



Center Briefings

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Major Grant Awarded for Faculty Fellowships in Public Health Law

Georgia State University College of Law has received a \$557,571 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) to establish a fellowship program and supporting online resources to strengthen the practice of public health law by expanding the scope of public health law instruction.

Ten professors of public health law from across the country will participate in an intensive summer institute, work on course development, and create and direct externships, clinics and other experiential-learning opportunities in public health law. Experienced faculty

mentors will guide these efforts, which will be supplemented with connections to resources and organizations focused on public health law in the practice setting.

"Building successful and sustainable new educational programs requires close collaboration between the dean and faculty members," said dean Steven J. Kaminshine, who will lead outreach to other law school deans. "This project aligns well with the College of Law's strong commitment to teaching excellence and to implementing the recommendations of the recent Carnegie Foundation report on legal education."

Continued on page 2



CHARITY SCOTT AND STEVE KAMINSHINE



Director's Message

It's been another active and productive year at the Center for Law, Health & Society, as highlighted throughout this newsletter. The Supreme Court's decision on the Affordable Care Act provided much grist for the mill of health care reform, and we hosted a number of public programs exploring that decision and its impact on health and health care in our society. Our faculty continue to be recognized nationally and internationally for their scholarship and their many critical contributions to professional and governmental organizations. Our first class of students enrolling in our new health law certificate program will graduate this spring, and our graduates have made impressive achievements in the health law field.

With a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, we also have the opportunity to promote public health law education in law schools and schools of public health across the country. Any faculty members at other schools who are interested applying for a fellowship with this program should contact me for more information – applications will begin to be accepted in the fall.

Best wishes,

Charity Scott

Director, Center for Law, Health & Society

Faculty Fellowships Continued from page 1

The fellowship program will be developed by the College of Law's Center for Law, Health & Society. The project directors are Charity Scott, director of the center and Catherine C. Henson Professor of Law, and Stacie Kershner (J.D. '08), associate director. The grant began January 15 and runs through July 14, 2015. Applications for the fellowships will be accepted in the fall.

The center will develop a virtual library of online resources and case studies for use by the fellows and others and provide networking opportunities to strengthen public health law instruction across institutions. The project also will be supported by a senior law school consultant to work with Kaminshine and other deans desiring to expand their schools' public health law curricula.

"This award is the culmination of the ongoing support and encouragement of the university and College of Law for building a strong health law program, which now can serve other schools nationally that would like to further develop their public health law programs," Scott said.

"We're excited to be on the cutting edge of public health law teaching," Kershner said. "We'll be helping the fellows access best practices and model approaches to enrich their teaching."



CHARITY SCOTT AND STACIE KERSHNER

The health law program at Georgia State Law is ranked #3 in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*.

College of Law Welcomes New Administrative Specialist

Cassandra "Cassie" Hayasaka has joined Georgia State University College of Law as an administrative specialist. She will be providing administrative support to the Center for Law, Health & Society and to faculty affiliated with the center.

Hayasaka formerly worked as the coordinator of admissions and student services at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, where she was responsible for meeting and event planning, preparation of reports and presentations, print and electronic communications, project and office management, budget oversight, and web maintenance.

"We are delighted to have Cassie join the team," said Charity Scott, director of the center. "Her extensive administrative experience in the higher education setting will enable her to jump quickly into center activities."

After spending four years at Emory, Hayasaka enrolled in a post baccalaureate arts administration program at New York University and trained to be a docent with the High Museum of Art. "Cassie's museum experience provides a unique combination of skills that will be beneficial to the varied needs of the center," observed Stacie Kershner (J.D. '08), associate director. "She has strong organizational and communication skills, and she is also very creative."

When asked what attracted her to the position, Hayasaka said, "My husband is a graduate of the College of Law, and he brought my attention to the position. We were familiar with the goals and role the center plays in the academic and legal communities and felt that my qualifications and past experience would be a good match."

Scott agreed that Hayasaka represented an excellent fit with the mission and needs of the center. "I know that everyone shares our great pleasure in welcoming Cassie on board," she said.

Hayasaka earned her B.A. in art history in 2004. She and her husband, Keith Hayasaka (J.D. '08), have two children.



CASSIE HAYASAKA

Wishing Amy Grover Success

Amy Grover, senior administrative coordinator at the College of Law, recently returned with her husband Joshua Taub to their home state of Washington. Amy joined the staff of the law school in April 2009.

"Everyone at the law school will miss Amy," said Charity Scott, director of the center. "She has made friends among faculty

and colleagues across our law community, and has been a genuine pleasure for all to work with. She was invaluable for our center's management, and did an amazing job of juggling many diverse administrative responsibilities, always with a wonderful can-do attitude and incredible competence."



AMY GROVER AND
CHARITY SCOTT

Students Explore Causes of and Solutions to Poverty



GEORGIA SENATOR JOHN ALBERS AND COURTNEY ANDERSON

Last fall, students in professor Courtney Anderson's law and social welfare course had the opportunity to explore state and federal laws addressing social welfare and the nature of poverty and socio-economic inequities in the United States. Topics included employment, health, housing, and access to justice.

