

The Advisor

May 19, 2014

THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW



TJSL Spring Graduation Ceremony

"It's a bitter sweet day," said graduating law student Ryan French just before he and the rest of the class of May 2014 walked down the aisle at Thomas Jefferson School of Law's Commencement Exercises on Saturday, May 17, at Copley Symphony Hall located in downtown San Diego.

At the start of the ceremony, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Randy K. Jones welcomed the graduates and their family and friends. "Honored guests, we gather today to confer the degree of Juris Doctor, Master of Laws and Doctor of Science on the members of the May and August 2014 graduating class."

Mr. Jones also awarded an Honorary Degree to Former Board of Trustees member Richard D. Prochazka.

Dean Thomas Guernsey awarded honors plaques to Summa Cum Laude graduates. "I take great pride in recognizing these extraordinary scholars today."

Kimberly Roth, graduating Summa Cum Laude, addressed the audience as Valedictorian. "Three years of hard work. Three years of dedication. Three years of learning how to be a lawyer. Three years of living in the law library, late nights at the coffee shop, and internships with little to no pay. Three years of strained relationships. Three years of missed special occasions. Three years of stress and emotional roller coasters. Three years of living in the beautiful city of San Diego, learning from amazing professors, and forming new friendships and new relationships. Thomas Jefferson School of Law, graduating class of 2014. Law school has been quite the journey. Congratulations, we finally made it."

"I'm really excited to be Valedictorian of my graduating class," said Roth. "It means all of my hard work paid off! These past three years have flown by, but I am eager to graduate, pass the bar, and enter the real world!"



Dean Thomas Guernsey and Valedictorian Kimberly Roth



Commencement Speaker Honorable Roger T. Benitez '78

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TJSL Alumni Association President Eric Ganci '08

Board of Trustees member, the Honorable Roger T. Benitez '78, delivered the commencement address. "When life throw hurdles at you, it is very easy to feel overwhelmed. A wise man once said the reason that they are called hurdles is because they can be overcome."

TJSL Alumni Association President Eric Ganci '08 welcomed the new graduates by addressing them as "colleagues" and letting them know as instant members of the association that they are not alone - the alumni number in the thousands and there are many services available to them as alums.



Randy K. Jones awarding Honorary Degree to Former Board of Trustees member Richard D. Prochazka

During her speech, Valedictorian Kimberly Roth asked that everyone direct their attention to those who took the journey through law school with them. "Our parents, siblings, significant others, children and friends. Thank you for your continuous love and encouragement. Not enough can be said about the support you all have provided. Thank you so much for always sticking by our side. I would also like to apologize on behalf of our class," said Roth. "We are sorry for not returning your texts, not returning your phone calls, and not returning your emails or facebook messages. And, when we finally did respond, sorry for being moody, short tempered, argumentative, and emotional. We are sorry for missing so many special occasions: your birthday, our own birthday, anniversaries, Thanksgiving, Mother's day, and pretty much any other holiday that occurred around the date we had a paper due, a final to study for, or a brief to finish at work. But friends and family, you're not off the hook yet! We still need your support these next few months as we study for the bar exam - specifically 74 more days."

In closing, Dean Guernsey invited everyone to the TJSL campus for a celebration and reception.



Joscelyn Campbell, Samantha Morales and Milena Celentano





Najda Aslanyan Accepts Post Bar Position at the Ventura County of Public Defenders Office

May 2014 grad Najda Aslanyan has secured a position at Ventura County of Public Defenders Office as a post bar law clerk. The Post Bar clerkship affords students the opportunity to experience the demanding practice of a public defender. The program is nationally recognized and is designed to give students not just an understanding of the criminal justice system, but also hands on experience with trial advocacy. Aslanyan applied for the post-bar position along with hundreds of applicants and was selected as 1 of the 5 post bar clerks. The program will begin on August 18th after the July 2014 California State Bar Examination.

Although Aslanyan has worked only one semester at the San Diego County of Alternate Public Defender her 3L year, she was found well-qualified for the post-bar position. There, she worked with attorneys who provide legal assistance to indigent individuals charged with crimes in the state court. There, Aslanyan was able to speak on the record, write various motions, do jail visits, prepare for preliminary hearings, and most importantly, have client interaction.

