

Stanford Law School

2L Public Interest Mentors

2014 - 2015

Each year, the Levin Center at Stanford Law School recruits second-year public interest students to mentor first-year students to help ease the transition to law school and provide personalized advice and support. First-year students can choose to join specific practice area groups (e.g., criminal prosecution, international human rights, or environmental law) or a general public interest group for students with niche interests not covered by existing groups (e.g., animal law) or students who have not yet narrowed their interests.



James Banker

James is from Costa Mesa, California, and graduated from San Diego State University with a B.A. in linguistics. Before attending SDSU, he served in the U.S. Army for seven years, and after graduating, he worked for the Department of Defense as an advisor to

the Afghan Peace and Reintegration Program in northern Afghanistan. At Stanford, he is a member of the Stanford Law Veterans Organization, the International Human Rights pro bono, the Stanford Journal of International Law, and the Afghan Legal Education Project. During his 1L summer he interned with the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the Department of Homeland Security. Next spring, James will be participating in the International Human Rights and Conflict Resolution Clinic.

As a Marine he worked in intelligence, managing and conducting interrogations as well as clandestine sources. He was stationed in San Diego and deployed to Afghanistan in 2012. In law school he participates in the Housing Pro Bono, the Three Strikes Project, Mock Trial, ACS, and the Criminal Law Society while leading the Stanford Law Association as a co-President. During his 1L summer he worked for the Texas Defender Service helping ensure fair trials for indigent defendants facing the death penalty in Texas. He is originally from New Mexico, and enjoys volleyball, reading, and the show "Suits". He is passionate about criminal justice issues from both defense and prosecution perspectives and is looking forward to the Prosecution Clinic this winter.



Abigail Barnes

Abby is from Silver Spring, Maryland and received her B.S. from Vanderbilt University. During college, she interned for the National Center for Youth Law and the San Francisco District Attorney. After graduating in 2011, she worked on impact litigation as a paralegal at

Children's Rights in New York City. Abby is co-president of Women of Stanford Law, co-leader of the Guardianship Pro Bono Project, submissions editor of the Stanford Journal of Complex Litigation, a member editor of the Stanford Law Review, and conference manager for the 2014 Shaking the Foundations Progressive Lawyering Conference. She spent her 1L summer as a Ford Foundation Fellow at the National Women's Law Center, and is looking forward to participating in the Environmental Law Clinic this fall.



Sam Byker

Sam was born and raised in Los Angeles. He graduated from Brown University in 2010 with a degree in Economics and American History, then worked for three years at the Boston Consulting Group in Chicago and as a field organizer for the

2012 Obama Campaign in Milwaukee. At Stanford, Sam is Co-President of StreetLaw and Academic Co-Chair of SLA (SLS's student government). Sam spent this past summer at the California Attorney General's Office working to develop re-entry programs for state prisoners, and he is looking forward to joining the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic in the Spring. In his spare time, Sam enjoys running, biking, backpacking, and scouring the peninsula for a decent burrito.



Marcus Bourassa

Marcus earned his BA in International Relations and MA in African Studies here at Stanford before becoming an officer in the United States Marine Corps. In college he studied and worked in Tanzania, South Africa, and Ghana.



Robert Curran

Robert is from Bainbridge Island, Washington. He graduated from Loyola University Chicago in 2012 with a degree in History. At Loyola, he was co-president of the Platypus Affiliated Society, a leftist political organization. At Stanford, Robert

worked on the Social Security Disability Project pro bono, and also volunteered at the Orleans Public Defenders over spring break. During his 1L summer, Robert worked at the Anchorage branch of the Alaska Legal Service Corporation,

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where he worked primarily on foreclosure defense and Indian law issues. Robert is excited to return to Stanford as a senior editor of Stanford Law and Policy Review, as well as participating in the Youth & Education Law Project clinic this winter.



Akiva Freidlin

Akiva graduated from Hampshire College in 2005 with a B.A. in American Studies. He then worked in the music industry for five years as a sound engineer and tour manager, managing national and international tours for recording artists and producing events in New York City.

