

PUBLIC SERVICE 2003~2004



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
SCHOOL OF LAW


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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
SCHOOL OF LAW



“EACH TIME a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

ROBERT F. KENNEDY
—Virginia Law '51

THE MORTIMER CAPLIN PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER

Thomas Jefferson, the University of Virginia’s founder, believed that educated citizens – especially those knowledgeable about the law – have an obligation to make a difference in the world. The Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center is the School’s focal point for public service training and outreach. The Center oversees the Law School’s pro bono and public service employment efforts including coordinating summer internships and postgraduate employment fellowships and providing individualized career counseling, administers the Virginia Loan Forgiveness Program, assists with the development of pro bono clinics and public interest student organizations, and coordinates voluntary pro bono programs that introduce students to the rewards of community service.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

- The annual Public Interest Job Fair, which attracts employers from the Mid-Atlantic region
- The Public Service Alumni Network linking Virginia law graduates employed in the public sector with students considering similar careers
- Career panels and workshops featuring speakers from the public service sector
- A bi-weekly newsletter with public service news and career information
- Assistance to the student organizers of the Conference on Public Service and the Law
- The Public Service Resource Guide, a job search handbook
- Individualized career counseling dedicated to placing students and alumni in public service careers and internships
- An extensive resource library
- Annual Spring Public Service Reception honoring public service graduates
- Coordination of summer internships and postgraduate fellowships



CENTER STAFF

KIMBERLY C. EMERY '91
Assistant dean for public service and director
of the Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center.

REBECCA P. PETERS
Office Manager.

THE PRO BONO PROJECT

It is fundamentally important for law students to understand their professional obligation to provide legal services to those who cannot afford representation. In 1999, the Law School formally instituted a voluntary 75-hour pro bono program for its students. The Pro Bono Project has cultivated an ethic of service into each student's educational experience and encouraged students to volunteer at least 25 hours annually to a project or projects of their own choosing.

The Pro Bono Project is administered by Assistant Dean for Public Service, Kimberly Emery, and is housed in the Law School's Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center. Emery and her staff in the Public Service Center assist students in locating pro bono placements and work in tandem with student organizations to develop student-run projects. Examples of such projects include: Domestic Violence Project, Rape Crisis Advocacy Project, Legal Assistance Society, Environmental Law Forum, J.B. Moore Society for International Law, Pro Bono Criminal Adjudication Project, and Volunteer Income Tax Association. Students volunteer not only in the greater Charlottesville area but also throughout Virginia and the mid-Atlantic region. First-year students who complete 25 hours of pro bono work in one year and second-year students who complete 50 hours in two years receive certificates of accomplishment. Graduating students who have completed at least 75 hours of pro bono work during their three years at the Law School are recognized in the commencement brochure and at an award ceremony during graduation weekend. A graduating student who has exhibited "an extraordinary commitment" to pro bono is also honored with the annual Pro Bono Award.

In addition to providing much needed services to indigent clients and other under-represented groups (it is currently estimated that 80% of all civil legal needs are unmet), participating in pro bono projects allows law students to gain valuable legal experience. Working under the supervision of a licensed attorney, student volunteers can hone their legal research and writing skills, develop client interviewing techniques, conduct policy analysis, produce legal documents such as motions and interrogatories, and, with a third-year practice certificate, offer in-court representation. Law students are also exposed to the larger Charlottesville community and the needs of its poorest citizens.

Volunteering while in law school also helps students better understand their professional obligation as members of the practicing bar to provide free legal services to those unable to afford an attorney. The obligation of lawyers to provide pro bono services to the indigent is found in Rule 6.1 of the Rules of Professional Responsibility and the ABA recommends that each lawyer commit to doing 50 hours of pro bono annually. Law students who do pro bono learn how easily it can be incorporated in to busy lives when it is viewed as a per-

sonal and professional priority.

Finally, pro bono work allows students to experience the personal fulfillment that comes from offering assistance to those in need. There is no greater sense of satisfaction and purpose than that which comes from serving the greater good. Some pro bono volunteers have had such powerful experiences that they have decided to pursue a career in public service. Almost all participants in the Project say that they will do pro bono work after they graduate.