Aslanyan is very excited and grateful for the opportunity presented to her. "I feel very fortunate in securing this position. I know it's a very competitive market out there. I will be getting hands on training experience that no other Public Defender's office offers. I will first begin working in the misdemeanor department doing arraignments and later on serve as a Second Chair during trials."

Aslanyan is thankful for all the help she received from Thomas Jefferson School of Law. "TJSL offers its students lots of opportunities, you just need to work for it to earn it," said Aslanyan. "I was lucky enough to have an Armenian professor like Professor Guzelian at this school who directed me in the right path in terms of how to further pursue my law related goals." Aslanyan stated that "this accomplishment could not have been achieved without the support of family and friends."



Joscelyn Campbell II accepts Post Bar Clerkship at the SD Public Defenders Office

May 2014 grad Joscelyn Campbell II has secured a position at the San Diego Office of the Public Defender as a post bar law clerk. The Post Bar clerkship affords students the opportunity to experience the demanding practice of a public defender. The program is nationally recognized and is designed to give students not just an understanding of the criminal justice system, but also hands on experience with trial advocacy and representing misdemeanor clients. Campbell applied for the paid position along with over 300 other applicants, and was selected as 1 of the 11 post bar clerks. The program will begin on August 12th 2014, two weeks after the July 2014 California State Bar Examination.

Campbell has interned at the Public Defender's office for his entire 3L year. In the Fall 2013 semester, he worked at the Office of the Primary Public Defender. There, he worked with attorneys who provide legal assistance to individuals charged with crimes in state court who are financially unable to retain private counsel. There, Campbell wrote and argued motions, and conducted preliminary hearings under attorney supervision. In the Spring 2014 semester, Campbell worked in the Multiple Conflicts Office, where he worked with attorneys representing people who were charged with the most complicated and serious homicide and special circumstance cases throughout San Diego County, and who were financially unable to retain private counsel. As a post bar, Campbell will work with attorneys in the Central Misdemeanor Unit of the Public Defender's Office.

Campbell is excited for the opportunity. "It's a real blessing to be selected for this position," he says "it was a very competitive process, and I thank God that I was selected. I've worked at the Public Defender's Office for about a year now and I've loved every minute of it. It is tough but rewarding work and I look forward to continuing to grow in the office, and hopefully secure a permanent position there." Campbell is thankful for all the help he received from Thomas Jefferson School of Law. "I am thankful for everything that TJSL has provided for me in securing this position," said Campbell. "I'm thankful for the Trial Practice class I took while in school, and I'm also thankful for my Mock Trial teammates and coaches, Professors Lilys McCoy and Lea Fields-Bernard. My courtroom experience definitely helped me in securing this position." Campbell is also thankful for the school's Career Services Office. "Career Services was really critical in securing this position. I worked with Associate Director of Career Service Randy Reliford regularly, going over my resume and cover letter, doing mock interviews and constantly going over my job search strategy. This couldn't have been done without Mr. Reliford, and I'm truly appreciative of him."

Professor Ken Vandeveld's Sabbatical in Washington D.C.

Working for the White House seemed to Professor Ken Vandeveld like the next logical step in his career. And, since January, he has been doing precisely that while on a semester-long leave from TJSU.

"Before joining the Thomas Jefferson faculty," he explains, "I worked for several years at the State Department on a variety of tasks, including the negotiation of international economic agreements. At the law school, I teach a course in that area of the law and have written three books about it. With the passage of time, however, my personal experience in the field had become dated. The Executive Office of the President is where the action is right now in this field and that is where I needed to be, if I wanted to stay on top of the subject."

The timing of his leave has been fortuitous. "President Obama," Professor Vandeveld notes, "is presiding over one of the most ambitious programs of economic treaty negotiations since the late 1940s, when the United States and its allies created the current international economic order. This is a wonderful time to be involved."

The United States is negotiating two major regional agreements, one with the entire European Union and the other with about a dozen Pacific Rim countries. It has also launched bilateral negotiations with some critically important countries, including China and India.

