

TJSL GETS AN "A" FOR DIVERSITY!



The [November issue of the National Jurist](#) ranked Thomas Jefferson School of Law as one of the most diverse law schools in the country giving it an "A" letter grade. The National Jurist, a leading news source in legal education, formulated the rankings by assessing faculty and student minority percentages.

This year, TJSL ranked #15 in the country placing it above California Western

School of Law, UC Davis Law and Stanford Law School. In 2012, the National Jurist compiled a similar ranking in which Thomas Jefferson School of Law also received an above average grade of "A-."

After calculating each school's percentage of faculty minority and five categories of student minorities, these percentages were compared to national averages. Comparison was used as a way to assign

scores from one to ten in each category. Schools that matched the national average in a category were given a seven and those that came in thirty percent above the national average or higher were given a ten. The faculty's score was weighted as twenty-five percent of the final score and the student population score as seventy-five percent.

The article emphasizes that diversity is so important to the legal profession and it should be regarded in rankings.

TJSL's long standing commitment to diversifying the legal profession has made it a forerunner in producing practice ready graduates. TJSL's highly ranked externship program and multiple hands-on clinics ensure TJSL graduates obtain an education that will make them competitive in today's job market.

TJSL RANKS #10 IN THE NATION FOR TOP GRADUATE PROGRAM

Aimed at providing an honest and candid look at graduate programs across the country, [GraduatePrograms.com](#) has released its [Spring 2014 Law School Rankings](#).

Thomas Jefferson School of Law ranked number ten out of 50 among the nation's graduate programs which puts TJSL above Harvard University and Vanderbilt University.

According to [GraduatePrograms.com](#), the program ratings used to calculate the rankings are based on a comprehensive assessment by alumni and current students across fifteen categories including academic competitiveness, career support, education quality, faculty

accessibility and support, and student diversity. Over 70,000 alumni and students participated, from over 1,600 graduate programs, from September 2012 through September 2014.

Along with TJSL's Juris Doctorate program, many graduates and students praised the school's LL.M. in International Taxation. Currently, TJSL also offers residential LL.M. in American Legal Studies and in International Trade & Investment, as well as multiple online



programs focused on giving existing professionals a competitive edge.

CSLP HOLDS SECOND INSTALLMENT OF PADRES SPEAKERS SERIES

By Phylcia Coleman, 3L, CSLP Fellow

On Thursday, November 13, 2014, the Center for Sports Law and Policy (CSLP) hosted its second installment of the “Padres Speakers Series” at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. The CSLP welcomed their guest speaker Erik Greupner, Senior Vice President, Business Administration & General Counsel for the San Diego Padres Baseball Club.

Mr. Greupner first discussed with the Sports Law Fellows his life and career before he received his position with the San Diego Padres. Mr. Greupner worked for six-years, including working for Goldman Sachs in Chicago, IL, before deciding to attend law school at the University of San Diego (USD) and chose USD for their nighttime program options. He made the decision to go to law school after realizing he had become stationary at his job. He also realized the best decision he could make would be to move his career to something with optionality. “I felt like practicing law would open up as many options as possible. However, I did not set out to work in professional sports,” Greupner explained.

Upon graduation from USD law school, Greupner was a judicial intern for Justice Margaret McKeown with the U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit in Pasadena, CA. Greupner then started with Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP in Orange County where he worked on the Padres purchase agreement with former Padres owner Jeff Moorad. Greupner was later hired by Moorad for his strong skill set and work ethic in the Padres front office.



Mr. Greupner discussed with excitement one aspect of his role where he oversees the contracts and business of the Padres in Central and South America. Specifically, Greupner just returned from a trip to the Dominican Republic where the Organization runs a development camp in San Cristóbal. He is responsible for negotiating and drafting player contracts and overseeing ballpark operations, which requires him to manage about 340 people. When discussing what a typical day is like, Mr. Greupner replied, “As is often said, there is no typical day. However, I feel incredibly fortunate to have the job that I have. All I can tell you is to be the best lawyer you can. Sometimes it comes down to being in the right place at the right time.”

