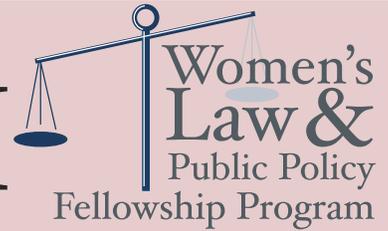


OUTREACH



The Newsletter of the *Women's Law & Public Policy Fellowship Program*

Spring 2006

Accomplishments of Our 2005-2006 Advocates!!!

We are extremely proud of the achievements of our six Women's Law Fellows from across the United States and three Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa (LAWA) Fellows this year. Our U.S. Advocates have spoken about women's rights at events in Washington, D.C. and around the country, participated in litigation from the D.C. Superior Court to federal jurisdictions nationwide to the U.S. Supreme Court, worked on the nominations to the U.S. Supreme Court, and shaped national policy affecting women on issues as diverse as housing, child and dependent care tax credits, and pregnancy discrimination. While earning their Master of Laws (LL.M.) degrees from the Georgetown University Law Center, the LAWA Fellows have tackled courses exploring International Women's Human Rights, Human Rights and Children, International Trafficking in Persons, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Human Rights Enforcement, Development Law, International Trade Law and Regulation, Human Rights Advocacy, Restorative Justice in International Human Rights, International and Comparative Law of the Rights of Women, Negotiations and Mediation, and International Human Rights. We are proud to share some of their individual endeavors:

- **Mushahida Adhikari, LAWA Fellow from South Africa**, is writing her graduate paper on the role of international human rights in implementing South Africa's constitutional obligations to ensure women's reproductive health in her country, particularly the millions of women still suffering the effects of poverty and inequality. Mushahida was granted a special opportunity to attend the Georgetown Leadership Seminar hosted by the School of Foreign Service, which hosted 35 participants from around the world involved in issues related to global foreign policy, security and economic development, and featured speakers such as former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and former CIA Director George Tenet. In addition, Mushahida has participated in many events at the Law Center, such as an inter-religious dialogue hosted by the Georgetown Christian, Muslim and Jewish chaplains addressing

domestic violence and religion, emphasizing that domestic violence is in direct conflict with the core values of their religious beliefs. She also joined the Georgetown chapter of Habitat for Humanity on their annual spring break volunteer trip to North Carolina.

- Having completed her work on the U.S. Supreme Court nominations, **Beth Burkstrand-Reid** is now focusing on litigation with the Legal Department of **Planned Parenthood Federation of America** (PPFA). She serves on a legal team involved with state and federal cases across the country impacting women's access to reproductive health services, including *Ayotte v. Planned Parenthood*, which was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in November. In addition, Beth has worked on public policy concerning comprehensive, medically accurate and scientifically sound sex education, as well as other reproductive health issues. She has also put her significant journalistic experience to great use providing legal review of PPFA's media releases and newsletters to help educate the public about women's reproductive health concerns. After her Fellowship, Beth has been invited to teach a course on Family Law at the Washington College of Law at American University.

- **Janel George** has spoken across the country about reproductive justice and violence against women on behalf of the **National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum** (NAPAWF). For example, Janel presented information on the intersection of violence against women and reproductive health during NAPAWF's Congressional briefing on Capitol Hill, at the Reframing Global Reproductive Rights Conference at George Washington University Medical School, and the annual NAPAWF Board meeting in San Francisco. Along with WLPPFP alum **Courtney Chappell** (now NAPAWF's Policy Director), Janel presented a workshop on violence and reproductive health issues (including trafficking, violence, and sexual harassment) at the East Coast Asian American Student Union Conference. She participated in the Southwest Regional Leadership Training that NAPAWF conducted in Arizona with Choice

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1-2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- 3 FELLOWSHIP HIGHLIGHTS
- 3 THANK YOU SUPPORTERS
- 4 PLACEMENT ORGANIZATION VIEW
- 4 FELLOWSHIP PROJECT
- 4 CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING
- 5 LAWA ACTIVITIES
- 6-7 ALUM ACCOMPLISHMENTS



WLPPFP Advocates and Finance Director Isatu Hyde

(Continued from page 1)

USA, the Third Wave Foundation, and the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health to train young leaders in the reproductive justice movement. Janel has also drafted a comprehensive national policy agenda addressing violence against APA women and how it affects their reproductive health and rights, including intimate partner violence, trafficking, international brokered marriages, sexual violence, sexual harassment of Asian women on college campuses, discrimination and stereotypes of Asian women.

