

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2009-2010 FELLOWS

This year a total of eighteen fellows are participating in the educational and professional development opportunities provided by the Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program (WLPPFP) at the Georgetown University Law Center. We have thirteen WLPPFP Fellows who are working on a multitude of women's rights issues at different public interest and governmental organizations throughout the fellowship year. We also have five Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa (LAWA) Fellows, who have earned a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree from Georgetown focusing on international women's human rights, and then have the opportunity to participate in a summer legal internship before returning home to continue advancing women's rights in their own countries. Although each of their fellowship experiences is unique, they all learn together about substantive women's rights issues, explore a myriad of career paths through which they can work for women's equality, and develop their advocacy skills through seminars, trainings, networking events and other activities provided by WLPPFP. Some of the highlights of their fellowships are noted below:



Maeve McKean

(CHANGE & ICW): Maeve spent her fellowship with both the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) and the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW). She traveled to Uganda to conduct research on women's access to healthcare. She also participated in a conference

in Amsterdam as a member of Human Rights Count, an advisory committee working to create a documenting system for human rights abuses toward HIV positive people worldwide. Maeve helped plan the Reproductive Justice Ambassadors Tour, a series of panel discussions in Boston, Philadelphia and Washington, DC, about reproductive rights and U.S. foreign policy. The speakers included three reproductive health experts from the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia and Botswana, who discussed the importance of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and rights and offered suggestions, based on their own experiences, about how the United States could strengthen care overseas by making it more holistic, integrated, and based on a humanitarian framework. Maeve also helped to organize a policy forum on Capitol Hill in which a number of organizations offered specific recommendations for President Obama's Global Health Initiative. The organizations published a comprehensive assessment of what will be needed to succeed in having a global health strategy and used the panel as an opportunity to present this report. Maeve arranged for **Olive Edwards** to speak, who is HIV positive and is the president of the Jamaican Network of Seropositives. She discussed the intersection between HIV, family planning, and reproductive health and what the need for comprehensive framework actually means on the ground. Maeve was also part of a working group evaluating stigma measurement options with the hopes of having an evaluation tool by 2011. She helped the North American Chapter of ICW officially incorporate and prepared a memo on Uganda's Anti-Homosexuality Bill and its effect on women in Uganda, as well as a memo summary of the PEPFAR 5-year strategy published by the Office of the Global Aids Coordinator (OGAC). She also attended a town meeting with **Ambassador Eric Goosby**, the head of OGAC and a Global AIDS Roundtable. In collaboration with the Brennan Center, Maeve drafted comments in response to the Department of Health and Human Services notice on enforcement of the Anti-Prostitution Pledge (a part of the US Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003).



Esther Ayuk

(LAWA – Cameroon): During the fall semester of her Master of Laws studies at Georgetown, Esther took International and Comparative Law on Women's Human Rights, Legal Research and Writing for LAWAs, International Courts and Tribunals, Health and Human Rights, Human Rights at the Intersection of Trade and Corporate Responsibility, and Rule of

Law and the Administration of Justice. During the spring semester, Esther took International Women's Human Rights, International Human Rights, The Practice of Human Rights, International Trade, Development and the Common Good, and International Environmental Law. Esther's major graduate research paper addressed "*Achieving Women's Human Rights in Cameroon: Engendering Sustainable Development Programs in the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture*." For her Health and Human Rights seminar, Esther also wrote a paper entitled "*Accessible Legal Abortion in Cameroon: A state's obligation to guarantee women's right to highest attainable standards of health*." For her trade class, Esther wrote "*Addressing child labor practices in the cocoa production and supply chain in Cameroon*." She commented, "Reports show that there are many girl children who are involved in the child labor scandal in the cocoa production and supply chain in West Africa, and Cameroon is among the four cocoa producing nations cited in the 1999 International Labor Organization report." She also discussed her own career as a judge for a WLPPFP/LAWA seminar and assisted in simulations and the Cameroon Supreme Court Moot for the International Women's Human Rights Clinic (IWHRC). Esther spoke at an event organized by the Georgetown University International Relations Club and Georgetown University Women in Politics to raise awareness about violence against women in Africa. Esther also attended "Putting Women and Girls at the Center of Foreign Assistance," a breakfast briefing on Capitol Hill organized by Women, Faith, and Development Alliance. She became a member of the International Association of Women Judges and attended a dinner in honor of visiting Afghanistan Women Judges, and connected with the program officer for Africa in hopes to create a Cameroonian arm of the association to promote women's human rights after her fellowship. She also met **Barbara Shaw**, the Founder and President of the Massai Girls Education Foundation in Kenya, as well as others at Gender Action and Vital Voices. While she was home

over the winter break, Esther, along with LAWA alumna **Elizabeth Atemnkeng** (2008-09), visited the US Ambassador to Cameroon to discuss discriminatory marriage laws in Cameroon and methods for change. Based on their meeting, Ambassador **Janet Garvey** arranged a roundtable discussion of the law and women's rights in Cameroon at her residence on March 9, 2010 for International Women's Day.



Amanda Allen

(NAPAWF): Amanda started her Fellowship at the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) by researching and developing health care reform programming and proposals. She drafted statements on behalf of NAPAWF and its coalitions regarding the bills that were introduced in Congress and organized efforts for the National Lobby Day. She also attended meetings and telephone conferences on health care reform; drafted statements on the final passage of the legislation; reviewed and provided recommendations for sign-on letter requests; and drafted press releases. Amanda also acted as the chapter liaison for NAPAWF's DC and Bay Area Chapters and planned the Chapter Leader Trainings. Additionally, she helped plan and lead a workshop on sex selection abortion bans at the training in Berkeley, CA. Amanda monitored developments concerning sex selection abortion bans on the state level and led the policy update portion of meetings with coalition partners. Amanda also launched a new website for NAPAWF in October and has drafted its policy newsletter, AP (Eye) on the Hill. Additionally, Amanda has led NAPAWF's participation in the National Healthy Nail Salon Alliance. She created and maintained a website for the organization as well as a membership and ally agreement. Amanda conducted outreach to potential members and reviewed draft legislation for the Federal Safe Cosmetics Act, and completed substantial legal research and writing on various federal agencies, statutes and regulations that affect nail salons, products, and workers. Amanda also worked with Generations Ahead and EMERJ on the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act, drafting policy principles and legislative history documents for a toolkit the working group created to assist organizations in developing positions on the bill. Amanda has supported NAPAWF's immigrant initiatives by drafting a statement for publication advocating the CDC's removal of the HPV vaccine from the list of mandatory vaccines for immigrant women. She wrote and published an article on the subject for *RH Reality Check*. She also created a report card for members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus and the Congressional Women's Caucus regarding relevant immigration bills. Amanda drafted NAPAWF's Women's History Month statement, a factsheet on the "FY 11 Budget and API Women," and a factsheet on "Sex Selection and API Women." She spoke at two panels in April addressing "New Eugenics" and "Immigration and Reproductive Justice" at the Civil Liberties & Public Policy Program. Amanda also represented NAPAWF at a 2-day conference with the New Leadership Networking Institute in Massachusetts, attended an event honoring APIs in the Administration, and witnessed the Center for American Progress' unveiling of the Shriver Report. She represented NAPAWF at SisterSong and attended a meeting on health care reform at the White House hosted by **Michelle Obama** and **Kathleen Sebelius**. Amanda provided numerous presentations throughout her Fellowship. In March she gave a lecture on "Sex Selection Abortion Bans and Reproductive Justice" for 50 students at the University of Michigan Law School, she presented on a panel addressing "Women of Color and Health Reform" at a Law Students for Reproductive Justice Mid-Atlantic Conference, and she spoke on a panel addressing "Immigrant Rights and Reproductive Justice" at the Young Feminist Leadership Conference organized by the Feminist Majority Foundation. Amanda was recently appointed co-chair of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans Health Committee along with **Priscilla Huang** (US, 2006-07).



Susanne Okeny

(LAWA - Uganda): During the fall semester of her LL.M. degree studies at Georgetown, Susan took International and Comparative Law on Women's Human Rights, Legal Research and Writing for LAWAs, Health and Human Rights Law, Restorative Justice in International Human Rights: A New Paradigm, Pre-Negotiation Strategies for Cross Border

Transactions, and International Civil Society Law Seminar. During the spring semester, Susanne took International Women's Human Rights, Refugee Law and Policy, International Human Rights, International Efforts to Combat Corruption, Refugees and Humanitarian Emergencies, and Presentation Skills for Lawyers. She wrote her major research paper on "Rape as a Tool of Violence and Discrimination against Women: A Call for Judicial Application of International Human Rights Law in Ugandan Courts." She presented in class on Corruption in the Ugandan Judiciary, concluding that Uganda must strive fully to implement the legal framework preventing corruption in order to ensure investment capital from multinational corporations is retained by the country. Additionally, she presented on Maternal and Child Health in Uganda, commenting: "*Though Uganda has obligations under the international human rights instruments to make health care services available to people, there are many cases of high maternal mortality due to inaccessibility and availability of health care services, family planning and medicines among others. Uganda is under a duty to respect and protect human rights, for as long as this is not done maternal mortality rates will be on the increase.*" Susanne was a member of Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown (FLAG) and participated in the Mini-Olympics the group sponsored at the school by joining a dodge ball team. She also took advantage of her time at the Law Center by attending various professional development seminars in addition to those provided by WLPPFP, as well as presentations on interesting topics like statelessness, ending torture, and the Refugee Act. Susanne was commended on receiving a Fellowship by LAW-Uganda and East African Legislative Assembly Member **Dora Byamukama**. Susanne is spending her post-graduate summer work experience with the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law.



Jaime Dahlstedt

(Georgetown Law Domestic Violence Clinic): During her Fellowship at the DV Clinic, Jaime undertook many responsibilities, putting together lesson plans, teaching seminars, going to the Domestic Violence Intake Center to screen potential clients, and supervising students on Temporary Protection Order and Civil Protection Order cases. She supervised several student teams,

including one whose case continued from November until February, and ended successfully. Jaime commented, "*Their commitment to the case made me incredibly proud. Not to mention the quality of their work, which has consistently been good and improved with each day. It is a highlight of this job to see such growth in students and to know that I was a part of it.*" According to the clinic's website, since 1985 the Domestic Violence Clinic has assisted over four hundred victims of domestic violence seeking protection from abusive partners and family members. A one-semester program, the Clinic prepares law students to litigate on behalf of victims in D.C. Superior Court. Students bring actions to obtain injunctive relief in the form of civil protection orders ("CPOs"). The Clinic provides students with intense training and extensive hands-on experience in domestic violence litigation. The Clinic's mission is to provide law students with an intensive, challenging education in the art of trial advocacy, and to provide high quality representation to indigent victims of domestic abuse. The Clinic trains students to provide highly effective client representation; become creative, independent thinkers and outstanding attorneys; and increase

the effectiveness of the civil and criminal justice systems in the fight against domestic violence. Students learn advocacy skills and the art of zealous effective, and ethical lawyering. Students develop and practice these skills through both seminar and case work. In the twice weekly two-hour seminar, students study the substantive and procedural law relevant to their cases, including the local domestic violence statute, criminal law, family law, evidentiary principles, and procedural and ethics rules. The seminar also focuses on litigation skills exercises, including conducting interviews, delivering opening statements and closing arguments, introducing exhibits into evidence, drafting direct and cross examinations, and conducting negotiations. A select group of expert guest speakers present at the seminar on topics related to domestic violence, such as the psychological dynamics of victims and batterers, current federal legislative initiatives, and international approaches to controlling domestic violence. Speakers include judges, prosecutors, psychologists, and advocates. Students in the Domestic Violence Clinic work in teams of two and represent several clients during the course of the semester. Students are fully responsible for all aspects of each case, from conducting the initial intake interview to investigating facts, drafting a complaint, preparing witnesses, and ultimately to negotiating a consent injunctive order or taking the case to trial. Trials generally last several hours and provide students with the opportunity to present witnesses and evidence such as police reports, weapons, and 9-1-1 tapes, and to cross examine the alleged batterer's witnesses. Students work closely on each case with Clinic Faculty and Fellows, who collaborate on case strategy and provide feedback on all aspects of case preparation.



