GAME ON
Cardozo’s Sports Law Stars
“The law can have great force, but in order to truly form a more perfect union, it needs an assist from human beings who think and feel beyond it.”

PREET BHARARA, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, speaking at Cardozo Law’s 36th commencement ceremony

“People always ask me, ‘When did you become a textualist?’ as if it's a weird thing. It's what you do, when you read!”

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA, speaking at "Engaging Stanley Fish" at Cardozo Law

“By incarcerating youth, oftentimes putting them through long bouts of solitary confinement, we are not only setting them on a course for failure instead of addressing the underlying problems, but also are spending a lot of money in the process of doing harm.”

PROFESSOR ELLEN YAROSHEFSKY, director of Cardozo’s Youth Justice Clinic. The clinic released a report and testified before congress, calling for New York City to modernize its punishment of youth offenders.

“Training lawyers in the latest in forensic science means we are creating a network of public defenders who are better armed in the courtroom, and more prepared to win their case.”

PROFESSOR BARRY SCHECK, co-founder of the Innocence Project, who organized the first National Forensic College at Cardozo Law, training hundreds of public defenders in the latest in complex forensic science issues

“The time has come to repeal RFRA and return to common sense religious liberty under the First Amendment.”

PROFESSOR MARCI HAMILTON, speaking after the Supreme Court’s decision on Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby was handed down
Features

20  A Conversation With the New Vice Dean
Melanie Leslie on her Rise from Student, to Professor, to Vice Dean

22  Game On
As the field of sports law grows, Cardozo alumni step up.

38  Life in the Box
Faculty and students take on solitary confinement.

44  Richard Weisberg
His New Fight for Justice for Holocaust Survivors and their Families

50  Conviction
Jailed for 10 years for a crime he didn’t commit, Kian Khatibi ’14 found the strength to earn his J.D.

56  Global Lawyering
Cardozo Students Crossing Borders

80  End Note
A Look at Ed Stein’s Five Years as Vice Dean

Departments

3  Campus News
14  Clinics News
15  Faculty Briefs
60  Student Briefs
64  Alumni News & Class Notes
74  Advancement News
79  In Memoriam
A Wide Reach and Lasting Impact on the Legal World

THIS ISSUE OF CARDOZO LIFE CELEBRATES Cardozo lawyers' impressive breadth of activities and achievements. The stories in this magazine showcase the importance of the school's innovative approaches to criminal law, creativity in legal theory, and pioneering programs in emerging areas of legal practice.

This spring, Professor Alex Reinert, working with the New York Civil Liberties Union, successfully won a settlement that ends the use of solitary confinement for youth, pregnant inmates, developmentally disabled and intellectually challenged prisoners in New York State prisons. The Youth Justice Clinic, led by Professor Ellen Yaroshefsky, wrote an important report on the conditions for minors at Rikers Island and provided written testimony to Congress on their recommendations. And Professor Richard Weisberg advanced a potentially historic case on Holocaust restitution. These are examples of how our community brings law to life.

Cardozo Law alumni are big players in sports law, including the school's new board chair David Samson '94, who, as president of the Miami Marlins, played a key role in securing a public-private partnership to build the team's new retractable roof ballpark. David and other alumni featured in this issue negotiate multimillion-dollar contracts, shape athletic careers, and work in the general counsel's office of organizations like the Brooklyn Nets and Major League Soccer.

The founders of this school wanted to create an institution that works in the service of justice, as well as one that is a game-changer in legal practice. That spirit of innovation continues today. For instance, Professor Barry Scheck co-founded the Innocence Project more than 20 years ago, and today he is continuing to innovate the field of criminal defense with the launch of an annual forensic college for public defenders, established through a partnership between Cardozo and the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. The inaugural forensic college brought more than 100 leading public defenders together to focus on changes in forensic science and its impact on criminal proceedings.

Finally, the school's current focus on technology will produce the next generation of leaders in this emerging field. Cardozo took a major step forward this year by establishing the Cardozo Data Law Initiative, a first-of-its-kind program for studies in e-discovery, surveillance, privacy and cyber security.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Cardozo Life. I believe it is important for our community to work together to continually build on the strengths of our past, while developing new and innovative approaches to today's challenges. With your help and that of our talented community, we endeavor to stay inspired and continue growing.

Warm regards,

MATTHEW DILLER
Dean and Professor of Law
Edward Stein ended his influential tenure as vice dean of Cardozo Law in July, marking five years of work advancing programs and life at the school. His tremendous energy and commitment touched many in the community. Dean Matthew Diller praised Professor Stein's work on behalf of students and faculty.

"Ed is a brilliant problem solver, a calming presence, a supportive colleague and friend, and an amazingly efficient administrator," Dean Diller said. "His inspired leadership is deeply felt by students, faculty and administrators throughout the school."

With Professor Stein’s help, the school’s curriculum expanded. As a faculty leader, he played a critical role in hiring professors and administrators. He also contributed to the yearlong effort to overhaul the upper-level curriculum and institute professional concentrations at the law school.

During his time as vice dean, Professor Stein took on numerous special assignments that expanded the law school’s reach in New York City as well as abroad. He established lasting partnerships with The New School and the Fashion Institute of Technology as well as with the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where he helped create the Einstein–Cardozo bioethics education programs. He travelled to Israel and led the development of the Israeli Supreme Court Project at Cardozo Law, which established Cardozo as the repository for translations of important Israeli court decisions. Professor Stein also taught in Beijing, expanding ties between China’s State Intellectual Property Office and Cardozo.

"Ed brought to his position much of what makes him so successful as a scholar and teacher: He was inventive, interested and engaged," said Professor Myriam Gilles. "He enjoyed figuring out interesting new ways of doing things, thinking ‘outside the box,’ and finding innovative strategies for solving challenging problems."

Professor Stein played a key role in student life at the school beyond the classroom. When Lower Manhattan lost power for almost a week following Superstorm Sandy, Professor Stein and Dean Diller took turns walking and biking to the Alabama residence hall to check on students living there, and Professor Stein made arrangements with The New School to allow Cardozo students to use its facilities.

Professor Stein has been involved in numerous conferences at the school, including conducting an interview with Edie Windsor and her lawyer Roberta Kaplan before a packed Jacob Burns Moot Court Room about United States v. Windsor, which overturned the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

Professor Stein will remain at Cardozo as professor of law and director of the Gertrud Mainzer Program in Family Law, Policy and Bioethics. He is looking forward to teaching and writing. His scholarship focuses on topics related to families, sexual orientation, gender, reproduction, cognition and science. He is the author of several books, including The Mismeasure of Desire: The Science, Theory and Ethics of Sexual Orientation.

Vice Dean Melanie Leslie is the first Cardozo alumna to hold the position. Her meteoric rise from student to faculty member to vice dean endows her with a unique understanding of both sides of the classroom. Vice Dean Leslie began teaching at Cardozo in 1995 and has been a tenured professor since 2002. A prolific writer, she specializes in estates, nonprofits, and fiduciary responsibility in the trust, corporate and nonprofit contexts. She is recognized as one of the top 10 trusts and estates scholars nationwide and has been ranked sixth on Brian Leiter’s Law School Reports’ list of most-cited trusts and estates scholars.

Her most recent article, published in the NYU Law Review, reveals problems with the current system of managing retirement accounts—problems that could impact millions of Americans. The paper, titled “Accidental Inheritance: Retirement Accounts and the Hidden Law of Succession,” was co-authored with Professor Stewart E. Sterk, with whom she also wrote a leading trusts and estates casebook and Concepts and Insights in Trusts and Estates (Foundation Press).

“Melanie has excelled at every aspect of her position as a member of the Cardozo faculty,” said Professor Stewart Sterk. “In the classroom, she is engaging, demanding and beloved. Her leadership skills make her a natural for the vice dean position. She is truly one of Cardozo’s finest.”
Justice Antonin Scalia and Professor Stanley Fish Debate Issues of Interpretation

Stanley Fish has spent a lifetime thinking and writing about matters of interpretation. As a leading scholar, he has written critiques of Supreme Court opinions, at times agreeing with and at times disagreeing with Justice Antonin Scalia. So when Justice Scalia called him to accept an invitation to visit Cardozo, the stage was set for an interesting debate.

Professor Fish is the Floersheimer Visiting Distinguished Professor of Law at Cardozo. He is a contributor to The New York Times’ “Opinionator” blog and a prolific author, having written over 200 scholarly books and articles. At the panel, Duke University theologian Stanley Hauerwas and University of Illinois, Chicago, literary theorist Walter Benn Michaels joined Professor Fish and Justice Scalia for a lively discussion of interpretation.

The event drew an overflow crowd, with students lining up to see Justice Scalia. They were not disappointed. Two of Professor Fish’s past contributions to The New York Times provided analyses of the writings of Justice Scalia, the longest sitting member of the court: One was entitled “Why Scalia is Right,” and the other, “How Scalia is Wrong.” While Justice Scalia is an ardent textualist, Professor Fish’s scholarship focuses on the premise that the speaker has the right to stipulate meaning. Neither Professor Fish nor Justice Scalia backed away from their positions, making for a lively and at times humorous exchange. The format allowed each of the three guests to speak in turn before Professor Fish responded. The event then moved to a Q&A session, in which the panelists answered the audience’s questions and debated their answers among themselves.

Professors Michaels and Hauerwas added extra life to the event. Professor Michaels describes himself as an originalist, meaning that he believes that language depends on the intent of the speaker. Professor Hauerwas is a theologian who spoke on interpreting language through the Bible’s words. The moderator, Professor Peter Goodrich, provided a light-hearted touch, bringing the audience to laughter many times even as the panelists debated some heavy topics.

Professor Fish was instrumental in organizing the event, and Dean Diller offered the opening remarks. Students had the opportunity to interact with Justice Scalia and other panelists at a reception following the event.
The Roberts Court: An Up-Close Look

Prominent Supreme Court litigators Miguel Estrada and Paul Smith engaged in a lively discussion with journalist, author and legal analyst Jeffrey Toobin at Cardozo Law on March 11. They discussed the Supreme Court with a focus on its decisions under Chief Justice John Roberts.

It was thrilling for the audience of students, faculty and others in the Cardozo community to hear from the distinguished panelists. Among many topics, the experts discussed United States v. Windsor, the Affordable Care Act and the Supreme Court’s decisions related to voting rights. They analyzed the written opinions of Justice Anthony Kennedy, widely seen as the swing vote on the court. They also debated Justice Clarence Thomas’ role and the significance of his silence during oral arguments.

Estrada has argued 20 cases before the Supreme Court on intellectual property matters as well as on limits on Congress’ commerce clause powers. Smith has argued 15 Supreme Court cases on issues such as free speech, civil rights and civil procedure. Toobin provides legal analysis on the nation’s most provocative and high profile cases for both CNN and The New Yorker and is the author of several critically acclaimed, best-selling books.

The event was moderated by Kate Shaw, assistant professor of law at Cardozo, who had her own behind-the-scenes view of the court as a law clerk for Justice Stephen Breyer. Dean Matthew Diller, who attended law school with Toobin, helped organize the panel. The event was sponsored by the Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy and the American Constitution Society.

National Forensic College at Cardozo Law Advances Forensic Science Knowledge Among Public Defender Offices

Public defenders and lawyers with training responsibilities from around the country gathered at Cardozo Law on June 8–13 for the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL)-Cardozo Law National Forensic College, hearing from experts and participating in workshops on complex forensic science issues. Leading scientists, litigators and scholars in the field covered the latest developments in forensics and systematically strategized how forensic issues can be approached at each stage in a case. Discussions focused on topics such as representation in false confession cases, eyewitness memory and perception, litigating fingerprint cases, cell phone forensics, legal rulings regarding low copy number DNA, contamination issues in labs, and how recent court decisions impact privacy issues.

The conference is the brainchild of Professor Barry Scheck, who worked with Professor Ellen Yaroshefsky; Peter Walsh, director of Cardozo’s Intensive Trial Advocacy Program and the Lawyering & Legal Writing Center; and the NACDL to bring his idea to life. Professor Scheck says the goal of the inaugural, first-of-its-kind conference is to decrease the number of people incarcerated via wrongful convictions.

“Training lawyers in the latest in forensic science means we are creating a network of public defenders who are better armed in the courtroom and more prepared to win their case,” said Scheck, who is co-founder of the Innocence Project.
Fostering and Financing the Innovation Ecosystem

A conference held on June 30 brought representatives together from three paradigmatic jurisdictions—France, Israel and the United States—to compare different approaches taken by leading countries on innovation policy. Speakers included Philippe Bouyoux, minister counselor for economic affairs at the French Embassy in Washington, D.C., and H.E. Ido Aharoni, consul general of Israel in New York.

The conference, which was sponsored by the Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Center on Corporate Governance, linked technology, business and policymaking by exploring the role of governments and the private sector in financing innovation. Discussions focused on how the public and private sector can best work together to spark entrepreneurship and innovation-led growth.

From left, Uri Levine, co-founder and president of Waze, co-founder and chairman of FeeX; Brad Burnham, managing partner at Union Square Ventures; Georges Nahon, CEO of Orange Silicon Valley and president of Orange Institute; and Professor Michael Burstein, Cardozo School of Law speak on a panel during the Cardozo Law event, Fostering & Financing the Innovation Ecosystem.

The Uri and Caroline Bauer Memorial Lecture

Louise Melling, deputy legal director of the ACLU and director of the ACLU Center for Liberty spoke on “Lifting the Scarlet Letter from Abortion.” The March 2014 event was organized by the Cardozo Law Review.

Cardozo Law Tech Talks

Lawyers, business leaders, government officials and scholars will come together to look in-depth at current and pressing issues surrounding new technology, legal regulation and business interests. As technology moves ahead a rapid pace, how will the legal world respond? This multi-part series will analyze legal and regulatory questions surrounding topics such as:

- Digital Currency
- Privacy and Cybersecurity
- E-Discovery
- Data in the Cloud

Visit www.cardozo.yu.edu for more details.
CARDOZO DATA LAW INITIATIVE LAUNCHES
The Cardozo Data Law Initiative (CDLI) launched in May, providing students with a groundbreaking program in the rapidly expanding fields of information governance, e-discovery, data privacy, surveillance and cyber security. The initiative offers courses focused on various aspects of data law, including Corporate Internal Investigations, Internet Law, E-Discovery, Digital Evidence and Computer Forensics, and Social Media Law. It also offers an externship program, and many of the externships are with companies represented on the initiative’s distinguished board of advisors. The program utilizes Cardozo’s existing top-notch Intellectual Property and Information Law Program along with its Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Center on Corporate Governance. Patrick Burke, counsel at Reed Smith, was selected by Dean Diller as director of the program. The school plans to offer a certificate for graduating J.D. students who meet the requisite number of relevant courses and externship credits.

TECH ENTREPRENEUR AND ALUMNUS NAMED DIRECTOR OF TECH STARTUP CLINIC
Aaron Wright ’05, the founder of the highly successful wiki-based company ArmchairGM, has been chosen as director of the Tech Startup Clinic. Wright developed the sports forum and wiki site while at Cardozo and later sold it to Wikia. He continued to run the company after the sale. Wright will guide clinic students in understanding the myriad legal and business strategy challenges that startups face and will give them hands-on experience with intellectual property, corporate, contract, tax, and labor and employment issues. He joins Cardozo from Jenner & Block, where he was an associate in the Content, Media and Entertainment group.

THE EFFECT OF CARIOU V. PRINCE:
AN APPROPRIATION ARTIST REFRAMES COPYRIGHT LAW
The Cardozo Art Law Society hosted a lively panel discussion on the Cariou v. Prince decision in November. Panelists discussed the outcome of the copyright infringement suit by photographer Patrick Cariou against famed appropriation artist Richard Prince, in which an appeals court found that 25 of Prince’s works incorporating dozens of Cariou’s photographs into a series that sold for more than $10 million were fair use.

Indie Film Clinic Clients Screen at 2014 Film Festivals
Two of The Indie Film Clinic’s recent clients screened their debut features at leading U.S. and international film festivals in 2014. Iva Radijvojevic’s Evaporating Borders is told through a series of vignettes that explore the lives of asylum seekers and political refugees on the island of Cyprus, one of the easiest points of entry into the European Union. Evaporating Borders premiered at Rotterdam in January and has since screened at the SXSW Film Festival in Austin, the Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Film Festival in Toronto and the Human Rights Watch Film Festival in New York. She’s Lost Control, written, produced and directed by Anja Marquardt, explores the ever-blurring line between professional and personal intimacy through the lens of surrogate partner therapy. She’s Lost Control premiered in February at the Berlin International Film Festival, where Marquardt won the CICAE Art Cinema Award, and has since screened at SXSW and in New York as part of the New Directors/New Films festival and the Rooftop Films Summer Series.
Cardozo’s spring Fashion Law Symposium on April 24 focused on key legal issues in today’s fashion business, including branded entertainment, Protection in the Age of Viral Marketing. Barbara Kolsun ’82, the executive vice president and general counsel of Stuart Weitzman and an adjunct professor who teaches Fashion Law Drafting at Cardozo, organized the symposium. She worked closely with Davis & Gilbert LLP and Alexandra Simmerson ’14, who is now working as corporate counsel for Michael Kors. Davis & Gilbert partners James Johnston, Joseph Lewczak and Ina Scher moderated the panels, and the firm hosted a cocktail reception after the symposium where students and alumni met industry leaders.

The event was also sponsored by the Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Center on Corporate Governance, the Cardozo Intellectual Property Law Society, the Cardozo Cyberlaw Society.

FASHION LAW SYMPOSIUM:
A Spotlight on the Latest Trends in Brand Protection in the Age of Viral Marketing

Cardozo’s spring Fashion Law Symposium on April 24 focused on key legal issues in today’s fashion business, including branded entertainment, product placement, mobile marketing, and false advertising and deceptive marketing practices. Barbara Kolsun ’82, the executive vice president and general counsel of Stuart Weitzman and an adjunct professor who teaches Fashion Law Drafting at Cardozo, organized the symposium. She worked closely with Davis & Gilbert LLP and Alexandra Simmerson ’14, who is now working as corporate counsel for Michael Kors. Davis & Gilbert partners James Johnston, Joseph Lewczak and Ina Scher moderated the panels, and the firm hosted a cocktail reception after the symposium where students and alumni met industry leaders.

The event was also sponsored by the Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Center on Corporate Governance, the Cardozo Intellectual Property Law Society, the Cardozo Cyberlaw Society.

All-Star Attorneys Participate in Cardozo’s Sports Law Symposium

The second annual Cardozo Sports Law Symposium in March featured high-profile guests from the NBA, MLB, NHL, NFL and MLS. Sports journalists, agents and professors also joined the panels, which focused on some of the biggest current issues surrounding sports and law. Topics included the potential for growth of professional sports abroad, unionization in professional and collegiate sports, the legal implications behind the world's largest sporting events, and the rising popularity of participating in fantasy sports leagues for cash.

From left, Brian Schwartz, co-founder and CEO of DraftStreet; Christopher LaVigne, counsel, Shearman & Sterling LLP; Tom Griffiths, CPO and co-founder, FanDuel; and Marc Edelman, associate professor of law at Baruch College and sports lawyer discuss the rising popularity of participating in fantasy sports for cash.

ANNUAL BURNS SENIOR LECTURE
IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

David Nimmer, of counsel at Irell & Manella and professor from practice at the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law, spoke in February about the scope of copyright’s public performance right in the context of legal challenges to technology developed by startup company Aereo.

IP SPEAKER SERIES

Every year, Cardozo invites leading scholars to discuss current research in intellectual property and information law. This year’s scholars included Sapna Kumar, University of Houston; Peter Menell, University of California, Berkeley; C. Scott Hemphill, Columbia University; and Jerry Kang, University of California, Los Angeles.

CARDozo/BMl ENTERTAINMENT AND COMMUNICATIONs LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The 30th annual Cardozo/BMI Moot Court Competition took place in March, with almost 30 teams competing. This year, the problem centered on whether a copyrighted television program is publicly performed when a company retransmits a broadcast of that program over the Internet.

IP & INFORMATION LAW COLLOQUIUM

Each year, Cardozo’s IP faculty lead a colloquium on IP and information law research and host six distinguished scholars to engage faculty, practitioners and a select group of Cardozo students in a discussion of cutting-edge research in the field. The 2014 IP & Information Law Colloquium included guest lectures from Oren Bracha, University of Texas; Michael J. Madison, University of Pittsburgh; Cynthia Ho, Loyola University Chicago; Gaia Bernstein, Seton Hall University; Annemarie Bridy, University of Idaho; and Michael Risch, Villanova University.
KUKIN PROGRAM FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION

THE CARDOZO JOURNAL OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION NAMES SYMPOSIUM AFTER JED D. MELNICK ’99
The Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution’s annual symposium was renamed the Jed D. Melnick Symposium of the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution in recognition of distinguished alumnus Melnick’s service to the law school and his generous gift in support of the Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution. The yearly symposium will gather high-profile lawyers and scholars in dispute resolution to discuss important and timely topics.