The staff of the Public Service Center maintains a pro bono database that offers students easy access to an array of projects. Projects can be short-term or long-term, but must necessitate the use of legal skills. Qualified placements include nonprofit organizations, attorneys and law firms working on pro bono cases, local governmental offices, legal services organizations, and federal government agencies. The database includes a wide array of different types of pro bono projects. There are short-term research projects, projects involving client contact, policy analysis, and investigative work. RECENT PROJECTS HAVE INCLUDED:

- Legal Aid Intake Project** Student volunteers provide client intake services for the local legal aid office at a variety of soup kitchens and homeless shelters.
- Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center** Student volunteers provide legal research and writing assistance and also provide investigative services in state habeas cases.
- Charlottesville Public Defender's Office** Students volunteer to assist attorneys with all aspects of criminal defense cases.
- EarthRights International (DC)** Student volunteers provide legal research and policy analysis on a variety of international human rights issues.
- Mediation Center at FOCUS** Student volunteers assist with intake screening and evaluation for mediation referrals.
- Becket Fund for Religious Liberty (DC)** Student volunteers provide assistance with short-term and long-term research and writing projects on issues in the area of religious freedom.
- Virginia Department of Social Services** Student volunteers assist with preparation and litigation of child support enforcement matters.



VIRGINIA LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

The Law School is committed to making public service a viable career option for its graduates, and as a public institution of the Commonwealth, to enabling graduates to practice in underserved areas in Virginia.

The Virginia Loan Forgiveness Program provides financial assistance with annual law school loan payments. Graduates who enter public service employment within two years of graduation and earn less than \$60,000 per year are eligible.

BENEFITS

Graduates who earn less than \$35,000 per year are presumed unable to pay their Law School education loans. They will receive 100% assistance for the year. Those who earn between \$35,000 and \$60,000 are presumed able to pay one-half of their income above \$35,000 toward the repayment of their loans. They will receive funds to cover the difference between their annual loan payments and their contribution. For example, if a graduate has an annual loan payment of \$10,000 and earns \$40,000, the program would require the graduate to contribute \$2,500 each year (half of what the graduate earns over \$35,000) and the Program would provide \$7,500 each year. For married graduates, spousal income minus graduate debt will be taken into account in calculating program benefits.

Program funds are considered loans and are distributed at the beginning of each calendar year. Forgiveness of the VLFP funds is applied at the end of each calendar year, provided that the graduate remains eligible for participation in the program throughout the entire year. If a graduate becomes ineligible during the year, the graduate must return a prorated portion of the VLFP funds.

ELIGIBILITY

Public service employment is defined broadly to include jobs with federal, state or local governments, legal aid offices, prosecutors, public defenders, public interest organizations, and legal reform groups that qualify as nonprofit organizations. These jobs can be worldwide. The private practice of law in Virginia only is also considered public service because it is assumed that the graduate is likely to be practicing in an underserved area and therefore performing a public service. Graduates in judicial clerkships are not eligible while clerking, but become eligible if they enter public service

employment within two years of graduation or their clerkship(s), so long as the clerkship is taken immediately following law school and is no longer than two years in length.

Graduates remain eligible for loan forgiveness for up to ten years after the start of participation and become ineligible if they leave qualified public service employment or earn more than \$60,000 per year.

MORE INFORMATION: An application can be obtained at: www.law.virginia.edu

PILA GRANTS

This student-administered program provides summer funding to law students who accept low-paying or unpaid public service internships. Grants are funded by contributions from Virginia law students, faculty, staff, and alumni and matched by a grant from the law school's foundation.

Hussain Honored for Service in Refugee Law Internship

SECOND-YEAR Varda Hussain recently found herself caught up in the continuing push to find the boundaries of the U.N. Convention Against Torture: Can a refugee fleeing a politicized village ruled by a paramilitary group unconnected to the government qualify for asylum under the Convention? Does a homosexual immigrant qualify for protection if his native country persecutes homosexuals? Hussain tackled such questions while interning for the Immigrant and Refugee Appellate Center (IRAC) last summer in Alexandria, Va., where she wrote briefs and helped immigrants and refugees facing deportation. She was recently honored by the Board of Immigration Appeals for her efforts at IRAC.



"I learned a great deal about immigration law, especially the current developments in immigration law because much of it was changing post-9/11," Hussain said.