Joy Welan

(U.S. Dept. of Justice, Civil Rights Section, Disability Rights Division): At the Disability Rights division of the Justice Department, Joy participated in pre-trial litigation for several cases involving employment discrimination, zoning laws, hotel accommodation, accessibility of new technology, and HIV/AIDS

discrimination. She wrote interrogatories and requests for production of documents, wrote memos, met with opposing counsel, and drafted proposed settlement agreements. She also attended several trainings and workshops for the Department of Justice, including workshops on electronic discovery, depositions, and researching public documents, as well as a training on the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act, a new statute that prohibits employers from collecting and using genetic information (including family medical history) in employment decisions. She also spent two weeks at a civil trial advocacy class in Columbia, South Carolina. Throughout the year, Joy monitored policy developments with implications for people living with disabilities. She attended the DC Women's Bar Association's annual networking event and awards ceremony in September and the National Women's Law Center Annual Dinner. She also had lunch with **Nancy Garrison** and **Belquis Ahmadi (Afghanistan, 2008-09)** at the National Museum of Women in the Arts and joined the Washington Council of Lawyers. She heard a speech by the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights to the American Constitution Society and attended DC Bar CLEs on the U.S. health care system and Medicaid. Joy commented on the Law Students for Reproductive Justice Regional Conference in March: *"I was very excited to attend LSRJ's regional conference. It gave me a chance to hear about health care reform and reproductive justice from Judy Waxman at NWLC (plus our very own Amanda!)."* Joy was also asked to join a panel hosted by the National Council of Women's Organizations' Young Women's Task Force about feminism and disability. She wrote, *"I love thinking and talking about the relationship between the 'women's movement' and women with disabilities, so I really enjoyed it. There was a great turnout and everyone in the audience seemed very engaged and eager to learn."*



Rose Kimotho

(LAWA - Kenya): During the fall semester of her LL.M. degree studies at Georgetown, Rose took International and Comparative Law on Women's Human Rights, Legal Research and Writing for LAWAs, Human Rights at the Intersection of Trade and Corporate Responsibility, Restorative Justice in International

Human Rights: A New Paradigm, International Trade Law, and Pre-Negotiation Strategies in Cross-Border Transactions. In the spring, she took International Women's Human Rights; International Efforts to Combat Corruption; Presentation Skills for Lawyers; International Trade, Investment and Sustainable Development; International Trade, Development and the Common Good; and Development and Finance Infrastructure Projects. She wrote her major research paper on "Bringing Justice to the Shattered Matrimonial Home: Applying International Human Rights Law in the Division of Matrimonial Property in Kenya." Rose served as a panel member for an event organized by the Georgetown University Women in Politics on the main campus. The discussion focused on women's rights violations (especially sexual violence) and the use of law to protect the victims, as well as challenges in prosecution. She also participated in an interfaith dialogue on domestic violence hosted by Campus Ministry and the Domestic Violence Clinic. The talk involved clerics from the Catholic, Baptist, Islam and Jewish faiths. Rose was active at Georgetown Law as a member of the Women's Legal Alliance, the Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown (FLAG), the UN at Georgetown, and Outreach. She also attended resume and cover letter workshops and networking and interviewing classes in addition to the professional development program offered by WLPPFP/LAWA. In addition, she attended the briefing on the fact-finding mission results of the IWHRC Spring 2010 project, and played on the soccer and relay teams for the FLAG mini Olympics. During the fall semester, she attended a briefing by grassroots reproductive health advocates organized by CEDPA, USAID and United Nations Foundation. The briefing focused on the work of three reproductive health organizations from Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Pakistan and each of the presenters linked their work to improving the human rights of women and girls. She also met the four visiting Afghan judges at an International Association of Women Judges reception. Rose attended "The Search for a Common Ground," which focused on how to improve relations between Christian and Islam faiths. The panel of distinguished speakers included the former British Prime Minister, now a Special Envoy on the Israel-Palestinian conflict. She attended a reception hosted by the American Society of International Law (ASIL) for international LLM students from universities around the DC metro area. She even attended a book signing by Madeline Albright. During the spring semester, Rose attended the Congressional hearing on the International Violence Against Women Act with Senator John Kerry as the main speaker, and a presentation on a new book, 'Women Lead the Way' with author Linda Tarr-Whelan. She attended an event at the National Museum for Women in the Arts organized by Vital Voices in honor of a Kenyan woman who runs a shelter for women in Northern Kenya, and marked 30 years of American refugee legislation with the High Commissioner for Refugees as the keynote speaker. Finally, she saw President Barack Obama speak at George Mason University. She comments: *"His charisma and down-to-earth personality are amazing."*



Chai Shenoy

(Break the Cycle): Representing Break the Cycle (BTC), Chai has met with high-level DC Public School (DCPS) administrators and counselors to discuss the Safe Schools Programs, a DC-wide initiative to prevent teen dating violence and educate youth about maintaining healthy relationships. She also met with the Mayor's Executive Cabinet to discuss the program and updated the BTC website to incorporate

the program's launch. Chai has trained DCPS funded social workers and special education counselors on teen dating violence and sexual violence, as well as the Safe Schools policy. Chai also worked with BTC on editing dating violence manuals for prosecutors and for law enforcement. She prepared and conducted a Rural Initiative working group meeting, convening individuals in DC from organizations in rural America to discuss the obstacles they face in addressing teen dating violence. On invitation from the Mayor's Office, she presented to the Chinese Women's Equality Training Delegation about her work on the Safe Schools project. She also met **Jen Bissell** at the DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, who wrote a blurb about Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Break the Cycle's services on the Campaign's website. Additionally, she organized and executed a successful professional development event with FAIR Fund, an international non-profit working on anti-human trafficking issues. Chai spoke at the National Sexual Assault Conference in Arlington and traveled to Los Angeles for the Peace Over Violence's Teen Dating Violence Conference. She briefed students at American University's Washington College of Law and taught "Dating Violence 101" to area schools, the Deaf Abused Women's Network, and the DC Campus Police Academy. She also traveled to Florida for the FL Coalition Against Domestic Violence's Child Institute. Chai also attended many social justice events, such as the annual fundraiser for Right Rides for Women's Safety in New York City (for which she is a board member), as well as the National Center on Homelessness and Poverty Gala. She completed an all-day domestic violence conference for the courts and met **Sujata Warriar** at her seminar on working with diverse populations. She also attended another four-day training conducted by the Center for Legal Aid Education, the White House's Women's History Month celebrations, and the Office of Public Engagement's task force of young women addressing issues that young women are facing. She saw Bill Clinton at the Fiscal Summit by Peter R. Petersen Foundation. Chai also launched Holla Back DC! (HBDC), a grassroots organization she co-founded that aims to empower the DC Metro area to build a community free from public sexual harassment and assault through online activism, public policy and advocacy, community workshops, and providing innovative direct services. She presented information about the organization at Social Action and Leadership School for Activists (SALSA) meetings, American University's Anthropology conference, and at a George Washington University Women's Studies class. HBDC also participated in Chispa!, an event in which artists, social justice activists, and "change makers" meet to discuss new ideas and ways to support the community. Chai was interviewed for a podcast by a local artist, and flew to New Orleans to promote HBDC at a national conference. Holla Back DC! has been promoted on various blogs and television spots, and the founders were asked to organize a webinar on the organization for the Battered Women's Justice Project. Chai has also been active on the Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project (DVRP)'s HR Committee of the Board. She coordinated and attended the annual dinner in Arlington and assisted in creating an agenda for and facilitating the Board retreat. After the retreat, she was nominated as DVRP's President.



Lisa Keels

(The Women's Collective): During her Fellowship with the Policy Advocacy Department of The Women's Collective, Lisa has been a member of several coalitions, including the DC Women's Agenda, the Reform Matters Coalition (organized by NWLC), the DC Justice Employment Center, the DC Healthy Youth Coalition, and the Ford Foundation Coalition, which is comprised of women from various HIV/AIDS organizations throughout the US. As part of this coalition, she participated in teleconferences for the National HIV/AIDS Strategy. The coalition made recommendations

to the White House's Office of National AIDS Policy (ONAP). Lisa met with ONAP at the Department of Health and Human Services in February to discuss updates in the Strategy and *"was happy to hear ONAP's Director mention women and girls as a group the National HIV/AIDS Strategy should prioritize. Although the strategy is in its beginning stages, the meeting sounded very promising. I also ran into [WLPPFP Alums] Brook Kelly and Priscilla Huang!"* Lisa attended several conferences during the year, including the SisterSong Conference, and the Feminist Majority Foundation's *Women, Money, and Power Summit*, which included panelists **Kiersten Stewart** (from the Family Violence Prevention Fund) and **Sarah Albert** (from the YWCA). Lisa even had her picture taken with **Gloria Steinem** and **Dolores Huerta**! For National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, TWC had a prevention event at their new office that brought in spoken word performers and discussed how to use female condoms. A huge number of people attended, and it was featured on CNN. Lisa also helped manage the D.C.-based support and advocacy group Positive Leaders Uplifting Sisters! (PLUS!) as well. This group of positive women meets formally about one time per month to discuss ways to bring policy change to DC, both regarding HIV/AIDS and issues surrounding it (housing, employment, domestic violence, etc.). The Women's Collective planned various events for World AIDS Day, including prevention, awareness and testing campaigns. Lisa joined a rally organized by DC Fights Back, a coalition of HIV/AIDS organizations in DC that focuses on community organizing and direct advocacy work. The rally was entitled "Systems Failure," to indicate how both the federal and DC governments have a long way to go in fighting HIV/AIDS. The rally began at the White House, and the group eventually marched to the Wilson Building (the building that houses the DC City Council), where various people spoke, including one of TWC's clients (who was also covered in *The Washington Post*). Lisa published a paper entitled *"Substantially Limited: The Reproductive Rights of Women Living with HIV/AIDS"* in the Spring 2010 issue of the *University of Baltimore Law Review*. She presented the abstract at the Feminist Legal Theory Conference in Baltimore as part of a panel entitled "Spotlighting Sexual Health and Autonomy for Women and Teenagers." She wrote: *"The conference was extremely interesting and informative – I was happy to be a part of it!"* Lisa spearheaded TWC's National Conference in April, which invited a national network of 42 women with HIV/AIDS to partake in 4 days of programming, to help them develop as advocates in their own communities. The event was titled *Positive Women Uplifting Sisters! (Plus!) Second National Conference: Recognizing our Reproductive Rights*. Lisa presented on HIV/AIDS and reproductive rights. She writes: *"I was thrilled that the women were extremely engaged and asked tons of questions. They seemed very committed to promoting reproductive rights in their own communities."*



