



# CREATE CHANGE

## PUBLIC INTEREST AT STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

<http://publicinterestlaw.stanford.edu>

Summer 2005

## Clinic Trains Students to Serve Community

In California, 75% of the legal needs of the poor go unmet, as the number of attorneys and the funding dedicated to securing their legal interests remains but a small portion of the legal market. Stanford Law School is taking steps to offset this imbalance by investing significant resources into the Stanford Community Law Clinic ("the Clinic").

The Clinic was created after the 2002 closing of the nearly two-decade old East Palo Alto Community Law Project (EPA-CLP), which was founded by Stanford law students who wanted to use the law to affect positive social change and increase access to justice.

The vision that guides the Clinic since its inception has similarly been to bring talented future attorneys to the often underserved nearby communities of East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and surrounding areas.

Working in conjunction with Stanford undergraduates, local law firms, and the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County (LAS-SMC), the Clinic offers intake sessions where low-income clients can seek legal assistance from law students supervised by attorneys. The Clinic offers new clients a range of services from counseling through representation in court.

Clinic Director Peter Reid (BA '64) explains that one of the Clinic's primary objectives is the training of law students in the practice of law. "It is expected that many of these law students will go on to public interest legal careers or to provide substantial amounts of pro bono work as part of their private practice."

Supervising Attorney Peggy Stevenson (BA '75), who had served as Executive Director of EPA-CLP, adds, "Some people feel that community-based clinics experience a conflict between providing legal services to low-income clients and teaching law students. To me, there is a singular function of a community-based clinical program: to teach law students how to provide legal services to low-income clients. That means

PHOTO: JUDITH ROMERO



The Stanford Community Law Clinic mobilizes law students to serve low-income residents of Stanford's neighboring communities. (Clockwise, starting in back) Clinic Director Peter Reid (BA '64), Danielle Jones, Dia Montecillo, Adelina Arroyo, Severa Keith '01 (BA '93), and Lupe Buenrostro. Peggy Stevenson (BA '75) and Ruby Romero are not pictured.

that a clinic will be expanding the quantity and quality of services that will be available in the future."

This summer, seven students, including Ryan Brumberg '07, Adair Ford '07, and Peter Walgren '07, are handling over 60 cases involving workers' rights, housing, and consumers' rights, and five larger projects for the Clinic's low-income clients. They have collected over \$22,000 in settlements of wage and hour cases alone in June.

Ford says, "While the supervising attorneys are there for us to consult with, they really give students great ownership of their cases. We negotiate with opposing counsel, we counsel the clients, and we represent clients in any formal proceeding."

In addition to individual cases, students are helping a community organization assist people in expunging their criminal records and developing standardized materials to help people handle their own Small Claims Court cases. Moreover, they are drafting a request for an ethics opinion from the State Bar to prevent opposing counsel from threatening to have the Clinic's clients deported when clients assert their employment rights by filing suits.

As a two-semester clinical student last year, Jason Tarricone '06 had ample opportunity to immerse himself in the Clinic's work. He states, "Having law students on

their side gives our clients the respect and bargaining power they deserve but otherwise might not have. This is why many of us came to law school, and the Clinic is a great way to experience this satisfying work regardless of where we plan to work after law school."

Many students find the Clinic valuable for the exposure they get to direct client contact and access to justice issues.

—continued on page 8—

### CONTENTS

Message from Diane T. Chin, Director of Public Interest Program, and Summer News Briefs... 2

SLS Celebrates Public Service, Bids Farewell to Beloved Professor Michelle Alexander '92 ..... 3

Profile on Public Interest Faculty Icon Michael S. Wald ..... 4

Alumni Spotlight on Criminal Justice Advocate Tim Silard '91 ... 5

Summer 2005 Public Interest Law Clerks Report In ..... 6

## News Briefs

### *New Clinics Offer International Law, Death Penalty Representation*

This Fall, students will have two new clinical opportunities available. Those enrolled in the International Community Law Clinic will learn about human rights, economic development, and community lawyering issues (and their application to Ghana in particular) during weekly seminars before going to Ghana during the three-week January term to do clinical work.

In the new Death Penalty Representation Clinic, students will work two days per week in the San Francisco office of the California Appellate Project, on all aspects of death penalty appeals and post-conviction proceedings.

