



## A Message from Dean Art Gaudio

Greetings from the School of Law. I hope your summer is off to a wonderful start. At the School of Law, we're wrapping up our busiest time of the year. We sent 182 J.D. and 16 LL.M. candidates into the professional world during our annual Commencement ceremonies.

While this was a time of great celebration for our newly minted alumni, there was an air of uncertainty that filled Springfield Symphony Hall during Commencement. We expect job searching for our 2009 graduates to take significantly longer than usual. To help these graduates get some experience and network with the local legal market, I would like to ask that you consider hiring one of them on a short-term, part-time basis for a specific matter that you may have pending. I hope that you will see this as a win-win arrangement; you can get the help you need on a particular project without the commitment to a full-time permanent employee, and our graduates can get experience that will help them while they search for permanent positions.



Dean Arthur R. Gaudio

The Reunion is one of the most enjoyable events the School of Law sponsors each year as I always look forward to meeting with our alumni and hearing about the good work they are doing in the legal world. Please contact Carol Thompson in our Alumni Office at 413-782-1311 or [cthompson@law.wnec.edu](mailto:cthompson@law.wnec.edu) for registration information.

**Two very noteworthy student accomplishments from this past semester were the selection of our Rendigs National Products Liability Moot Court Team as national champions and the appointment of Anil Chaudhry '09 as a Presidential Management Fellow.**

The Products Liability Championship is Western New England's second national moot court title in as many years as Professor Bill Childs led the team of Jasmine Campbell '09, Lisa Elliott 2L, and Merritt Schnipper '09 to first place from 23 teams across the country at the national competition in Cincinnati this spring.

Anil is the ideal example of the type of student Western New England College produces. A decorated Army veteran, Anil was one of approximately 200 graduates nationwide selected for this prestigious position from more than 9,600 applicants. The program, the federal government's cornerstone leadership training program, prepares master's, law, and doctoral-level students for federal service. Anil will spend the next two years advising senior leadership in the Business Transformation Agency of the Department of Defense.

Please join me in congratulating these outstanding students and all of our graduates in the Class of 2009!

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*"We are appealing to our alums to assist our recent graduates in coping with the current downturn in the legal marketplace."*

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**If you would like a short-term "Western New England Legal Practice Fellow," please contact Paula Zimmer, 413-782-1416, [pzimmer@law.wnec.edu](mailto:pzimmer@law.wnec.edu) for help in setting this up.**

We are currently planning our annual Reunion festivities for class years ending in "4" and "9" on October 17. We will be breaking new ground for the event. The beautiful new Federal Courthouse in downtown Springfield will serve as the site for our dinner and reception.

## Student Wins Massachusetts Bar Foundation Fellowship

Kelly Samuels 2L received a prestigious \$6,000 Massachusetts Bar Foundation Legal Intern Fellowship. She will spend her fellowship this summer working on housing issues with Western Massachusetts Legal Services in her hometown of Pittsfield.



Kelly Samuels 2L

“We are very proud of Kelly,” said Dean Art Gaudio. “She’s a very talented and hardworking student who still finds time to give back to her community.”

Samuels is a 2004 graduate of Berkshire Community College and a 2007 graduate of Smith College, where she was an Ada Comstock Scholar. Upon acceptance to Western New England College School of Law, Samuels was awarded the Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. Full Academic Scholarship and the Marjorie A. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship for unusual determination in overcoming obstacles in the pursuit of a legal education. She is currently a member of the *Law Review*.

The Legal Intern Fellowship Program was established in 1996 to encourage careers in the law that further the goals of social justice, while contributing valuable legal support to organizations serving the underrepresented in Massachusetts.



## Spring Dial-A-Lawyer

Thirty-seven attorneys from the greater Springfield area dedicated an afternoon of *pro bono* service to the biannual Dial-A-Lawyer event held on May 19 at the S. Prestley Blake Law Center. The attorneys fielded questions on dozens of legal topics from divorce to foreclosure to bankruptcy and dispensed free legal advice to over 400 callers from Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire (MA) counties.