When asked what he thought about the job market for attorneys in 2014, he responded by telling attendees that practicing law in 2014 is still a good place to start in terms of having optionality. He followed up this question by stressing the importance of building relationships because that is what will get you the job that you want.

One attendee asked of Greupner’s involvement with the Padres and the players’ intellectual property. Greupner responded that the Padres work closely with Major League Baseball (MLB) concerning its trademarks, searches and clearances, and infringement.

The CSLP’s “Padres Speakers Series” has been very successful and well attended, which provides students different perspectives on how they can use their law degrees after graduation. Third-year law student Chanel Di Blasi stated, “Mr. Greupner’s honesty was so refreshing. He encouraged us to trust the system, no matter how scary things look with jobs. As a soon to be graduate looking for a job, I needed to hear those words.”

The final two installments for the “Padres Speakers Series” will be held during the Spring 2015 semester and may include speakers from the baseball operations/development and ownership group. Visit [CSLP online](#) and on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



THE CENTER FOR SOLO PRACTITIONERS ACCEPTING APPLICANTS FOR 2015

The TJSL Center for Solo Practitioners is accepting applications for its 2015 Class.

Designed specifically and exclusively for Thomas Jefferson School of Law alumni, the TJSL Center for Solo Practitioners supports new solo practitioners as they establish their own law offices. The program encourages new solos to become leaders in their community by developing ways to reach traditionally underserved populations with much-needed legal services.

Business incubation is a concept that has proved successful in launching entrepreneurs in fields as diverse as computer software, manufacturing, telecommunications, biosciences, energy and the arts. Incubators accelerate the development of start-up companies by providing entrepreneurs with instruction in financial management, marketing, networking and sound business practices. Pioneered by Fred Rooney at the City University of New York School of Law, law school incubators are beginning to flourish in law schools throughout the United States and internationally.

The TJSL Center for Solo Practitioners provides a business incubator setting to the New Solos with the goal of producing successful, public-service-oriented

practitioners. Every year, the program will welcome six to ten lawyers who have a desire to establish their own law practices. Each New Solo will develop their practice in a cooperative, shared-space environment that is easily accessible to public transportation, courts and other public services. The program will facilitate access to affordable office space, guidance in managing a legal practice, quality continuing legal education, seasoned mentors and Thomas Jefferson's network of alumni attorneys. While they are building their practices, the lawyers in the incubator are encouraged to provide pro-bono and low-bono services to increase the access to civil legal services for those in need. While providing those legal services, the incubator lawyers gain valuable legal experience and are exposed to professional networking opportunities.

To apply for the program, candidates must: Be admitted to practice in California; Be a graduate of TJSL; Have a demonstrated commitment to



access-to-justice for those in need; Be willing to engage in ongoing pro-bono and low-bono services; Work well in intimate settings with a diverse group of individuals; Be committed to establishing a solo-firm or small-firm practice; and Be committed to helping underserved populations after completion of the program.

If you are interested in applying, complete the [2015 application](#) and email it to Center for Solo Practitioners Director [Professor Lilys McCoy](#).

Applications are due December 5, 2014.

THE TJSL BAR STUDY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

APPLY NOW
TJSL BAR STUDY SCHOLARSHIP

The Thomas Jefferson School of Law is proud to announce that it is launching the new TJSL Bar Study Scholarship.

The scholarship is designed to provide financial support for one or more

graduates who will be studying to take the California Bar for the first time. This award will allow the successful applicant(s) to devote more time to bar study.

The first award will be given after the close of the Fall 2014 semester. The application form and program description can be picked up on the 6th floor in the reception area, and can also be [downloaded here](#). The deadline to apply for the first award is **Friday, November 21, 2014**. All applications, along with related documents, must be given to Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Lisa Ferreira or emailed to studentservices@tjsl.edu.

Students who are graduating in December and May of each year may apply for the scholarship during their last semester prior to their graduation. Students will be required to complete the application, provide a personal statement and supply supporting

documentation demonstrating financial need by a deadline to be determined each semester by the combined faculty-staff committee. The application information will be reviewed by the committee.