During 2008-11 he earned an M.F.A. in Nonfiction Writing from Columbia University. During that period he started volunteering at the Innocence Project, and then joined the Project's staff as a researcher and grant-writer from 2011-2013. At Stanford, has been an instructor and is now the Communications Coordinator for Project ReMADE, a student-led business incubator for people who have been incarcerated. He works with the Three Strikes Project and the Shaking the Foundations conference, and has been an editor for the Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. During 1L summer he worked at the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem, a community-based public defender's office in New York, and he is looking forward to the Criminal Defense Clinic this spring.



Cindy M. Garcia

Cindy was born in the northern Central Valley of California. She attended Pomona College where she studied Psychology and minored in French. After college she went to East Harlem for a year of service with City Year, an AmeriCorps organization. She worked

in a public elementary school tutoring and running an afterschool program. The next year she returned to California for a year of service with JusticeCorps at the Los Angeles Superior Court in downtown. There she helped self-represented litigants in family law matters such a divorce and establishing paternity. At SLS, she is a board member of the Stanford Latino Law Students Association and the Symposium Editor for the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. She is a coordinator for the Language Bank Pro Bono. Her 1L summer, Cindy was a Ford Foundation Fellow at MALDEF (Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund). She is excited to be in the Immigrants' Rights Clinic this fall.



Kaitlyn Gardner

Kaitlyn was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah. In 2008 she went to Stanford for her undergraduate degree. After taking a course on women and aging, Kaitlyn realized she wanted to get a law degree to help the elderly population.

She focused her research and bachelor's degree on gerontological psychology. After graduating from Stanford in 2012, Kaitlyn worked at the University of Utah as an Admissions Counselor for one year. There she got to travel the nation and give speeches concerning diversity and access to higher education. At Stanford Law School Kaitlyn is involved in the Women of Stanford Law, the Stanford Law and Policy Review Journal, Stanford Tax Pro Bono, and researches end of life directives for two professors. Kaitlyn spent her 1L summer working at the National Senior Citizen Law Center where she focused on class action litigation and policy work. She hopes to use her degree to work with aging populations, but has a wide variety of interests she would love to talk about.



Stephanie Gilliam

Stephanie is from Chapel Hill, NC. She earned her BA in 2013 from Rice University where she double majored in English and Hispanic Studies. During her college career, she interned with three different non-profits, including a charter school and a museum, and worked for

a real estate law firm. She is part of SLS's immigration pro-bono and spent her 1L summer in Washington, DC, working for the National Immigration Law Center during an exciting time for immigration reform. Her interests are in immigration law, employment law and international human rights. Outside of the law school, she loves spending weekends in San Francisco, going to free opera performances and eating Mexican food. She looks forward to participating in the Immigrants' Rights Clinic this fall and to meeting SLS's newest class of public interest law students.



Shereen Griffith

Shereen is originally from Mesa, Arizona, but has spent most of the last decade in California. She graduated from UC Berkeley in 2009 with a degree in Political Economy of Industrialized Societies and spent her time between college and law

school in San Francisco at Triage Consulting Group, first as an Associate and then a Senior Legal Services Associate. At Stanford, Shereen co-leads the Guardianship Pro Bono

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and is also a member of the Afghanistan Legal Education Project. She spent her 1L summer as a legal intern at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in Washington, D.C., and is looking forward to participating in the International Human Rights and Conflict Resolution Clinic in spring 2015.



Gagan Gupta

Gagan grew up in Belmont, North Carolina. After graduating from Davidson College in 2007 with a B.A. in Political Science, he set off to New Orleans, Louisiana, to assist in the post-Katrina recovery effort as a Congressional Fellow. He then joined the 2008 Obama

campaign, serving thereafter as a White House political appointee helping to implement the 2009 Serve America Act which tripled the size of America's national service programs, including AmeriCorps and the MLK Day of Service. He then completed his Masters in International Political Economy at The London School of Economics, at which time he began participating in amateur Lindy Hop swing dance performances and competitions. He also helped expand a startup social enterprise that manufactures and distributes small-scale solar energy products in rural West African markets. In law school, Gagan is involved with the Stanford Law Review, the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Project ReMade, and a research assistantship with Professor Deborah Rhode. He spent his 1L summer as a Justice John Paul Stevens Public Interest Fellow with the San Francisco Public Defender's Office, and he is looking forward to joining the Community Law Clinic during his 2L year.