Jessica Heaven

(NWLC): During her Fellowship with the Family Economic Security team at the National Women's Law Center, Jessica edited an update of the NWLC publication *Getting Organized* about the recent trend of unionizing home-based child care providers. (The report was originally drafted by a group of staff

members including **Arlene Brens** (US, 2008-09).) She also worked on the Tax Credit Outreach Campaign, including updating materials for the 2009 tax year and researching and making edits and updates to various documents – fliers, frequently asked questions, etc. – about the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit, the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, and the Making Work Pay Credit, which is new for 2009, thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. She also joined the Coalition to Promote Access and Opportunity, and monitored any new changes to state versions of the aforementioned

tax credits, both to make sure the outreach campaign documents are accurate and in preparation for an annual update to the Making Care Less Taxing report. Jessica conducted a research project about the treatment of tax refunds with respect to eligibility for public benefits, and analyzed the Obama Fiscal Year 2011 budget proposal for implications for violence against women initiatives. She also attended a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing about age discrimination and mandatory arbitration in employment; a Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) subcommittee hearing on health care reform and women (NWLC distributed “A Woman is Not a Pre-Existing Condition” t-shirts); and a National Community Tax Coalition briefing. Jessica also went to a Brookings Institute event on the new census data regarding poverty and several Coalition on Human Needs meetings. She represented NWLC at a Dupont Circle vigil for women’s health, and rallied on Capitol Hill for the “Stop Stupak” event. She came to many brownbag lunches hosted by NWLC as well as a Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit briefing. She attended “Voices for Change: Perspectives on Strengthening Welfare-to-Work from DC TANF Recipients,” hosted at Georgetown Law by the DC Fiscal Policy Institute and So Others Might Eat. The organizations put on the event to announce the release of an interesting report based on interviews and focus groups with current and former DC TANF recipients (primarily women, of course) and social services providers. Jessica was also a member of the Washington Council of Lawyers mentoring program. She will begin a clerkship with Judge Brooke Murdock of the Baltimore City Circuit Court after her Fellowship ends.

Mark Egerman



(NAF): During his Fellowship with the NAF, Mark has advocated in the United States and Canada on issues concerning women’s reproductive health. Much of his main policy focus has been on health care reform, including a rally and Lobby on the Hill Day in December. He has also attended weekly meeting at the Leadership Council for Civil Rights and joined

a coalition (also including **Amanda Allen**) addressing proposed sex selection bills. Mark was also in charge of researching judicial and executive nominations, and provided a broad range of services for NAF members, such as working on contracts with vendors to negotiate new insurance plans. He also monitored changes in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and counseled members on healthcare privacy laws in general. Mark commented that the HIPAA work “has been interesting and straightforward and it has been nice to see a new area of law.” He attended NAF’s annual meeting, and commented: “It was four days long and hundreds of providers and activists were present, which gave me a chance to meet with lots of people I really admired.” Mark established himself as the “go-to person” providing services concerning reproductive health to incarcerated women. He has stayed in touch with many of the women and their families that he has helped. He recalls: “I received a photograph recently after we were able to help an incarcerated woman in San Antonio get the care she wanted. Her husband and 3 children took a picture to thank us for helping their mother, and it was a pretty wonderful moment.” Mark has also been researching issues such as restrictive covenants on property as well as antitrust law and employment law.



Fanny Gómez-Lugo

(Inter-American Commission on Human Rights): During her Fellowship with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), Fanny was initially at the Registry Division, where she worked on 8-10 petitions per week alleging human rights violations in various countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

These included petitions regarding the right of women to be free from sexual violence by state agents and the judiciary, women’s economic rights, and discrimination against women and children in the region. She reports, “*Through a gender perspective and a discrimination analysis, I was able to make favorable recommendations to open for processing.*” Fanny trained other staff on Registry procedures and conducted a special initiative to make the work of the IACHR more accessible and responsive to the needs of the general populace and victims of human rights abuses. In October, she was appointed Project Manager for a collaborative research project with the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights at IACHR’s Executive Secretariat. She researched common interests for the regional human rights protection systems and became very familiar with the IACHR archives. She also conducted an intensive training workshop on the Inter-American and Universal Human Rights Protection Systems for representatives of NGOs, lawyers, activists, and public officials from across Latin America. The training focused on capacity-building and how to present petitions before the IACHR. She participated in a multi-region workshop organized by the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights at the Organization of American States (OAS) headquarters. Fanny met with Anand Grover, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to the Highest Attainable Standard of Health, in March. She also published “Back and Forth: the Politics of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in Uruguay,” which she co-authored with Analía Banfi-Vique, Oscar Cabrera, and Martin Hevia. The paper discusses Uruguay’s policies regarding reproductive health and argues that they are inconsistent with the country’s international commitments to promote and respect women’s right to health, equality, and reproductive self-determination. Fanny frequently presented for classes in the DC area. She presented on Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Rights for an International Women’s Human Rights course at the Georgetown main campus. She joined with Oscar Cabrera of the O’Neill Institute for a similar presentation for the Health and Human Rights course at Georgetown Law Center. They also co-lectured at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore.



Monica Voke-Ighorodje

(LAWA – Nigeria): During the fall semester of her LL.M. degree studies at Georgetown, Monica took Advanced Legal Research and Writing for LAWAs, International and Comparative Studies on Women’s Human Rights, Human Rights at the Intersection of

Trade and Corporate Social Responsibility, Pre-Negotiation Strategies and Cross Border Transactions, and Health and Human Rights. During the spring semester, Monica took International Women’s Human Rights, International Environmental Law, Presentation Skills for Lawyers, Global Environmental Health and the Law, and International Trade, Investment and Sustainable Development. Monica’s major graduate research paper focused on “*Exclusion of Women in Politics in Nigeria: Achieving Equality Using International Human Rights Standards.*” She also wrote a research paper entitled “A Comparative Review of the Establishment of Anti-Corruption Institutions in Nigeria and Its Effect in the Promotion of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.” Other major papers included “Oil on Fire: The Role of Human Rights in Corporate Social Responsibility versus Amnesty in the Niger Delta Region-A Blue Print for Action” and “Our Health at Stake – Gas Flaring as a Public Health Issue in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria.” She presented her research on gas flaring in Nigeria for her Health and Human Rights class and commented

“Although it is a broad research on the health impact in general, the research was an eye-opener for me as it revealed the gender aspect of gas flaring in the region. Women’s reproductive health right is being

compromised as a result of the release of pollutant emissions in the environment and as rural women rely basically on the environment for subsistence. The damage cost to their health and other environmental concerns leaves a lot to imagine. This is a novel area of consideration and adequate research needs be done to reveal the full health hazards this can bring to women."

She also completed two presentations about the effect of the toxicity of electronic waste to developing countries for her spring courses. She comments: *"I now believe I can be an effective public speaker."* Monica is spending her summer conducting research with the Georgetown Law's O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law.



Sandra Pullman

(NPWF): During her Fellowship with the National Partnership for Women and Families, Sandra has researched and drafted several amicus briefs, including employment discrimination and binding mandatory

arbitration cases for the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as one on behalf of a coalition of domestic violence advocates for a case about sick and safe days legislation before the Supreme Court of Wisconsin. She comments, *"Legal research and writing is my favorite thing to do... and I'm thrilled to be working on these projects."* After receiving very positive feedback on one of her briefs, Sandra noted:

I finished up my amicus brief this month, and all the feedback I got was really great. The plaintiffs' counsel was incredibly grateful, and the others who signed on didn't change a thing. They all complimented the extensive legal research I had done and the writing, which was so nice to hear. I even got a phone call from the plaintiff herself, who wanted to thank me for our brief. She said she read the brief out loud to her sons and felt like it validated her decision to bring a discrimination claim against her employer, even though she had been retaliated against and lost most all of her business. She said it made her feel like she was standing up for working women everywhere! It was one of the nicest ways to get feedback on my work-- to know that it wasn't just a legal document, however much time and energy I had put into drafting it, but that it was actually material support for this woman and her difficult situation.

Sandra has also submitted comments to the proposed regulations for the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA). Additionally, she has researched judicial and executive branch nominees, especially Elena Kagan (as an alumna of Harvard Law School, Sandra had met Dean Kagan several times previously at school, planning events and participating in outreach efforts). Sandra completed a memo on the current state of pregnancy discrimination, pulling from social science studies, government reports, and case law. She also conferred with advocates on the issue about her research. Moreover, Sandra has volunteered at the Employment Justice Center, doing intake and working with the experienced attorneys to provide legal advice. She says, *"It's been a great way to get some interaction with clients and also learn from senior employment lawyers."* In June, Sandra attended the National Employment Lawyers' Conference, and upon completion of her Fellowship, she will begin work at an employment law firm.



Dorit Radzin

(DC Superior Court): Dorit spent her Fellowship as a clerk for Judge Judith Bartnoff at the DC Superior Court. Throughout her tenure on the court, Judge Bartnoff has served in the Civil, Criminal and Family Divisions of the Court and has been a member of

the District of Columbia Child Support Guideline Commission since 2002. In 2004, she was recognized for her contributions to the Family Court by the Family Law Section of the D.C. Bar. Dorit spent the year monitoring the chamber's pending cases and drafting short orders to keep the cases moving forward. She has researched and aided with cases relating to consumer protection, landlord/tenant relations, and labor law. She was also in charge of training interns in the office. For the first part of Dorit's clerkship, Judge Bartnoff was on the Civil I calendar, which handles complex civil litigation, resulting in few trials as most cases end in settlement. For the second part of Dorit's clerkship, her judge transitioned to the Civil II calendar, which is considered a regular civil track where judges handle hundreds of cases and often have upwards of 20 new motions a week. Dorit has worked on numerous interesting cases. For example, one was a whistleblower/employment discrimination case where two women were fired after reporting statutory violation at the group home where they worked. It was originally filed in 2004 and then was dismissed for failure to exhaust administrative remedies in the collective bargaining agreement, but was successfully appealed by the plaintiffs and came back to DC Superior Court in the fall of 2009. Dorit also worked on a jury trial in an employment discrimination case that lasted almost four weeks, despite the fact that jury trials typically last only a few days. Dorit will be joining the Honor's Program at the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) after completing her Fellowship.