Immigrants and refugees facing deportation have few legal options by the time they reach the Executive Office of Immigration Review in the Department of Justice (EOIR), according to Hussain.

"If aliens want to file an appeal, they are expected to figure out their way through a complex appeals process on their own," Hussain said. "Without pro bono help, the right to appeal can be meaningless since appeals are routinely denied if an alien misses one procedural step."

Hussain said the demand for lawyers to work on asylum cases is overwhelming, even in Washington, D.C., which has a relative abundance of pro bono services compared to rural locations that may not even have a legal aid society.

MONROE LEIGH/ASIL FELLOWSHIP IN INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Monroe Leigh/ASIL Fellowship in International Law, administered by the University of Virginia School of Law's Center for National Security Law and Center for Oceans Law and Policy, was established by Monroe Leigh's family, friends, and UVA to honor his commitment to the development of International Law and to encourage students to gain valuable international law experience. This \$10,000 fellowship is available during the summer following a student's second year in law school, during the fall and/or spring of the student's third academic year, or for an internship following graduation. The sponsoring organization and/or the fellowship itself may be based either in the U.S. or abroad but must involve issues of public or private international law. The Fellow will also receive a 5-year membership to the American Society of International Law.

PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS

The Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center offers intensive counseling, application review, and project proposal guidance to students applying for postgraduate fellowships.

POWELL FELLOWSHIP

The Powell Fellowship in Legal Services, honoring former Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell, awards \$35,000 to a graduating student or to a judicial clerk of the law school. The fellowship enables him or her to work under the sponsorship of a public interest organization to enhance the delivery of civil legal services to the poor. The award is made for one year with the expectation that it will be renewed for a second year. The Fellowship is awarded on the basis of the student's project proposal and personal qualities.

MORE INFORMATION and application details: www.law.virginia.edu

THE MORTIMER CAPLIN PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

Established by Mortimer Caplin '40, former Commissioner of the IRS under President John F. Kennedy, the Mortimer Caplin Public Service Fellowship

provides assistance to a rising third-year student for his or her final year at the law school and first two years of public service employment. (\$5,000 per year)

THE LINDA FAIRSTEIN PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

This fellowship was established by classmates of Linda Fairstein '72, former chief of the sex crimes unit at the New York City District Attorney's Office, to honor her years of public service. It provides assistance to a rising third-year student for three years provided the student is employed in public service. (\$5,000 per year)

OTHER NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS

The Skadden Public Service Fellowship provides support to graduating law students and outgoing law clerks who want to work in the public interest for an organization that provides civil legal services to the poor. Several recent UVA graduates have received Skadden Fellowships to work with such organizations as Bread for the City, Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center, and the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund. Examples of other such fellowships are Equal Justice Works, Echoing Green, and Independence Foundation.

PUBLIC SERVICE GRADUATION AWARDS

- The Herbert L. Kramer/Herbert Bangel Community Service Award is presented to the student who has contributed the most to the community.
- The Mortimer Caplin Public Service Award is presented to a student entering public service who demonstrates the qualities of leadership, integrity, and service to others.
- The Robert F. Kennedy Award for Public Service is awarded to the student who best exemplifies the Senator Kennedy's ideals through active and effective public service.

PUBLIC SERVICE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

THE LEGAL ASSISTANCE SOCIETY

LAS helps underprivileged people in Charlottesville and the surrounding area through eight project groups: the Domestic Violence Project, the Legal Education Project, the Migrant FarmWorkers Project, the Native American Legal Project, and Rappahannock Legal Services.

THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROJECT

The project educates the public about issues of domestic violence through discussion panels and films, monitors the Juvenile and Domestic Courts in order to inform women about the services available to them if they are being abused, and sends volunteers to the Shelter for Help in Emergency (SHE).

ACTION FOR BETTER LIVING

ABLE volunteers work in the Charlottesville area with the homeless, disadvantaged children, and people trying to make the transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FORUM

ELF volunteers work on pro bono projects for local non-profit environmental groups.

THE J.B MOORE SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Society's primary aim is the development of international law and includes pro bono human rights projects. The J.B. Moore Society has partnered with the

Adams Named Powell Fellowship Winner

LISE ADAMS is the recipient of the Law School's Powell Fellowship for the Class of 2003. The fellowship provides \$35,000 a year for two years for a graduate entering a public service career.

