. I am honored to be a part of a legacy, which is deeply rooted in public service and that has touched so many lives. I look forward to working with the staff, faculty and serving a very dynamic student body.”

Ms. Gail Mathapo has been hired to fill the job of Circulation Librarian at UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. Gail is a 2006 graduate of the School of Law and during that time she worked in the law library as a work study student.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Gail has lived in the Washington D.C. area for the past five years. “I enjoy learning about the rich African American culture of Washington D.C., the political electricity of the city and on top of that, it is one of the most beautiful cities in the U.S.” Gail enjoys reading autobiographies and traveling.

As an alumna, she is excited about working at the law library and contributing to its continued growth.
Mr. John Jensen has been hired to fill the position of Cataloging Librarian at the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. John recently graduated from the University at Buffalo with a Masters degree in Library and Information Science. John has been working in libraries since 1990 in a wide-variety of settings, including academic, corporate, public and law firm libraries.

A Michigan native, John returns to Washington after an absence of 6 years, having lived in the DC area for most of the 1990’s.

“Washington offers so many opportunities to see and do interesting things; I knew I would return once I had finished my MLS degree.”

John is happy to be part of the law library team and looks forward to playing a role in the continued growth and success of the law school.

Joshua Garnett has been hired to fill the position of Technical Support Specialist at the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. Joshua comes to us from the American Institute of Architects where he was a technical support representative. Joshua has been working in the technical service field for 5 years, prior to which he attended Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland and graduated with a Bachelor’s of Science in the field of Information Technology.

Joshua has lived in the greater metropolitan Washington area for his entire life. “I am extremely excited to be working in such a unique atmosphere. I have never worked at a university or any other form of academia and I am greatly appreciative of the opportunity.” Joshua enjoys volunteering with urban youth and outdoor activities such as paintball and hiking.

As a native of Washington, Joshua is pleased to be able to dedicate his energies at a University that has done so many positive things for the local community!
Save the Date!

Vernon Jordan
To Deliver the 16th Rauh Lecture
April 14, 2008

Joe Rauh Equal Justice Works Summer Fellowship
Auction — April 1!
Your donated items and your participation greatly appreciated!
Contact JLibertelli@udc.edu or 202-274-7338