Western New England College School of Law, *The Republican*, *El Pueblo Latino*, and the Massachusetts Association of Hispanic Attorneys, sponsored the event, which is now in its 15th year of operation.

### Dial-A-Lawyer Participants

*Thank you to all the volunteer attorneys:*

Tahirah Amatul-Wadud '05  
John F. Burke Jr. '08  
Alfred P. Chamberland  
Elizabeth N. Clarke  
Colleen C. Currie '79  
Justin Howard Dion '00  
Mary K. Eaton '04  
Zoe Falken '06  
Michele Feinstein '84  
Terry M. Ford '98  
Ellen Weiss Freyman '88  
John E. Garber  
Claudette-Jean Girard '01  
Joshua P. Grey  
Elizabeth D. Katz  
Mary Jo Kennedy  
Roger P. Lipton '82  
Carolyn L. McCaffrey '00  
Amy J. Megliola '02  
Susan A. Mielnikowski '96  
Kelly B. Neubauer  
Thomas D. O'Connor Jr. '00  
Mark J. Pasquariello  
Christopher D. Reavey '89  
Timothy A. Reilly  
Kara A. Rescia '92  
Katherine A. Robertson '90  
Daniel Mark Rothschild  
Robert T. Santaniello '91  
Denise M. Shear  
Michael Siddall  
Diana Sorrentini-Velez  
Eileen Z. Sorrentino '86  
Stanley A. Szlachetka  
Peggy Ann Torello '02  
Christina M. Turgeon '01  
Jeffrey S. Weisser '76

## Clason Speakers Series Concludes 20th Year with Dynamic Speakers

The prestigious Clason Speaker Series completed its 20th year with three thought-provoking lectures during the spring semester at the S. Prestley Blake Law Center.

The series, which is named after former Dean of the School of Law and former member of the U.S. House of Representatives Charles R. Clason, provides a venue for legal experts to present works-in-progress on current legal topics through lectures to the Western New England College community.

**Dr. David Michaels**, Research Professor and Interim Chairman of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services, opened the spring term on February 5 with a lecture entitled “Doubt is Their Product: Manufactured Uncertainty and Public Health.”

“Can you trust the advice of scientists who have a conflict of interest?” asked Dr. Michaels. “The current approach of most agencies is to ask scientists to be part of a study and if they have a conflict, maybe they will recuse themselves. I believe financial conflicts of interest fundamentally cloud your vision and you can’t see it yourself. As a result of that, if you have a financial conflict, your advice is bad, it is warped.”



Dr. David Michaels



David Singleton

**David Singleton**, Executive Director of the Ohio Justice and Policy Center (OJPC), continued the intellectual debate on March 9 with his presentation named “Diligence Alone

Won’t Do: Representing Indigent Defendants Zealously.”

“A lot of public defenders get this question, ‘how can you represent guilty people?’” said Mr. Singleton. “Well, if you go into [a case] thinking ‘my client is guilty and they don’t deserve my best representation’ that leads to some of the results we see all over the nation where innocent people get convicted of crimes they didn’t commit because their lawyer didn’t fight for them, didn’t believe in them, or didn’t see them as human beings. In my opinion, this is one of the reasons we have so many innocent people behind bars. I’m not saying everybody in prison is innocent, but when you get the kind of numbers we are seeing of people getting released, it seems like one every couple of months gets national attention, that is crazy. But it comes from not believing in your clients and not fighting as hard as you can for them.”

The Series wrapped up its milestone 20th year with a talk by **Molly Betuz Land**, Associate Professor of Law at New York Law School, on April 7. Her lecture, entitled “Human Rights, Copyright, and Culture,” discussed the intersection of intellectual property and human rights.



Molly Betuz Land

“A central challenge for states today is achieving an appropriate balance between claims of exclusivity which are often made through intellectual property and claims of access,” explained Professor Land. “Even if you were to agree it was important to prevent wholesale copying, we can still be very concerned about the use of copyright to limit people’s ability to transform work into works of their own.”