• As a lawyer with the **National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty**, **Terri Keeley** has been working on *McWaters v. FEMA*, a nationwide class action that challenges the Federal Emergency Management Agency's failure to provide adequate assistance to impoverished survivors following Hurricane Katrina. In the course of her work, Terri has spoken to numerous Katrina evacuees across the country and worked on a nationwide team of prominent attorneys litigating the case. Many of the Katrina survivors are women and their children, who often face additional factors complicating their situations (such as concerns regarding domestic violence or child support). Terri also conducted a nationwide survey to assess the problem of landlord sexual assault of tenants. The survey grew out of a concern that sexual violence may be contributing to homelessness by restricting access to housing for low-income women. The project's goal is to help legal and social service providers as well as advocates work together to better address the problem. Additionally, Terri spoke about the obstacles domestic violence survivors and their families face in obtaining and maintaining housing as part of the 2006 ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference on a panel entitled "Helping Homeless Families and Youth Affected by Domestic Violence Access Housing and Education." And congratulations on her recent wedding!

• **Sindile Kubheka, LAWA Fellow from Swaziland**, is focusing her LL.M. paper on a human rights analysis of workplace sexual harassment in Swaziland, where women are legally considered to be minors throughout their lives, and is creating a blueprint for action to develop and implement effective sexual harassment laws and policies upon her return home. Sindile has attended numerous events around Washington, D.C. such as the "Save Darfur Now" rally on the National Mall calling for action to end the genocide in Sudan, a program on HIV/AIDS at the Center for American Progress featuring the Ugandan Ambassador to the U.S., and an event at the Kennedy Center commemorating the birth of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the passing of civil rights hero Rosa Parks, at which President George Bush spoke and Yolanda Adams sang a tribute. Displaying her own vocal talents, Sindile sang "Amazing Grace" in a karaoke fundraiser at the Georgetown Law Center for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

• **Elizabeth Liu** has greatly enjoyed working as a teaching fellow with the **Domestic Violence Clinic at the Georgetown University Law Center**, supervising students who represent survivors of domestic violence in civil protection order cases. The students work on all aspects of the cases from the initial interview to fact investigation, conducting negotiations, and presenting their case in court. Elizabeth also taught litigation skills in the seminar portion of the Domestic Violence Clinic, and she litigates her own domestic violence cases in D.C. Superior Court. She continues to be im-

pressed with the strength and compassion of her colleagues, students, and clients.

• The first months of **Christie Love's** fellowship at the **National Women's Law Center** were filled with investigating the U.S. Supreme Court nominations, working with the Center's coalition partners to organize, advocate and conduct public education about the nominees. For example, she participated in a brown bag discussion on women of color and the Supreme Court nominations, which included the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health and NAPAWF. In addition, Christie worked with the Center's Family Economic and Security team to issue a report called *Making Care Less Taxing* on the child and dependent care tax credit, designed to help advocates and state policy makers develop the best child and dependent care tax provisions for their states. She is now working with the Center's Education Team to create a toolkit for advocates concerned about sex segregation in career and technical education in high schools. Among her other activities, Christie has conducted research on a pregnancy discrimination case and attended a workshop sponsored by the National Council of Women's Organizations on using international treaties in women's rights work.



Congratulations LAWA graduates!!!!!!