During the semester, guest speakers presented on important issues currently facing low-income Georgians. State Sen. John Albers (R-District 56) spoke about Georgia's Social Responsibility and Accountability Act, which was signed into law last spring requiring a drug test for most applicants of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program prior to receiving benefits. Albers discussed how the act was drafted to increase personal responsibility for welfare recipients. "This legislation offers families in need a 'hand-up' rather than a 'hand-out,'" Albers told students.

"Speakers are invited to the course to challenge students' views on issues and help them to present legal arguments in a way that anticipates the response of an opposing party," Anderson said.

Others presented on the compounding effects of the criminal justice system on Atlanta's impoverished population. Panelists were Daryl Queen, an assistant public defender with the DeKalb County Public Defender's Office, Erin Anderson, housing coordinator for the State Board of Pardons and Paroles, and Tamara Rorie, a technology licensing associate at Georgia Tech and founder of Providing Real Opportunities for Income through Technology (PROFITT). "Ex-offenders who lack financial resources are likely to continue to face obstacles when re-entering society, placing them at higher risk for recidivism," explained professor Anderson.

Students are also required to observe a hearing or mediation at the Fulton County Housing Court. "Many times, a low-income person is facing multiple, compounding issues," continued Anderson. "Although one may be obvious, such as housing, there may be other underlying issues that must also be addressed to provide a comprehensive solution."

"By observing first-hand and hearing from practitioners in the field, we hope our students will be more aware of the issues faced by low-income populations," said Anderson. "As future attorneys, they have the opportunity to create and implement solutions to this problem."



ERIN ANDERSON, COURTNEY ANDERSON, DARYL QUEEN, AND TAMARA RORIE

Students Learn about Human Subject Research Abuses

In the fall of 2010, President Barack Obama directed the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues to conduct an investigation into the newly discovered human subject research conducted in Guatemala between 1946 and 1948. This fall, law students gathered to learn more about the investigation from one of the commission's senior advisors, law professor Paul Lombardo (see also story on p.6).

As the commission's report, "Ethically Impossible": STD Research in Guatemala from 1946 to 1948, exposes, researchers in the U.S. Public Health Service traveled to Guatemala to conduct research on sexually transmitted diseases. A New York Times article published in 1947 noted that experimentation involving intentional exposure to syphilis would be "ethically impossible."

Despite the Times' observation, such research commenced in Guatemala in 1946, with the cooperation of the Guatemalan government and

the support of institutional leaders of the U.S. Public Health Service, National Research Council, and the National Institute of Health. In all, the study involved over 5,000 people, including children, elders, prisoners, psychiatric patients, United States soldiers, and commercial sex workers. Approximately 1,000 of these individuals were actively infected with syphilis, gonorrhea, or cancrroid.

"I remember learning about the Tuskegee Syphilis Study in professor Leslie Wolf's human subject research course last semester," said law student Sarah Ketchie (J.D. '13). "When we later learned that another, possibly worse, study had been discovered just the year before, I couldn't believe that there could be a study more infamous than Tuskegee. The more I learn about these experiments in Guatemala, the more I realize how wrong I was."

"Many of the same doctors who planned the Public Health Service experiments in Guatemala were also involved in the Tuskegee studies.



But unlike Tuskegee, the research in Guatemala was intentionally hidden from the public, and even omitted from medical publications," said Lombardo. "We are just beginning to understand what happened in Guatemala, and how it could remain a secret for so long."

"In a time in which international human subject research within vulnerable populations is both more profitable and convenient than conducting research at home, it's important to look back at situations like the experiments in Guatemala, learn how such things could happen, and hopefully learn how to prevent them from ever happening again," said Ketchie.

Students Participate in Health Law Moot Court Competition

In November, the Student Health Law Association (SHLA) sent a team of three law students to the National Health Law Moot Court Competition which was hosted by Center for Health Law and Policy at Southern Illinois University School of Law, the Department of Medical Humanities at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, the American College of Legal Medicine, and the American College of Legal Medicine Foundation.

Based on writing samples and interest in health law, SHLA selected the team of second-year students: Alecia McFarlane, Samuel Shapiro, and Robert Springer. Michael Arndt, also a second-year student, was named the team's coach.

The competition problem was issued in August and asked whether the Constitution affords a right to confidentiality in medical records. "I was surprised that such a simple prompt could raise so many legal issues," Springer explained. "At first, our research yielded only more topics to research."

Incorporating everyone's styles, McFarlane pieced together the required brief. "Group writing is always difficult because styles vary," she laughed. The group

made final edits and sent the brief off in late September.

The team then had eleven practice rounds of oral arguments in October to gear up for the competition.

Practice rounds are "benched" – a person playing the role of the appellate judge asks team members questions during their arguments.

Reflected Arndt, "It was interesting to see how arguments changed over the practice rounds. The team was incredibly adept in incorporating or addressing criticisms from previous benchers."

Springer finished with the eighth best oral advocacy score out of 70 competitors, and the team advanced to the quarterfinals before losing to the eventual champion Loyola University Chicago School of Law. "Their dedication and commitment to working through all of the issues and nuances paved the way for their success in a historically challenging competition," said law professor Jessie Gabel, the team's faculty advisor.