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Carol Thompson  
Law School Alumni Coordinator  
Tel. 413-782-1311  
[cthompson@law.wnec.edu](mailto:cthompson@law.wnec.edu)

## Celebrating Excellence: Annual Awards Presented at Dean's Tea

In the final official School gathering before exams, the 2009 Dean's Tea & Award Ceremony handed out citations of excellence to numerous students and faculty members on April 23.



### Student Awards

**ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award:**

Jasmin Rojas '09

**Association of Corporate Counsel Ethics Award:**

Barbara Munro '09

**Catherine Bean Street Scholarship:**

Andrea Momnie

**Career Services Award:** John Bandeian '09

**Iijimi Awards for Best Brief Winner:** Adele

Jasperse and Matthew Paradisi

**Honorable Mentions:** Catherine Chevalier, Robyn

Gallagher, Lauren Lifland, Fred Melkey, Megan Pilblad, Karina Schrengohst, and Sandra Ward

### SBA Announcements

**Student Grad Singers:** Kathryn Foster '09

and Lindsay Jones '09

**Student Grad Speaker:** Chaucey Fuller '09

**SBA Club of the Year:**

Black Law Students Association

**SBA Committee of the Year:** Evening Student Events

**SBA Representative of the Year**

**Day:** Stephanie Duclair '09

**Evening:** Lynn Scull '09

**SBA Senior of the Year:** John Bandeian '09

### Mock Trial Teams

**American Association for Justice Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor Bill Childs

**Team members:** James Donohue '09, Kevin Duncan '09, Zachary Matty '09, and Danielle Nicklas

**First Amendment Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professors Jeanne Kaiser '93 and Myra Orlen

**Team members:** Adam Morrison and Timothy Westerman

**Frederick Douglass Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor Harris Freeman '03

**Team members:** Katie Foster '09, Ira Richardson '09, Jasmin Rojas '09, and Mara Ryan

**Jessup International Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor Robert Statchen

**Team members:** Jennifer Boyd '09, Delton Caraway, Daimon Carter, Miranda Profit, and Ann Wengel

**National Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor Bruce Miller

**Team members:** Evan Brunetti '09, Kelly Gruber '09, and Chris Visser '09

**National Trial Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor John Egnal

**Team members:** Victoria Forcella '09, Chaucey Fuller '09, David Grow '09, and Guy Whelchel '09

**Negotiation Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor René Reich-Graefe

**Team members:** Paul Buono '09, Sandra San Emeterio, James Murtha, and Daniel Terek '09

**Products Liability Moot Court**

**Coach:** Professor Bill Childs

**Team members:** Jasmine Campbell '09, Lisa Elliott, and Merritt Schnipper '09



**Tax Challenge**

**Coach:** Professor Fred Royal

**Team members:** Jason Ainge '09, Taylor Bouchard '09, Jasmine Campbell '09, Justin Donatello '09, Stephanie Duclair '09, Kevin Duncan '09, Tiffany Hixson '09, Kevin Holtman '09, Timothy Pettitt '09, and Joseph Ross

**Daniel Webster Awards**

**Best Brief:** James Murtha

**Best Advocate:** Matthew Fleischer

**Best Oralist:** Miranda Profit

### Faculty Awards

**Catherine J. Jones**

**Professor of the Year:**

Sudha Setty

**Adjunct Professor of the Year:**

Carmino Santaniello '86



Sudha Setty

## Massachusetts Appeals Court Visits Campus

On a cold early spring morning, three honorable members of the Massachusetts Appeals Court made one of their biannual sittings in the J. Gerard Pelligrini Moot Court Room in the S. Prestley Blake Law Center on April 8.

The Honorable Ariane Vuono presided over the tribunal which included the Honorable William Meade '89 and the Honorable Francis Fecteau. The Court heard five cases from the western Massachusetts docket during the morning session then took



William Meade '89, Ariane Vuono (presiding), and Francis Fecteau

questions from the assembled students and members of the local community.