BIOETHICS, HEALTHCARE POLICY AND ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION IN THE AGE OF OBAMACARE
The annual Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution fall symposium attracted top practitioners in the field. The keynote speech, delivered by renowned bioethicist Arthur Caplan, discussed the reasons why evidence-based practice cannot continue serving as the foundation for health care inquiry and understanding. A closing speech was delivered by prominent attorney and mediator Geoff Drucker, who discussed the various levels of health care relationships and disputes (interpersonal, political and practice-groups interactions), looking into how policy decisions can be made on these various levels to best serve citizens’ health care needs.

ADR WORKS-IN-PROGRESS CONFERENCE
In November 2013, the Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution and the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution hosted the Association of American Law School’s Section on Alternative Dispute Resolution’s seventh annual Works-in-Progress Conference, where distinguished professors and practitioners in the ADR field presented their works in progress and invited feedback from colleagues. The conference is designed to enhance the quality of ADR scholarship in works that appear in print.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION SOCIETY EVENTS:
- Sports Arbitration Panel
- Issues in International Dispute Resolution
- Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Founding Process

HOLOCAUST, GENOCIDE, AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM

A Thousand Years of Infamy: The History of Blood Libel

A particularly virulent period of anti-Semitism, as evidenced by blood libel trials and the subsequent execution of Jews, originated in England in 1144 and cast a dark shadow eastward throughout Europe and Russia for one thousand years. In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the blood libel trial in tsarist Russia that resulted in the near-miraculous acquittal of Mendel Beilis, Cardozo Law hosted a conference titled A Thousand Years of Infamy: The History of Blood Libel on November 14–15, 2013. Organized by Richard Weisberg, the Walter Floersheimer Professor of Constitutional Law, the conference brought together a group of distinguished legal and literary scholars.

From left, Professors Richard Weisberg, Cardozo School of Law; Sanford Levinson, University of Texas Law School; and David Fraser, University of Nottingham discuss the history of blood libel.

Cardozo was ranked #7 in the nation in dispute resolution in 2014 by U.S. News & World Report.
Guests hear the details behind the prosecution of Jordan Belfort and Stratton Oakmont, a case that inspired the movie The Wolf of Wall Street.

Prosecutors Give an Inside Look into The Wolf of Wall Street

A packed audience heard behind-the-scenes accounts of the most notorious pump-and-dump case of the '90s from panelists who investigated, prosecuted and defended Jordan Belfort and Stratton Oakmont.

Panelists spoke on the differences between the actual case and the hit Hollywood version of the story, drawing laughs from the audience after saying that the movie actually played down the debauchery that Belfort and his colleagues at Stratton Oakmont were partaking in.

Speakers detailed how Belfort and others associated with the firm’s scam were prosecuted. They spoke on the big break in the case, which came when Belfort set up offshore corporations and bank accounts to smuggle money out of the country—meaning the government could go after him for money laundering. The panelists also addressed how to protect investors from fraudulent schemes like Stratton Oakmont’s.

The conference, held in January in the Jacob Burns Moot Court Room, was organized with the help of Cardozo alumnus Jonathan Henes ’96, partner at Kirkland & Ellis.

Preet Bharara, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, gave the closing remarks at the event.

Heyman Center Lunch Talks

Mary R. (NIna) Henderson, director, CNO Financial Group and Walter Energy
Brad Hargreaves, co-founder, General Assembly
Ariel Deckelbaum, partner, Paul, Weiss
Jay Kalish, senior vice president and general counsel, OurCrowd, Israel
SEC Commissioner Daniel M. Gallagher
Zeev Klein, general partner and co-founder, Landmark Ventures
Shri Bhashyam ’08, co-founder, EquityZen
Professor Andrea Guaccero, Roma Tre University, Italy
Inspire! Awards Honor Those Dedicated to Indigent Defense

The Inspire! Awards on January 30 honored community members dedicated to providing the highest quality defense representation to those unable to afford an attorney. Jonathan Rapping, president and founder of Gideon's Promise, was the special honoree of the night, which included a screening of the award-winning documentary Gideon’s Army, the awards ceremony and the annual public service student-alumni networking event.

Other recipients of this year’s Inspire! Award were Robert Collins, visiting clinical professor of law and director of the Divorce Mediation Clinic; Yovani Hiciano, porter and housekeeper at Cardozo Law; Stanley Neustadter, director of the Criminal Appeals Clinic; and class of 2014 students Ryan Brewer, Mallory Harwood and Laura Tatelman. The award was also given to Cardozo alumni who have dedicated their careers to indigent defense.

TWENTY-SECOND CARDozo PUBLIC SERVICE AUCTION SMASHES FUNDRAISING RECORD

Thanks to the hard work and generosity of the entire Cardozo community, the 22nd annual Cardozo Public Service Auction brought in $620,000, breaking last year’s record. The auction’s success means that 254 Cardozo students (every eligible student) received a generous $4,000–$5,000 stipend to work in areas of public interest law for summer 2014. Over the past ten years, every eligible student has received a summer stipend. See page 77 for more.
From left, Lt. Gen. David Barno (Ret.), senior fellow and co-director of the Responsible Defense Program at the Center for a New American Security and former commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan; Ali Soufan, Chairman and CEO of the Soufan Group and former FBI supervisory special agent; Professor Deborah Pearlstein, Cardozo School of Law; John B. Bellinger, partner at Arnold & Porter LLP and former legal adviser to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; Mary DeRosa, distinguished visitor from practice, Georgetown University Law Center and former deputy assistant and deputy counsel to the president and National Security Council legal adviser under President Obama.

**LAW AT THE END OF WAR:**

**Fighting Terror After Afghanistan**

In a major address on terrorism in May 2013, President Obama reiterated his determination to end U.S. combat operations in Afghanistan in the coming year and to pursue a counterterrorism policy that avoids “keeping America on a perpetual wartime footing.” What might such an approach mean for U.S. detention and targeting operations? What legal constraints and structures will apply? A panel of distinguished national security experts moderated by Professor Deborah Pearlstein on October 14, 2013, considered what counterterrorism law and policy can and should be after a decade of terrorism wars. The panel was the culmination of a daylong, off-the-record roundtable engaging leading policymakers, practitioners and academics on these key questions of law and national security.

**COMMUNITY EVENT ON STOP-AND-FRISK LAWSUITS AND LASTING REFORMS**

A community event about potential outcomes from stop-and-frisk lawsuits was held at Cardozo on January 27. Public Advocate Letitia James, the Floersheimer Center and Communities United for Police Reform presented the event, which addressed the path towards creating meaningful and lasting stop-and-frisk reforms in the wake of developments in stop-and-frisk class action lawsuits.

**COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM**

On March 27 the Floersheimer Center partnered with the Latin American Law Students Association to present a panel concerning immigration reform, one of the most pressing political issues currently facing the nation. Moderated by Professor Katherine Tinto, the panel featured Professor Peter Markowitz, Cardozo Law; Professor Alina Das, New York University School of Law; Professor Dan Smulian, Brooklyn Law School; and Professor Michael Wishnie, Yale Law School. The panelists discussed the pending immigration reform bill, focusing on how and when it may be enacted and what we can expect from the legislation.

**Privacy, Security and Secrecy After Snowden**

Edward Snowden’s disclosures about the U.S. National Security Agency’s surveillance activities have raised important questions about national security and civil liberty. A fantastic panel of national security, cybersecurity and privacy law experts discussed these important questions about the future of our democracy in April. The event included Joel Brenner, legal and security consultant and former inspector general of the National Security Agency; Alan Butler, appellate advocacy counsel, Electronic Privacy Information Center; Amy Davidson, senior editor and blogger, *The New Yorker*; and Susan Herman, president of the American Civil Liberties Union and professor at Brooklyn Law School. The panel was moderated by Professor Deborah Pearlstein.

Professor Michelle Adams introduces the panelists at Privacy, Security and Secrecy After Snowden.
International Conference on Revisiting Van Gend en Loos 50 Years Later

2013 marked the 50th anniversary of the seminal decision of the European Union Court of Justice sitting in Luxembourg in the case of Van Gend en Loos, which recognized a constitutional dimension within the treaty-based union and thus laid the foundation for transnational and global constitutionalism. In the half century since that decision, a European transnational constitutional order has emerged (though a formal constitution for the EU was voted down in 2005) that is influenced by the common constitutional traditions of the EU member states and in turn weighs on the national constitutions of the countries affected.

To explore the current impact and potential of the court's decision, the Cardozo Program on Global and Comparative Constitutional Theory co-organized—together with the International Journal of Constitutional Law (of which Professor Michel Rosenfeld is the co-editor-in-chief) and the European Journal of International Law—the International Conference on Revisiting Van Gend en Loos 50 Years Later at the Sorbonne in Paris. Each of the papers presented at the conference was published in one of the two co-sponsoring journals, including Professor Rosenfeld's “Is Global Constitutionalism Meaningful or Desirable?,” which appeared in EJIL.

Constitutional Secularism in an Age of Religious Revival

Part of the Program on Global and Comparative Constitutional Theory's focus on the interplay between national, transnational and global constitutional norms has been a multiyear project on models for handling the relationship between the state and religion. This project culminated in the recent publication of Constitutional Secularism in an Age of Religious Revival (Oxford University Press, 2014), which was co-edited by Susanna Mancini and Michel Rosenfeld, and includes contributions from international and national judges as well as from scholars from different countries who are steeped in different religious traditions.

Law and Interpretation: Derrida’s Legacy

The Law and Interpretation Conference, co-organized by Professors Peter Goodrich and Michel Rosenfeld, was presented to a packed house at Cardozo in April. The conference focused on both transatlantic and transgenerational issues. Prestigious panelists Bernhard Schlink, Cardozo; Stanley Fish, Cardozo; Julie Saada, Sciences Po; Duncan Kennedy, Harvard; Gayatri Spivak, Columbia; Avital Ronell, Stanford; Anselm Haverkamp, Munich; Mikhail Xifaras, Sciences Po; and Antoine Garapon, IHEJ, discussed diverse aspects of the theoretical and judicial traditions in common law. Another group of scholars, Chuck Gelman, NYU; Katrin Trüstedt, Erfurt; Laurent de Sutter, Brussels; Marco Wan, Hong Kong; Marinos Diamantides, London; Connal Parsley, Kent; and Mark Sanders, NYU, provided responses to and renewals of the tradition from within contemporary continental legal theory.

Themes included the errors of Antonin Scalia, Muslim veils, temporality, image and icon in the Greek crisis, sovereignty and philia, translation, governance, and the bifurcation of ontologies.
Clinics News

Youth Justice Clinic Proposes Therapeutic Model for Treating Youth Offenders

Cardozo’s newly formed Youth Justice Clinic issued a report titled Rethinking Rikers: Moving from a Correctional to a Therapeutic Model for Youth, calling for New York City to modernize its treatment and punishment of youth offenders. The report, released during the Cardozo Journal of Law and Gender symposium Life in the Box: Youth in Solitary Confinement, detailed conditions and highlighted practices that increase the likelihood of sending young people down a path of despair and recidivism. It called on New York City Department of Correction officials to move away from incapacitating youth ages 16–18 at the Department of Corrections facility on Rikers Island and toward adapting successful correction models used in other states.

In preparing the report, Cardozo clinic students visited Rikers and conducted interviews with experts in other criminal justice systems around the country. New York is one of only two states that treat 16-year-olds as adults in its prison system. The report focused on the use of solitary confinement as a punishment for teenagers, stating that 25 percent of the youth population at Rikers has spent time in solitary, many for months at a time. It also noted that some 500 youth are incarcerated at Rikers Island, and over 75 percent of those are awaiting trial.

The clinic students were asked to submit testimony to Congress based on the report. In that testimony, students urged an end to solitary confinement and called for broader systemic changes based on treatment models that have been successful in other states. Go to page 38 for more on this story.

Compendium by Human Rights and Genocide Clinic Details Blasphemy Laws Challenging Human Rights Worldwide

The Human Rights and Genocide Clinic and Human Rights First released in May the first publicly available compendium to outline blasphemy laws from around the world. The compilation is a useful tool for human rights defenders, governments, civil society leaders and legal experts working to combat abuses created by blasphemy laws that permit the prosecution of individuals for defaming or insulting religions.

NEW CLINICS

Civil Rights Clinic | Tech Startup Clinic | Youth Justice Clinic

NEW FIELD CLINICS

Appropriate Dispute Resolution Field Clinic
Labor and Employment Law Division Field Clinic at the New York City Law Department
New York City Law Department Juvenile Delinquency Field Clinic
New York State Department of Financial Services Field Clinic
Tax Law Field Clinic
Dean Diller Receives AALS Rhode Award for Achievement in Public Service

Recognizing Dean Matthew Diller’s leadership in legal education and public service, the Association of American Law Schools Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities awarded him the 2014 Deborah L. Rhode Award in January. Dean Diller was recognized as a professor, scholar and administrator who works tirelessly on advancing access to justice. The award noted his:

- Creation and development of the Field Clinics Program at Cardozo Law
- Support for Cardozo's Center for Public Service Law
- Expansion of the Bridge-to-Practice Postgraduate Public Service Fellowship Program
- Efforts in expanding clinical opportunities at Cardozo Law
- Establishment of Cardozo's Public Service Council, comprised of distinguished leaders in the field who advise on and support public service programming at the school
- Creation of a home for the National Center for Access to Justice
- Service as a key member on Chief Judge Jonathan Lippman’s Task Force to Expand Access to Civil Legal Services in New York

Lawsuit by Professor Alex Reinert and the NYCLU Ends Solitary Confinement for Juveniles

Professor Alex Reinert, working as co-counsel with the New York Civil Liberties Union and the law firm Morrison Foerster, agreed to an interim settlement with the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision in the class-action lawsuit People v. Fischer in February, that ended solitary confinement in New York State’s prisons for youth, pregnant inmates, developmentally disabled and intellectually challenged prisoners. With the court settlement, New York State became the largest prison system in the United States to prohibit solitary confinement for prisoners younger than 18. The settlement also imposes new limitations on New York’s use of disciplinary isolation for all prisoners, and provides that over the next two years the parties will work with two nationally recognized corrections experts to create a plan to further reform the use of solitary confinement.

Before the settlement, New York regularly held approximately 4,000 prisoners in daily isolation for violating prison rules, many of whom had been subject to solitary confinement for years. Read more on this story on page 38.

Cardozo Law Faculty Noted for Scholarly Distinction

The Cardozo Law faculties’ impressive scholarship continued to make headlines. Brian Leiter’s Law School Reports ranked the Cardozo Law faculty No. 24 in terms of scholarly impact in 2012, based on the number of citations faculty received from 2007 to 2011. In 2013, the school’s faculty was ranked No. 41 on the list of the country’s 50 best law faculties, in terms of scholarly distinction. In 2014, Professor Edward Zelinsky was ranked the No. 8 cited faculty member in the country in the field of tax law.
Professor Paris Baldacci, Leading Scholar on Landlord-Tenant Law and LGBT Rights, Announces Retirement

Paris Baldacci announced that he will be retiring in January 2015, ending 23 years as a professor at Cardozo, in which he worked tirelessly as a leader on housing court issues, landlord-tenant law and LGBT rights. He has been known at Cardozo Law as a fair, thoughtful and nurturing professor who offers good judgment and sound advice to students, teaching them to understand both sides of the legal issues.

Professor Baldacci has worked on housing rights issues for over 25 years. As a member of the Cardozo Law clinical faculty, he established and served as director of the Housing Rights Clinic, and for many years he was on the faculty of the Bet Tzedek Legal Services Clinic, representing those seeking health, disability and housing benefits they could not get without clinic assistance. He has focused his teaching and scholarship on landlord-tenant law and public housing entitlements, especially regarding family succession protections; on the ethical and practical implications of meeting the challenge of the unrepresented litigant, both for judges and adversaries; on the role of judges in dealing with pro se litigants; on the status of gay and lesbian families in housing court proceedings; and on providing access to justice for unrepresented litigants.

Professor Baldacci has also focused significant energy on activism, teaching and scholarship on LGBT rights. At Cardozo, he founded and was director of the LGBT Litigation and Leadership Practicum, in which he supervised students working in direct services and law reform law offices and organizations that advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights.

His work on the early landmark gay rights case Braschi v. Stahl was important to the lives of same-sex and unmarried couples in New York. After the Braschi case, Professor Baldacci helped draft regulations that codified the Braschi definition of family and then successfully defended those regulations before the New York State Court of Appeals in the landmark case Rent Stabilization Association v. Higgins. As a result of that victory, thousands of LGBT and other “functional families” have been protected from eviction from their homes.

Early in his career, Professor Baldacci worked as a law clerk at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and the Center for Constitutional Rights. He holds a B.A. from the University of Scranton, a J.D. from The City University of New York, and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Marquette University.

Professor Peter Tillers, Leader in New Evidence Scholarship, Announces Retirement

Renowned legal scholar Peter Tillers announced his retirement, culminating a 27-year career at Cardozo School of Law.

Professor Tillers is a leader in new evidence scholarship. He has written numerous books, revised Volume One of John Henry Wigmore’s multi-volume treatise on the law of evidence, and published a wide variety of articles on evidence, inference and investigation. His scholarship focuses on evidential inference and fact investigation in legal settings, and he attributes the work of philosophers Kant and Hegel with helping shape his approach. Professor Tillers maintains that multiple methods of marshaling and analyzing evidence are important in trials, in pretrial investigation, and in informal fact discovery, as well as in other disciplines.

Professor Tillers was an editor of Law, Probability & Risk and a former chairman and secretary of the Section on Evidence at the Association of American Law Schools. While teaching evidence at Cardozo, he organized major conferences and lectured in the United Kingdom, Canada, Italy, Germany, China and elsewhere.

Born in Riga, Latvia, Professor Tillers’ family was forced to flee during World War II, arriving in the United States in 1950. He went on to receive his bachelor’s degree from Yale and a J.D. and LL.M. from Harvard Law. He maintained ties to Latvia throughout his career, serving as legal adviser for the Latvian mission to the United Nations during the 48th session of the General Assembly.

Among his other honors and achievements, Professor Tillers was the Fellow of Law and Humanities at Harvard University and the Senior Max Rheinstein Fellow at the University of Munich, as well as a visiting professor at Harvard Law. He will become Professor Emeritus at Cardozo Law.

In a letter to his colleagues, he wrote, “Without abandoning rigorous standards, the Cardozo community genuinely welcomed and supported unconventional scholarly approaches. I am extremely grateful for Cardozo’s support.”
David Udell Launches Justice Index at Cardozo Law

David Udell, director of the National Center for Access to Justice (NCAJ), announced in February the launch of the Justice Index—an online tool that compares quality of access to justice in civil cases throughout statewide court systems. The index is the first of its kind, using cutting-edge interactive map technology to show the geographical distribution of access to justice across the United States.

In its first installment, the Justice Index presented data in four categories—the number of attorneys for people in poverty, the amount of support for people with limited English proficiency, access for people with disabilities, and help for people proceeding without lawyers. Some key findings included:

- Some states have fewer than one civil legal aid attorney per 10,000 people under the poverty line, although there are 40 attorneys for every 10,000 people across the nation.
- 24 percent of states do not have a rule authorizing court clerks to provide informational assistance to people who have no lawyers.
- 45 percent of state judiciary Web sites do not provide information in any language other than English.
- 25 percent of states don’t yet assure quality by using language interpreters that are certified.
- 22 percent of states allow judges to charge a deaf or hearing impaired person for the cost of a sign language interpreter.
- 47 percent of states do not authorize judges to take steps to ensure that unrepresented individuals are fairly heard.

Eva Hanks, Member of Cardozo’s Founding Faculty and Environmental Law Scholar, to Retire

Eva Hanks, the Dr. Samuel Belkin Professor of Law and Society, will retire this year after teaching at Cardozo Law for 38 years. Professor Hanks was among the first women in the nation to become a professor of law. She began her career as an associate in law at Columbia University. For many years, Professor Hanks taught at Rutgers University School of Law, where she was a distinguished professor of law and served as associate dean. In 1976, she became a member of Cardozo’s founding faculty and was associate dean for academic affairs in the schools early years. She was also a visiting professor at Indiana School of Law in Bloomington, New York University School of Law and Princeton University. Professor Hanks published articles on water law and co-authored, with John Hanks and Dan Tarlock, a pioneering casebook on environmental law and policy. She also published Elements of Law with Michael Herz and Steven Nemerson, which is a required text for all Cardozo first year students. Professor Hanks will continue teaching through the fall of 2014.

Professors Suzanne Last Stone and Michael Herz Direct The Israeli Supreme Court Project at Cardozo Law

The Israeli Supreme Court Project at Cardozo Law developed a new website that seeks to inform and engage constitutional scholars, lawyers and judges in democracies around the world in the study and discussion of the decisions of the Supreme Court of Israel. The project is supported by the David Berg Foundation.

Professor Suzanne Last Stone is the University Professor of Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization and the director of the Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization. Professor Michael Herz is the Arthur Kaplan Professor of Law and co-director of the Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy.
Professor Myriam Gilles Testifies Before Senate Judiciary Committee

Professor Myriam Gilles testified at a hearing before the Senate Committee on the Judiciary in December 2013, speaking on “The Federal Arbitration Act and Access to Justice: Will Recent Supreme Court Decisions Undermine the Rights of Consumers, Workers and Small Businesses?”