Virginia Halden

Ginny grew up in Sandy, Utah. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2010 with majors in Sociology and Spanish. She went on to work as a paralegal at Akin Gump in Washington, D.C. for two years. Before

attending law school, Ginny worked with the Disability Law Center in Salt Lake City for a summer. At Stanford, she is co-chair of Shaking the Foundations, student coordinator for the Housing Pro Bono program, and coordinator for the Stanford Critical Law Society (SCritLS). She spent her 1L summer working for the ACLU of Utah and will participate in Community Law Clinic in the spring. Her career goal is to work with indigent and minority communities to protect and expand their access to justice.



Amy Heath

Amy is from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She graduated from Middlebury College in 2007 with a degree in Middle Eastern Studies. During college, she studied abroad in Cairo, attended Middlebury's summer Arabic school, and played on

the volleyball team. After college, she worked for six years as an intelligence analyst in Washington, DC, focusing on Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. At Stanford, Amy is a co-leader of the Immigration Pro Bono, training director for the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project, member of the Afghanistan Legal Education Project, and co-leader of OWLS (Older Wiser Law Students). She spent her first summer at the Civil Fraud section of DOJ, and looks forward to joining the Community Law Clinic this spring.



Eric Johnson

Eric grew up in nearby Los Altos, California. He earned a B.A. in Sociology with an emphasis in Law and Society at the University of California, Davis, where he also played on the baseball team.

After graduating, Eric took a year off before going to law school. During that year, he worked for the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, assisting prosecutors in the homicide division. Eric spent his first year of law school at University of California, Hastings College of the Law. There, he was active in a number of pro bono programs that served the San Francisco community. The summer after 1L year, Eric worked for the United States Attorney's Office in the Northern District of California. He was assigned to the misdemeanor division, and handled his own caseload of 15-20 cases, making numerous court appearances. Eric is very excited to participate in the Community Law Clinic in the spring.



Brittany Jones

Brittany grew up in Virginia Beach, Virginia. She attended the University of Virginia where she completed an undergraduate degree in Foreign Affairs and a Masters Program in Finance. Before law school, Brittany worked as an analyst at a litigation boutique in New York

City. At Stanford, she has committed herself to a variety of pro-bono work, including serving as a mentor for Project ReMade, Vice President of the American Constitution Society, and contributor to the PILPG project for Libya's constitutional development. Brittany is also Lead Article Editor for the Journal for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and a recent member of the Stanford Law Review. She spent



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her 1L summer at the Securities and Exchange Commission and looks forward to participating in the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic this fall.



Liz Jones

Liz grew up in Redondo Beach, CA, and graduated from Vassar College in 2011. Liz has been passionate about environmental issues for as long as she can remember. After college she worked as an AmeriCorps member assisting small cities with municipal energy management programs;

a fellow at a small non-profit implementing energy efficiency, renewables development, and affordable housing projects; and a research assistant at the NRDC. She spent her 1L summer working at the California Attorney General's Office in the Natural Resources Section. At Stanford, Liz is pursuing a joint masters degree in Environment and Resources, and is involved in the Environmental Law Society, the Environmental Law Journal, the Environmental Law, Animal Law, and Social Security Disability Pro Bono Projects.



Deepa Kannappan

Deepa is from Bakersfield, California. She did her Bachelors in Human Biology and her Masters in Management Science and Engineering at Stanford, focusing on Health Policy is rural America. Largely due to her interaction with the farm workers in California's Central Valley, she decided

to go straight through to law school to work on on civil rights and immigration advocacy work. She worked for the ACLU's Immigrant Rights Project over her 1L summer, and is doing the Immigrants' Rights Clinic in the fall. She is also considering intellectual property law work, and would be happy to talk to students about conflicting private and public interest law career paths. At SLS, she is an Executive Editor on the Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Programming Co-Chair for the 2014 Shaking the Foundations Conference, Advocacy Co-Chair for the American Constitution Society, and Social Chair for the Asian-Pacific Islanders Law Student Association. For fun, she captains Stanford's competitive garba/raas dance team, performs in the Law School Musical and is a Community Associate in Munger Housing.



