

The National Lawyers Guild
LAW FOR THE PEOPLE



DISORIENTATION HANDBOOK

Creating Your Own Progressive Legal Education

The National Lawyers Guild

Academic Year 2000-2001



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Dues and newsletter prices are annual amounts. For additional information call the NLG National Office at (212) 627-2656.

A Brief Introduction to The National Lawyers Guild

Founded in 1937 to support President Roosevelt's New Deal legislation, assist the emerging industrial labor movement, and oppose segregation in the American Bar Association and elsewhere, the National Lawyers Guild was the first integrated national organization of lawyers. During its sixty-three-year history the Guild has been at the forefront of the legal and political struggles of ordinary people to end oppression and discrimination in our society. Guild members are found in Congress, in state legislatures, on the bench, on law faculties, in government service, private practice, and in public interest work in all parts of the nation.

In the 1940s and 50s, Guild members represented Lorraine Hansberry's family, whose successful fight against Jim Crow laws in Chicago entered our culture in the renowned play "Raisin in the Sun." NLG supported the New Deal, aiding the formation of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and the United Auto Workers (UAW). The Guild officially represented the United States at the founding of the United Nations in 1945.

Guild members represented the Hollywood Ten, Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and thousands of victims of the McCarthy era. Our members pioneered storefront law offices in Philadelphia that became the model for Legal Services and founded the first national plaintiffs personal injury organization, the precursor to the American Trial Lawyers Association.

In the early 1960s, Guild members who volunteered to go to Mississippi represented the families of murdered civil rights activists Michael Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman and thousands of others who were arrested merely for exercising their basic rights. Guild members represented the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party and hundreds of voting rights activists and developed the legal analysis that created entitlement interests in government benefits.

National Lawyers Guild members were among the

founders of the Center for Constitutional Rights, the National Conference of Black Lawyers, and the Meiklejohn Civil Liberties Institute.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Guild opposed the Vietnam war in several ways. Guild members represented draft resisters, antiwar activists and the Chicago Seven defendants. NLG established an office in the Philippines to help AWOL (absent without leave) GIs. Members of the Guild defended FBI-

targeted members of the Black Panther Party, the American Indian Movement, and the Puerto Rican independence movement.

In the 1980s, the Guild provided legal support for the anti-nuclear movement, began working systematically on immigration issues, and represented Central American refugees and asylum activists. The Guild in the 80s also published the first major work on the law as it

applies to sexual orientation and the legal issues raised by the AIDS crisis.

Although the 1990s witnessed many changes brought about by the collapse of the Soviet Union and the emergence of vocal right-wing political activists at all levels, the Guild took a lead in defending the rights of Haitian refugees; opposing the U.S. embargo of Cuba; and defining a new civil rights agenda that includes the right to employment, education, housing and health care.

In 2000, multinational corporations have become more important political entities than many nation states. Globalization of information is a fact of life, but so is the globalization of extremes in wealth and poverty. We are facing inescapable trends that will require vast restructuring of our entire society if we are to avoid the social chaos that is already overtaking life in our major cities or the militarized imposition of social peace that we see in other unstable societies.

NLG members have long recognized that neither democracy nor social justice is possible international-

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"NLG members recognize that neither democracy nor social justice can be achieved in the face of vast disparities in individual or societal wealth ... our definition of human rights has always included economic and social rights."

ly or domestically in the face of vast disparities in individual and societal wealth. In short, we have always seen questions of economic and social class as inextricably intertwined with most domestic and international issues.

As a member of the U.S. delegation to the founding conference of the United Nations in 1945, the Guild also participated in the 50th anniversary of that conference in San Francisco in 1995. Our involvement in shaping international policy, however, is not limited to attending conferences. Guild members have also been active in the first efforts to hold the United States accountable to international human rights standards on the death penalty, racism, AIDS discrimination and economic rights. The work of Guild members in various chapters across the country also addresses the issue of police abuses, particularly in communities of color, abuses that one U.N. body has called the most prevalent affront to human rights in the United States.