Carol Ajie

(LAWA – Nigeria): During the fall semester of her LL.M. degree studies at Georgetown, Carol took Legal Writing for LAWAs, Health and Human Rights, International and Comparative Law on Women's Human Rights, Pre-Negotiation Strategies for Cross Border Transactions, Restorative Justice in International Human Rights Law: A New Paradigm,

and International Agreements. In the spring, she took International Women's Human Rights, International Human Rights, Practice of Human Rights Seminar, Nation Building and the Rule of Law, and Global Competition Law and Policy. She completed her major research paper on "Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights in Nigeria: Why are Widows Maltreated?" She was also very active in student organizations. She was a member of the International Law Society, the Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown, Georgetown Human Rights Action, and the Women's Legal Alliance. She was also a guest writer for the Georgetown Law Weekly. In January, she attended the symposium "No More Darfurs: Preventing Genocide" on the main Georgetown University campus. In addition to coursework, Carol took full advantage of Washington, DC. She traveled to the Hill to attend a public lecture on the history of the U.S. Supreme Court and two sessions of Congress (one House and one Senate). She also attended a presentation on human-trafficking in Cambodia, hosted by CNN.



Charlotte Garden

(Georgetown Law Appellate Litigation Clinic):

Charlotte spent her Fellowship as a clinical teaching fellow with the Georgetown Law Appellate Litigation Clinic, which has been one of the core clinical programs at Georgetown for over twenty years. The

clinic's website notes that for the past fifteen years, the program has been directed by Professor Steven Goldblatt, a 1970 Georgetown Law graduate who has served as an Assistant District Attorney and then a Deputy District Attorney of Philadelphia. The clinic acts in effect like a small appellate firm with one senior partner (Professor Goldblatt), in which Charlotte is the equivalent of a "junior partner," where she helps supervise sixteen associates (third-year law students enrolled in a year-long, nine-credit clinic), and an office manager.

The clinic caseload, both civil and criminal, includes cases involving federal agencies and exposes students to litigation in at least two federal circuits and the D.C. courts. The clinic has had four cases reach the United States Supreme Court on grants of writs of certiorari. The program provides intense training in the art of oral and written advocacy as it is practiced in some of the highest courts in the nation, at a level appropriate to those courts and the issues presented. The clinic strives to provide the best representation possible, comparable to that provided by the best appellate firms in the country. Clinical fellows have two major responsibilities: to supervise and educate the J.D. students enrolled in the clinics and to assist the clinics in providing quality legal representation to their clients. Additionally, they are trained as clinical teachers and advocates in a particular field of law. In addition to arguing at least two cases in the federal courts of appeals, the fellows work with students on cases pending in the D.C. courts, the federal courts of appeals, and the United States Supreme Court. The fellows supervise student written work and oral advocacy preparation in order to enhance the student learning process and to develop the fellows' own skills as clinicians and litigators. Fellows also participate in the Appellate Litigation Program's weekly seminar. The fellows and the director jointly teach the seminar, exploring many aspects of appellate procedure and professional responsibility. The fellowship provides an opportunity to prepare the candidate for a career in teaching, litigation, or both. At the end of her two-year clinical teaching fellowship, Charlotte will be awarded with a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree in advocacy. During her WLPFP fellowship year, Charlotte designed a new classroom exercise on client counseling and explored the ways in which gender impacts how attorneys work with their clients. She also attended numerous faculty workshops in which numerous academics have presented their scholarship in progress. Additionally, Charlotte has also worked on her own draft article for publication entitled "Labor Values are First Amendment Values: Why Union Comprehensive Campaigns are Protected Speech," which she has presented at numerous faculty and fellow scholarship workshops.



Emily Chapuis

(Bredhoff & Kaiser): Emily is an associate with the law firm of Bredhoff & Kaiser, P.L.L.C., which is a Washington, DC, firm focusing on representation of labor organizations and employee tax and benefits law, as well as the representation of non-profit organizations on a broad range of institutional issues, in addition to other matters. With its strong record of support for unions, Bredhoff has been labeled "the voice of labor," and members of the firm regularly appear on lists of the best labor and employment lawyers in the country. The firm also serves a diverse amalgam of non-profit organizations, employee benefit funds, political figures, lawyers and law firms, and other individuals. Part of Emily's experience has focused on legal representation of a firefighter. As a result of her previous service as Articles Editor on the *Yale Journal of Law and Feminism*, Emily has also received special recognition and thanks for her work on the following articles: "The Vulnerable Subject: Anchoring Equality in the Human Condition" by Martha Albertson Fineman, "When is a Battered Woman Not a Battered Woman? When She Fights Back" by Leigh Goodmark, and "Book Review: Split Decisions: How and Why to Take a Break from Feminism by Janet Halley" by Adam P. Romero.

CULTIVATING WOMEN'S RIGHTS LEADERS

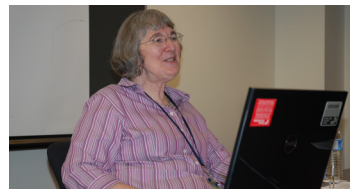
Through networking opportunities, professional development trainings, seminars and panels on hot-topics in women's legal issues, and other programming, WLPFP helps our Fellows continue to develop as leaders of the women's rights movement. Examples of the activities of our 2009-2010 Fellows since our last newsletter include:

- A discussion with **Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg** at the U.S. Supreme Court about the development and current status of women's rights in U.S. constitutional jurisprudence.



Fellows with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

- A seminar with **Professor Wendy Williams** on "The Legacy of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg," who shared inside stories and the



Georgetown Law Professor Wendy Williams, Biographer of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

history of legal battles for women's equality from her forthcoming biography of Justice Ginsburg that she is co-authoring with **Mary Hartnett** (both Wendy and Mary are on the WLPFP board).

- A meeting with **Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton** on Capitol Hill to discuss legislation concerning women's rights, the history and current status of women's rights and civil rights, and women in politics and government.



Fellows meeting with Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton on Capitol Hill

- **The National Partnership for Women and Families Annual Luncheon**, honoring Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius.
- A seminar addressing "Violence Against Women" featuring **Lisalyn Jacobs** (US, 1990-91), Vice President for Government Relations at Legal Momentum; **Daphne Jayasinghe**, Advocacy Director for Women's Human Rights with Amnesty International; and **Morgan Lynn** (US, 2007-08), Supervising Attorney & Manager of the LGBTQ Program at Women Empowered Against Violence (WEAVE).



*Daphne Jayasinghe, Morgan Lynn (2007-2008, U.S.),
Lisalyn Jacobs (1990-1991, U.S.) discussing violence against women*

- A seminar on “**Reproductive Health and Rights**” featuring **Diana Aguilar** (US, 2006-07), a lawyer with PPFA; **Cynthia Totten** (US, 1999-2000), the Program Director at Just Detention; and **Sarah Lipton-Lubet**, Legislative Policy Counsel for the Center for Reproductive Rights.



*Cynthia Totten (1999-2000, U.S.), Diana Aguilar (2006-2007, U.S.),
and Sarah Lipton-Lubet.*

- Reserved seating at the U.S. Supreme Court for the oral arguments in the **Skilling v. US** case, as well as attending the moot of the hearing at Georgetown Law’s Supreme Court Institute.



*Fellows attending
moot of Skilling
hearing prior to
U.S. Supreme Court
argument*



*Fellows gathering before U.S.
Supreme Court hearing*

- A panel presentation on “**Legislative Advocacy on Women’s Rights – Reflections from the Hill**” featuring **Maryamu Aminu**, Assistant Government Relations Director of the One Campaign and former staff for Human Rights Caucus & the House Foreign Affairs Committee; **Heather Sawyer**, Counsel for the House Judiciary Committee; and **Lauren McFerran**, Senior Labor and Employment Counsel for the House Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

- The Harriet B. Burg seminar “**Women’s Rights and Disability, Labor, and Employment Law**” featuring **Christine Webber** (US, 1993-94), partner with Cohen Milstein and lead counsel on the Wal-Mart employment discrimination class action, **Jennifer Goldberg** (US, 1999-2000), Assistant Director of Advocacy for Elder Law and Health Care at the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau, and **Stephanie Ortoleva** of BlueLaw International, formerly an expert on women’s rights and disability rights with the U.S. State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development.



*Stephanie Ortoleva, Jennifer Goldberg (1999-2000, U.S.),
Christine Webber (1993-1994, U.S.) speaking at
Harriet B. Burg Seminar on Women’s Rights and Disability Law*

- A seminar on “**Legal Associations Promoting Women’s Rights and Social Justice**” featuring **Virginia Martenette**, Associate Director for Outreach with the American Constitution Society (ACS); **Tanya Terrell**, Director of the ABA Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities (ABA-IRR Section); **Marcia Wiss**, a partner at Hogan Lovell and member of Women in International Law Interest Group of the American Society of International Law (ASIL-WILIG); and **Julie Furgerson**, Managing Editor of the *American Journal of International Law*.



*Virginia Martenette (ACS), Tanya Terrell (ABA), Julie Furgerson (ASIL),
Marcia Wiss (Hogan Lovells)*

- A series of colloquia on “**The Fellowship Experience**” led by our current Fellows, who discussed their Fellowship experiences with their placement organizations, shared their multifaceted backgrounds working on women’s rights, exchanged ideas about what they have learned so far, and envisioned their future career paths advancing the legal status of women in the United States and around the world.

We are grateful to all of our speakers and other supporters – thank you very much for your willingness to share your expertise, mentoring and advice with our Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellows!

ADDITIONAL LAWA ACTIVITIES

Our LAWA Fellows have participated in numerous additional activities organized by the LAWA Program this spring, such as the following examples:

- Speaking at a **Congressional Briefing on “Women’s Human Rights in Africa”** on Capitol Hill.



LAWA Fellows at the U.S. Capitol Building before their Congressional Briefing

- Speaking about women’s rights in their countries at the briefing “**Women’s Human Rights in Africa**” hosted by the Africa Bureau of the **United States Agency for International Development (USAID)** in honor of International Women’s Day.

- Meeting with **Laura Turquet**, Report Manager for the **United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)** on the Progress of the World’s Women.



LAWA Fellows speaking at the Congressional Briefing on Women’s Human Rights in Africa

- Presenting at a briefing at the **World Bank** on “**Gender Equity & Development in Africa: Understanding the Challenges,**” organized by Professor **Lisa Bhansali** and hosted by the World Bank Development Economics Group (DEC) and its Chairperson, **Mary Hallward-Driemeier**.



LAWA Fellows Speaking at the World Bank

- Lecturing at the Georgetown University main campus for undergraduate students in the **International Women’s Human Rights Seminar**.

- Meeting with **Mark Blackden**, Consultant on Gender, Entrepreneurship and Markets with the **International Finance Corporation**.