Professor Vandeveld is involved in all of these treaty negotiations as well as others and is working on a variety of policy questions raised by the negotiations. "Because the Chinese political and economic system is so different than ours, the negotiations with China have raised a number of novel issues," he observes. "The same is true of the negotiations with the European Union, which shares much with us politically and economically, but is negotiating on behalf of a diverse group of countries. Further, the Europeans are used to being the dominant partner in their bilateral negotiations, as is the United States, and so the negotiating dynamic with the EU will be different than in many earlier U.S. treaty negotiations."

One of the benefits of his time in Washington is the opportunity to observe the Obama administration up close. "I am really struck," he says, "by the thoughtfulness and intellectual seriousness of the top policymakers and by the emphasis on finding the right balance among competing objectives. I got into a discussion of capital controls with an official at the Treasury Department and we ended up exchanging articles from economic journals supporting our respective points of view. There have been times in the past when policy was much more ideologically driven. There are a lot of people in this field who operate from a single ideological perspective, but I see the Obama administration as taking a much more considered approach."

The question that he is most commonly asked about his work at the White House is how it came about. "I owe it all to my books," he replies. "Our negotiators were very familiar with my books and, after I notified them that I had the opportunity to take a leave from TJSU, they invited me to join them. When I started work the first day, I was delighted to notice copies of my books sitting around the office. Nothing is more satisfying to me as a legal scholar than to see my research actually being used by those who make the law." He recounts walking into the negotiations with China and seeing the Chinese negotiators holding a copy of one of his books.

Professor Vandeveld believes that the opportunity to move periodically into the world of practice is invaluable for law faculty. "Those of us who teach at professional schools need to maintain our professional skills," he notes. "I practiced law for 10 years before beginning my academic career, which is unusually long for a law professor. Even so, it was important to me, after teaching for a while, to return for a time to legal practice. We on the faculty need to be able to speak to students from experience and that experience needs to be updated periodically."

"I have been very fortunate," he continues. "The people with whom I work are extraordinarily capable and the quality of their work is second to none. And, of course, Washington, D.C., is the center of the international economic law universe. I have enjoyed tremendously the opportunity to practice again in that setting."


The benefits of this experience for the law school will be many. As Professor Vandeveld explains, "The direct involvement in the negotiations and the policy making will bring a wealth of new material into my course on international investment law and arbitration. It will also ensure that my future publications in this field have value for students, scholars, practitioners and policy makers. The economy continues to globalize and increasingly business will be conducted across borders. We can take pride in knowing that TJSU offers our students training in international economic law that is at the cutting-edge."



Professor William Slomanson's 2014 Sabbatical

Professor William Slomanson was not teaching in spring 2014, a situation he describes as “hopefully being limited to when I’m on sabbatical. As long as they are paying me to stay away—and because this could be one of my last sabbaticals—I decided to make it count.”

Making it count is no joke. Professor Slomanson has substantially completed four scholarly work products, plus a major presentation. His article and three books include:

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- *Blended Learning: A Flipped Classroom Experiment*, 64 *Journal of Legal Education* __ (2014) (Aug. 2014), available online at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=2381282>
 - *CASES AND MATERIALS ON CALIFORNIA CIVIL PROCEDURE*, 5th ed. (West, forthcoming in fall 2014), with co-authors David Levine and Rochelle Shapell (Hastings) & Instructor’s Manual & Course Web Page at <http://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/CalCivPro.html>
 - *CALIFORNIA CIVIL PROCEDURE IN A NUTSHELL*, 5th ed. (West, forthcoming in fall 2014) & companion True-False /Multiple Choice webpage at http://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/T&F_WebQuiz&MC.docx
 - *O’CONNOR’S CALIFORNIA PRACTICE: CIVIL PRE-TRIAL*, 2014 ed. (Jones-McClure, 2014 ed.), with co-editors David Levine and Hon. Michol O’Connor (ret.)

Slomanson also presented a TED-styled talk on April 4, 2014, at American University in Washington, D.C. It was entitled “Why Flip Your Class & Macro Design Issues.” He was the opening speaker for the inaugural Igniting Legal Education Conference. His presentation will be available for viewing in early June, at <http://legaledweb.com>.

