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### SUMMARY JUDGMENTS

The Loyola Law School, Los Angeles Faculty Blog
Launched in Fall 2010 – summaryjudgments.lls.edu
A Note from the Dean

As Loyola Law School enters its 90th year of educating men and women who are leaders of both the legal profession and society, we are excited to celebrate the Law School’s many successes achieved to date. At the same time, we continue to strive to address the challenges facing the ever-changing legal profession. The economic downturn poses great obstacles to lawyers. Clients are slow to pay bills, jobs for lawyers are scarce, the courts face crippling budget cuts, and many law firms have closed their doors. In this economic climate, law schools cannot afford to be ivory towers.

Loyola Law School has never been such a place. Our focus has always been on training lawyers who are prepared to hit the ground running. This is why Loyola hires professors as much for their experience as for their academic credentials. It is also why our curriculum is dominated by clinics, externships, skills classes and specialized courses taught by the top practitioners in Southern California.

Because Loyola focuses on the real world, our alumni and faculty play a large part in shaping that world. In the last 10 years, Loyola leads all law schools in the number of alumni making partner at the 10 biggest Los Angeles law firms. Loyola also leads in the number of alums on the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County’s bench. And in the first-ever national ranking of law schools based entirely on alumni accomplishments, Super Lawyers magazine ranked Loyola 29th out of 180 law schools.

This issue of the Loyola Lawyer also tells the story of how Loyola Law School has launched programs that address some of the most pressing issues of the day, including immigration, juvenile justice and those concerning military veterans.

In the last 12 months, the Loyola faculty published dozens of books and scholarly articles. Associate Dean for Research and Academic Centers Michael Waterstone gives you the details of that accomplishment in this issue. But a list of publications does not begin to tell the story of the impact the Loyola faculty has on the world outside academia.

Our faculty and alumni are helping meet the challenges of today’s economic and social problems. I am grateful to all of you who have assisted us this year. Your contributions, financial and otherwise, make a tremendous difference in the lives of our students and faculty. Here’s hoping that the world economy and our profession continue on the path to recovery.

Best Regards,

Victor Gold
Fritz B. Burns Dean
By any measure, Loyola faculty members had an extraordinary year as an academic community. Capitalizing on being in the center of one of the world’s great cities, we have become a vibrant source of scholarly activity on the West Coast.

Our Thursday faculty workshop series brings in top academics from around the country, allowing them to benefit from the insights of our faculty and participate in the academic life of our beautiful campus. This year, the workshop series brought in professors from Stanford Law School, Harvard Law School, Cornell Law School, University of Chicago Law School, University of California, Berkeley Law School, New York University School of Law and Georgetown University Law Center, among others. Our professors presented workshops, as well. Loyola also has two new innovative colloquia-style classes in Intellectual Property Theory, taught by Professor Jennifer Rothman, and Tax Policy, taught by Professors Ted Seto and Katie Pratt. These classes bring in top academics from institutions like Stanford Law School, New York Law School, Columbia Law School and University of Virginia Law School, allowing our students a unique opportunity to interact with the world leaders in these fields.

What stands out this year, however, is the breadth and quality of the scholarly achievements of our faculty. Several of my colleagues published articles in the very top journals in the country. These works will have a lasting impact and demonstrate their respective authors’ preeminence among academics in their fields.

Collectively, our faculty had a year that places them on par with any faculty in the country. Faculty published more than 20 monographs, treatises and casebooks, as well as dozens of book chapters, student aids, and magazine and newspaper articles. Particularly exciting was Alexandra Natapoff’s book Snitching: Criminal Informants and the Erosion of American Justice, which received the 2010 ABA Silver Gavel Award Honorable Mention for Books.

Our faculty members’ academic approach to real-life issues is being recognized in the media, where Loyola professors are regular commentators and contributors to news outlets like the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, NPR, the Los Angeles Times and many others. The U.S. Supreme Court also cited the work of Professor Marcy Strauss twice this year.

In his role as associate dean for research and academic centers, Waterstone fosters the scholarly mission of the Law School. Read more about him on page 36.
Loyola faculty impacting the world

- Professor **Jeffery Atik** participated in the “Beyond Borders: Extraterritoriality in American Law” symposium and published scholarship on the global financial crisis.

- Professor **Brietta Clark** secured a $200,000 grant for the HIV/AIDS Legal Services Alliance. She is a regular contributor to the Los Angeles Daily Journal and writes the Health Care Justice Blog.

- A specialist on the law of war and military commissions, Professor **David Glazier**’s comments appeared in the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and the Los Angeles Times.

- Professor **Charlotte Goldberg**, an expert in family law, provided commentary to CBS News, the Los Angeles Times and other news outlets concerning the OctoMom and the Frank and Jamie McCourt divorce proceedings.

- Professor **Stan Goldman**, director of the Center for the Study of Law and Genocide, submitted an amicus curiae brief to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in a case arising out of the Armenian Genocide. He also traveled to Israel to interview one of the last surviving attorneys who participated in the World War II war-crime trial of Adolf Eichmann.

- Professor **Rick Hasen** provided commentary on election law issues to all major American newspapers, appeared numerous times on television and radio and published op-eds in Slate and the New York Times. His Election Law Blog has received over one million visits.

- Associate Professor **Kathleen Kim**, an expert on immigration and the legal implications of human trafficking, helped start Loyola’s Immigrant Justice Practicum.

- Professor **Dan Lazaroff** was a frequent source of commentary for antitrust issues, such as the Supreme Court’s decision in the American Needle v. NFL case, and sports-law issues for the Los Angeles Daily Journal, the Los Angeles Times, KABC-TV and other outlets.

- Professor **Laurie Levenson** spoke at dozens of conferences and civic events, was quoted in the national press countless times and served as special master for the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County. She also is the driving force behind Loyola’s Fidler Institute on Criminal Justice, which annually presents the pre-eminent criminal law symposium in Southern California.

- Professor **Karl Manheim** published op-eds in the San Francisco Chronicle and the Los Angeles Times, and he was quoted in the Wall Street Journal. He was instrumental in organizing “Rebooting California,” a Sept. 24, 2010 conference Loyola presented on the crisis in California governance.

- Visiting Associate Professor **Paula Pearlmam**, executive director of the Disability Rights Legal Center, was recognized as a Civil Rights Hero by the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing and received the St. Ignatius of Loyola Award.

- Professor **Dan Schechter** drafted two bills concerning enforcement of judgment lien. The bills were enacted into law by the California Legislature.

- Professor **Ted Seto** authored several op-ed pieces for the Los Angeles Daily Journal and was interviewed by NPR and other national media on tax-related topics.

- Articles by Professor **Marcy Strauss** were twice cited by the U.S. Supreme Court.

- Professor **Georgene Vairo** advised the Federal Judiciary Standing Committee concerning revisions to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. She also was one of the drafters of the Jurisdiction and Venue Clarification Act (H.R. 4113) and served on the board of the Institute for Civil Justice at the RAND Corporation.

- Professor **Kimberly West-Faulcon** was quoted extensively in a four-day series of articles published in the Los Angeles Times on the U.S. Senate confirmation hearings on the nomination of U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

- Professor **Gary Williams** served as vice president of the National Board of the ACLU.

- An expert in consumer protection law, Professor **Lauren Willis** provided commentary on the mortgage crisis to NPR and the Financial Times.

- Professor **Scott Wood** chaired the Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative, served on the board of the Archdiocese Office of Restorative Justice, worked on the Homeboy Industries Restorative Justice Support Group and started the Center for Restorative Justice at Loyola Law School.

- The director of Loyola’s Center for Juvenile Law & Policy, Clinical Professor **Cyn Yamashiro**, served on the board of the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center and the MacArthur Foundation Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network.

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

Loyola Law School faculty members have recently published law review articles in:

- Cardozo Law Review
- Chicago Journal of International Law
- Cincinnati Law Review
- Connecticut Journal of Law and Social Policy
- Florida Law Review
- Florida Tax Review
- Georgia Law Review
- Harvard Journal of Law & Gender
- Harvard Journal of Law & Technology
- Iowa Law Review
- Loyola of Los Angeles International and Comparative Law Review
- Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review
- Miami Law Review
- NYU Journal of International Law and Politics
- Notre Dame Law Review
- Ohio State Law Journal
- Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law
- Pennsylvania Journal of International Law
- St. Louis Law Review
- Supreme Court Review
- Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems
- UCLA Law Review
- University of Chicago Legal Forum
- University of Connecticut Law Review
- Virginia Law Review
- Washington Law Review
- Washington University Law Review
- Willamette Law Review
- William and Mary Law Review
- Wisconsin Law Review
The United States is home to 20 percent of the world’s entire migrant population of 190 million. Economic opportunity, religious freedom, and civil and political rights have attracted foreign nationals to the U.S. for decades. Conversely, our country has benefited from a long history of immigration, which has sustained and advanced our economic productivity and increased the vibrancy of our diverse society.

Recent federal governmental policies, however, have had a diluting effect on the positive impact of immigration. Concerns about terrorism and unauthorized migration have fueled stricter enforcement practices at the border and in the interior. Since 2004, the Customs and Border Protection budget grew from $6 billion to $10.1 billion to support a doubling in the number of border patrol agents, as well as physical and virtual fencing. Raids and audits of workplaces and communities contributed to a significant increase in removals of noncitizens; in 2008, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement removed 349,041 individuals, up from 189,026 in 2001. The projected number of total removals for 2010 is a record-breaking 400,000. Still, backlogs for family and employment-based immigration applications persist, resulting in processing delays of more
Los Angeles has an important place in this discussion. More than one-third of its population is foreign-born and nearly half of its workforce is composed of immigrants.”

than a decade in some instances. Caps on annual visa issuances exacerbate these lengthy waits. As of 2009, 4.9 million individuals approved for family-based immigrant visas were still waiting to receive them.

Meanwhile, anti-immigration state laws, such as Arizona’s SB 1070, complicate efforts toward a more fair and efficient immigration system. Such laws impose non-uniform standards for immigration-related crimes, and mandate that inadequately trained state law enforcement officers act as immigration enforcers. Seven lawsuits, including one from the U.S. Department of Justice, assert that SB 1070 unconstitutionally regulates immigration matters, violating long-standing U.S. Supreme Court jurisprudence establishing the federal government’s exclusive authority over immigration. The outcome of this litigation remains uncertain. Yet, beyond the legal battle, SB 1070 has generated a deeply emotional and polarized public debate over the rights of immigrants. On one side, immigration restrictionists favor tougher enforcement measures and contend that the federal government is not doing enough to keep newcomers out or remove those who are in the U.S. unlawfully. On the other side, immigration liberals argue for less enforcement and additional pathways to legal resident status in the U.S. Both seem to agree that the current immigration system is in a state of disrepair and in desperate need of reform.

President Obama has responded by pledging to make immigration reform a top priority. The administration’s official platform promotes safe, orderly and legal migration that protects human rights, asylum seekers and human trafficking victims. Additionally, the platform calls for the integration of legal immigrants, while also opposing unregulated and unauthorized migration.

Though the details of an immigration reform bill are yet to be worked out, it will be imperative for stakeholders to weigh in on the discussion to ensure that any immigration reform accurately reflects the values of society’s changing demographics. Los Angeles has an important place in this discussion. More than one-third of its population is foreign-born and nearly half of its workforce is composed of immigrants. Los Angeles is also home to 10 percent of the nation’s 12 million undocumented residents. Over the last 10 years, the city’s immigrant population has become increasingly varied, with declining numbers from Mexico, other Latin American countries and Western Europe, and rising immigration from Korea, China, the Philippines, South Asia and Armenia.

Immigrants fortunate enough to benefit from the opportunities afforded those with legal status must therefore work to alleviate the situation faced by the undocumented, and advocate for policy reforms that diminish the marginalization of the unauthorized immigrant community.

Student Perspectives

Min Choi ’11

Immigrants in the United States come from all walks of life—from the affluent corporate leader seeking investment opportunities to the young mother working from a cramped corner of a dry cleaner to provide a better life for her children. Life can be more difficult for those without legal status in the U.S. For example, some immigrants are exploited in the workplace and may be unable to seek legal redress due to their unfamiliarity with U.S. laws and their cultural and linguistic isolation. Despite such obstacles, many early generation immigrants successfully integrate into American society, contributing to the country’s economy and social diversity.

California’s AB 540, which provides undocumented immigrant children with access to state colleges and universities at resident tuition rates, is a concrete example of how states can help undocumented immigrants become productive members of society. The opportunity for affordable higher education encourages undocumented children to excel in their studies. In turn, beneficiaries of AB 540 may pursue successful professional careers. The state’s effort to incorporate undocumented immigrants into the community not only gives this new generation of immigrant children a chance to pursue their dreams, but also enriches the state’s economy and diversity.

Jayne Kum ’11

Being born to a mother on a working visa as a nurse and with permanent legal residency in Hawaii, and to a father who received a green card by family extension, I never had issues or concerns regarding my citizenship. For most of my peers whose parents immigrated in the late 1960s and 1970s, citizenship was never an issue. Thus, I can honestly admit that I never thought twice about the privileges and opportunities afforded me by my citizenship status. But one needs only to look closely at the neighborhoods of Los Angeles to see that this is not necessarily the case for everyone else.