Mark Blackden (International Finance Corporation) with LAWA Fellows

- Speaking at a brown bag lunch discussion with members of the **Georgetown Africa Interest Network (GAIN)** in celebration of Women’s History Month.

- Participating in **workshops** on writing resumes and cover letters, networking, interviewing skills, computer skills, developing effective Power Point presentations, using Excel, etc.



Over 100 people attended the LAWA Fellows’ Congressional Briefing

SPECIAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES’ RIGHTS

Fanny Gomez (2009-2010, Venezuela), as a Human Rights Specialist with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, is currently working on a project of cooperation with the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR). She organized a reception in June in honor of the ACHPR Vice Chair, Commissioner **Mumba Malila**; the ACHPR Executive Secretary, Dr. **Mary Maboreke**; Senior Legal Officer Mr. **Chafi Bakari**; as well as other senior officials of the ACHPR. **Dinah Shelton**, the Inter-American Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights Second Vice-president, provided opening remarks. Fanny invited **Esther Ayuk** (2009-2010, Cameroon), **Monica Voke-Ighorodje** (2009-2010, Nigeria), **Susanne Okeny** (2009-2010, Uganda), and WLPPFP Executive Director **Julia Ernst** to participate. Also in attendance were **Elizabeth Abi-Mershed**, Assistant Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; **Seraphine Manirambona**, African Union Mission, Washington DC; **María Clara Martín**, Chief, Americas Section, Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; and **Muthee Kiunga**, Post-doctoral Research Associate, Center for Civil and Human Rights, University of Notre Dame Law School. All of the attendees mentioned above are included in the photograph below.



Fanny Gomez (2009-2010, Venezuela) organized a Reception for Inter-American and African Human Rights Commissions and LAWAs

WLPPFP/LAWA ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We celebrate the continued achievements of our outstanding alumni, who strive throughout their careers to improve the lives of women and their families. Our alums constitute a powerful network of experienced and committed lawyers across the United States and the world, serving as founders and directors of non-profit organizations, judges and justices, parliamentarians, professors and deans of law schools, public interest lawyers, and in other influential posts. Below are examples of some of their recent activities:

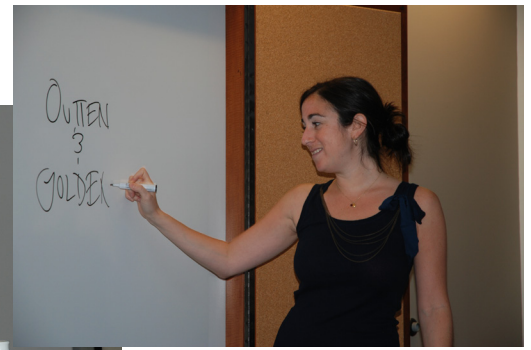
- **Mushahida Adhikari (2005-06, South Africa)**, an attorney focusing on reproductive rights with the Women's Legal Centre in Cape Town, South Africa, recently travelled to Washington, DC for the Women Deliver Conference and met with WLPPFP/LAWA Director Julia Ernst.
- **Patience Akenji (2007-08, Cameroon)** sends greetings from Cameroon. She reports that she will soon be participating in a collaboration between the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and LAWA alumnae.
- **Nadia Asanchev (2008-09, U.S.)**, who is the Deputy Director of Georgetown Law's Center on National Security and the Law, welcomed her first child on February 22, 2010. Congratulations to Nadia and her family!
- **Meredith Asay (2008-09, U.S.)** is enjoying her work as a Policy Advisor to the Governor of Wyoming. She recently traveled to Washington, DC for a conference.
- **Elizabeth Atemnkeng (2008-09, Cameroon)** presented the findings of Georgetown Law's International Women's Human Rights Clinic (IWHRC) at the residence of Janet Garvey, the U.S. Ambassador to Cameroon, on March 9th, 2010. In attendance were two Members of Parliament, Justices of the Appellate Court, representatives from the Ministry of Justice, women in the media, representatives from women's non-



Amanda Allen (2009-2010, U.S.) discussing her background and fellowship experience



Fanny Gomez (2009-2010, Venezuela) presenting to fellows



Sandra Pullman (2009-2010, U.S.) discussing employment law and gender discrimination

governmental organizations, and U.S. Embassy staff. Elizabeth reported that the presentation led to a lively discussion about various legal strategies addressing women's rights in Cameroon.

- **Abiodun Baiyewu (2007-08, Nigeria)** became the Senior Program Officer at the American Center for International Labor Solidarity (Solidarity Center) in April 2010.
- **Sylvia Becker (1987-88, U.S.)**, who is a partner with the law firm of Kaye Scholer, spoke on a career panel at Georgetown Law about her joint degree earning a Masters from the Georgetown School of Foreign Service while she was also studying for her JD at Georgetown.
- **Carol Beier (1986-87, U.S.)** sends greetings from her chambers in Topeka, Kansas, where she continues to serve as a Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court.
- **Johanna Bond (1998-99, U.S.)**, a Professor at Washington & Lee Law School focusing on international women's human rights, caught up with **Scholastica Jullu Henry (2000-01, Tanzania)** in Tanzania in October 2009. She reports, "Jullu is doing fabulous work with Women's Legal Aid Centre." Johanna also spoke on the panel addressing the intersection of treaty law and domestic law at the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Annual Conference in Washington, DC this spring.
- **Arlene Brens (2008-09, U.S.)** has been active in the Washington Council of Lawyers Mentoring Program, and helped organize a WCL panel presentation addressing "Employment on the Hill" in April. At the event, staffers for the Senate Judiciary Committee and for Senator Al Franken, Representative Emanuel Cleaver, and Senator Robert Menendez, spoke on the panel about securing jobs on the Hill.
- **Jean Bruggeman (2000-01, U.S.)** says hello from the Community Legal Interpreter Bank at Ayuda, which provides trained interpreters to civil legal service providers in Washington, DC.



Jessica Heaven (2009-2010, U.S.) presenting on the National Women's Law Center



Joy Welan (2009-2010, U.S.) discussing her background and work experiences

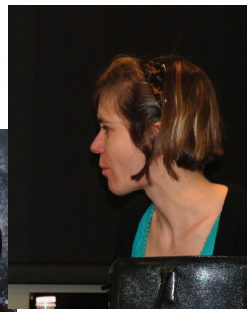
- **Ahadi Bugg-Levine (2000-01, U.S.)**, Atlantic Fellow with The Atlantic Philanthropies in New York, met

with WLPFP Director Julia Ernst this spring. Ahadi leads the foundation's efforts on U.S.-Cuba policy, and she has also worked on U.S. healthcare and aging issues.

- **Cheryl Nelson Butler (1995-96, U.S.)** has been doing lots of volunteer public interest work and has drafted an article on sex slavery and the Texas Human Trafficking Statute.
- **Dora Byamukama (1995-96, Uganda),** has previously served as a Member of Parliament in Uganda, and she is now a Parliamentarian with the East African Legislature. She sent the following update:



Cheryl Nelson Butler
(1995-96, U.S.)



Maeve McKean
(2009-2010, U.S.) at
Fellowship Event



Magistrate Judge
Susanne Okeny
(2009-2010,
Uganda) discussing
women's rights



Monica Voke-Ighorodje (2009-2010,
Nigeria) presenting on her work with
Baobab for Women's Human Rights

Dear Julia

I hope all is well. Thank you for keeping us on your contact list.

We are doing fine in Uganda; LAW-Uganda is still celebrating the enactment of two of our important laws, prevention of trafficking in persons and more recently prohibition of female genital mutilation. The real work of enforcement of these laws is on. We are also currently working on amendments to the succession law...

Since I am in the East African Legislative Assembly, I am also working on a regional dimension on the same subject matters that we have secured success on.

Wishing you all the best and looking forward to hearing from you.

Dora

and LAW Fellows. UNFPA recently held the fourth in its series of events on *Advancing Policy Dialogue on Maternal Health*, this one entitled "Family Planning in Fragile States: Overcoming Cultural and Financial Barriers."

- **Robyn Carr (2007-08, U.S.)** enjoys her work with Skadden Arps in Washington, DC. *The National Law Journal* ran a story in May noting that Robyn and some of her colleagues met with Solicitor General Elana Kagan in April before her nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- **Sherry Cassidy (1983-84, U.S.)** annually travels to Tanzania to deliver health and education resources through the Tanzania Health and Education Mission, an organization that she co-founded. After practicing family law in California for 20 years, she now devotes herself to mediation and education services related to marriage and divorce as founder and Principal of Threshold Resources in 2005.
- **Nadine Chabrier (2007-08, U.S.)** recently joined the team at the Office of C. Thomas, Chartered, a community-based DC firm specializing in bankruptcy, foreclosure, and other real estate matters.
- **Janet Chung (1997-98, U.S.)** sends greetings from Legal Voice in Seattle, where she serves as Legal and Legislative Counsel.
- **Sarah Craven (1992-93, U.S.)** was a panelist at the U.S. Department of State after the screening of "Grace Under Fire," a documentary about the urgent reproductive health concerns in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), including the unmet need

- **Danielle Delaney (2008-09, U.S.)** sends greeting from her post as a policy analyst at the National Council for Urban Indian Health (NCUIH). Her work focuses on Medicare, Medicaid, community-based public health policy, culturally competent health care, and health disparities.
- **Paul Di Donato (1985-86, U.S.)** currently runs a marriage equality funding entity, the Civil Marriage Collaborative (CMC), which is a national strategy forum for engaged philanthropists committed to achieving full marriage equality for same-sex couples in the United States. According to CMC's brochure:

In its first four funding cycles (2004-2007), the CMC granted nearly \$5.5 million to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) and allied organizations fighting for marriage equality in 17 states. CMC grantees have played key roles in every recent statewide public education campaign to secure the freedom to marry and every ensuing legal and legislative win for the movement.

The struggle to win marriage equality for same-sex couples is gaining tremendous momentum. In 2007, a record ten states introduced marriage equality legislation and important legal decisions are pending in several state courts. These victories also have significant positive ripple effects on other efforts to win civil and human rights protections and recognition for LGBT individuals, families, and communities and to advance other progressive causes as well. Because CMC members believe that the freedom to marry can be won in several states in the near term and in additional states within the next six years, we aim to increase funding to the marriage



Fellows awaiting Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's arrival for tea

equality movement at this critical juncture.

Those struggling for and supportive of marriage rights have already learned the hard way that separate is not equal.

Marriage is a civil and human right that confers hundreds of tangible protections and responsibilities on couples and their children, as well as intangible and irreplaceable security and respect. The denial of these protections and responsibilities translates into real economic loss, lack of opportunity, and psychological hardship for LGBT people and their loved ones. Civil unions do not confer all of the rights of marriage.

The CMC funds in states where the possibility of advancing the marriage equality movement is significant. We fund organizations that have clear, comprehensive plans for achieving marriage. CMC grantees are implementing sophisticated strategies to frame the public debate in their states. These groups excel at building effective collaborations among LGBT and allied groups that are working vigorously to bring under-represented constituencies into the debate as leaders and spokespersons.

