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THE GAVEL

VOLUME 60, ISSUE 1 THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT CLEVELAND-MARSHALL COLLEGE OF LAW OCTOBER 2011

Cleveland~Marshall hosts moving, informative Cyberbullying Symposium

By Kelly Albin
GAVEL CONTRIBUTOR

On Friday, September 23, 2011, the Journal of Law and Health hosted a Cyberbullying CLE Event to educate the Cleveland community about cyberbullying's negative effects on adolescent mental health and the need for cyberbullying legislation in Ohio. According to the Cyberbullying Research Center, cyberbullying is defined as "willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices." A nationwide rise in cyberbullying-induced teen suicide has compelled forty-two states to pass specific cyberbullying laws or to amend state bullying statutes to include electronic harassment scenarios. Ohio is not exempt from the recent nationwide trend of cyberbullying-induced teen suicide. Currently, Ohio has no law that seems to fit a

cyberbullying-type scenario. Cynthia Logan began the event by sharing her daughter Jessica's tragic experience with cyberbullying. A nude photo of Jessica was reportedly sent to her boyfriend, and the image soon went viral to four high schools. Jessica's peers became extremely abusive. Although the local resource officer, school officials, and the district attorney were aware of the bullying, each said they could not help Jessica, and the abuse intensified. After nearly a year of relentless taunts and torments, Cynthia's eighteen-year-old daughter took her own life. State Senator Joe Schiavoni followed Cynthia's presentation by discussing Senate Bill 127, the "Jessica Logan Act." The pending bill requires school

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Introducing Dean Craig M. Boise: The Gavel gets a Q&A



By Gelise Littlejohn
GAVEL STAFF

GL: Describe yourself in three words.

CB: Empathetic, determined, energetic.

What did you want to be when you were in grade school?

A rancher. I grew up in a farming, ranching community.

What is the most important piece of information you learned in school?

Actually, it was something that my Dad told me. 'Your judgment is no better than your information.' You can't make good decisions if you don't have information.

What is your personal mission statement?

Never stop growing.

Is there anything you know now that you wish you would've known while in law school?

Things turned out okay, I don't look back

and have a lot of regrets. [laughs] Maybe how long it takes to pay back school loans.

Who has impacted you most in your career?

I couldn't say one person. Several different people have been influential at different points in my career.

What advice do you have for 1Ls?

Try to get a sense of the big picture of what you are learning in your classes. The details can be very overwhelming and there will be great demands on your time, but find out how to spend the time in order to perform well on law school exams.

What advice do you have for 2Ls?

Take the courses that you find intriguing or interesting. Use your second year

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BOISE

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to expand your intellectual horizons.

What advice do you have for 3Ls?

You really need to be honing the skills that it takes to be a lawyer, to actually work as a lawyer; that is negotiation, problem-solving, working in groups, networking, and being able to work a room in a social setting.

What attracted you to Cleveland-Marshall?

What really attracted me to this place was the urban mission, similar to that of DePaul in Chicago where I was director of tax programs. The students were sometimes the first in their families to have attended college, much less graduate school. They may have struggled, but they were hustlers and hard workers without a sense of entitlement. There's an energy about this school that is pretty exciting.

What are your top three goals for Cleveland-Marshall?

My top three goals for our school are for it to be ranked one of the top three schools in Ohio. I also want our faculty to be recognized nationally for their

scholarship, and for 100 percent of our students to pass the bar and be employed.

What job search tips do you have for our students?

One of the difficulties of getting a job is lack of experience. Utilize externships and clinics. These are engagement experiences that can be helpful in getting a job.

What is your most proud achievement thus far?

I would say being a good father to my kids... they tell me that I am. Professionally, being Dean here is my proudest achievement. I'm happier to be doing this job than anything else right now.



We look will be looking for new writers for the current school year!

Interested in being an Editor-in-Chief? Contact the Gavel staff at gavel.csu@gmail.com

South Africa's Justice Goldstone Visits Cleveland-Marshall: A Reaction

By Sara E. Tackett
GRAVEL CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On September 9, 2011, South African Justice Richard J. Goldstone presented "Establishing a New Constitutional Court for South Africa: Adapting the Common Law to Reflect a Democratic Criminal Justice System" in Cleveland-Marshall's Moot Court room. The lecture was the first part of CM Law's Criminal Justice Forum speaker series.

When South Africa transitioned from apartheid to a constitutional democracy, the nation's leaders were charged with the task of creating a new Constitutional Court. The Court's first task was to review and determine the constitutionality of the country's newly drafted Constitution which included an expansive Bill of Rights. President Nelson Mandela appointed Richard J. Goldstone to the new Court. During his lecture, Justice Goldstone discussed the challenges faced by the new Court in ruling on issues that trouble our own Supreme Court over two hundred years after its creation, such as cases involving the constitutionality of the death penalty and crimes sexual orientation.