Another project, "California Freedom Summer," was NLG's response to the anti-immigrant hysteria reflected in Proposition 187 and the attacks on affirmative action that are dividing the people of California and threaten to sweep the nation. We organized volunteers to work with community-based organizations to turn back these initiatives, both legally and politically.

NLG is a local as well as a national organization. Guild chapters are active on a wide range of issues, from police misconduct to environmental concerns to homelessness. Our chapter structure allows members to become active in the struggles of their own communities and to support each other on a grassroots level. On all levels, the Guild welcomes and supports law student involvement. If there is no student chapter currently active where you go to school, you can contact the National Office at (212) 627-2656 or your local chapter for advice on instituting one, as well as being a part of your local chapter's, and national Guild's, events, projects, and committee

work. Our national committees make it possible for Guild members from around the country to work together on national and international issues.

As the phrase on the back cover of this manual makes clear, the National Lawyers Guild is open to all law workers, including law students, and our orientation is to serve ordinary people rather than business, government or other institutions that do not put people's

needs first. It also makes clear that we were the first human rights organization, sixty three years ago.

Most importantly, the quote from the preamble to our Constitution shows that our definition of human rights has always included both economic and social rights, which are often in conflict with the interests of propertied elites in our society.

These ideas resulted in attacks on the Guild, during the anti-Communist hysteria of the 1950s and 1960s, as "subversive." Today, however, those same "radical"

ideas are embodied in the United Nations International Declaration of Human Rights and other international agreements to which the United States is, or should be, a party.

These same principles have also informed our view of domestic political and legal issues. NLG has been able to become a multi-issue organization precisely because we have seen that a wide range of problems - such as racism, sexism, homophobia, environmental destruction and immigrant-bashing - are intertwined with questions of economic justice.

"To the end that human rights shall be more sacred than property interests." It is a goal that has inspired several generations of Guild members since 1937, and it is a goal worth fighting for today and in the future. We welcome and encourage the support, ideas, and energy of law students in finding ways to shape that future.

— Professor Peter Erlinder, *Past President*



"...multinational corporations have become more important political entities than many nation states"

Why Join the Guild?

When I'm asked, "Why should I join the Guild?" I immediately think of the special role of the Guild — a collection of law students, legal workers, jailhouse lawyers, lawyers and activists — plays in the movement for social and economic change. By becoming a member of the Guild, you can join this coalition in the fight for social and economic change.

Guild membership helps law students, especially first years, overcome the deadening sense of isolation which law school imposes on progressive-minded people. We've all seen the law students who came to law school with the best intentions to pursue an alternative legal career, who failed to work and learn with other progressive students and lawyers, and were, therefore, gradually drawn into the traditional lawyer's role. Eventually, they became de-politicized and more conservative. Membership and activism in the Guild helps students retain their political identity and even grow as a result of their law school experiences.

The Guild also aids students by providing a nationwide network of progressive legal people with broad experience in key areas of people's law. Guild members are at the forefront of the legal battles surrounding AIDS, racial and homophobic related violence, civil rights, military law, immigration law, housing and economic rights, environmental law, international human rights, among others. This network also proves very useful to Guild members in finding jobs, in answering questions about how to proceed in various legal problems, in helping with referrals of cases, and most importantly, in providing support to progressive lawyers who are the subject of disciplinary proceedings or contempt citations due to their political/legal work.

Another important point about the Guild that is often overlooked is that as a national organization of legal people we can have an important impact on the political development of the country — certainly more than we would through the sum total of our individual legal/political work. The need to strengthen the impact of our work is an important reason for people committed to progressive change in this country to work with the Guild. Many students ask, "what is the difference

between the Guild and other Civil Rights organizations, i.e. the ACLU?" While many Guild members are also members of the ACLU, staff attorneys or cooperating attorneys with the ACLU, perhaps the easiest way to characterize difference is that the Guild's primary commitment is to support the people's efforts at organization and those organization's struggle for change, while the ACLU operates primarily to defend and expand the Bill of Rights. Another key difference is that the Guild

is a membership organization of legal people, while the ACLU is open to membership by anyone. This gives the ACLU a broader funding base which enables it to do more litigation, while the Guild must rely on organizing legal people to donate their time and getting defense committees or the organizations served to help raise the money for legal costs.