A 2009 report by the Migration Policy Institute found that 20 percent of all minority children living in Los Angeles had both or at least one parent who was unauthorized, and that immigrants comprised 36 percent of Los Angeles’ total population. Many of these non-citizens face tremendous economic hardship. Undocumented workers are often paid lower than the federal minimum wage standard. Likewise, undocumented elderly cannot receive Social Security benefits, nor can undocumented immigrants living in poverty apply for federal aid or receive public benefits.

Immigrants fortunate enough to benefit from the opportunities afforded those with legal status must therefore work to alleviate the situation faced by the undocumented, and advocate for policy reforms that diminish the marginalization of the unauthorized immigrant community.
A lot has changed at the Center for Juvenile Law & Policy (CJLP) since it was launched in 2005. With the center’s juvenile justice clinic up and running, we have since been able to turn our attention to making a broader impact on the juvenile justice system. Our hope has always been that beyond the immediate impact we can make on our clients and their families, we can also play an important role in how legal services are provided to children system-wide.

We first accomplish this goal by assuring that our students graduate with a unique and finely honed skill set, as well as with a fresh perspective on how to represent children. Through our graduates, we promulgate what we believe is a best-practices model for representing children. Though some of our students take jobs in the private sector, they ultimately remain connected to the center and committed to child advocacy. In fact, the majority of our graduates continue in the public interest sector, working as child advocates and criminal defenders. From their hands-on experiences at the center, they are extremely well prepared to hit the ground running and practice law at the highest levels.

Our faculty members are committed to creating a transformative experience for our students who, in turn, work tirelessly to transform the lives of our clients. It is through this process of education that the center transforms the system, one client, one student and one case at a time. Despite many changes at the CJLP, our commitment to shaping the legal landscape on behalf of children in the juvenile court system remains the same. Our efforts in this regard take place on many different levels, and all focus on the goal of making the juvenile justice system safer, more humane and more effective.

Engaging Stakeholders on Best Practices
At the policy level, the center has reached out to stakeholders in the juvenile justice community and the bar to shape and influence the law and the practice of law within the system. Over the last three years, the center has sponsored three symposia, each targeting a different element of the juvenile justice system. Our first symposium examined how the juvenile justice system can actively work to prevent crime. Experts nationwide joined us in exploring how municipalities can regulate attorneys’ efforts in the delinquency system and employ accountability measures providing the public with performance assessments. Our second symposium examined the intersection of the juvenile justice and education systems, exploring the relationship between education and crime, and the role of vocational education and charter schools. Last year, the CJLP co-sponsored a conference aimed at juvenile practitioners. The event provided the juvenile
This Fall, the Center for Juvenile Law & Policy enters its sixth year at Loyola Law School. The center began humbly with eight students and a staff of three. Since then, it has grown to include a juvenile delinquency clinic and an education clinic, along with a research and public policy component. The center employs five full-time faculty, two full-time social workers, a program administrator, a program coordinator and a post-graduate fellow. Each year the clinic enrolls up to 28 students and has six undergraduate and graduate internships from universities all over Los Angeles. At its core, the center has evolved into a community legal clinic where public service, education and advocacy all come together with the goal of improving the quality of legal services provided to children in the delinquency system. Over the past six years, the center has represented an estimated 220 clients in more than 320 cases in juvenile delinquency courts, trained 85 students, and has contributed more than 28,000 hours of pro bono legal services to indigent communities in Los Angeles.

The hallmark of the CJLP’s legal clinic is a multi-disciplinary, holistic approach to representing children. Each client at the clinic is represented by a team that includes a clinical law professor, a law student and a forensic social worker. If the case requires educational advocacy, then a clinical law professor and a law student from our education clinic are added to the team. The center’s legal clinic is also the only one on the West Coast where law students and social workers are trained side-by-side to counsel, represent and treat children in jeopardy. These law students represent youths in the two largest juvenile courts in Los Angeles: Inglewood and Eastlake. The latter serves a largely Latino population, while the former focuses on a predominantly African-American community. This legal representation, all of which is pro bono, serves indigent children from two of the poorest and demographically unique communities in Los Angeles.

Impacting Policy Initiatives
In addition to policy outreach, the CJLP faculty is involved in a number of efforts at the national, state and local levels focused on effecting systemic change in the juvenile justice system. In California, faculty members are partners in an effort to implement a reform agenda that includes a statewide juvenile attorney education project, while others are helping craft practice standards for attorneys working in the juvenile delinquency system. To provide stakeholders and institutions within the juvenile justice system advice to improve outcomes for court-involved youth, the center is also leading the first large-scale study to examine legal practices in the Los Angeles juvenile delinquency system.

While the center’s focus is educating and training law students, our faculty is also active in educating practicing attorneys. Our professors are routinely invited to speak at training events throughout the U.S., featured regularly as faculty for programs sponsored by the court and advocacy organizations, and have testified before legislative committees. Finally, our faculty members are active on state and local commissions dedicated to improving the juvenile justice system.
Ninety-two-year-old Kathryn Johnston was dead, which meant big trouble for Officers Smith and Junier.

Three hours earlier, everything had looked so promising. Atlanta police had busted Fabian Sheats for the third time in four months, and the local drug dealer-turned-informant had tipped them off to a major stash at 933 Neal Street—an entire kilo of cocaine. Sheats wasn’t one of their registered informants so they couldn’t use him to get a warrant, but Smith and Junier applied for a warrant anyway by inventing an imaginary snitch. They called him a “reliable confidential informant,” and told the magistrate judge that this nonexistent snitch had bought crack cocaine at the Neal Street address. The fabrication wouldn’t matter in the end, after they got the warrant, busted in, grabbed the kilo. It would be a major victory.

But nothing went the way it was supposed to. Sheats’ tip was bad—there was no kilo at that address. Once inside the house, the officers opened fire. Now Mrs.
The power and flexibility of the informant deal has made it a ubiquitous weapon in the law enforcement arsenal.

Although it rarely comes to light, criminal informant use is everywhere in the American legal system. From warrants to surveillance to arrests, police routinely rely on criminal suspects to get information and to shape investigations. From charging decisions all the way through sentencing, prosecutors negotiate with defendants for cooperation in exchange for dropped or reduced charges and lighter punishment. Especially in the expansive arena of drug enforcement, turning suspects into so-called “snitches” has become a central feature of how America manages crime, while the secretive practice of trading lenience for information quietly shapes major aspects of our penal process.

This clandestine law enforcement tool has penetrated the popular consciousness, and the ensuing public debate embodies some of the deepest political and cultural tensions of life in high-crime urban neighborhoods. In 2006, the same year that Atlanta police killed Mrs. Johnston, a group of well-known artists, Tats Cru, painted a mural of a cartoon rat with a noose around his neck and a sign that said “Stop Snitchin’” on an East Harlem building. Two years later, neighborhood leaders rallied to paint over what they considered to be the mural’s anti-police message promoting a street code of silence. The Reverend Al Sharpton exhorted residents to reject the “stop snitching” message and to speak out against crime, while one city commissioner called the mural a “symbol of hate.” Local teenagers took a somewhat different view of the mural’s meaning. “It’s not because it’s not cool to snitch,” explained a 14-year-old girl. “People are afraid they might get killed.” Tats Cru, whose work has been featured by the Smithsonian, sued the city, arguing that the mural was designed to “get discussion going” over the state of police-community relations and that erasing it violated their First Amendment rights.1

The “snitching” phenomenon has political, cultural and even personal dimensions, but it starts with the criminal system. Criminal informants are a potent and sometimes necessary crime-fighting tool. They can permit the infiltration of gangs, drug cartels, corporations, terrorist conspiracies and other organizations otherwise impervious to law enforcement. Offering lenience to low-level offenders is sometimes the only way to get information about high-level criminals. From international terrorism to gang-dominated city streets, criminal informants can be uniquely productive helpmates for the government.

The idea behind snitching is simple—a suspect provides incriminating information about someone else in exchange for a deal, maybe the chance to walk away, or a lesser charge or sentence. In practice, however, informant deals are as varied as the crimes they involve. Some are quick, informal and routine. In the so-called “buy, bust, flip” technique, a police officer might release a drug addict or dealer in exchange for a tip. Other informant deals are complex, high-profile and span many years. In 2006, corrupt lobbyist Jack Abramoff avoided decades in prison by agreeing to snitch on the politicians he bribed. Fifteen years before that, hit man “Sammy the Bull” Gravano testified against mafia boss John Gotti in exchange for drastically reduced punishment and witness protection. The power and flexibility of the informant deal has made it a ubiquitous weapon in the law enforcement arsenal.

At the same time, using criminal informants exacerbates some of the worst features of the U.S. justice system. The practice is clandestine and unregulated, inviting inaccuracy, crime and sometimes corruption. It inflicts special harm on vulnerable individuals such as poor defendants who lack robust legal representation, racial minorities and substance abusers. Because of its secretive and discretionary nature, it evades the traditional checks and balances of judicial and public scrutiny, even as it determines the outcomes of millions of investigations and cases. And finally, like the criminal system itself, it is rapidly expanding.

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1This narrative is drawn from events reported in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. See Rhonda Cook, “Chain of Lies Led to Botched Raid; Feds detail woman’s death, officers’ plus,” Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Apr. 27, 2007, at 1D; Bill Torpy, “Report says pot bust led to raid; Suspected dealer told cops there was cocaine in slain woman’s home,” Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Dec. 8, 2006, at 1A.


Professor Alexandra Natapoff teaches Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure. She blogs at www.Snitching.org.
Most of us probably got up this morning and drove to work to start our day. But what we may not have known is that our drive was likely made safer by Mark P. Robinson, Jr. From the litigation of the landmark 1978 Ford Pinto gas tank-fire case to his current role as co-lead plaintiffs’ attorney in the wrongful death and personal injury cases pending against Toyota in federal court, Robinson has devoted his legal career to keeping American consumers safe on the road and just about everywhere else.

Robinson is a senior partner with Robinson, Calcagnie & Robinson in Newport Beach, CA. A California native, Robinson received his bachelor’s degree from Stanford University prior to attending Loyola Law School. He was already familiar with Loyola before he started his journey to law school, since his father, the Hon. Mark P. Robinson, Sr., graduated from Loyola’s evening program in 1949. When the younger Robinson made the decision to pursue a career in law, he was determined to go his own way and considered several law schools during his search. Robinson really wanted a hands-on experience. “Loyola lawyers have a reputation for being lawyers in the trenches, and that’s right where I wanted to be,” he said.

And in the trenches he was. As a student at Loyola, Robinson worked as a law clerk and then by his second year was already taking depositions. Despite this busy schedule, he still found time to coach football at Loyola High School in Los Angeles. Robinson was also an active member of the moot court program and represented the Law School at several competitions.

After graduation, Robinson started his career on the defense side of the legal field. But he found his calling after starting work with a plaintiff’s firm in Santa Ana, CA. He worked on several auto cases and found that he had a great deal of passion for consumer safety. He eventually led several groundbreaking cases related to faulty fuel tanks against companies like Ford and General Motors.

Outside of the automotive realm, Robinson has been very successful with cases involving drug companies. In 2006, Robinson represented a victim of a heart attack caused by Merck & Co’s Vioxx medication. The result was a $51 million verdict for the plaintiff.

Robinson continues to find success in consumer-safety cases because his passion for them runs deep. “I love the challenge of facing these big companies,” he said. “Even though I may be representing just one person, when you win, you really win for the public.” And knowing that his work helps to protect people, Robinson is driven to take on these challenging cases time and again.

Robinson is an active member of several trial-lawyer organizations, and his peers have regularly recognized and awarded him for his commitment and dedication to the civil justice system. In 2008, Robinson was named Trial Lawyer of the Year for California by the American Board of Trial Advocates. He has received numerous awards and honors for his leadership and service, including the Anti-Defamation League’s Orange County Jurisprudence Award, Loyola Law School’s Civil Justice Program Champion of Justice Award and the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association’s Mass Tort Trial Lawyer of the Year Award, just to name a few. Furthermore, Loyola’s flagship Robinson Courtroom was named in his family’s honor and serves as a training ground for the school’s many award-winning trial teams.

Now, as Robinson leads the landmark case against Toyota, he is truly working as a “lawyer in the trenches.” The law student who was determined to go his own way has done just that: He continues to take on difficult cases as a champion of the underdog, and is determined to protect consumers and promote safety.

“The civil justice system really does the heavy lifting in these cases,” he said. “And these cases are important because they reinforce the importance of safety regulations and encourage manufacturers to build products that meet quality and safety standards.”
Christine Spagnoli ’86

Whether it’s inspiring a trend of front-yard gardens in her neighborhood or influencing product-safety legislation through litigation, Christine Spagnoli exerts influence wherever she goes.