The most memorable components of Justice Goldstone's presentation revolved around his own bemusement with the situation South Africa had created for itself with apartheid. He spoke with genuine perplexity as to how the white minority, totaling a mere twenty percent of South Africa's population, could have repressed the overwhelming majority of black South Africans for so many years. His tone betrayed only slightly what I perceived as disappointed acceptance of the fact that the apartheid ended only for pragmatic

and not moral reasons. He also appeared to speak with slight condescension of the descriptions of the end of South African apartheid as peaceful, as thousands more died after the end of apartheid had been officially, or politically, declared. His worst contempt, however, seemed reserved for the fact that the constitution-forming process nearly broke down negotiations entirely between white and black South Africans. Specifically intriguing about his commentary was the white South African call for a Bill of Rights requiring fundamental human rights once they had begun to feel the full weight of their minority status.

I appreciated Justice Goldstone's humor in recounting how the first two trials he was presented with as a Justice were the constitutionality of the Constitution of South Africa, and the constitutionality of the death penalty, two subjects that still seem to plague American jurisprudence centuries after the forming of its Constitution. Equally as unexpected was the Justice's comparisons of South African policies regarding human and civil rights with those of several powerful nations; perhaps it is a result of my own bias as a disgruntled liberal American, but I detected a slightly over-proud tone in the Justice's lecture when comparing South African's triumphs establishing the legitimacy of the South African Supreme Court's legitimacy and the nation's populace and gay and lesbian rights with the struggles of the high courts in Germany and the United States, respectively. While South Africa seemed to have studied diligently the history books when forming its government, judiciary, and policies, Justice Goldstone may have been implying the United States do the same.

Overall, I found Justice Goldstone's presentation to be a brief history lesson in the creation of

governments as well as an overview of the creation of South Africa's first national Constitution. I enjoyed hearing him speak and look forward to watching the South African government's progression as issues such as South Africa's constitutionalized affirmative action measures become increasingly complex.

A video of Justice Goldstone's presentation is posted on CMLaw's website.

In addition to his service on the South African Constitutional Court, Justice Goldstone served as the chairperson of the Commission of Inquiry Regarding Public Violence and Intimidation, which came to be known as the Goldstone Commission, in the 1990s. As a judge, he served on the Transvaal Supreme Court in 1980 and the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa. After serving as the first chief prosecutor of the United Nations' International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, Justice Goldstone returned to South Africa and was appointed a judge of the Constitutional Court in 1994, remaining on the court until 2003.

Among his many honors, Justice Goldstone is the recipient of the MacArthur Award for International Justice, the International Human Rights Award of the American Bar Association, and Honorary Doctorates of Law from universities around the globe. Since 2004, Justice Goldstone has taught as a visiting professor of law at several American law schools, including Harvard Law School, New York University School of Law, Fordham University School of Law, and Georgetown Law School.

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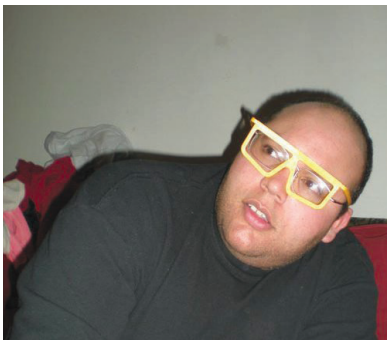
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the gavel

This Summer at the Movies!

A Film Review for Fellow Students



David Nichols
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Beaver

THUMBS UP!

There is a lot to not like about Mel Gibson. I mean, well, let's not even get me started on that list. And his films are usually so awful. So *The Beaver* was a pleasant surprise for me. Gibson plays a suburban dad on the edge of a nervous breakdown who finds a therapeutic oasis by living his life as his own hand-puppet. He does a sort of Mr. Garrison from *South Park*, if you will. The film focuses on the reactions of his immediate family, who, you quickly learn as the movie gets rolling, have enough problems as it is. The screenplay was ridiculous, of course, and it came off as more of a dark Lifetime flick than a serious drama. However, it was shockingly, and unapologetically, bizarre. To be honest, I was a little freaked out, which made it thrilling. It's worth the squinting, but don't bring a date to it.



Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides

THUMBS DOWN!

I was hugely into the epic two-part sequel of the original *Pirates* series. As much as Johnny Depp gets sugar-coated by the press and teenage girls, it's impossible to just not like Captain Sparrow. He's America's first drunken pirate hero! So when I heard they made another one without Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley, I was a happy guy. Both of them are unforgivably lame actors. Unfortunately, the film was an unexpected let down nonetheless. The plot was stupid, (it was in 3D), there were no big ocean battles, and Depp stopped selling his character mid-way through. I've practically forgotten the plot: weren't they looking for some buried thing? Who cares.

Cowboys vs Aliens

THUMBS DOWN!

With a title like this, I couldn't resist blowing my \$11 of lunch money one afternoon. I put on the floppy glasses, chewed popcorn, and spent a couple of hours watching Harrison Ford curse at aliens. Although I admit I had a good time, I don't recommend you see the film. First, it's utterly implausible. It's one of those flicks where someone throws a rock at a car and it explodes on impact. Second, the James Bond guy makes a boring cowboy. He's way too British. Third, aliens! Really? I mean, what are a group of cowboys and Indians going to do to fight off aliens? Use gunpowder? Arrows? These people came from outer space; they have lasers and George Bush-era biochemical weaponry! You'd have to watch it for yourself, but you really shouldn't. Fourth, I have a problem with how everyone in action flicks knows kung-fu now. Was this always the case? Before *The Matrix*, did action stars have automatic karate skills like they do now? I'm not sure, but again, you'll just have to see for yourself. But you probably shouldn't.