- **Phumzile Dlamini (2003-04, Swaziland)** recently accepted a new position as the National Program Officer: Development Advocacy in the United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA's) Swaziland country office.
- **Linda Dumba Chicalu (2006-07, Namibia)** and her organization, the Legal Assistance Center, partnered with Georgetown Law's International Women's Human Rights Clinic (IWHRC) and IWHRC teaching fellow **Aram Schvey (2008-2009, U.S.)** to complete a fact-finding mission, report, and draft legislation addressing Namibia's customary marriage and inheritance laws. The team explored the interaction between these laws and the HIV



Aram Schvey (2008-09, U.S.) and Linda Dumba (2006-07, Namibia) with IWHRC in Namibia

epidemic in Namibia. On another note, Linda's graduate research paper on "Using International Human Rights Instruments to Realize Women's Property and Inheritance Rights in the context of HIV/AIDS in Namibia," which she wrote during her LAWA Fellowship, served as a valuable resource for the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law's project to develop a health and human rights database focusing on legal decisions from around the world.

- **Robin Fradkin (1984-85, U.S.)** is a probate attorney, working in the area of guardianships and conservatorships of mentally incapacitated adults in Washington, DC.

- **Aya Fujimura-Fanselow (2004-05, U.S.)** received a Tolan Fellowship through the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice, enabling her to be based in Kathmandu, Nepal with the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), which works with countries that are pursuing accountabilities for past atrocities and human rights abuses by participating in

the development of integrated, comprehensive, and localized approaches to transitional justice. According to the Tolan Fellowship website, Aya's fellowship enables her to work with the ICTJ and their partner organizations, including Advocacy Forum, to disseminate a report on the impact of the recent 10-year long "people's war" on women. She assists the ICTJ, Advocacy Forum and other local partners as they advocate for increased participation by women in the transitional justice process. She is also involved in capacity-building efforts with the goal of ensuring that NGOs have the information and tools to document gender-based violence. Finally, working closely with the National Women's Commission, Aya monitors transitional justice initiatives and provide analyses to ensure that gender is integrated into this process.

- **Juley Fulcher (1995-96, U.S.)** sends greetings from Break the Cycle, the leading national nonprofit organization addressing teen dating violence, where she continues to serve as Director of the Washington, DC Office.
- **Liliana Garces (1998-99, U.S.)** was awarded a Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for Research Related to Education in support of her project at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, titled "Considering Race in Graduate Admission Admissions: Have Statewide Affirmative Action Bans Reduced Students of Color Enrollment in Graduate Programs?"
- **Erin Hastings (2008-09, U.S.)** is the Asylum Advocate Associate with Physicians for Human Rights. She has written blogs on the health rights of detainees, abuse of detainees, and how Arizona's new immigration law impairs human rights.
- **Janel George (2005-06, U.S.)** recently accepted a new legislative counsel position with Senator Maria Cantwell focusing on health care.
- **Hilary Gbedemah (1995-96, Ghana)** travelled to New York in March to present at a non-governmental organization event during the Commission on the Status of Women meeting on working with men to achieve peace in conflict situations. Hilary is currently a trainer for the Women Peace-Makers Program, and she conducted a training in South Africa this spring. She also serves as



LAWA Susanne Okeny Attended Humanitarian Law Conference at UVA Law

Rector for the Law Institute in Ghana. Moreover, she travelled to Washington, DC to participate in a seminar being organized by the Avon Global Center.

- **Christie (Love) Hill (2005-06, U.S.)** continues to serve as Policy Coordinator for Older Youth with Advocates for Children in New York.
- **Jenny Hunter (2005-06, U.S.)** recently started a position with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Legal Department assisting the public division in litigation, policy, and other matters.
- **Moza Jadeed (2008-09, Kenya)** recently published an article in a local newspaper advocating for members of the Kenyan Parliament to adopt provisions to the Draft Constitution consistent with the wishes of the majority of Kenyans. She continues her work with FIDA-Kenya.
- **Margaret Johnson (1995-96, U.S.)**, Assistant Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Center on Applied Feminism at the University of Baltimore School of Law, sent the following:

We hope you will join us on March 4-5, 2010, when the University of Baltimore School of Law will host the Center on Applied Feminism's Third Annual Feminist Legal Theory Conference: Marginalized Communities

and Applied Feminism. On Friday, March 5, scholars, practitioners including our own **Aziza Ahmed (2007-08, U.S.)**, **Rachel Rebouché (2007-08, U.S.)**, and **Lisa Keels (2009-2010, U.S.)**, and other activists will present papers discussing such topics as judging motherhood, prisoner reentry, Obama's presidency, the HIV epidemic, women in post-conflict societies, trafficked women, women with mental disabilities, reproductive rights, pregnant minors and masculinity studies. Our conference will begin on Thursday,



Jane Quaye (2008-09, Ghana) and Moza Jadeed (2008-09, Kenya) Speaking at Global Young Leaders Conference



Tinyade Kachika (2007-08, Malawi) and Patty Skuster with Ipas in Malawi



Mingling at a WLPFP-LAWA Celebration of International Women's Day

March 4 with a workshop on Neofeminism with the goal of exploring and articulating whether there is a new and exciting "neofeminist moment" in gender scholarship. Finally, we are very pleased that midday on Friday, March 5, our keynote speaker, Sheryl WuDunn, Pulitzer prize winning journalist and co-author with Nicholas Kristof of *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*, will speak about how despite their struggle worldwide, women's utilization of economic and other opportunities change their lives and their communities. Please visit our website, www.law.ubalt.edu/femconf for registration and other conference information.

- **Tinyade Kachika (2007-08, Malawi)** was hired as a consultant by Ipas (an international organization that works to increase women's ability to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights and to reduce deaths and injuries of women from unsafe abortion) to write a shadow letter to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights on reproductive rights in Malawi. She recently participated in an advocacy workshop with Ipas in Malawi.
- **Debra Katz (1985-86, U.S.)** and her firm Katz, Marshall & Banks commenced a high-profile sexual harassment suit on February 11 in DC District Court against a former employee in the White House under the Bush Administration.
- **Jamesina King (2001-02, Sierra Leone)** sends greetings and commended the public apology by Sierra Leone's President Koroma on International Women's Day (March 8) to the women of his country for their treatment by his government and those preceding it.
- **Laurie Kohn (1998-99, U.S.)** has finished her tenure as Co-Director of the Georgetown Law Domestic Violence Clinic and is headed across town to run the Family Law Clinic at George Washington University School of Law.
- **Hope Lewis (1986-87, U.S.)** attended the American Society of International Law (ASIL) Annual Conference and moderated a panel discussion on international law concerns and the Haitian earthquake. Hope continues her work as a professor at Northeastern School of Law and serves as the Chair of its Committee on Global Law Programs. She was recently elected to the Executive Council of ASIL. She continues to blog on international human rights issues at <http://intlwgrrls.blogspot.com/search/label/HL>.
- **Emilia Lobti (2008-09, Cameroon)** and **Jane Kamangu (2008-**

09, Kenya) presented the initial findings of a new database they helped to develop at the World Bank on May 11, 2010, along with **Mary Hallward-Driemeier** (Senior Economist, World Bank Development Research Group). Discussants after the presentation were Georgetown Law Professor **Susan Deller Ross**, Director of the International Women's Human Rights Clinic, and Georgetown Law Professor **Lisa Bhansali**, who is the World Bank Task Manager of a number of projects and analytical studies in Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe and previously was a Senior Public Sector Management Specialist in Africa, working on Governance, Anticorruption and Rule of Law reforms. Emilia and Jane were members of the Development Research Group at the World Bank for their post-graduation work experience before returning home to their respective countries at the end of May. Their new database analyzes how formal exceptions to gender-neutral laws and conflicting bodies of law in countries throughout Africa undermine women's economic freedom and access to the market. The invitation highlighted:

While business regulations (*e.g. Doing Business*) are gender blind, they presuppose that one can enter into contracts or own property – and this is not necessarily true for women across the region.

Using a new database, Women's Legal Economic Empowerment Database – Africa (Women LEED Africa), we find that every country recognizes the principle of non-discrimination based on gender – but that almost every country then provides formal exceptions. These exceptions are in areas like property rights and legal capacity; rights that are central in providing the incentive and ability to pursue business activities.



*Madeline Albright and
Chai Shenoy (2009-10,
U.S.) at the White House*

The findings of the database will be presented, indicating in which areas different countries make formal exceptions to the provision of non-discrimination. This will be complemented by a discussion of how the existence of overlapping sources of law and conflicting provisions can undermine women's economic rights in practice, using examples from case law. Practical constraints to access justice are a further way that women can be constrained in accessing justice. And these gender gaps in economic rights matter, affecting the ability to secure collateral, own and operate businesses in their own names and affecting whether and what type of business women go into.

- **Addy Lyamuya (1994-95, Tanzania)** sends greetings from the Kisutu Principal Resident Magistrate Court in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- **Joan Meier (1985-86, U.S.)** continues work as a Professor of Clinical Law at George Washington University and as Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment Appeals Project (DV LEAP), an organization she founded in 2003. DV LEAP provides pro bono appellate representation in compelling domestic violence cases, including Supreme Court cases, and trains attorneys and courts around the country. Joan is currently celebrating the Supreme Court's decision to dismiss the case *U.S. v.*

Robertson, for which DV LEAP submitted an amicus brief.

- **Jill Morrison (1998-99, U.S.)** and the National Women's Law Center organized a Reproductive Law and Policy Training on June 11, 2010. The program included presentations on reproductive health issues on Capitol Hill, religious restrictions on reproductive health care, reproductive justice in the courts, and a career panel. Alums **Diana Aguilar (2006-07, U.S.)**, **Priscilla Huang (2006-07, U.S.)**, **Gretchen Borchelt (2002-03, U.S.)**, and **Mark Egerman (2009-10, U.S.)** were panelists, and Gretchen also presented on reproductive justice and the Supreme Court.
- **Teresa Mugadza (2002-03, Zimbabwe)** is based in Harare, Zimbabwe working as an Advocacy Coordinator for the Oxfam Zimbabwe Country Group. Her work entails mainly advocacy with policy makers concerning the current transition taking place in Zimbabwe. She also participates in various national activities and was recently appointed to the Constitutional Commission.
- **Gloria Ofori-Boadu (1995-96, Ghana)**, President and founder of the Women Assistance and Business Association in Ghana, travelled to Washington, DC in April to participate in the International Monetary Fund's Civil Society Policy Forum.

- **Mariela Oliveras (2008-2009, U.S.)**, senior teaching fellow with the Georgetown Law Domestic Violence Clinic, welcomed her "blizzard baby" in the middle of snowmageddon in February. Congratulations to Mariela and her family!