Spagnoli specializes in auto-defect litigation at Greene Broillet & Wheeler LLP, a Santa Monica, CA-based firm where she started while an evening student at Loyola Law School. Originally hired as a law clerk, Spagnoli is now a partner who has since ratcheted a number of high-profile victories. She secured a landmark $4.9 billion verdict against General Motors for plaintiffs severely burned as a result of a defective fuel tank. In addition, she was co-counsel in a case that resulted in a $58 million verdict for a man burned by a defective O-ring. The verdict was the single largest for a personal injury case to date in California.

Over the years, Spagnoli has become the go-to attorney for defective tire cases. That started when she represented a Los Angeles Police Department bomb-squad officer who was paralyzed after being ejected from his department-issued Chevy Suburban while answering a call. Spagnoli settled the case in the midst of the highly publicized investigation into blowouts of Firestone tires in 2000, and she contributed to a similar review of Goodyear. “I took the deposition of a Goodyear engineer, who admitted the company knew it had a problem, and that nylon overlays fixed the problem. The company delayed implementing the fix because of cost. I forwarded the information to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and they opened an investigation. As a result, there were lives saved and tires removed from the market.”

Putting her product safety role in perspective, Spagnoli reflected on how advocacy helped shape the law and product safety in general—both directly and indirectly. “Over the last 15-20 years, civil cases are where auto safety or product safety are being addressed, not through government regulation or supervision,” she said, noting that in cases like the recent spate of Toyota accidents, government agencies can get too close to the companies they supervise. “I think there’s a lot of change in the auto industry because they are paying heed to these kinds of issues. For example, we are going to have electronic stability control on pretty much every SUV and light truck in another year or two to prevent people from sliding off the road.”

Building on her earlier experience, Spagnoli continued to represent the victims of defective Goodyear tires. She not only represented Air Force personnel injured in a crash in Saudi Arabia blamed on the same tire defect, but also is involved in larger initiatives on tire safety. Currently, she serves as the plaintiffs’ liaison counsel for Cooper Tire cases in California, and is also engaged in a similar trial of a man who was paralyzed after a tire-related crash.

Spagnoli’s successes extend beyond tire defects to a range of other issues involving assistance to plaintiffs severely injured by actions of large corporations. As co-counsel for an electrocuted farm worker, she obtained a $21 million verdict against Southern California Edison, and a $25 million verdict against the City of Alameda for an electrocuted construction worker.

For her work in the courtroom, Spagnoli has racked up a range of accolades. Loyola presented her with its 2001 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award. The American Association for Justice presented her with the F. Scott Baldwin Award in 2001, marking her as the most outstanding young trial lawyer of the year. The Los Angeles Daily Journal ranked her as one of the “Top 100 Most Influential Attorneys in California.” In addition, she was named among the “Top 50 Women Southern California Lawyers” during 2005-2008, and made the list of Southern California Super Lawyers in 2005 and 2007.

Life is not all about the law for Spagnoli. The automobile-defect specialist is an avid bicyclist. She has taken cycling tours through France, New Zealand and Ireland. She is an avid cook and gardener, having achieved a certain culinary synergy with the produce grown just steps away from her kitchen. “Why have a lawn? It’s boring,” she said. “I turned my front lawn into a vegetable garden with tomatoes and artichokes. People stop by and ask what I’m growing. It’s taking off. My neighbor did the same thing.”

As for her future plans, Spagnoli hopes to see a day in which automobile and tire defects are no longer a problem. “I’d be happy to retire in another 10 years because there aren’t enough cases for me to handle,” she said. But she has plenty of work for now. “Some tire companies still don’t want to change what they’re doing.”
A civil litigator by trade, Judge Deirdre Hill ’85 also has an impressive political background that includes serving as the inspector general of the Los Angeles Police Department, the president of the Los Angeles Police Commission and deputy director of the California Democratic Party. Hill was appointed to the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County through unification in 2000 and oversees a civil calendar in Inglewood. She serves on the Judicial Council’s Judicial Elections Advisory Board and the Los Angeles County Superior Court Education Committee.

1 | What did you take away from your time at Loyola?
Politics runs in my veins [Hill’s mother is the longtime state legislator Teresa Hughes], and my years at Loyola marked the beginning of my getting involved in local politics. I became very involved in the Student Bar Association and the Black Law Students Association, and that experience stuck with me. Loyola also gave me a very practical background. That’s what the school was known for back then, and it holds true today. You wouldn’t just hear about discovery but know what it was. It was definitely helpful to have some practical tools when you were meeting with potential employers.

2 | How have women evolved in the legal profession?
I remember, you’d be wheeling in a big litigation case on rollers and the receptionist would just believe you were the court reporter. There were always the little remarks that you were a “girl” as opposed to a lawyer. One of the biggest issues for the women of my generation was getting to a point where you felt you could balance work and family. I had my first child at 29, and that was considered very early among my peers. But what I see now is more women and men being comfortable with building a family and not having it be a negative in their careers. Just the fact that we are going to have our first presiding female judge [Judge Lee Smalley Edmon] is really huge. Women have different styles oftentimes than men, and it’s refreshing that everybody will have a role in participating. That’s a seminal moment in the history of this court.

3 | What trends are you seeing in the courtroom?
I teach classes on unlawful detainers, and foreclosures and evictions. I see six to seven of those cases a day. There are just so many people out of work. I can see the effects of the recession everywhere in my courtroom, whether it’s a credit-card case, a collections case or a breach-of-contract case. Everyone seems to be more litigious than ever. If they can’t get their remedy in one avenue, then they will go on to the next. But at the same time, we are also seeing people without the money to fight a case. Now we get a lot of people who say, “I just don’t have a job, what can I do? I have to concede. You can get a judgment against me, but I can’t pay.”

Judge Rita Miller ’79 spent more than 20 years at Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP, where she specialized in complex civil litigation. She was appointed to the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County bench by Gov. Gray Davis in 2000 and holds a civil assignment at the Stanley Mosk Courthouse in downtown Los Angeles. She is also a member of the steering committee for Loyola’s Civil Justice Program.

1 | How is the recession affecting your courtroom?
We have a lot more collections cases and a lot more pro se litigants in the system. But I’ve also noticed a pattern of chain reactions in the system unlike anything we’ve seen before. Say a pizza parlor isn’t making payments on a bank loan. The bank sues the owners for defaulting. Now the pizza place goes out of business and the mini mall where the shop rented space can’t pay its obligations. Investors in the mini mall can’t pay their mortgages and they default. Then one of the investors

late case analysis, draft and review amicus briefs, as well as coordinate continuing education in appellate practice.

The brothers have a lot in common. Both had prestigious clerkships. Both worked at highly respected law firms. Both have substantial financial backgrounds and are CPAs. And both have a passion for leveling the playing field between plaintiffs and well-financed defendants.

“We noticed that people sometimes spend years in trial litigation and actually win a monetary judgment, only to have a defendant file a notice of appeal,” said Joel, chief executive officer. “While there are plaintiffs’ firms that can take contingency cases or companies that will fund portfolios of class actions, if you actually go to trial and win, you still need some money to pay expenses during that process. That’s

Fighting the Good Fight
Two brothers, both alumni, set out to change the face of the appeals process

Howard and Joel Liberson, ’95 and ’92 Loyola graduates, have made a business out of financing the underdog. As founders of Appellate Resources, LLC, they purchase plaintiffs’ interests in verdicts, providing their clients with the means to take on deep-pocketed defendants during a protracted appeals process. Additionally, they provide appellate case analysis, draft and review amicus briefs, as well as coordinate continuing education in appellate practice.

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might feel that they were wrongly ushered into a bad investment and they sue. It’s an endless cycle with a huge reach.

2. **How does a poor economy affect the scales of justice?**

I have huge numbers of people who come in to my court who can no longer afford to do their civil duty. Many of these people are unemployed and say they can’t lose the time they would spend looking for work. I’ve had people flat out refuse to serve—a lot of people just won’t do it. I’ve had people say, “If you make me sit here I won’t be able to listen to the case because I’m too worried about my other problems.” I listen to what each person has to say and judge on a case-by-case basis. But I have to combine compassion for people’s circumstances with the litigant’s rights to be able to bring their case to court. We have to be firm with people or litigants can’t get a fair jury trial.

3. **What is your favorite component of Loyola’s Civil Justice Program?**

The Journalist Law School [Loyola’s annual four-day legal bootcamp for editors, reporters and producers] is just fantastic. Lawyers tend to complain about journalists getting things wrong or not understanding procedure. I remember reading an article about a trial where the reporter said the judge didn’t return calls for comment. Well, a judge can’t comment in the middle of a trial. But a reporter doesn’t necessarily know that. But I think the legal profession shouldn’t complain unless they make some effort themselves to educate journalists. Loyola does a great job in that regard.

One of the newest and youngest members of the bench, Geanene Yriarte ’97 was only 38 when Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger appointed her to the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County in 2009. A career prosecutor, Yriarte spent 12 years at the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office, where she became a star for her winning record trying gang and major crime cases. Today, she sits in a civil assignment in Pomona, CA.

4. **What was it like transitioning from prosecutor to jurist?**

It’s been an interesting adjustment. As a prosecutor, although you’re in front of judges every day, you’re never really tuned in to the decision-making process. You stand there and make your argument and listen as the other side makes their argument and the judge just rules—and then you go on. You don’t spend a lot of time thinking about what went into the ruling. Now I’m the one making the rules, so I have to approach my job from an entirely different angle. When I was with the District Attorney’s Office, I would craft the best argument to try and persuade. But as a judge, my job is to say the law is the law, period. It’s not about who can persuade me with a passionate argument. It’s who is right in the eye of the law.

5. **How did your Loyola education influence your career?**

When I started school, I had no inkling I’d end up as a prosecutor. I’d worked in a grocery store in La Puente, CA since I was 16 and ended up in law school because I knew it was a pathway toward a more secure future. Then I went into Professor Laurie Levenson’s first-year Criminal Law class and I was fascinated by everything she taught us. She was the first step toward a career in the District Attorney’s Office, and I relied on her guidance throughout my time at Loyola and beyond. Professor William Hobbs’ Criminal Trial Advocacy course was absolutely life-changing for me. It gave me training in trial skills any young trial attorney would be lucky to receive. Hobbs was very particular, and he trained others to present the same way. And today, as a judge, I still draw on Hobbs because I know what should be required of the lawyers in front of me.

6. **What are your interests outside the courtroom?**

My passion lies in helping students from lower-income communities like the one I grew up in. I talk a lot about family and decision making. I tell them they should be shooting for the stars. Nothing is unattainable: You can push yourself, you can set goals, and you can do it. I know because I did it. With older students, I also talk a lot about crime and how bad decision making can negatively affect their futures. It just takes a single act. I know how true that is.

Appellate Resources purchases a sum certain in plaintiffs’ cases. That means if a plaintiff whose $1 million verdict has been appealed requests $100,000, the firm will provide them with that funding on a non-recourse basis in exchange for a $200,000 interest in the case. Upon a successful settlement, the plaintiff and his or her attorney split the remaining $700,000.

They are also working on a curriculum for continuing legal education classes for trial counsel. “I’ve seen certain patterns that are problems at the trial court level, things like an instructional error or an improper verdict form for which an appeals court might consider reversing a judgment,” said Joel. “So I created a list of the most important issues typically causing judgment reversals and sent it to plaintiffs’ organizations.”
Liam McGee '84

Liam McGee sums up his position as chairman, president and chief executive officer of The Hartford Financial Services Group in one sentence: “My job is to inspire people to do things that maybe they don’t think they can.” He started by inspiring himself.

McGee, who was born in Ireland, grew up in Southern California in what he describes as a humble upbringing. But he excelled academically, earning both a JD and an MBA. He has put both to good use over the years while climbing the ladder of banking behemoths Wells Fargo, Bank of America and finally to the top of The Hartford, a 200-year-old insurance and investment company.

McGee was rising through the ranks at Wells Fargo when he enrolled in Loyola’s evening program. “When I started, I was really at the very early stages of my career. I didn’t know if I was going to be successful. I was figuring it out on my own,” he said.

McGee passed the California State Bar exam, but he postponed practicing law in favor of continuing his career with Wells Fargo. In 1990, he joined Bank of America, where he became president of its Consumer and Small Business Bank and oversaw a business serving 50 million households and small businesses. During his tenure, McGee helped integrate several acquired banks, including FleetBoston, MBNA and LaSalle National Bank. His team also was responsible for high-profile innovations like Keep the Change, a program in which the bank rounded up customers’ purchases to the nearest dollar amount and deposited the difference in their accounts. McGee has even had his hand in monetary policy, serving two terms as a director of the Los Angeles branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Shaping the face of consumer banking came easily to McGee, thanks to the lessons he learned in law school. “The critical thinking skills and the writing classes were very influential. I happened to be working early in my career for some mentors who were very focused on writing. I’m a pretty active editor, and it’s because I learned economical writing in law school,” he said. “The reason you see more business people going to law school is for the critical thinking skills.”

In 2009, McGee brought his financial-services prowess to The Hartford. Much of his role involves traveling the country as one of the company’s biggest cheerleaders. He relishes the fact that each day on the job is different. One day, he is visiting 1,700 employees in Minneapolis. The next day, he may be chatting up investors in California or meeting with a distribution partner in St. Louis.