She spoke in support of the proposed Arbitration Fairness Act, which would prohibit forced arbitration in standard-form contracts with consumers, employees and, in some cases, small businesses. She said that these clauses, which mandate one-on-one arbitration of all legal disputes and ban multiple claimants from pooling their claims, prevent individuals from vindicating the rights guaranteed to them by common law and by federal and state statute.

Professor Brett Frischmann Publishes Governing Knowledge Commons

Professor Brett Frischmann, along with Michael J. Madison and Katherine J. Strandburg, published Governing Knowledge Commons (Oxford University Press) this summer. The book offers a research framework for studying knowledge commons that is adapted to the unique attributes of knowledge and information. It includes 11 detailed case studies that explore knowledge commons across a wide variety of scientific and cultural domains.

Professor Kate Shaw's Articles Published


Professor Alex Stein Joins Team of Authors Publishing Leading Evidence Casebook

Professor Alex Stein has joined the team of authors publishing the leading evidence casebook, Evidence: Text, Problems, and Cases (by Ronald J. Allen, et al.). He will be a co-author of the casebook’s sixth edition that will appear in 2015. Professor Stein also wrote a new article, “Behavioral Probability,” that will appear in the Research Handbook on Behavioral Law and Economics (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2014).

Professor Marci Hamilton Files Amicus Briefs, Launches Blog

Professor Marci Hamilton filed an amicus brief arguing that the Hobby Lobby case is testimony to the fact that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act is unconstitutional. In the case, Hobby Lobby argued that paying for their employees’ birth control, a requirement under the Affordable Care Act, violates their company’s religious freedom. Professor Hamilton’s amicus brief was cited in a New York Times editorial.

Professor Hamilton also filed an amicus brief in the case of Paroline v. Amy Unknown, in support of respondent Amy Unknown.

NOTED ACHIEVEMENTS

Professors Alex Stein and Richard Bierschbach’s article “Overenforcement” in the Georgetown Law Journal was cited by dissenting Judge Marsha S. Berzon in the Ninth Circuit’s decision on Prudential Locations LLC v. United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

In January, Professor Deborah Pearlstein was named chair elect of the Association of American Law Schools Section on National Security Law.


Professors Melanie Leslie and Stewart Sterk published an article in the New York University Law Review on the beneficiary-designation form associated with 401(k) accounts. Their article highlights the fact that for many, their last will and testament does not always govern the distribution of retirement accounts—but in fact, the beneficiary form does. Their article was featured in the Wall Street Journal.
The case focused on the extent to which victims of child pornography can recover restitution from those who market, possess or trade images depicting sexual assault and rape of children.

In addition, Professor Hamilton, along with Professor Leslie Griffin of the UNLV School of Law, launched a new blog, Hamilton and Griffin on Rights. The blog focuses on women’s voices, working to bring those issues to the forefront of constitutional law and law and religious debates.

Professor Richard Weisberg Publishes In Praise of Intransigence
Professor Richard Weisberg, the Walter Floersheimer Professor of Constitutional Law, published In Praise of Intransigence: The Perils of Flexibility (Oxford University Press) in June 2014. The book argues that a willingness to embrace intransigence allows us to recognize the value of our beliefs, which are always at risk of being compromised or equivocated. At his book party in June, Professor Weisberg and leading legal scholar Professor Stanley Fish, who is the Floersheimer Visiting Distinguished Professor, engaged in a spirited discussion in front of guests. They conducted a historical analysis of events from the Bible, the enlightenment, and contemporary liberalism, in the framework of Professor Weisberg’s book. Professor Weisberg also asked the attendees to look into their own values, and hold steadfastly in what counts. His related essay, “When Flexibility is a Flaw,” was published in July in the Chronicle of Higher Education, and his book received a review in the Daily Beast from Cardozo Professor Bernhard Schlink.

Professor Ekow Yankah Ranked One of Top Lawyers by Lawyers of Color Magazine
Professor Ekow Yankah has been named a “50 Under 50” lawyer by Lawyers of Color magazine. The publication cited Professor Yankah’s extensive writing in jurisprudence, criminal theory and political theory; his media appearances; and his citation in Judge Shira Scheindlin’s 2013 ruling that the New York Police Department’s stop-and-frisk policy is unconstitutional.

Experience That Makes A Difference
Cardozo Law continues to rapidly grow and enhance its experiential learning programs.

Five new clinics were added over the past several years at Cardozo Law, meaning students can now choose from 18 clinical experiences. In addition, the school’s field clinics program continues to expand, offering students 15 different opportunities to work in legal offices throughout NYC under the direct supervision of expert practitioners. And finally, during Lawyering Skills Month at Cardozo, over 200 students participate in multiple simulation and immersion programs.

NEW CLINICS
- Civil Rights Clinic
- Guardianship Clinic
- Indie Film Clinic
- Tech Startup Clinic
- Youth Justice Clinic

NEW FIELD CLINICS
- Appropriate Dispute Resolution Field Clinic
- Mainzer Family Defense Field Clinic at The Bronx Defenders
- New York City Law Department Juvenile Delinquency Field Clinic
- Labor and Employment Law Division Field Clinic at the New York City Law Department
- New York State Department of Financial Services Field Clinic
- Tax Law Field Clinic

For a full list of experiential offerings, go to www.cardozo.yu.edu/experientiallearning

Leadership in Clinical Education
CARDozo LAW
BRINGING LAW TO LIFE
Meet the New Vice Dean

Vice Dean Melanie Leslie has been a champion of Cardozo Law since her first year here in 1988. “I’m so proud to be a graduate of this school,” she says. “Cardozo changed my life when I was young; it literally transformed me. To have a chance to help the school continue to grow and thrive is a thrill for me.”

While at Cardozo, Leslie was the executive editor of the Cardozo Law Review, and she received her J.D. magna cum laude in 1991. With the exception of a few semesters spent as a visiting associate professor of law at New York University and a visiting professor of law at Columbia Law School, Vice Dean Leslie has been teaching at Cardozo since 1995. Her students enthusiastically endorse her classes, and many describe her as a favorite faculty member. She is a highly respected legal scholar in the areas of wills, trusts, fiduciary law and nonprofit organizations. Vice Dean Leslie sat down with Cardozo Life to discuss her transition from professor to vice dean, a position she accepted when Professor Ed Stein stepped down from the role in July.

CARDOZO LIFE: So first off, congratulations.
MELANIE LESLIE: Thank you! I’m really honored.

CL: You came through Cardozo Law and are now the vice dean. You called your experience at the school transformative—how did it change you?
ML: I had had no exposure to law school—or even the idea of law school. So it was a new environment for me. I loved the process of legal reasoning and analysis from the beginning. And I loved that the professors pushed me to analyze real-world problems. I found it to be a very creative experience. I felt like I had found my intellectual home. It opened up an entire world.

CL: At the same time you were changing, the school itself was changing. Talk about some of those changes.
ML: Cardozo is unusual in that we are always growing. We don’t rest on our reputation, but retain a youthful attitude. We’re constantly creating new programs, new clinics, and new types of scholarship—because we are driven by entrepreneurs.

CL: As vice dean, what role will you play in developing the school’s curriculum?
ML: At Cardozo, and many law schools, curricular changes are driven by the faculty as a whole, with the dean’s leadership. The vice dean can help shape that process by identifying problems and examining current trends or changes in the marketplace that might require us to rethink what we’re doing. One thing we’re hearing is that employers would like students to come out ready to hit the ground running. So not just having learned a lot of law, or how to think and analyze—which is of course critical and the most important thing—but also to have experience doing what lawyers do on a daily basis.

CL: What are some things you want to focus on as vice dean?
ML: In addition to focusing on curricular issues, the vice dean plays an important role in supporting faculty scholarship and development. We have outstanding professors, and I am looking forward to working with them as they pursue their scholarly projects. Finally, I intend to take the opportunity to reach out to alumni—old friends as well as former students—to encourage them to strengthen their connections with the law school.

CL: What made you choose to come to Cardozo?
ML: Monroe Price was the dean at the time, and he convinced me. I’d been out of college for several years, and I wanted to stay in New York for law school. I had an interview with Monroe and he was interested in my background, and we hit it off. I ended up receiving a scholarship from Cardozo, and I just thought, “You know, it’s such an exciting place. This seems like a great place to be.”
CL: What was your background?
ML: I was an actress and a singer prior to law school. I got to the point where I was ready to move on from what I was doing—I wanted more of an intellectual challenge. So I went to Barnes & Noble and picked up a book on how to take the LSATs, and I got lost in it. I loved the book and I thought, “well, this is weird, I thought it was supposed to be terrible. So maybe I’ll just take that test”—the LSAT—and then things went from there.

CL: What did you take away from your experience at Cardozo, from your professors and from the school as a whole?
ML: Well, there is a strong emphasis on training the students to think like lawyers, to be able to analyze problems and solve problems. But there is more than that. It’s an extraordinarily intellectual place with an energetic environment. So there’s a lot to learn, and the professors emphasize not just critical thinking and analysis but policy and theory. There’s a huge diversity of viewpoints among the faculty, and that really worked for me, and I hope it works for our current students. Every professor brings a different perspective—a different approach to the educational process. And I think we turn out really well-rounded students as a result.

CL: What makes a good teacher?
ML: You have to be immersed in the subject that you’re teaching. You have to love it. You have to be a scholar in that area. You have to have thought deeply about the challenging issues that area of the law presents, and you have to have a passion for that. And you do have to be a little bit of a performer.

CL: What do you hope students take away from your classes?
ML: I hope my students learn from me that a good lawyer is a prepared lawyer. But I also hope they leave my class—and maybe I’m being overly optimistic—knowing the joy that comes from really immersing oneself in something and mastering it. I want my students to think of themselves as problem solvers—someone who helps people navigate their way out of difficult situations, whether their work focuses on planning, transactional or litigation issues.

One of the great things about teaching a first-year class is that you watch students transition from being somewhat overwhelmed and confused by the material to being able to speak like a lawyer, to being able to take apart a problem and analyze it and have a point of view—and articulate that point of view.

Seeing that happen is probably the best part of the job.
SPORTS LAW—A BIG, EXCITING, HIGH-PROFILE FIELD FULL OF PUBLIC PERSONALITIES, multi-million dollar companies, media coverage and national attention. But, according to Cardozo’s alumni practicing in sports law, the field is more layered than the big games—and the big money that surrounds them. Lawyers in sports law need to not only love the game, but also possess a passion for what it means to do deals in the business of sports, says David Samson ’93, president of the Miami Marlins. “It is a business, even if the business happens to be in the paper every day.”

At this year’s highly successful Sports Law Symposium, which was organized by students Michael Beck ’15 and Marc Rosenberg ’15, symposium panelist Ayala Deutsch, senior vice president and deputy general counsel at NBA Properties, expanded on the definition of sports law. “What people mean when they say ‘sports law’ is really a variety of practice areas in the law that are related to sports,” says Deutsch, who teaches the course Sports Law at Cardozo.

Perhaps that’s why the Sports Law Symposium attracted so many high-profile attendees from all over the legal landscape. Speakers included a roster of lawyers from sports leagues and teams, agencies, venues, and business partners, all of whom discussed what Deutsch calls “hot-topic legal and business issues in sports.” These ranged from the growth of professional sports abroad, to unionization in professional and college sports, to the legal implications of large sporting events such as the Olympics and the Super Bowl, to the rise of fantasy sports and sports gambling.
The business of sports is a global industry that is widely seen as having significant potential for growth in the coming decade—growth that will open up new and varied opportunities for upcoming lawyers. So while the number of lawyers interested in the sports law field currently outpaces demand, many symposium speakers say that is going to change.

Cardozo is working to make sure graduates are competitive in the field. In addition to the symposium and Deutsch's class in sports law—which is currently co-taught with Anthony Dreyer, a partner at Skadden who concentrates on intellectual property and sports litigation—the school offers a number of opportunities for students to pursue their passion for sports law. For example, the Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal is currently ranked second nationwide in the category of arts, entertainment and sports,* and the school has an active Sports Law Society. In 2015, Cardozo will offer a Sports Law Field Clinic, and the Moot Court Honor Society already gives students a chance to compete in sports-focused tournaments. In fact, this spring, Justin Reiter '15 and Shanitra Waymire '15 won first place at the 19th Annual Mardi Gras Sports Law Invitational from among a field of 34 teams. Students Beck and Rosenberg—who, while at Cardozo, have collectively worked or interned for the Brooklyn Nets, IMG (International Management Group), the United States Tennis Association, the NBA Coaches Association, the New York Islanders and ESPN Radio—say that Cardozo's wide array of adjunct professors allow students to tap into parts of the sports world that they would never otherwise have access to.

In the following pages, Cardozo Life profiles six alumni who have found their own specific niches in the sports world. They demonstrate the rewards and challenges of working in sports. And whether they are working as counsel for the Brooklyn Nets or Major League Soccer; doing deals as agents for NHL players, runners or sports broadcasters; or running a major league baseball team, they showcase the tools needed for making a place in a profession that's often as competitive as the sports themselves.

For an avid sports fan like Kari Cohen, landing a job with an NBA team in a highly competitive field just a few years out of law school was the equivalent of a slam dunk. "I always knew I wanted to be passionate about what I did for a living and to look forward to going into the office," says Cohen, vice president & assistant general counsel for the Brooklyn Nets and Barclays Center. "Working in this field was always a dream of mine. I still pinch myself each day."

Cohen says for her and her colleagues in the Nets office, there is no "typical" day at work. "When you're in-house and you're in a small legal department, you have to be prepared for anything and everything. Each day is different from the day before." This means that Cohen often finds herself working on things that are outside her area of expertise, but that is also one of the most exciting aspects of her work. "As a lawyer for both a team and an arena, on any given day I can be working on sponsorship agreements, suite license agreements, ticketing agreements, programming agreements for sporting events and concerts, radio broadcast agreements, advertising agreements, vendor agreements ... you get the picture!"

And when she finishes work on a deal, Cohen says, the fruits of her labor are right there in the stadium for her to see. For example, she says, "after finalizing a sponsorship agreement, I will go to a Brooklyn Nets game and actually see how the entitlements—signage, interactive spaces, etc.—are implemented."

But the most rewarding part of her job, she says, is the array of connections she makes working in-house with both clients and colleagues. As an in-house lawyer, Cohen says, "I feel more invested in the work I do for my clients, as we all have a common goal of seeing our business thrive. Being able to share successes with individuals you care about and who care about you—working as a team—makes the job all the more satisfying."

"Networking and being in the right place at the right time" are a big part of what made this dream happen for Cohen. While at Cardozo, Cohen secured internships at a sports agency, at a sports agency, at the National Hockey League, and as a summer associate at a law firm. "I looked to gain as much experience as I could in the field and worked hard to maintain relationships with those I came into contact with," she says. "Through these connections, I was introduced to my current boss, and the rest is history."

Cohen says she also had the good fortune of being mentored by attorneys in the field, whom she considers some of the best in the business. Jessica Berman, vice president and deputy general counsel at the National Hockey League, and Cohen's current boss, Jeff Gewirtz, executive vice president of business affairs and chief legal officer for the Brooklyn Nets and Barclays Center.

Berman's "wide breadth of knowledge of the law, the business of sports, and the game on the ice" gave Cohen a sense of what it takes to be successful in the field, she says. "I learned an immense amount from her, not just about the substance of sports law but, just as importantly, how to conduct oneself as in-house counsel to a sports enterprise. To this day I consider her to be one of my greatest mentors."

Cohen found another mentor in Gewirtz and says she's learned a great deal from getting the opportunity to see "the way he approaches and solves issues, negotiates and drafts deals, all while maintaining a predominant presence in the sports law network."

*Washington & Lee University School of Law

continued on page 28

“The most critical part of representation is negotiating big contacts.”

—JAY GROSSMAN ’92
**SPORTS LAW: AN INSIDE LOOK**

**KARI COHEN ’09**
Vice President & Assistant General Counsel
Brooklyn Nets and Barclays Center

The sports business is constantly in flux, which makes it challenging and exciting at the same time. Social media, the 24/7 nature of sports Web sites, call-in radio shows and other broadcasts raise a panoply of issues that practitioners could not have contemplated just a short time ago. I believe we are on the cusp of an explosion of new legal questions that will be posed by this changing landscape. While providing new challenges to practitioners, it also levels the playing field somewhat between seasoned practitioners and more recent law school graduates, because these issues represent uncharted territory with little, if any, precedent, allowing for new law to be made. It is both an exciting and challenging time in sports law that lends itself to new opportunities for those fortunate enough to practice in this field.

**OLIVIER MANIGAT ’08**
Legal Counsel
Major League Soccer (MLS)

The field of sports law is going to need people who are well-versed in media and social media. Ten, 15 years ago it was all about IP—about copyright, trademark, etc. That is still important, but I think the big opportunities going forward are going to be in media. It’s about content, it’s about data, about who owns that information. For us, an important part of our business has been to rein in all that. To say that there’s value in our stats. There’s value in our biometrics. Understanding the digital world and the laws that apply to it is becoming really important.

**DAVID SAMSON ’93**
President
Miami Marlins

Sports lawyers, and lawyers in general, have to remember that their job is to get the deal done, not to stop the deal from happening. There are a lot of lawyers who impede deals, and that’s not good for the country, that’s not good for the business, and that’s not good for the industry. For sports lawyers in particular, it’s a complicated industry. You’ve got major labor issues, major litigation issues, class action issues .... When you go into sports law you have to understand that your job is to be a lawyer, your job is to be a facilitator, and you can’t bring emotion into it.

**BECKY SENDROW ’05**
Agent
Creative Artists Agency

A lot of people come out of law school and think they have to be a lawyer for a team or a lawyer who represents an athlete. But I think that just limits the possibilities of what’s out there. Your first job out of law school doesn’t have to be exactly what you want to do, but it can help mold the future job you want to have in sports and law. It’s important to understand the variety of opportunity there is in this field. It’s not just working for a team, not just working for a network, not just being a player agent.
AYALA DEUTSCH
Adjunct Professor at Cardozo Law (teaches Sports Law)
Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel
NBA Properties

Don’t try to be the “best sports lawyer.” Pick a practice area in the law that is relevant to sports—IP, licensing, labor—and be the best lawyer in that field you can be. Maintaining high standards of excellence—in your substantive work, in your client responsiveness, in your work ethic—is the most important thing for every lawyer, especially in a field as competitive as sports law.

CAROLINE BIERBAUM LEFRAK ’09
Founding Partner
Empire Athletics Management

Social media has begun to play a much greater role in athlete sponsorship. Now athletes are expected to have Twitter handles and Facebook pages and to plug their sponsors via social media versus just wearing their logo on their uniform. Companies definitely pay a lot more for athletes who are charismatic and have a big following, even if they are not the number one runner. Having a personality means a lot.

MARC ROSENBERG ’15
Through externships and internships I have been able to gain hands-on experience working with some of the best in the business, and seeing exactly what types of legal issues arise for a professional sports franchise on a daily basis: contracts, labor and employment, insurance law, etc. I have found that my externships in sports have expanded my knowledge of the industry, but have also allowed me to make connections that will continue to serve my career for many years to come.

JAY GROSSMAN ’92
President
PuckAgency LLC

I think the sports world is poised for a tremendous amount of growth here in the next five to 10 years, and there will be opportunities that come along with huge growth in the industry. I think you’ll see every major sports league double the revenues that they’re currently producing. I’m extremely bullish on sports for two major 2 reasons. Televised sports is probably the only thing that’s going to survive for live television. With the advent of DVR, individuals can watch shows at their leisure. Sports are just different. Watching a game or match three days later is just not going to cut it. The future of live television hinges on sports content. The other reason I’m really bullish on sports is because I see both fantasy sports and the gambling that takes place around this becoming more legitimized. The business has changed dramatically, and the challenge for me, already being very active, is to change with the speed of all that’s moving around you.

MICHAEL BECK ’15
Through externships and internships I have been able to gain hands-on experience working with some of the best in the business, and seeing exactly what types of legal issues arise for a professional sports franchise on a daily basis: contracts, labor and employment, insurance law, etc. I have found that my externships in sports have expanded my knowledge of the industry, but have also allowed me to make connections that will continue to serve my career for many years to come.

FALL 2014
Jay Grossman’s career in the business of hockey started earlier than most, but when you come from a family of hockey fans as devoted as his, this is perhaps not surprising. His father was a New York Rangers fan and season ticket holder, and when Grossman, president of PuckAgency, was 13 years old, his sister was born at Madison Square Garden while his parents were at a New York Rangers playoff game. “My mom went to the doctor that day and the doctor told her she was at least two weeks from delivering, so he said she could go to the game,” he says. “I remember listening to the game on the radio at home when they announced that a baby had just been born there, and I put two and two together right away.”

A few years later, when he was a high school hockey player on Long Island, Grossman was already taping and analyzing games for Roger Neilson, then-coach of the Vancouver Canucks and an early mentor whom Grossman met at a summer hockey camp in Ontario. And by his junior year of college he had started representing professional hockey players, working for the same company that later developed into the business Grossman now heads.