Adams will be working on child support payments enforcement for the District of Columbia Legal Aid Society, where she interned in the summer of her second year in law school.

Besides representing individual low-income women trying to collect child support, Adams will be doing outreach and training about the collection process as well as working for reforms to the system. She even contemplates the possibility of filing suit against the D.C. Child Support Enforcement Division, if they

continue violating federal and local law.

"I can do so many different things I could never be bored," Adams said. "The attorneys at Legal Aid work extraordinarily hard, especially with child support cases. Since the welfare reform law there have been time limits imposed on cash assistance,

so child support income has become increasingly important to poor mothers. If they are no longer eligible for welfare, child support payments typically account for a third of their income. And 25 percent of custodial mothers have never seen a dime of the amount the court said they are due."

Adams said she hopes to stay with Legal Aid for several years. "I really enjoy the direct services work. I came to the law school because a J.D. gives you one of the most effective tools for effecting social change."



International Rescue Committee to help with local refugee resettlement cases.

THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW ASSOCIATION

PILA provides fellowships to students who accept volunteer or low paying summer internships in public service, educates the law school community about public interest law, and serves as a support network for students interested in the public sector. PILA hosts an annual auction which raises the majority of money used to fund summer grants.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

VITA members help low income and elderly residents in the region complete their income tax returns on Saturday mornings during tax season.

CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE LAW

The annual Conference on Public Service and the Law brings together students, faculty, litigators, and policy-makers for an exploration of various public interest

issues facing the legal community. The conference sparks scholarly debate on subjects generally left outside the classroom, generates support for social justice issues, and stimulates student interest in public service. Through informal panel discussions, students learn about the daily activities of practicing public interest attorneys, the public interest job market, and the rewards of working for social justice.

FOR INFORMATION: www.student.virginia.edu/~law-conf/

RAPE CRISIS ADVOCACY PROJECT

RCAP supports survivors of rape and sexual assault through advocacy, legal research and education. Projects include volunteering through Charlottesville's Sexual Assault Resource Agency (SARA) to provide direct support to survivors; working with pro bono attorneys on survivors' non-criminal litigation; helping survivors understand the legal system; educating the Law School community about sexual violence; and working to change antiquated laws regarding rape and sexual assault.

Ciolfi's Service Honored by Virginia State Bar Pro Bono Award

SECOND-YEAR Third-year Law student Angela Adair Ciolfi has been selected to receive the Virginia State Bar's Oliver White Hill Law Student Pro Bono Award for her service in helping meet the legal needs of low-income children and families.

While logging more than 200 pro bono hours with advocacy organizations like the Post-Conviction Criminal Assistance Project, the Charlottesville/Albemarle Public Defender Office, and the Legal Aid Justice Center's "Just Children" office, Ciolfi also found time to pursue her interests during her summers. She worked for law professor Jim Ryan her first summer, researching education reform



and the needs of urban, at-risk youth—a job that cemented her dedication to education issues among low-income families.

Ciolfi spent her second summer on the West Coast, working for the Seattle Defender Association, where she continued to advocate for children.

Ciolfi has previously been honored as a Fairstein Public Service Fellow, a Bryant Fellow (now the Buffet fellowship, offered through the University's Center for Children, Families and the Law), and a Raven Scholar. She also served on the editorial board of the Virginia Law Review.

Nest year she plans to clerk for Federal District Court Judge Reginald Lindsay in Boston.

Ciolfi said she felt very honored by the award because of Hill's reputation as a segregation-era civil-rights lawyer.

Student Testifies Before Congress on Human Rights Abuses in Cuba

HUMAN RIGHTS Study Project (HRSP) Director Michael Royal testified before Congress April 16 in a hearing held by the House Committee on International Relations concerning the Cuban government's recent crackdown on dissidents.

Royal and other members of HRSP had traveled to Cuba over spring break to study free speech issues and interview dissidents. They presented their findings at the Law School earlier this month and soon after a non-governmental organization director the group worked with recommended to the Committee that Royal testify about the group's experiences and research.