• **Bongekile Nxumalo, LAWA Fellow from Swaziland**, is writing her graduate paper on the use of international women's human rights mechanisms to counteract the vulnerability of women and girls to HIV/AIDS in Swaziland. She has presented on this topic on several occasions, including for an audience of over 60 students from law schools across the United States at the George Washington School of Law, and on an expert panel addressing the International Women's Human Rights Seminar at the Georgetown University Law Center. During Black History Month in February, the Black Law Students Association invited Bongekile and Sindile to host a table to educate people at the Law Center about Swaziland.

• **Liza Zamd** has been working at the **National Partnership for Women & Families** in their workplace fairness division, reviewing regulations and rules promulgated by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Department of Labor, and Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs to determine whether and how they may impact civil rights enforcement. She is also working with the EEOC to compile data on pregnancy discrimination claims, which have been steadily increasing over the last decade, and has attended several meetings with EEOC Commissioners. In addition, Liza attended oral arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court for the case *Burlington Northern v. White*, which examines the retaliation provision under Title VII. This summer, Liza will give a two-hour workshop on employment discrimination at a "Summit on Sexual Harassment" organized by the American Association of University Women. Earlier this year, Liza focused on the Supreme Court nominations, reading hundreds of Samuel Alito's opinions concerning sex discrimination under Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), and the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA). Liza drafted fact sheets about Alito's stance on women's issues and wrote sections of the Partnership's report entitled *Tipping the Balance: The Record of Samuel Alito and What's at Stake for Women*. ■

Fellowship Program Highlights

- The Fellows attended two U.S. Supreme Court hearings: *Rice v. Collins* (addressing racial discrimination in jury selection) and *Arbaugh v. Y&H Corporation* (addressing employment discrimination under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act).
- A recent seminar on domestic violence featured two WLPPFP alums, **Juley Fulcher**, Director of Public Policy with Break the Cycle; and **Lisalyn Jacobs**, Vice President for Governmental Relations with Legal Momentum; as well as **Robin Runge**, Director of the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence.
- The Fellows participated in an all-day leadership seminar facilitated by **Marlana Valdez** and **Iris Ioffreda** of Organizational Learning Associates, to help them learn about their own leadership strengths and developmental opportunities, along with training in conflict management, communication skills, creative problem solving, and managing and working on teams.
- **Cassandra Butts**, Senior Vice President for Domestic Policy with the Center for American Progress and WLPPFP alum, hosted the Fellows for a luncheon discussion at CAP, followed by a tour of their operations.
- Last fall, the Fellows took a crash-course on “Congress 101” with **Tim Westmoreland**, Visiting Professor at Georgetown and Minority Staff Counsel for the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Government Reform; as well as “Legislative Lawyering and the Six Circles of Effective Advocacy”



Fellows on the Steps of the Supreme Court

by **Katie Corrigan**, Co-Director of Workplace Flexibility 2010 and **Heather Sawyer**, Assistant Director of the Georgetown Federal Legislation Clinic.

- The Fellows were treated with an opportunity to hear **Senator Barack Obama** at the National Women’s Law Center Dinner.
- **Claire Snyder**, Professor of Public Policy and International Affairs at George Mason University, discussed her latest book with the Fellows, *Gay Marriage and Democracy: Equality for All* (2006).
- During other seminars, the Fellows discussed women’s rights

and public interest careers with **Judy Appelbaum**, Vice President and Legal Director of the National Women’s Law Center; WLPPFP alum **Naomi Stern**, Attorney with the Domestic Violence Program of the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty; Professor **Laurie Kohn**, WLPPFP alum and Co-Director of the Georgetown Domestic Violence Clinic; **Kiran Ahuja**, Executive Director of the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum; **Neena Chaudhry**, WLPPFP Alum Co-Director and Senior Attorney with the National Women’s Law Center; **Nicole Berner**, Staff Attorney with Planned Parenthood Federation of America; **Barbara Moulton**, Georgetown’s Assistant Dean of Public Interest and Community Service; and **Sandra Buteau**, Georgetown’s Director of Professional Development.