PuckAgency is a full-service firm that represents some of the most familiar names in hockey, including Stanley Cup winners Brian Leetch and Sergei Zubov. The agency works with players at all stages of their careers, providing them with an array of personal and professional development services. “The most critical part of representation is negotiating big contacts,” says Grossman, and his agency has been successful at securing some of the biggest contracts in the business. Three years ago PuckAgency negotiated a 15-year, $100 million contract for Ilya Kovalchuk with the New Jersey Devils, a process that “took an extraordinary amount of time and effort and energy,” says Grossman. The agency also represents Pekka Rinne, the highest-paid goalie in the NHL, for whom they negotiated a seven-year, $49 million contract two years ago. “That’s really the pinnacle of what you do as an agent,” says Grossman.

He also loves shaping the careers of younger players. “We’re recruiting players at a younger and younger age now, so we’re very active in their development process early on. When you start representing players at 16 and 17 years old—so that by the time they’re in their 20s they can start to achieve their goals and dreams and objectives—there’s a great deal of satisfaction at being a part of that process, particularly when you feel you’ve made a difference.”

Grossman says he, too, benefited greatly from the attention of mentors early in his career. He met Neilson, the Vancouver Canucks coach, in 1975 when he attended Neilson’s hockey school at age ten. Within two years Grossman was working at the school, and he continued working there for the next eight years.

“Neilson had an impact on many, many lives in the hockey world and was a big believer in giving young people opportunities and listening to what they had to say,” says Grossman. In 1982, when Grossman was a junior in high school, he started taping and breaking down games for Neilson, developing skills that he would carry with him throughout his career.

When Grossman left for Union College in 1984, he hauled his two VCRs with him and soon started taping games for the Rangers, coached at that time by Herb Brooks. Brooks, another early mentor of Grossman’s, coached the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team at Lake Placid that earned an historic gold medal in the game that came to be known as “the miracle on ice.” “Herb was really quite unique,” says Grossman. “He had a great ability to understand the psyche of players, but at the same time he knew the game technically as well as anybody, and you just don’t find that many people in any sport who are equally adept at both things.”

When Brooks left the Rangers, he suggested that Grossman go work for Athletes and Artists, the agency that had represented...
CAROLINE BIERBAUM LEFRAK '09
FOUNDING PARTNER
EMPIRE ATHLETICS MANAGEMENT
Brooks. Grossman did so, and as a junior in college he began his career representing professional athletes. After his college graduation in 1987, he took a full-time position with the agency and continued working there throughout his time at Cardozo.

Grossman says he decided to pursue a law degree because he saw that “most effective sports agents tended to have a background in law.” In addition, he says, “Cardozo offered a great deal of flexibility and opportunity to continue to pursue my work on a part-time basis, so that when I finished my degree I had a running start.” And he says his family supported him going to law school “knowing I would have a more traditional profession to fall back on, if it didn't work out for me in sports.” In the end, his career in the sports world worked out just fine, and he says that “there's absolutely no doubt that the education that I got at Cardozo is very applicable to the work that I do. It taught me how to think and how to reason.” These skills are essential in a world where “sports have become very complicated in alignment with the money involved, and we run across new territory very frequently,” he says.

After graduating from Cardozo, Grossman stayed with Athletes and Artists; that company was eventually acquired by the Marquee Group and later became a part of SFX Sports. Grossman took the hockey division of the company independent in 2011, operating it that way ever since.

Grossman, who taught a course last fall at Western New England University on the role of the agent in sports, says that he and those who work with him pride themselves on their strong independent advocacy for their clients. “What makes our business—and the agent field—interesting is that each player has a different DNA and faces decisions and choices at different times in his career. We feel our combination of experience in the industry, treating every player differently because they are different, and making the right decisions for each player based on their particular set of circumstances is critical to what we do.” Spending time and communicating with clients and potential clients every day is a big part of what makes this approach work, says Grossman. Fortunately, he adds, it’s also a pleasure. “People say to me all the time that hockey players are the best athletes to work with, and I couldn’t agree more.”

As an undergraduate at Columbia University, Caroline Bierbaum LeFrak was a five-time Division I All-American athlete in cross country and track and field and the 2005 recipient of the Honda Award, which is given to the nation’s most outstanding athlete in women’s cross country. She was professionally sponsored by Nike from 2006 to 2008 and now runs at the local elite level for the New York Athletic Club. In 2012, she qualified for the Olympic marathon trials and hopes to qualify again for the 2016 games.

LeFrak says her experience is key to the kind of service she provides her clients at Empire Athletics, the sports management company for professional track and field and road racing athletes that she founded in 2009. “I can relate to my clients on a level that many other sports agents cannot,” she says. “I was once in their shoes, navigating the professional running world, so I try to do my best to make them feel as comfortable and confident as possible.”

Many of the best college runners go on to run professionally, and they often get endorsement deals, appearance fees and prize money—enough to earn a good living. So even though they don’t get the same ink on the sports pages or garner the same contracts as their big-league counterparts in football, baseball, basketball and hockey, it is important for these athletes to have an agent helping them pace their career.

To compete at the highest levels, runners need time and support, and LeFrak’s job, she says, is “to make deals that are in their best interest and help them feel financially secure so they can train to their utmost ability.” Her study of contract law at Cardozo has helped her enormously in this aspect of the business, she says. “I am reading contracts all the time with my athletes. My number one suggestion for those interested in representing athletes is to feel comfortable with contracts!”

LeFrak says the business she created and runs “is a great way to combine my law degree with my everyday passion” and that it also allows her to work around her family life. Because her work consists mainly of negotiating sponsorship deals, soliciting media opportunities and coordinating race schedules for her clients, she says a lot of her work can be done over the phone or...
DAVID SAMSON ’93
PRESIDENT
MIAMI MARLINS
online. This allows her to work from home so that she can care for her two sons, ages three and one, where she can fit the job in between preschool drop off and pick up and during her kids’ afternoon naptime.

LeFrak’s clients have qualified for World Championship teams and Olympic teams. “Those are very high levels of achievement,” she says. “It’s satisfying to know that I helped them reach those goals.”

On the other hand, she says, getting her athletes sponsorship deals has become much harder since the economic downturn in 2008. “Runners can’t command the same financial deals that other sports stars can. There are only a few runners who make more than a couple hundred thousand dollars per year. The rest make much less than that and often need to supplement with another job.”

But LeFrak says these challenges motivate her and make her successes all the sweeter. “I love working on sponsorship deals and getting my commission checks” she says. “When I cash a check, it reminds me to keep on working hard.”

The sport of running continues to grow. The number of registrations for marathons and other premiere running events rise each year. And in the wake of last year’s Boston Marathon bombing, the running community has responded by getting even more “passionate and fired up,” says LeFrak.

LeFrak met her husband running and has since become friends with many of her past clients, including Deena Kastor, the 2004 Olympic bronze medalist in the marathon. LeFrak and her family spend time with Kastor and her family each summer in Mammoth Lakes, CA, for altitude training. LeFrak says she feels fortunate to have the opportunity to make such connections and to be able to use her law degree, her passion for running, and her experience “in their shoes” to help other runners.

This clear-eyed, forward-looking approach characterizes Samson’s attitude toward the many challenges of his position, both at the Marlins and before that as executive vice president of the Miami Marlins. “Sport are so emotional that if you bring that emotion into your everyday decision-making, you’re guaranteed to fail.”

That’s why, when sports lawyers he interviews start by telling him they’re huge baseball fans, he tells them, “But I’m not looking for fans. I’m looking for lawyers.”

The most important thing you can bring to the job, says Samson, is experience from outside the field of sports law. “I like people who have corporate experience, I like people who have litigation experience, and I like people who have experience in other industries because they can bring that to bear in the sports industry,” he explains. But more importantly, Samson says he looks for people who think creatively. “The majority of lawyers come to you and say ‘Here’s the problem.’ I’m looking for lawyers who come to me and say, ‘Here’s the issue, and here’s how we’re going to solve it.’”

And like any president of a Major League team, Samson has had his share of experience problem solving since joining the Marlins in 2002. When he started, the team lacked a dedicated ballpark. Two previous owners had already tried and failed to get one built. But Samson helped secure the public/private partnership—over six years of negotiations—that allowed his franchise to build Marlins Park, a state-of-the-art baseball facility that opened to the public in 2012 on the site of the old Orange Bowl.

Samson also served as one of the driving forces behind the rebranding of the Marlins following the 2011 season, with changes to the team’s name, logo, and colors. He used early feed-

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—BECKY SENDROW ’05
BECKY SENDROW '05
AGENT
CREATIVE ARTISTS AGENCY
the Montreal Expos, and Samson credits Cardozo with instilling in him the qualities that have made him so successful in his work. “In a word, Cardozo gave me everything,” he says. “It taught me how to read, it taught me how to think, it taught me how to make decisions, and it taught me how to separate the BS from the reality. It taught me how to deal with situations where I wasn’t comfortable.”

Samson is also a fan of Cardozo’s clinical programs [and has recently donated funds toward Cardozo’s experiential education programs]. “They teach you how to step up,” he says. “Some of the teachers I had were not nice guys, but I loved them for it, because they taught me that this is serious, that you’re dealing with real-world issues that require real-world solutions and decisiveness, and I carry that with me every day.”

Off the job, Samson’s wide-ranging pursuits reflect the qualities he values on the job: curiosity, drive and a willingness to think outside the box. He completed the Ford Ironman World Championship Triathlon in 2006, was a recent contestant on the CBS reality show Survivor, and this past March had his stage debut playing Saturday Night Live creator Lorne Michaels in the full-length play Not Ready for Primetime.

“I don’t define myself as a president of a baseball team,” he says. “I define myself with whatever activity I’m doing at any particular moment. The feeling of butterflies in my stomach drives me—it’s my fuel. When you do something for too long, you get comfortable; and when you get comfortable, you stop making bold decisions; and when you stop making bold decisions, you stop making progress. So I make it a point to be as uncomfortable as I can as often as I can.”

When your job means working with athletes from every major sport, “there is no off-season,” says Becky Sendrow, which makes such a job ideal for a self-described “die-hard Philadelphia sports fan.” Sendrow, who played nationally competitive tennis throughout college at Cornell, represents sports talent in the media talent group at Creative Artists Agency (CAA), a full-service sports and entertainment agency. She focuses mainly on former athletes moving into sports broadcasting as sports anchors, analysts or play-by-play commentators but also works with active athletes in their off-season. Sendrow also considers herself fortunate to be able to do “some of the fun and creative stuff,” including “working with really great personalities who have the ability to cross over into a lot of other genres and sports personalities who want to do more than just sports programming.” This could mean, for her clients, a television show, being a guest host or a judge on a program, or even being a contestant on a show such as Dancing with the Stars.

On any given day at CAA, Sendrow says she could be involved in a talent contract negotiation; coordinating with colleagues in other departments to find endorsement, marketing and speaking opportunities for clients; helping clients with their charities or foundations; or talking to the networks to see what shows might need talent.

After signing Nomar Garciaparra (a former MLB player and current ESPN analyst) last year, for example, Sendrow learned he was a wine expert working toward his sommelier license. She highlighted this when she introduced him to CAA’s speaking

“Your role as an attorney is not to be a cheerleader. It’s great to attend games and special events—that’s one of the perks of the job—but as an attorney you have to understand that your role will be to identify risks, limit liabilities, find solutions to problems and help your business grow its revenue. That’s what your job is. At the end of the day the sports part of it gets pushed aside.”

—OLIVIER MANIGAT ’08
OLIVIER MANIGAT '08
LEGAL COUNSEL
MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER (MLS)
department, which led to Nomar delivering a keynote address for a national bank conference in Sonoma. He also contributed to their dinner, where he conducted wine pairings for an entire meal, "creating a great relationship which will hopefully yield a long-lasting business partnership," says Sendrow.

In addition, Sendrow says she’s always strategizing with her colleagues about potential new clients. One of the most satisfying parts of her job, she says, is getting to work with clients who are just beginning to develop and “then being with them when other people start seeing their talent and it begins to pay off. That’s great because you know how hard they worked for it and how much they deserve the success they find. And that’s our goal, really. Anyone can sit here and say, ‘Those are the top 10 guys in sports broadcasting,’ but the harder task is finding the diamonds in the rough in these regional networks who are going to be those top 10 guys, and being part of that transformation.”

Sendrow found her client, MLB Network host and reporter Kristina Akra (now Kristina Fitzpatrick), for example, when she saw a tape of her anchoring a college football show for FOX Sports South. “She stood out to me in a crowd of up-and-coming female sports reporters and hosts,” says Sendrow, who worked with Fitzpatrick over the years to find bigger and better opportunities. “Kristina quickly demonstrated that she could handle her own under any circumstances in sports television,” says Sendrow, adding that Fitzpatrick just recently “helped launch one of the Major League Baseball Network’s most anticipated new shows, High Heat, as Chris ‘Mad Dog’ Russo’s co-host.”

One of Sendrow’s top clients at CAA is the sportscaster Linda Cohn, who works for ESPN and broke new ground in 1987 when she became the first full-time female sports anchor on a national radio network. “She is a real role model,” says Sendrow, “and I have a lot of pride in being able to work with someone like that.” Sendrow herself argued the need for more women in sports representation in a note she wrote for the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution while at Cardozo.

Sendrow says her legal education is essential to what she does. “I think it’s important to know that the education you get in law school will really prepare you for a multitude of careers in the business of sports. You need to understand that working in the sports world could mean working for an apparel company, a representation company, a network, a league, a team or even in the charitable part of these athletes’ lives.”

Sendrow had an informal concentration at Cardozo in intellectual property and alternate dispute resolution, studied copyright law and trademark law, and took electives in sports law and entertainment law when those classes were available. She also took a couple of classes in arbitration and negotiation. “These classes gave me the practical opportunity to make an argument out loud,” she says, “and it’s that kind of training that gave me the confidence to go out and do a negotiation for, say, an NFL player at ESPN.”

She acknowledges that breaking into the sports law field is difficult. In her last year at law school, Sendrow says that in addition to her mailings to law firms, she sent 100 resumes to sports and entertainment companies and got just one call, from the William Morris Agency, where she started her career. But she also emphasizes that the sports landscape has changed tremendously in the last few years. “Five years ago there were only a couple of places you could go for sportscasting jobs, and now every mainstream network is creating their own sports network. So they’ve got an entire new channel to program, and you’ll see three times the number of jobs out there.”

The key to finding the job you want, Sendrow says, is understanding the variety of opportunities there are in the field. And you might not know some of them even exist until you go looking for them, she adds, pointing to her particular small niche in the business of sports as an example. “I feel very fortunate to have found a path that led me here when I decided to forgo the traditional legal job,” she says.
chance to play pro, he says his experience on the gridiron now gave him a boost in his law career by "giving credibility to my role dealing with coaches and players and agents."

For the year and a half that he was at the UFL, Manigat says he was involved in almost all aspects of the operation, dealing not only with the business areas of the league but with the football operations as well. "Because it was a startup, I had to do so many different things," he says, including working on contracts; licensing and sponsorship agreements; insurance and workers’ compensation; and IP and litigation matters on behalf of players and coaches. The job demanded versatility and thinking on your feet, says Manigat, and it taught him a tremendous amount about the legal and business aspects of sports. "It was because of that experience that I was able to make the jump to MLS," he says.

Manigat’s current role at Major League Soccer demands an even broader expertise, he says, “because as a young organization we are generalists. We get to do everything—from a local level, to a national level, to an international level. Every day you wake up and you have another matter to work on.” On any given day, he says, he will draft, negotiate and review agreements for the league, teams and other soccer properties; manage the league’s intellectual property portfolio; assist in trademark registration, maintenance and enforcement; and work with MLS’s player relations and competition group on player transactions, among many other responsibilities.

The best part of the job, he says, is the challenge of working for a league that is still up-and-coming in the United States. "It’s great helping a young business grow. MLS wants to have a foothold in the major sports league landscape here, and I want to see where it is going to be in five or 10 years and be a part of that."

But Manigat cautions that while being a part of the sports world is exciting, the business of the organization must remain the top priority. "It’s great to be a fan of the sport, but to practice sports law you have to be a fan of the business. Your role as an attorney is not to be a cheerleader. It’s great to attend games and special events—that’s one of the perks of the job—but as an attorney you have to understand that your role will be to identify risks, limit liabilities, find solutions to problems and help your business grow its revenue. That’s what your job is. At the end of the day the sports part of it gets pushed aside."

Course: Sports Law, taught by AYALA DEUTSCH, senior vice president and deputy general counsel at NBA Properties

Sports Law Society

Annual Sports Law Symposium

Sports Law Field Clinic (coming soon)

Moot Court Honor Society: Sports-Focused Tournaments

Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal
FIVE OMAR MUALIMMAK STANDS AT A LECTERN in the Jacob Burns Moot Court Room speaking to a packed house of students, faculty, activists and admirers. "People asked me, 'How did you survive in solitary for over 40,000 hours?'" The former Rikers Island inmate pauses for a moment, catches the eyes of a few audience members, and then looks back down at his notes before continuing. "The truth of the matter is that nobody survives. The truth of the matter is you leave with a level of deterioration."

The hole. The box. Administrative segregation. Protective custody. Mualimmak, who spent 12 years in prison for charges including drug trafficking and possession of an illegal weapon, lists the different ways people refer to the punishment. In the end, he says, it amounts to the same thing: Torture. "Solitary is a small ... six-by-nine space, about the size of a bathroom or elevator," he tells the crowd. He spent around five years in solitary confinement, completely cut off from contact with other people, and he talked to himself "to the point that my voice gets annoying and I had to start talking inside my head."

The audience can only sit in stunned silence.

BY ANDREW CLARK
Mualimmak was the keynote speaker at a daylong conference in March called “Life in the Box,” which was sponsored by students from the Cardozo Journal of Law and Gender. The conference capped a year marked by a convergence of activities by members of the Cardozo community making efforts to expose and end the use of solitary confinement in corrections systems around the country.

Just a week after the conference, Professor Alex Reinert, along with his co-counsel at the New York Civil Liberties Union and the law firm Morrison Foerster, reached an interim settlement in a lawsuit in which the New York State Department of Community Corrections and Community Supervision agreed to end solitary confinement in state prisons for both juvenile and pregnant inmates, as well as for developmentally disabled or intellectually challenged prisoners.

In February, students in the Youth Justice Clinic, working under Professor Ellen Yaroshefsky, issued a sweeping report condemning holding conditions for youth at Rikers Island—the largest jail in New York. Yaroshefsky's students focused on a major issue: the current use of solitary confinement on Rikers, particularly with youths. (Because Rikers Island isn't a state prison, Professor Reinert's victory won't have any effect on the facility’s use of solitary confinement.)

The report, “Rethinking Rikers: Moving from a Correctional to a Therapeutic Model for Youth,” was featured on public radio station WNYC for its call to end solitary confinement for juveniles. In Washington, D.C., the House Judiciary Committee asked the authors for written testimony as part of hearings on criminal justice reform.

“We are operating in the 19th century compared to a lot of other states, and we quickly need to move to the 21st,” said Professor Yaroshefsky, speaking to WNYC News when the report was released.

“Hannibal Lecters” of society, and they have to physically contain them, or else they’re going to jump up and bite somebody’s nose off or something. It’s not true.” Mualimmak cites the NYCLU’s report, “Boxed In: The True Cost of Extreme Isolation in New York’s Prisons,” which describes one prisoner getting sent to solitary confinement because the inmate “refused to return his food tray following breakfast.”

“The Eighth Amendment requires some kind of connection, some kind of proportionality between the punishment you’re receiving and what you did,” says Reinert. “It’s about having a humane society and treating prisoners with decency, recognizing their personhood.”

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Watch Professor Alex Reinert speak on ending solitary confinement, and Five Omar Mualimmak talk about his experience in solitary confinement, at www.cardozo.yu.edu.
Professor Ellen Yaroshefsky, director of the Youth Justice Clinic, issued a report along with her students condemning holding conditions for youth at Rikers Island.

The settlement in the case will lead to the appointment of two corrections experts with authority to make recommendations to change the use of isolation cells, where nearly 4,000 inmates are locked up for roughly 22 to 24 hours each day. Transformation won’t happen overnight. Reinert says that he will be working on the settlement process over the next two years.

Reinert says People v. Fischer gave him a chance to combine his scholarship with his legal work. “It was really very fulfilling to be involved in a case in which some of the arguments that I made as an academic were arguments that we were trying to make in court,” says Reinert. “One doesn’t always have that experience, so for me that was one of the more fulfilling aspects of it. I hope to continue to be involved in this kind of work.”

PROFESSOR YAROSHEFSKY wanted the Youth Justice Clinic to focus on the so-called “school-to-prison pipeline,” where a school suspension for relatively minor offenses prevents students from graduating and leads to them committing minor crimes. She says teenagers get picked up by the cops for minor offenses and ultimately land in jails like New York City’s Rikers Island, where 76 percent of the facility’s juvenile population are pretrial inmates.