Cassandra Kildow

Cassandra graduated from Yale University in 2011 with a B.A. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations. Prior to law school, she worked at the Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA), a

nonprofit that litigates international human rights cases. At SLS she is the Legal Director of the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), a member editor on the Stanford Law Review, and on the board of the Stanford Association for Law in the Middle East (SALME), the Stanford International Human Rights Law Association (SIHRLA), and the CJA Young Professional Committee.



Grace Kouba

Grace was born and raised in Eugene, Oregon. She came to Stanford straight out of college, having graduated from Dartmouth with a degree in linguistics and a minor in creative writing. In law school, she has been involved in the Criminal Law

Society (of which she is now co-president), the Stanford Journal of Criminal Law and Policy, and the Immigration Pro Bono Project. She is very interested in criminal work and prosecution, and she spent her 1L summer at the US Attorney's Office in San Jose. She looks forward to participating in the criminal defense clinic during her 2L winter. In her spare time, Grace enjoys hip-hop dance, yoga, hiking, weightlifting, language study, and baking.



Heather Kryczka

Heather was born in Mississauga, Canada and grew up in Naperville, Illinois. She graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 2011, where she majored in environmental studies, minored in creative writing, and worked as a research

assistant at the Interdisciplinary Environmental Law Clinic. After college she worked for Green Corps, a year long training program for grassroots organizers, and ran environmental campaigns in several states. After graduating Green Corps she worked as a field organizer on a House race in Iowa and interned in communications at the Environmental Law and Policy Center. At Stanford Heather is co-president of the Environmental Law Society, co-chair of Shaking the Foundations, submissions board editor of the Environmental Law Journal, a graduate writing tutor at the Hume Writing Center, and a volunteer at the Social Security and Disability pro bono project. She spent her 1L summer as a Ford Foundation fellow at Environmental Defense Fund in Boulder, Colorado working on climate change and air pollution issues.



Jeffrey Lash

Jeff was born in Cleveland, Ohio before moving to Dallas, Texas at age 15. He attended Rice University, where he earned a B.A. in Mathematical Economic Analysis and a M.A. in Economics. He spent two



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summers at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. At Stanford, he is involved with the Housing Pro Bono, which provides aid through Community Legal Services of East Palo Alto. Jeff spent his 1L summer at the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office and is thrilled to participate in the Community Law Clinic this year.



Jeannie Lieder

Jeannie grew up in Carbondale, Illinois—about two hours from St. Louis, the nearest city. She graduated from the University of Michigan in 2011 with a degree in Cultural Anthropology. At Michigan, she was actively involved in tutoring and mentoring under-privileged

youth through the Peace Neighborhood Center and in working with the HIV/AIDS Resource Center, providing direct services to at-risk populations. She spent the entirety of her third year living in Prague and learning about the history and culture of Central Europe. Following law school, Jeannie worked with children in a variety of contexts, including serving as a nanny, working in a daycare center, and working at a summer camp in Palo Alto. At Stanford, Jeannie is a Submissions Editor for the Criminal Law & Policy Journal, Community Co-Chair for the Stanford Law Association, Advocacy Co-Chair for the American Constitution Society, a member of the Environmental and Criminal Law Societies, and a volunteer with StreetLaw and the Animal Legal Defense pro bono project. She spent her 1L summer at the Department of Justice's Environmental Crimes Section. She is excited to participate in the Stanford Criminal Defense Clinic this year.



Sarracina Littlebird

A native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Sarracina (aka Cina) graduated from Columbia University with a BA in Environmental Biology and Dance in 2009. After college, Cina divided her time between touring with an all-Native

American contemporary dance company and working for an independent think tank in New Mexico. She then spent some time leading a group of at-risk youth in green service-learning construction projects in the Santa Fe area. Before taking a year to explore life and the law in Seattle, Cina taught English in Thailand under the Fulbright Program. At Stanford, Cina is involved with the Native American Law Students Association, the Native Amicus Briefing Pro Bono, and the Environmental Law Journal. She spent her 1L summer with the National Indian Education Association supporting the organization's work in fighting for increased tribal sovereignty in the realm of Native education. She

hopes to use her JD as a tool in becoming an advocate for tribal populations within the US, particularly her home communities in the Pueblos of New Mexico.