- **Lynn Paltrow (1984-85, U.S.)** and her organization National Advocates for Pregnant Women sponsored an event addressing Drugs, Pregnancy and Parenting Part II in April at NYU School of Law. Lynn was a host for the event, which explored evidence-based research and connected renowned experts, professionals, and people directly affected by policies addressing these issues. The presenters helped provide meaningful tools for improved advocacy, representation, care and treatment for pregnant women, parents, children, and families. Additionally, Lynn was a speaker on the opening panel of a day-long program addressing New Directions DC: A Public Health and Safety Approach to Drug Policy held on Capitol Hill in June.



*Rita Mutyama - Georgetown Law JD alum
and daughter of Regina Mutyaba (1993-
1994, Uganda) with Monica Voke-Ighorodje
(2009-2010, Nigeria)*

- **Karin Raye (1998-99, U.S.)** focuses on women's issues and domestic violence. She has been working as a consultant for a domestic violence organization and teaching a domestic violence class at a local college using a book authored by **Deborah Epstein (1990-91, U.S.)**. She recently stepped down from community group co-chair position and passed it along to **Mithra Merryman (1993-94, U.S.)**, who is a senior attorney for Greater Boston Legal Services.
- **Rachel Rebouché (2007-08, U.S.)** was a speaker at the Law Students for Reproductive Rights Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference, Exploring the Reproductive Justice Dimensions of Health Care, held at George Washington University School of Law in March, along with **Amanda Allen (2009-10, U.S.)**.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL...

AS THE WLPPFP/LAWA SUPPORT BASE CONTINUES TO GROW, WE HEAR OF MORE AND MORE "SMALL WORLD MOMENTS" THAT REMIND US OF THE POWER AND PERVASIVENESS OF THIS NETWORK.

Here are a few examples from this year:

- Sarah Lavin**, program assistant at WLPPFP/LAWA, heard from colleagues in Peace Corps Cameroon (where she served from 2006-08) that the round table discussion of the findings of Georgetown Law's International Women's Human Rights Clinic (highlighted above), organized by LAWAs Elizabeth Atemnkeng (2008-09, Cameroon) and Esther Ayuk (2009-10, Cameroon) and held at the US Ambassador's residence, was very well attended and stimulated fruitful discussion. Her friend initially informed her because the event "had something to do with Georgetown" and was surprised to learn that Sarah is directly involved in the LAWA Program and a future participant in the Clinic.



Sarah Lavin, WLPPFP Program Assistant

- Mushahida Adhikari** (2005-06), an attorney with the Women's Legal Center in Cape Town, South Africa, has worked this spring with Tiffany Calise, a 3L on a study abroad program from University of Maryland Law, who is also the wife of Georgetown Law Alumni Affairs Director Matthew Calise. Tiffany also met with Professor Susan Ross last summer while she was working on her thesis which focused on polygyny in South Africa (and whether it is constitutional).



Mushahida Adhikari (2006-2007, South Africa), visiting during the Women Deliver Conference

- Susanne Okeny** (2009-10, Uganda) attended a hearing on Capitol Hill addressing "Violence Against Women: Strategies and Responses" to find that her aunt, Dr. Lydia Mungherera (the Founder of Mama's Club in Uganda) was a speaker on the panel.



Susanne Okeny (2009-2010, Uganda) with Christof Heyns, Dean of the University of Pretoria Law School; and Dinah Shelton, Second Vice-President of the Inter-American Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

MORGAN LYNN (2007-2008, U.S.) AND WEAVE ANNOUNCED THE "SHOW ME LOVE" CAMPAIGN

In an effort to raise awareness and address partner violence in LGBTQ communities, Women Empowered Against Violence (WEAVE) recently launched "Show Me Love," a campaign to promote healthy relationships. The interactive website www.showmelovedc.org is the heart of the program, offering information on maintaining healthy relationships, support resources for surviving victims and their families, and other information.

Morgan Lynn (2007-2008, U.S.) is the Supervising Attorney and Manager of the LGBTQ Program for WEAVE, and she commented, "This is an exciting campaign because there is very little information out there for LGBTQ people on building healthy relationships or about where to go if relationships aren't healthy... The hopes of the Show Me Love campaign are twofold -- to get people in DC's LGBTQ communities actively talking about and working toward healthy relationships, and to provide a resource for people in unhealthy relationships where they can find information and lists of LGBTQ-friendly service providers." The campaign is funded through a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, which is a component of the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice.

WEAVE's LGBTQ Program, which Morgan initiated in 2007 during her WLPPFP Fellowship, provides free assistance to address the specific legal needs of Washington, DC's LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking.



Esther Ayuk (2009-2010, Cameroon) at Graduation



Julia Ernst at Commencement with daughter Cosette



Rose Kimotho with Eleanor Roosevelt on Graduation Day

Beatrice Duncan (1993-1994, Ghana), continues her work with the African Center for Gender and Social Development (ACGSD) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). ACGSD issued the following information in March on an initiative that Beatrice is helping spearhead:

Addis Ababa , 23 March 2010 (ECA) - The ECA's African Centre for Gender and Social Development (ACGS) is reviewing its groundbreaking tool, the African Gender and Development Index (AGDI)... Over 30 statisticians and gender experts from Africa, Europe and Asia, including UN agencies, the African Development Bank and other international agencies such as OECD, as well as the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) in ECA, are participating in this important exercise.

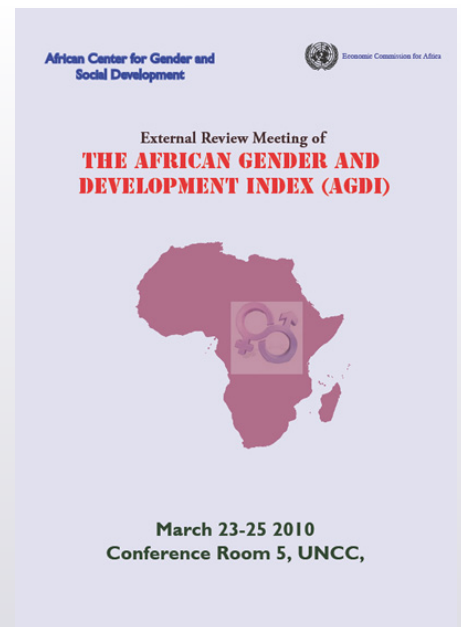
The African Gender and Development Index is an Africa-specific tool that measures gender inequalities in the social, economic, political and human right fields in Africa. It is also a framework for assessing the performance of African countries in their implementation of such instruments as the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, the Beijing Platform for Action, the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child among many others. Its architecture is made up of two components:

- A Gender Status Index (GSI), for the *quantitative* assessment of social, economic, and political issues that are measured through indicators, which impact differentially on both men and women e.g. (education, income, etc);
- An African Women's Progress Scoreboard (AWPS), for the *qualitative* assessment of governments' performance in their implementation of specific treaties, declarations, and resolutions affecting women's lives and rights (e.g. violence against women, maternal mortality, etc).

The Index has been piloted in 12 African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda)... The AGDI also identified the paucity of gender and sex disaggregated data in some critical areas of concern such as the economy. This hampers the effective diagnosis of inequalities and often leads to unbalanced policies. Whilst national and regional statistical systems in Africa have not yet managed to develop adequate mechanisms and operations to generate sex-and gender disaggregated data, ACGS and ACS are working closely together to strengthen the capacity of these institutions in this area.

The review of the AGDI comes as a timely initiative, shortly after the regional review of the implementation of ICPD Plan of Action (ICPD at 15), the 8th Regional Conference on Women (Beijing Plus 15) and the 54 session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). All three emphasized that gender statistics were key in monitoring progress achieved for the implementation of the various declarations and commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment.

The expert group meeting will provide an in depth review of the indicators used in the AGDI and bring on board emerging issues such as climate change. It will also offer an opportunity for sharing experiences amongst pilot countries, which will enrich the expansion of the AGDI to other countries. Indeed, at the launch in Banjul (November 2009) of the African Women's Report, an ECA publication that captured the findings of the AGDI trials in 12 pilot countries, twenty three African countries enrolled to be part of the AGDI.



Beatrice Duncan - African Center for Gender and Development

- **Lourdes Rivera (1990-91, U.S.)** continues her work as Program Officer on Sexual Health and Reproductive Rights for the Human Rights Unit of the Ford Foundation.
- **Jennifer Schingle (2008-09, U.S.)** recently published a law review article in the *William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law* about the disparate impact on female veterans of burden of proof regulations for post-traumatic stress disorder claims. The article was also featured on VA Watchdog.
- **Naomi Schoenbaum (2006-07, U.S.)** recently accepted an offer of a Bigelow Fellowship at the University of Chicago. She writes: "I am very excited about the opportunity and am looking forward to teaching and pursuing my scholarship (especially on women's rights and feminist issues!)."



Visit by Naomi Schoenbaum (2006-2007, U.S.) before heading to Chicago Law as a Bigelow Fellow

**MEGHAN RHOAD (2006-2007, U.S.) AND
HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH WORK TO EXPAND
IMMIGRANT VICTIM ACCESS TO FEDERAL HOUSING
PROGRAMS**

Meghan informed us that she is working on a project aimed at expanding access to federal housing programs for immigrant victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She wrote:

Legal Momentum is collaborating with Human Rights Watch in reaching out to programs to obtain information for a report Human Rights Watch is planning on the housing obstacles currently faced by immigrant victims.

In 1996 battered immigrant [Violence Against Women Act] VAWA self-petitioners were by law granted access to public and assisted housing. Since that time, for over almost 14 years we have been trying to get the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to put in place policies that will direct public housing authorities and authorities in charge of Section 8 vouchers to grant access to public and assisted housing to battered VAWA self-petitioners and their children. In providing technical assistance to advocates and attorneys working in the field, we have heard stories of immigrant victims who lose access to public or assisted housing when they separate from their abusive spouse. There are two common problems. The battered immigrant is not allowed to transfer the housing subsidy to her name and is forced to leave the unit because she has a citizen child but does not receive the full housing subsidy she is entitled to because she only receives a pro rated share of the public or assisted grant, because housing authorities incorrectly treat her as not legally eligible for federal public housing benefits. Additionally, we know that lack of access to public and assisted housing is a significant problem for battered immigrants that can force them to choose between living with their abuser and homelessness.

We are... collecting stories about immigrant victims of domestic violence, elder abuse or sexual assault whose ability to survive victimization, heal and move on with their lives is made more difficult by lack of access to housing... We believe that this report will be an important advocacy tool for ensuring that victims are able to receive housing they are entitled to under current law... Please contact Meghan Rhoad (rhoadm@hrw.org) at Human Rights Watch to participate in this survey.

**TZILI MOR (2006-07, U.S.) FOCUSES ON VIOLENCE
AGAINST WOMEN IN AFGHANISTAN**

Tzili Mor (2006-07, U.S.) is currently working in Afghanistan as a Justice Adviser with the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). Specifically, she supports a specialized Violence Against Women Unit at the Attorney General's Office which officially opened on March 17, 2010. The press release announcing the opening stated:

This new Unit of eight dedicated prosecutors and a director will enforce the recent Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, which provides a specific legal framework for the criminal investigation, prosecution, and conviction of cases such as assault, harassment, beating, forced and underage marriage, and deprivation of property and inheritance.