### *Professor Deborah Rhode Publishes Two Books on Pro Bono Service*

"America's leading expert on legal ethics," our own Deborah Rhode, Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law, has two new books available that take a critical look at the availability of legal representation for the most needy in America. *Access to Justice* (Oxford University Press) provides an analysis of the first comprehensive national study of pro bono and looks at the problems created by the fact that only 1% of America's lawyers serve its poorest members. *Pro Bono in Principle and in Practice* (Stanford University Press) explores in depth the debate about pro bono service within the legal profession.

### *Four Regional Receptions for Public Interest Students, Alumni Planned*

Receptions are planned in New York City, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and San Francisco this summer. These casual affairs will enable students to meet alumni and learn more about the local public interest legal community. To attend, please contact Anna Wang at [annawang@law.stanford.edu](mailto:annawang@law.stanford.edu). ■

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

*Be the change you wish to see in the world . . .*

—Gandhi

Growth and change are in the air this summer. The sounds of demolition emanating from the basement, er, I mean, garden level, have been replaced by the sounds of construction as the new, improved clinical space is being created before our very eyes. Replacing what was formerly the mail room and copy center, this new space will bring together all clinical faculty and staff, and create a beautiful new area for students to work on cases. Designed with an eye toward creating and encouraging community as well as communication across programs, this new clinical space is projected to be ready before the fall term begins.

The Public Interest Program will join our clinical colleagues in the garden level, in an adjoining hallway, completing our transition into a freestanding division of the law school. After being nurtured by the Office of Career Services and helpfully supported by Associate Dean Susan Robinson for many years, it is time for us to step out on our own. While career advising, career development help, and traditional employment-oriented programs for students and alumni seeking public interest and public sector opportunities remain firmly within our mission and jurisdiction, we will also provide increased substantive programming to build a more vibrant public interest presence throughout the law school. This will be made all the easier with the creation of a new faculty leadership position—that of Assistant Dean for Clinical and Public Interest Programs, which will be immediately filled by Professor Larry Marshall—as well as increased administrative support for our programming.

In the coming academic year, we will also begin to concretely develop more programming for alumni working in the public interest and public sector fields. Last month, many of you heard from Anna Wang, PIP's Assistant Director, requesting alumni feedback and input about the types of information, support and connection you want. We still welcome any suggestions you may have. For more information, please contact Anna Wang at [annawang@law.stanford.edu](mailto:annawang@law.stanford.edu).

With support from Dean Kramer, we hope to launch a National Public Interest Alumni Network this year. As the SLS public interest community grows, we need to expand beyond informal networking and start building the infrastructure to support it. We hope you will join us in designing this effort.

*Diane T. Chin*

## ABOUT CREATE CHANGE

This newsletter is designed and produced by Public Interest Program staff. Unless specifically noted, all articles are written by staff.

The Public Interest Program staff consists of two full-time staff members and a part-time student assistant. **Diane T. Chin** directs the program, **Anna Wang** serves as the assistant director, and **Dawn Butler** (BA '06) is the program assistant.

To receive the newsletter by e-mail, please write to [majordomo@lists.stanford.edu](mailto:majordomo@lists.stanford.edu) with

the command "subscribe create\_change" in the body. If you have any problems subscribing to the list, please write to [publicinterest@law.stanford.edu](mailto:publicinterest@law.stanford.edu).

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# SLS Celebrates Public Service, Bids Teary Farewell to Beloved Professor Michelle Alexander

On April 21, the Stanford community gathered in Crocker Garden to celebrate the end of another great year. We also bid a fond and teary farewell to one of our favorite public interest faculty members—associate professor Michelle Alexander '92.

The program featured tributes to Alexander by Barbara Babcock, Judge John Crown Professor of Law, Emerita (who also recalled having Alexander as a student), and two of Alexander's students, Daniel Goldman '05 and Rashida Edmondson '05.

In addition, public service awards were presented to Selena Kyle and Yael Zakai, recipients of the Deborah L. Rhode Public Interest Award, Kristina Filipovich, recipient of the Lisa M. Schnitzer Memorial Scholarship, and our 2005-2006 Public Interest Fellows. The Law School's nominees for State Bar Scholarships, graduating students who obtained fellowships and honors, and students as well as faculty who provided pro bono service over the past year were also recognized at the event.



PHOTO: ANNA WANG

First-year students listened intently to program speakers, which included Larry Kramer, Richard E. Lang Professor of Law and Dean, and Professors Michelle Alexander, Barbara Babcock, Deborah Rhode, George Fisher, Jenny Martinez, and Larry Marshall. Clockwise, starting with Adair Ford (foreground), Kristina Filipovich, Lin Yee Chan, Spencer Jones, Salena Copeland, and Craig Segall.