SAMUEL SHAPIRO, ALECIA MCFARLANE, AND ROBERT SPRINGER

Law, Public Health Represented on Presidential Commission

In the spirit of Georgia State University's interdisciplinary Second Century Initiative, two faculty members are collaborating across specialties – not only across campus, but on a national stage.

Law professor Paul Lombardo has been a senior advisor to the Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues since early 2011. This spring, Lisa Lee, an adjunct faculty member teaching ethics in the Institute of Public Health and former chief science officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was appointed to the commission as its executive director.

"We immediately got together and talked about the kind of thing that would be on the agenda," Lombardo said of Lee. "We teach in the same area from very different perspectives; that's usually a recipe for something that's going to be fascinating."

The commission meets quarterly and comprises a mix of top-of-their-field professionals, the nation's leaders in science, medicine, ethics, religion, law and engineering.

Using the varied expertise of its members and staff, the commission examines the "big picture" issues of bioethics. Most recently, it issued a report that evaluated regulations for biomedical research involving human volunteers. A report



LISA LEE, VICE PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN, AND PAUL LOMBARDO

on the issues of privacy that will arise in the wake of whole-genome sequencing will be released in December.

"Before [joining the commission in] April, I had watched the commission from afar and had admired how its members identify and address issues that arise from advances in medicine, science and technology," Lee said. "These are issues that have the capacity to touch each of our lives in very personal ways."

Lee and Lombardo met Vice President Joe Biden at a reception during a recent commission meeting in Washington, D.C. Biden demonstrated great interest and insight into the bioethical questions the commission is studying, Lombardo said.

"What's going on at the commission is not just speculative," Lombardo said. "It's changing how we think about health care and individual issues of privacy – these are the kinds of issues that students get excited about."

Faculty Join AALS Leadership

Three Georgia State University College of Law faculty members, Lisa Radke Bliss, Emily Suski and Jonathan Todres, were elected officers for four American Association of Law Schools sections during the organization's annual meeting Jan. 4-6 in New Orleans.

Bliss, associate clinical professor and co-director of the HeLP Legal Services Clinic, was re-elected to the executive committee of the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education.

Suski, assistant clinical professor, is the new chair-elect of the Section on Poverty Law. Todres, associate professor of law, was elected chair of the Section on Children and the Law and secretary of the Section on International Human Rights.

The Section on Clinical Legal Education organizes and hosts the annual conference on clinical legal education, supports the professional development and mentoring of clinicians as scholars, and works to help enhance clinical programs and law school curricula, Bliss said. Her term is for three years.

Suski plans to support the new chair this year while working to help expand the focus on poverty law at the annual meetings including organizing a public service project and poverty law program at next year's annual meeting.

Todres agreed the sections provide a vehicle for professors with shared interests to pursue activities of common interests, including conferences, newsletters and mentoring programs for more junior faculty members.



JONATHAN TODRES, EMILY SUSKI, AND LISA BLISS

Suski Awarded Faculty Appointment

Emily F. Suski has been awarded a faculty appointment as assistant clinical professor. Suski had been serving as a clinical supervising attorney in the HeLP Legal Services Clinic since 2010.



With both J.D. and M.S.W. degrees, Suski has extensive experience advocating for children and adolescents with disabilities. Her teaching and writing interests include how health, disabilities, and poverty affect students in the public education system, as well as the ways interdisciplinary collaboration can improve outcomes for youth with health problems and disabilities.

In addition to her work in the clinic, Suski will be teaching family law. "We are delighted to have Emily receive this full-time faculty appointment," said Charity Scott, director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. "She has been an invaluable member of the HeLP clinic team, and her appointment acknowledges her tremendous talents."

Wolf Participates in Rulemaking Roundtable

Professor Leslie Wolf recently traveled to Baltimore to participate in a roundtable on the Advance Notice of Proposed Rule Making (ANPRM), proposing changes to the federal regulations governing human subjects research. The roundtable, which was sponsored by the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute for Bioethics, brought together a small number of scholars from a variety of disciplines to discuss the implications of the ANPRM.



The regulations governing human subjects research, which apply to research conducted or funded by the federal government, were originally adopted in 1981 and have undergone few changes since. Accordingly, the ANPRM is considered a unique opportunity to affect how research with human subjects is conducted.

A range of issues was discussed throughout the day-long roundtable, triggered by the short papers presented by some of the participants. "This is my primary area of research and a topic I teach," Wolf said. "It was a wonderful opportunity to really reflect on the implications of the ANPRM for the future of human subjects research and to hear what other scholars in the field are thinking."

Todres Participates in Delegation to the U.N. in Geneva

In June, professor Jonathan Todres participated in a five-person delegation of non-governmental organization (NGO) representatives from the United States that presented testimony to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child on U.S. efforts to combat the sale and commercial sexual exploitation of children.