“There is no typical week. That’s one of the great things about my job,” he said.

Outside of the office, McGee focuses his energy on education and civic initiatives. He serves on the board of the Andreas H. Bechtler Arts Foundation and has acted as chairman of both the University of San Diego Board of Trustees and the United Way of Greater Los Angeles. “My wife and I had parents who inspired and required us to understand that getting a good education was the key to being successful and fulfilled in life,” he said. “I’ve been involved in Junior Achievement and the Junior League to help kids who don’t have intact families or role models like I did.”

Today, when McGee reflects on his career, he still considers his time in law school as one of his biggest challenges. “Sometimes people tell me I’m busy now. I say this is easy compared to the way I was then,” he said.

McGee, who recently visited campus on a business trip from his new base in Connecticut, retains strong connections to Loyola. “I still have several close friends from my time as a law student. It was an important chapter in my life. I have a great deal of affection for the school, and in particular the evening program. It is an important thing to have that available to working people,” he said. “The smartest people I’ve ever met were in my evening class at Loyola.”

“My job is to inspire people to do things that maybe they don’t think they can.”
James Gilliam '03

A quick glance around James Gilliam’s office at the ACLU of Southern California headquarters reveals that his life has changed dramatically since his days at Paul Hastings where he built the firm's pro bono department from scratch. Gone is the suit and tie. Added is a water dish and toys for his dog in his office. But his dedication to defending the rights of the underrepresented remains the same.

During his seven-year tenure as a litigation associate and associate pro bono coordinator at Paul Hastings, Gilliam worked extensively with the ACLU on civil rights and human rights cases. One of their highest-profile collaborations was a lawsuit against Los Angeles' B18 Immigration Center, which alleged immigrant detainees were being held in unsanitary conditions and being denied rights like mail correspondence and notification that they could be released on bond.

Given his history working on groundbreaking personal liberties cases with the ACLU, it was no surprise when the organization tapped him to become deputy executive director in 2010. Now, instead of spending his days in courtrooms, he keeps the organization running on a daily basis. A recent week found him meeting the new chief of police of Pasadena, CA, strategizing about fundraising, and reviewing and approving cases the ACLU is considering litigating.

“I view what I do as enabling our organization and our lawyers to do their work, the majority of which is conducting impact litigation,” he said. “A lot of people love the courtroom or doing deal documents in the boardroom. But I always loved managing and leading.”

During Gilliam’s tenure at Paul Hastings, he was the most junior attorney ever to hold the position of associate pro bono coordinator for the firm’s Los Angeles and Beijing offices. In that capacity, he developed the firm’s pro bono practice into a powerhouse. In 2010, the firm was named to The American Lawyer’s prestigious “A-List Pro Bono Scorecard” for the first time.

“They weren’t doing any pro bono cases when I got there,” said Gilliam. “I started by taking one adoption case from Public Counsel. Then it was eight, and then it was 12. They now have 21 different projects led by people whom I enlisted to help. Now all these different organizations are benefitting from our pro bono work, as well as clients who may never have connected with these attorneys otherwise.”

Additionally, Gilliam represented dozens of pro bono clients and logged about 200 hours of pro bono representation a year. He counts his successful representation of a Kenyan rape victim who sought asylum in the U.S. as a high point in his pro bono career. Other efforts included assisting an immigrant married to a U.S. citizen during his deportation proceedings. Gilliam wrote the brief in the case and was set to present oral arguments at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit before the case went to mediation.

Gilliam, the 2007 recipient of Loyola’s Pro Bono Alumni of the Year Award, has long been a public-interest crusader. He attended Loyola on a full scholarship as a public interest scholar. As a Loyola student, he was heavily involved with the Public Interest Law Foundation, in addition to his law review work. And he has returned to Loyola as an adjunct professor, teaching the Public Interest Law Practice Seminar and Sexual Orientation and the Law Seminar.

Prior to attending Loyola, from which he graduated Order of the Coif, Gilliam tasted the power of the law while working as an organizer in the lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender (LGBT) community in Nashville, TN. His work included spearheading the city’s Gay Pride Parade. “The city didn’t want to give us parade permits at first, and threatening lawsuits helped persuade city officials to give us the documents we needed to have our events,” he said. “I saw first-hand the power to threaten a lawsuit and see the city make changes. It made me realize how important becoming a lawyer could be and what a difference it could make.”

In 2010, Gilliam notched another accolade: The National LGBT Bar Association named him to its list of the “Best LGBT Lawyers under the Age of 40.” It was an important honor for Gilliam for many reasons. “It was the association’s first-ever year doing it,” he said. “And I turn 40 in December. So this was my last chance!”
Jessica Levinson ’05

When the economy sours, the office bustles for Jessica Levinson. As director of political reform for the nonprofit Center for Governmental Studies (CGS), Levinson helps shape state policy decisions and inform voters. And with the California economy buckling under the weight of the current budget crisis, Levinson finds that her services are in greater demand.

“The good and bad of what we do in terms of trying to shape reform is that it’s needed now more than ever,” she said. “Particularly, politics and the economy are intertwined. When the economy is bad, is it because we don’t have good public officials? And then, how do we elect public officials?”

Through a circuitous path, Levinson ended up at her dream destination: the intersection of law and politics. As director of political reform at the CGS, Levinson is charged with helping better inform the public on the political process. She does that in a number of ways.

From an office located steps from an old vault in a converted bank, Levinson spends a good deal of her time answering questions about the influence of money on politics. In her role at the CGS, which uses the tagline “solutions for democracy,” Levinson recently co-authored the law review article, “Ballot Box Budgeting in California: The Bane of the Golden State or an Overstated Problem?” She concluded that there is a link between the California initiative process and the state’s budget woes. Levinson paid particular attention to Proposition 26 on the November 2010 ballot. The initiative called for a two-thirds super-majority vote for state levies and charges— a move Levinson thinks could exacerbate California’s chronic problem of passing budgets on time. She also weighs in on the effects of money on elections, including assisting the city of West Hollywood craft a campaign finance ordinance.

Levinson contributes to the public discourse on state politics in many other ways. She provides commentary to national news outlets like National Public Radio and NBC News, and she posts pieces on The Huffington Post. Her organization creates educational “Voter Minute” online video reports on California ballot propositions, and she writes newspaper op-eds and law reviews. In addition, she was a panelist at Loyola’s “Rebooting California: Initiatives, Conventions & Government Reform” symposium, where she discussed the constitutionality of open primaries.

Putting her stamp on legislation, Levinson has helped craft measures on everything from campaign-finance reform to term limits. “A lot of what we do is analyze current proposals and laws, and suggest how to make them more effective,” she said.

Levinson has been especially active in bills involving redistricting—the means by which the boundaries of electoral districts are changed. She was instrumental in the crafting of California’s Proposition 11, known as the Voters First Act, which authorized the creation of a Citizens Redistricting Commission to oversee the redrawing of electoral districts, taking it out of the hands of legislators. “It’s not the fox guarding the henhouse, as it was with legislators in charge,” she said.

When Levinson first enrolled at Loyola, she envisioned law as a natural pathway into politics. “I thought that if I wanted to go into politics, what more important education is there than knowing how to write the laws and what’s permissible?” she said. The CGS offered her an internship after her first year, but she instead accepted an offer to be a research assistant for Professor Allan Ides, holder of the Christopher N. May Chair. She followed that with a summer associate position at Winston & Strawn LLP.

Levinson received her BA in English with a minor in economics magna cum laude from Loyola Marymount University. As a law student, Levinson was senior articles editor of the Loyola of Los Angeles International & Comparative Law Review, secretary of the International Law Society and an officer in the St. Thomas More Law Honor Society. She also participated in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, helping the elderly and indigent file their taxes.

After graduation, she secured a coveted clerkship with Hon. James V. Selna, U.S. District Court, Central District of California. Later, she accepted a position as a litigation associate with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, where her clients included AIDS Project Los Angeles. She also provided pro bono representation to homebuyers in a case against subprime mortgage lenders.

In 2009, Levinson returned to Loyola to teach the Campaign Finance Seminar and Money, Politics and the Supreme Court. She points to Ides as a major inspiration. “I had him for Civil Procedure; he was my second class on my first day of law school. I was just wowed by his knowledge, expertise and manner in the classroom,” she said. “He really showed me how you could use a law degree in so many important and interesting ways.”
Events

A pictorial review of alumni and campus event highlights from the 2009-2010 school year

1 | June 1, 2009
Swearing-In
Ceremony
Loyola Law School

2 | Aug. 19, 2009
Orange County
Alumni Mixer—Class
of 1996-2006
Home of Ali Jahangiri ’02,
Newport Beach, CA

3 | Sept. 13, 2009
12th-Annual Bob
Cooney Golf
Tournament
Coyote Hills Golf Course,
Fullerton, CA

4 | Oct. 2, 2009
Fifth-Annual
Champions of
Justice Tribute
Dinner
The Beverly Hills Hotel,
Beverly Hills, CA

5 | Oct. 4, 2009
Alumni Mentor Brunch
Loyola Law School
6 | Oct. 28, 2009
Dedication and Presentation of the Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. Chair in Civil Rights
California African-American Museum, Los Angeles, CA

7 | Oct. 30, 2009
The Federal Circuit as an Institution Patent Law Symposium
Loyola Law School

8 | Nov. 5, 2009
Alumni Grand Reunion
GRAMMY Museum & The Conga Room at L.A. LIVE, Los Angeles, CA

9 | Nov. 6, 2009
Piracy, Anti-Piracy and the Future of the Entertainment Business Symposium
Loyola Law School

10 | Nov. 12-14, 2009
Eighth Annual Greene Broillet & Wheeler, LLP National Civil Trial Competition
Loyola Law School
11 | Nov. 19-20, 2009
Western Conference on Tax Exempt Organizations
Sheraton Los Angeles Downtown Hotel, Los Angeles, CA

12 | Nov. 20, 2009
Fritz B. Burns Scholars Dinner
The California Club, Los Angeles, CA

13 | Dec. 2, 2009
Swearing-In Ceremony
Loyola Law School

14 | Dec. 2, 2009
Class of 2009 Order of the Coif Induction and Awards Breakfast
Loyola Law School

15 | Dec. 15, 2009
Grand Avenue Gang Luncheon
Loyola Law School

16 | Feb. 10, 2010
Law Day: St. Thomas More & St. Ignatius of Loyola Awards Dinner & Lecture
Loyola Law School

17 | Feb. 19, 2010
A Journey to Justice—Symposium and Awards Reception
Loyola Law School
18a | Mar. 3-5, 2010
Northern California Alumni Lunch and Receptions
Sacramento, CA (a); San Francisco, CA (b); and San Jose, CA (c)

18b

18c

19 | Mar. 14, 2010
Dean’s Brunch
Home of Dean Victor Gold, Los Angeles, CA

20 | Mar. 19, 2010
Loyola Law School

21 | Mar. 26, 2010
Injuries without Remedies—Civil Justice Program Symposium
Loyola Law School

22 | April 9, 2010
Fidler Institute on Criminal Justice
Loyola Law School
23 | April 10, 2010
Latino Scholarship Reception
Suede Lounge, Los Angeles, CA

24 | April 16, 2010
Salute To Leadership — Tribute Dinner and Roast of the Hon. Frederick J. Lower, Jr. ‘64
Montage, Beverly Hills, CA

25 | April 21, 2010
Public Interest Awards Reception
Loyola Law School

26 | May 16, 2010
2010 Commencement Ceremony
Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA

27 | May 20, 2010
Orange County Alumni Awards Reception
The Resort at Pelican Hill, Newport Coast, CA

Watchdog. Successful immigration and human rights attorneys must wear many hats. And Loyola’s Immigrant Justice Practicum (IJP) lets future practitioners try them all on—before they even leave school.

A two-semester program emphasizing the practical skills required for effective advocacy, the IJP begins in the fall with a two-credit-hour seminar. Each week, three adjunct professors from the National Immigration Legal Center (NILC) lead students through exercises that include everything from filing complaints with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and taking depositions with a translator, to working with bureaucratic public agencies and giving media interviews.

“When you are a public interest lawyer, you’re not just litigating. It’s a mix of policy, administrative and advocacy work, handling the media, direct client representation, interacting with supervising attorneys and navigating agency bureaucracies,” said Adjunct Professor Nora Preciado. “We are here to train students to do all those things that no one tells them about in class, the skills that will come in handy in the field.”

To ensure students learn those skills in a cohesive fashion, Preciado and her colleagues select real-life case studies as a framework for the semester. This year, the class is using Arizona’s SB 1070—the controversial state immigration enforcement bill.

“Arizona makes for a perfect lesson because it’s still evolving and we are able to ask the students to really think about what it means to bring a legal challenge. We are going to sit them down and say, ‘Where would you start? What claims would you even look at?’” she said. “Anybody can look at a pleading; the point is to start making them think, ‘How do you start to tackle something like that?’”