Midnight in Paris

THUMBS UP!

Woody Allen is kind of a big deal. He still seems to be having as good of a time writing and producing his films currently as he did in the old days. Owen Wilson plays a novice novelist visiting Paris with his Republican fiancé. The film explores how the two generally find themselves sparking dissimilar interests in the attractions of the city. Wilson's girlfriend wants to shop and hang out with her pretentious friends, while Wilson wants to capture the atmosphere of great artists past. These artists come to life through a bit of time-traveling and existentialist angst. Gertrude Stein even offers to look at Wilson's manuscript. It was a touch didactic; Allen's over-the-top films often end with someone learning a life-lesson and elaborating it to the audience. You'll pretty much enjoy the film, even if you're like me and think Owen Wilson is an irritation.



Submarine

THUMBS UP!

One of my favorite films all summer! *Submarine* is about an alienated adolescent lit-geek from Wales in the 80s who has a crush on his classmate, Jordana. She's too cool for him and won't show him the light of day until she sees schoolyard bullies beat him up for refusing to insult her. They begin an awkward relationship, but things predictably go wrong when Jordana is affected by her mother's failing health. At the other end of the spectrum, the kid's own parents are having their ins-and-outs when the mother's ex-boyfriend, a new-age self-help lecturer, moves in next door. Arctic Monkeys did the acoustic soundtrack which features outstanding cinematography and screen-dialogue. Overall, the film successfully captured the incomprehensible nature of romance and the unintentional harms that arise from misunderstanding a loved one. A very good film.



Harry Potter and the Etc. Etc.

THUMBS DOWN!

Forget what you heard about how epic this film was supposed to be. In the end, it was *The Lord of the Rings* without weapons. Lots of discontinuities and tons of scenes where a group of people are clapping for one another. And, of course, it was in 3D, which, as we learned in *Cowboys and Aliens*, is a major foreshadowing that the movie you're about to watch will be unimaginably stupid. Another problem was how complex all the magic was. I read all the books and have seen all the movies, and was still scratching my head at some of the specifics: How many horacruces are left, again? How does the magic stone work? Aren't these people dead? Wait, Ron speaks Parseltongue? It's bad enough we have to remember the gazillion characters and their special powers. Now the writers have added all types of inconsistencies to deal with. We're law students and don't have time to build a flow-chart for all this gunk. The first films of the series showed some promise, but they have definitely lost quality the longer the series has continued. Thankfully, it's over.

Sarah's Key

THUMBS UP!

For some reason, I walked into the Cedar Lee theatre unaware that this film had to do with the Holocaust. If you're like me, such a film requires some emotional preparation. Be ready. In this movie, a hip French journalist is writing about the Vel'd'Hiv Roundup during World War II. In her research, she realizes that her family, like many French families, was connected to these tragedies through a series of historic events. The film also spends some time capturing the traumatic effects of the tragedies on a young girl separated from her little brother and sent to Auschwitz by the French police. Basically, if you have a soul, you're at the edge of your seat the entire film with a napkin in your eye. The story is truly intense, but don't forget that the photography is also excellent. And likewise, Kristen Scott-Thomas, in case you didn't know, is outstanding. I greatly recommend you check out this film. And the book, for that matter.

Rise of the Planet of the Apes

THUMBS DOWN!

I was a fan of the original series. Being a pessimist, I wasn't completely looking forward to see how our generation would further ruin it with this follow-up to the recent *Planet of the Apes*. All the reviews I read raved about its special effects. Lies! Everything in the film is so obviously obnoxiously digitalized. If you've watched your roommate play Xbox, then you know what I mean. It was basically a poor-man's Pixar. The film's main action comes when a talking chimp leads a rebellion against a city's monkey prison. (Right?) So these apes go absolutely nuts and wreak havoc all over San Francisco when the prison staff treats them harshly. Maybe I'm making it sound more awesome than it was. Trust me, when it comes to the dollar theatre, don't waste your buck. This movie was corny, unrealistic, and boring. I hope that none of the actors have successful careers after this.

The Tree of Life

THUMBS UP!

The best review I read about this film was a 5-star rating with only this simple remark: "Just go with it." I'm the type of nerd who thinks the films of Malick can cure someone's cancer, so my opinion's mostly one-dimensional. This film was indescribable. Where most folks may not enjoy it when a director pauses the script and spends 15 minutes showing the universe create itself in a visual operatic montage, I cry. So basically, bring on the complex weirdness, is my vote! If you can watch 2001: A Space Odyssey in an afternoon without coffee, then you can probably stomach the odd, nonlinear LSD flashbacks that spiral up this scarily ambitious film. Or, you should just go with it.