By actively prosecuting crimes against women, Afghanistan's highest prosecutorial office sends a powerful message of justice: every person is equal before the law and no individual is above the law, or outside its protection.

"The new Unit is critical to deter and reduce crimes against women and enable victims to come forward and seek justice for crimes committed against them," explains Ms. Qudsia Niazi, Director of the new Unit. "We will promote prompt justice and accountability for women by upholding their rights both according to *Islamic Sharia* and the general laws of the country."

The specialized unit will link with victim service organizations and advocates, and coordinate case referrals with health, educational, and other governmental entities, including those outlined in the Violence Against Women law.

Since the Unit began initial operation in January 2010 it has received 21 cases, primarily from Kabul, Bamian, Nangarhar, and Kapisa. Reported crimes include beatings, domestic violence, rape, and trafficking. The Afghanistan Ministry of Women's Affairs and shelters have played a key role in referring cases to the unit.

In early February, the Unit referred its first case to court – an instance of domestic violence linked to a case of divorce and child custody. The divorce and custody are handled by the Hokuk (Rights) Department, while the domestic violence is handled by the Unit as a criminal matter.

- **Michael Silverman (2000-01, U.S.)** is Executive Director and founder of the Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund (TLDEF), which celebrated its fifth anniversary this year. He has worked as an attorney in the LGBT civil rights movement since 1994. TLDEF is committed to ending discrimination based upon gender identity and expression and to achieving equality for transgender people through public education, test-case litigation, direct legal services, community organizing and public policy efforts.
- **Anne Spielberg (1986-87, U.S.)** sent greetings from her firm Harmon, Curran, Spielberg & Eisenberg. For more than ten years, Anne has advised the firm's nonprofit clients on prevention and resolution of employee disputes, adoption of appropriate personnel policies and employee benefits packages, structural and governance issues, fundraising and contractual relationships, and other nonprofit issues.



*Michigan Law Presentation by
Amanda Allen (2009-10, U.S.)*



*LAWA Fellows
at Graduation*

- **Alison Nicole Stewart (1997-98, U.S.)** transitioned back into film/video and earned her Masters degree in documentary film from Stanford after spending three years with the International Human Rights Law Group (now Global Rights) in Washington, DC.
- **Jane Stoevers (2004-05, U.S.)** is currently an assistant Professor of Law with Seattle University School of Law and was featured in Harvard Law School's Women's Rights Guide. Her recent article, "Stories Absent from the Courtroom: Responding to Domestic Violence in the Context of HIV and AIDS," was published in the *North Carolina Law Review*. Her scholarship interests include clinical legal theory, domestic violence law, family law, and feminist legal theory.
- **Quyen Ta (2003-04, U.S.)** says hello from sunny San Francisco, where she continues her work at the law firm Kecker & Van Nest.
- **Cynthia Totten (1999-2000, U.S.)** is back in Washington, DC as Program Director of Just Detention International, and is working to build a coalition calling for the adoption of national standards aimed at preventing and addressing sexual abuse during incarceration.
- **Christine Webber (1993-94, U.S.)** is a lead attorney in the Wal-Mart class action gender-based employment discrimination case. According to Women's E-News (5/1/10), "A federal appeals court ruled on April 26 that thousands of female Wal-Mart employees can file a class action suit over allegations that they were paid less than men and given fewer promotions, The Washington Post reported April 27. The 6-to-5 decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit in San Francisco is the latest step in a nearly decade-long battle to bring the case to trial. The original class was comprised of women who have worked at Wal-Mart's sprawling fleet of about 3,400 stores since 1998, initially estimated to number about 1.6 million, which would have made it the nation's largest sex discrimination case. Wal-Mart said that it now plans to request a Supreme Court review of the ruling, but attorneys for the female employees hope the case will go to trial by the end of the year, the article reported."

- Georgetown Professor **Brian Kritz**, who teaches law courses in the Government Department and the Masters of Arts Program in Conflict Resolution (CR) at Georgetown University, travelled to Kenya this summer with two students in the CR Masters Program who are doing summer internships on justice and reconciliation issues in Nairobi. They have consulted with **Rose Kimotho (2009-10, Kenya)**, **Leah Kiguatha (2007-08, Kenya)**, **Victoria Ochanda (2007-08, Kenya)**, **Jane Kamangu (2008-09)** and **Rachel Muthoga (2010-11, Kenya)** in developing this project. They also met with Lady Justice **Mary Ang'awa**, President of the Kenyan Women Judges Association, where Jane Kamangu has previously worked. Through this initiative, Georgetown's CR Program is lending its training and expertise in law and conflict resolution in order to help Kenya achieve its truth, reconciliation, and justice goals. **Chiaki Ota** from the Georgetown University President's Office, and **Craig Zelizer**, Associate Director of the Conflict Resolution Program, are also helping oversee this project.

- **Liza Zamd (2005-06, U.S.)** is completing a 12-month Robert Bosch Foundation Fellowship in Berlin, Germany. Earlier this year, Liza made plans to open the second clinical law program in the country, which will be housed in the Humboldt University Law Faculty and will most likely commence in the fall. The Humboldt clinic

will focus on international human rights and will introduce law students to both strategic and impact litigation, important tools which are currently absent from the legal curriculum. Liza is very excited about the clinic and credits our very own Julia Ernst for giving her the crazy idea to start it!



*Liza Zamd (2005-2006, U.S.) visiting
from Germany*

To all of our alums:
Thank you very much for all of the updates,
and please keep them coming.
We love to celebrate your accomplishments with you!

To all of our supporters:
Your contributions are crucial for WLPPFP's continued
success!
To make a donation, please visit our website at www.law.georgetown.edu/wlppfp.

Thank you for your generous support!

Harriet B. Burg, for whom WLPPFP's Harriet B. Burg Fellowship is named, was an attorney with a great interest in and commitment to women's rights and disability rights issues. Her friends and family established the first fellowship in the United States focusing on disability rights in her memory. Continuing her legacy, the Harriet B. Burg Fellowship encourages new lawyers to enter public-interest law with a particular focus on the rights of women with disabilities.

When Harriet Burg died in the spring 1983, she had a good circle of very close friends and family, such as Ann Garfinkle, Barbara Franklin, Vicki Golden, Jan Flack, Gerald Burg and Joseph Brent, who decided to honor her memory by incorporating the Harriet B. Burg Foundation in August of 1984. Through this non-profit organization, they received numerous initial donations and then sent solicitation letters resulting in tens of thousands of dollars in support. These funds enabled the board to provide stipend grants to young women lawyers, whom they found by posting notices in law schools and other venues, enabling the young lawyers to work on disability rights at different organizations. The first award recipient, Patty Mullahy Fugere, worked at My Sisters Place, and she subsequently became the founder and Executive Director of the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless. The Harriet B. Burg Foundation provided stipends directly to young women lawyers until 1991, and in 1992 the work of the foundation was transitioned to WLPPFP at Georgetown Law in order to continue carrying out the goals of the Harriet B. Burg Foundation. Harriet's close friend, Ann Garfinkle, noted that "This is a model of what you can do when you face the death of someone you love, and what you can do to direct your pain in a constructive way."



Harriet Burg was initially a physical therapist before she decided to become a lawyer. She was a 1980 graduate of Antioch Law School and completed her law school internship at the Disability Rights and Education Defense Fund. She subsequently served as Counsel to the Committee on Education of the District of Columbia's City Council, where she built a career promoting the legal and civil rights of women and the disabled. She passed away in 1983 at the age of 41 after a valiant battle with breast cancer. On a personal basis, she was married to Gerald Burg and they had two children, one of whom, Geoffrey, became and practices as a "third generation" lawyer with his own law firm in Seattle, and the other child, Joanna, became a clinical psychologist practicing in Chicago. There are three grandchildren.

Over the years, the Harriet B. Burg Fellows have followed in her footsteps, advancing the rights of women with disabilities through their fellowships with organizations such as My Sister's Place, the National Partnership for Women and Families, Sarah's Circle, the Washington Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, the National Association of Women Judges, and the Mental Health Law Project.

For example, Lisa Wilson (2002-03) handled several important cases with the Disability Rights Project of the Washington Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, including cases that would improve accessibility and treatment conditions for disabled patients during hospitalizations. Lisa also collaborated with the Committee's Equal Employment Opportunity Project, where she worked on several sexual discrimination and harassment cases, including a groundbreaking case challenging religious immunity under sexual harassment laws. After her Fellowship, she worked with the National Association of Attorneys General before joining the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of Labor.

As another example, Amy Fettig (2001-02) spent her fellowship with the National Association of Women Judges developing two new judicial education initiatives: "The Impact of the Human Genome Project on Women," and "Immigrant Women: Improving Access to Justice," with a special focus on how these issues impact women with disabilities. Amy subsequently worked with the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and has taught a course at the Georgetown University Law Center on Public Interest Advocacy.

Many other WLPPFP Fellows and alumni also work on issues linked to disability rights. Joy Welan (2009-2010) is an attorney with the Disability Rights Section of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division. Arlene Brens (2008-09) recently started a position as an Attorney Advisor with the Social Security Administration's Office of Disability Adjudication and Review. Claudia Center (1992-93) is Director of Disability Programs for the Legal Aid Society's Employment Law Center in San Francisco. Lisa Small (1993-94) has practiced in Virginia focusing on disability law and fair housing issues.

Additionally, all of the WLPPFP/LAWA Fellows benefit from the annual Harriet B. Burg seminar on disability law and women's rights, featuring presentations by disability law experts such as Stephanie Ortoleva, who is the Senior Human Rights, Disability Rights and Women's Rights Attorney Advisor with BlueLaw International. Previously, Ms. Ortoleva served as the Disability Coordinator at the U.S. Department of State and as the Executive Director of the Department of State's and USAID's Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities. She also participated in the negotiations of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, serving on the official U.S. governmental delegation. Past Harriet B. Burg seminars have also featured experts such as Georgetown Law Professor Chai Feldblum, who played a leading role in the drafting and negotiating of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. As Director of the Federal Legislation and Administrative Clinic at Georgetown Law, she has worked with organizations such as the David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law and the Epilepsy Foundation. On April 7, 2010, Professor Feldblum was sworn in as a Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission (EEOC).

The accomplishments of the Harriet B. Burg Fellows and other WLPPFP Fellows and alumni in advancing the rights of women with disabilities during their fellowships and throughout their careers remain a lasting tribute to the memory of Harriet Burg.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Our program depends on support from many individuals, foundations, and other donors. Please consider making a gift to help support our fellows. You may donate via credit card by calling the Law Advancement Office at 202-662-9500, or via check by sending it along with this form to the address below (please make your check payable to "Georgetown University Law Center," and include "WLPPFP" on the memo line). If you would like to discuss supporting an entire fellowship, providing a bequest, or making another type of donation, please call us at 202-662-9650.

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