PHOTO: ANNA WANG

Associate professor of law Michelle Alexander '92 founded and directed the Civil Rights Clinics, where she mentored countless students. She is leaving SLS to join the faculty of Ohio State Moritz College of Law, where she plans to work on a new book.



PHOTO: ANNA WANG

Deborah L. Rhode, Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law, endowed an award presented to graduating students who have demonstrated a strong commitment to public service. Rhode poses with Selena Kyle '05, one of this year's two winners. The other recipient, Yael Zakai '05, is not pictured.

# Faculty Icon Marks Nearly 40 years at SLS

Nearly forty years ago, immediately after graduating from Yale Law School and Yale's graduate program in political science, Michael S. Wald, Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law, joined the faculty of Stanford Law School, where he continues to serve as a leader in promoting public interest law at Stanford.

Wald has built a distinguished career as a highly respected and nationally recognized expert in all aspects of child advocacy. Wald has accomplished this achievement through an unusual path, as he has maintained an academic career while gaining practical experience in litigation and policy reform.

Even after his teaching career began, Wald served as a prosecutor, public defender, staff attorney, foundation program officer, and government administrator in both local and federal agencies. He also served as the principal drafter of major child welfare legislation, including the California Child Welfare Law of 1981 and the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980.

Wald's interest in urban government and poverty and his desire to teach led him to the Yale LLB/MA in Political Science program. In his final year, he co-authored one of the earliest and most widely cited studies on the impact of *Miranda v. Arizona* on police interrogation practices. That same year, a research project on juvenile justice sparked what would become one of his passions—how society can serve the best interests of children.

While Wald had planned to clerk and practice before embarking upon a teaching career, he was offered a position at Stanford right out of law school to teach criminal and family law. Wald accepted on the condition that after three years of teaching, he could leave for three years to gain practical understanding of the barriers to making policy work on the ground level.

Wald spent those three years serving as a prosecutor in the Ventura County District Attorney's office in Southern California, a public defender at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, and as a staff attorney at both the Center for Law and Social Policy in Washington, D.C. and Youth Law Center in San Francisco.

When Wald returned to campus, he worked extensively on juvenile justice, including running Stanford's first clinic that offered students a chance to represent actual clients. The clinic handled cases in juvenile court and was co-taught with current U.S. District Court Judge Thelton Henderson and former associate dean Bill Keogh.

Starting in the late 1970s, Wald began to shift his focus and write more about children and welfare, which stemmed from his longtime interest in the issues of all children.

He explains, "When you're talking about kids that are highly disadvantaged, at some point they are in one system and other times



PHOTO: LINLY HARRIS

**Michael S. Wald, Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor of Law, will be celebrating his 40th anniversary at Stanford Law School in 2007.**

in another system. If you focus on the kids, it doesn't matter much which system you're working on, as it's just happenstance whether you're working on juvenile justice, foster care, child abuse or neglect. The central mission is to do what is necessary to help kids succeed."

In 1993, Wald took another leave to join the Clinton Administration as Deputy General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and work on welfare reform for two years before returning to teaching.

In 1996, Wald joined San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown's administration and became the Executive Director of the Department of Human Services for the City and County of San Francisco.

More recently, from 2001-2003, Wald served as Senior Advisor to the President of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, where he focused on developing a major program addressing the needs of disconnected youth ages 16-24.

Wald states, "I have always envisioned my career as combining academic and various forms of practice and government service, because I see them as integral. I really like to be able to think and write and explore issues in some depth, and I don't believe that I can work on writing legislation or exploring an area in depth unless I am also involved in how it works and am out there in an operational sense."

He adds, "How do you draft policy or even bring litigation that actually alters behaviors without some understanding of why that behavior is occurring?"

Wald has enjoyed the insight and experience gained from working in multiple roles to advance a shared social justice agenda. He points out that one of his most memorable professional experiences came

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—continued on page 8—



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

## Criminal Justice Advocate Works from Within System

Armed with a liberal background, Tim Silard '91, the son of labor law and civil rights attorneys, is often questioned about why he works in criminal prosecution given his passionate commitment to progressive values.

It's a question even he would have asked at one time, when as a student at Stanford Law School he thought, "I would never, ever work as a prosecutor." At law school, people in my generation perceived the prosecutor as one of the bad guys if you were concerned about poor people and people of color."