Starting with the Fall 2014 semester, Professor William Slomanson's Federal Civil Procedure students will be encouraged to donate \$25 dollars each semester, during each semester that they are in his federal civil procedure class, to go towards the Bar Study Scholarship Fund in lieu of any charge for his online course book, supplement and

outline. "This scholarship is designed to fulfill a need that I have heard about many times---including from two of my children who attended TJSL," said Professor Slomanson. "Many graduates across the country have living expenses that do not stop, at this very challenging time when they no longer have financial aid available. Many graduates thus face significant financial challenges, when residing in that "Twilight Zone" between law school and preparing for the bar--when they should be using as much time as possible to study for the bar. That is why I am contributing to this

new scholarship, via payroll deductions. It's my hope that others in the TJSL community will remember what that was like for them, and do something to help alleviate some of the financial burden for a graduate (or graduates) in desperate financial need."

Students and other members of the TJSL community can donate to this fund online through TJSL's [Make a Gift](#) website. Select "TJSL Bar Scholarship Fund" in the "Please direct my gift to" dropdown menu.

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

MARJORIE COHN

Presentations

Drones and Targeted Killing: Legal, Moral and Geopolitical Issues, Mission Hills Books & Collectibles, San Diego, CA (November 14, 2014)

Which is better to reform the surveillance system: Congress or the courts?, Whistleblowers and Independent Media, St Johns Episcopal Church, Berkeley, CA (November 9, 2014)

Drones and Targeted Killing: Legal, Moral and Geopolitical Issues, Modern Times Bookstore, San Francisco, CA (November 8, 2014)

Drones and Targeted Killing: Legal, Moral and Geopolitical Issues, Peninsula Peace & Justice Center, Palo Alto, CA (November 7, 2014)

Radio

Surveillance, USA Freedom Act, Supreme Court, Whistleblowers and the Espionage Act, The Sunday Show, KPFA (Pacifica), Berkeley, CA, November 16, 2104.

Torture, drones and targeted killing, sanitizing the history of the Vietnam War, World Focus, Office of the Americas, KPFK (Pacifica), Los Angeles, November 9, 2014.

MARYBETH HERALD

Book

Your Brain and Law School (Carolina Academic Press 2014)

[View All Citations](#)

Want to Submit a **TOUCHSCREEN FLYER?**

If you are a TJSJL organization and would like to have your information promoted on the Touchscreens, please follow these flyer guidelines:

- **Dimensions**

6.6 inches (*width*) x 10.1 inches (*height*)

- **File Format**

PDF or JPG

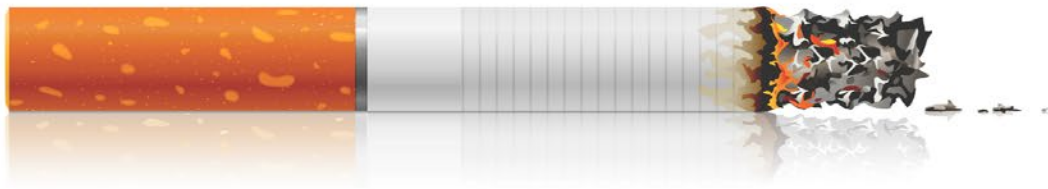
- **Submit Your Flyer**

TouchscreenFlyer@tjsl.edu

Please note that Touchscreen Flyers are not placed in The Advisor.

Microsoft Word Users: Change paper size by going to Page Layout tab > Size > More Paper Sizes.

NO SMOKING



California Government Code Section 7596-7598 prohibits smoking in an outdoor area within 20 feet of a main exit, entrance, or operable window of a public building. Smoking is prohibited at all entrances to the TJSL building as well as the 5th floor and 8th floor terraces.

The City of San Diego prohibits the use of e-cigarettes and vaporizers in the same locations where smoking of cigarettes and other tobacco products is prohibited. TJSL's policy is consistent with the City's ordinance and does not condone their use outside the designated smoking areas.

Thank you for your cooperation.