2018-2019 Fellow Biographies

Before her appointment as the Clinical Teaching Fellow in Georgetown’s Domestic Violence Clinic, Jabeen Adawi served as the Victim Legal Network of DC Project Coordinator at the Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC). There she coordinated ten DC legal service providers to create an enhanced referral network serving victims of crime with any legal needs stemming from their victimization. Prior to joining NVRDC, she had worked for three years as a staff attorney at the Sexual Assault Legal Institute of the Maryland Coalition against Sexual Assault, where her responsibilities included providing civil legal services to survivors of sexual assault. Jabeen is a 2010 graduate of the American University, Washington College of Law. At American she participated in the International Human Rights Law Clinic as a student attorney, focusing on immigration and refugee law. Jabeen also received her BS in Applied Physics from New Jersey Institute of Technology in 2006. She is Jabeen is a native Urdu speaker and is proficient in Hindi.

Ayaisha Agbor is from Cameroon. Ayaisha became aware of the gender-based discrimination against women back when she was a young girl, and she has actively engaged herself in organizations and projects devoted to women’s rights and welfare since college. Before joining the LAWA Program, she worked with the Chambermaids Association, the Samaritan House of Empowerment, and was a project facilitator with the Ajemalibu Self Help, where she advocated for women’s rights to land in forest communities. Ayaisha received her Licent en Droit (English Private Law) from the University of Yaounde II in Soa, Cameroon in 2007. She awaits the defense of her Master’s Thesis in Development Studies.

In Our Own Voice: National Black Women’s Reproductive Justice Agenda is delighted to welcome Natasha Chabria. Her Fellowship is generously supported by the Ford Foundation. Natasha is a 2018 graduate of Northeastern University School of Law, where she was a Teaching Assistant for Legal Research and Writing and student attorney in the Domestic Violence Clinic. Natasha also served on the Student Bar Association and the Multi-Cultural Law Student Association. She has held internships with the National Institute for Reproductive Health and ACLU Women’s Rights Project. Natasha was the Boston Lead Organizer for the Women’s March. Before going to law school, Natasha had a career in education, and remains committed to mentoring. She received her BA, cum laude, from Tufts University in 2015, with a major in Peace and Justice Studies, and minors in Education and Linguistics. She is fluent in Hindi.

LAWA Fellow Kebkab Sirgew Gelaw is from Ethiopia. She has been a part-time lecturer at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia since 2012. Prior to that, she had held various research and management positions including at the United Nations-mandated University for Peace and the Mission for Community Development program. Kebkab hopes that her experience at Georgetown Law will allow her to further her gender-related studies, especially on gender-based violence against women. Kebkab earned her both Master’s degree and LL.B. from Addis Ababa University, in 2011 and 2008 respectively. She is the 2014 president-elect and former board member of the Association of Women in Business in Ethiopia.

Before joining the LAWA Program, Meaza Sirgiw Gelaw was a Federal Prosecutor at the Federal Attorney General in Ethiopia, where she was born and raised. Throughout her career, she has worked with many women victimized by sexual assault, violence, or cultural biases against women, and has come to realize how effective legislation and advocacy could come to their aid. Meaza wishes to strengthen her advocacy skills and learn about women’s rights issues from an international perspective during her Fellowship year, so that she can better serve the needs of women back in Ethiopia. Meaza received her LL.B. from Addis Ababa University in 2014.
Rachel Kuenzi joins the National Partnership for Women & Families working in the Reproductive Health & Rights group. Rachel graduated cum laude from Georgetown University Law Center in 2018. She previously interned with the Legal Voice and the National Women’s Law Center where she worked on a variety of issues, including the rights of pregnancy and parenting students, religious refusal, and non-discrimination in health care. At Georgetown, she represented clients in the Domestic Violence Clinic, and conducted research on the medical, legal, and ethical dilemmas facing health care providers serving women who have been subjected to Female Genital Cutting. She was also active in Advocates Against Sexual Violence, If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice, and Outlaw. Rachel graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Scripps College with a BA, dual majoring in Honors Legal Studies and Politics/International Relations. She speaks Italian and Spanish.

Michelle Liu is the Teaching Fellow for the International Women’s Human Rights Clinic. Michelle is a 2013 Dean’s List graduate of Georgetown University Law Center. As a Student Advocate in the International Women’s Human Rights Clinic, Michelle drafted an amendment to the Tanzanian Constitution to strengthen women’s marital rights. Michelle was an Associate at Linklaters LLP before joining the Hillary for America Campaign. Her work on the Hillary for America Campaign included mobilizing high profile Republican and Independent voters to publicly support Clinton’s candidacy. Michelle was a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya, where she assisted in the management of an orphanage, and facilitated discussions on HIV prevention and gender-based violence among young women and girls. Michelle obtained a Bachelors of Business Administration from George Washington University in 2005.

The Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security welcomes Matt Moore as the Hillary Rodham Clinton Law Fellow. Matt has extensive experience researching international human rights and conflict resolution. As a summer associate at the Public International Law & Policy Group, Matt focused on legal issues in Iraq and Yemen. A 2018 graduate of Georgetown University Law Center, he was Articles Editor for the Georgetown Journal of International Law and an intern at the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Before law school, Matt conducted research on conflict resolution in Medellín, Colombia and interned for the New Yorker magazine. He has published on topics including the history of human rights and Brexit. Matt received his Master’s in International Affairs from Columbia University in 2010, and his BA in Politics from Oberlin College in 2004.

The Washington Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs welcomes Kendall Onyendu. Kendall is a 2018 graduate of the University of Texas School of Law, and is the Small, Webber, Spencer Fellow. Kendall has interned with the Brennan Center for Justice in New York and Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, where she had opportunities to work to advance a range of civil rights issues including educational equality, voting rights, and fair housing. At UT, she participated in the UT Law Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic and was a staff editor of the Texas Journal of Civil Liberties & Civil Rights. Before law school, Kendall worked as the Assistant Director of Admissions at the University of Southern California. She received her Bachelor’s degree from the University of California in 2011 with a major in American Studies and Ethnicity and her Master’s in Organization and Leadership Development from Columbia University in 2012.

LAWA Fellow Abigail Suwu-Kaindoh is from Sierra Leone, where she works as Senior State Counsel at the Law Officers Department of Sierra Leone. She is committed to improving the lives of rural women by advocating for access to education and business opportunities, as a proactive measure against child marriage, teen pregnancy and domestic violence. At Georgetown Law, she hopes to enhance her understanding of international bi-lateral investment agreements and their impact on women’s human rights. She received her LL.B. from the Sierra Leone Law School in 2007.

Tristan Sullivan-Wilson joins HIPS, with the generous support of the Ford Foundation. Tristan is a 2018 graduate of Northeastern University School of Law, where she concentrated on poverty law and economic justice. She was the chairperson of If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice, and the Executive Articles Editor of the Northeastern University Law Review. Tristan held Teaching Assistantships with Professor Peter Enrich and Professor Johanna Dennis. She also served as Research Assistant to Professor Wendy Parmet, focusing on public health law and to Professor Emeritus Steve Subrin, focusing on American legal history and development. Tristan has held internship positions with the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law, the National Institute for Reproductive Health, the National Women’s Law Center, Vermont Legal Aid, and Women Helping Battered Women. Tristan also graduated from the University of Vermont in 2014, with majors in Psychology and Political Science.