"I wanted to try to pro-



vide a sense of what some of these people's lives are like—what they're going through—to give a sense of the struggle that's going on in Cuba to gain freedom of expression," Royal said. "This is certainly a time for outrage against Castro and his government." He focused his remarks to the Committee on his specific

area of study, the independent library movement in Cuba, which faced considerable hostility from the Cuban government during the recent crackdown.

Royal called his day in Congress a "terrific experience."

"I'm very happy that our organization had a platform to raise awareness about the human rights violations going on in the world," he said. "I went to Washington, but it was an enormous team effort this semester that made an opportunity like this even conceivable."

PILA Grantees Report Rewarding Summer Job Experiences

NINE OF THE STUDENTS who spent their summers working in public service law, supported by grants from the Law School's Public Interest Law Association, recounted their experiences at a lunch meeting Sept. 23 designed to spark others' interest in emulating them next summer.

"It was just awesome," said Katie Bagley, who spent her summer with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where she worked on cases with the FBI and ATF and assisted in an appeal before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Angela Caldwell described working for the Legal Aid Justice Center in Charlottesville, where she worked on children's Medicaid issues.

"We're considering a lawsuit over children's access to dentistry," she said. She enrolled in the Housing Clinic this fall in order to "stay up with"

the clients she began helping over the summer.

Myles Roberts worked for the Department of Justice in Washington in its computer crimes division. He wrote reports trying to forecast new crimes people might use computers for.

Pat Lavelle worked with the garment workers union in New York City, ghostwriting a paper due for presentation to the American Bar Association and on a case being brought in Japan against Levi's clothing. He said he got his job through persistence.

David Thomas worked for the Albemarle County Commonwealth's Attorney's office, which has only five prosecutors on staff.

"They're so swamped they rely on you," Thomas said, "The only downside was I had to wear a suit. I spent half my time in court. I wrote all the appellate briefs. I enjoyed it so much I'm working there part-time now."

Kieran Brenner was in Dacca, Bangladesh, experiencing the monsoons and associated power shortages while working for the Asia Foundation. "I wrote an assessment of the transparency, efficiency, and accountability of the Bangladesh government," he said. "I had incredible access to people in the government to interview. I worked seven days a

week. There was less law to it—except that they need to repeal about five articles in their constitution." Brenner said he found the job

through the Conference on Public Service and the Law last spring.

Rachel Doughty worked on forest management plans for five national forests across the Southeast for the Southern Environmental Law Center in Charlottesville. "I worked with attorneys from across the Southeast. I put together fact sheets for use by congressmen, wrote an administrative law brief, and worked on an air-quality case in North Carolina. I met a whole lot of people," she said.

Jim Hicks worked for the District Attorney of San Francisco. "I recommend that you just go get what you want," he said. "You're free help to them. That brings a lot to the table." He called the San Francisco office "huge, and it feels disorganized." He wrote briefs, worked in the parole program and saw "horrendous cases, more horrible than fiction." Hickson, who has also worked for the Charlottesville District Attorney's office, advised students to "take charge and take responsibility for your education. It's up to you to make it what you can."

Karen Pogonowski worked for the New York State Attorney General's office on lawsuits brought against its state parks. "I was involved with the ones we wanted to settle because the state was wrong," she said. "One thing I had to find out is how much a broken nose is worth." She called the job "a

great experience and I'm really glad I did it."

Bagley suggested that students interested in public service jobs for next summer write letters to prospective employers in early December and offer to be available for interviews over the winter break.

PILA President Carmen Elliott said the organization awarded \$143,000 in summer grants last year, 19 to second-year students and 16 to first-years. Second-years are awarded \$5,000 and are allowed to earn another \$3,000 from their jobs before being

required to return part of the grant. Awards to first-years are for \$3,000 with a \$2,000 earning limit.

"How much we can grant is dependent on how well fund-raising goes," said Elliott. The PILA auction generates the largest share of the budget, with additional support from a pledge drive and the Law School Foundation, which matches every dollar raised by students with another 50 cents. Elliott said that in selecting grantees, PILA considers whether the applicant seems to want a public service career and has a history of volun-

teering. A second factor is financial need. PILA does not give grants to students intending to work on political campaigns, on clerkships, or to volunteer at for-profit organizations. In a typical year about 25 percent of applicants receive awards.



