

# **Global Law Scholars 2010-2011**

## **First-Year Students (Class of 2013)**

### **Marnie Ajello**

Marnie holds a bachelor of arts in Russian and French literature from Cornell University. Since graduating in 2006, she has endeavored to spend as much time as possible in the former Soviet Union. After finding work as a research assistant on a salmon ecology project in Kamchatka, she spent two years in Ukraine, teaching English as a Peace Corps volunteer. Last year she received an NSEP fellowship to participate in the Overseas Russian Flagship Program in St. Petersburg. Marnie is proficient in French and speaks Russian at the advanced level. She has a broad interest in international legal issues, but hopes her eventual career as a lawyer will be closely tied to the Russian-speaking world.

### **Zach Bench**

Zach comes to the Law Center after serving in the Peace Corps in Guinea, West Africa. He spent nearly 2 years there, but was forced to leave a few months early after political unrest destabilized the country. Zach was a Small Enterprise Development volunteer in the town of Kissidougou, Guinea, where he worked closely with several local Microfinance NGOs to develop strategies to improve the placement of their limited capital and increase the effectiveness of their loans by linking them with simultaneous business and budgeting trainings. He also worked to extend access to financial services to those without the means to enter the formal banking system by helping to create 12 Village Savings and Loan Associations in surrounding villages with farmer's and women's groups to provide a framework for collective saving and lending in their communities. His last major project was to develop and facilitate a 3-day Community Leadership Conference with 30 participants from towns and villages throughout the Eastern region of Guinea. During the conference the participants and facilitators shared knowledge and best-practices about project-planning, women's education, public health, and guiding development work. Zach graduated from The George Washington University in 2007 with a Bachelors Degree in Philosophy and a minor in Economics. During his time at George Washington, he spent a year studying at University College in London, England. He is interested in private international law and trade policy. He is fluent in (African) French and conversant in Malinke.

### **Valentina Castillo**

Valentina graduated from Columbia University in May 2009 with a BA in Economics. As a student she was a member of the Organization of Latin American Students, active in Columbia's Campus Life Committee which she greatly enjoyed, and an intern at the Kings County District Attorney's Office. While a student, Valentina spent a semester in Paris taking classes at Reid Hall and Sciences Po. At Sciences Po, Valentina was first

introduced to the European Union when she took a class that explored the pressing issues facing the EU. Following this experience, in the summer of 2009, she interned in Brussels at the European Renewable Energies Federation where she became familiar with the key players in the European RE field and the relevant legislation. Valentina's languages are French and Spanish, and her area of interest is the European Union and how it intersects with business in a global context. She looks forward to exploring this via her legal studies. In the summer preceding law school, Valentina travelled through Central Europe and has continued her Mandarin Lessons which she finds challenging but enjoyable. She looks forward to joining the GLS community.

### **Ekta Dharia**

Ekta graduated *cum laude* from Duke University in 2008. She received high honors and graduated with distinction from her major, Environmental Sciences and Policy, after completing a senior thesis entitled "Engaging the Kimberley Process and the UN Global Compact in the Post-War Democratic Republic of the Congo." While at Duke, Ekta studied in Costa Rica for a semester, volunteered with NGOs in Malawi and India, and participated in the Jeddah Economic Forum in Saudi Arabia. She also interned at the United Nations office in Washington, DC. After graduation, Ekta received the William J. Clinton Fellowship for Service in India to assist Navsarjan, a human rights organization focused on legal issues surrounding the "untouchable" (Dalit) caste in Western India. Ekta is proficient in Spanish and speaks conversational Gujarati. She plans to pursue a career in international human rights law.

### **Ryan Maen-Jamal Farha**

Ryan graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vanderbilt University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Arts in history. He then received a Fulbright scholarship to spend 15 months conducting research on the recent growth of the northern Moroccan city of Tangier. Ryan has worked or interned at the U.S. Embassy in Tunis, the World Trade Center Institute in Baltimore, a Spanish law firm in Tangier, the American Bar Association, and most recently, the James Mintz Group, where he contributed to international due diligence investigations related to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. Ryan has studied in Germany and Lebanon, where he experienced the outbreak of war in July 2006. He speaks French and Arabic.

### **Alexandra V. Filippova**

Alexandra (Sasha) is pursuing a JD-MSFS degree at the Law Center and the Walsh School of Foreign Service, where she is a candidate for the International Relations and Security concentration and the Certificate in Refugees and Humanitarian Emergencies. Sasha worked as a research intern at the Council on Foreign Relations during her first year of graduate studies, and spent her summer as a Programme Analyst with the Peacebuilding Office / UN Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat in Liberia, assisting with medium- and long-term strategic planning, conflict mapping, and monitoring and evaluation of projects. Prior to coming to Georgetown, Sasha worked as an Associate Analyst in the San Francisco offices of Tulchin Research and Greenberg Quinland

Rosner Research, political polling and strategy consulting firms. Her work consisted of conducting and analyzing public opinion research in order to guide strategic campaign decisions for a variety of policy issues like education, healthcare, and the environment, as well as for progressive political candidates and ballot initiatives. Sasha spent a year working on a democratic presidential primary campaign in several states before working in polling. Sasha's professional and academic interests include conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction, with a particular focus on the integration of formal legal systems and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms, as well as international human rights and rule of law. Sasha graduated from Stanford University, Phi Beta Kappa, with a major in Human Biology concentrating in cognitive neuro-psychology, and a minor in international relations. Having grown up in Moscow, she speaks fluent Russian, is proficient in French, and is learning Spanish. Sasha loves to travel (with a camera at her side), explore new foods, dance salsa, and play squash.