In the spring, students move on to externships at top public-interest agencies like the NILC, the ACLU, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Esperanza Immigrants Rights Project and the Legal Aid Foundation, while continuing to meet with their class twice a month to discuss work experiences. While practical legal questions are still discussed, these class sessions delve into issues of emotions, attachments and work-life balance.

“In this field, it’s impossible not to take on the trauma your clients are experiencing, and that’s something the students don’t really get until they witness it,” Preciado said. “So we talk a lot about how you take care of yourself.”

Created in 2009, the IJP was the brainchild of esteemed human rights attorney and Associate Professor Kathleen Kim, who pioneered civil litigation on behalf of human trafficking survivors at the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights in San Francisco.

“The idea was to design a program that would foster a legal and academic community that was sensitive to the changing needs and challenges of the immigrant population in Los Angeles and beyond,” Kim said. And Loyola’s close relationship with—and close proximity to—the nation’s top public interest firms made it an ideal place for such a program.

Last spring, the inaugural cohort of students was able to help assist a variety of agencies prepare wage and hour cases, provide direct-client services for deportation cases, file impact litigation concerning mentally ill immigration detainees and represent minors in immigration court.

“Rather than just creating a synthetic laboratory on campus, we’re actually sending our students to these agencies and providing a vivid and realistic learning experience,” Kim said. “We are right in the heart of the immigrants’ rights community.”
Standard Deduction:
3-year JD/Tax LLM offers students a uniquely accelerated dual degree

From his vantage point behind the lectern, Loyola taxation Professor Ted Seto saw many of his most promising students wrestle with the same career conundrum year after year. When graduation started looming, these tax-attorneys-in-training had to decide whether or not to commit to an extra year of specialized coursework. A tax master of laws degree (LLM) can bring increased job opportunities in a hyper-competitive market. But the program often requires forgoing another year’s salary — up to $165,000.

“One of the main problems with a traditional LLM is you have to spend a fourth year in school. That’s a hard thing to ask of someone these days,” he said. “There is a real opportunity cost in order to be fully trained in tax law.”

Luckily for Seto’s current crop of students, there’s now an alternative to the old status quo. In 2009, Loyola became the first law school in the nation to offer a fully integrated, joint JD/Tax LLM Program, allowing students to earn a JD and a tax LLM in the same three years it normally takes to earn a law degree.

This 24-credit degree program places students on a fast track of taxation coursework, which begins right after the first year of law school ends, the program works best for those who enter school dedicated to pursuing a career in tax law or to committing soon after.

“Admittedly, it’s the rare student who comes into law school knowing they want to pursue taxation,” Seto said. “Most students come into law school not knowing much about it, then they take a couple of classes and say, ‘Oh my goodness, this is actually interesting. I thought I’d be bored out of my mind.’”

Last year, the program only accepted eight students out of a much larger pool of applicants, many with backgrounds in finance, accounting or economics. In a competitive job market, employers are increasingly requiring the new tax lawyers they hire to hold tax LLM degrees, and Loyola’s tax courses are heralded as among the best in the country.

“By the time they interview, they will already have quite sophisticated training in tax,” Seto said. And with a second-year summer session open, students in the program are free to study abroad or accept employment during that period as well, without any conflicting academic obligations. □
Back to School: Education clinic addresses core issues of juvenile justice

A teenager was caught doodling in class—and the picture she’d penned wasn’t very pretty. In fact, it appeared to combine certain school officials and acts of cartoonish violence.

Still, the student never made a verbal or physical threat. Her drawing looked just like millions of other artistic renderings etched by frustrated students experiencing bad days throughout the history of education.

So it came as a big surprise when the school district accused the girl of making a terrorist threat and began expulsion procedures. That’s when Loyola’s Center for Juvenile Law & Policy (CJLP) stepped in.

Now entering its sixth year on the Loyola campus, the CJLP is already well-known for its juvenile justice clinic. This program gives law students—under the supervision of a licensed public defender—the opportunity to represent minors in the overburdened criminal delinquency system.

The center has been lauded as a successful collaboration between Loyola Law School and the Los Angeles County Public Defender’s Office. The majority of CJLP cases end favorably or with reduced sentencing. Yet it was clear within the CJLP that solid courtroom representation alone wouldn’t be enough to change many clients’ lives when so many were also failing in school—if they were attending at all.

So in 2009, the CJLP decided to take a more holistic approach to representation. The accompanying Youth Education Justice Clinic was created to ensure that CJLP’s youth clients could get the educational services to which they were entitled, in the hopes of keeping them in school and out of trouble. The clinic also sought to improve the quality of juvenile representation, and to redirect the justice system to its original purpose of individualized, community-based rehabilitation.

“For many of these young people, there is a direct pipeline between school and prison,” said Associate Professor Michael Smith, the education clinic’s director. “The same population that ends up in delinquency court also suffers disproportionately from undiagnosed mental illnesses and learning disabilities that often manifest as poor attendance, failing grades and discipline problems.”

In most instances, the delinquency and education clinics work hand in hand to secure the best outcome for a client. In the case of the doodling teenager, the justice clinic represented the young woman first in court, where ultimately the prosecutor decided against filing any criminal charges. Next, the education clinic filed an appeal with the school district and argued in an administrative law hearing that the expulsion was a severe over-reaction, not to mention a violation of the student’s First Amendment rights.

“Ultimately, the district decided to do the right thing,” Smith said. “The student remained in the district.”

During the education clinic’s first year on campus, Smith and a small staff of student attorneys took on 46 cases. Many involved fighting expulsions for behavior issues that turned out to be symptoms of undiagnosed issues like post-traumatic stress disorder, prenatal drug exposure, attention deficit disorder and other problems.

“Too often, the system simply removes these students,” Smith said. “Instead, they should be properly assessed and given access to an individualized education plan to which they are entitled by law. That’s what our clinic pushes to make happen.”

And that’s exactly what the clinic did this year for a young man diagnosed with mental retardation who was charged with multiple felonies in four different cases, one of which originated at school.

While the district initially wanted to expel the young man, the clinic was able to argue the incident was a manifestation of his disability. The student received improved school services through an individualized education plan that took into account his disability and learning style.

When he was initially denied services at a regional center, the clinic also appealed. He has now qualified for life-long services and benefits.

Meanwhile, the justice clinic was able to persuade the juvenile court to send the young man’s criminal cases to the Juvenile Mental Health Court. There, the client received encouragement and support in a court environment that sought to take his individual needs into account. After less than a year, his four cases were dismissed.

The youth education clinic also works with homeless and foster youth, who are afforded special protections concerning quick enrollment, school-preference and transportation. Because transient students can oftentimes be ignored or overlooked by school officials, these laws are designed to ensure that transient pupils have the same access to a seamless education as other students do. But while the clinic has had remarkable results advocating for its clients, the majority of young people never secure legal representation to fight for their education. “There are so many students that simply fall through the cracks and never get the help they need,” according to Smith. “It’s unfortunate that many times, we don’t hear from them again until they end up in prison.”
By the Book: 
Military Veterans Justice Project develops innovative way to aid service members

For Max Ligot '12 and Jamaica Abare '12, creating a comprehensive guide to legal resources for veterans started simply enough.

“I have a really good friend who’s a veteran who lost his job because he was in the hospital for a couple weeks,” said Ligot. “He didn’t know whom to call or what kind of rights he might have. The idea of the project just hit home.”

From there, Ligot and Abare found themselves on an odyssey that would take them from Skid Row to the Veterans Affairs (VA) hospital as they searched out veterans to determine their needs. Working under the auspices of Externship Director Barbara Blanco and veteran Adam Siegler ’84, the students conducted in-depth research to produce The VALOR Guide: Veterans Access to Legal Organizations & Resources, a 100-page book designed to help military veterans access aid services in Los Angeles County. As the duo discovered, finding resources for veterans was easier said than done.

“If you just have a tour of duty, serve a couple of years, there’s no free legal services,” said Abare. “So we went to the VA hospital and asked, ‘Who would you talk to at the VA if you had a legal issue?’ They’d say, ‘Oh, you talk to a social worker, or you talk to the patient advocate.’ So, we’d go talk to them and they would say, ‘We’re not really actually allowed to refer out for legal services.’”

As it turned out, the extent of the help offered in many instances was a single sheet of paper with minimal information. So Ligot and Abare set out to compile a comprehensive list of resources, all the while guided by Siegler’s vision.

“A big part of our project was gathering that information, kind of breaking the walls down, building the bridges going between the organizations and compiling that in one place,” said Ligot. “Once we put everything together, we looked at it, and we said, ‘Wow! It’s 100 pages of information!’”

With the assistance of Siegler’s firm, Greenberg Traurig LLP, the students published a book that serves as a quick reference for veterans. “You can pick up the guide and say, ‘OK, I live in West Los Angeles, these are all of the legal providers there.’ Or if they’re looking for a family law expert, ‘OK, I’ll go to the family law section and look at the providers there.’ And you can cross-reference the two and make it really easy.”

The book is currently being distributed by Loyola’s Military Veterans Justice Project. The digital guide is located online at http://intranet.lls.edu/docs/ValorGuide.pdf.

Support MVJP at alumni.lls.edu/giving/online

Military Veterans Justice Project

Loyola Law School launched the Military Veterans Justice Project (MVJP) in 2008 as a way to help returning service personnel by establishing scholarships for veterans and assisting them in protecting their legal rights.

“Loyola has a long-standing relationship with our nation’s veterans,” said Dean Victor Gold. “We plan to honor their service by making it easier for veterans to attend law school and navigate legal hurdles in keeping with our mission of social justice.”

The VALOR Guide is one component of the MVJP’s mission:

All Americans owe a debt to the young men and women in our armed forces. As they return to civilian life, it is fitting that we show our gratitude for their sacrifice and service. This is the purpose of the Military Veterans Justice Project at Loyola Law School.

The mission of Loyola Law School’s Military Veterans Justice Project is to provide scholarships to students admitted to the Law School who have served in the United States Armed Forces in Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere, and to provide targeted legal services to veterans of the United States Armed Forces who would otherwise be underserved by the legal profession. These goals are in keeping with the Law School’s overall mission to promote social justice and to educate our students to be leaders of both the legal profession and the community it serves.
Loyola’s major law reviews—the *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review*, the *Entertainment Law Review* and the *International and Comparative Law Review*—have a long-standing tradition of advancing legal scholarship and shaping the law on a number of levels and across many issue areas. In addition to soliciting and editing articles on emerging legal issues, the publications frequently bring to campus a who’s who list of policy makers, theorists, public officials and legal scholars to discuss a range of topics, from human rights to the impact of Netflix on Hollywood.

Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review

The topics explored by the *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* run the gamut, from the home-mortgage crisis to California’s Three Strikes Law, to the Class Action Fairness Act. Loyola’s largest student-run publication prides itself on the advancement of legal scholarship of all types, providing perspectives that are both fresh and in-depth. Publishing four thought-provoking issues a year, the journal is dedicated to identifying and advancing new research by scholars, practitioners and its editors alike. Overseen by a board of emerging scholars, the *Law Review* relies on student editors to contribute notes and commentary that are regularly included in every issue.

The *Law Review* also coordinates and hosts major symposia on timely legal matters. Recently, it hosted “Rebooting California: Initiatives, Conventions and Government Reform,” an exploration of the law and policies of constitutional reform in California. Previous symposia have covered other compelling topics, such as “Injuries without Remedies” and “The Federal Circuit as an Institution,” the latter which featured the Hon. S. Jay Plager and a slate of top scholars. The *Law Review* is currently planning its next event for spring semester 2011.

Another distinguishing factor of the *Law Review* is the student symposium, which allows staff members the opportunity to not only write on an emerging area of the law, but to present their research to legal professionals, faculty and their classmates at a live event. Recent student-run events have focused on legal issues related to technology and integrity in government, with resulting articles covering various aspects of the topics, including prosecutorial misconduct, the firings of U.S. attorneys, contempt citations, political campaign contributions and the duty of confidentiality for government lawyers.

Entertainment Law Review

In publication for more than 20 years, Loyola’s *Entertainment Law Review (ELR)* has long established itself as an authoritative source for professional and scholarly articles in the fields of entertainment, sports and intellectual property law. To satisfy its highly influential subscriber base that includes judges, educators, attorneys, as well as agents, managers and artists, this student-run publication has successfully kept pace over the years with the rapidly changing industries it covers, from publishing articles on the legal implications of VHS recordings, to current issues such as the battle over digital file sharing. Today, the *ELR* publishes three issues a year that feature articles delving into questions of intellectual property rights and communications regulation; constitutional, antitrust, bankruptcy, contract and corporate law; and the emerging fields of digital and Internet law.

Recent journal topics have included review of the landmark status of baseball stadiums, pornography laws in Second Life and the current non-regulation of fantasy football leagues. Last year, the *ELR* dedicated an entire issue to the GRAMMY Foundation Entertainment Law Writing Competition, which featured articles questioning the legality of re-selling digital music and the possibility of using crowd funding as a model to support the struggling U.S. recording industry. Other articles have been the result of symposia discussions, and featured such topics as independent filmmaking, international rights of publicity and the use of law and identity to script cultural production.