The Fellows have also shared their work experiences with each other during recent seminars.

- In December, WLPPFP celebrated our **annual holiday party**, providing our current Fellows with a great networking opportunity.

Thank You WLPPFP Supporters!

The Fellows, Board of Directors and staff extend a warm heartfelt thanks to all of you who continue to support us through your generous donations. Because of you, we are able to keep advancing women’s rights throughout the U.S. and Africa. ***If you have not yet had a chance to send your contribution, please take a moment now to do so – your support is vital for us to be able to continue our work.*** A special thanks to the following donors:

American Legacy Foundation	Hogan & Hartson	Raben Group
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Glickenhau Foundation	Overbrook Foundation	

Exciting news - you can now use your credit card to support WLPPFP through an on-line donation! Please visit our homepage at www.wlppfp.org and click the “Give Online” button to make a one-time or monthly tax deductible contribution.

Thank you for making a difference in women’s lives!

View from a Placement Organization

By Judy Appelbaum, Vice President and Legal Director, National Women's Law Center

Since WLPPFP's inception, the National Women's Law Center as been fortunate to host some 25 Advocates on our legal staff. What a boon to us that has been! Year after year, these dedicated attorneys have brought new creative energy, top-quality legal skills, and unwavering commitment to our efforts to advance and protect women's legal rights. While we hope that the WLPPFP Advocates always learn a lot and grow from their experiences at the Center, there's no doubt that the Center also benefits immeasurably from having them as part of our team.

Recently, these multi-talented Advocates have helped us start our first-ever blog, prepare Congressional testimony on judicial nominations, write a Court of Appeals brief on sexual harassment, provide legal assistance to women challenging sex discrimination in their employment benefits - and much, much more. This year, Christie Love arrived in the middle of not one but two Supreme Court nomination fights, providing much-needed research and other assistance to the Center and its coalition partners. It's fair to say that without the contributions of Christie and all the other Advocates, the Center simply would not be able to do all that it does for women's rights. Keep 'em coming, WLPPFP! ■



Christie Love and Judy Appelbaum

Congratulations to Judith Aren!

WLPPFP Board Member Judy Aren was installed as the new President of the Association of American Law Schools in January.

Bravo Judy! ■

Comings and Goings

In March we wished a fond farewell to our Program Director, Karen Misencik, who has been a valuable member of our team for the past two years. She is now working as Associate Director of Women's Studies at George Mason University. Additionally, Beirne Roosevelt is joining WLPPFP as our new Program Assistant, replacing Catherine French who is graduating from the Georgetown University Law Center. Congratulations Karen and Catherine, and welcome Beirne!

Fellowship Service Project

Each year, WLPPFP Advocates collaborate on a group service project. This year, Fellows are working on a "girls empowerment" book geared towards homeless children. The protagonist is a girl in a homeless shelter who, through community action, builds a much-needed playground in her neighborhood. The group has finished the story, which one of our multi-talented Fellows, Janel George, will be illustrating. The Fellows are working on this project in conjunction with advocates for the homeless in the Washington, D.C. area, and will ultimately distribute their book to various shelters and read the story to homeless children through a playtime project. Examples of past service projects include organizing a dinner and clothing drive to benefit *Suited for Change*; mentoring a group of young women participating in *Community Bridges - Jump Start Girls!*; presenting a "Know Your Legal Rights" training for abused and homeless women at *Hannah House*, a transitional housing facility for women and their children; and contributing chapters to an anthology on women's issues presented from both legal and psychological perspectives. ■