Yet Silard believes that he made the right choice to "go into the belly of the beast." He says, "I looked at where poor people are winding up and at where we're putting the resources. They're here. If we can do something smarter about criminal justice, in terms of policies about who gets prosecuted, what kind of intervention is available, and presenting early alternatives, then we can make sure people do not get stuck in the cycle of incarceration. We need to invest in the front end to get to people, rather than waiting for them at the back end, in the criminal justice system."

Silard is an Assistant District Attorney for the city and county of San Francisco, where he serves as Director of Policy and Programs in the DA's office, an innovative department within the office that examines how to meld progressive ideals with its goal of promoting public safety.

His office offers a range of programs focusing on early intervention, rehabilitation and reentry, and has created new initiatives in numerous areas including Juvenile Justice, Elder Abuse, Gun Violence Prevention, Prostitution, Hate Crimes, Teen Domestic Violence, Stalking, Victim Advocacy, Substance Abuse, and most recently, new initiatives in Environmental Justice, Childhood Trauma, and Human Trafficking.

Silard explains, "The whole debate about being 'tough on crime' or 'soft on crime' now is really outdated. Kamala Harris [the current District Attorney] really gets that it is about being *smart* on crime."

He adds, "There are those who think that promoting rehabilitation and holding people accountable are diametrically opposed, but that is a mistake. If we are con-

cerned about public safety, we need to focus on getting people jobs, housing, and stabilizing their lives. That's what will keep people safe in the long run."

In fact, Silard outlines how Harris speaks to both sides about this approach. "She talks to law enforcement and public safety folks about embracing crime prevention, reentry and rehabilitation. When talking to progressives and community advocates, she tells them we're presenting false choices to poor communities, as they need to be safe, too. Just because you live in a low-income neighborhood, you shouldn't have to choose between having your children exposed to violence or racial profiling.

**"We need to invest in the front end to get to people, rather than waiting for them at the back end, in the criminal justice system."**



COURTESY OF TIM SILARD

"As progressives and left-thinking people, we need to get beyond thinking about law enforcement as just a negative in the lives of poor people and poor communities. In fact, it's the violence that's the greatest problem in those communities. We need to make sure it's addressed in a way that is not oppressive. It is not inconsistent to support tough prosecution of criminals and to care about poor communities."

Before he joined the San Francisco DA's office, Silard had a traditional "lefty" resume. After a college internship working for Senator Ted Kennedy and Ron Brown, a stint in the Peace Corps, and a job at the U.N. Center for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, Silard came to SLS and joined the public interest community, serving on the boards of the Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation, the East Palo Alto Community Law Project, and the Menlo-Atherton High School Mentoring Program.

Upon graduating, Silard began a Skadden Fellowship at the Income Rights Project in San Francisco, where he specialized in

health, housing and public assistance.

When the fellowship ended, he spent the next few years in Washington, DC at the Corporation for National Service where he helped launch AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service program; served on the White House Urban Policy Working Group and Vice President Gore's Community Enterprise Board; and then directed a national public housing-based urban revitalization initiative.

His move back west came when Terence Hallinan was elected to office in 1996 and created a new position developing programs. "It was a strange turning point in time, as Hallinan was a lifetime defense attorney who was on the Board of Supervisors and then ran for DA." Silard says the office has been reenergized since Harris took over.

Given his own experience, Silard has some advice for students and alumni with progressive values who are interested in criminal justice. "There are real opportunities working from inside, but you have to choose carefully where you go. Chief prosecutors have enormous power and responsibility and the individual leading the office makes a huge difference. You have to go where there is energy, commitment, and excitement at the top to do things in a different way."

He points out, "You'll face the same level of resistance to reform ideas whether you're inside or outside the system. If you go to a nonprofit advocacy group that's working on a similar set of issues, you'll have institutional support but you're knocking on doors from the outside. When you're on the inside, you can sometimes make things move more quickly but you're also going to be challenged by others inside. Not only have I had friends ask, 'What the hell are you doing in the DA's office?' but there are plenty of people inside the system who don't get how reform makes sense and how what I'm doing supports what they're doing."

After nearly 10 years working on policies to both address community needs and promote public safety at the San Francisco District Attorney's office, Silard has likely convinced scores of friends and colleagues from across the political spectrum why that is exactly the place he should be to implement change. ■

# Summer 2005 Public Interest Law Clerks Report In

This summer, Stanford Law School's Summer Public Interest Funding Program provided \$5,000 grants to 71 students working in non-profit organizations and governmental agencies all across the country and around the world.