International and Comparative Law Review

Loyola’s *International & Comparative Law Review (ILR)* is known for tackling social-justice issues of worldwide importance. Last year, the *ILR* presented “The Significance of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,” which featured academics, practitioners and Ecuador’s ambassador to the U.S. “Speakers came from all over the world to discuss the convention, its method of protecting the rights of people with disabilities, and how the United States’ involvement will impact global disability rights,” said Anne Gibbons ’10, former executive symposium editor. “The *ILR* will publish a special issue dedicated to the topics addressed during the course of the symposium, as they are generally under-reported in
The publications frequently bring to campus a who’s who list of policy makers, theorists, public officials and legal scholars to discuss a range of topics.

law reviews and journals.”

In 2009, the ILR presented “Litigating Genocide: When, Where and How—Case Studies in the Armenian Genocide and Other Historic Human Rights Violations.” Previously, the ILR presented “Transformation in Iraq: From Ending a Modern War to Creating a Modern Peace,” which explored moral and legal obligations of an occupier to an occupied country and the political realities of exiting Iraq. “The annual ILR symposia are important to the life of the Loyola community because they generate discussion on campus of timely and important topics,” said Gibbons. “Additionally, they are important to the success of the ILR itself, because they attract renowned experts who contribute articles to be published in our symposium edition.”

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Brittany Hayes ’13
If Brittany Hayes learned one thing during her journey to a silver medal at the 2008 Summer Olympic Games, it was that stress is relative. Hayes, a member of the U.S. Women’s Water Polo Team, has perfected the fine art of performing under pressure. “I’m an Olympian. I trained six hours a day. It taught me that if I could train for the Olympics, I could be prepared for law school,” she said. “Everyone says that law school is grueling. But no matter how stressed I get about finals, it’s manageable. Nothing’s impossible if you put your mind to it.”

Hayes has been proving that point since she was six years old and wanted to join her brother at water polo practice. Despite her brother’s protests, Hayes insisted that her mom take her to the pool. For three years, she was the only girl on the all-boy water polo squad—and a fierce competitor at that. “I would come to practice in my ballet dress, and all the boys would laugh at me,” she said. “But they would stop laughing once I got in the water.”

Despite the early static, Hayes continued to play water polo through college. She was a standout at the University of Southern California, where as a freshman she helped her team capture the NCAA Women’s Water Polo Championship. From there, she joined the U.S. National Water Polo Team and competed on the world championship team in Australia. But devastated by a cut at the Pan-America Games, Hayes decided to pursue a master’s degree in criminology at the University of California, Irvine. However, she never gave up training. Her perseverance led to an offer to play for the U.S. Olympic Water Polo Team in Beijing, an experience she says she will never forget.

“I’m an Olympian. I trained six hours a day. It taught me that if I could train for the Olympics, I could be prepared for law school.”

“I would score a goal in a big moment. Twenty years later, I was in that moment,” she said. “In the opening game against China, I jumped in the pool, and two minutes later I scored a goal.”

In fact, Hayes initially enrolled in Loyola’s evening program with the intention of competing in the 2012 Summer Games in London. But that plan changed. “I knew that if I kept training, I couldn’t give my all to law school,” she said. “Water polo really limited what I could do. So I decided to retire.” And while she has officially hung up her suit as a player, she still keeps one foot in the water by coaching a high-school girls water polo squad for the Junior Olympics.

Now, instead of spending her days in the pool, Hayes spends them with law firms. She splits her time between the law offices of alumnus Rich Foster ’81 and Goya & Associates, two jobs she secured as a result of her involvement in water polo. “One is a sports law firm, and the other is an estate planning firm. Obviously sports law is a huge advantage for me because I already know so much about that area,” said Hayes, who is also considering a future in criminal law.

Recently, Hayes moved on to an entirely different sort of training: preparing her pooch, Riley, for wiener dog competitions. He has already won two competitions, and he competed in the 15th Annual Weinermunchel Wiener Nationals, an event sponsored by the eponymous hot dog chain. As always, Hayes has big dreams. “My boyfriend and I really want to incorporate our dogs’ running into a charity.”
Robin Baral ’10

As a student at Loyola, Robin Baral discovered a passion for environmental and land-use law, a passion that would serve to inspire his class to rethink how they could make a “green” impact on Loyola’s campus and in the Los Angeles community overall.

Baral is a 2010 graduate who has brought his classroom knowledge to life. His commitment to environmental law and the study of contracts related to alternative-energy financing gave him the inspiration for the 2010 class gift: raising money to install solar panels on Loyola’s campus. This gift supports the school’s Loyola Goes Green program, which focuses on recycling and other sustainability programs, while at the same time helping reduce the greater carbon footprint in Los Angeles.

Baral has always been interested in environmental and land-use topics but it was at Loyola that he was able to take his interest to the next level. “Professor Selmi really took the time to work with me and discuss the opportunities available in environmental and land-use law. He encouraged me to apply for an externship with the California Department of Justice. And with his guidance, I was selected for the position—a position that set the foundation for my career path.”

As a land-law extern with the Division of Public Rights at the California Department of Justice in Los Angeles, Baral became involved in the type of work he hoped to eventually do as an attorney. While there, Baral performed legal research, drafted motions and assisted with trial and appellate court preparations. He also attended public hearings and closed meetings on behalf of state-agency clients, such as the California Coastal Commission.

His externship was not the only way Baral was able to gain hands-on experience in environmental and land-use law. Baral was active with several student groups and land-use associations. He served as chair of the Greener Campus Committee, student liaison for the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Los Angeles, board member for the Loyola Environmental Law Society and president of the Loyola Real Estate Law Society. Baral recognized the importance of taking his knowledge outside the classroom and gaining practical experience so he could hit the ground running professionally after graduation.

Baral really enjoyed his work with the ULI Los Angeles. “I liked how ULI connects students to broader issues in real estate and land development,” he said. “The people there were always eager to come to campus to speak and network with students. As the student liaison with the ULI, I helped to set up several events. It was exciting to be able to connect directly with professionals in the field.”

Baral is looking forward to starting his environmental and land-use law career and feels like he is already an active member of the field. He recently completed a field project focused on land use and on evaluating survey results to possibly create a more pedestrian-friendly area for Loyola Marymount University in Westchester, CA.

“I’m excited to move to the next level in my career,” said Baral. “Thanks to the support of faculty like Professor Selmi and many others who encouraged me to take an active role outside the classroom, I feel truly prepared to make a difference.”

“Thanks to the support of faculty like Professor Selmi and many others who encouraged me to take an active role outside the classroom, I feel truly prepared to make a difference.”
Tenure-Track Faculty

Carlos Berdejo
Before joining the faculty at Loyola Law School, Associate Professor Carlos Berdejo was a graduate student at Harvard University. Prior to beginning his graduate studies, he was an associate at the New York offices of Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP, which he joined upon his graduation from Yale Law School.

A former corporate finance and securities lawyer, Berdejo received his Ph.D. in economics from Harvard in May 2010. His dissertation focused on understanding the impact of judicial institutions on judges’ behaviors. One of the chapters of his dissertation explored the link between judicial elections and criminal sentencing.

Berdejo never gave much thought to judicial elections or sentencing guidelines before graduate school. It was outside his professional field of expertise and he had no personal experience with the criminal justice system. “That’s what’s great about academia,” he said. “If there’s a question you find interesting and you feel that the answer may have significant social implications, you have the freedom to go out there and get it.”

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Berdejo came to the United States to pursue his undergraduate studies in economics at Harvard University. After graduating from Harvard in 1998, he went on to Yale Law School, where he further distinguished himself as an Olin Fellow at the Center for Law, Economics and Public Policy. At Yale, he conducted research analyzing the different legal regimes that govern the market for corporate control in Latin American countries.

A year long stint as the student director of Yale’s Immigration Clinic presented Berdejo with the opportunity to mentor fellow students for the first time. It was an experience that stuck with him for years to come. “It was something I found extremely rewarding, being able to teach and mentor,” he said.

Upon his law school graduation, Berdejo moved to New York City and spent three years as a corporate attorney, representing foreign and domestic issuers in a diverse range of public and private financings, as well as on various federal and state securities law issues. As an associate, he thrived on using economic analysis to address his clients’ legal issues. He also devoted time to pro bono work, representing detained aliens in asylum cases, and volunteered to mentor summer associates each year.

By 2004, Berdejo wanted to further explore the complexities of economics as a tool for understanding the world and was ready to pursue his doctorate. Before heading back to Harvard, he spent time volunteering in Guatemala to pursue his personal interest in economic development issues in Latin America. In Guatemala, he worked with a farmers association, where he was tasked with advising farmers on ways to generate more income.

Today, Berdejo said Loyola’s distinguished record of community outreach and service drew him to the school. “It was obvious to me that this is a place that really cares. I went to a Jesuit high school and my education had a big influence on the type of person I am today,” he said. “My goal is to help students understand what they are learning here does not remain in a vacuum; the analytical tools and legal knowledge they will gain during their stay at Loyola can be used to fight for social justice and make our communities better places to live.”

Berdejo is teaching Securities Regulation and Business Associations, among other courses.

Simona Grossi
Associate Professor Simona Grossi is Loyola’s newest Civil Procedure and Comparative Law instructor. She was seven years into a successful career as a high-powered litigator specializing in international litigation at the Bonelli Erede Pappalardo Law Firm—Italy’s largest law firm—when she decided to take leave in 2007 to study civil procedure in the United States.

“I was dealing with American companies as a litigator and also writing a book on civil procedure. But I wanted to be able to write about it in a way that was understandable to an international audience,” she said. “I wanted to study and grow more open-minded.”

 Barely a week into a year-long LLM program at the University of California, Berkeley Law School, however, the inquisitive senior associate decided a year wouldn’t do. She’d have to stay on for a Ph.D. “Once I started learning, I was very fascinated and I wanted to know more and more. The more I learned, the more I loved it.”

Over the next three years, Grossi devoted herself to a comparative analysis of Italian and American civil procedure at the federal level. Any free time was filled sitting in on civil jury trials, which don’t exist in Italy, as judges there rule on all non-criminal disputes. Grossi also became fascinated with the much more liberal American system of discovery, which seemingly opened up a whole new world of possibilities—and complexities—to even basic cases.

“The U.S. is exceptional in many ways, and this is truly fascinating,” she said.
Most importantly, she wants to instill in her students a love for the endless pursuit of knowledge of the law. “My goal is to make my passion the passion of my students as well,” she said.

“Some of the most gratifying letters we received after the election were from voters in places like Georgia, Indiana and North Carolina just saying, ‘Hey thank you for being here. Thank you for making sure when I went to the ballot box it counted,’” he said. “It was heartwarming. Leading that effort was an amazing experience. It provoked a sense of awe at every turn.”

Born and raised in New Jersey, Levitt attended Harvard University, where he created his own undergraduate major entitled “visual propaganda,” the study of how large groups of people are influenced by large groups of images. A Fulbright scholar who spent a year in Germany, Levitt later returned to his alma mater for law school, graduating magna cum laude in 2002. He also received an MPA from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government that same year.

Levitt went on to clerk for Judge Stephen Reinhardt of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit before joining the non-partisan Brennan Center for Justice at New York University. There he was involved in several high-stakes voting rights cases, and represented the defense in Crawford v. Marion County Election Board—an ultimately unsuccessful 2008 Supreme Court challenge to a state’s voter identification requirements.

When not authoring dozens of legal articles, chapters and mimeographs, or trying federal cases and providing expert testimony before Congress on issues of voting rights, Levitt teaches on those topics. He is teaching Constitutional Law in the fall semester. He will also teach election law-related courses.

Today, he says the relationships he has made with students remain one of greatest joys of his career. “One of my great pleasures has been following the careers of my students, and I so look forward to doing the same at Loyola,” he said. “I love the ability to make and hold connections with students. It’s something that I anticipate will never get old.”
Clinical Professors

Gary Craig

Clinical Professor Gary Craig knows that some friends and colleagues question how he could put aside a lucrative partnership at the Los Angeles office of Sidley Austin LLP to devote himself to training the next generation of lawyers—young men and women who might replace him in private practice one day. After all, Craig was still very much in his prime when he made the game-changing decision to teach earlier this year. The career litigator, who joined Sidley fresh out of Stanford Law School in 1997, had carved out a distinguished career for himself representing major accounting firms and corporations in securities fraud litigation, professional liability and negligence actions.

“Some people thought I was crazy,” joked Craig, who remains of counsel at Sidley. “But this is something I’ve wanted to do for a long time. I want to give students the benefit of my experiences and help them to be better prepared to hit the ground running when they begin their careers.”

This won’t be Craig’s first foray into the field of education. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Occidental College in 1989, he worked as an admissions counselor, and later spent three years serving as a counselor and manager for federal and non-profit organizations dedicated to preparing low-income high school students for college.

As an attorney, Craig was instrumental in establishing an educational partnership between Sidley’s Los Angeles office and Dorsey High School’s Law Magnet Program, augmenting the program’s curriculum with hands-on workshops and field trips that introduce students to the wide variety of careers within the legal community. Craig also served as a coach for the Law Magnet’s mock trial team.