“If a student 20 years ago got into a fight at school, they might be suspended,” says clinic member Cassandra Tolentino ’15. She says that because the New York City Police oversee safety officers in the school system, students can now be arrested and sent to Rikers Island.

“In New York, the age of criminal responsibility is 16,” explains Tolentino. Only New York and North Carolina treat 16-year-olds as adults. “At Rikers there are currently a number of 16- to 18-year-olds who are being charged as adults in the criminal system, and they’re subject to the same disciplinary penal system inside of prisons. That includes punitive segregation,” another term for solitary confinement.

The Youth Justice Clinic partnered with the Legal Aid Society to disrupt this pipeline by working on school suspension cases for clients charged with felonies and misdemeanors. In addition, the clinic works with government agencies to bring change to current issues in the system, with a particular focus on the use of solitary confinement.

In Yaroshefsky’s eyes, the best way for the law students to understand what was going on at Rikers was to see it firsthand, giving them a perspective they could never find in a textbook. “For them to go there and to have seen students—kids—in solitary confinement 23 hours a day, not able to get an education, not able to go outside, was so stunning,” she says. “They see the faces of these kids—it’s so disturbing. When we came out, we felt like we’d been through the wringer.”

Yaroshefsky says that many of the young inmates would benefit more from being in community-based therapeutic programs that would ultimately save the taxpayers money. Students in the Youth Justice Clinic agree.

“It’s not a good system at all at the moment,” says Fernando. “I think there needs to be a focus on rehabilitating youth, and it has to be from the level of the corrections officers that have direct contact with the youth, to the judges, and the people in the Court system who are sending these youth to jail.”

While preparing “Re-thinking Rikers,” the members of the Youth Justice Clinic analyzed practices throughout the country to find alternatives. The students spoke to individuals from other jurisdictions and examined their models of pretrial detention.

“There are people who are getting it done right, and we’re just trying to figure out how we can bring that to New York City,” says Tolentino. The report calls for systemic changes to move toward a therapeutic environment for all youth in jails, based on the success of recent models developed in several state corrections systems, including one in Maine.

AFTER THE CONFERENCE AT CARDozo, FIVE OMAR Mualimmak says he appreciates all the work being done on behalf of the prisoners in solitary confinement, and he looks forward to a day when the practice is abolished. When asked what it will take to really impose change, his answer is surprisingly hopeful. “Let’s be human,” he says. He shrugs. “It sounds simple, but we have a lot of laws that get in the way of that. So I think it’s the first step.”
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While preparing “Re-thinking Rikers,” the members of the Youth Justice Clinic analyzed practices throughout the country to find alternatives. The students spoke to individuals from other jurisdictions and examined their models of pretrial detention.

“There are people who are getting it done right, and we’re just trying to figure out how we can bring that to New York City,” says Tolentino. The report calls for systemic changes to move toward a therapeutic environment for all youth in jails, based on the success of recent models developed in several state corrections systems, including one in Maine.

AFTER THE CONFERENCE AT CARDOZO, FIVE OMAR Mualimmak says he appreciates all the work being done on behalf of the prisoners in solitary confinement, and he looks forward to a day when the practice is abolished. When asked what it will take to really impose change, his answer is surprisingly hopeful. “Let’s be human,” he says. He shrugs. “It sounds simple, but we have a lot of laws that get in the way of that. So I think it’s the first step.”
This man is on a quest.

When the European banks stole Jewish assets, he made them pay.
Now he’s fighting a railroad that transported victims to death camps.

Richard Weisberg’s Fight For Justice

By Andrew Clark
As he went before a panel of three judges in Chicago two years ago, a pair of invited guests sat behind Richard Weisberg. They looked on intently, their presence having been recognized on the record, as Weisberg argued his case against the Hungarian State Railways for crimes committed during the Holocaust.

But these two onlookers were unlike the others in the courtroom that day. For them, there was a deep connection to the case at hand, one that would be difficult for anyone else to fully comprehend.

Nearly 70 years earlier, they were being pushed into train cars, forced out of Hungary as part of an unthinkable genocide.

With Abelesz v. Hungarian State Railways, Weisberg is helping those two survivors—along with a number of other living victims and their heirs—get their day in court. The lawsuit is ongoing and rather complex, as Weisberg is part of a team suing the Hungarian State Railways (which is also known as the MÁV) for property crimes committed as part of the Holocaust.

“It is a privilege to represent people who went through the worst of the war’s atrocities,” says Weisberg, the Walter Floersheimer Professor of Constitutional Law at Cardozo Law School.

For Weisberg, having the chance to help the victims of such an unthinkable tragedy is an incomparable feeling.

“For me, that moment in court epitomized what this work means. There’s this strong emotional upside to this.”

Weisberg is no stranger to working on behalf of Holocaust survivors and their families. He had previously worked on litigation for banking victims during the Vichy regime in France.

The Hungary case, he says, “is a continuation of the 20-year-old tradition of helping Holocaust victims pursue justice in American federal courts.”

GOING HEAD-TO-HEAD WITH A SOVEREIGN STATE

Most people wouldn’t think of a railroad as a weapon of mass destruction. But for Hungarian Jews, the country’s railways were something to be feared during the Holocaust. Hundreds of thousands were transported out of the country to camps like Auschwitz, where they were forced into labor. They witnessed the deaths of their loved ones—and often met the same fate.

“There were so many people who were just herded into cattle cars,” says Weisberg of the traumas faced by Hungarian Jews. “The surviving victims in this case often lost their entire families to genocide.”

Based on his previous work for Holocaust victims, Weisberg was approached by a group seeking justice against the Hungarian State Railways. But this isn’t exactly a typical case. Bringing a suit against a railroad company isn’t simple—especially for crimes committed nearly 70 years ago. Much of the problem lies with the nature of the railroad companies, which are considered sovereign entities under American law. Unfortunately, the ability to sue sovereign bodies for death and suffering is very limited.

However, Weisberg and his associates are suing for lost property, an area which is not as restricted.

The victims of the railways suffered immense property losses. As soon as they boarded the train, railroad employees and others associated with them would rummage through their belongings. Some would destroy what they found. Others would pocket objects that caught their eye. It didn’t stop there. Land was taken as well.

At the onset of the lawsuit, $240 million in compensatory damages...
were sought for the victims. Further, the suit sought $1 billion in punitive damages.

Instead of bringing the case in the Hungarian courts, Weisberg says that his clients preferred to litigate in the United States.

"[By litigating in America] they can get an appropriate remedy," says Weisberg. "And in Hungary, we didn't think they would get a fair shake judicially."

The Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act is often used by foreign states or their entities to avoid facing the actual charges against them, as they are typically immune from the jurisdiction of the courts. However, the Act provides plaintiffs with their day in court if they can plead and prove one or more exceptions under the statute.

Though the crimes happened seven decades ago, Weisberg said that he and his team have been able to demonstrate a rather concrete, fact-based case. The Seventh Circuit in Chicago received the case on appeal and agreed with his sentiments. It refused to dismiss the claims and sent the case to the lower court along with instructions to ensure that all legal remedies in Hungary have first been attempted.

The lower court ruled against the plaintiffs, and the case is currently on appeal. The lower court found that the plaintiffs had not shown they had "exhausted" their remedies in Hungary by, for example, attempting to try the case in Hungary's judicial system before going further in the American courts.

Weisberg says he and his colleagues will argue on appeal not only that Holocaust claims brought in present-day Hungary would be futile but also that the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, once overcome by showing a prejudicial taking of property in violation of international law (as has been accomplished in similar cases), does not further require any showing of "exhaustion of remedies."

"It's a watershed moment in that we are going forward with a lawsuit against a railroad company," says Weisberg. "This is one of the only cases where the claimants have been able to overcome sovereign immunity under American law of World War II governments and their entities, and it is the only such case where claimants have been able to proceed against a railroad for genocidal wrongdoing."

A HISTORY OF HELPING

This isn't the first time Weisberg has taken on crimes committed during the Holocaust. Just five years ago, the Cardozo professor stood before French president Nicolas Sarkozy to receive the Legion of Honor, the highest honor given by the country, for his work on behalf of Holocaust victims.

The prestigious award was the by-product of roughly two decades of tireless work. In 1996, Weisberg published a book called Vichy Law and the Holocaust in France. Writing and researching it over a 12-year period, Weisberg sifted through thousands of documents related to Vichy law and spoke with "countless" French witnesses in an effort to illuminate what truly went on during this time. His research covered everything from property law to the banning of Jews from the legal profession. Ultimately, Weisberg painted a detailed portrait of the French legal system and its complicity with German occupiers, shedding light on a shameful era that was marked by the creation of anti-Jewish laws.

One of the chapters in Weisberg's book examined the actions of French banks under the regime. Agreements between banks and Jewish patrons, both individuals and businesses, were annulled. Property was taken without any reason. Courts blocked the withdrawal of money.

Shortly after Vichy Law was released, a group of lawyers approached Weisberg when the chapter on banks piqued their
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interest. The group wanted to sue the French banks that worked hand-in-hand with the Nazis to seize assets from Jewish families. And they wanted Weisberg’s help.

*Vichy Law* was filled with an armory’s worth of smoking guns implicating French banks, the chilling results of Weisberg’s extensive research. Consider a letter titled “Circular of the Association of Bankers,” dated May 23, 1941. It states that “the administration is about to issue an ordinance under which Jews and Jewish companies will retain only limited withdrawal rights at their banks,” and “any legal stipulation dealing with Jewish property (individual or corporate) can be annulled.” This practice is called “gun-jumping.” Ultimately, 26 banks were sued in *Bodner v. Banque Paribas*, a 2000 case named after an elderly Holocaust survivor who was living in Brooklyn. The litigation was quite successful, resulting in a quadrilateral treaty signed in January, 2001. Almost a half-billion euros in property-related theft have been restored to Vichy’s victims.

Weisberg says a favorable result in the Hungarian Holocaust case would yield similar figures. “The facts and issues are different, but with both cases you needed to find out what happened.”

**WHAT IT MEANS TO LEND A HAND**

Weisberg’s efforts to aid Holocaust victims and raise awareness aren’t limited to his work in the courtroom. In 2003, he was the founding director of the Program in Holocaust and Human Rights Studies at Cardozo.

The program was funded with $2.25 million in unclaimed reparations stemming from a settlement with J.P. Morgan & Company and Barclay’s Bank, two of the non-French banks that were among the defendants in the Bodner case. After all victims of the banks’ wrongdoing in France were compensated, the law school became a charitable beneficiary of the remaining funds based on recommendations from counsel for both sides, given Cardozo’s track record with both human rights and Holocaust research. The program offers a clinic in Holocaust claims restitution, allowing students to participate in the field to which Weisberg has devoted so much of his life’s work.

When Weisberg thinks of what it means to help, all he has to do is look back on that one day in court when those two victims sat close by as he argued to get them the justice they deserve. He says that having the chance to help the victims of such an unthinkable tragedy is an “inimitable feeling, heightened still by getting on the court’s record that day the presence of these two courageous survivors.

“Cases like that against the Hungarian Railroad can be difficult and time consuming,” Weisberg continues. “Though there can be a lot of frustration [with this kind of work], it’s important not to lose sight of those whose experiences and memories we are serving.”

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**Professor Richard Weisberg is the Walter Floersheimer Professor of Constitutional Law at Cardozo Law. His book In Praise of Intransigence: The Perils of Flexibility was recently published by Oxford University Press.**
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Participants will be featured in the next edition of *Cardozo Life*, as well as online at Cardozo's website.

Contact Emilia Naccarato Roll, assistant director of Career Services at eroll@yu.edu to participate. Thank you for your interest in guiding our new alumni toward career success!
How Kian Khatibi ’14 turned a nearly decade-long wrongful prison sentence into the drive to earn a law degree, and secure a bright future.

Imagine spending almost 10 years in a concrete box, having a prison guard tell you where to go, what to eat, who to talk to, what to wear.

Now, imagine living through this knowing there is no reason you should be in that box—that someone else has committed a crime, and you’re paying for it.

When Kian Khatibi ’14 was 22 years old, he was convicted and sent to prison for two stabbings at a bar in Westchester County. He spent nine and a half years in jail. Up for parole in 2006, he was denied because he refused to admit guilt.

He was, in fact, innocent.

“It’s not a place anyone would want to be,” he says. “When you’re in there knowing that you’re innocent, and you didn’t do anything wrong ... it makes it even worse.”

Knowing what Khatibi went through from the ages of 22 to 33, it is remarkable that he is the person he is today: a happy, well-adjusted graduate of New York University and Cardozo School of Law who is ready for a bright future. While he is all of these things, he is also different than other recent graduates—he has a uniquely tragic past.

A BOTCHED CASE

On January 11, 1998, when Khatibi was 22 years old and living in Westchester County, New York, he and his brother met up with some friends who were home from college at the Lock, Stock & Barrel in Pleasantville. According to court records, a fight broke out at the bar, and Khatibi was ejected. While waiting for a ride home from his friend, who was still inside the bar, he walked to a nearby convenience store to buy candy and coffee.
Snacks in hand, he walked back to the bar, were he stumbled on four men fighting outside. He ran the half block to the Pleasantville police station and asked for a ride to the train station, because he thought some men were chasing him. A video surveillance camera showed him entering the police station at 1:12 a.m.

At the same time, Pleasantville police were responding to the fight outside the bar. When they arrived on the scene, they found William Boyer and Brian Duffy, both heavily intoxicated and bleeding from stab wounds. Boyar was treated and released. Duffy spent two weeks in the hospital.

Khatibi became a suspect in the stabbings. A warrant was issued for his arrest, and in February 1999 he went to trial. Boyar and Duffy both testified. Neither could identify Khatibi as the man who stabbed them, but Duffy said he thought Khatibi had attacked him. Ultimately, Khatibi was convicted by a jury of assault in the first degree.

He had never confessed.

“I was arrested more or less based on two affidavits from the victims who stated that they positively identified me as the person that attacked them,” he says. “It turned out that the day before they identified me, the victims had been interviewed by a detective or detectives. Both victims told the detectives that they didn’t know what happened and could not describe the attack. That they were drinking so much they really had no idea what went on. But the next day, somehow, the detectives got them to sign these statements. From there the case went forward.”

While in prison, he filed numerous petitions and pursued direct appeals, trying to inform the judges that there was a mistake.

“It didn’t quite make sense how I was even convicted, or how the courts could allow me to remain in prison, based on what seemed like zero to no evidence of my guilt,” he says.

“It was very disheartening. I believe the police fabricated evidence of my guilt and suppressed evidence of my innocence. And they let this go on for nine years for God knows why.”

His tragic story was over as abruptly as it started. In 2007 his older brother Kayvan confessed during a family dinner that he had stabbed both men.

Based on that confession, Khatibi hired a lawyer and put together a motion. In July 2008 a hearing was held. Although Kayvan declined to testify about his confession, Khatibi’s family testified, and Judge Barbara Zambelli of Westchester County Court said she would take a hard look at Khatibi’s claim of actual innocence.

On September 23, his 33rd birthday, Khatibi was released from prison. “When the judge just said, ‘You’re free to go,’ I didn’t quite understand what she meant,” he says. “After nine and a half years of not being free to go anywhere or even turn your head in the direction of an officer, it was a bit surreal and overwhelming.”

PICKING UP THE PIECES

The judge’s words were the end of one ordeal but the start of a new one.

Leaving prison, Khatibi had nothing to his name. His only identification was a social security card and a birth certificate.

He wanted to establish good credit, but to do so he needed a government-issued ID. The New York Department of Motor Vehicles told him he needed proof of his address dating back to a certain time period—a period when he had been in prison. While in the facility, he hadn’t held on to stamped envelopes, as he had no idea they would be needed to later obtain proof of New York State residency.

Unfortunately, Khatibi says there wasn’t any program in place to help him navigate his new life outside prison. Parolees, he says, have access to mental health counseling and social services. They’re even issued a release ID from the state, the kind Khatibi needed to start establishing credit. But Khatibi was exonerated—he never committed the crime in the first place.

“There are zero programs available for someone who didn’t commit a crime,” he says. “You’re basically on your own.”

Luckily, he had strong support from his family, and they helped him out as much as possible. Khatibi’s father lived in

“ When the judge just said, ‘You’re free to go,’ I didn’t quite understand what she meant. After nine and a half years of not being free to go anywhere or even turn your head in the direction of an officer, it was a bit surreal and overwhelming. ”
Connecticut, where the rules for obtaining a driver’s license are different, and he was allowed to provide proof of address within a shorter time period.

Simple things, those that most people take for granted, presented unique challenges to Khatibi. “None of my clothes fit from before prison,” he says. “So I went shopping with my sisters, and I picked up a pair of jeans that I liked. And they were like, ‘No, no, no, you can’t do that, it’s 2008.’

“The fashion was so different than what it was in 1999. When I tried on all of the new clothing, I felt a little awkward. I felt like a clown because it was such a big change. But my sisters convinced me. Now I don’t always wear the best clothes, but it’s definitely not 1999-style.”

And imagine missing the country’s transition into the digital age. “Cars were different,” he says. “Their odometers were different. Everything was digital. I went to the gas station and told my sister, ‘Yeah, I’ll pump gas,’ and to me it looked like the gas pump itself was like a slot machine. There were a lot more lights, there was Internet everywhere.”

But it wasn't the ID logistics, the fashion or the new technology that threw Khatibi for the biggest loop. It was the emotional trauma of living in a cell for almost a decade and then abruptly being set free.

“The problem with that is most people, if not all, are coming out of prison with some kind of emotional scarring,” he says. “It runs deep. I forgot how to socialize and make friends or ease into social circles without making it seem like that's what you're trying to do. At first I was nervous about dating. What do girls like 10 years later? Where do we go to dinner? What's the status quo? Things you'd take for granted.

“It was awkward in the beginning, but I eventually figured it out. I figured out what people are about and how to deal with them. Right now I feel like there's no impediment to my social or professional life or outreach to the community.”

A BRIGHT FUTURE

“I had a lot of pent-up energy when I was released. I used it get things done in my life.”

When Khatibi was released in 2008, he applied and was accepted for undergraduate studies at New York University. He started college in January 2009, at the age of 33. He did well, and in May 2011 he started at Cardozo Law.

“It was a no-brainer,” he says. “I wanted to go to law school because through my experience I had acquired a certain understanding of the way the system works. I wanted to use that both to my advantage and to help other folks out who may be disadvantaged in the way that I was. And being that Cardozo is the home of the Innocence Project, that was a factor in attending here.”

He also has another passion—in the kitchen.

“Growing up I always had two visions for myself,” he says. “One would be to be a restaurateur, and the other would be to go to grad school and get an MBA or a law degree.”

Khatibi is still hanging on to that passion. Since graduating in May from Cardozo, he has been putting plans in place to open a small restaurant in Manhattan. But he's also keeping his mind open to working as a criminal defense lawyer while also doing pro bono work on behalf of people who face legal issues like he did.

His brother Kayvan never went to jail for the crime. Khatibi says that although the Westchester County district attorney has held the official position that the statute of limitations was not up at the time Kayvan confessed, they have declined to prosecute him.

“I believe that they botched the case up so bad, where evidence was now exposed that I believe shows the detectives and witnesses gave false statements and committed perjury,” Khatibi says. “So I think that the district attorney would find it a hard case to try, being that their witnesses were unreliable. It just wouldn't go well with a jury.”

Khatibi has shown remarkable aptitude for forgiveness given the ordeal he went through. He sees his brother around the holidays. He is not close with him, but he says he has moved on.

“Everybody has the ability to change, and I would only hope that he can put his life together and find peace and other ways to deal with things rather than violence,” he says.

Khatibi is still dealing with the aftermath of his time in prison. He has a civil rights action lawsuit pending in the Southern District of New York, alleging that his constitutional rights were violated for multiple reasons in his case. It may go to trial later this year.

“I wouldn't say that anyone could be cured of having nine and a half years of their life taken away from them,” he says. “The emotional scars don't just disappear. I do my best to continue to overcome any negative effects of that and move forward. I try to make the best of every day and try to be the best person I can.”
Cardozo’s Downtown Neighborhood
Balancing Law & Life

PHOTOS BY: SARI GOODFRIEND
GLOBAL LAWYERING
CARDozo STUDENTS CROSSING BORDERS
Ali O'Brien '16 and Adam Rave '14 First Met Their Client, Mr. A, in a Small Office in Esmeraldas, Ecuador, on a Sweating January Day. Esmeraldas, an impoverished, tropical town, sits about 100 miles from the border between Colombia and Ecuador. The two Cardozo students were pro-bono student legal volunteers at Asylum Access Ecuador, a nongovernmental organization that provides individualized legal counsel to refugees like Mr. A. The students' client had fled Colombia after the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) seized his town and forced him to replace his usual crops with a new plant—coca, the leaves of which are the main ingredient in cocaine.