Twelve students are overseas in Austria, China, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, the Netherlands, the Philippines, and South Africa. Others are working in 17 different U.S. cities.

SLS guarantees funding to every student with financial need that works in public interest law. Read more about some of these students' experiences.



**Debbie Baker Dec. '05** is in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Division. "Government attorney" tends to conjure up a vision of a prosecutor crusading for justice. But the government has

to defend attacks against taxpayer dollars as well. I am one of two lucky students assigned to a trial worth one billion dollars to the U.S. government. This trial combines great events in legislative and economic history with the banal theoretical subjects of first-year law school. It is exciting to see the value of understanding the various calculations of damage claims in Contracts and being able to relate it to the Savings and Loans crisis that had a marked effect on economic conditions during the 1980s."



**Tim Bender '07** is working for the Travis County District Attorney's Office in Austin, Texas. "I am working in the Family Justice Division, which handles child sex and domestic violence cases. While emotionally difficult, I couldn't imagine more compelling cases. Although I've done a bit of research (post-*Cranford* confrontation clause issues are very prominent since many of our victims recant) for the most part I've been working directly on case files: reading offense reports, medical records, watching child victim interviews, etc., and then figuring out what needs to be done."



**Lauren Brady '06** is at Legal Services for Children in San Francisco. "I've developed part of a manual on the rights of pregnant and parenting teenagers, mastered San Francisco

public transportation going to home visits with clients all over the Bay Area, and found a string of great (cheap!) Vietnamese restaurants near the Civic Center. But the real beauty of working at a direct service non-profit for the summer is the feeling of ownership and accomplishment that comes with being able to take on a caseload for ten weeks—I'm not just working on pieces of cases, or somebody else's projects. I'm the one responsible for the entire stack of client files on my desk and everything that goes on with those clients. Not only is that type of training invaluable, it's also incredibly rewarding."



At the Impact Fund in Berkeley, **Kristina Filipovich '07** is working on class action gender discrimination cases against Wal-Mart and Costco, as well as researching language access laws for people with limited English proficiency for the Discrimination Research Center (a project of the Impact Fund). "After learning about housing and disability laws during 1L moot court, it's especially interesting to learn how an organization uses testers, designs tests to document discrimination, and casts the testers." Recently, Kristina participated in a moot for lead attorney Brad Seligman's oral argument, "and then he flew me to Los Angeles with him to watch him argue before the California Supreme Court. It was inspiring to watch a pro after going through the Stanford 1L version of appellate arguments."



**Peter Khalil '07** is in the Taxation Division of the U.S. Attorney's office in San Francisco. "The tax division is unique in that it handles both criminal and civil trials. The civil trials involve cases in which the government is the plaintiff as well as those in which the

government is a defendant, so there's the opportunity for a wide range of trial experience. The main advantage of working in the tax division is that, unlike most of the other clerks in other divisions, tax clerks are directly involved in all aspects of litigation, since the division is fairly small and the work environment generally casual. Thus, I've had the opportunity to handle everything from preliminary evidentiary issues to discovery to summary judgment."



In New York City at Legal Momentum (formerly NOW Legal Defense & Education Fund), **Jennifer Liu '07** has jumped right into researching a broad spectrum of topics, everything from complex civil procedure questions to the employment rights of battered women, and is enjoying her experience immensely. She also has been attending the NYC Public Interest Law Center brown bag series for NYC public interest interns, "which is a really nice addition to the internship experience—I'm meeting some amazing interns and staff attorneys from other organizations and, oddly enough, bumping into a few old friends who have also come back to law school to do public interest."



**Aidan McGlaze '07** is at the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Center in India. "Already, the range of experiences I've had is staggering. I'm working on a report of human rights violations in Kashmir that is going to be circulated among influential international bodies; I've ridden motorcycles through the streets of the pink desert city of Jaipur, swerving among people, cars, elephants, cows, camels, pigs, and potholes; I've taken autorickshaws through Delhi whose drivers have defied physics with their ability to squeeze into the smallest of spaces at high speeds—in 110 degree weather without breaking a sweat; and I've wandered through opulent 16th century palaces so gorgeous they make you forget about the heat and suffering of the India outside. It's a great jumble, and I'm loving living in it."