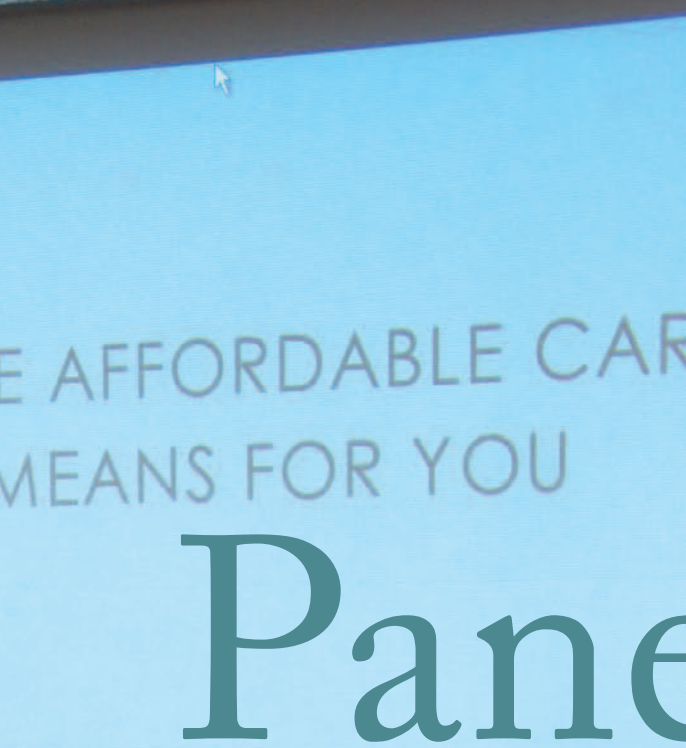
The Pre-Session Working Group meeting of the committee provided NGOs an opportunity to present findings and recommendations related to the U.S. government's implementation of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. Although the United States has not ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, it is a party to the Optional Protocol. Under the Optional Protocol, the U.S. government reports periodically to the committee on its progress in combating the sale and commercial sexual exploitation of children.

After the session, the committee sent follow-up questions to the U.S. government, and in January it will meet formally with U.S. government officials. The committee will publish its final recommendations, which can be used then to further strengthen U.S. law and policy aimed at protecting children. "The review process is a collaborative endeavor

between the committee and a government with input from NGOs," explained Todres, "It provides a regular opportunity to assess progress and identify gaps in law, policy and programs aimed at ensuring children's rights and protecting them from exploitation."

Todres, who also serves as child rights advisor to ECPAT-USA (Ending Child Prostitution and Trafficking), participated in the drafting of the NGO Alternative Report submitted by ECPAT-USA to the committee on behalf of more than 60 non-governmental organizations in the United States.





Panel Series

Examines Supreme

Following the landmark U.S. Supreme Court Ruling in *National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius* on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), Georgia State University's Center for Law, Health & Society at the College of Law and Institute of Health Administration at the J. Mack Robinson College of Business hosted a multi-part series entitled "The State of Constitutional Law and Health Care after the Supreme Court Decision." The series included a primer on PPACA and discussions of the impact of the Supreme Court's decision on constitutional law and on the future of Medicaid in Georgia.

The first session of the series was tailored to students. This introductory "crash course" on the PPACA was conducted by professor Erin Fuse Brown. "We wanted to provide our students with an approachable, practical overview in order for them to better understand the underlying debate and the Supreme Court's landmark decision."

The second session, entitled "PPACA and the Supreme Court: Different Perspectives," featured Fuse Brown and constitutional law professor Eric Segall, author of *Supreme Myths: Why the Supreme*

Court is Not a Court and its *Justices are Not Judges*.

The Supreme Court upheld the individual mandate to purchase health insurance as constitutional, not under the Commerce Clause, but under Congress's power to tax. Addressing students and members of the medical and legal communities, Segall contended the Supreme Court got it wrong. "The Court absolutely should have found that the PPACA was constitutional under the Commerce Clause coupled with the Necessary and Proper Clause," argued Segall. "Instead, the Court found the PPACA constitutional as a tax... so while you can't be forced to buy broccoli, you can be taxed for not buying it."

Fuse Brown discussed the effect of the Court's decision on the right to health care. "The PPACA creates a right to health care for the uninsured through expanded access to private sector insurance and by increasing the pool of people covered by Medicaid," Fuse Brown asserted. "The Court's decision blows a huge hole in the right to health care. Because states will now be able to opt out of Medicaid expansion, some of the most vulnerable groups may be left uncovered and ineligible for premium subsidies."



Court's Health Care Decision

The third session in the series, entitled "The Impact of the Supreme Court's Decision on the Future of Medicaid," was held on September 13 and hosted invited panelists Cindy Zeldin, M.A., M.P.H., executive director of Georgians for Healthy Future; Temple Sellers, J.D., vice president of legal services at the Georgia Hospital Association; and Sidney Welch, J.D., M.P.H., partner at Arnall Golden Gregory, L.L.P. This final session focused on how the Medicaid landscape may change in Georgia in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that Congress cannot coerce states into expanding Medicaid by withholding all current Medicaid funds, essentially making Medicaid expansion optional for states.

"Expanding Medicaid is good for consumers, good for the health care system, and good for the economy," said Zeldin. "Georgia taxpayers already pay federal income taxes. This money will go to other states if it doesn't come back to Georgia."

"The mission of most hospitals in the country is to meet the health care needs of patients – those who have insurance as well as those who don't," stated Sellers. "In 2010,

Georgia hospitals provided \$838 million dollars' worth of charitable services to uninsured. One third of the hospitals in this state are operating in the red."