Finally, the Guild, as a broad democratic organization of legal/political people, is an important organization to join in addition to more specialized groups such as environmental, women's and civil liberties groups. The Guild welcomes members of minority bars, and through dual membership both bars can provide a

broader network of legal persons and a larger collection of resources. By joining both a specialized organization or bar and the Guild, you can have more impact on every area of our society, and increase the interaction between specialized organizations. If we are serious about using our legal skills effectively, we must understand not only the problems of a particular group, but also how those problems relate to many others. The Guild is unique in that it encompasses the entire progressive legal community, encouraging unity — an essential element in changing this society.

Law student membership is \$15. In exchange you receive Guild Notes, other student publications such as this handbook, your local chapter's newsletter, information on Guild publications and committees, and much more information about progressive legal organizations and issues.

See article on page 9 for more on students and the Guild.



How to Survive in Law School...

Welcome to boot camp! Just like boot camp in the U.S. Marines, the first year of law school is designed to acculturate you as a future member of an elite corps with its own values, traditions, and illusions. Like any other boot camp, law school functions by depriving you of your individuality, grabbing all your time, weakening your previous ties to the people around you, and offering you resurrection and rebirth if you successfully embrace the institution's own view of the universe. You will receive subliminal training in how to evaluate future clients, fellow students and future peers, and the value of different kinds of law practice.

The law school vision runs counter to the egalitarian, democratic impulses of people who come to law school to gain skills useful to movements for social change. Law school indoctrination mirrors the political, social and moral perspective of the Rehnquists, Scalias, Whites, and Thomases who define and dominate modern jurisprudence. It also exalts the work of corporate law firms that wield awesome power in the service of their wealthy clients. Law school is designed to prepare you to accept and perpetuate these realities, not to challenge them.

But what if you need to learn how to develop a progressive law practice that serves the community, how to get the most accomplished with the fewest resources, how to practice law in a way that empowers the disenfranchised? The curriculum will rarely encourage you to think beyond the acceptable range of conventional options, and the work load is enervating and demoralizing.

So what can you do to resist?

1. Stay off the academic treadmill. Don't overestimate the power of grades. Only a small portion of law school graduates get jobs based on outstanding GPAs. Demonstrated interest in a particular field of law counts for more than an A+ or High Honors in real property with most employers.

2. Keep active politically. Find a way to engage your energies outside of the confines of the law school curriculum. Obsessive focus on school is self-defeating. Make connections that will help you connect up with a public interest law job when you get out of law school. The National Lawyers Guild and other progressive organizations are working on many interesting and important law-related

projects and provide opportunities to find mentors who can help you find summer jobs and long-term directions.

3. Work with friends in your small section to break open a classroom discussion from time to time. Professors are adept at co-opting or trivializing unconventional ideas. One way to promote critical thinking is to make sure that you and your friends agree that when one of you expresses a "subversive" thought in class, the rest will express their support and try to push the discussion further.

4. Early on, you will need to inoculate yourself against feeling jealous towards the classmates who are headed toward \$70,000 or \$80,000-a year positions straight out of law school. Even though years of banal workaholic

drudgery await them, these students are the pride of each institution.

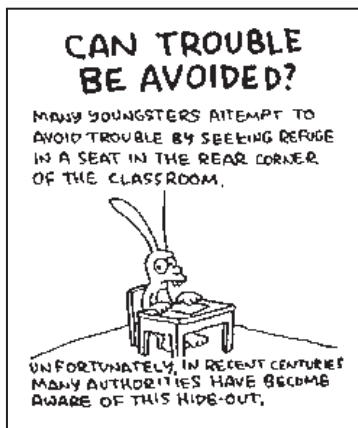
Earnings of graduates are a major factor in U.S. News & World Report's annual rating of American law schools. The truth is, public interest jobs, though usually low-paying, are far more interesting and rewarding than corporate law. If you become involved in extracurricular political activities, you will discover that there is a nationwide community of activist students, legal workers and lawyers who work together to make law a tool for social change.

This discovery is the most powerful antidote to law school's message that what really counts is moving and shaking at a downtown law firm.