Myles Roberts



Katie Bagley



Angela Caldwell



Pat Lavelle



CURRICULUM

The University of Virginia School of Law offers students interested in public service careers a comprehensive curriculum with both rigorous classroom preparation and practical field experiences in clinical courses.

CLINICS

ADVOCACY FOR THE ELDERLY

Students represent elderly clients in negotiations, administrative hearings, and court proceedings on a variety of legal matters, including basic wills and powers of attorney, guardianships, consumer issues, Medicaid and Medicare benefits, nursing home regulation and quality of long-term care, elder abuse and neglect, and advance medical directives.

APPELLATE LITIGATION

Students brief and argue one or more appeals before a federal appeals court. Fundamentals of oral and written appellate advocacy focus on each student's individual project.

CAPITAL POST-CONVICTION

The clinic centers on cases assigned to the Virginia Capital Representation Resource Center. Students work on direct appeal-related issues, certiorari issues, and post-conviction issues. Students also may work on habeas petitions at the state and federal level as well as prepare writs of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court.

CHILD ADVOCACY

Students represent children involved in legal issues in the areas of education, foster care and social services, mental health and developmental disabilities, and laws governing services to children who have been found delinquent. Students represent children in negotiations and administrative hearings, and participate in court proceedings to the extent permitted by law.

CRIMINAL DEFENSE

Students represent defendants in criminal cases arising in the local courts. The clinic develops a working familiarity with the law and procedural rules governing conduct of a criminal case at the trial court level, including grand jury proceedings, indictments, immunity grants, pretrial motions, pretrial discovery, plea bargaining, motions and objections during trial, evidentiary issues, post-trial motions, sentencing, and protecting the record for appeal.

CRIMINAL PROSECUTION

Students explore a range of practical, ethical and intellectual issues involved in the discharge of a prosecutor's duties and responsibilities, including the exercise of discretion in the decision to prosecute; interaction between prosecutors and investigative agencies and law enforcement personnel; dealing with victims and other witnesses; and relationships with defense counsel. The clinic covers arrest, first appearances, bond hearings, preliminary hearings, Grand Jury, suppression hearings, competence and sanity issues, motions in limine, and trial, as well as assisting the police during the investigative stage, the Commonwealth's right of appeal, the charging decision and amending charges, constitutional con-

Conference Inspires Interest in Public Service Careers

HUNDREDS of public service-minded law students turned out March 14 and 15 for the 4th annual Conference on Public Service and the Law, which continues to draw top attorneys and officials for discussions designed to survey the status of legal issues relating to social justice. The student-organized event featured a timely pre-trial look at the pro and con arguments for affirmative action admissions policies in public higher education due to be heard in the U.S. Supreme Court April 1 and took the pulse of issues in such areas as corporate responsibility in financial scandals; school vouchers; freedom of the press in the war on terrorism; fire policy on public lands; public registries of sex crime offenders; deportation where individuals may face torture; the feminization of poverty; and international protection of intellectual property rights. Participants also heard speeches by Robert Hirshon, immediate past president of the American Bar Association,



John Bridgeland '87, the director of the USA Freedom Corp, and Governor of Arizona Janet Napolitano '83 on the satisfactions and challenges of careers in public interest law.

Designed to stimulate law student interest in public service careers, the Conference also offered workshops on getting clerkships and government positions as well as practical advice on how to get involved in direct advocacy and pro bono work through law firms. The conference drew nearly 500 pre-registrants, including law students at Yale, Stanford, Columbia, Berkeley, Minnesota, Missouri and nearby schools in the Mid-Atlantic region. Six prospective students for Virginia Law's Class of 2006 also attended. This year's conference co-chairs were Carmen Elliott '04 and Billy Wynne '04. The conference was supported with donations from the Public Interest Law Association at U.Va., the Caplin Public Service Center, the Miller Center for Public Affairs, and the law firms Hunton and Williams and Patton Boggs, as well as numerous other contributors.

MORE COVERAGE:
www.law.virginia.edu/newsevents.

cerns, speedy trial, capital punishment, insanity/competency, conspiracies, accessories, plea agreements, prosecutorial immunity, federal/state differences, and juvenile defendants. Some placements require a full FBI background investigation.