"There is a diversity of opinions among physicians on the subject of Medicaid expansion," explained Welch. "Physicians already are paid significantly less for services under Medicaid than Medicare or private insurance, and they fear that the expansion of Medicaid will lead to future problems, including the impact to the scope and quality of care they can provide when the cost to providing care, including overhead, has increased, but Medicaid reimbursement has been flat for 10 years."

When asked what was needed to change the minds of Georgia lawmakers opposed to Medicaid expansion, the panelists agreed that building a coalition of support would be necessary and that all stakeholders needed to be present and have a voice to help direct the changes. "We can all put our heads together and say, 'How do we best move the needle?'" said Zeldin. "Otherwise, we just throw our hands up and walk away."

"Whether you support the PPACA or not, it is important we continue to have conversations regarding the health care crisis which continues to exist in our country."

– Trey Kelley (J.D. '14), Georgia House Representative (R-District 16)

The Need for Conflict Competent Attorneys

The Center for Law, Health & Society and the Student Health Law Association welcomed Debra Gerardi, J.D., M.P.H., R.N., president and chief creative officer of Emerging HealthCare Communities, L.L.C. (EHCCO), for a presentation entitled “The Impact of Conflict in Health Care and the Need for Conflict Competent Lawyers.”

“Debra Gerardi is a nationally recognized conflict specialist in health care,” said Charity Scott, director of the center. “In both her writings and her professional work, she brings a depth of experience from being a nurse, a lawyer, an educator, and a mediator.”

Gerardi’s presentation focused on improving patient safety by addressing conflict in health care organizations.

While conflict naturally occurs, the high prevalence of conflict can negatively impact patient care, increase health care costs, and diminish job satisfaction and personal well-being. “Conflict in health

care is nothing new,” Gerardi explained. “What is new is that there is now empirical evidence demonstrating that our conflicts are causing harm to patients. This is in direct opposition to our core value system in health care: ‘First, do no harm.’”

Gerardi recommended using alternatives to adversarial approaches such as litigation, arbitration, or even evaluative mediation, which may only address the immediate problem and may heighten the tension long term.

“Rather than approaching the conflict from the angle of who is right and who is wrong, as lawyers we can approach the problem by asking questions to separate the legal issues from personal issues such as challenges at home, ongoing interpersonal conflicts, or even substance abuse and other mental health needs,” she said.



“We can offer options as alternatives to litigation that enable health professionals to engage directly. We can provide forums for open discussion, incorporate conflict specialists, and help to build in provisions and processes to prevent recurrence of the same conflict again in the future.”

Dodging the National Practitioner Data Bank



The Center for Law, Health & Society and the Student Health Law Association co-hosted guest speaker Haavi Morreim, J.D., Ph.D., a professor of law and bioethics in the College of Medicine at University of Tennessee Health Science Center and a principal in the ADR Institute in Memphis. Morreim’s topic was “Malpractice, Mediation, and Moral Hazard: The Virtues of Dodging the National Practitioner Data Bank.”

“Many hospitals are adopting early dispute resolution programs in which, when they err, they approach injured patients with disclosure, apology, and restitution. This process is beneficial in many ways for patients, families, and hospitals,” said Morreim. “However, physicians are almost completely iced out and the name of that ‘ice’ is the National Practitioner Data Bank.”

The National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) was established in 1986 as a way to improve quality and safety in hospitals. Hospitals’ adverse professional review actions against physicians, state boards’ adverse licensure actions and medical malpractice payouts must be reported to the NPDB.

“Physicians are at a disincentive to resolve disputes early,” Morreim said. “If they settle

early, even for only a small amount, they will incur a lifelong black mark in the Data Bank. But if the matter goes to trial the physician is highly likely to win, thus avoiding that black mark. Unfortunately, this means those physicians are not taking part in the important benefits of early resolution.”

Morreim described several legal ways for physicians to engage in early mediation of medical malpractice disputes and avoid adverse reports to the databank, including having the provider waive the debt or fees of the patient or compensate the patient out of pocket rather than via insurance; having the attorney communicate demands for payment orally rather than in writing; and using the “corporate shield” in which a larger organization such as a hospital brings the claims against physicians under its own umbrella.

“Early dispute resolution provides better opportunities to identify issues, better understand what occurred, and fix problems, preventing future injury to other patients,” observed Charity Scott, director of the center. “Professor Morreim’s important research offers physicians and attorneys legal options so that physicians can participate in this process.”

Spotlight: Cynthia Coffman



Cynthia Honssinger Coffman (J.D. '91), a member of the sixth graduating class of the College of Law, is the chief deputy in the Colorado Office of the Attorney General. She oversees a staff of 260 practicing attorneys and 150 employees who provide administrative support.

Working in the public sector allows Coffman to engage in issues of importance to her community and state. Health law is just one of many facets of Coffman's practice. In her first position in the Georgia Attorney General's Office, Coffman recalled representing the state's division of public health during a debate over named reporting of HIV-infected patients. "After that, I was hooked!" she reflected. "Each of the positions I have served in has tackled some aspect of health law."

In the past, Coffman worked with the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment on a variety of topics including medical marijuana, bioterrorism preparedness, immunization rates, anti-smoking laws, and disease control. Later, as chief counsel to the governor, she focused on issues of environmental health and violence prevention.