5. Try to keep up a life outside of school. Don't lose your old friends or your lover, forget to read a novel from time to time, or abandon your swimming regime. Life is too short and three years is too long to defer your living to some other year. Avoid the total immersion approach to law school.

6. Fight the power! Don't accept law school as it is. You can derive great strength from challenging practices that ought to be changed. The law school needs to be prodded on affirmative action in hiring and admissions, on developing a curriculum relevant to the needs of lawyers who intend to serve as agents of social change, on adopting teaching methods that nurture students and help them realize their potential rather than teach them their place in a pecking order. There is nothing more satisfying than changing for the better the institutions you pass through.

—Ted Franklin



...With Your Sanity & Principles Intact

The First Year of Law School is not a mystical or mythical process — it's more like "intellectual boot camp." The very environment of the classroom is intimidating and scary for most of us. It's confusing and causes even the most competent and brilliant students to doubt whether they made the right decision.

Mastering the Material

But there is a bright side. Intellectually speaking, the material is usually not that hard. The concepts are no more mysterious than unfamiliar subjects you've studied before. Once you get used to the "legalese" and a few rules, legal analysis is very much like working a puzzle. No harder. Guaranteed.

The "casebook method," in a word, sucks. It's dry and repetitive and it confuses you. While studying cases, concentrate on learning general principles rather than the specifics of every case. Look for common themes and topics. Don't bother trying to find some kind of overarching logic or grand scheme — it's not there. Don't waste time searching for rationality and consistency often rules are contradictory and seemingly illogical. Remember the words of Justice Holmes: "The life of the law is not logic but experience."

If you don't yet know how, you must learn to budget your time. Falling behind in class tends to make you miserable even if you are capable of studying under extreme pressure. By the same token, too much studying can be as destructive as too little — especially to your social life. There is no point in spending hours staring at unintelligible hieroglyphics when your brain has gone on strike. Studying should be treated as a job: put in your hours, but don't let it dominate your life to the exclusion of all other activities. After you've done your work, put it away. Save some time for more worthwhile activities like the Guild.

Performing in Class

One of the most frustrating experiences in the first year happens when you're studying a case that grates against your sense of justice and no one else seems to notice. It could be a contract case with a low-income customer getting defrauded by a furniture company, or a gay man challenging a state ordinance that prohibits him from engaging in consensual sex with his partner. You have to make the decision whether or not to "go out on a limb" and state your mind. It's your call.

Just keep in mind that by letting comments and generalities go unchallenged, we buy into the philoso-

phy that nothing can change, and more importantly, we miss a golden opportunity to educate our classmates and maybe just maybe-change the way they think about the law.

The Socratic Method

Many law schools rely heavily on the "Socratic" method, as it is portrayed in the movie "The Paper Chase." This method has been known to send students home crying and feeling they can't hack it. But some professors begin their classes by saying "This is not 'The Paper Chase.'" This translates to, "I promise not to humiliate you in front of your classmates, but you'd better be prepared." So just relax, read the cases and give it your best shot. Generally, grades are anonymous and not based on your classroom performance. It's just not worth getting worked up over. Social injustice, now—that's worth getting worked up over.

So... Why am I in law school?

When you are surrounded by single-minded students intent on making lots of money or using the law to help others profit financially, you can feel somewhat lost or out of place. Just remember, legal skills are extremely valuable when working with those who are oppressed and disempowered in this society. Once you master the skills of lawyering, you can use them to help clients and communities to develop their own strategies for dealing with the legal system. You will be better able to make a difference when you leave.

The Struggle Alone and Together

In law school, it's easy to get the impression that we are alone in struggling to preserve our progressive commitment and identity. It's not true. Even in the strongest bastions of apathy or conservatism, there are usually a few like-minded souls. Surviving law school requires finding people, organizations and work which can help us maintain our perspective; it's a hard thing to do alone. It is critical to locate support networks both in and outside of school. Doing legal work with real clients can also help you remember why you wanted to be a lawyer.

It's also important to make time for some kind of political or community work. Being a progressive lawyer means not just thinking in political terms but aligning and working with movements for social change.