Alumni Spotlight: Introducing Cassandra Collier-Williams

By David Nichols
GAVEL CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This issue’s Alumni Spotlight was given to Attorney Cassandra Collier-Williams. The Gavel was able to ask her several questions about her extensive career as a lawyer that we felt would be relevant to current Cleveland-Marshall students.

Born in Springfield, Ohio, Ms. Collier-Williams knew she was going to become an attorney since high school. After graduating from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, she worked as a mediator for the City of Cleveland Prosecutor’s Office and later for a private law firm for 10 years.

In 1999, Ms. Collier-Williams decided to strike out on her own and establish her own practice. That year, she began her own law firm, using her house as the initial headquarters in order to stay close to her two sons. After a growing success, Ms. Collier-Williams established an office downtown, providing services throughout Ohio, and hired her own staff of reputable attorneys in the area.

Her areas of practice include corporate representation, personal injury, civil defense litigation, small business representation, and criminal law. She has also been able to use her legal abilities to give back to the community. In addition to representing numerous clients in pro bono cases, she has been president of the Norman S. Minor Bar Association, and participated in many local programs and resources for the public, such as Voter Registration and the Legal Aid Society.

Ms. Collier-Williams has also mentored a multitude of Cleveland-Marshall students and contributed to panel discussions and conferences facilitated by the school.

What do you enjoy most about being an attorney?

There are various reasons why I like doing what I do, but more than anything I like helping people. If you ask a lot of attorneys, they may say that one of the most significant challenges with the job is

having to deal with clients or the general public. Clients can be challenging but as a lawyer you have the opportunity to really impact their lives. There are a lot of people in difficult circumstances out there, and they really need help. I get to meet new people every day and I enjoy it. Everyone has a different personality and different history, and I enjoy the challenge of dealing with their specific issues and helping them obtain a positive outcome.

How would you characterize a good lawyer?

A good lawyer has patience. Patience is extremely important. Also, a lawyer needs to be able to listen. A lawyer has to be able to speak well because he or she is advocating on behalf of others. And compassion. You really have to be passionate about what you’re doing.

What advice do you give to recent law school graduates?

I say: Work hard and love what you do. If there is something you hate doing, you can find someplace else in the field that caters more to your interests. Legal work is dynamic that way and there are enough areas to accommodate whatever you feel comfortable doing. For instance, if you really like speaking, you can be a trial lawyer. If you really like numbers, there’s tax law. There are positions in the field for almost any talent.

What are some of the differences between working for a firm and managing your own firm?

The most significant difference is that when you are managing your own firm, the buck stops with you. When you are working at a big firm, there are usually partners and associates that you have the responsibility to report to. It doesn’t work that way when you’re by yourself. With your own firm, cases are not just assigned to you; instead, you have your hands in everything. Also, starting a law firm

is very difficult financially. It takes courage, especially if you are just out of law school. In that case, you don’t receive the mentorship you would usually get from having experienced attorneys in your office.

What do you look for when you are hiring an attorney at your firm?

You have to be able to write. You should always have a good writing sample with your resume. If an applicant cannot write well, they are in trouble. Research skills are also important. And a sound work ethic. People who can perform the most without breaking stride will be successful. I also look for attorneys who are able to adapt to different types of cases. These days, an applicant’s flexibility is a great virtue.

You have been involved with our alumni association, BLSA, and other organizations affiliated with the University, and you have been a regular panelist for discussions and conferences at Cleveland-Marshall. Why do you think activities like these are important?

As an attorney, I feel that you really have to give back. Acting as a mentor has always been very important to me. I like to help law students especially. I often hire them as clerks to assist lawyers in the office. Clerking experience is so essential. Students have to be able to get some advice when they



need. I try to teach them what I can.

Any future goals?

Everyone has to have a next step; otherwise you may begin to feel stagnant. I feel the next step in my career is to become a judge and continue helping the people that way. Judges have important positions in that their decisions directly impact the community and touch many lives. I see a judicial career as a method of giving back to the community.

Do you have any time management advice?

That’s it exactly. You just have to manage your time. That comes with the job. Sometimes you just have to get up early or put in some late hours in the office. I’m also meticulous about plotting everything out on my calendar. Keep in mind though, that you don’t have to give up your hobbies. Similarly, you can still have a family and be a lawyer. It just takes working and planning. I’m a believer that there is enough time in the day to have it all.

A debate arises within our borders.

By Kevin Gareau
GAVEL CONTRIBUTOR

For some, the debate over Arizona Senate Bill 1070 is simply a matter of a state’s right to enforce a law the federal government isn’t enforcing. For others, it is an attempt to subvert federal law and deport undocumented workers. The highly contentious debate has been raging and it came to C|M|Law on September 22 for the program “Arizona and Its Consequences: The States’ Role in the Immigration Debate.”

Arizona Senate Bill 1070, which was passed in April 2010, is an immigration enforcement bill that, in part, would make it a criminal act for an undocumented immigrant to be present in Arizona. It would also allow law enforcement officials to ask the person being detained to show their documentation, during a traffic stop, detention, or arrest. The law enforcement official could only do this, if he had reasonable suspicion that the

individual was in the country illegally. A federal judge granted an injunction on July 28, 2010, that prevented the Arizona law from going into effect.