In addition to practicing law and advising her clients, including state agencies, boards and commissions, and elected officials, Coffman manages a \$61 million dollar budget, ensures that her employees have the resources needed to do their jobs, handles personnel matters, and acts as chief morale officer. "The common thread in my work is people – being able to listen, understand, and address their concerns in a way that advances the mission of the Department of Law," Coffman reflected.

Since joining the Colorado Attorney General's Office in 2005, Coffman has observed an increased awareness of health law's significance among attorneys general nationally. "I've been pleased by the recent emphasis of programming on how states' attorneys can improve health outcomes in their states."

Coffman keeps her hand in health law working on projects like the state health benefit exchange and implementation of the Affordable Care Act. "There are so many fascinating options for those interested in health law to contribute to the betterment of our communities and have a rewarding career," she said.

Spotlight: Megan Douglas

Recent graduate Megan Daugherty Douglas (J.D. '12) is using her legal background as a unique lens to identify the impact of law and policy on health outcomes. Last year, she was awarded a health policy fellowship with the Satcher Health Leadership Institute (SHLI) at Morehouse School of Medicine. Under the direction of Dr. David Satcher, 16th surgeon general of the United States and former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention the program, focuses on health leadership development and includes educational, practical, and research components.

The SHLI health policy fellowship program began in 2009 and has included medical doctors, Ph.D.s, and public health experts, but no attorneys—until now. Douglas is the first GSU graduate and the first law school graduate to receive the fellowship. "In the interview, I wanted to show the program leaders that attorneys are essential to the conversation to eliminate health

inequalities," Douglas said. "Because of the program's interdisciplinary focus and my prior collaborative work, the leadership was very receptive."

Douglas is also the first fellow to receive a combined SHLI health policy and Georgia Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (GaLEND) fellowship position. The GaLEND program is sponsored by GSU's Center for Leadership in Disability and prepares health leaders to work with children with developmental disorders and their families.

Douglas will work as a guest researcher at CDC for two months this spring and is currently working on two projects and a grant focused on disabilities. She has guest lectured on disability-related health disparities to graduate students at Morehouse School of Medicine and has presented on law and policy to various audiences.

"Get as much experience as possible during law school," advised Douglas, who believes participation in the HeLP clinic and the health legislation and advocacy course helped to establish her policy path. "Law school provided the perfect environment for me to experiment with different career paths and narrow my focus to policy work."



First Annual HeLP Fundraiser



The Health Law Partnership (HeLP) held its first annual fundraiser, "Shake It Up with Martinis and Cocktails for HeLP," on September 20. The event featured music, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent and live auction with items donated from local businesses and individuals.

With a view of the Atlanta skyline as a beautiful backdrop, the event was held at the law firm of Nelson Mullins Riley and Scarborough, L.L.P. "Nelson Mullins is committed to public service," said Jennifer Malinovsky, a partner at the firm and HeLP advisory council chair. "In addition to providing pro bono legal services and financial support of HeLP, we were happy to volunteer our space for the evening."

Platinum sponsors included the Daily Report and the law firms of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP and Weissman Nowack Curry & Wilco PC. In-kind donations were provided by Terry England; Kroger, Co. at Kofer Crossing; and Catering by Paula B. "The support of the sponsors at all levels along with the time and talents of the event coordinating volunteers helped to ensure the event was a success," said Susan McLaren, event organizer.

Over 160 professionals representing the health care, legal, social work, public health, and education fields attended the HeLP fundraiser. "I was especially pleased to see doctors, nurses, and other practitioners representing Children's Healthcare of Atlanta," said Dr. Robert Pettignano, HeLP's medical champion and Medical Director Campus Operations at



STUDENT HEALTH LAW ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEERS

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Hughes Spalding. "The message that HeLP attorneys can assist medical professionals with overcoming legal hurdles is reaching these medical professionals. Working as a medical-legal partnership is how we achieve better health outcomes for children."

Many graduates and current students of the HeLP Legal Services Clinic at the College of Law also attended. "The Clinic allows students the opportunity to gain hands-on legal experience," said Laurice Rutledge (J.D. '10), an associate with McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP who practices health care law. "This fundraiser was an opportunity for those of us who benefitted from the program to demonstrate our appreciation and give back."

Twelve Student Health Law Association (SHLA) members volunteered their time to assist the event committee with tasks such as registration and check-out. "Volunteering at Shake It Up for HeLP offered the chance to network with local health law attorneys and meet health care practitioners in a more informal setting while supporting a good cause," said Greg Fosheim (J.D. '14), SHLA president.

Shake It Up for HeLP was a success, raising over \$13,500 from the silent and live auctions, ticket sales, and sponsorships. Funds will help to provide stipends for summer interns as well as to support the salaries of the program's three hospital-based staff attorneys and the program evaluator.

"The social, economic, and physical conditions in which children live can seriously impact their health. Our mission is to address these social determinants and improve outcomes for children through direct legal services, education, and advocacy. This requires resources."