The conference organizer, Professor Michelle Pistone, provided a glowing assessment of Professor Slomanson’s presentation: “Your Flipped Class topic not only set the stage for your flipping group, but it was also an ideal inspirational message for opening this innovators’ conference, designed to change legal pedagogy. Almost 1000 people watched from the website that day and I am sure that even more will see your talk once it is published online. This is a new model for legal education conferences. I am so glad you were a part of it. We hope you’ll be back with us, and a continuing player in moving legal education to the next level. Job well done!”

Professor Slomanson expressed his appreciation for TJSJL authorizing this sabbatical in the following terms: “This spring and summer have been grueling, but incredibly productive. I am honored that, in August, the teaching article that was the subject of my April presentation will be distributed to every law professor in the country. I attribute the success that I have had to TJSJL’s support—exemplified by Dean Guernsey’s approval of my sabbatical. That was yet another demonstration of the commitment to the innovative and ground-breaking work for which my colleagues are so well known.

CLIMB Cultural Night: Identity and Why It Matters

By Kierre Coghill

CLIMB, Crawford Legal Institute Mentorship Bond, hosted its Cultural Night event at the World Beat Center in Balboa Park on Thursday, April 17, 2014. While CLIMB often hosts events at Thomas Jefferson School of Law, the CLIMB Board felt that an opportunity to visit Balboa Park was invaluable for Crawford High School students, because many of the students were unfamiliar with Balboa Park and its rich representation of diverse cultures in the San Diego community. CLIMB volunteers regularly at Crawford High School, one of the most diverse high schools in all of San Diego County, where over 40 languages are spoken by the high school student body.

Cultural Night consisted of guest speakers in addition to Crawford student interpretations of the concept Identity. The purpose of Cultural Night was to foster a positive attitude among the youth about their own personal and cultural identity. Cultural Night was an opportunity for Crawford 10th grade students to take the stage and express themselves in front of peers and CLIMB volunteers in order for Crawford students to practice public speaking, confidence and to explore their personal roles in the community. Several Crawford students

shared something about themselves while on stage while some Crawford students sang and one student even shared a self-portrait in which she examined what it meant to grow up as an Asian American. The students' unique talents were on display for CLIMB volunteers and their peers to appreciate.

Not only did the students take the stage, but the professors and guest speakers did too. [Rappinismyhabit](#) opened the night with a positive rap about being yourself. He introduced the students to snapping their peers back into their performances if they messed up, which is like dusting yourself off when you fall off of your bike and climbing back on. The students were encouraged to be resilient and to not give up if they felt challenged during a performance, but to pick up where they left off and to encourage their peers to do the same. Rappinismyhabit served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening as he introduced each speaker and called students to the stage to perform or share something about their own personal Identity.

Professor Maurice Dyson offered words of encouragement and support to the Crawford students and took time to also thank the CLIMB TJSJL volunteers and acknowledged their contributions with award plaques.


Mr. Mike Slomanson '04, TJSJL alum and actor, moved the audience as he shared a moment of his life, when he visited his ancestors' lands and while at the top of a pyramid he cried as he was overcome by the feeling of joy as he embraced his own identity. The audience laughed and smiled as Mr. Slomanson explained that growing up, he fit into two groups: Latino and White. He showed the students that being biracial is powerful and has advantages in society where one does not always have to fit into a single category. Mr. Slomanson emphasized the importance of education and learning about one's own personal identity.

The students were excited to see their class mentors including: Josh Desmond, Amanda Gracia and Edna Gutierrez at the event. The night was centered on the theme Identity and the World Beat Center's exhilarating murals were on full display emphasizing cultural identity. As the evening neared an end, the sound of drums beat softly in the background as the students were addressed by their teacher Mr. Steven Luttbeg. Mr. Luttbeg brought laughter to the audience when he reminded them all of his home state of Nebraska and as the entire 10th grade class began to sing a song about Nebraska. The appreciation the students have for their teacher was clear. CLIMB volunteers wrapped up the night by spending time with the students as they waited for their bus and discussed the evening.