The International Law Students Association (ILSA), the Hispanic Law Students Association (HLSA), and the Federalist Society sponsored the September 22 program. It featured Robert Alt of the Heritage Foundation, Adjunct C|M|Law Professor David Leopold, and local immigration attorney Tom Gilbert.

During the program, Robert Alt stated that an argument of those who are opposed to Senate Bill 1070 is that it is a racist bill that targets Latino’s. Alt stated that this contention is unwarranted because it repeatedly states in the bill (four times) that officers are not allowed to consider race when determining whether to inquire about immigration status.

Alt added that the core issue in the debate over Senate Bill 1070 is whether it preempts already-existing federal law. Alt said that there is no problem with local officers checking immigration papers, and courts in most circuits have upheld that position. Alt also said that legislators have allowed local officers to do so.

“Congress has encouraged State enforcement of Federal immigration laws,” Alt said.

Adjunct Professor David Leopold strongly disagreed with Alt. Professor Leopold said that people with an anti-immigration agenda wrote the bill.

“Lest you have any doubt about what the authors of this disgusting piece of legislation are after, they are after one specific racial group—Hispanics,” Leopold said.

Leopold also said that the bill preempts federal law because it

criminalizes being an undocumented worker, which the federal government has not done. He also argued that this bill would put a tremendous burden on local law enforcement and federal immigration officials because of the constant verification of individuals’ documentation.

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer announced in May that she plans to ask the United States Supreme Court to review Senate Bill 1070, but the court has not yet announced whether it will do so.

I Heartre Sartre: A student reviews CSU’s production of “No Exit”

By David Nichols
GRAVEL Co-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On October 6, I got a chance to check out the opening production of Cleveland State University’s “No Exit,” by Jean-Paul Sartre. The play was performed on campus at the Factory Theatre and presented by the Department of Theatre and Dance and directed by Scott Spence, a professor at CSU and long time Artistic Director of the Beck Center in Lakewood. Spence, I recently discovered, has been named “Best Director of 2011” by Cleveland Scene Magazine. It also featured a small enthusiastic cast of young students.

Before the play began, we were reminded of the announcement that CSU’s Facotry Theatre will no longer be hosting University sponsored plays after November. Although Michael Mauldin, the chairperson of the Department reported that it had found a new home at the newly renovated and much esteemed Allen Theatre, there’s something to miss about the small, post-industrial venue with its cracked walls and scratchy acoustics. The Factory Theatre, you must admit, still embodies the underground quality embedded into much of Cleveland’s art scene and will not quickly be forgotten. For the more sentimental of us, CSU will be hosting

it’s last “Factory” play, “The Tempest,” at the old venue. The Tempest, coincidentally Shakespeare’s famous “farewell” play, will is set for production mid-November. As a philosophy student, I had attended multiple productions by Sartre, the existentialist philosopher, novelist and playwright. “No Exit,” his most famous play is often considered to be one of the great masterpieces of twentieth century theatre. I often recall the anti-social mantra Sartre made famous: “Hell is other people!” The set was appropriately dark and looked like the parlor of a drab Dickensian abode. Before and during the play, the ticking of a grandfather’s clock tickled our ears. The actors wore mid-

century dress and lightly powdered faces; their hair was oiled, their eyes outlined in black. The cast appeared almost ghostly. Everything went together to accessorize the hell envisioned by the author. The play features three main characters and a bell-hop. The latter is an employee of the Kafka-esque hotel that is the allegorical afterlife. The play chronicles a conversation between three people who had died from various causes and were forced to share a room. The characters are utterly complex and very challenging for young actors. The students cast in the roles did an impressive job and seem to have more than a mild understanding of the existential symbolism behind some of the absurd banter. They were even able to deliver the laughs from the audience during some of Sartre’s more sarcastic dialogue, a trick that I have seen fail on other stages. All together, I much recommend that you see it for yourself. Bring friends. Or family. After curtain, I could hear several students in the audience whispering to their grandparents and little sisters what they had learned in history or literature classes about the implications of French Occupation during World War II and it’s reflection on modern thought. Or that suffering, for Sartre, did not bloom from “other people” in a childish sense, but from the consciousness in contradiction with the freedom of expression inherent in individual existence (a condition Sartre calls “in-authenticity” or “bad faith”). The play’s additional themes of feminism, ethics and psychology serve to inspire intense conversation among comrades, whether you “heartre Sartre” (a friend’s recent facebook status) or heart debate regarding the human condition. The play is running until the middle of October.