— Sylvia Caley, Director of HeLP and Co-Director of the HeLP Legal Services Clinic





FAYAZ HABIB, BRETT SEAMON, AND JOEL EZOORY

HeLP Clinic Students Win SSI Case for Client

During the fall semester, law students Brett Seamon (J.D. '13), Fayaz Habib (J.D. '13), and Joel Ezoory (J.D. '13), prepared for and argued their client's social security disability hearing, achieving a fully favorable decision, as part of their work with the HeLP Legal Services Clinic.

"This was one of our most valuable experiences in law school. Not only did we learn the law itself, but through application we gained a newfound appreciation for the role of lawyers as advocates in society," said Ezoory.

The client in this case was a four-year-old girl who suffered from numerous impairments including autism spectrum disorder, sensory integration disorder, scoliosis, and failure to thrive. The client's mother had applied previously to the Social Security Administration (SSA) for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits on behalf of her daughter and was denied. Seamon, Habib, and Ezoory were assigned to the case a few months before the scheduled hearing.

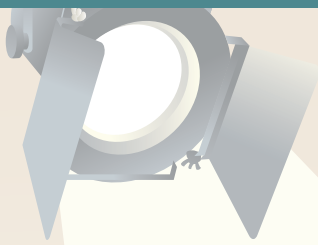
The group argued before an administrative law judge that their client's impairments severely limited her overall functioning and development enough to qualify as disabled. "Proving the existence of disability to the SSA is instrumental in improving the health of sick and impoverished children," said Lisa Bliss, associate clinical professor and co-director of the clinic. "SSI benefits come with Medicaid insurance, which covers needed treatment and therapy that would otherwise be unaffordable."

As a medical-legal partnership, the HeLP clinic is able to facilitate cooperation between lawyers and physicians. "One thing that I thought was essential to our success in this case was working closely with our client's treating physician, an expert in children's autism, to develop an affidavit testifying to our client's impairments," said Seamon.

The students acknowledged that their clients were not the only ones with a win that day – they also benefited from the experience. "The atmosphere here feels like a true law firm, and the practical experience the students receive dealing with their own clients on a daily basis is wonderful preparation for real world practice," said Habib. "The best part is that we get to impact lives and help less fortunate people, all in the process of growing as young professionals."

The Health Law Partnership (HeLP) is an interdisciplinary community collaboration between health care providers and lawyers to address the multiple social and economic conditions that affect low-income children's health. One of HeLP's core components is interdisciplinary education of graduate professional students through the HeLP Legal Services Clinic at the College of Law.

Center Highlights



Courtney L. Anderson



Professor Anderson presented her forthcoming publication *Rebuilding Detroit through Health Equity Development* at the 2013 Northeast Regional Workshop at Albany Law School, and

served as a health care law panelist at the Annual National Convention of the National Black Law Students Association. She was selected to present her work-in-progress, *Redistrict, Remove, Reduce*, at the Association for Law, Property and Society's Annual Meeting, and was a guest lecturer in a seminar course offered by Georgia State University Institute of Public Health.

Roberta M. Berry



Professor Berry co-authored an article in *REPRODUCTIVE BIOMEDICINE ONLINE* on compliance with donor age recommendations in advertisements recruiting oocyte donors and is working on an article on risk

disclosure in donor advertisements. She also published a co-authored article addressing direct-to-consumer genetic testing in *HEALTHCARE ETHICS COMMITTEE FORUM*. She serves as co-principal investigator for the ethics section of the Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institute, which received a 5-year renewal grant from NIH.

Lisa R. Bliss



Professor Bliss spoke about her clinical work in Thailand at the AALS Annual Meeting as a member of a panel on "Legal Education and Legal Reform in South Asia."

Bliss presented ideas to be explored in her paper, *Justice Education Initiatives: Lessons in Applying Clinical Legal Education Methodology through NGO Supported Initiatives in Thailand*, forthcoming in the *JOURNAL OF LEGAL EDUCATION*. Bliss will be returning to Thailand this coming summer.

Sylvia B. Caley



Professor Caley presented at the National Legal Aid and Defender Association annual meeting on the benefits of program evaluation. Upcoming in spring 2013, she will be presenting at four

national/international conferences. Two articles she co-authored dealing with collaboration, medical-legal partnerships, and interdisciplinary education were published. Students enrolled in her health legislation and advocacy course performed research and drafting services on legislative projects dealing with child water safety, bullying, and the affordability of expensive biologic pharmaceuticals.

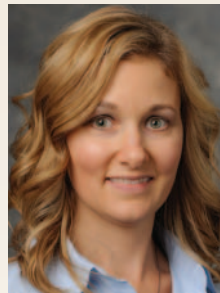
Erin C. Fuse Brown



Professor Fuse Brown published *Developing a Durable Right to Health Care* in *MINNESOTA JOURNAL OF LAW, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY* discussing the prospects for a lasting right

to health care for the uninsured under the Affordable Care Act. She presented on the same topic to faculty and students at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. She also serves as the Academic Liaison to the Health Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia.

Jessica D. Gabel



Professor Gabel has been working to implement forensic science standards to make evidence more reliable. She lectured in Poland, Taiwan and Australia last year. She also met with international law

enforcement and government officials to discuss ways in which the international community can work together to improve forensic science. She is currently working on an article entitled, *'Good' Science Gone Bad II: A Grassroots Effort to Restructure a Broken System of Forensic Science*.