O'Brien and Rave traveled to South America with 10 Cardozo classmates and Teresa Woods, associate director of the Refugee Representation Project of the Human Rights and Genocide Clinic and Jocelyn Getgen Kestenbaum, the Telford Taylor Fellow in the Human Rights and Genocide Clinic. Woods and Kestenbaum teach and supervise students under the leadership of Professor Sheri Rosenberg, the director of Cardozo's Program in Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Studies and the director of the Human Rights and Genocide Clinic. These students participated in the law school's winter 2014 intensive seminar abroad program, where they planned to boost their practical lawyering skills in a real-world setting by working with an international NGO. They had no idea they would inspire the organization to reform its client intake policies despite the constraints of working within the Ecuadorian refugee legal and political framework—or that they would change a man's life in the process.

“You sign up for this kind of experience and you think it's going to be more about what you’re going to learn,” says O’Brien. “But to see it changing other people was pretty amazing.”

Pro Bono Project: Asylum Access Ecuador is just one of several international learning opportunities available at Cardozo Law.

“Cardozo is keenly aware of the increasing globalization of the legal profession and how critical it is that lawyers have facility in dealing with foreign legal systems and cultures,” says Amy Sugin, the assistant dean for Graduate and International Programs. “Our international programs support this mission while giving students a variety of options from which to choose.”

Students can tailor their international studies to fit their goals. If they wish to fully immerse themselves in a new culture for an extended period of time, they can study comparative business law during a semester in Germany, Hong Kong, or Spain; comparative constitutional and human rights law in Hungary; media law and policy at Oxford; Chinese law in Beijing; European Union Law in Amsterdam or Italy; virtually any law school curriculum in Sydney, Australia; or, through a joint J.D./LL.M. program with the Sorbonne Law School, they can study French law during a year in Paris. Cardozo students who are eager to complement classroom learning with hands-on legal training can also do so during the summer—with Cardozo funding—in international corporate and IP firms, human rights organizations, and criminal courts located in the United States and abroad. According to Sugin, students have worked in a variety of countries, including India, China, Brazil and Korea.

“These experiential learning programs are a magnificent way for students to learn a legal issue and then to also explore a country,” says Woods. “Many are inspired and participate in our Human Rights and Genocide Clinic and even pursue a career in human rights, humanitarian or refugee law here in the United States or internationally.”

Sugin agrees. “Engaging in the international arena takes students outside of their own environment and asks them to consider firsthand how society, culture and history intersect with legal issues in other places,” she says.

“The work of passionate, enthusiastic Cardozo students also benefits international organizations,” adds Woods.

In Ecuador, O’Brien and Rave worked closely with Asylum Access on Mr. A’s case. He had been previously denied refugee status, and the group was helping him with his appeal. If he was denied again, says O’Brien, Mr. A would be forced to return to Colombia, where he feared persecution by the FARC.

Time was running out.

“The government of Ecuador passed a presidential decree called Decree 1182 that limits the time asylum seekers have to apply for refugee status,” says Woods. “Oftentimes, people don’t know about the law, and they may be facing other challenges when they arrive. The 15 days goes by very quickly. It’s a measure designed to keep otherwise legitimate claims from being heard.”

In contrast, refugees in the United States have an additional 350 days to complete the application process.

As the two Cardozo students pored over paperwork, translating text from Spanish to English, they were supervised by two members of the Asylum Access organization—Selby Abraham, an American law school graduate, and Alejandra Astudillo, an Ecuadorian lawyer. After the group analyzed the case, Abraham had encouraging news for Mr. A: Asylum Access would move...

Atacames, the beach town where the students stayed during their time working with Asylum Access’ Esmeraldas office. Anna Shwedel ‘15 says, “It was beautiful—great food, and we could see the sunrise in the morning and swim on the beach.”
forward with his appeal, and he could go home (which was located five hours away by bus). If approved, he could return to Esmeraldas two weeks later to complete the process and begin his new life in Ecuador as a refugee with legal status.

This kind of immersive experience provides students with a unique opportunity to learn how to adapt quickly to an unfamiliar, complex environment, says Woods.

“Refugee issues present a dualism in the subject matter because you have to learn the laws of the receiving country that you're working in, and you may also have to understand the laws in the asylum seeker's country of origin and how they interact with the international refugee protection framework,” she says. “All of those different layers are really ripe for learning.”

“Cardozo's international programs prepare students to become creative, compassionate lawyers with practical skills and substantive knowledge, who can also wrestle with the complexity that exists in any kind of legal arena where they will ultimately practice,” Sugin adds.

In the end, O'Brien and Rave achieved a groundbreaking success with Mr. A's appeal.

“About a week after we arrived back from Ecuador, we heard that the appeal was successful,” says Woods. “Something that normally happens in two months was decided on the same day, and Mr. A was granted protection. For Asylum Access Ecuador, it was unprecedented.”

But the win didn't come without obstacles. After Asylum Access initially agreed to take Mr. A's case, O'Brien says she and Rave immediately began crafting their legal arguments, which they would present to Abraham and Astudillo later on the same day, pending their supervisors' acceptance. Woods says she and Kestenbaum reviewed and approved O'Brien and Rave's work.

“We thought it was a great case and that their arguments were going in the right direction. We didn't think the potential exclusion grounds—would take [Mr. A] out of refugee protection,” she says.

Unfortunately, O'Brien and Rave were informed that they would no longer be able to take the case because of an organizational policy against representing asylum seekers engaged in criminal activity.

“Initially, I was frustrated...” says O'Brien. “We worked hard on this case. It's this man's life! We just told him that we were going to take his appeal. He's on a bus back home, excited about his future, and for all he knows, he has to leave Ecuador in two weeks.”

Mr. A, however, made it clear that he was growing the plant for the FARC under duress, and his refusal to comply with the armed group's demands might have cost him his life. O'Brien had felt confident that under those conditions, Mr. A could not be legally disqualified from refugee status in Ecuador, and the team advocated for an exception to the organization's internal policy. Fortunately, Asylum Access was receptive to O'Brien and Rave's arguments and were willing to reconsider their dismissal of Mr. A's appeal.

“The next morning, we return to the office...thinking we're just going to finish up our research, and Selby said, 'Okay, everybody, I have exciting news. We were on the phone all morning with the main office in Quito, and because of your advocacy, we were able to persuade our supervisors. We're going to take the case!' So, that was really exciting,” says O'Brien.
“These intensive winter seminars abroad provide Cardozo students the opportunity to develop the research, communication, problem-solving, character and interpersonal skills that lawyers need,” says Sugin. “Traveling with their Cardozo peers, faculty and staff—and often meeting alumni from the countries they visit—affords them an unparalleled experience to develop their networks and cultivate mentoring relationships.”

Cardozo student Anna Shwedel ’15, who also participated in the winter 2014 Ecuador program, agrees.

“It was a great experience because we got to work with an international NGO, and Asylum Access was really vocal in saying that they would love to have Cardozo students back for either internships, volunteer positions or funded fellowships,” she says. “It showed me what other opportunities exist out there.”

As for O’Brien, the emotional journey was well worth the challenging moments.

“I’m a first-year law student, and I think it’s really unique to have been able to work directly with the client and have control of the appeal,” she says. “That alone was huge.”

The experience also gave her confidence in her legal skills.

“For me, it was brand new,” says O’Brien. “I had never written an appeal for an actual client. After seeing the result, I now know I can.”

“It was a great experience because we got to work with an international NGO, and Asylum Access was really vocal in saying that they would love to have Cardozo students back for either internships, volunteer positions or funded fellowships.”

Anna Shwedel ’15
Cardozo Law Journals Rank Among Top in Country


The project, considered the pre-eminent source for law journal rankings, obtains its results based on the number of times journals have been cited—measuring their impact on legal scholarship.

The Cardozo Law Review was ranked No. 26 in the United States in the general/all subject category. The journal had a busy year, hosting The Roberts Court: An Up-Close Look with Jeffrey Toobin, Miguel Estrada and Paul Smith; putting on its annual Bauer Lecture featuring Louise Melling of the ACLU; and planning a successful alumni party.

The Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal was ranked No. 2 nationwide in the category of arts, entertainment and sports and No. 7 in intellectual property. The journal’s yearly symposium, Data Privacy and Transparency in Private and Government Data Collection, was held in April, and it hosted an event on the reform of U.S. cultural property policy.

The Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution was ranked No. 8 in the nation in the broad field of civil litigation and dispute resolution. This year, the CJCR hosted the seventh annual AALS ADR Section Works-in-Progress Conference along with the fall symposium Bioethics, Healthy Policy and Alternative Dispute Resolution in the Age of Obamacare, with a special symposium issue that followed. In addition, the journal received a $100,000 grant from its founding editor-in-chief Jed Melnick to support the annual symposium, now called the Jed D. Melnick Annual Symposium of the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution.

The Cardozo Journal of International & Comparative Law was ranked No. 5 in the comparative law category. This year, CJICL cohosted the second Semi-Annual Fashion Law Symposium, titled This Season in Fashion Law: Tackling Challenges in Sourcing and Technology. The journal also cohosted the International Dispute Resolution Symposium, which included panels on mediation and arbitration in the international sphere—a “hot topic” in the legal realm today.

STUDENT AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

David Fogel ’15 Wins Writing Competition

David Fogel, staff editor for the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution, won the 2013 Phil Cowan Memorial/BMI Scholarship Writing Competition. The annual contest is sponsored by the Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section of the New York State Bar Association.

David’s winning paper was titled “Labor Relations and the Anti-Flopping Policy: Has the NBA Dropped the Ball?” This article was published in Volume 25, Number 1 of the Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Journal.

Brian Polivy ’15 Wins Prestigious NYSBA Award

Brian Polivy was awarded the 2013 Samuel K. Maynard Memorial Student Service Award by the Labor and Employment Law Section of the New York State Bar Association, for excellence in the area of labor and employment law. Brian was recognized for his outstanding performance as an intern for the National Labor Relations Board, including his research on mediation and arbitration, and for his activities in labor and employment law. He serves on the staff of the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution.

Glenn Thompson ’15 Awarded Two Scholarships

Cardozo student Glenn Thompson has been awarded two prestigious scholarships. He received the Hon. Theodore T. Jones Scholarship from the Metropolitan Black Bar Association (MBBA), which is granted to a second- or third-year law student who demonstrates a commitment to leadership, while successfully navigating the law school experience. Thompson was also awarded the C. Bainbridge Smith Scholarship from the NYC Bar Association, which is awarded to a student that demonstrates character, intelligence and promising aptitude for the law.
Moot Court Honor Society
Students Place First in Sports Law Invitational

Competitors Justin Reiter ’15 and Shanitra Waymire ’15 won first place at the 19th Annual Mardi Gras Sports Law Invitational from among a field of 34 teams from across the country. Reiter was awarded Competitor of the Year. Additionally, brief writers Reiter, Waymire and Benjamin Levin ’14 were awarded Best Brief at the competition.

The Invitational is an appellate competition focusing on topics related to sports law; this year’s topic examined whether college football players can assert a right of publicity regarding the use of their images in NCAA video games and whether the NCAA Amateurism and Eligibility Bylaws violate federal anti-trust law.

LL.M. TEAMS AMONG TOP IN INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Cardozo Law LL.M. teams performed among the top of 17 teams competing at the American University Washington College of Law LL.M. International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C. Daniel Decacche received first honorable mention for Best Oralist. In addition, the team of Justin Santagata, Hector Bondoc, Madeleine Bayzelon and Victoria Syreizol reached the semifinals, and the team of Daniel Decacche, Marko Budrovac, Jackie Leung and Bianca Piccoli reached the quarterfinals. Professor Curtis Pew coached the students. This event, specifically created for LL.M. students, seeks to foster the study of international arbitration for the resolution of international business and investment disputes.

Top row, from left:
Cardozo Law Celebrates 36th Commencement

Speaking at Cardozo School of Law’s 36th commencement ceremony, Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, told graduates to reflect on what they bring to the law. “The law can have great force, but in order to truly form a more perfect union, it needs an assist from human beings who think and feel beyond it,” he said. Referring to the ceremony’s setting at Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall, Bharara said, “In the coming years as you master the form and perfect your craft, don’t just use your head. Use your heart. Don’t just play the notes. Make music.”

The class of 2014 celebrated their commencement on May 27. In his remarks, Dean Matthew Diller urged the 463 J.D. and LL.M. graduates to be agents of change, and to make their mark in the legal profession.

“Think back to those first days of law school for a moment and the work you poured into your studies,” Dean Diller said. “If only you could see a video of yourselves from your elements class, sorting through your first cases. You would not believe how much you have changed...I want to assure you—you really are ready for the road ahead, and I’m confident you will have much to celebrate in years to come.”

Following Dean Diller’s speech, Bharara took the stage. Bharara has successfully handled some of the most important cases in the nation, overseeing the investigation and litigation of all criminal and civil cases brought on behalf of the United States in the Southern District of New York. Among his many prominent cases, Bharara successfully prosecuted and obtained a life sentence for Faisal Shahzad, the Times Square bomber and secured the guilty plea of Peter Madoff for his role in brother Bernard’s Ponzi scheme. He is celebrated for applying renewed focus on large-scale, sophisticated financial frauds, cybercrime, corruption in city and state government, and insider trading schemes.

Following Bharara’s speech, James C. Ng, the student speaker, took the stage, and generated much enthusiasm from his fellow students. Vice Dean Edward Stein led the awards and honors ceremony, and Yeshiva University President Richard M. Joel conferred the Master of Laws (LL.M.) and Juris Doctor (J.D.) degrees. Dean Diller presented the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law Award for Extraordinary Leadership to Vice Dean Stein for his five years of service as Vice Dean.

Congratulations to the class of 2014!
Picture this: Yusuf Islam—a.k.a. Cat Stevens—saunters into your office to play some new tunes. He even breaks into an old classic, “Father And Son,” from 1970’s *Tea for the Tillerman*.

Cool, right? Richard Blackstone ’87 thought so when it happened to him—the ’70s folk-rock icon was one of his childhood idols. “He was singing, so I joined him,” says Blackstone. “He sang lead, and I sang the harmonies.”

That’s just a typical day in the life of Blackstone. Blackstone started in the business as a roadie for ’80s rockers Squeeze, driving the band’s truck and loading and unloading gear at the shows. Today, more than three decades later, he’s head of the record label BMG Chrysalis, where he focuses on shaping artists’ careers and working with music publishing and rights management.

Blackstone, who was a Dean’s Speaker in February 2014, credits Cardozo with providing a major step in his career. “I focused on getting into Cardozo because it was the only entertainment law school,” he says. “I was able to study with one of the great transactional attorneys in the world: Paul Marshall.” Marshall, who passed away in 2012, had represented various A-list clients including the Beatles, Elvis, KISS and Neil Diamond.

The Cardozo professor became something of a mentor to Blackstone, offering him a job around 1988, just before he finished law school. After a year, the future music impresario linked up with a small law firm, and a year after that, he scored a job with Zomba/Jive Records, a company he would stay with for 17 years, before taking a post as worldwide chairman and CEO of Warner/Chappell Music.

“At Zomba/Jive Records] we led the pop cycle of the ’90s with Backstreet Boys, ’N Sync and Britney Spears,” Blackstone says.

At BMG Chrysalis, Blackstone says he tries to take a multimedia approach to working with his artists “so that we are not just talking specifically about music publishing; we can talk about anything,” he explains. This includes books, music, television deals, documentaries—you name it.

Most of Blackstone’s day involves working on the creative side of the recording industry, he says, but that doesn’t mean he doesn’t use his legal training. “Papers are constantly flowing,” he says. “Negotiations and business deals and agreements. I oversee the structure of the deal and negotiations.”

Blackstone loves every part of the music business—he can still be found carrying guitar cases for the hard rock band Linkin Park or selling CDs for John Mayer. But he says his crowning achievement is working with the Zac Brown Band. He was with them from the early days, back when they were playing shows in front of 25 people at New York City’s Mercury Lounge. Since then, the band has released 12 consecutive No. 1 hits on the Billboard Hot Country charts.

“It inspires me every day,” says Blackstone. “I wake up really excited to come to work. I love what I do, I am very grateful.”
Seventh Annual Alumni Association Dinner

Cardozo alumni gathered on January 14, 2014, to celebrate Cardozo and to honor two of their own: Hon. Martin Shulman ’81 and Arthur M. Luxenberg ’84. The dinner was a record-breaking success, packing over 700 people into the Pierre Ballroom. When Shai Waisman ’96, vice chair of the Board of Overseers, announced that the event had raised an unprecedented $660,000 for scholarships, the room erupted into applause. Young alumna Alison Brill ’09 spoke beautifully about the impact that a Cardozo scholarship had on her life, allowing her to follow her dream of becoming a federal public defender. She spoke movingly about her first federal habeas corpus case and about her client, who has been imprisoned for 22 years.

The highlight of the evening, of course, was the presentation of the awards to our outstanding honorees. Hon. Martin Shulman was modest and humble, thanking his family for their continued love and support and Cardozo for giving him the skills necessary to succeed as a judge. He also spoke about the inspiration he gets from Benjamin N. Cardozo, whose legal legacy serves as Justice Shulman’s paradigm in shaping his own judicial thinking. He said that Cardozo gives him the courage as a judge to alter the legal landscape of the common law if circumstances and justice require it.

Arthur Luxenberg, using the motif of a lantern that must be lit, delivered stirring remarks about the people who have inspired him professionally and personally and who have kept his “lantern lit” during his life and career. Luxenberg thanked his family for their continued love and support. He also thanked his law partner, Perry Weitz. He spoke about their journey in forming what is today Weitz & Luxenberg. He mentioned that his involvement with Cardozo was rekindled when his partner’s son, David, enrolled in the school in 2011. Luxenberg spoke about his pride in Cardozo’s accomplishments and the impact that Cardozo has had on his life.

Mark S. Yagerman ’79, chair of the executive committee, noted with pride how the dinner has grown over the years. He reflected that the Annual Dinner is “an event that alumni look forward to each year. The dinner gives us all a chance to express our pride in Cardozo and the accomplishments of its alumni.”

The next Annual Dinner will be held in January 2015. Please watch your mail and e-mail for announcements.

CLASS notes

2014
Alexandra Denger returned to her native Switzerland and joined Bayer (Schweiz), Ltd. as senior legal counsel.

2013
Kristina Jean-Conte has joined the Blue Flame Agency, a marketing and advertising agency founded by Sean Combs. In her role as business affairs manager, Kristina is responsible for all contract matters including drafting, negotiation and preparation as well as for the execution of all agreements (talent, production, creative, marketing procurement) for the entire agency. She also assists in overseeing outside counsel on any litigation matters and provides counsel to all departments on intellectual property matters.

Vita Dauksaitė is compliance officer on the Russia and Eastern European team at the New York offices of JP Morgan Chase, Global Financial Crimes Compliance Group.

Eric Einisman has joined the firm of Serpe Ryan LLP in its New York City offices.

Lindsay Korotkin’s “Finding Reality in the Right of Publicity,” a note published in Cardozo Law Review, was selected for inclusion in the 2014 edition of Thomson Reuters’s Entertainment, Publishing, and the Arts Handbook. The anthology recognizes the field’s best law review articles published in 2013. Lindsay is an associate with Sabety + associates, PLLC.

Lindsay Donn Mann married Justin Mann on July 20, 2013. Lindsay is legal counsel at PVH Corp. PVH, which is among the largest global apparel companies, boasts a diversified portfolio led by Tommy Hilfiger and Calvin Klein.

Kiran Patel joined the Washington, D.C., office of Rader, Fishman & Grauer PLLC. He focuses on patent law, particularly as it applies to the preparation and prosecution of patent applications in a wide range of technological fields, including the electrical and mechanical arts.

2012
Chiara Catti has been appointed legal counsel, IP & Science, at Thomson Reuters in London, where she has primary responsibility for customer contract support in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Kirsty Dymond is now director of special events for the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Kirsty was promoted to this position after serving as assistant director of special events for six months.


Mikhail Ibragimov launched the Ibragimov Law Firm, a Queens-based firm specializing in real estate law.

Pernille Jespersen is legal counsel at Denmark's biggest fashion company, Bestseller (www. bestseller.com), an international company with more than 3,000 chain stores across 38 markets worldwide.
Adam S. Namoury married Celia Atassi at Cipriani 42nd Street in May. Adam works in New York as an investment banker in the Mergers and Acquisitions Group of BNP Paribas.

Matthew Ormsbee has published a new book, Law School 20|20, with help from fellow class of 2012 members Joseph Bernard, Eugene Pikulin and Harold Solis. The book gives a clear picture of the benefits and risks of enrolling in law school and provides insight into the job search.

Jeremy Schachter was honored by the New York State Bar Association as a 2013 Empire State Counsel. The Empire State Counsel program recognizes lawyers who donate 50 or more hours of pro bono services in a calendar year. Jeremy is an associate in the trademark department of Kilpatrick Townsend LLP. Jeremy has also been active as a writer. His most recent publications have been on topics such as trademark bullying; the Copyright Act's relationship to same-sex marriage laws; and the role of legal norms in standup comedy and other nontraditional, artistic communities.

Samuel Van Eichner joined White and Williams LLP as an associate working in the firm’s New York City offices.

2011

Lisa Goldman and Joshua Reiss welcomed their daughter, Daniella Emily.