Fellow and Alum Speak at Congressional Briefing

On February 8, 2006, the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) held a Congressional briefing to address the reproductive health issues impacting Asian Pacific American (APA) women raised in NAPAWF's policy agenda, *Reclaiming Choice: Broadening the Movement*. Spearheaded by WLPPFP alum **Courtney Chappell ('04-'05)**, NAPAWF's Policy Director, the agenda calls for a broader framing of reproductive rights to encompass the idea of reproductive justice, a more inclusive framework that expands beyond choice to issues such as access to health services, language barriers, and cultural competency that are critical for APA women to fully realize reproductive health. Current WLPPFP Fellow **Janel George** presented on the intersection between reproductive health and violence against APA women, which affects a woman's ability to manage her own reproductive health and sexual autonomy and has physical consequences such as infertility, miscarriages, and other complications. Courtney spoke about the lack of inclusion of APA women in current reproductive health research, and other panelists discussed nail salon toxins and their reproductive health consequences for Asian workers and trafficking and its disparate impact on Asian women. The briefing was well attended by Capitol Hill staffers as well as advocates and other NAPAWF supporters, as well as Congressman Mike Honda. ■



Mushahida speaking at the UN (See next page)

LAWA Activities

In addition to studying for their LL.M. degrees at Georgetown and participating in all Fellowship programs, the three Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa (LAWA) Fellows – Mushahida Adhikari from South Africa, and Sindile Kubbeka and Bongekile Nxumalo from Swaziland – have participated in a whirlwind of activities:

- The LAWA Fellows spoke about women’s human rights in South Africa and Swaziland before a full house at a **Congressional Briefing** in the U.S. Capitol Building, including a delegation from the South African embassy. Mushahida addressed the endemic problem of violence against women in South Africa, such as rape, intimate femicide and domestic violence. South Africa has the highest rate of violence against women in the world, despite a progressive constitution that guarantees gender equality, positive developments in South African law, and the government’s commitment to empowerment of women over the past decade. She also highlighted the link between sexual assault and high rate of HIV/AIDS, arguing for women’s economic empowerment to address these concerns. Sindile discussed the problem that customary law, which is firmly entrenched in patriarchy, often trumps civil law in Swaziland. She shared a moving story about her best friend in college who was forced into marriage unwittingly with a man she hardly knew, demonstrating the power of customary law in Swazi culture and society. Bongekile emphasized that strategies for women’s empowerment, reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS, ending customary practices that subordinate women, and other progressive change must originate from within Swazi society by Swazi people, as opposed to being imposed from the outside by well-meaning but often misguided donors and agencies, who frequently address the symptoms but not the root causes of problems. A lively discussion followed with audience members asking many thought-provoking questions. After the program concluded, people stayed for nearly another hour to continue talking with the LAWA Fellows. The briefing was supported by Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL), and last year’s event was supported by Rep. Hilda Solis (D-CA).
- The United Nations Development Fund for Women (**UNIFEM**) invited Mushahida Adhikari to speak on a panel at the **United Nations** in New York during the Commission on the Status of Women events in March on the intersection between customary law and civil law affecting women’s rights in Africa. Other distinguished speakers on the panel included women’s rights advocates from the International Association of Women Judges and the World Bank, as well as a judge and a prosecutor from Cameroon, who were featured in a documentary film called *Sisters in Law* that was screened prior to the panel discussion. Mushahida related some of the cultural and customary practices affecting women’s rights in Africa, including discrimination against women in inheritance, personal status, marriage, divorce and access to property.

- The Women’s Forum at **Covington & Burling** invited the LAWA Fellows to speak about women’s human rights in their countries during a luncheon program at the law firm. Many of the Covington lawyers expressed an interest in providing *pro bono* legal assistance once the Fellows return home. The Fellows explained their long term goal of establishing comprehensive legal aid to impoverished women in their countries who currently have little, if any, access to legal assistance. Sindile noted, for example, that “*Women in Swaziland who want a divorce, who are charged with murder even in self defense, or who seek child maintenance have nowhere to go if they cannot afford the commercial rate charged by the local attorneys, and very few attorneys are prepared to offer pro bono legal services. They would much rather represent the serial killer who murdered over 30 women who is presently languishing in jail awaiting trial (for the publicity it will pull) than spend time and effort on destitute women. With the help of seasoned lawyers like the Covington attorneys, we could probably realize this dream.*”
- The Acting Executive Director of the **Women’s Rights Division of Human Rights Watch**, Janet Walsh, met with the LAWA Fellows to discuss possible strategies for addressing women’s human rights in their countries.