### **Sarah Fink**

Sarah is from San Diego and has extensive work and travel experience in Latin America. Most recently, she worked in Matagalpa, Nicaragua with American Jewish World Service and Fundación Denis Ernesto Gonzalez Lopes, a non-governmental organization that promotes and teaches sustainable agricultural practices in an effort to increase access to food in rural Nicaraguan communities. Sarah also worked for the Woodrow Wilson Center's Latin America Program where she researched democratic reform and citizen security. Sarah graduated *magna cum laude* from George Washington University in 2007 with a major in International Affairs and concentrations in Latin America, International Development, and Conflict and Security. Sarah also attended university in Buenos Aires where she studied Argentine human rights issues. Sarah would like to study international trade and its intersection with global food security issues. She is fluent in Spanish and conversational in Hebrew.

### **Ashley Gaillard**

Ashley graduated cum laude from the University of Florida in 2009. In just three years, she completed a double major in History and French, with minors in Russian and Business Administration. Through her French studies, Ashley earned her Diplôme de Français des Affaires from the Paris Chamber of Commerce in 2007. She also studied abroad in Moscow at the Russian State University for the Humanities during the summer of 2008. She has worked with the Guardian ad Litem program in Gainesville as a volunteer advocate for children in the dependency court system. Recently, Ashley graduated with her Master's degree in International Business from the University of Florida. Her thesis project analyzed the competitive profile and corporate strategies of Russia's largest private oil company, Lukoil. She returned to Russia last October with the UF MBA Program on a study tour, which examined the growth and development of Russian business and capital markets. Ashley is interested in transnational corporate law and international trade policy.

**Thayer Hardwick**

Thayer joins the law center after four years in Washington, DC. At the Inter-American Dialogue, a think tank for Western Hemisphere affairs, her work focused on women's involvement in politics and press freedom in Latin America, particularly in Mexico and Colombia. She then spent a summer at the Harvard School of Public Health studying global health delivery before moving to BIO Ventures for Global Health, where she advocated for greater biotech involvement in research and development for neglected diseases. Thayer graduated from Yale University in 2006, where she majored in history and received the Andrew D. White Prize in History for her senior thesis on the Nicaraguan Literacy Crusade of 1980. Prior to graduating from college, she spent time abroad in Nicaragua, Cuba, and Paraguay. Her language is Spanish.

**Hilary Harris**

Hilary joins the law center from New York City, where she interned with The Hunger Project, an international development organization dedicated to ending world hunger. Before moving to New York, Hilary served as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in the Kilimanjaro Region of Tanzania for two years. In addition to teaching mathematics and physics at the advanced secondary level, Hilary was the director of the Usangi Women's Empowerment Project, an initiative training secondary students as community peer educators in HIV/AIDS and life skills in Mwanga District, Tanzania. During her time in Tanzania, Hilary also co-founded the Amkeni Society Pottery Collective, an income-generating project for a local HIV/AIDS action and women's group. She is currently co-founder of Tanzania Reads, a non-profit supplying educational materials to schools in East Africa. Hilary graduated Magna Cum Laude and Alpha Eta Mu Beta Honors in 2007 from the University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS) with a degree in Bioengineering. During her undergraduate time she underwent summer study abroad programs at the University of Technology in Compiegne, France as well as the East Stroudsburg University in Grudig, Austria. Her languages include advanced proficiency in Swahili, and conversational Kipare, Spanish and French. She is interested in international law with a focus on human rights in developing nations and U.S. national security.

**Dina Jerebitski**

Dina is currently pursuing her JD-MPH degree at the Law Center and Johns Hopkins' Bloomberg School of Public Health. She received her undergraduate degree with distinction from the University of Virginia in 2010, where she majored in Biology and Foreign Affairs, with a minor in French. During her time at UVa, she spent a semester studying politics and language in Lyon, France. In addition to having a fair command of the French language, Dina is fluent in Russian, having immigrated to the United States at the age of five. She has interned at a microbiology research laboratory, the American Bar Association's Commission on Domestic Violence, and the science and technology consulting company Battelle. Her interests focus on global health, as well as biological warfare security and relations between Russia and the US.

**Mia Psorn**

Mia graduated *magna cum laude* from Brown University in 2007 with honors in International Relations. Her honors thesis analyzed the evolution of international humanitarian law in prosecuting sexual violence committed during conflicts, with Bosnia and Herzegovina as a case study. During her junior year, she studied in Paris, France. After graduating, Mia worked for two years at Human Rights Watch as an associate in the International Justice Program. Most recently, she spent a year in Zagreb, Croatia as a Fulbright fellow researching the status of war crimes trials under the jurisdiction of the Croatia judiciary. She studied what improvements have been made in the past two decades and what shortcomings still remain. Mia is a native Bosnian speaker, fluent in French, and proficient in Italian. She intends to pursue a career in international human rights.

**Justin Schwegel**

Justin comes to the GLS Program from Minnesota State University Moorhead where he received a bachelor's degree in political science and cultural anthropology in the spring of 2007. Following a brief internship with Congressman Jim Oberstar Justin moved to the Fouta Djallon Highlands of Guinea, West Africa where he served the United States Peace Corps for two years. As a public health volunteer he conducted trainings in topics ranging from nutrition and vaccination to malaria prevention and female genital mutilation. Justin also provided oversight for mosquito net distributions and taught English to local high school students in a combination of French and Fulani, both of which he speaks at an advanced level. After spending two months teaching French in Northern Minnesota, Justin volunteered in Chimbote, Peru for a Los Amigos del Padre Juan, a Catholic aid organization. While in Peru, Justin taught urban agricultural techniques to local youth and assisted in community hospice care. He also learned conversational Spanish. Inspired by the relationships he forged with refugees, both in Guinea and at home, he plans to focus on international human rights law.