Eric Katz was named one of City & State’s "40 Under 40 Albany Rising Stars." Eric is floor counsel for the New York State Senate Democratic Conference, providing the Democratic floor leader and conference members with procedural, legislative and legal guidance on issues that occur during floor proceedings of the New York State Senate.

Jessica Smith married Willy Friedman in September at the Bowery Hotel in New York City. Jessica is an associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP.

Jacqueline Tekyi was a member of the litigation team that negotiated a $98 million discrimination suit against the New York City Fire Department. She is an associate at Levy Ratner, P.C., where she is involved in all aspects of the firm’s labor practice, representing unions and individual employees in arbitrations, litigations and proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board and other administrative agencies.

2010

Julia Baedorff joined the Frankfurt office of Clifford Chance in the firm’s litigation and dispute resolution area, advising local and international companies on issues of white-collar crime and compliance.

Caroline Camp has joined Perkins Coie LLP, an international firm with offices across the United States and Asia, as a trademark and copyright associate.

Ari Fridman was named a “Top 99 Under 33 Foreign Policy Leader” by the Diplomatic Courier. Ari is counsel for oversight and investigations on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. His portfolio includes the range of regional and functional areas within the committee’s jurisdiction, such as oversight of foreign
ALUMNI RECONNECT AT REUNIONS

Reunions are a time for reconnecting with classmates and remembering the importance of Cardozo in our lives. Over 225 alumni and friends gathered on May 8 at the Harmonie Club to celebrate reunions for classes ending in 4s and 9s. For the first time, Cardozo celebrated a 35th reunion as the class of 1979 reached this milestone. The spirit of the evening was warm, and shouts of joy could be heard as classmates who had not seen each other in many years were able to catch up. Each class was treated to a slide show of photographs of their class from prior years, set on a continuing loop to music of the time period. Additionally, many alumni could be seen pouring over the yearbooks and other Cardozo memorabilia placed around the room. In a time when people can keep track of each other’s lives on social media, actually room. In a time when people can keep track of each other’s lives on social media, actually meeting face-to-face takes on special significance. It is a chance to really connect with the people who shared the law school experience.

The next reunions will be June 11, 2015, and will celebrate classes ending in 0s and 5s. If you are interested in working on your reunion committee, please contact Inez Lano at Inez.Lano@yu.edu.

aid and embassy security. Ari has worked on multiple committee investigations, hearings and legislative acts.

Andrew D. Harms married Jacqlyn Bovine at the Prospect Park Boathouse in Brooklyn. Andrew is a litigation associate at Lazare Potter & Giacovas LLP and Jacqlyn is a litigation associate in the Manhattan office of Baker-Hostetler LLP.

Shilpa Jangam is manager of global legal operations at ArisGlobal. In this role she takes care of legal matters for five global locations of the company, which is headquartered in Connecticut. The company includes a software development center in India.

David Y. Kim competed in the “Flinders Island, Tasmania” episode of 72 Hours. Contestants had 72 hours to locate a cash-filled briefcase on the remote island.

Timor Lahav became the father of Ayala Lahav on May 8, 2013.

Randi Nelson was selected by the Connecticut Law Tribune as a 2013 “New Leader in the Law.” Randi is an associate in the Westport office of Nushbaum & Parrino P.C. Her practice is focused on family law.

Marisa Warren was selected as a 2013 “Rising Star” by Super Lawyers magazine. Marisa is an associate at Pedowitz & Meister LLP, where she focuses her practice on labor and employment, wage and hour law, employment litigation, and civil litigation. She also serves as co-chair of the Ethics subcommittee of the firm’s Employment Rights and Responsibilities Committee and is a student outreach coordinator for the section. Marisa is actively involved in the New Lawyer Committee of the National Employment Lawyers Association.

Giulio Zanolla recently joined the panel of ADR neutrals of the International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution, a leading nonprofit independent resource helping global businesses and their lawyers resolve complex commercial disputes more cost effectively and efficiently. He also practices mediation and ADR in New York City.

2009

Blake Abrash married Ann Pirraglia in April. Blake is an associate at the Mordente Law Firm in New York, and he focuses his practice on real estate transactions.

La Toya L. Barrett’s article “Weight in the Workplace: Where Size Shouldn’t Matter” was published in the New Jersey Labor and Employment Law Quarterly, a publication of the New Jersey Bar Association.

Olivia Harris was honored by the New York State Bar Association as a 2013 Empire State Counsel. The Empire State Counsel program recognizes lawyers who donate 50 or more hours of pro bono services in a calendar year. Olivia is an associate in the trademark department of Kilpatrick Townsend LLP.

Yuri Kruman published his first novel, Returns and Exchanges. The book follows five young New Yorkers brought together on the verge of greatness—by the chance of fate.

Anusree “Anu” Nair joined the firm of Klasko, Rulon, Stock & Seltzer, LLP as an associate. Anusree works in the firm’s Philadelphia
Brad Farber has been appointed to serve on the Kempe Foundation board of directors and the Colorado Open Golf Foundation board of trustees. He also serves on the board of directors for the Colorado Music Hall of Fame.

Jeremy Hamburch married Lisa Markman in August. Jeremy started Hitchcraft Dating to help singles with autism, aspergers, ADHD and learning disabilities find love. He is also a vice president and assistant general counsel at JP Morgan Chase.

David Evenhuis was elected to the Art Association of Harrisburg board of directors. David practices in the McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC, focusing on commercial real estate transactions and natural gas development. The Art Association of Harrisburg serves artists and communities in the midstate region by promoting cultural excellence in the visual arts through a wide variety of exhibitions and art education.

Julie Feldman was named partner at Schreck Rose Dapello & Adams LLP. Julie is based in the firm’s Manhattan office, which represents talent for film and television.

Gary Kaufman opened a new practice, the Law Office of Gary Kaufman, PLLC, which focuses on criminal defense in the state and federal courts of New York and New Jersey and represents clients from pre-arrest through trial and appeal.

George Pavlenishvili joined Stoel Rives LLP as a partner in their Energy Group. He counsels U.S. and foreign financial institutions, project entities and governmental authorities in a wide range of project finance, structured transactions and financings, acquisitions, and divestitures.

Daniel Zohny became legal counsel and group leader of the Intellectual Property Group at Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) in Zurich, Switzerland. In this capacity, he leads the FIFA Intellectual Property Registration Unit, where he is responsible for the life cycle of FIFA’s trademarks, designs and copyrights.

Jason Rockman has joined Bass, Berry & Sims PLC as counsel in the firm’s Washington, D.C., office. Jason focuses his practice on patent litigation and client counseling, including patent
Cardozo Couples Share Stories at Annual Alumni Meeting

The Cardozo Alumni Association held its Annual Meeting on November 12, 2013, where members elected new representatives and officers. The representatives began their terms in December 2013, and the officers began in July 2014. The new representatives are Rachel Jacobs ‘13, Zorik Pesochinsky ‘11, Adaee Udoji ‘11, Pedram Tabibi ‘09 and Jeffrey Mailman ‘09. The new officers are Alissa Makower ‘92, chair; Ken Weiss ‘88, vice chair; Jose Jara ‘95, recording secretary; and Vivian Naim ‘88, treasurer. Muriel Kaplan ‘80 and Ilene Fish ‘94 will each continue for another term as vice chairs. We thank all of these alumni for the service they have given and will continue to give to the Alumni Association.

Additionally, the Alumni Association presented the Volunteer Service Award to Mark Lieberstein ‘92 and the Young Leadership Award to Russell Norman ‘05. Lieberstein, former chair of the Alumni Association, is a partner at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton specializing in trademark law. Even after his term as preparation and prosecution, portfolio management and transaction guidance.

**Kesha Tanabe** is a partner at ASK, a national law firm focusing on bankruptcy and commercial law. She frequently represents bondholders, indenture trustees, and other creditors in bankruptcy proceedings, restructuring transactions and litigation.

**2004**

Rachel Feinman was elected shareholder at the Tampa Bay law firm Hill Ward Henderson. Rachel practices in the firm’s Corporate & Tax Group. Her practice primarily focuses on general corporate advice, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate lending transactions. Additionally, Rachel has significant experience handling intellectual property-related trademark and copyright transactions.

Joni Kletter’s work as campaign treasurer for Mayor Bill de Blasio’s campaign was covered by *The Wall Street Journal* and the *New York Post*.


**Erik Raines** was elected shareholder at Hill Ward Henderson. Erik is in the law firm’s Construction & Design Group as well as its Litigation Group. His practice primarily involves representing owners, developers, contractors, design professionals, subcontractors and sureties in construction defect disputes, bond claims, lien foreclosure actions and complex commercial litigations.

Lorenz Wolffers is of counsel at Reiss + Preuss LLP, an international law firm based in New York City. His practice offers a wide spectrum of immigration law services with a particular focus on business immigration.

**Nilesh Zacharias** launched One Green Planet, a startup online publishing company focused on the food/sustainability/conscious consumer space. Visit them at www.onegreenplanet.org.

**2003**

Carlos Perez-Hall was elected president of the Puerto Rican Bar Association after serving as the chair of the association’s Judiciary Committee since 2011. He also serves as a member of the Housing Advisory Council of the Civil Court of New York. Carlos is a partner in the Landlord/Tenant Division of Borah, Goldstein, Altschuler, Nahins & Goldel, P.C., and his practice is responsible for Bronx County.

**Daniel Kokha** was named a 2014 “New York Metro Rising Star” by Super Lawyers Magazine. Daniel is a partner at the firm of Kantor, Davidoff, Mandelker, Twomey, Gallanty & Oleneck, P.C., working in their New York offices. He represents clients in the areas of commercial law, employment law and art law with a focus on business torts and fraud.

**Guy Padilla** has joined the law faculty at Tsinghua University in Beijing.

**Jacqueline Seidel** has been promoted to partner at Reed Smith LLP in the firm’s New York office, where she is a member of the Commercial Litigation and Life Sciences Health Industry groups. Jacqueline has a broad range of...
chair, he remains an active alumnus including twice serving as a co-chair of the Annual Dinner. In fact, Norman has been an active alumnus since his 2005 graduation. After completing a tour of duty in Afghanistan, he returned to work in Washington, D.C. He is currently the deputy chief counsel for the United States House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space and Technology. He is an integral part of the school’s annual Working in D.C. event for students and serves as a class agent.

The theme of the annual meeting was Cardozo Couples. Several hundred Cardozo alumni are married to someone they met at law school. Many of the couples joined us that evening and even more shared the story of how they met; those stories are now hosted on the alumni page of the Cardozo Web site. In keeping with the family theme, Vice Dean Edward Stein spoke to the group about the changing face of family laws across the nation.

The next Annual Alumni Meeting will be held on November 19, 2014, so please watch for the invitation.

Valerie Tocci was named a partner at Mishcon de Reya New York LLP. Valerie represents individuals and families in all aspects of matrimonial and family law, including divorce, custody, spousal and child support, and equitable distribution of property.

Jared Zola was one of the top four young insurance attorneys recognized as “Rising Stars” by the Law360. Recently, he was tapped by private equity firm 3G Capital Partners, Ltd., to chase coverage for shareholder suits that challenged a $28 billion acquisition of H.J. Heinz. Jared is a partner at Dickstein Shapiro LLP, where he is based in the firm’s New York and Stamford offices. He is the northeastern regional leader for their Insurance Coverage Group and leads the Property & Business Interruption Practice.

2002
Stuart Boyarsky’s article, “Not What They Bargained For: Directing the Arbitration of Statutory Antidiscrimination Rights,” was published in the Spring 2013 edition of the Harvard Negotiation Law Review. Stuart is an attorney in the New York office of Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP.

2001
David Boag opened a new practice—Boag Law, PLLC—focused on patent, trademark, copyright and technology law. The firm’s offices are located in New York City.

Daniel Gielchinsky joined the firm of Higer Lichter & Givner LLP as of counsel. Daniel works in the firm’s Miami offices, focusing his practice on bankruptcy and commercial litigation. He routinely represents debtors, creditors and other parties-in-interest in various bankruptcy litigation and adversary proceedings. Daniel was selected as co-chair of the Dade County Bar Association Bankruptcy Law Committee in July 2013.

Sarah Warren was honored by the Innocence Project at their Young Professionals Committee’s Night Out to Benefit the Innocence Project. Sarah does pro bono work for the Innocence Project, co-chairs their Young Professionals Committee, assists on their Lawyers Committee, and spearheads fundraising efforts at her law firm for the gala. Sarah is an attorney at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP, where she is a member of the Enforcement & Investigations Group. Her practice focuses on government and regulatory investigations, often involving complex financial instruments.
ALUMNI news & notes

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Transition in Leadership

Mark Yagerman ’79 and Alissa Makower ’92 speak on what Cardozo means to them.

Cardozo Life: As chair of the executive committee for the last four years, you have devoted a huge amount of time to the law school. Why is Cardozo so important to you?

Mark Yagerman: Cardozo has always been a very significant part of my life. As a member of the pioneer class of 1979, I have watched Cardozo grow from an unknown school with huge potential to its current reality—a nationally known, prominent place for legal education. Since Cardozo is very much a part of my identity, I felt that it was incredibly important to work hard on the executive committee. When I was elected chair, I felt that I could do a lot of good work in furthering our association’s goals including promoting legal education, which we have done through CLE programs and by assisting alumni to socialize and network among themselves through the myriad of activities, practice groups, committees, regional clubs and affinity groups. Additionally, our executive committee has worked with the Office of Career Services to create connections for our students to find jobs and to be mentored. We also worked very hard to raise money for scholarships through our Annual Dinner and to educate alumni about the importance of alumni giving. Alumni work on the annual public service auction has yielded significant money for public interest summer stipends to help students. Also, my son, Evan, graduated from the class of 2008, so the bond between Cardozo is not simply with me, but also with my family.

What is your biggest accomplishment as chair of the executive committee?

As chair of the executive committee, I have had the pleasure to work with so many good people—both on the executive committee and alumni in general—as well as with Cardozo faculty and administration to further the goals of our association. I must give credit to our hardworking committees and chairs working alongside me to further the goals of the association. If I had to pick the highlight of four years, it has certainly been the growth

2000

Ralph Bittelari began a detail to the Office of the White House Counsel. He serves as one of the attorneys responsible for the technical and substantive review of financial disclosure reports submitted by presidential nominees and White House staff. Additionally, Ralph provides guidance to administration officials on a variety of subjects related to employee standards of conduct, including speaking engagements, post-government employment, use of official position and government property, conflicts of interest, and outside activities.

Melissa Franco de Gonzales announced her candidacy for judge of Texas’s San Patricio County Court at Law. Melissa and her husband operate the Gonzales Law Office in Corpus Christi. The firm works on criminal, civil and family matters.

1999

Elizabeth Kase was named one of 2013’s “Top 50 Most Influential Women in Business” by Long Island Business News, which called her “a trailblazer for women attorneys in the significantly male-dominated business of criminal law.” She was also named “Pro Bono Attorney of the Month” by the Nassau County Lawyer/Bar Association for her work with the Nassau Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Elizabeth recently celebrated 10 years as a partner at Kase & Druker, where she practices criminal defense.

Rachel Nash married Dr. Jason Gordon. Rachel works in the misdemeanors division of the Kings County District Attorney’s Office.

Jason Vogel was honored by the New York State Bar Association as a 2013 Empire State Counsel. The Empire State Counsel program recognizes lawyers who donate 50 or more hours of pro bono services in a calendar year. Jason is a partner in the trademark department of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP. Jason serves as a delegate to the Judicial Nominating Convention for the 9th Judicial District, 94th Assembly District for the State of New York.

1998

Valerie Boccadoro joined American Express as category counsel to the Membership Rewards and Loyalty Experiences teams in January 2014.

Sahra Dalfen was named a partner at Crowell & Moring LLP, where she has joined the firm’s Corporate Finance & Securities practice.

Sahra has focused on representing companies in domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions as well as representing issuers and investors in securities offerings and financings.

Evan M. Janush was made managing attorney at the Lanier Law Firm, where he will assume full operational and management responsibilities in the firm’s New York City offices. Evan has had substantial experience in mass tort class actions including prominent work in numerous multidistrict claims involving defective products, toxic torts and general corporate negligence.

1996

Leslie Firtell’s staffing and managed-review company, Tower Legal Solutions, opened an office in Dallas. This new office joins existing offices in Century City,
What was your favorite class at Cardozo?
I always liked procedure classes, and I would have to say Civil Procedure and Evidence were my favorite classes at Cardozo. However, it is hard to overlook great and iconic professors such as Monrad Paulsen (Family Law), General Telford Taylor (Criminal Law) and Stewart Sterk (Trusts & Estates), who taught great classes.

What professor was the biggest influence in your life?
I would have to say Peter Lushing. He taught most of the procedure courses that I took in law school. Professor Lushing challenged you during class and made you stand on your feet while he asked penetrating questions. I felt that Peter Lushing helped me develop as a trial lawyer since I had to learn how to think on my feet.

What will you do with all the spare time now that you have stepped down as chair?
Recently my son, Evan, and daughter-in-law, Dani, had a son, and I plan to spend more time with my grandson, Cooper. Also, my daughter, Jill, and her husband, Brett, hopefully will have children in the near future. I plan to continue to work in whatever capacity the executive committee and Cardozo administration needs from me, and I do not believe that this “old soldier” will fade away.

Cardozo Life: What are your goals as chair of the executive committee?
Alissa Makower: I would like to further spread the news of Cardozo’s impressive growth and accomplishments and have that tie-in to greater alumni involvement and giving to the school. Cardozo has grown exponentially over the years and offers so many innovative and practical

continued
programs and services for students as well as alumni. We should all be aware of these opportunities and share the news within the Cardozo community and beyond. I think that the Cardozo story and its local and global impact can help increase fundraising efforts and deepen alumni involvement. I am also open to hearing ideas and action steps from Cardozo students and alumni that would support these and other goals benefiting Cardozo.

You have devoted and will continue to devote a great deal of time to Cardozo on top of your busy professional life. Why is Cardozo so special to you?

I am a practicing attorney thanks to Cardozo! Having graduated from a large university, I remember walking into the law school each day and appreciating its warm and comfortable atmosphere. I thought that the classes were interesting, and the faculty was very accessible. I participated in the internship programs, which were great learning experiences and led to my current career.

What was your favorite class at Cardozo?

I enjoyed the contract drafting classes. As an English major, I always liked writing, and it was a challenge to modify my writing style, but the legal drafting classes proved to be very practical.

What Cardozo experience had the biggest impact on your life after Cardozo?

As a student, I was fortunate to obtain internships through Cardozo, which greatly influenced my professional career. I worked at the U.S. Attorney’s Office, Eastern District of New York, my first summer and was voted “MVI” (Most Valuable Intern), and I worked at Viacom during my second summer and throughout my third year of law school and was ultimately hired and worked there as an attorney for many years. Also, I remember the wisdom and views shared by certain professors regarding the practice of law, which remain with me always.

What have you done professionally since you left Cardozo?

I am currently a vice president, senior counsel at CBS Corporation’s law department in New York City, where I focus on corporate and securities matters. Prior to that, I worked in Viacom’s law department in various areas focusing on entertainment and corporate law. I am an active volunteer in various organizations and have participated in pro bono work, all of which I find very rewarding.

Looking back, what advice or knowledge do you wish you had when you were entering the profession?

I think that it’s important to feel comfortable speaking up, to find one’s voice, particularly as a woman, to be an effective counselor and leader. Also, I think that it’s important to regularly reassess one’s life purposes and trade-offs to maintain a healthy and rewarding work/life balance. Finally, I wish that I had a Cardozo alum as a mentor!

Janet McEneaney was profiled in the Queens Courier. Janet is a member of Community Board 11 and the president of Queens Quiet Skies, an organization that advocates for measures to reduce airplane noise in Queens. Janet is an attorney specializing in arbitrating labor, employment, commercial and securities disputes as well as an adjunct professor at New York University, teaching classes on law and business subjects.

Janice Schacter Lintz was named to the U.S. Access Board’s Rail Vehicles Access Advisory Committee. The committee will develop consensus recommendations for the board’s use in updating sections of the ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Transportation Vehicles that cover vehicles of fixed guideway systems, including rapid, light, commuter, intercity and high-speed rail.

Janet McEneaney was profiled in the Queens Courier. Janet is a member of Community Board 11 and the president of Queens Quiet Skies, an organization that advocates for measures to reduce airplane noise in Queens. Janet is an attorney specializing in arbitrating labor, employment, commercial and securities disputes as well as an adjunct professor at New York University, teaching classes on law and business subjects.

Peter B. Zlotnick joined Farrell Fritz, P.C. as a partner in the firm’s commercial litigation department. Peter practices in the fields of real estate and construction litigation, business tort and corporate governance disputes, financial disputes, executive compensation and employment disputes, bankruptcy and restructuring, and general commercial litigation.

1986

Alesia Kantor was named a partner at Forchelli, Curto, Deegan, Schwartz, Mineo & Terrana, LLP. Alesia works in the firm’s Uniondale offices, and her practice is focused on employment law and commercial litigation, defending employers against claims of employment discrimination filed in federal and local courts as well as before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and state and local human rights agencies.