LAWA Congressional Briefing

- The LAWA Fellows participated in a colloquium on the role of women in conflict resolution, peacemaking and post-conflict redevelopment hosted by the **Initiative for Inclusive Security** of the Hunt Alternatives Fund.
- The **U.S. Agency for International Development** invited Bongekile and Sindile to speak about women’s human rights and development in Swaziland at a roundtable in May.

- The LAWA Fellows met with a delegation of African women lawyers involved in human rights work organized by the **U.S. State Department Visitors Program**.
- Sindile and Mushahida were invited to speak as **special guest lecturers** to undergraduates in an International Women’s Human Rights Seminar at the Georgetown University main campus in both the fall and spring semesters, and Mushahida spoke at George Mason University for a class addressing Global Representations of Women.
- Last **Thanksgiving**, the LAWA Fellows were treated to a traditional feast by Board Member Mary Hartnett and her family, including her father-in-law Donald Norland, a retired career U.S. Foreign Service officer who served as U.S. Ambassador to Chad and American Envoy to Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland. The previous day, the newly appointed ambassador from Swaziland to the U.S. invited Bongekile and Sindile to his residence in Potomac for a Thanksgiving dinner in honor of the King’s oldest daughter, where they met many people from the Swazi community from all over the U.S. during “an evening of speeches, meeting new people, eating and talking in SiSwati.” ■

Snapshot of Outstanding LAWA Alum



Gloria with WLPPFP staff Julia Ernst and Isatu Hyde

Gloria Ofori-Boadu ('95-'96) recently visited us from Ghana while she was in New York for the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development meeting and shared some of her incredible accomplishments since her LAWA Fellowship. In 1996, Gloria returned to Ghana to found and run the Women's

Assistance and Business Association (WABA), an organization that promotes women's economic empowerment, provides democracy and human rights education, trains young people to be future leaders of Ghana, and presents capacity building programs for other organizations. On top of spearheading WABA, Gloria served as Executive Director of FIDA-Ghana (the national branch of the International Federation of Women Lawyers) from 1999-2003 and mobilized their first advocacy campaign to eliminate violence against women. She has also led a successful effort to increase the number of women elected to local and national offices in Ghana.

Gloria is currently helping spearhead legislative reform efforts to enact a new domestic violence and sexual abuse law, implementing numerous public education and awareness-raising tactics to encourage Parliament to enact a strong and effective measure. In addition, through her appointment by the President of Ghana to the National African Peer Review Mechanism Governing Council (NAPRM-GC), Gloria integrated women's issues throughout the assessment of Ghana's performance in democratic, political, economic, corporate and socio-economic governance and accompanying recommendations, which were presented to the African Union and the Council of African Heads-of-State in 2005. She is also working to promote gender sensitive energy, environmental and sustainable development policies internationally. ■

Alum Accomplishments

WLPPFP now proudly boasts over 160 U.S. and nearly 50 LAWA alums, who are advancing women's rights in countless ways, as highlighted in the following examples:

- **Michele Beasley ('91-'92)** took a new job as Senior Counsel for Wells Fargo Bank in San Francisco, which she notes is a great company for women and employees of diverse backgrounds and maintains a strong commitment to public service.
- **Carol Beier ('86-'87)**, Justice on the Kansas Supreme Court, wrote an opinion in February protecting the confidentiality of women's medical records. The lawsuit had been filed by Comprehensive Health of Planned Parenthood and Wichita's Women's Health Services against Kansas Attorney General Phill Kline, who sought to obtain complete confidential medical records of women cared for by the clinics.
- **Johanna Bond ('97-'98)** accepted a position as Associate Professor of Law at the University of Wyoming College of Law teaching women's human rights.
- In March, **Courtney Chappell ('04-'05)** Policy Director for the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF), spoke on a panel addressing sexual and reproductive health issues facing APA women and girls, including immigration, sex-selection, and trafficking. The Center for American Progress hosted the briefing, where **Cassandra Butts ('91-'92)** serves as Senior Vice President for Domestic Policy.
- **Sarah Craven ('92-'93)** Chief of the Washington Office of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), noted that her office has recently moved to a new location.
- **Phumzile Dlamini ('03-'04)** is working with the Coordinating Assembly of Non-Governmental Organizations (CANGO) – the umbrella body of all not-for-profit organizations in Swaziland – as the Gender Coordinator for the Civil Society Capacity Project. Her work involves 1) facilitating gender analyses of national policy,

legislation and development programs, 2) promoting gender advocacy and networking around pertinent national issues, and 3) coordinating gender training and capacity building of civil society organizations, focusing on women's advocacy, networking and empowerment groups.

- **Deborah Epstein ('90-'91)**, Associate Dean for Clinical Programs and Public Interest at the Georgetown University Law Center and Co-Director of the Domestic Violence Clinic, received the Faculty Member of the Year Award in May.
- **Tamar Ezer ('04-'05)**, in her second year as a teaching fellow with the Georgetown International Women's Human Rights Clinic, led a group of students to Swaziland for a fact-finding mission on the status of women's rights, where they collaborated with LAWA alums **Thabisile Langa ('04-'05)**, who serves as Senior Parliamentary Counsel with the Swaziland Attorney General, and **Lindiwe Ngcamphalala ('04-'05)**, who advocates on behalf of women's rights in private practice.
- **July Fulcher ('95-'96)**, Director of the Washington, D.C. office of Break the Cycle, testified before the D.C. City Council at a hearing on domestic violence.
- **Sylvia Garfinkle ('03-'04)** represented WLPPFP this spring at the Pro Bono Institute Seminar – thank you, Sylvia!
- **Hilary Gbedemah ('95-'96)** has run a very successful and respected program on legal awareness for women in the Volta Region of Ghana, educating women about their rights and providing legal aid and counseling, adopting many techniques she learned through fellowship. Not only has she made an impact on women, but also on religious and traditional leaders, law enforcers, youth and other stakeholders who are involved in the program. Hilary has seen resistance to women's rights wane, especially in their recent advocacy initiatives on the Domestic Violence Bill, and these traditionally resistant structures are now their main allies. Hilary also serves as a member of the traditional state's Committee on Women and Children, and has started a novel program for

Alum Accomplishments

youth dubbed "Legalites," inspired by the Georgetown Street Law clinic.