Wendy F. Hensel



Dean Hensel co-authored a chapter for the latest edition of *SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR ALL TEACHERS*, entitled *The Legal Foundations of Special Education*. She presented at a symposium at Loyola University-New

Orleans on "Special Education in a New Era of Reform." Her related article, *Recent Developments Relating to Vouchers with Disabilities*, will be published by the *LOYOLA LAW REVIEW* this summer.

Yaniv Heled



Professor Heled participated in the Sixth Annual Intellectual Property Scholars Forum on "The Impact of IP on Public Health," sponsored by the University of Akron School of Law. He also participated in the Workshop on Intellectual Property

Issues in the Pharmaceutical Industry held at Indiana University School of Law.

In addition, he presented his research at a number of conferences, including the Health Law Scholars Conference and the IP Scholars Conference.

Randall L. Hughes

Professor Hughes continues to volunteer with the Health Law Partnership (HeLP) and the Health Law Unit of Atlanta Legal Aid Society. He has been invited by the Elder Law Section of the Atlanta Bar Association and by Atlanta Legal Aid Society to present continuing legal education sessions on "The Affordable Care Act at a Glance."



Stacie P. Kershner

Ms. Kershner continues to manage center activities, including organizing internal and community programs, supporting research and fundraising, advising students, and coordinating the health law certificate and dual degree programs. Her research is focused on public health law, and she recently presented with a colleague from CDC on state laws requiring carbon monoxide alarms in residential housing at the Public Health Law Research 2013 Annual Meeting.



Paul A. Lombardo

Professor Lombardo spoke at the annual conferences of Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research and the Society of American Archivists, and he gave the keynote at the International Conference on Science in Society. He appeared in *Hygiene Racial*,



a documentary broadcast on French national TV. His essay on the legacy of public health pioneer Dr. Thomas Parran was published in the journal *SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES*.

Charity Scott

Professor Scott received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (see story page 1). She published *Collaborations with the Real World: Developing Skills and Values in Law Teaching* in the *INDIANA HEALTH LAW REVIEW*. She has joined the Board of ASLME, and serves as Section Councilor in the APHA Law Section. She continues to give talks to academic and professional audiences about conflict management in health care settings.



Emily F. Suski

Professor Suski was appointed Assistant Clinical Professor. In March she presented a CLE on special education law at the Georgia Bar. She will present her forthcoming article *Never Enough: Exploring Why Emotional Harm Inflicted on Public School Children by Public School Officials Has Never Alone Violated Constitutional Liberty Interests* at the Conference on Clinical Legal Education. She has also been invited to speak at the William & Mary Law School Institute for Special Education Advocacy.



Jonathan Todres



Professor Todres published *Human Rights, Labor, and the Prevention of Human Trafficking: A Response to "A Labor Paradigm for Human Trafficking"* in the *UCLA LAW REVIEW DISCOURSE* and *Assessing Public Health Strategies for Advancing Child Protection: Human Trafficking* as a case study in the *JOURNAL OF LAW & POLICY*. He presented papers at the American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He serves as chair of the AALS Section on Children and the Law.

Leslie E. Wolf



Professor Wolf's work on Certificates of Confidentiality with colleagues at Duke resulted in several publications. A complete listing of the project's publications is available at <http://genome.duke.edu/research/society/beskow/>. She also presented the study's legal findings at the National Institutes of Health. Wolf participated in an HIV Disclosure Summit convened by two federal advisory committees. She also joined with CDC colleagues in conducting public health ethics training in a variety of venues.

Working with the law... To promote society's health

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Get Involved

Visit our website at www.lawandhealth.org to learn about upcoming events and speakers, read current news stories about the center's activities, and to view past newsletters. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/lawhealthandsociety>.

Join us as a Friend of the center at <http://law.gsu.edu/clhs/friends>. Anyone may become a Friend of the center. Friends are invited to attend educational and networking events and receive center newsletters and updates.

College of Law graduates are invited to join the Graduate Health Law Network (GHLN) at <http://law.gsu.edu/clhs/ghln>. GHLN members participate in social and professional networks, including Linked In, CLE programs, and the center's mentor program for law students.

Center Faculty & Staff

Charity Scott, Director and Catherine C. Henson Professor

Stacie P. Kershner, Associate Director

Courtney L. Anderson, Assistant Professor

Erin C. Fuse Brown, Assistant Professor

Yaniv Heled, Assistant Professor

Paul A. Lombardo, Bobby Lee Cook Professor

Jonathan Todres, Associate Professor

Leslie E. Wolf, Professor

Cassie Hayasaka, Administrative Specialist

HeLP Legal Services Clinic

Sylvia B. Caley, Director of HeLP, Associate Clinical Professor, and Co-Director of Clinic

Lisa R. Bliss, Associate Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinic

Emily F. Suski, Assistant Clinical Professor

Shamecia D. Powers, Administrative Coordinator

Law Faculty Affiliates

Jessica D. Gabel, Associate Professor

Wendy F. Hensel, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development and Professor

Faculty Fellows

Roberta M. Berry, Associate Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology

Randall L. Hughes, Of Counsel, Bryan Cave LLP.