The Massachusetts Appeals Court travels to Western New England College School of Law twice a year to hear local cases. Each visit gives the students an excellent opportunity to witness the Court in action as it listens to oral arguments.

## Save the Date

### Estate Planning Techniques: *A Morning with Jonathan Blattmachr*

Wednesday,  
**October 7, 2009**  
8:30 a.m.—12:00 noon  
Rivers Memorial Hall  
Cost: \$75.00



Jonathan Blattmachr

This seminar is suggested for professionals who advise clients regarding estate planning or taxation issues. The seminar provides valuable knowledge for estate planning and tax attorneys, accountants, financial planners, trust officers, and other professional trustees.

For more information, call **413-796-2260**.

## Alumni Association Board Ballot

Please indicate if you accept this slate by checking the box and returning this to the Office of Law Alumni Relations no later than **September 16, 2009**.

Note: Officers and Directors are elected to three-year terms commencing on **October 16, 2009**, at the Fall Annual Board meeting.

I accept this slate of nominees       I do not accept this slate of nominees

**Elnesa Diaz '05**  
Attorney  
Greater Hartford Legal Aid  
Hartford, CT

**Nebiyu Feleke '00**  
Associate Legal Advisor  
U.S. Immigration and  
Customs Department  
Washington, DC

**Seth Garbarsky '01**  
Assistant State's Attorney  
State of Connecticut  
Superior Court  
Meridan, CT

**Lori Granat-Dupell '01**  
Partner, Buzzell & Granat  
North Brookfield, MA

**Julia Lentini '06**  
Staff Attorney  
Connecticut Department  
of Social Services  
Hartford, CT

**Hon. Mark Powers '84**  
Family Court Judge  
Schenectady County  
Family Court  
Schenectady, NY

**David Rock '05**  
Attorney  
Law Office of Joseph Bernard  
Springfield, MA



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SCHOOL of LAW

Office of Law Alumni Relations  
1215 Wilbraham Road  
Springfield, MA 01119-2684

## Upcoming Events

### September 2009

- 12 Red Sox vs. Tampa Bay Rays  
Fenway Park
- 21 Clason Speaker Series–  
Bethany Berger  
Law School Commons  
12:00 noon
- 22 Law and Business Center  
Speaker Series–  
Darian Ibrahim  
Law School Commons
- 24 Fair Housing Conference  
S. Prestley Blake Law Center  
5:00–8:00 p.m.  
12:00 noon

### October 2009

- 7 Estate Planning Techniques:  
*A Morning with*  
Jonathan Blattmachr  
Rivers Memorial Hall  
8:30 a.m.–12:00 noon
- 13 Clason Speaker Series–  
Mike Wishnie  
Law School Commons  
12:00 noon
- 14 150th Anniversary Celebration  
of the Massachusetts  
Superior Court  
S. Prestley Blake Law Center  
2:30–5:00 p.m.
- 16-17 Fall Alumni Association  
Board Meeting  
S. Prestley Blake Law Center
- 17 Reunion Dinner for classes  
ending in “4” and “9”  
Federal Courthouse,  
300 State Street, Springfield  
6:00 p.m.
- 22 Dial-A-Lawyer

### November 2009

- 13 10th Annual Dinner  
for Students and  
Alumni of Color  
Log Cabin Banquet &  
Meeting House,  
Holyoke, MA

## SAVE THE DATE Reunion 2009

Calling members of classes  
ending in “4” and “9.”

**October 17, 2009**

Federal Courthouse,  
300 State Street, Springfield

For more information or to volunteer  
contact Carol Thompson at  
**413-782-1311** or email her at  
**[cthompson@law.wnec.edu](mailto:cthompson@law.wnec.edu)**.

To register and to see who else is coming,  
visit **[www.law.wnec.edu/alumni](http://www.law.wnec.edu/alumni)**.