- **Cindy Hounsell ('89-'90)** Executive Director of the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement, was honored by Women's E-News as one of the "21 Leaders for the 21st Century" at a gala celebration in New York.
- **Debra Katz ('85-'86)** recently founded a new firm, Katz, Marshall & Banks, specializing in employment law, civil rights, whistleblower law and consumer class actions. She recently spoke on a panel addressing "Women in Negotiations" sponsored by the Washington Area Women's Bar Association.
- **Esther Kisaakye ('93-'94)** is pursuing her S.J.D. at American University, writing her dissertation on gender, employment and the law, and focusing on women in the legal profession. She is completing her field research in Uganda, where she also serves as president of the Uganda Network on Law, Ethics, and HIV/AIDS (UGANET), an NGO that she helped establish and has worked with for the past 10 years. UGANET provides free legal services to women facing HIV/AIDS-related human rights violations.
- **Jamesina King ('01-'02)** is slated to be appointed as a Human Rights Commissioner in the new Human Rights Commission in Sierra Leone.
- **Hope Lewis ('86-'87)** continues to work as Faculty Director of Northeastern University School of Law Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy. In November, Hope received a double transplant from the generous family of an organ donor. She is doing well and encourages others to increase their awareness about kidney disease, diabetes, and the need for organ donation.
- **Mande Limbu ('00-'01)** is completing her dissertation entitled, "Making Justice More Accessible to the Poor with a Special Focus on Women: Introducing Clinical Legal Education in Tanzania," in fulfillment of her S.J.D. at Cornell Law School. She previously served as a program officer with Care International in Tanzania, where she mainstreamed human rights and gender into all of Care's development projects, and as a human rights and reproductive health consultant to the Futures Group International.
- The Women's Legal Aid Center in Tanzania, founded and run by **Dr. Monica Magoke-Mhoja ('96-'97)**, **Jane Magigita ('00-'01)** and **Scholastica Jullu ('00-'01)**, filed a test case challenging discriminatory customary intestate succession laws under both the Tanzanian Constitution and international human rights conventions ratified by Tanzania.
- **Ruvimbo Masunungure ('03-'04)** advocates for human rights in West Africa with Global Rights and has written papers on access to justice for victims of sexual and gender based violence in contexts of political repression.
- **Harriet Musoke ('00-'01)** is finishing her dissertation for her S.J.D. from Emory University Law School in Atlanta, Georgia focusing on women's reproductive health and international human rights in Uganda.
- **Evelyn Nassuna ('99-'00)** recently began working with the Lutheran World Relief and has registered her organization called Legal and Policy Alternatives in Uganda to focus on health policy analysis and advocacy as well as strengthening the capacities of communities to champion their rights in the field of health.
- **Tandazwa Ndita ('02-'03)** was permanently appointed as Judge in the High Court of South Africa, Cape Provincial Division

– the first African woman to be appointed to this division.

- **Margaret Oguli-Oumo ('96-'97)**, one of the first female Judges in Uganda, recently published a training manual entitled *Promoting an Integrated Approach to Combat Gender-Based Violence*, which encourages greater collaboration at the local and national levels and the development of comprehensive and coherent policies and programs addressing gender-based violence.
- **Pritima Osman ('04-'05)**, in addition to serving as a magistrate in Cape Town, is developing an international women's human rights course to teach law students in South Africa.
- **Debbie Pollock Lindenberg ('92-'93)** is working as a consultant to the Montgomery County Community Foundation and visited 26 nonprofit organizations on behalf of the Sharing Montgomery Community Fund, which supports programs serving at-risk children and families. She is completing a temporary position as Senior Family Law Advisor at Ayuda, and also volunteers as a member of the Rainmakers Giving Circle of the Washington Area Women's Foundation, providing grants to improve the lives of young women in the DC area.
- **Ntibidi Rampete ('01-'02)** was recently admitted as an attorney of the High Court of South Africa, and is working with the Public Interest Law Department of Webber Wentzel Bowens, providing *pro bono* legal assistance for indigent clients, such as people living in informal settlements surrounding Johannesburg who are threatened with eviction. Her department has also acted for the Centre for Applied Legal Studies in a matter before the Constitutional Court concerning the constitutionality of the exclusion of survivors of intimate life partnerships from the right to claim maintenance.
- **Tamar Schwartz Eisen ('87-'88)** was appointed Director of Lawyering Skills at University of Richmond School of Law.
- **Lisa Small ('93-'94)** has been involved with *pro bono* work helping indigent clients, such as trying to help them obtain better health care or relief from medical bills.
- **Sandhya Subramanian ('98-'99)** has started a new position as Chief Attorney of the Cleveland Office for Civil Rights with the U.S. Department of Education.
- **Naomi Stern ('03-'04)** played a leading role in drafting and advocating for new housing rights for survivors of domestic violence in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Naomi remains at the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty (NLCHP), where she has been supervising current fellow **Terri Keeley**.
- **Cynthia Totten ('99-'00)** recently relocated from DC to Los Angeles where she accepted a position as a staff attorney for Stop Prison Rape. ■



LAWA Graduates with Board Member Wendy Williams & WLPPFP Staff



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