Office of Career Planning to provide networking opportunities



Jennifer Blaga, Esq.
DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF
CAREER
PLANNING

The Office of Career Planning is off to a very busy start for the 2011-2012 academic year. We are very lucky to have two talented new additions to our staff – Francie Fields and Kristen Rutter. Francie and Kristen both come to us with law career planning experience. Francie came from CWRU and Kristen from John Marshall in Chicago. They both have a wealth of ideas, connections, and advice that will greatly benefit our students. In addition to the day-to-day student counseling, Francie and Kristen will be working closely with student organizations to provide assistance with

career related programming and resources. To bring you up to date, the Fall Interview Program is coming to a close, and we are pleased to tell you that 40 employers recruited either on-campus or through resume collections during the program. We are very encouraged by this number, as it, as well as the number of overall interviews, is up from last year. As you hopefully know, this is just the beginning. Interviewing for all types of positions both legal and non-traditional will continue throughout the year. Already this semester, we have had several programs. Our judicial clerkship roundtable for 3Ls considering clerkships; our annual Interviewing Skills & Etiquette program, featuring hiring partners from Reminger Co. LPA; our first annual JAG Day bringing representatives from the Air Force, Army, and Marines for a panel and individual discussions with interested students; our C|M|LAW Solo

and Small Firm Task Force kickoff event that will connect students and graduates interested in solo or small firm practice with mentors, programs, and resources to assist them in their efforts; and numerous one-on-one meetings with employers in various industries to continue to identify opportunities for our students. Although we’ve hosted a variety of programs already, we are just getting started. Attorney Raymond Keyser will be here on September 27 to discuss opportunities with HUD; on October 5 we will have a program devoted to those interested in solo practice to provide food for thought and items to consider as you explore this option. On October 12, our own LeeDaun Williams (’10) will share her networking success stories and discuss the importance of networking with us. We will join forces with our externship program coordinator, Valissa Turner, on October 13 to host our

annual Lawyering Skills fair where government agencies, non-profits, and municipalities, among others, will join us for table talk to allow students to learn of career opportunities within their organization. The list will continue throughout the fall and spring terms. Remember, the key to a successful job search is to network as much as possible while you are in law school. Every person you encounter while in law school – be it through C|M|LAW programs, a bar association program, or through your community or organizations you may belong to – has the potential to be an important part of your job search. NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK! And then follow up and stay in touch with the people you meet. We look forward to working with you this year!!

How to survive a cold call: A Professor gives you some advice

Legal Writing Professor Karin Mika
THE LEGAL
WRITING
COLUMN

As 1L's my friends and I brief four cases, but it seems that whenever one of us gets called on, we can never answer the questions asked!

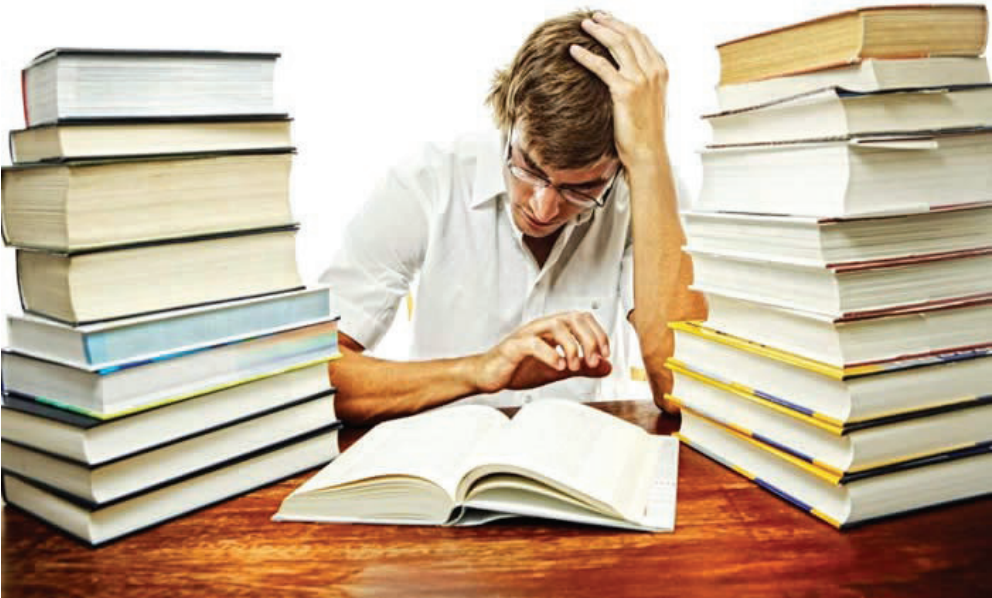
There are a lot of things going on during the first few weeks of law school. Students are learning a new language, a new learning method, and, in many cases, new class preparation techniques. Unlike in some other objective learning situations, a law professor’s primary concern is not always “who did what to whom?” or “Who won?” Thus, as you brief a case, it isn’t always enough just to know the basics. Law school, unlike most of primary and undergraduate education, is not about memorization and regurgitation; it is applying sometimes very difficult concepts to new situations.

I realize that it’s hard at this point to understand context, especially while looking up every other word in Black’s Dictionary, but this is the time when you really have to put in the effort to do that –

slowly and meticulously. It’s not enough to read the cases just once so that you have something written down. Ideally, you need to not only re-read cases, but ponder them (and discuss them) in the context of the other cases and the unit you might be reading. Some questions that you

need to start asking yourself are, “Why is this case here?” and “What point is the professor probably going to make about the case?” It is those deeper inquiries that generally give rise to the questions asked.