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**Patrick Munoz '06** is in South Africa, where he is developing a project relating to police dereliction of duty in domestic violence cases for the University of Cape Town's Gender, Health & Justice Research unit. He recently had a memorable dinner at his boss' beach front bungalow near the Cape of Good Hope. His boss's husband offered to take him surfing, but "as we walked along the beach he began pointing out the spots where swimmers, surfers, and even a diver have been either entirely eaten, bitten in half, or merely lost a limb from Great White shark attacks. On average, someone has been attacked about every two weeks. What to do? What to do? Surfing is great, but being eaten by a great white would really put a dent in this summer's fun!?"

■ ■ ■



At the Manhattan District Attorney's office, **Osahon Omoregie '07** has jumped in feet first. "I've already been able to respond to two motions made by defendants and second seat a trial (which must have been the shortest trial in history because we were done before lunch—we got a conviction, though)." He adds that he also had the opportunity to enter the field and go on a police ride-along. "The ride-along was interesting. I mainly learned that almost no crime occurs in the lower east side of Manhattan. I spent 4-5 hours in a police car just circling the same blocks over and over again. We pulled over a few cars, but that was the extent of my adventure. But I honestly did have an interesting time listening to my guides tell me about their lives as police officers."

■ ■ ■



**Laurel Parker '07** is working for the DC Public Defender Services in the Juvenile Services Protection Division. She is advocating for the rights of incarcerated youth in the facilities. The DC

Public Defender Services are currently suing the main juvenile facility because of allegations of violations that range from sexual abuse by the guards to unclean underwear. She is also writing handbooks for incarcer-

ated and mentally ill youth about their rights and teaching workshops to incarcerated girls. "It is so rewarding to work with such needy clients on a daily basis. This job is really opening my eyes to the reality of life for children in DC, the criminal 'justice' system, and the desperate need for prison reform."

■ ■ ■



**Judit Rius Sanjuan LLM Dec. '05** is an attorney specializing in intellectual property from Spain who is spending her summer at Electronic Frontier Foundation in San Francisco. "I am working hard at EFF, commuting every day from Palo Alto to San Francisco by bicycle, Caltrain and Bart, but loving this experience. I have collaborated in several projects: research on WIPO development agenda, international and U.S. analysis of some copyright provisions, preparing a memo and a response to an ICANN/UDRP Complaint and preparing a memo on e-voting in Florida. And the work is not the only thing that is amazing. The environment at EFF is great, the other interns (there is another international from Canada!) and the staff are just great people to share the summer with and to learn from. What can I say? It's been a great professional and personal experience!"

■ ■ ■



COURTESY OF LISA SALTZBURG

While in Virginia this summer working at the Southern Environmental Law Center, **Lisa Saltzburg '06** (left) took some time with two friends to hike Old Rag Mountain in Shenandoah National Park.

Working on environmental law and policy, **Lisa Saltzburg '06** is at the Southern Envi-

ronmental Law Center (SELC) in Charlottesville, VA. SELC focuses on protecting the natural resources of the South. "I'm becoming more and more convinced that regional is a good level to work at after seeing how an organization does that effectively. I'm like a fish to water working here. It's exactly what I went to law school to do, and since they're headquartered in my hometown, many of their projects hit closer to home for me, too. I focus mostly on Southern Appalachian forests, which I always cared for but felt pretty helpless to do much about. Now, I feel like I have something I can do."

■ ■ ■



At the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Washington, D.C., **Stephanie Rogers '07** is working in the Agency's Office of the General Counsel. "I am working on active litigation projects and I am also helping to form advisory opinions for USAID so that our policies and programs avoid litigation in the first place. In the long-term, I am very interested in a career in foreign policy and international development. Working for the legal office of USAID has been a great introduction to the role that lawyers play in a government agency, and also the role that they take on in planning and achieving development programs. Beyond the practical skills I've gained, I enjoy knowing that I am helping our government to contribute to positive change in the developing world."

■ ■ ■



**Colin Sampson '06**, a Summer Honors Intern at the California Attorney General's office in Sacramento, is enthusiastic about a career in government after seeing for himself all the benefits: an amazing caseload, significant responsibility, reasonable hours that enable attorneys to balance work and a personal life, and a salary that enables one to raise a family. "I am surprised there aren't more Stanford students here. I don't know if people know about the kinds of fascinating cases the AG's office handles. When I took a look at the list of cases, I was really amazed because they are litigating major cases that will greatly impact Californians." ■

# Talented Clinical Staff Mentor Students

*continued from page 1*

Tarricone adds, "It's also a great way to learn key negotiation and litigation skills that can't be picked up in the classroom."