1988

Benjamin Kaufman joined Wolf Haldenstein Adler Freeman & Herz LLP as a partner in the firm’s New York City offices. Benjamin focuses his practice on class actions on behalf of defrauded investors and consumers.

1985

Susan J. Cohen was named a 2013 “Top Woman in Law” by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly. The award recognizes attorneys “who have made great professional strides and demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in private practice, the corporate arena and social advocacy.” Susan is actively involved in the American Immigration Lawyers Association and has chaired and cochaired a
Many thanks to alumni Steven Maksin ’00 and Natalie Maksin ’03, who established the Natalie and Steven Maksin Scholarship Fund. As alumni, Natalie and Steven have continued to give back to Cardozo, most recently by providing opportunities for students through the scholarship and helping to nurture the next generation of lawyers. Steven and Natalie are partners in the Maksin Legal Group. The firm specializes in all aspects of tax law, trusts and estates and corporate law. Steven is also the Founding Member and Chief Executive Officer of Moonbeam Capital Investments, LLC, where he oversees the acquisition of distressed properties and under performing assets, in addition to leasing and property management projects.

Save the Date!

Join us for reunions for the classes of ’80, ’85, ’90, ’95, ’05 and ’10

June 11, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Harmonie Club in New York City.

If it is your reunion year, watch your mail and inbox for more information.

wide range of the association’s national committees as well as served on the review board for its periodicals. She has also served as the ABA’s liaison to the Department of Labor on immigration-related issues. A frequent contributor to immigration-related conferences and publications, Susan is also the president of the board of directors of the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation Project and the founder and chair of Mintz Levin’s Immigration Practice.

1982

Wendy Millman began working with Hartford Financial Products as a claims consultant in the financial services section. She handles claims asserted against officers and directors in various financial institutions including private equity firms, hedge funds, banks, mutual funds, finance companies, investment firms and insurance companies.

Jeffrey M. Rich, a partner at Rich & Rich P.C., received the prestigious “AV Preeminent” Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Jeff has successfully litigated many medical malpractice cases along with hundreds of general negligence cases. Jeff is president of the New York Criminal & Civil Courts Bar Association and is a member of both the New York State Trial Lawyers Association and the American Association for Justice.

1981

Charles DeLaFuentes’s book on libel law, Libel-Proof Your Writing, was released. Combining his legal knowledge with decades of newspaper editing experience capped by 15 years at The New York Times, the book is designed primarily for journalists and lawyers who review articles before publication.

Mark Levinson was selected to the Los Angeles Business Journal’s 2013 list of “Who’s Who in L.A. Law: Angelenos to Know in Real Estate Law.” Mark is co-chair of the Financial Services Industry Practice Group at Fox Rothschild LLP, where he represents financial institutions, investment banks, real estate investment opportunity funds, governmental bodies, syndicators, developers and owners in a range of asset classes including retail, office, warehouse distribution facilities, multifamily and residential developments.

Elliott Scheinberg was included on the 2013 Super Lawyers list. He has also written a two-volume treatise published by the New York State Bar Association on the impact of contract doctrine on prenuptial and separation agreements. Contract Doctrine and Marital Agreements in New York is now in its second edition. Elliott maintains his own offices in Staten Island, where he focuses his practice on matrimonial appeals.

Peter Sills’s book, Toxic War: The Story of Agent Orange, was published by Vanderbilt University Press. Peter first became involved in this issue when his firm represented Vietnam Veterans of America during a class action against the manufacturers of Agent Orange. He also assisted Congressman Ted Weiss in reviewing confidential White House documents showing how the Reagan Administration wanted to avoid helping American veterans exposed to military herbicides.
David P. Samson ’93, President of the Miami Marlins, Elected as Chair of the Cardozo Board of Overseers

David P. Samson ’93 was unanimously elected chair of Cardozo’s Board of Overseers at the board’s spring meeting, which was held on June 2.

Samson is a champion of experiential learning and brings to his new role dynamic energy and loyalty to Cardozo. He is president of the Miami Marlins and is well known throughout the Cardozo community, frequently visiting campus to meet and talk with students and generously supporting innovative programs at the law school. Samson was honored by the Alumni Association as Alumnus of the Year in 2010, and has served on the board since December 2010.

“I am delighted that David will be leading the Cardozo Board of Overseers,” says Dean Matthew Diller. “He has been an energetic supporter of the law school for years and a champion of many of our most innovative new programs. David will be a wonderful chair of the board.”

As a board member, Samson has been instrumental in helping to shape the long-term goals of the school, envisioning a vital role for Cardozo within the changing legal landscape. A strong proponent of Cardozo’s clinical education programs, he has recently donated significant funds towards the school’s experiential programs, and wants Cardozo alumni to stand out in the employment market. A mentor of students and a spirited advocate for the school, Samson is deeply engaged at every level.

“I am very humbled and thankful to have been nominated to serve as chairman of the Cardozo Board of Overseers,” says Samson. “I look forward to working with Dean Matthew Diller and the entire board and to continue the great work of immediate past chair Leslie Payson.

Cardozo is well positioned to tackle the many complex issues that are before it, and I am excited to get started.”

David Samson has been president of the Miami Marlins since 2002. As president, he played a key role in securing a public–private partnership to build a retractable-roof ballpark in Miami, which opened in 2012, and he was a force behind the team’s successful rebranding in 2011. In 2003, the Marlins won the World Series with Samson as president. He is one of just eight current MLB team presidents to have presided over a World Series championship team.

Previously, Samson was the executive vice president of the Montreal Expos from 1999 to 2002. Following his graduation from Cardozo, he founded News Travels Fast, which delivered The New York Times, Barron’s and The Wall Street Journal to Europe daily. In 1997, he joined Morgan Stanley as an investment advisor, and he held that position until he joined the Expos. A native of New York City, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1990 with a B.A. in Economics.

Samson is taking over leadership duties from Leslie E. Payson ’91, managing director of global operations and technology at Citigroup, who had been chair of the board since 2010. Payson’s managerial leadership was vital to maintaining the fiscal health of the school and to the development of new initiatives. She was the first board liaison to the junior advisory board and has been a leader and advocate for advancing the quality of student life at Cardozo.

“Leslie has been a wonderful chair. During her tenure, she set a high bar—not only for her successor but also for everyone who served on the board with her. Her energy and her affection for the law school made her a natural leader and an effective motivator,” said Patricia Weiss, associate dean of institutional advancement and alumni affairs.

“Leslie knows how to get things done and move us forward, and always with focus and skill.”

Past board chairs include chairs emeriti Kathryn O. Greenberg ’82, founder and honorary chairman, New York Legal Assistance Group, and Hon. Earle I. Mack, senior partner, The Mack Company.

At the June board meeting, the full slate of officers was elected and includes:

David Samson ’93 – Chair
Shai Y. Waisman ’96 – Vice Chair
Paul D. Brusiloff ’91 – Treasurer
Barry A. Shenkman – Secretary

The board also elected two new members, Jeffrey D. Goldfarb ’02 and Jonathan Henes ’96 (see stories on page 75).
Jeffrey D. Goldfarb ’02 and Jonathan Henes ’96 Elected to Cardozo Board of Overseers

JEFFREY D. GOLDFARB ’02

Jeffrey D. Goldfarb is the director of strategic planning at G-III Apparel. He joined the company in 2002, and held several positions before taking on his current role. He has also served on its board of directors. G-III has a portfolio of over 30 fashion brands, four major professional sports leagues, and over 100 colleges and universities. In addition, the company designs, manufactures and markets an extensive range of apparel. Goldfarb also serves as a director of the Fashion Delivers Charitable Foundation, which facilitates the donation of excess apparel inventory to disaster victims and other people in need.

“Jeff has a great business background,” says Dean Matthew Diller. “He is helping to raise Cardozo’s profile and bring innovative ideas to strengthen our law and business programs, pushing us forward in the fields of fashion and arts law. We are very fortunate to have him joining the board.”

Goldfarb's position in the fashion industry was instrumental in establishing Cardozo's partnership with the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT)—which allows Cardozo students to collaborate with students in FIT's Global Fashion Management program—and in expanding the range of courses that are now cross-listed at Cardozo and The New School. He has been actively involved, participating in the Dean's Speaker Series and the Public Service Auction, as well as serving on the Dean's Advisory Council. He is also instrumental in hiring Cardozo student interns. Goldfarb's wife, Stacey Tishler ’02, is a Cardozo graduate as well.

JONATHAN HENES ’96

Jonathan Henes is a partner at Kirkland and Ellis. He is recognized as one of the nation's top restructuring lawyers and has led some of the most complex restructurings in the United States and abroad in a variety of industries, including media, chemicals, energy, manufacturing, real estate, retail and telecommunications.

Henes has been deeply involved in Cardozo over many years. He is the chairman of the advisory committee for the Samuel and Ronnie Heyman Center on Corporate Governance and frequently organizes major conferences—most recently, “The Wolf of Wall Street: Behind the Scenes at Stratton Oakmont.” He often speaks to students as part of the Dean's Speaker Series and Heyman Center Lunch Talks. As an adjunct professor at Cardozo, Henes teaches distressed investing and corporate restructuring, and as a student, he was managing editor of the Cardozo Law Review.

Henes was named Alumnus of the Year in 2013, an acknowledgment of his longstanding support of the school. In 1996, with the help of Professor Stephen Schulte, Henes and his wife, Pamela ’96, launched the alumni group that evolved into the school’s alumni association.

“Jon is an exemplary alumnus and brings a wealth of experience and management expertise to the board,” says Dean Matthew Diller. “I couldn't be more pleased to welcome him to the Cardozo Board of Overseers.”
Class of 2014 Raises Record Gift for Cardozo

Launched in 2006, the 3L Class Gift Program is now a time-honored tradition, in which graduating students encourage fellow classmates to make a gift in the name of their class year. Class gift chairs Sarah Telson and Lindsay Melworm, along with committee members Yusuf Yusuf, Marni Isaacson, Pamela Grutman, Matthew Kriegsman, Elyse Patterson and Molly Duane, secured a record number of gifts, with participation by 134 members of the class of 2014. During the pre-commencement brunch, the committee members presented Dean Matthew Diller with a mock check representing their solicitation efforts. The class of 2014 will be added to a plaque in the Kathryn O. and Alan C. Greenberg Center for Student Life that highlights participation in the 3L Class Gift and helps promote school spirit.

Dean’s Speaker Series Offers Inspiration, Career Advice

The Dean’s Speaker Series allows students to meet and spend time with prominent alumni and friends of the law school who generously share their experience, expertise and insights on building a professional life. This year, students enjoyed lunchtime talks with:

- **Hon. Rosalie Abella**, Puisne Justice, Supreme Court of Canada
- **Allen Apelbaum ’88**, global practice area and senior managing director, global risk and investigations practice, FTI Consulting
- **Caroline Bierbaum LeFrak ’09**, founding partner, Empire Athletics Management
- **Richard Blackstone ’87**, chief creative officer, Bertelsmann Music Group
- **Stephen Breitstone ’82**, partner, tax and estate planning, Meltzer, Lippe, Goldstein & Breitstone
- **Brad Burnham**, managing partner, Union Square Ventures
- **Michelle Waller Cohen ’04**, partner, litigation, Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- **Selim Day and Sacha Ross**, partners, technology sector mergers & acquisitions, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
- **Marilyn Chinitz ’81, P’16**, partner, family law, Blank Rome
- **Costa Constantinides ’10**, New York City Council Member, District 22
- **Julie Gershman ’95**, vice president, strategy, planning and governance, MetLife
- **Jonathan Henes ’96**, partner, restructuring, Kirkland & Ellis
- **David Isaac ’89**, chief executive officer, Garden City Group
- **Jay Kalish ’82**, senior vice president and general counsel, OurCrowd
- **Stephanie Kaufman ’83**, mediator and attorney, Divorce Mediation Services
- **Stephanie Knepper ’08**, vice president and counsel, SKA Marin
- **Dan Lewis ’05**, director, new media communications, Sesame Workshop
- **David Samson ’93**, president, Miami Marlins
- **Emily Tisch Sussman ’08**, campaign director, Center for American Progress Action Fund
- **Aaron Wright ’05**, civil litigator, IP matters, Jenner & Block (now director, Tech Startup Clinic, Cardozo Law)
The Cardozo community raised a record $620,000 this year to support summer public interest stipends for students, an affirmation of Cardozo’s longstanding commitment to lawyering in service of the greater good. Members and friends of the Cardozo community bid on prizes, funding 254 internships in otherwise unpaid positions. Every eligible student applicant received a stipend this year. Over the summer, the students interned in nonprofit organizations, government agencies and courts across the country and around the world. For example, students worked in the International Criminal Court in Rwanda, the U.S. Embassy in Panama City and Earth Justice in Alaska. The auction, which is always a grand celebration, allows the Cardozo community to contribute to hands-on experiences for students while bringing greater access to justice to clients.

Parents Council Grows in Impact

The Cardozo Parents Council, co-chaired by Rachel Berkey ’89, parent of a 2011 and 2013 Cardozo graduate, and Stephen Cooper, parent of a 2008 Cardozo graduate, concluded another active year. The council kicked off the year with a presentation by Vice Dean Edward Stein, who gave parents an overview of the first year of law school at Cardozo. In November, the council hosted the Annual Parents Brunch. Parents, along with their students, were welcomed by Dean Matthew Diller and attended mock classes, taught this year by Professors Peter Goodrich and Melanie Leslie.

Continuing tradition, the council also published the annual Parent Handbook and were active supporters of the Public Service Auction, donating auction items, buying raffle tickets and engaging in spirited bidding for auction prizes. Parents responded to a challenge by Steve Cooper to double a $4,000 stipend gift. Instead of merely doubling the challenge, they raised a total of $23,485.

The Parents Council continues to welcome and integrate parents into the life of the law school. If you are interested in becoming more active in the Parents Council, contact Patricia Weiss, associate dean of institutional advancement and alumni affairs, at pweiss@yu.edu, 212.790.0270.
The Young Leaders Circle (YLC), a brainchild of Cardozo’s Junior Advisory Board (JAB), was inaugurated this spring with encouraging results. Conceived as a society designed specifically for young alumni, the Young Leaders Circle brings together alumni who have graduated over the past five years and recognize Cardozo as a philanthropic priority by making a minimum gift of $50 annually.

Members of the Young Leaders Circle will receive special recognition in publications, an exclusive invitation to an annual event with Dean Matthew Diller and Vice Dean Melanie Leslie, and discounts on special alumni CLE events.

The Junior Advisory Board, formed by Board Chair Emerita Kathy Greenberg ’82 in 2006, is a group of young alumni working on programs in tandem with the school’s administration that benefit young alumni and encourage their involvement in Cardozo.

Brian Farkas ’13, Julie Geifman ’13, Kyle Koeppel ’12 and Jil Simon ’13, members of the JAB, helped create the YLC. Their campaign began in April and by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, over 130 alumni had joined the YLC.

“We recognize the challenges recent graduates face in making a donation, but we also encourage all alumni to think about the tremendous difference that a gift of any size can make,” said Brian, Julie, Kyle and Jil in a joint statement. “You and your peers will be the next generation of alumni leadership for the law school. Become a member of the Young Leaders Circle and become a member of Cardozo’s philanthropic future.”

The YLC is a complement to the longstanding giving society at Cardozo, the Dean’s Leadership Council, which recognizes alumni and friends who make a gift of $1,000 and above. The YLC underscores the critical role of new alumni in shaping the future of Cardozo.

For more information about the Young Leaders Circle, please call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 212.790.0289 and/or go online to make a gift, www.cardozo.yu.edu/onlinegiving.
The community of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, is deeply saddened by the loss of Alan C. Greenberg, our beloved and respected friend and husband of Kathryn O. Greenberg, Cardozo’s Board Chair Emerita. Alan lent his heart unreservedly to the law school and to its students. With his brilliance, ingenuity, and practicality, he, with Kathy, advanced the very foundation of the law school. He made magic for Cardozo in a myriad of ways.

Together with Kathy, a 1982 graduate of Cardozo and chair of its Board of Overseers from 2003 to 2010, Alan supported initiatives that have had a profound impact on our students and faculty. These include establishing a scholarship in his name that allows students who dream of pursuing a legal education to receive one at Cardozo, and supporting the creation of a new student center at the law school, The Kathryn O. and Alan C. Greenberg Center for Student Life, given in honor of Dean David Rudenstine. Alan opened his home to our community, organized events, spoke with students and brought in speakers.

Alan’s lifetime philanthropic spirit matched Kathy’s deeply held interest in providing access to justice for the underserved. Their combined passion gave rise to the Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic at Cardozo, the Guardianship Clinic, and the exponential expansion of the law school’s Public Service Auction, an enterprise that raises funds to support student work in public service. There are hundreds of Cardozo students and alumni whose public interest law experiences and careers were launched by the generosity of Alan and Kathy. Countless underrepresented individuals and communities have been served by these students and attorneys.

There are few people who have the talent, the heart, the vision and skill to make better the lives of others and to advance the ethos of an institution. Alan Greenberg was such a man and everyone at Cardozo is deeply grateful and is better for having met and been touched by him. He understood the problems people face and had a gift for finding simple and effective ways to solve them.

We send our love and deepest sympathies to Kathy and to Alan’s children, Ted Greenberg and Lynne Koeppel, son-in-law Caleb Koeppel, sister, DiAnne Hirsch, brother Maynard and grandchildren, Alison, Melissa, Sam, Max and Kyle, a 2012 graduate of Cardozo.

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We Mourn the Passing of

DAVID BENAMY ’89
David Benamy passed away in June 2013. David lived in New Jersey, where he was a lawyer and youth advisor for the Temple Youth Group for the North American Federation of Temple Youth at the Congregation Adas Emuno in Leonia. He was also a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

G. ABRAHAM DABELA ’11
G. Abraham Dabela passed away in April 2014 near his home in Redding, CT. Prior to opening a solo practice in Redding, Abraham had been an associate at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker.

JONATHAN M. SOBEL ’94
Jonathan M. Sobel passed away in July 2014. Former articles editor of the Cardozo Law Review, Jonathan went on to a notable career in intellectual property law at several large firms, eventually opening his own firm Sobell & Feller LLP five years ago. Jonathan was named a “super lawyer” for intellectual property litigation several times. Just recently, he worked on his 20th reunion committee, encouraging many of his classmates to join him at the event.

HARRIS SUFIAN ’79
Harris Sufian passed away in October 2013 after a long illness. Harris was one of the cornerstones of the Alumni Association, serving on the executive committee as treasurer of the association and as co-chair of several annual alumni dinners. He was also a dedicated class agent for the class of ’79. Harris was a very deserving recipient of the Alumni Association’s 2013 Volunteer Service Award. Harris helped make Cardozo a stronger law school with a more vibrant alumni community, and his smile will be missed.

MARY WANDERPOLO ’86
Mary WanderPolo passed away in December 2013. Mary was a nationally recognized leader in the elder law community and a founding partner of WanderPolo & Siegel in Montclair. She also cooked and served food for the homeless and hungry at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair, where she was a member of the choir and performed for community and senior groups. Mary served on the board of the United Way Caregivers Coalition as well as on hospital and bar ethics committees.
The Cardozo Community
Thanks Professor Ed Stein

PROFESSOR ED STEIN recently stepped down after five years of dedicated service as Cardozo’s vice dean. A great many students, faculty, administrators and alumni have benefited from his vision and hard work in this role.

Thank you, Ed. We look forward to seeing you in the classroom and around campus for years to come.
The three years I spent at Cardozo were some of the most fundamental years of my life. I had the opportunity to learn and fine-tune my legal skills in a variety of classes, clinics and externships. I would not have had the access to such amazing experiences if it was not for the support of the entire Cardozo community and the Annual Fund. I have already chosen to give back to Cardozo as a new alumna, and you should too.

—RACHEL JACOBS ’13

Support the Annual Fund!

Every year, Cardozo alumni, students, parents and friends express their support for the school through gifts to the Annual Fund. These contributions have an immediate impact on the education, resources and professional opportunities provided to Cardozo students. We invite you to become a partner in creating a dynamic future for Cardozo by making a contribution to the Annual Fund.

ONLINE: WWW.CARDOZO.YU.EDU/ONLINEGIVING | CALL: 212.790.0289
MAIL: CARDOZO ANNUAL FUND, 55 FIFTH AVENUE, ROOM 1022, NEW YORK, NY

PHOTO: JORG MEYER
CARDOZO events

Save the date!
Join us for the Alumni Association’s Annual Meeting celebrating Cardozo’s clinics.

Kathryn O. and Alan C. Greenberg Student Lounge November 19, 2014 6:30 p.m.

Clinics are a part of the DNA of Cardozo Law. Reconnect with your classmates, hear about the achievements of our clinics, and learn about the school’s new clinical opportunities.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs, cardozoalumni@yu.edu.

Experience even more news from Cardozo Law on your iPad

The upcoming tablet edition of Cardozo Life will dive deeper into the latest news from your alma mater, featuring videos, enhanced imagery and interactive features. Check your e-mail soon for instructions on how to download Cardozo Life for the iPad!