—Temple Law School NLG Brochure

Legal Indoctrination

If you're like most first-years, you probably assume that the casebooks required for your classes will be an integral and meaningful part of your education. Sure, you don't have a clue as to what ideas you are supposed to glean and apply from one case to the next, and you have an intuitive sense that the court is failing to discuss relevant social issues, but you dismiss those frustrations as the price of learning to "think like a lawyer." Having probably never read a case before coming to law school, you may feel strangely seduced by the power and prestige of standing above a case and dissecting it under the aloof guidance of your professor.

A few months into your first year, when you pause to reflect on your legal education, you may feel cheated. You have been. Think about it — social conflict (as seen through the lens of legal disputes) is about real people facing real problems with real consequences

awaiting them depending on the resolution of the dispute. Legal education (as presented through the study of appellate cases) is about the manipulation of abstract principles to maintain the status quo.

Caselaw promotes the interests of privileged members of society in two ways: The traditional tactic relies on the subordination of real world outcomes to "the rule of law." This approach is emphasized in first year classes which tend to focus on the doctrine, the whole doctrine and nothing but the doctrine, regardless of the cruel and unfair consequences of application. The modern approach is more devious as it worms its way around decades of civil rights legislation and case law. Lessons in Advanced Manipulation teach students to ignore inconvenient precedent and rely on selective interpretations of legislative intent in a result-oriented quest for heterosexual able-bodied

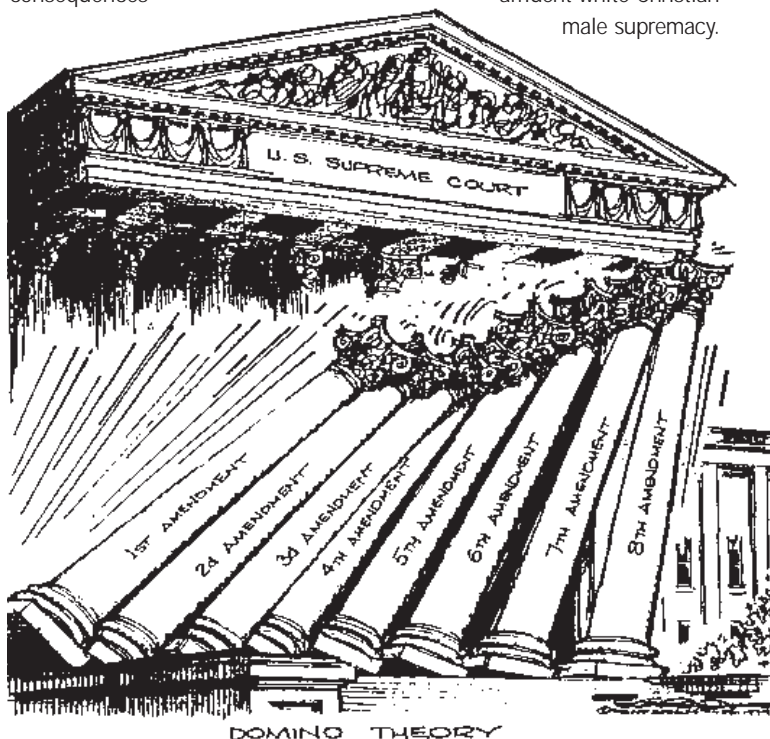
affluent white Christian male supremacy.

The casebook method forces students to waste precious time and energy deciphering murky appellate opinions, inhibiting the development of the critical perspective necessary to discern the political implications of the doctrine. By creating a classroom dynamic of fear and competition, professors discourage students from raising points which are tangential to the doctrine and might stand political (as if adherence to or departure from the doctrine itself is not political). Finally, by testing students only on the application of legal doctrine to a given fact pattern, professors transform students into unprincipled drones concerned only with the regurgitation of legal principles. With only an occasional exception, casebook education and first year legal analysis lend themselves total abdication of the values and interests which led many students to law school in the first place.

Only you can make your first year classes more than the miserable, numbing experience they are for most people. Now that you've been put on notice of what to watch out for, you have a responsibility to empower yourself to make changes. Your professors' advice to the contrary, don't be afraid to use commercial outlines to learn the rules more quickly and easily, leaving you more time to think critically and creatively. Bond with classmates who share your concerns and insist that meaningful discussion take place in the classroom. Form reading groups to discuss articles by critical scholars.