**Melissa Stewart**

Melissa joins the Global Law Scholars Program at GULC from Boston, MA where she worked as the Assistant to the Executive Director of Partners In Health, Ophelia Dahl. Following the devastating earthquake in Haiti, Melissa worked with a team in Boston managing the response to the disaster, focusing on coordinating Ms. Dahl's media engagements, development work, and travel to PIH's sites in Central Haiti and Port-au-Prince. Prior to her time with Partners In Health, Melissa worked as a Project Coordinator at the Harvard Initiative for Global Health. There she managed Harvard University's scope of work on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant for Global Burden of Disease, Injuries, and Risk Factors project, overseeing the recruitment and selection of over 800 disease and injury epidemiologists. Melissa graduated *magna cum laude* from Butler University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science in Arts Administration with a music concentration and French minor. During her undergraduate career, she was awarded the Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship to attend the University of Michigan's

Ford School of Public Policy PPIA Junior Summer Institute where she examined the intersection of policy, economics, and mathematics in an international context. Her fellowship with PPIA built upon her experience studying French language and culture with NYU, Paris. Melissa has spent time abroad in Haiti, France, Austria, Italy, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Costa Rica, and Mexico. She plans a career in global health law, focusing on health and human rights.

## **Second-Year Students (Class of 2012)**

### **Monica Ameeti**

Monica graduated from Georgetown University in 2007. She was in the School of Foreign Service and received a Bachelor of Science in Science, Technology, and International Affairs, with a concentration on Technology and Business. During her time at Georgetown she studied abroad in Quito, Ecuador, at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito and completed an additional Nature and Culture program that included time spent in the Amazon and the Galapagos. She also studied abroad in Fiesole, Italy for a semester at Georgetown's Villa le Balze. While in school she was a leader in Georgetown's Outdoor Education program and led trips in backpacking, rock-climbing, and whitewater rafting. Monica currently works in the Intellectual Property group at Steptoe & Johnson LLP, and is studying Arabic at the International Language Institute. Monica's languages are Spanish and Italian and she hopes to pursue a career in intellectual property and transnational corporate law.

### **Yolande Julia Bornik**

Yolande is pursuing a joint JD-MSFS degree at the Law Center and at Georgetown's Walsh School of Foreign Service, where she is a candidate for the Landegger Honors Certificate in International Business Diplomacy. After the first year of graduate studies, Yolande worked with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in New York City covering the High Level Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development. After her second year of the program, she was a summer associate with the Belgian law firm Van Bael and Bellis, working on antitrust and anti-dumping cases and researching environmental regulatory matters. Prior to her graduate studies, Yolande worked as a Management Consultant with Monitor Group's core strategy practice and with the National Economic Development and Security practice, based out of the firm's Toronto, Boston and Paris offices. Her consulting experience spanned the private, public and non-profit sectors where she advised on international market entry decisions, organizational governance, leadership development, economic competitiveness, mergers and acquisitions, business portfolio optimization and growth, and marketing excellence. Yolande graduated from Queen's University, Canada, in 2004 with an Honors Bachelor of Commerce degree with first class honors, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology with distinction. She grew up in a francophone home in Vancouver, Canada. In addition to French, she speaks Spanish and has begun her studies in German. An avid long-distance runner, Yolande has completed the New York, Philadelphia, and Boston marathons.

### **Emily Bruemmer**

Emily spent her 1L summer as a legal intern in the Office of International Affairs at the Federal Trade Commission, where she worked on issues relating to international consumer protection law, including e-commerce, privacy, and transnational service of process. She graduated *magna cum laude* with highest honors in field from Harvard with a B.A. in History and East Asian Studies. She also completed a language citation in French, studying abroad for a summer in Paris, and minored in Social Anthropology. In July 2008, she received a Reischauer Center Travel Grant to conduct independent research at the National Diet Library and National Archives in Tokyo, Japan. Her subsequent honors thesis examined the Japanese colonization of Korea and its effects on the formation of Korean civil society. While at Harvard, she won first prize in the Korean Literature in Translation Essay Contest and twice danced in Ghungroo, the annual South Asian Association arts showcase. Prior to her arrival at Georgetown Law Center, she spent a summer in Seoul, South Korea, interning at the Korea Institute for National Unification, a think tank focused on unification and North Korean issues. At Georgetown, she is a peer advisor and a member of the Equal Justice Foundation Board; she is also on the staff of *The Georgetown Law Journal*. She works part-time as an office assistant in the Office of Transnational Programs. Her languages are Japanese, Korean, French, and German. She is interested in human rights and national security law, and is pursuing Georgetown's Certificate in Refugee and Humanitarian Emergencies.

### **David Donnelly**

David is an evening student and professional Russian translator and interpreter working in Washington, D.C. A native of Pocatello, Idaho, David received his B.A. in Russian from Carleton College in 2004. He accepted National Security Education Program (NSEP) awards to study in Russia at Moscow and St. Petersburg State Universities, the latter as a part of the NSEP's Russian Flagship Program, a new initiative to train professionally competent linguists in strategic languages. In total, David has spent more than two years living, working, and studying in Russia. Following the Flagship Program, David worked as a program specialist in the Department of State's Office of the Coordinator for Assistance to Europe and Eurasia (EUR/ACE), where he helped manage the assistance portfolios for Russia and Azerbaijan. As a translator and interpreter, David has three primary clients: FBI, the Department of State, and the Maryland Judiciary. With FBI, where he works on a daily basis, David deals primarily with criminal and counter-intelligence investigations. Among other individual assignments for the Department of State, David worked as a treaty comparison officer and interpreter for the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) negotiations in Geneva and Moscow. David enrolled at GULC to pursue his interest in rule of law issues in the former Soviet Union.