Madeleine McKenna

Madeleine grew up in Bellevue, WA and graduated from the University of Washington in 2011 with degrees in Economics and International Studies. While at UW, Madeleine served as student body president and advocated to preserve

higher education affordability. Before coming to SLS, Madeleine worked for a year and a half on a gubernatorial campaign in her home state, and she also worked for Microsoft in Washington, DC doing policy analysis and lobbying. Madeleine spent her 1L summer at the US Attorney's Office in Seattle. This year, she is the incoming co-president of SLS Democrats, policy co-chair for ACS, and a member editor of Stanford Law Review. In her spare time, Madeleine loves yoga, running, cooking, and Netflix.



Chris McLamb

Chris grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina, but has lived in Virginia, Missouri, and Washington, D.C., for much of the last decade. In 2012, he graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with a degree in American

Culture Studies and Political Science. While at WashU, he was a group leader in the Leadership Through Service program and spent a summer interning for the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. Before law school, Chris spent one year as a fellow with the American Constitutional Society's national office in Washington, D.C. He interned for Judge Beryl A. Howell at the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia during his 1L summer. Chris is interested, amongst many things, in the impact of economic inequality on both civil and criminal law.



Malia McPherson

Malia was born and raised in Los Angeles. After graduating from UC Berkeley in 2010 with a degree in Biochemistry and Public Health, she interned at the Pasteur Institute in Paris studying virus populations. She returned to the US and

did clinical research for a neuro-medical device company for three years before deciding to go to law school. At SLS, she is co-president of BioLaw and the Food Law and Policy Society. She spent her 1L summer at the CA Office of the Attorney General in the Health, Education, and Welfare Section and is looking forward to participating in the winter Environmental Law Clinic.

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Ruhan Nagra

Ruhan is originally from Punjab, India but was born in the UK and grew up in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia and St. Louis, MO. She majored in human biology at Brown University, where she was an active member of Students for Justice in Palestine and helped launch the

organization's ongoing campaign to compel the university to divest its holdings from companies that facilitate the Israeli occupation. Ruhan went on to medical school, also at Brown, where she completed a year before quitting and moving to the West Bank, occupied Palestinian territory. Ruhan lived and worked in the West Bank for the next two years, first as a high school biology teacher at the Ramallah Friends School and then as co-coordinator of the Right to Education Campaign, a grassroots Palestinian movement based at Birzeit University that mobilizes the local and international community around violations of rights to higher education under Israeli occupation. At SLS, Ruhan is co-chair of Shaking the Foundations and will participate in the International Human Rights and Conflict Resolution clinic this fall. She spent her 1L summer in the National Security and Civil Rights Program at Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco.



Maya Perelman

Maya went to high school in the Bay Area and attended Stanford, where she received her degree in Philosophy. After college, she joined Sanford Heisler, a plaintiffs' side civil rights firm, where she worked on employment discrimination and labor

exploitation cases. Although she came into law school thinking she wanted to continue working in the field of civil rights litigation, she fell in love with criminal law at SLS and is now interested in working as a public defender, an AUSA, or doing criminal defense work at a boutique firm. This summer, she is participating in a rotational program sponsored by Skadden Arps; she is working in New York in white collar crime and pro bono matters while at Skadden, working on employment litigation and First Amendment cases at CBS, then joining the Juvenile Rights Practice at Legal Aid Society. At SLS, Maya is the Community Chair in student government and the Curriculum Co-Chair for StreetLaw.



Serena Premjee

Serena is from Atlanta, Georgia. She went to the University of Georgia, where she studied English and International Affairs and a couple of other things. During college, she studied abroad at

Oxford University and spent a lot of time tutoring and mock trialing. Before coming to Stanford, she spent a year working as a cognitive trainer, where she became interested in education and youth issues. Here, she's co-president of Law Students for Reproductive Justice and a submissions editor on the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. She spent her 1L summer at Planned Parenthood, working in the law and litigation department of their national headquarters.