Keep in mind, however, that learning the law is a lengthy process. Some students “get it” earlier, and some later. The idea is to put in lots of time during these initial stages so that you start “getting it” sooner than later. In the meantime, go through the motions of writing out detailed case briefs even if you don’t understand exactly what you are supposed to get out of a case. Sometimes students miss the point of a case entirely, and sometimes students “waste” many hours briefing cases that aren’t even covered in class. However, it is important to go through the steps even though it doesn’t seem to be accomplishing anything right now, in the long run, however, it will.



Suicide Prevention: join the fight and save a life

By Michael T. Muha
GAVEL CONTRIBUTOR

On September 25, 2000, I attempted suicide due to the incessant bullying and harassment I received as a high school student in Western Pennsylvania. 11 years later, after a Bachelors Degree from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania and a Masters Degree from The American University, I am in my last semester at Cleveland-Marshall. Thanks to the support from my family, I’m quite lucky to be alive today. I wish I could say the same for the too many high school students who are committing suicide across our fine country.

The Fall Cyberbullying Symposium sponsored by the Journal of Law and Health and the Health Law Society reiterated the harsh reality that there are adolescents and young adults taking their own lives due to terrible bullying occurring in their schools. I wish the Symposium didn’t have to take place, but something must be done to save those who desperately need our love, support, and understanding.

As someone who has suffered from the intense pain and suffering of mental illness and suicidal ideation, I empathize with adolescents like Mentor High School student Sladjana Vidovics, who committed suicide after being teased for not speaking English well after coming to America from Serbia at a young age. Or Jamey Rodemoyer, who died on September 18 after a long battle against bullying because of his sexuality. Or Jessica Logan, whose mother was present at the Symposium, telling her story about the dangers of cyberbullying.

I kept my suicide attempt quiet for nearly eight years through college and graduate school until the suicide of my cousin on May 25, 2008, who died just three months before my start as a 1L at Cleveland-Marshall. His death affected me so much that I became a suicide prevention advocate. On May 11, 2011, I went public with my struggle with bullying, mental illness, and suicide, giving a speech to the students of Hickory High School, my alma mater in Hermitage, Pennsylvania, a small town 15 minutes east of Youngstown, Ohio. My speech opened the door for many Hickory High students to seek help. The response from the students and some of my former teachers was inspiring. In turn, that response has given me the courage to tell more people about my story in hopes that I can help more students desperately looking for solace from mental illnesses like depression and bi-polar disorder.

Now, as I conclude my law school experience at C-M Law, I will continue my fight against bullying in schools and suicide prevention. For the past three years, I have raised money for the Suicide Prevention Education Alliance, Northeast Ohio’s suicide prevention organization, which is



dedicated to suicide prevention education of high school students in Northeast Ohio.

SPEA institutes a program that serves 102 Northeast Ohio schools and more than 80,000 students. This program tries to cause at-risk students to seek and receive treatment for their mental illness. SPEA provides information to students so that they can also help other students if they spot the warning signs commonly associated with mental illness and suicide.

SPEA is solely funded through donations and it needs more in order to adequately and successfully reach students. All donations are tax deductible and 100 percent of donations go directly to SPEA programming. If you wish to donate, you can visit my personal fundraising page at personalfundraising.kintera.org/michaeltmuha.

We must shine a light on mental illness and suicide and stop the stigma paralyzing our young people from speaking out and getting help. There are too many children and adolescents taking their own lives and we, as a society, must do something to help. I’m fighting for the Jessica Logans, Jamey Rodemoyers, and Sladjana Vidovics of the world. Join me.

Scholarships available for Bar Review courses

Would **YOU** like to write a column about politics, law school life, or anything else during the 2011-12 academic year? Email gavel.csu@gmail.com to stake your claim!

Mary McKenna
DIRECTOR,
LAW ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION

The C|M|Law Alumni Association Bar Exam Scholarship Fund was established in 2009 to air worthy C|M|Law students, in good standing and in their final year, to attend a bar review course prior to taking the bar exam. A maximum of twenty scholarships will be awarded to students of C|M|Law for the 2012 Bar Exams. Each scholarship will be comprised of a credit of \$1,000 towards the purchase of the bar review exam course offered by Supreme Bar Review or BARBRI. The scholarship will be awarded in the form of a credit to the overall cost of the course with no monetary value. The scholarship cannot be combined with another BARBRI or Supreme Bar Review scholarship. I urge you to take advantage of this opportunity. FOR STUDENTS TAKING THE FEBRUARY 2012 BAR EXAM, THE COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 21, 2011. For students taking the July 2012 Bar Exam, the scholarship application deadline is February 11, 2012.

the anonymous 1L

The first column in a series tracking the experiences of an anonymous first-year law student.

“Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle. As with all matters of the heart, you’ll know when you find it. And, like any great relationship, it just gets better and better as the years roll on. So keep looking until you find it. Don’t settle.” -- Steve Jobs

As many of you well know, Steve Jobs, founder of Apple, passed away on Wednesday, October 5th, from pancreatic cancer. A college dropout, Jobs pursued his passion for innovation and built the world’s first personal computer in his parent’s garage at age 21. By age 25 his net worth was more than 100 million dollars and by age 30 he was ousted from the company he founded only to return in 1997 to build it into one of the highest valued companies in the world. At his death, Steve Jobs was worth roughly 8.3 billion dollars.