### **Robert Dura**

Robert comes to law school after working for the last two years as the Program Administrator at the Institute of Turkish Studies, an academic non-profit organization. In 2007 Robert received a M.A. from the Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies at Georgetown's Graduate School of Foreign Service, where he focused his

studies on the political and social development of the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and the Republic of Turkey. He spent the summer of 2006 studying at Qerb Universiteti in Baku, Azerbaijan. Robert received his B.A. from Columbia University in 2004 with a major in East Asian Languages and Cultures and a minor in Russian Language & Literature. His language of proficiency is Russian, but he has also studied Mandarin Chinese, Turkish and Azerbaijani. He is interested in a wide range of issues related to international development and, after receiving his J.D., hopes to work in the public sector promoting reform and development initiatives in Eurasia.

### **Hadia Hakim**

Hadia is a recent graduate of the University of California, Irvine (UCI) where she majored in Anthropology and minored in French. As part of the UCI Campuswide Honors Program, Hadia completed a thesis on identity formation in a Palestinian refugee camp based on research she conducted in the summer of 2008 in Damascus, Syria. The paper, entitled, "Palestinian Identity-Formation in Yarmouk: Constructing National Identity through the Development of Space," won the Malinowski Prize for Undergraduate Research and a Middle East Studies Student Initiative Policy Paper award. Also, through the University of California, Los Angeles', travel-study program, Hadia spent part of summer 2008 in Paris where she completed courses on multiculturalism in post-colonial France. During her senior year, Hadia interned at The Carter Center's Human Rights Program in Atlanta, Georgia where she reviewed intervention letters on behalf of Mr. Carter and assisted in organizing the annual Human Rights Defenders Conference. Upon graduating Magna Cum Laude, Hadia became a member of Phi Beta Kappa and was awarded Order of Merit and a Scholars of Distinction Award. Furthermore, Hadia is fluent in Arabic and proficient in Spanish and French. Hadia spent her 1L summer interning at the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland where she conducted legal research on issues arising under the ILO's Constitution and participated in the annual International Labour Conference. In addition to her academic studies, Hadia is involved in many student organizations. She is currently co-president of both the Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA) and Amnesty International at GULC. She is also the Publicity Chair for Women of Color Collective. Upon receiving her J.D. Hadia hopes to pursue a career focused on the protection and promotion of human rights in the Middle East.

### **Thor Imsdahl**

Thor will join the Georgetown Law Center from Scheelholz, Germany. After graduating from Princeton University with a B.A. in Philosophy and a certificate in European Politics and Society, Thor plans to focus on European law at Georgetown. His experience touring Europe as a concert flautist sparked his desire in international cultures and its interactions. His focus was deepened by his exposure to politics through internships in the German Bundestag and European Parliament and to American politics through an internship for the *Obama for America* Campaign in Denver, Colorado. Thor has also spent the previous summer researching corporate interactions in antitrust law through an

internship at Skadden LLP. Most of all, however, Thor loves to play soccer and will not miss a chance to kick around a ball with some friends.

### **Sarah Lavin**

Sarah joins the Law Center after two years abroad in Cameroon with the United States Peace Corps. As a Health and Community Development Volunteer in the rural village of Bibemi, Lavin worked extensively with women and mothers to develop programs and strategies to improve the quality of life and health of children and families, including a weekly health seminar for mothers and a Soy Supplement Initiative. She also designed and managed a village-wide water pump restoration project which resulted in the construction or repair of 12 pumps, 12 elected committees, and a team of trained hygiene educators. Lavin graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a minor in Science, Technology and Values. Her interest in international affairs began with a semester abroad in Western Australia, where she collaborated on several projects with Aboriginal populations and even spent a week in a traditional village, hunting with a spear and capturing souls through digital photos. While she studied mainly international environmental policy at Notre Dame, she plans to focus her studies here on women's rights issues in the developing world. She speaks (African) French and Fulfulde at an advanced level.

### **Victor Liang**

Victor is a second-year student at GULC whose main area of interest is cross-border commercial rights and dispute resolution systems. In particular, he is interested in international corporate and commercial law, arbitration, antitrust and trade law. This summer, he worked at Casalonga Avocats, a leading French intellectual property firm. There, he advised clients on French and EU trademark rights in both transactional and litigious matters. Prior to Georgetown, Victor working as a Communications and Marketing Associate for the French-American Chamber of Commerce's Northern California Chapter, based in the Bay Area. His role as the FACC's High-Tech, Biotechnology, and Entrepreneur liaison enabled him to work closely with international firms and startups looking to invest in these sectors. He also organized the FACC's entrepreneur mentorship program. Victor graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Southern California, obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and French. A fluent French speaker, Victor retains a rudimentary understanding of Cantonese Chinese from his childhood.

### **Jesse Mosier**

Jesse joins Georgetown Law after completing the first year of a concurrent Master's program at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. Prior to beginning graduate studies, Jesse was the Director of Constituent Services for Congressman Joseph Crowley, working in his Bronx district office for two years. Jesse holds a BA from the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University, where he focused on Globalization in Latin America. During his time at NYU, he studied abroad in Havana,

Cuba and Santiago, Chile where he earned a certificate in Contemporary Latin American Studies. Jesse spent this previous summer working in Lima, Peru on Corporate Social Responsibility and Government Affairs for Chicago Bridge & Iron, an engineering and construction company building South America's first liquefied natural gas export facility. Jesse's academic and professional interests include international economic and financial regimes, natural resources and energy, and U.S. national security law and foreign policy. He plans to pursue a career in private international law and the U.S. government. In his spare time Jesse enjoys playing soccer, spending time with his family in Los Angeles, and good meals.