While he will continue helping high school students explore different careers, Craig said he wanted the opportunity to really delve into more advanced topics with students already dedicated to the legal profession. At Loyola, Craig will teach Legal Research & Writing and Ethical Lawyering, topics his background as a litigator prepared him well to teach. “Research and writing are the foundation of litigation. Whatever you do in litigation, it starts with those skills,” Craig said.

Aimee Dudovitz

Clinical Professor Aimee Dudovitz comes to Loyola from the public-interest firm Strumwasser & Woocher, where she specialized in election, education and public law. She was also an associate at the Los Angeles office of Irell & Manella. Dudovitz will bring her extensive private-practice experience to bear as a professor of Legal Research & Writing.

In her six years at Strumwasser, Dudovitz’s practice included advising candidates for local, state and federal office. She was a member of the team serving as California counsel for the Obama for America campaign.

Before she began life as a practicing public-interest attorney appearing in state and federal courtrooms, Dudovitz took a two-year detour to get a perspective from the other side of the bench. She served as a law clerk to the Hon. Dean D. Pregerson, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, where she churned out legal briefs for the court at a fast and furious pace. When her year-long assignment was up, she signed on to work for the judge’s father, the Hon. Harry Pregerson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Indeed, the insights she gained while clerking made her an attractive candidate for Irell & Manella. During her first year at the firm, Dudovitz was part of the team that successfully defended the California State Senate in an action under the federal Voting Rights Act, which challenged the district lines for the California State Legislature following the 2000 census. She drafted two briefs in the case filed with the U.S. Supreme Court. She was also part of the Irell & Manella team that represented the National Organization of Women Legal Defense & Education Fund in an amicus curiae supporting the petitioners in the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case, Lawrence v. Texas.

Now embarking on yet another new challenge, Dudovitz believes her breadth of experience will make her a great source

“From figuring out how to set up a Westlaw account to deciding what clients the firm should take on, I’ve been in every situation.”
of advice for students just getting started. “I’ve had a very diverse career, and three very different firm experiences,” she said. “From figuring out how to set up a Westlaw account to deciding what clients the firm should take on, I’ve been in every situation.”

Dudovitz graduated Order of the Coif from UC Davis School of Law. She received her BA Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Maureen Pacheco

Maureen Pacheco is clinical director of the Center for Juvenile Law & Policy (CJLP) and an associate clinical professor of law, positions for which she is ideally suited after trying more than 50 criminal jury trials in her 22 years at the Los Angeles County Public Defender’s Office. Having served as the juvenile justice legislative and policy advisor for two years before joining the Loyola faculty, she brings a unique courtroom perspective to the classroom.

“I loved working in the Public Defender’s Office, and I have great respect for my former colleagues who work in the trenches day after day because they care deeply about the clients and about the cause of justice,” she said. “I was fortunate to have incredible opportunities, ranging from trials to mental health court to appellate work and, finally, juvenile legislation and policy work. Here at Loyola, however, I get the satisfaction of doing all of those things, and on top of that, I’m training a cadre of students who can go out into the world and carry on the mission. I can’t imagine a better job.”

As a zealous juvenile-justice advocate, Pacheco has worked with the California Public Defenders Association as its primary juvenile-justice liaison, writing position papers and testifying as an expert witness before the California Legislature. Pacheco sits on the board of the Pacific Juvenile Defender Center, where she co-founded and co-chairs the Amicus Committee. Now, she relishes the chance to train students who will carry on the cause.

“The benefits of the CJLP’s clinical program for our youth clients are immense—almost immeasurable. Many well-intentioned and hardworking juvenile defenders are hamstringed from doing more than ‘triaging’ their cases due to the limited resources and high caseloads,” she said. “Our students see how important it is that we slow down the system that would otherwise treat these children as widgets on a conveyor belt. In the process of learning everything about the client’s case, developing an attorney-client relationship and developing a case theory and plan, the students begin to see how their training is applicable to their real life responsibilities, and I see them becoming lawyers before my eyes. It’s gratifying and amazing.”

A frequent lecturer on all aspects of juvenile justice, she has led seminars at the Juvenile Law Institute, Partnership Conference, California Public Defenders Association Annual Delinquency Seminar and Beyond the Bench. She has co-chaired the Mental Health Committee of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and she was recently invited to chair the organization’s Juvenile Justice Committee. Pacheco currently sits on numerous local and statewide committees.

Pacheco spent a year and a half in practice with Mitchell, Silberberg and Knupp LLP before joining the Los Angeles County Public Defender’s Office. Pacheco received her JD magna cum laude and Order of the Coif from Georgetown University Law Center, where she was an associate editor of the Georgetown Law Review. She received her BA magna cum laude from the University of Michigan, where she was a Regents Scholar.

Anders “Andy” Christiansen

Anders “Andy” Christiansen was a practicing tax attorney who plied his trade for esteemed firms like accounting powerhouse Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Christiansen was drawn to tax law early in his legal studies. “I had a really good tax professor in law school, which led me to take several of his classes and inspired further study,” he said. “Income tax was one of the best classes I took in law school. I hope as a professor to give my students a similar experience.” This fall, Christiansen is teaching Income Taxation I.

Christiansen graduated fourth in the class of 2004 at UCLA School of Law, and received the Bruce Hochman Scholarship, awarded to the top tax student in each graduating class. He spent the next year clerking for Judge Fortunato Pedro “Pete” Benavides on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in Austin, TX, before joining the Washington, D.C. office of Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale & Dorr.

In 2007, Christiansen joined the London office of Deloitte Tax LLP, where he focused on tax-efficient structuring for U.K.-parented multinational companies. He later returned stateside to work for Deloitte’s New York City office, where he focused on structuring mergers and acquisitions, as well as assisting companies with optimizing their tax structures.

For Christiansen, the desire to teach is practically embedded in his DNA. His father and brother are both college professors. So it was a natural transition to meld instruction with his love of tax law.

“I’ve always been interested in how the tax system distributes the burden of funding government among different classes of people, and more recently, how tax havens play a role in altering or distorting the distribution of the tax burden,” he said. “Large corporations are often able to shift profits to low-taxation areas. When the government collects less revenue from corporations, it has to turn to the rest of us to make up the shortfall.”
Professor and
Former Dean Retires
Professor Gerald T. McLaughlin

Professor Gerald T. McLaughlin wrote the book on Loyola Law School. Literally. In 2000, with assistance from the Fritz B. Burns Foundation, he wrote and published *Loyola Law School: A Sense of Purpose and a Sense of Mission*. The tome is a comprehensive history of the school at which McLaughlin himself played a pivotal role for nearly 20 years.

McLaughlin joined Loyola as its 14th dean on January 1, 1991 and served in that capacity until March 1, 1999. Focused on alumni outreach, McLaughlin oversaw the tripling of alumni who responded to the Annual Fund during his tenure. He also orchestrated the construction of the current parking garage, which for the first time allowed all faculty, students and staff to park on campus. McLaughlin’s other campus expansion initiatives included purchase of the building now known as Founders Hall and the land that would eventually house the Girardi Advocacy Center.

Leaving an academic legacy of service and substance, McLaughlin instituted the 40-hour pro bono requirement for students and the joint JD-MBA degree. He also encouraged the law reviews to raise their profiles by publishing symposia on a wide variety of legal topics. A renowned commercial law expert, McLaughlin lectured and wrote extensively in the field of letters of credit.

Prior to joining Loyola, McLaughlin was an associate dean and professor at Brooklyn Law School. Previously, he taught at the law schools at the University of Connecticut, Fordham University and Georgetown University. Before entering academia, McLaughlin worked in the New York office of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton LLP.

McLaughlin earned his BA summa cum laude from Fordham College and his LLB from New York University Law School, where he was a Root Tilden Scholar and managing editor of the law review.

“Under Gerry’s leadership, Loyola Law School took great strides in building alumni support for the school and in advancing our social justice mission. He started the Cancer Legal Resource Center and was the moving force behind making Loyola the first California law school to require that all graduates perform pro bono work. Today, our students provide over 40,000 hours of pro bono services every year. Much of what Loyola is today grew out of Gerry’s leadership.”
—Dean Victor Gold

“From the first day he arrived here, Gerry McLaughlin immediately became the heart and soul of Loyola Law School. I saw first-hand what Gerry accomplished and how much of himself he gave to the Law School. No law school ever had a more loyal dean, and we are all in his debt.”
—Professor Dan Selmi

“Gerry McLaughlin is a humanist. You see in his eyes and grin that you are in the presence of a warm, human heart. He is something of a Latin scholar. Best of all, he is an Irishman who can always be counted on for a long, funny Irish story.”
—Professor Emeritus Bob Benson
Professors of the Year

Each year, the members of the graduating class for the day and evening divisions, respectively, present the Excellence in Teaching Award to a member of the faculty. The 2010 recipients were:

Professor Daniel P. Selmi
Dan Selmi is the Fritz B. Burns Professor of Real Property at Loyola Law School. His courses include Environmental Law, Land Use Regulation, Torts and the Natural Resources Law Seminar.

While in law school, Selmi was comments editor of the Santa Clara Law Review. After graduation, he served as law clerk to the Hon. Manuel L. Real, U.S. District Court, Central District of California. Selmi was appointed a deputy attorney general for the State of California, serving from 1976-83 in the Environmental Law and Natural Resources Law Sections. He was a lecturer at the University of California, Irvine from 1979-80 and an adjunct professor at Loyola Law School from 1981-83. He joined Loyola’s full-time faculty in 1983 and has served as associate dean for academic affairs from 1990-93. Selmi has also served as a reporter to the Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Committee for the Central District of California. During the 1993-94 academic year, he was a visiting scholar at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C.

Selmi is co-editor of the six volume treatise, California Environmental Law and Land Use Practice, and co-author of the casebook Land Use Regulation: Cases and Materials. Over his career he has briefed more than 35 appellate cases involving environmental and land-use law, and argued more than 20 of those in the appellate courts, including three in the California Supreme Court. In 2008, he was elected to the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers. The academy, the oldest lawyers’ organization in the country dedicated solely to the practice of appellate law, admits members only after rigorous scrutiny of their skill in appellate practice.

Selmi received his JD magna cum laude from Santa Clara University, from where he also received his BA. He received an MPA from Harvard University.

Professor Allan Ides ‘79
Allan Ides is the Christopher N. May Professor of Law. He teaches students how to fight for rights—and does it himself. Ides argued U.S. v. Owens before the U.S. Supreme Court—a case steeped in Sixth Amendment issues. A fervent defender of constitutional liberties, Ides worked with the ACLU to successfully sue the Department of Homeland Security on behalf of a U.S. marshal who claimed the agency was violating his First Amendment rights. Ides’ real-world expertise even landed him a job as a legal consultant to NBC’s First Monday, a Supreme Court drama.

Ides has written numerous amicus briefs in human-rights cases and, as a court-appointed attorney, frequently represents immigrants at risk of being deported. He says keeping one foot firmly planted in the courtroom makes him a better teacher. “I think students are engaged and inspired by teachers who are active in the ‘real world.’ I hope telling students about the cases I’m involved in inspires them to do the same thing.”

Ides graduated summa cum laude from Loyola Law School. He served as a law clerk to the Hon. Clement F. Haynsworth, Jr., chief judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, from 1979-80, and then clerked for the Hon. Byron R. White, associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, from 1980-81. Ides joined the Loyola Law School faculty in the fall of 1982 and served as associate dean for academic affairs from 1984-87. He has written extensively in the areas of constitutional law and civil procedure, and is actively involved in various public service projects, ranging from civil rights litigation to the representation of individuals in deportation proceedings.
Jean Boylan ’86

Clinical Professor Jean Boylan ’86 joins the dean’s suite as associate dean for clinical and experiential programs. In the newly created position, Boylan will be responsible for overseeing and developing clinics, simulation classes, skills classes (such as Legal Research & Writing and Ethical Lawyering), externships and public interest/pro bono programs. The latter includes moot court, trial advocacy and appellate advocacy activities, as well as the Advocacy Institute. In her new capacity, Boylan will serve on the faculty committee charged with recommending the appointment of clinical professors.

Boylan has been a student favorite since joining the faculty in 1996. Students presented her with the Excellence in Teaching Award in 2005, and she was the recipient of the school’s St. Ignatius of Loyola Award in 2009. Her courses include Ethical Lawyering, Fundamentals of Bar Writing, Legal Drafting, and Legal Research & Writing. A prolific scholar, Boylan’s law review articles include “After Katrina: Is the Emergency Exception to Public Bidding All Washed Up?” in the Loyola New Orleans Law Review and “The Admission Numbers Are Up: Is Academic Support Really Necessary?” in the Journal of Juvenile Law.

Prior to teaching, Boylan was a partner with the Century City, CA law firm of Gibbs, Giden, Locker & Acret, where she specialized in construction litigation. She also served as a volunteer attorney and board member for The HeArt Project, an arts education program for at-risk youth in Los Angeles.

Boylan received her JD from Loyola Law School and her BS cum laude from Loyola Marymount University.

Michael Waterstone

Professor Michael Waterstone, formerly the associate dean for academic affairs, was recently named associate dean for research and academic centers.