Finally, in those unavoidable hours spent with your ten pound friend, never lose sight of what lies beyond the casebook.

—Michael Friedman



Getting Critical

By this point in your school reading, you may be wondering how it is possible that every professor clings to the notion of the law as a neutral, objective force that is the embodiment of justice. In fact, there are exceptions. Most law schools these days have at least one Critical Theorist on the faculty. The professor may be a Critical Legal Scholar, a Critical Race Theorist, a Feminist Legal Theorist or an Anti-Essentialist.

Critical Legal Studies has been called a movement, a political location, and a method, among other things. Whatever its appellation, CLS has become a recognized area of study among law students and professors. CLS contends that the law is shaped by the political and moral beliefs of the lawmakers. CLS seeks to show how the legal order systematically reflects, generates and reinforces poverty and class inequity as well as sexism, homophobia and racism. This method of criticism has its roots in the deconstructionist movement in philosophy.

In a similar fashion, Critical Race Theorists argue that the “objective” view of a judge is merely the judge’s privileged ability to protect his or her subjective understanding as the understanding of all people. As the vast majority of judges are white men, CRT argues that this privileged viewpoint ignores the experiences and interests of people of color. There is also a movement within CRT against the intellectual deconstructionism of CLS in favor of pursuing the more immediate need for positive rights legislation.

Feminist Legal Theory criticizes the “male voice” of the law. It starts with the premise that the law is created and taught in a voice that is

rigid, limited and without emotion. In particular, the use of precedent perpetuates male supremacy. Because the Constitution was written by men and has, for the most part, been interpreted by men, reliance on historical precedent is bound to benefit men first. This has been particularly criticized in the areas of rape law, pornography regulation and reproductive rights.

Finally, a new group has recently appeared in the field of Critical Studies. The Anti-Essentialist movement contends that the essentialist nature of women’s rights and civil rights groups excludes those who are not white women or Black men. Other anti-essentialists say that these groups are largely ignorant of issues surrounding sexual orientation. The goal here is to make people aware of the multiple levels of discrimination that may exist, instead of assuming that sexual and racial discrimination can be isolated and cured. Its goal is multiple consciousness.

Each of these subjects has far more depth than a single paragraph could possibly capture. These summaries are meant to inform you of the alternatives so that you may seek them out on your own or, if you’re lucky, with the guidance of a professor.

The following is a partial listing of published critical legal scholars. They are categorized for the sake of convenience, but the work of many of them focuses on the intersection between two or more bases for oppression:

On race and ethnicity: the works of Robin Barnes; Derrick Bell; Stephen Carter; Kimberle Crenshaw, Richard Delgado; Angela Harris; Alex Johnson; Emma Jordan; Kenneth

Kalst; Mary Matsuda; Shelby Steele; Patricia Williams; Iris Marion Young; and *From Different Shores*, edited by Ronald Takaki.

On feminism and essentialism: the works of Leslie Bender; Naomi Cahn; Kimberle Crenshaw, Diana Fuss; Angela Harris; Katherine MacKinnon; Mari Matsuda; Martha Minow; Deborah Rhode; Elizabeth Spelman; Patricia Williams; Heather Ruth Wishik; and Iris Marion Young.

And from the general critical legal movement: the works of Peter Gabel; Duncan Kennedy; Mark Tushnet; and *The Politics of Law*, edited by David Kairys.

Also, the autobiographies of these people’s lawyers: William Kunstler, Arthur Kinoy, Victor Rabinowitz.

Finally, remember to go beyond the narrow confines of legal scholarship to satisfy your intellectual and political yearnings.

“And as we toil in the field together, that day will come, when the people will come out of the fields and the factories, the mines and the mills, the steel and glass office towers, out of the ghettos, the barrios, the reservations, out of the muck and the mire of despair, of hopelessness, and rise up out of the valley red people and black people and white people and yellow people and men and women, old and young—and go to the court, to the citadel of justice, and sit down in their rightful places, and the doors will fling open before the them. And they will sit in a court of law that is also a court of justice.”