### **Sarah Plastino**

Sarah joined Georgetown from the Southern Arizona borderlands, where she assisted detained non-citizens in seeking relief from deportation and detention as a Legal Assistant with the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project. Sarah's work at the Florence Project focused heavily on the immigration consequences of criminal convictions, prolonged detention issues, and asylum law. In addition, she also invested considerable efforts advocating for the release of individual detained unadjusted refugees, and facilitated research for the Human Rights Watch report, "Jailing Refugees." Prior to her work in Arizona, Sarah was a Peace Corps volunteer in Guyana, stationed as a Community Health Educator in the remote Wapishana Amerindian village of Sand Creek. Sarah graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of North Carolina with a Bachelors of Arts in Public Policy Analysis and International Studies. After studying abroad in Madrid for a semester, Sarah focused her academic interests on the local/global aspects of migration to North Carolina, and received a Burch Fellowship to conduct research in Celaya, Mexico. Sarah spent her 1L summer interning at Asylum Access, in Quito, Ecuador, where she provided direct legal representation to urban refugees throughout the refugee status determination process, including writing appeals of adverse determinations. At Asylum Access, Sarah also frequently coordinated emergency interventions to achieve immediate protection for refugees facing gender-based violence or persecution from armed groups in Ecuador, and created a program to assist imprisoned women in soliciting refugee status. Sarah's language is Spanish, and in her free time she enjoys salsa dancing, spending time with her family in Philadelphia, and live music of all kinds.

### **David Ribner**

David Ribner spent his first-year summer in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office-Southern District of New York, where he worked in the Narcotics Unit and the Terrorism Unit. This school year David will be a Research Assistant at Georgetown Law's Center on National Security and the Law. David came to GULC from the New York State Banking Department's Holocaust Claims Office, where he worked on financial asset restitution claims. In 2007, David earned a Master of Arts in War Studies from King's College, University of London, focusing on conflict in Africa. David graduated from Columbia University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in European History and studied abroad at the Freie Universität Berlin and the Hebrew University of

Jerusalem. David's languages are German and Hebrew, and he is interested in national security law.

### **Shahin Rothermel**

Shahin joins the law center from New York University, where she graduated *magna cum laude* with a double major in Economics and International Relations. She wrote her senior honors thesis on rational choice theory in the European Union, examining which factors affect popular support for the EU. She spent her junior year studying at the Universität Bonn in Bonn, Germany. While in Germany, she was a volunteer English teacher at a German elementary school, and she worked for the City of Bonn in their international department and helped organize a United Nations Conference on Biodiversity. Her mother, an Iranian who immigrated to the United States before the revolution, instilled in her a passion for Persian literature and poetry. Shahin's languages are Persian and German. Her interests are running, cooking, and traveling, and she plans to pursue a career in international human rights.

### **Jena Shoaf**

Jena comes to Georgetown from only a few blocks away at Arnold & Porter LLP, where she has been working as a paralegal in the firm's burgeoning International Arbitration Group. Before landing in Washington D.C., Jena pursued her undergraduate studies at UC Berkeley, graduating with a BA in Spanish and Portuguese and Latin American Studies in 2007. As a complement to her on-campus studies, she has spent more than 14 months in Brazil; practicing her Portuguese accent, interning for an environmental law firm, offering English lessons to disadvantaged students, visiting small sustainable farms to learn to harvest sugarcane, and even picking up a few Samba steps along the way. During her most recent visit to Brazil she was the recipient of a CASRD fellowship, which sponsored her interest in researching sustainable rural development and agro-ecology. The experiences from this trip not only cemented her interest in international development and agricultural policy, but also became the genesis for her senior honors thesis, "The Other Side of AID." Intending to pursue a dual JD/MPP during her time at GULC, Jena hopes to further develop her ability to impact issues of food policy and international development aid. Outside of academia, Jena most enjoys lacing up her running shoes and exploring Rock Creek Park's maze of trails, perusing the walls of books at Politics & Prose, and planning for her next adventure.

### **Paige Tucker**

Paige comes to us from Baylor University, where she graduated *Summa Cum Laude* in 2009. During her time at Baylor, she pursued a double major in Political Science and German. She graduated from the Baylor Honors Program as an Honors Scholar with Distinction and received a rating of Outstanding on her undergraduate thesis, which analyzed German immigration law in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Paige spent five weeks in summer of 2008 studying at the Technische Universität in Dresden, Germany. Paige is a member of the Zeta of Texas chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Her other honors include

being named the Richard D. Huff Distinguished Student in Political Science and winning the J.E. Hawkins Memorial German Award for Excellence in German Studies. She participated in the National Model United Nations competition in New York City in spring of 2009, where she won Outstanding Delegation in Committee for her work in the conference's General Assembly 1<sup>st</sup> Committee. Paige is dedicated to community service, having completed over 170 community service hours during her undergraduate career. When not in school, Paige lives in Bryant, Arkansas.

### **Joanna Wasik**

A dual citizen of Poland and the US, Joanna is fluent in Polish, proficient in Spanish, and, since becoming interested in the Middle East, has been working steadily at developing her Arabic. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Amherst College, where she wrote her senior thesis on Hamas and Hizbullah's evolution from armed resistance movements into political parties due to their participation in democratic systems. Before joining the Global Law Scholars, she spent a year working at Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, and a summer volunteering in Nablus, Palestine. Her other professional accomplishments include time at The Women's Law Project, The Urban Justice Center, the Foreign Policy Research Institute, and, most recently, the International Center for Not for Profit Law (ICNL). At ICNL, one of Joanna's main projects was to collaborate with lawyers in Washington, DC and Budapest, Hungary, to write a major policy paper on government funds to support NGOs. It will be read by the Jordanian Minister of Social Development to aid her in setting up an NGO fund in Jordan. In her 2L year, Joanna is looking forward to being involved in a Fact-Finding Mission to research the effects of the US practice of repatriation on individuals with mental health disabilities, as well as continuing her work with the Refugee Assistance Project. She is interested in rule of law development, especially in conflict or post-conflict areas, and is excited to see what her next 2 years at Georgetown will bring.