Jacob Raver

Jacob is from the suburbs of New York City and holds a BA from Johns Hopkins University and an MA from Hebrew University in Jerusalem. After working for various NGOs, struggling for the rights of neglected peoples including Domari Gypsies and Indian Nagas, he joined the

U.S. Marine Corps. Serving more than four years, including a tour in Afghanistan, Jacob left active duty as a Captain just a couple months before starting law school. At Stanford, he is Co-President of the Native Amicus Briefing Project, involved with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and was a regional quarterfinalist in the 2014 Jessup International Moot Court Competition. A Justice John Paul Stevens PI fellow, Jacob spent his 1L summer as a bar certified law clerk with the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office. He lives with his wife and son in the local area and loves meeting new people from all walks of life.



Dana Rehnquist

Dana is from Boston, MA and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania where she studied Political Science and History. While in college she interned at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office in the Homicide Unit, the D.C. U.S.

Attorney's Office in the Public Corruption Unit, and the Department of Justice in their Public Affairs and Legislative Affairs Offices. Upon graduation she worked as a paralegal for two-and-a-half years at the Boston U.S. Attorney's Office in the Health Care Fraud Unit and then spent a year in Paris at Le Cordon Bleu studying French cuisine and wine. At SLS Dana is involved with the Criminal Law Society, Street Law Pro Bono Project, Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation, and Stanford's Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. During her 1L summer Dana interned at The Sentencing Project as part of the Ford Fellowship. She is looking forward to participating in the Criminal Defense Clinic this winter.

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Nicole Roberts

Nicole is from Seattle, Washington.

She graduated from the University of Washington in 2013, where she double majored in Disability Studies and Law, Societies, and Justice. While in college, Nicole served as Vice President of the Disability Advocacy Student Alliance and

as a Senator for the Associated Students of the University of Washington Senate. She also volunteered with children with autism and developmental disabilities through organizations such as The Arc of King County and Families for Effective Autism Treatment of Washington, as well as volunteered with the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center as a court monitor. Nicole came straight through to law school and spent her 1L summer at K&L Gates LLP in Seattle as a Summer Associate. She is interested in civil rights, education, disability, and criminal law. At Stanford, Nicole is Co-President of the Stanford Association of Law Students for Disability Rights, Academic Development Co-Chair for the Black Law Students Association, a teacher for Street Law, and a member editor of the Stanford Law Review. Nicole very much looks forward to participating in the Youth and Education Law Project Clinic.



Ashley Robertson

Ashley is from Greenville, South Carolina and graduated from the University of Virginia in 2013. At Virginia, she worked in a psychology lab focused on youth gangs and juvenile justice research. After graduating, Ashley spent a summer interning for South Carolina Legal

Services. At Stanford, she is the Curriculum Co-Chair for StreetLaw, a member editor on Stanford Law Review and a senior editor for Stanford Law and Policy Review. Ashley spent her 1L summer working on right-to-counsel issues with the Department of Justice's Access to Justice Initiative, and she looks forward to participating in the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic this spring.



Michael Skocpol

Michael Skocpol was born and raised in Cambridge, Massachusetts. After graduating in 2010 from Brown University, he moved to Washington, D.C., where he first worked as an investigator of juvenile and adult felony cases for the Public Defender Service

for the District of Columbia and then as a paralegal for the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice. At SLS, Michael has been involved with Outlaw (SLS' LGBTQ student organization, of which he's a co-president this year),

the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, the American Constitution Society, Housing Pro Bono, the Stanford Law Review, and intramural soccer. He spent his 1L summer interning as a Justice John Paul Stevens Public Interest Fellow at the ACLU of Southern California in Los Angeles, and he looks forward to participating in the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic this fall.



Vina Seelam

Vina grew up in the Bay Area and in Arizona. She graduated from Yale in 2011 with a B.A. in Psychology and International Studies. Afterwards, she worked as a paralegal in New York City and later as a project manager for a healthcare non-profit in India. At SLS, she

is co-editor of the Criminal Law and Policy Journal and is also involved with the Criminal Law Society, the Afghanistan Legal Education Project, StreetLaw, and the Stanford Law Association. During her 1L summer Vina interned at the Legal Aid Society's Criminal Defense Practice in Manhattan, and this Winter she will be participating in the Criminal Defense Clinic at SLS.