Indeed, the only thing that students need to bring to the Clinic to have a successful experience, according to Stevenson, is flexibility. "The demands of public interest work with low-income clients means that students need to be understanding and flexible: the realities of our clients' lives can make scheduling challenging."

Stevenson goes on to say, "Students are affected by the direct, personal contact they have with clients who desperately need their assistance. That comes from developing an appreciation and respect for the work and efforts of one's client, and the recognition of what the student can offer that client toward righting wrongs, enforcing laws, changing bad practices, making new laws and striving toward a more just society."

The Clinic would not be a success without its talented staff, including four full-time

attorneys. Reid, who directs the Clinic, was the former Executive Director of LAS-SMC and will be honored July 12 by the Public Interest Clearinghouse of San Francisco for his commitment to legal services.

Stevenson, who joined the Clinic in January of 2003, brings eleven years of clinical teaching in community-based settings.

Supervising attorney Danielle Jones brings a strong background in housing discrimination litigation to the table and has served with the Clinic since last January.

Severa Keith '01 (BA '93) is the Clinic's first Thelton Henderson Fellow, which was established in Spring 2004 in conjunction with the Clinic's partner, LAS-SMC. Judge Henderson currently sits on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California. He was the first directing attorney of the East Palo Alto office of LAS-SMC and a former assistant dean at Stanford Law School. Keith splits her time between LAS-SMC and the Clinic.

The class of 2005 recently honored Lupe Buenrostro, one of the Clinic's legal

assistants, for her contributions to their education. Buenrostro, an expert in housing and community economic development issues, has proven her dedication with over 14 years of work for the EPACLP and has been with the Clinic since its inception.

The future looks bright for the Clinic as student interest increases, the staff continues to foster close mentoring relationships with participants, and it has established itself as an integral part of the surrounding community.

Professor Larry Marshall, David & Stephanie Mills Director of Clinical Education, concludes, "Ever since I arrived last July I have been inspired by the Law School's deep commitment to its clinical programs generally, and in East Palo Alto, in particular. The Community Law Clinic gives students wonderful opportunities to provide top-quality legal services in a broad array of areas. We will continue to expand this program in the years to come so that we can serve more students and more clients." ■

## Wald Urges Future Child Advocates To Think Broadly

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while working at the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. Wald successfully argued a contested insanity case on behalf of a defendant who faced life in prison, at a time when it was very rare to win such cases.

He explains, "I feel a sense of accomplishment with the passage of the Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act and some of the other legislation I've drafted, but you never know how that actually plays out, so the memorable things for me are the individual cases where I knew how it affected the life of the person I was representing."

Wald has advice for students interested in child advocacy: "Anybody working in the area should get a lot of experience with individual representation, even if you're interested in policy. Most people who go into this field ultimately work in policy, but you must be grounded in how policy impacts individual cases and in individual children and families' lives."

He elaborates, "People should expect in this field to do a number of things over the years. You probably will move to different practice settings, which makes it continuously interesting. You may start in the field with a notion that there's only one thing to do but there are multiple things that are very rewarding and you're likely to do many of them over a career."

Wald states that much of what students need to develop can be found within the JD program, without necessarily pursuing another

graduate degree.

"Students need to gain an understanding of the policymaking process and how institutions like schools, courts, probation departments, and welfare departments function and what makes them operate. Understanding that is really critical and you can take courses both inside and outside of the law school that will give you those experiences. Taking only case-law oriented courses would be a big mistake."

Wald believes that clinical courses are also fundamental to a child advocate's academic preparation. "First of all, students enrolled in a really good law school clinic learn how things can be done as best as they can be done. Often that makes things very difficult to replicate when you're in practice, but at least you understand where you're compromising and this helps ensure that appropriate compromises are made."

In terms of job advice, Wald offers, "What I tell a lot of students is that there's not one way that is better than any other way to try and change the world. Changing the world is always very incremental. In thinking about jobs, you want to find one that is the right emotional fit

for the kinds of things you like and the way you work on things—be it alone in the library or in a group, in a high conflict situation or a low conflict situation. You can find really meaningful jobs that have the right emotional aspects for what you like to do."

Given Wald's extensive and varied career, this advice is quite persuasive. ■

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