## **Third Year Students (Class of 2011)**

### **Maher Bitar**

Maher joins the Law Center from Oxford University, where he is concurrently a candidate for a Doctor of Philosophy (DPhil) in International Relations. As a Marshall Scholar at Oxford, Maher received a Master of Science (MSc) in Forced Migration from the University's Refugee Studies Center. He has worked with the West Bank Field Office of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Jerusalem, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Malaysia, and the U.S. Department of State. A graduate of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, Maher speaks Arabic, French, and German. He is interested in public international law, U.S. foreign policy, Middle East politics, and forced migration.

**Jing Cao**

Jing comes to the Law Center from the Center for Industrial Ecology (CIE) where she has been a research associate at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies for over three years. Before that, Jing was selected as a Presidential Fellow in the Yale University Office of International Affairs, and played a key role in organizing the “Yale-China University Leadership Program.” In 2004, Jing earned a Master of Arts in Statistics from Yale University. Jing also graduated with a Bachelors of Science, with honors, in Statistics from Peking University in China. Her academic accomplishments include being the recipient of the prestigious Huichun Chin and Tsungdao Lee Chinese Undergraduate Research Endowment which allowed her to conduct a fifteen-month research project with a senior professor. Jing is a native Chinese speaker and she is particularly interested in international laws and relations with regard to China.

**Jessica Cole**

Jessica comes to the Law Center after working as an Assistant in Qualitative Research at *Socios en Salud*/Partners in Health in Lima, Peru. Before that, Jessica was a research assistant at Physicians for Human Rights in Cambridge, MA and a Staff Assistant/Assistant to the Director of the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. Jessica graduated *magna cum laude* from Tufts University with a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations. Jessica's language is Spanish and she is interested in pursuing work in the human rights field and, in particular, in right to health violations.

**Julia Follick**

Julia is pursuing a four-year joint degree with Georgetown's School of Foreign Service. She spent her first summer working at the immigration firm of Linda Hoffman, PC. She also worked as a research assistant for Professor Schoenholtz. She was in Germany for her second summer, splitting her time between an international internship with Siemens in Munich and a foreign policy think tank in Berlin. During her three years at GULC, she has also worked for the Immigration Court in Arlington, the State Department Office of the Legal Advisor, and the General Counsel of the Department of Homeland Security. Before starting law school, she lived in Germany for two years, including one year teaching English in Rostock and one year organizing German-American conferences in Berlin. During her time at Rice University in Houston, TX, Julia studied Political Science and German and spent a semester interning at the American Consulate in Leipzig. She grew up in Oakland, CA.

**Justin Fraterman**

Justin Fraterman arrived at law school from the International Centre for the Legal Protection of Human Rights (INTERIGHTS) in London where he served as the Information and Publications Officer and as Programme Coordinator for Commonwealth

and Economic and Social Rights Programmes. Before that, Justin worked as a research assistant at the Institute of European Studies at the University of Toronto (2004) and the European Institute of Public Administration in Maastricht, the Netherlands (2005), where he authored a paper on EU-Canada cooperation in peace support operations. Justin earned a Master of Science in International Relations from the London School of Economics in 2006 and a Bachelor of Arts, First Class Joint Honours, in History and Political Science from McGill University in Montreal, Canada in 2004. While at McGill he served as Editor-in-Chief of the McGill International Review and completed a year abroad at the Université Libre in Brussels where he studied European foreign policy and worked for Canada's Mission to the European Union.

Justin spent his 1L summer interning in the Legal Adviser's Office at the International Labour Organization in Geneva. His second summer was split between the Paris office of Hogan Lovells LLP and the Legal Counsel's Office at the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Geneva. He currently serves on the board of the Georgetown International Arbitration Society and was previously on the board of Georgetown Human Rights Action. His interests lie in international commercial law, international dispute resolution (including investment and commercial arbitration, and international courts and tribunals), peace support operations, human rights and humanitarian relief. Justin is fluent in French and Dutch.

### **Marik Frens-String**

Marik Frens-String is an evening student at Georgetown University Law Center. He serves as Professional Staff Member for European, former Soviet and Central Asian affairs, and the Caucasus on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee under Senator Richard Lugar. His portfolio also covers NATO, the OSCE, and the EU, as well as regional arms control issues. He has represented the Committee on delegations throughout the region and to Asia and Africa. Previously, Marik worked on programs promoting Atlantic relations at the Aspen Institute Berlin in Germany. He studied European security affairs as a Fulbright Scholar at the Institute of International Law and International Relations in Vienna, Austria and earned a Master of Advanced International Studies from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna. While in Austria, Marik worked at the U.S. Embassy to Austria, the United Nations, and the Austrian Ministry of Education. Marik received his B.A. in economics and German from the University of Notre Dame, where he won the John Sheehan Award for his senior essay in microeconomics. His languages are German and French. He focuses on public international law.

### **Daniela Garretón**

Daniela Garretón comes to the Law Center having spent the last academic year on the main Georgetown campus in pursuit of the MA in Latin American Studies portion of her joint degree. Previously she earned a Masters in Pacific International Affairs with a focus on politics from the University of California, San Diego. Prior to that, Daniela worked in a variety of positions, including as an Executive Officer of

Isabel Garreton, Inc. and as an Assistant Researcher at the think tank *Libertad y Desarrollo* in Santiago, Chile. Daniela graduated from the University of California, San Diego, with a Bachelor of Science in Management Science Economics and a minor in History focused in Latin America. Daniela's languages are Spanish and Portuguese. She hopes to use her passion and knowledge of Latin America to do consulting that combines economic, political, and legal analysis of the region for use in the private and public sectors.