EMPLOYMENT LAW

Cases may include wrongful discharge actions, unemployment compensation claims, employment discrimination charges, or any other claims arising out of the employment relationship.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE

The clinic is offered in conjunction with the Southern Environmental Law Center in Charlottesville. Typical cases include Clean Water Act citizen suits, wetlands cases, air permit appeals, road projects, NEPA challenges, and forest management cases.

FIRST AMENDMENT LAW

The clinic is run in conjunction with the Thomas Jefferson Center for Protection of Free Expression in Charlottesville. Litigation and non-litigation projects are undertaken in First Amendment subject areas. The program will not generally undertake projects involving religion, political campaigns or libel law, but has a major national presence in freedom of expression in the arts. Other subjects include commercial speech and advertising restrictions, freedom of expression in educational settings, issues in broadcasting media, and on the Internet.

HOUSING LAW

The caseload includes administrative proceedings and other matters for indigent clients, and presents issues under private landlord-tenant contracts, federally subsidized rental programs, and the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students handle eviction cases, rent escrow cases, grievance hearings, avoidance of illegal or unfair lease provisions, abatement of substandard building conditions, and other enforcement of residents' rights.

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

Students gain first-hand experience in human rights advocacy under the supervision of international human rights lawyers. Projects are designed to give students the practical experience necessary to be effective human rights lawyers.

MENTAL HEALTH LAW

Students represent mentally ill or mentally disabled clients in negotiations, administrative hearings and court proceedings on legal matters involving Social Security, Medicaid, disability benefits claims, disability discrimination claims, access to housing, advance directives for medical care, and access to mental health or rehabilitative services. In addition, students engage in policy analysis and the development of legislative proposals.

PATENT AND LICENSING CLINIC

Students receive practical training in patent drafting and the negotiation and drafting of patent and software licensing agreements, including the evaluation of inventions and software for patentability; counseling inventors; prosecution of patent applications; and

Maranzano Named Skadden Fellow

JENNIFER MARAZANO is among 25 graduating law students nationwide selected as this year's Skadden Fellows, an award that helps young lawyers enter public service legal careers. Maranzano will represent clients of Bread For The City in Washington, D.C., in domestic violence cases and housing disputes.

A private, non-profit organization, Bread For The City takes a "holistic approach" to providing services to the poor in depressed areas of the Nation's Capital, Maranzano said. "They'll help you with food, clothing, getting to see a doctor, or with legal problems." Created in 1976 by a combination of Washington churches, it currently feeds about 6,500 people a month. Its legal clinic takes on about 250 cases a year.

"I think this is what I really want do," Maranzano said. "I'm really excited to get this opportunity. I expect



to be going to court to prevent evictions and handling administrative claims. A lot of Bread For The City's clients are in public housing." She said she expects to be working in Southeast D.C. and is hoping to move back to Dupont Circle, where she lived when she worked on Capitol Hill before coming to the Law School.

Regarded as the most prestigious public service fellowship for young lawyers, the Skadden pays fellows \$37,500 in salary for two years, plus their law school loan payments. Applicants must have a sponsoring organization and a proposal for how they will help deliver legal services to indigent and underrepresented clients in order to apply.

Maranzano called the application process "tough" and competitive.

Past fellows from the Law School include Chinh Quang Le in 2001, Tim Freilich and Christine Ellertson in 1999 and Mary Bauer in 1990. The Skadden Fellowship was used as the model for the Law School's Powell Fellowship in Legal Services.

researching current intellectual property and technology transfer issues.

REFUGEE LAW

Students represent individuals from around the globe who are seeking asylum in America. Typical clients claim a risk of persecution on the basis of political opinion, race, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, or gender. Students interview clients in a cross-cultural context, complete asylum applications and affidavits that recount the person's experiences.

SAMPLE COURSES

Aging and the Law
Civil Rights Litigation
Environmental Lawyering: Principles and Practice
First Amendment Freedoms
Historic Preservation
Indian Law
International Human Rights Law
Legislative Drafting and Public Policy
Local Government Law
Nonprofit Organizations
Perspectives on Family and Gender
Race and the Law
Schools, Race and Money
Tobacco Policy Research Seminar
War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and Genocide

THIS IS A PARTIAL LIST of public service courses that have been offered before. FOR INFORMATION: Course Offerings (under "Academics"): www.law.virginia.edu