Money, however, did not mean everything to Steve Jobs. Steve’s greatest appreciation wasn’t the millions of dollars he made from Apple, but the impact it had on people’s day to day lives. Steve did what he truly loved, and to him that was a reward far greater than any sum of money. As the above quote suggests, Steve Job’s philosophy on life was simple; do what makes you truly happy because life is short.

In choosing our career paths we too often seek jobs which bring us the most money or prestige. If the job happens to be one we enjoy then it’s just an added



bonus. It’s merely icing on the cake. However, this approach should be reversed. To be truly happy in our short lives, one should strive for a career that rewards them as much mentally and emotionally as it does financially. In the end you can’t take it with you. It is one of the oldest clichés, but today it is truer than ever.

I would like to take this time to issue a challenge to everyone reading this, and especially to my fellow 1Ls. If you find yourself less and less enamored with your chosen career path, do not be afraid to change it. Life is too short and wonderful to spend half of your waking hours drudging through a job that you hate. School can be very challenging and difficult sometimes. However, this is not a suggestion to jump ship as soon as the going gets tough. What I am merely proposing is that everyone take an honest look at their life. What do you see? If you do not like what you see then do not hesitate to change it. Our time on this Earth is limited, so do what makes you happy. Live each day like it’s your last, because one day it will be.

BULLYING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bullying policies to specifically address cyberbullying that occurs in and out of school. “School administrators often feel handcuffed in their ability to prevent a student from being bullied if the incident doesn’t happen on school grounds,” Senator Schiavoni stated. He willingly admitted that the bill is still a work in progress because of the First Amendment implications of permitting schools to regulate off-campus student speech. The Senator stated that he purposely introduced an incomplete bill to raise cyberbullying awareness amongst Ohio legislators, while continuing to iron out the details. “We as a state got to make a move on it before it gets worse,” Senator Schiavoni stated. Senator Schiavoni sought feedback about the bill from attendees, which included lawyers, educators, and public health officials.

Tim Boehnlein, Education Director of the Cleveland Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center focused on the clinical aspects of cyberbullying.

“Cyberbullies are often encouraged by the ability to hurt somebody anonymously, and also tend to be anxious socially with a lack of empathy,” Boehnlein said. He explained the differences between traditional, face-to-face bullying, and cyberbullying, where bullies can hide behind a computer screen. “Sometimes they aren’t even aware that a simple click of a mouse on a computer can do such harm.”

Boehnlein introduced Johanna Orozco, a Teen Educator for the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center. Orozco experienced the violent extremes of cyberbullying scenarios and has turned tragedy into triumph. After being in an abusive relationship for two years, she had the courage to leave her abuser—a decision that almost took her life. Shortly after leaving him, her former boyfriend sexually assaulted her and later shot her in the face with a sawed-off shotgun. Orozco’s spirit, confidence, and carefree outlook inspired and warmed the hearts of many attendees. Through testimony in the Ohio Legislature, Johanna was instrumental in passing laws that allow teens to obtain protection orders and mandate teen dating violence education for all students in grades 7-12. Boehnlein

shared with the audience that Orozco was recently asked to appear on ABC’s “The View” with Vice President Biden to share her story.

David Frattare, Lead Investigator for the local Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, concluded the event by discussing Ohio’s current laws that are ill-fit to prosecute cyberbullies. He also offered tips for parents, educators, and teens. Frattare encouraged educators to thoroughly investigate complaints brought to their attention and to make a record of any cell phone messages reported by a student. He emphasized the importance of standing up to a student cyberbully. “One of the most productive ways to stop cyberbullying,” Frattare explained, “is to acknowledge the incident and address it immediately.”

The Journal of Law and Health will publish a Student Note in its next issue that discusses cyberbullying’s effect on adolescent mental health, the inadequacy of Ohio law, other states’ reactions to the issue, and a proposed cyberbullying statute that criminalizes the more extreme cases of cyberbullying. Look for the next issue of the journal to be released sometime in December.

With over 200 attendees, the Journal event proved a success to inform local lawyers, educators, and public health officials on

cyberbullying’s nationwide prevalence. As Cynthia Logan stressed, “Our children are dying and no one is taking note in our state. This epidemic is preventable. It must stop. We are all responsible for the well-being and safety of our school age students, whether they are entering kindergarten or a senior in high school. We have an obligation, a duty, to protect our young citizens.”

The Journal would like to thank everyone who attended and helped plan this wonderful event.

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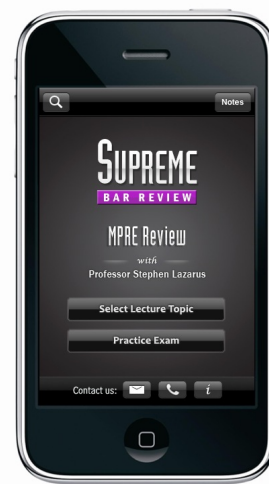


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