### **Michelle Heisner**

Michelle comes to Georgetown Law from Denzenhall Resources in Washington, D.C., where she advised clients in crisis on public relations issues. Prior to her work in crisis communications, Michelle was an executive assistant and office manager at NGP Software, a democratic campaign technology firm. Michelle also worked in civil society development as a USRVI grantee with an NGO in Yekaterinburg, Russia. Michelle received a Bachelors of Arts, with highest honors, in Russian Language and Literature and a Bachelors of Arts in Political Theory and Constitutional Democracy with high honors from Michigan State University Honors College. As an undergraduate, Michelle spent time in Eastern Europe studying post-communist civil and economic transitions and worked as an intern in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Michelle's language is Russian and her current academic focuses are trade and human rights.

### **Thomas Kelly**

Thomas Kelly joins the GLS program from Kiev, Ukraine, where he works as an English teacher while using his free time to study Russian language and literature at the Kiev Linguistic University. Thomas graduated from Williams College with a Bachelors of Arts in Anthropology. He spent his junior year of college in the International Honors Program: Cities in the Twenty-first Century. In this program, Thomas traveled to Rio de Janeiro, Capetown, and Paris. Thomas's language is Russian and he is interested in the evolving relationships between the United States and the states of the former Soviet Union.

### **Ian Matthew Kysel**

Ian Kysel comes to us from Algeria, where he interned for the American Bar Association's Rule of Law Initiative. He spent the previous two years in Washington, D.C., working with non-citizens seeking asylum in the U.S. as a legal assistant at a low-cost immigration law firm. Ian's professional experience also includes working as a freelance journalist in Moscow, as an election organizer in suburban Philadelphia, and at a torture treatment program in Chicago. Ian graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with High Honors from Swarthmore College with a Bachelors of Arts in Sociology and Anthropology. He also studied at the Université Stendhal in Grenoble, France. His senior thesis, an analysis of the relationship between torture committed during the Algerian War and French models of political and cultural membership, received highest

honors. Ian is fluent in French and has also studied Russian. He is interested in refugee/migration and torture/national security issues.

### **Randy Nahle**

Expecting to graduate with a J.D. from Georgetown in January 2011, Randy is also pursuing a double degree program at Sciences Po and the Sorbonne (Paris I) in Paris, culminating in two Master's degrees (LLM equivalent) in International Business Law. In summer 2009, he was a summer associate at Shearman & Sterling in their New York and Paris offices, focusing on international arbitration and international project finance. His first-year summer, he interned at The Hague Conference for Private International Law in The Hague, Netherlands. Entering law school straight out of college, Randy received his BA in Political Studies from the American University of Beirut (Lebanon), where he graduated at the top of his class and was awarded the AUB Merit Scholarship, the Founder's Day Award, and the Hussein Oweini Memorial Award.

At Georgetown, Randy helped to establish and coordinate the Global Law Scholar project aiming to create an International Bill of Migrants Rights, in conjunction with a seminar taught by Dean Alex Aleinikoff. The project has become a focal point of the Global Law Scholar program. Randy is also a member of the Georgetown Moot Court team and participated and won the European and International Tax Moot Court championship in Belgium, while also earning a special award for Best Oral Advocate. One of his strongest interests has been youth empowerment. Randy was founder and chairman of LebYouth, a prominent youth NGO in Lebanon, which he helped establish with the backing of the European Union and which has received its major financial and technical support from the Lebanese Ministry of Finance, UNDP, and the World Bank. Randy has participated in several international conferences, at the invitation of the European Commission, the World Bank, UNESCO, the German government, and the Anna Lindh Euro-Med Foundation. Randy began as a youth representative with UNICEF in Lebanon at the age of 15, working on different projects and conferences. He was also a producer for CNN Student Bureau for two years. At the age of 12, Randy published a mystery fiction novel, "Revenge", followed by "Mirror Image" at the age of 14. He also completed a third book, entitled "The Dancing of the Butterflies", which remains to be published. Consequently, he earned the title "World's Youngest Series Writer" (Guinness Book of World Records, 2002). In recognition, Randy has been invited to give talks to school and college students and has received the Presidential Insignia from the President of Lebanon, the Gold Medal of the late Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, and the Arab Thought Foundation Award, among others. Randy was born in Los Angeles and grew up between California and Lebanon. He is fluent in Arabic and French and has completed a summer course in German at the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna in 2004 and a summer course in Spanish at the Autonomous University of Barcelona in 2009. An avid traveler, Randy has visited 34 countries and can't wait to see more.

### **Lew Jan Olowski**

From Fall 2006 to Summer 2007, Lew Jan Olowski was a professor of "International Economic Law" and "International Trade Practice" at the Hebei Engineering University

in the People's Republic of China. He was also head coach of the English Language Speech Competition teams at the undergraduate, post-graduate, and faculty levels of competition. Lew graduated *magna cum laude* from Rockhurst University in 2006, where he majored in Economics and Political Science. He was a staff writer and photographer for the *University News* in Kansas City, as well as a writer and copy editor for the *Rockhurst Sentinel*. From January 2004 through August 2005, Lew lived in Beijing, where he studied Chinese political and economic reform and the Mandarin language. He wrote his course thesis about the social and economic effects of China's internal migration and employment laws. Lew volunteered at the Chaoyang District Mental Hospital as a recreational activity coordinator and has traveled across China extensively. Lew is interested human rights issues, history, and science. His hobbies include exercising, reading nonfiction, and sampling ethnic cuisine with friends. Lew is fluent in Mandarin and Polish.