Rylee Sommers-Flanagan

Rylee is from Montana, raised in Missoula, with roots in Absarokee. Before college, she was an AmeriCorps volunteer in Seattle, Washington. She attended Emory University, where she majored in International Studies with a concentration in Political Economy

and Latin America. She also has a Creative Writing degree from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. In 2012, Rylee worked for President Obama's reelection campaign in Colorado and following the election, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked for Democracy: A Journal of Ideas, as a copy-editor and fact-checker. During the same time, she also worked a co-manager for the OpEd Project in Atlanta. At SLS, Rylee is Co-Vice President of the American Constitution Society and Co-Coordinator of the pro bono, Constitution in the Classroom, as well as a board member for the Criminal Law and Policy Journal, the Criminal Law Society, and Shaking the Foundations, and a member of the Women of Stanford Law. She spent her 1L summer as a Ford Foundation Fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice in the Justice Program and looks forward to participating in the Youth and Education Law Project this year.

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Aaron Stanton

Aaron is originally from Long Island, New York. After studying history at Brown University (class of 2008), he worked for five years as an emergency planner at the New York City Office of Emergency Management, where he was involved in the responses to Hurricanes Irene and Sandy. At Stanford, Aaron is a member editor of the Environmental Law Journal, a volunteer for the Housing Pro Bono Project, and the incoming president of the Animal Legal Defense Pro Bono Project. He spent the summer after 1L year working at the Environmental Defense Fund in New York.



Alex Twinem

Alex was born and raised in Brookfield, Wisconsin. She graduated from Northwestern University with a BA in English in 2010. During college, she had the opportunity to volunteer with a number of criminal defense and criminal justice organizations, including the Safer Foundation, Northwestern University Law School's Center on Wrongful Convictions, and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. Following graduation, Alex spent three years teaching English in the Republic of Korea to elementary- and middle-school students in and around Seoul. At Stanford, Alex is a volunteer with the both the Volunteer Attorney Program and Tax pro bono projects. She is currently a Managing Editor of the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights & Civil Liberties and a Member Editor of the Stanford Law Review. As a 1L, Alex was a leader in planning the Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation Bid for Justice, and as a 2L she will be one of the Vice Presidents of Bar Grants for SPILF. Focused primarily on criminal justice and reform, she spent her 1L summer at the Southern Center for Human Rights, splitting her time between impact litigation and direct capital representation. Alex is thrilled to be participating in the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic in the spring. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, traveling, and watching terrible reality TV.



Ashley Williams

Ashley is from Alexandria, Virginia, right outside Washington, DC.. Ashley went to Columbia University for her undergraduate studies, where she studied American 19th Century History and Political Science. But throughout college, Ashley was excited about working in public education, and tutored, worked in preschools, and led a reading program in New York schools. Ashley became a teacher after college, and worked as a third grade

teacher in Brooklyn at an all-girls charter school. Being most interested in children and the law, Ashley went to SLS to pursue children and the law. At Stanford, Ashley is co-president of the Black Law Students Association, founder of the Women of Color Collective of Stanford Law, and a teacher with Street Law. Ashley is now interested in pursuing juvenile public defense, and is excited to work in the Criminal Defense clinic in the spring. Ashley loves cooking, photography, running, reading, and eating brunch; and loves to talk!



Christine Yoon

Christine is from Vestal, New York, and graduated from Cornell University in 2010 with a B.A. in Economics. After working for an economic policy institute in Seoul, she spent a year with Americorps working at a refugee resettlement agency in Virginia. At Stanford, Christine is a student coordinator for the Volunteer Attorney Program and also volunteers with the immigration pro bono. She spent her 1L summer with the Criminal Justice Reform Program at Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco.



Emi Young

Emi was raised in Omaha, Nebraska but left her Midwestern roots to attend Pomona College, where she developed an interest in criminal justice issues through working with young adults in the system. At Stanford she is involved in StreetLaw, the Shaking the Foundations Progressive Lawyering Conference, APILSA, and youth mentoring. She spent her 1L summer working at the New York Civil Liberties Union, and is looking forward to being part of the Criminal Defense Clinic this winter.