In his new role, Waterstone will be responsible for fostering the scholarly mission of the law school. This includes overseeing faculty workshops, academic centers (such as the Civil Justice Program, the Center for the Study of Law and Genocide, the Sports Law Institute and the Fidler Institute on Criminal Justice), research and sabbaticals, the William M. Rains Law Library, publicity for faculty scholarship, support for professional activities, law reviews, academic events at the law school, advancement, and summer programs abroad. He will also serve on the faculty committee in charge of recommending lateral appointments to the tenure-track faculty.

Waterstone teaches Employment Law, Disability Law and Civil Procedure. He serves as an advisor on disability issues to the Human European Consultancy, the Burton Blatt Institute, the World Bank, and the National Council on Disability. He is also a member of the American Bar Association’s Commission on Mental & Physical Disability Law and a former board member of the Disability Rights Legal Center, which is based on Loyola’s campus.


Waterstone received his JD from Harvard Law School after graduating summa cum laude from the University of California, Los Angeles. After law school, he clerked for the Hon. Richard S. Arnold on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and practiced at Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP in Los Angeles, CA. He then joined the faculty at the University of Mississippi School of Law. Waterstone joined the Loyola Law School faculty in 2006.
Kimberly West-Faulcon

Professor Kimberly West-Faulcon teaches Constitutional Law I, Constitutional Law II and Intelligence, Testing and the Law. During law school, West-Faulcon was a senior editor of the *Yale Law Journal*. After law school, she clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit with the Hon. Stephen Reinhardt. West-Faulcon then began her legal career as a Skadden Fellow, selected by the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP to work in the public interest legal organization of her choice. West-Faulcon’s research in the areas of intelligence theory, anti-discrimination and constitutional law explores the legal implications of theories of human intelligence, as well as the legal implications of the psychometric properties of standardized tests.

Prior to joining the Loyola Law School faculty in 2005, West-Faulcon was the western regional director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., an organization founded by former U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Thurgood Marshall. West-Faulcon’s nationally recognized litigation accomplishments include various cases involving the legal standard for proper use of standardized tests in elementary, secondary and higher education. From 1999 to 2003, she served as chief coordinating counsel and lead African-American plaintiffs’ counsel in a post-Proposition 209 lawsuit filed by African-American, Latino and Filipino students challenging the admissions policies of the University of California, Berkeley, in *Rios/Castaneda v. The Regents of California*. She also litigated employment discrimination issues as lead counsel for the African-American plaintiff classes in a successful multi-million dollar lawsuit against the clothing retailer Abercrombie & Fitch, as well as a class action lawsuit filed by African-American, Latino and Asian-American police officers challenging the promotion practices of the Los Angeles Police Department.

West-Faulcon received her JD from Yale Law School and her BA summa cum laude from Duke University.

Gary C. Williams

Professor Gary C. Williams is the Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. Professor of Law in Civil Rights, an appointment recognizing Williams’ work to preserve civil liberties for nearly three decades through his scholarship, teaching, advocacy and outreach efforts.

Williams, who joined the Loyola Law School faculty in 1987, teaches the Civil Rights Litigation Seminar, Privacy and the First Amendment, Evidence, and Ethical Lawyering, among other subjects. His scholarly activities have focused on civil rights issues. Williams’ 2004 symposium, “Drum Majors for Justice: Leading the March Toward Social Justice,” brought together some of the country’s greatest minds in constitutional law to consider the state of civil liberties in America in such areas as gangs in schools, sexual orientation and people with disabilities.

Williams helped create Loyola’s Young Lawyers Program, in which Los Angeles public high school students receive weekly legal training from Loyola students in preparation for a mock trial event presided over by area judges. The program exposes underrepresented children to the possibility of higher education, while also training them in the arts of debate, critical thinking and writing.

Off campus, Williams has been an increasingly important part of the ACLU of Southern California. He served as a staff attorney there from 1975-79, became its vice president in 1997 and was elected its first African-American president in 2002. Now as a board member of its foundation, Williams remains on the forefront of the fight for constitutional freedoms.

Williams received his JD from Stanford Law School and his BA from the University of California, Los Angeles.
Two Endowed Chairs Honor Loyola Leaders

During their long tenures at Loyola Law School, Professor William G. Coskran ’59 and the Hon. Frederick J. Lower, Jr. ’64, both graduates of Loyola Marymount University (LMU) and Loyola Law School, often strolled the campus together, debating everything from the fundamentals of a legal education to the best way to serve students in a changing world. So it only seemed natural that the legendary professor with a passion for surfing and the distinguished former dean should receive Loyola’s highest honor together. In the fall of 2009, Dean Victor Gold announced the establishment of two endowed chairs in the professors’ names. These chairs will allow Loyola to retain and recruit top professors to the campus whose quality will reflect those of their namesakes.

Professor William G. Coskran was a distinguished and highly regarded member of the faculty of Loyola Law School from 1968-95. Coskran received his bachelor’s degree from LMU in 1956. He graduated from Loyola Law School in 1959, receiving the prestigious Aggeler Award for attaining the highest cumulative grade point average in his class.

Upon graduation, Coskran worked for the U.S. Air Force J.A.G. department as a certified trial and defense counsel from 1960-62. He then entered private practice with the firm O’Neil, Huxtable & Coskran, practicing primarily in real property and construction law. Coskran started teaching as an adjunct professor in the 1960s. He taught full time at Loyola from 1968-95. A perennial student favorite for classes such as Property, he continues to teach part time at the Law School as a professor emeritus.

During his long and distinguished career, Coskran served as chairman and executive committee member of the Real Property Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association and as vice chairman and executive committee member of the Real Property Law Section of the California State Bar Association. He was also a commercial lease consultant to the California Law Revision Commission.

Coskran received Loyola Law School’s Alumni Association Distinguished Service Award in 1990 and was awarded the St. Thomas More Medallion in 1996. He was also the recipient of the Orange County Distinguished Alumni Award in 1998.

"Bill Coskran was and is a phenomenal teacher. Anyone who has taken a class from him knows this. He combines a mastery of the subject matter with an amazing ability to convey his knowledge in a manner that is challenging, accessible and exciting all at the same time. He pushed us, he cajoled us and he made us want to do better and better. For me he represents everything that Loyola stands for. He is, quite simply, the best."
—Allan Ides '79
Christopher N. May Professor of Law

The Hon. Frederick J. Lower, Jr.’s close relationship with Loyola Law School began when he returned from service as a Marine Corps officer and enrolled in Loyola’s Evening Division. Having earned his bachelor’s degree from LMU in 1956, he earned his JD from the Law School in 1964. He then began a trial and appellate litigation practice. In 1966, he returned to the classroom as an adjunct professor at the Law School. He joined the full-time faculty in 1968 and began teaching Civil Procedure, Torts and Insurance Law.

In the following 23 years, he was selected twice to serve as dean of Loyola Law School. Lower was named Loyola’s 10th dean in 1979. He was charged with two major responsibilities: to take the lead in planning campus expansion and to begin the process of reaching out for financial resources to build it. During his six years as dean, additional land was procured and Frank Gehry became the campus project architect. Lower created 15 alumni chapters throughout the U.S. and formed Loyola’s Board of Visitors (now known as the Board of Overseers). He also encouraged faculty scholarly writing, curriculum reform and increased the size of the faculty.

Lower served as interim dean from 1990 to 1991. After 25 years of service to Loyola Law School, Lower ended his career at the Law School to begin a new career as a member of the judiciary. On January 4, 1991, family, colleagues and friends gathered at the Law School to celebrate his swearing in as a judge of the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County. He is now retired and enjoying time with his wife of 53 years, Virginia.

"Frederick J. Lower had his hand in leading our law school for over 40 years. He served as dean during a most important and critical time in its development. He has also been a mentor for all subsequent deans. A chair in his name will celebrate his contributions as a distinguished leader and professor."
—David W. Burcham ’84
President, Loyola Marymount University, 15th Dean of Loyola Law School

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Loyola Law School welcomes your gift supporting these chairs.

Join with other former students and colleagues of Professor William G. Coskran and the Hon. Frederick J. Lower, Jr. in helping to establish these chairs. Gifts to the chairs are tax deductible to the full extent permitted by law. All donors will be listed on a plaque to be displayed on the Loyola Law School campus. For information on making a pledge to support the chairs, please contact Kenneth Ott, assistant dean for advancement at (213) 736-1025 or ken.ott@lls.edu. Pledges can be made over a three-year period.

To make a gift online visit: http://alumni.lls.edu/giving
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles congratulates alumnus David W. Burcham on his appointment as the 15th President of Loyola Marymount University. As a student, alumnus, professor and dean at the Law School, he has demonstrated his commitment to leadership, integrity and educational excellence. We commend President Burcham for his service to both Loyola Law School and Loyola Marymount University and the recognition of his extraordinary efforts through this well-deserved appointment.
Professor David P. Leonard, associate dean for research and longtime member of the faculty at Loyola Law School, passed away in February due to complications related to cancer.

Leonard joined the Loyola faculty in 1990 and was appointed associate dean for research in 2008. He was an immensely popular professor with students, faculty and staff alike. The graduating class of 2009 presented him with the Excellence in Teaching Award. Leonard's efforts as associate dean helped raise Loyola's scholarly profile. And he did all this with a constant smile as he battled cancer.

"David was not only a colleague but also a dear friend," said Dean Victor Gold, who co-authored Evidence: A Structured Approach with Leonard. "He was kind, funny, compassionate and courageous. He loved teaching and was dedicated to his students. We have suffered a great loss."


Before joining the Loyola faculty, Leonard was a member of the faculty at the Indiana University School of Law and a lecturer-in-law at UCLA School of Law, where he received his JD. Leonard received his bachelor's degree with highest honors from the University of California, San Diego.

Leonard, who was 57, is survived by his wife, Susan, and sons, Adam and Matthew.

"He took it personally upon himself to take care of not only his current students, but all of his past students, staff and faculty at Loyola," said Greg Strausberg JD '09 and Tax LLM '10, who had Leonard for Evidence. "He took it personally upon himself to take care of not only his current students, but all of his past students, staff and faculty at Loyola," said Greg Strausberg JD '09 and Tax LLM '10, who had Leonard for Evidence. "He will be, and already is, sorely missed by all generations of his students."

"I will always remember and appreciate him for his kindness, his sage advice on evidence and living life to the fullest despite obstacles."

—Clinical Professor Mary Culbert

"My first law school class was with Professor Leonard. I could not have asked for a better introduction to law school. Professor Leonard blended a devotion to the law and high expectations of his students with an unmatched wit and kindness."

—Elliot Field '09

"We should all be more like David Leonard—kind, thoughtful, patient, giving, smart, caring, dedicated and courageous. I will miss him."

—Professor Laurie Levenson

"What a mensch! A unique person—brilliant and humble, funny and wise, brave and gentle. I am grateful to have known him, and I am glad that he knew how much we all cared about him."

—Professor Dan Schechter

"I will never forget the Torts case that involved a man who thought he was a superhero. During the discussion of the case, Prof. Leonard slowly and casually unbuttoned his shirt and, one by one, the students started to realize there was a batman logo on the T-shirt he was wearing underneath. It was such a funny moment; I still recall it after 15 years."

—Anna Amarandos '96
LOYOLA Connect is Loyola Law School’s secure and password-protected online alumni community. It provides alumni with a valuable tool to connect with fellow Loyola graduates.

ONLINE DIRECTORY
Looking to refer a case? Use the advanced search to find alumni by area of practice.

Moving to a new city or state? Use the advanced search to find alumni by geographic location.
- Search for other alumni by a variety of criteria: name, class year, bar associations, court admission and much more
- Update your personal and professional profile
- Create and maintain an alumni contact list

ONLINE GIVING
Easy-to-use tool for making donations online.
- Designate your gift in support of scholarships, chairs, centers and programs
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Share milestones in your life, such as weddings, retirements, birth announcements or other professional achievements. Let fellow alumni know what you have been doing.

CLASS & CHAPTER PAGES
This section will allow you to connect with people based on some commonality or interest. Some chapters have been pre-populated (i.e. class year and regional area) based on information in the alumni database.
- View photos of past alumni events
- Receive information about upcoming reunions and events
- Search for other alums within the chapter

SOCIAL NETWORKING
Join us at Loyola Law Alumni Community.

CAREER CENTER
Everyone from recent graduates to those looking for a career change will find this section beneficial. A one-stop resource for posting or searching for job opportunities. There is no fee to post a job. Job postings can be for full-time, part-time or contract positions and are not restricted to law related jobs.
- Job opportunities are just a click away
- Post a job listing and hire a Loyola Law graduate

NEED YOUR USERNAME AND PASSWORD? PLEASE CONTACT THE ALUMNI OFFICE.
THE CONVERSATION FROM LOYOLA’S SEPT. 24, 2010 SYMPOSIUM CONTINUES AT WWW.REBOOTCA.ORG WITH EVENT VIDEOS AND BLOG UPDATES.

REBOOTING CALIFORNIA: Initiatives, Conventions & Government Reform

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