### **Danielle Johanna Pals**

Danielle Pals comes to law school from her position as an Advocacy Fellow at Jubilee USA Network, which educates and advocates for debt relief for impoverished countries and for just international economic policies. Danielle graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Idaho with a Bachelors of Arts in International Relations and Spanish in 2007. Danielle developed an interest in travel that later turned into a passion for international relations when, as a child, she accompanied her family to spend a year in Kenya. Danielle is fluent in Spanish and her experiences abroad also include spending a year studying in Spain, a semester living in Chile, and a summer in Mexico. Danielle hopes to work in shaping U.S. foreign policy, and her long-term ambition is to teach international law.

### **Eugenia Pyntikova**

Eugenia Pyntikova will be pursuing a Juris Doctor at Georgetown Law Center and a Masters in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. She joins the Law Center from her position as a Deputy Chief Analyst, and senior analyst for Russia and Central Asia, at the Georgetown University ISIS Center on Integrated Biodefense. She has also worked as a research assistant at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown Law Center and as a project coordinator at the Georgetown Medical Center. Eugenia earned a Master of Science in Biomedical Science Policy from the Georgetown Medical Center in 2007. She graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration from West Virginia University in 2002. A native speaker of Russian, Eugenia has also studied Spanish and French. She plans a career in global health law.

### **Catherine Kwang-Hee Rhy**

Catherine Rhy comes to us from her position as an equity trader with Rhy Capital, LLC. She has also worked in Seoul, Korea as a researcher at an international marketing research firm and a client service coordinator/paralegal at a Korean law firm. Catherine's

other professional accomplishments include interning at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Community Legal Services, and the Center for Ethnicities, Social Work and Public Policy. Catherine received a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College. She is fluent in Korean and she plans to practice international law.

### **Jordan Sagalowsky**

Jordan graduated in 2004 with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Harvard University where he completed the honors requirement in Foreign Literature. As a dual citizen of the United States and Denmark, Jordan Sagalowsky has always had a serious interest in international issues. After his junior year of high school, Jordan studied in Japan at Tsubuka University International Science School and before entering Harvard, he studied for a year as a full-time university student in Denmark. There, he researched history, modern political structures, and business interests of Scandinavia. Jordan's languages are Danish and Japanese and he plans to work in transnational corporate law and trade policy.

### **Bianca Santos**

Bianca expects to graduate in May 2011. In the summer of 2010, Bianca split her time as summer associate at the Washington, DC office of White & Case, and as an intern in the Consular Affairs Bureau of the State Department. During her 1L summer she worked for a human rights NGO in São Paulo, Brazil. During law school Bianca participated in CALS, Georgetown's asylum clinic, and in the Global Law Scholar International Migrants Bill of Rights project. Her professional experience prior to law school includes information security consulting at Zeichner Risk Analytics, work at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History digital archive project, and with an international development consulting firm. In 2005, Bianca graduated *cum laude* from Rice University with a Bachelors of Arts in History. While in college, Bianca spent a semester studying in Brazil, where she researched a grassroots movement led by fishermen in Northeastern Brazil. Bianca also spent a semester in Mongolia where she researched ecotourism in the Gobi Desert. Bianca's languages are Portuguese and Spanish.

### **Markus Thomi**

In addition to receiving a JD degree, Markus is also considering pursuing a concurrent degree in International Affairs. Markus graduated Phi Beta Kappa and *magna cum laude* from the University of Washington in Seattle majoring in International Studies. A native of Switzerland, Markus immigrated to the United States in 2003 after living in Latin America (Colombia, Brazil, and Argentina) for nearly two years. Passionate about international affairs, Markus has further traveled throughout Europe, North America, and the Middle East, is fluent in German, English, French, Spanish, and has conversational skills in Portuguese and Arabic. During his undergraduate studies, Markus participated at the 2005 Model UN Conference in New York, where he represented the Czech Republic as head delegate to UNESCO. While at the University of Washington, Markus focused on issues related to International Law with an emphasis on International Human Rights

Law and International Trade. He hopes to eventually pursue a career in a related field. In his free time Markus enjoys traveling, learning about foreign cultures, studying languages, and an occasional soccer game.

**Jacob A. Zenn**

Jacob is from New Jersey and came to Georgetown Law after completing his work as the first program administrator at the Language and Cultural Centre at the University of Dohuk in Iraq, which opened in 2008 and was established by a grant from the Korea International Cooperation Agency. Jacob graduated from Emory University in 2005 with a B.A in international relations and Mandarin Chinese and studied at the Johns Hopkins SAIS-Nanjing University Center for Chinese and American Studies in Nanjing, China in 2007 while also working as an Independent Tutor for overseas Koreans. During his junior year in college he studied abroad for one semester each in Osaka and Beijing and he spent the second semester of his 2L year as a visiting student at Korea University College of Law in Seoul. During the summer between his 1L and 2L years Jacob worked in Malaysia at UNHCR primarily in the Refugee Status Determination unit dealing with the cases of Myanmar refugees. Between his 2L and 3L years he received the American Society of International Law Arthur C. Helton Fellowship and the Chadbourne & Parke LLP Middle East and North Africa Fellowship to research Guantanamo detainee issues in Yemen. He spent the second half of the summer working at the law offices of Chandler & Thong Ek LLP in the Bangkok and Yangon offices and wrote a paper as a summer Research Assistant on the Freedom of Association in the online world. He has visited closed and strife-ridden countries such as North Korea, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Iran, Somalia and Zimbabwe and would like to work to enhance the rule of law -- as opposed to rule by law -- in those countries and improve the relations between the United States and those nations, as well the United States' relations with the Middle East and China. He is proficient in Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, Russian, Lao, Persian, Hindi, Urdu, Vietnamese, Thai, Indonesian, Malay, Spanish, Korean, Japanese, French, Khmer, Cantonese, Turkish, Burmese, and hopes to learn Portuguese and Uighur.