THE LAW AND HUMANITIES INSTITUTE & THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW
present

LAW AND MAGIC



FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014, 8:00 AM – 5:30 PM

This conference examines the many ways in which law and magic interact. Not only can the law influence the practice of magic, such as in the areas of freedom of speech and religion and intellectual property. Magic can also influence the law, such as in trial tactics and evidence. In addition, magic illuminates the crossroads of other law and humanities fields, such as the emerging area of law and neuroscience, rhetoric, and law and popular culture. Several of our panelists plan to include (magical!) demonstrations as part of their presentations.

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

www.tjssl.edu/conferences/law-and-magic

VENUE Thomas Jefferson School of Law
1155 Island Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101

FREE TJSL Students, Alumni,
Faculty and Staff
\$20 Guests



Bottega Americana is pleased to offer students a variety of dining options in the form of meal plans.

Bottega Americana will offer a wide-range of food from the all day coffee bar, casual grab-and-go section to a full service dining experience in the **Bottega Americana** restaurant and bar.

Meal plan sign-up is available through the Student Finance Office. For students enrolled in the summer semester: if the money for the meal plan is not spent, funds will be rolled over to the fall semester.

Examples of the meal plan for the **SUMMER** session are:

If you choose the \$250 meal plan, you would receive approximately \$27 a week to spend on dining at **Bottega Americana**. That is the equivalent of approximately 3 meals per week.

If you choose the \$1500 meal plan, you would receive approximately \$166 a week to spend on dining at **Bottega Americana**. That is the equivalent of approximately 16 meals per week.

Questions related to how the meal plan works with financial aid should be directed to the Student Finance Office.

All other questions should be sent to Greg@bottegaamericano.com



VETERANS LEGAL ASSISTANCE CLINIC

THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW

The VETERANS LEGAL ASSISTANCE CLINIC is now accepting applications for FALL 2014!

The Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic (VLAC) is a great opportunity to get real world, hands on legal practice experience, while also providing valuable assistance to those who have served our country and are now struggling.

Participation in VLAC fulfills the Professional Skills Requirement. As a VLAC intern, you must have 6 available units (3 during the summer), and can manage a 20 hour per week work schedule along with your other curricular and co-curricular commitments.

To apply, submit the following to Professor Berenson by e-mailing sberenson@tjsl.edu:

- 1) A brief statement of interest (no more than 1 page) explaining why you want to participate in the clinic providing any relevant experience you have;
- 2) Verification that you can meet the California Bar's requirements to practice as a law student (completion of your first year; good academic standing; and completion of, or simultaneously take Evidence and Civ. Pro.); and
- 3) Verification that you can handle the 20 hour per week case work requirement along with your other curricular and co-curricular commitments.

MAY

& June

18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		<p>T American Board of Trial Advocates Presents: Civility Both In The Practice And In The Courtroom 227 12:00 PM</p> <p>T Padres vs. MIN 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. MIN 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. CHI 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. CHI 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. CHI 7:10 PM</p>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<p>T Padres vs. CHI 1:10 PM</p>						<p>T Alumni Association - MCLE - Launching Your Own Solo or Small Firm Practice 325 12:30 PM</p>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
June	<p>AL Orange County Alumni Mixer 5:00 PM</p> <p>T Padres vs. PIT 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. PIT 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T State Bar Swearing In Ceremony 10:00 AM</p> <p>T Padres vs. PIT 3:40 PM</p>	<p>T Alumni Association Mixer - Croce's Park West (Bankers Hill) 6:00 PM</p>	<p>T Law and Magic Conference 325 8:00 AM</p> <p>T Padres vs. WSH 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. WSH 7:10 PM</p>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<p>T Padres vs. WSH 1:10 PM</p>	<p>T Summer 2014 Classes Begin</p>				<p>SE The Criminal Expungement & Re-entry Society hosts Seize the Moment Re-entry Law Conference 325 9:00 AM</p>	<p>T Employee Rights Self-Help Clinic 9:30 AM</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			<p>T Padres vs. SEA 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. SEA 3:40 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. LAD 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. LAD 7:10 PM</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>T Padres vs. LAD 1:10 PM</p>					<p>T Padres vs. ARI 7:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. ARI 7:10 PM</p>
29	30					
<p>T Padres vs. ARI 1:10 PM</p>	<p>T Padres vs. CIN 7:10 PM</p>					