-Haywood Burns,

President of the Guild, 1986-1988

Identity Politics in Law School

Those of us who are not white, male, straight and wealthy face additional problems in law school. We often bear the burden of being seen as archetypes — as credits or discredits to our kind—rather than as individuals. At the same time that we are conspicuous in the law school, we are also oddly invisible. Our experience and our concerns find little reflection in the curriculum or in the intellectual landscape of most of our peers. Even our progressive classmates often leave it to us to raise the issues of racism, sexism or homophobia which we can't afford to forget. We also frequently feel torn between learning the ropes of the "legal community" and maintaining the values of the other communities we want to serve.

Black, Latino, Asian, and Native American law students face the hard work of maintaining ethnic and cultural identity in a predominantly white and often hostile environment. Law school offers its own share of racism — both institutional racism and the overt racism of individual professors. While affirmative action programs are being eroded in most of our schools, we still face the assumption that we made it here because someone gave us an unwarranted break. In almost all law schools there is still an appalling lack of minority faculty and of courses dealing with racism or racial issues.

Women now constitute close to half of the entering class at most law schools. But while schools have opened their doors to women, they have not yet truly opened their eyes to our concerns. On a daily basis we must deal with tales of the "ordinary reasonable man" and with sexist double entendres dispensed to keep the class awake. We face condescension, sexual harassment, and a dearth of female (let alone feminist) professors or role models. We also face a special pressure to become exceptions to all the "rules" about women: to forsake compassion for a more "objective" relation to our clients, to learn to value legal abstractions over people. We are constantly pressured to beat the men at their own game—by becoming as competitive, Machiavellian and singleminded as the "best" of them.

Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals face a somewhat unique situation in law school (and the larger world). Unlike members of most minority groups, we have the

option of "passing." We can choose to be visible, thereby risking ostracism and direct confrontations with homophobia. Or we can choose to "pass" or remain silent, thereby reinforcing our own invisibility. If we are too "blatant," we risk offending our straight classmates' sense of decorum. If we aren't, we allow them to continue thinking they don't know any gay men at all, or any bisexuals in the legal profession, or any lesbians who don't fit their stereotype. We make it easier for them to maintain their ignorance.

Working-class law students also face particular forms of alienation and frustration. We often feel lost in a sea of students who don't know what it means to juggle full- or part-time jobs with school, figure out how to pay for the casebooks, and worry about how we're going to pay back our loans if we survive the process. Those of us with children find little support, let alone daycare facilities, in most law schools. We may not relish the prospect of working for corporate law firms, but for many of us that may be the only way we can pay back our loans and support our families.

All of us need to be aware of and help to eliminate the racism, sexism, homophobia and all the other forms of discrimination that still exist in the law school. We need to challenge the assumption that we are all equal — under the law or otherwise. We need to continue to make the administration aware of our support for affirmative action in hiring and admissions — and we need to keep raising all the issues law school encourages us to ignore.

—Versions of this article were published by the SUNY Buffalo and Kansas University NLG student chapters

"All of us need to be aware of and help to eliminate the racism, sexism, homophobia and all the other forms of discrimination that still exist in the law school."



Students in the Guild

The National Lawyers Guild was founded by attorneys in 1937 as an alternative to American Bar Association. The Guild opened its doors to students, jailhouse lawyers, and legal workers in 1971. Since then, students have become a critical part of the Guild membership, injecting fresh ideas and enthusiasm into the ongoing work of supporting movements for social justice. As soon-to-be progressive lawyers, we are the future of the Guild. Here are some of the reasons why students should become active in the Guild and how we, the students, fit into the overall structure.

At Law School. Inevitably, your Guild student chapter is comprised of the most active and progressive law students at your school. Law school is a trying three years. It will be a more enjoyable experience if you seek out people who strive for similar goals as yourself.

In addition, your law school needs Guild students. It is our responsibility to not let fellow law students get comfortable. They need to be constantly reminded that the world is not as privileged as it seems from the ivory tower.

The Guild is also likely to be the only non-politically neutral organization. That means we aren't afraid to take a stand on an issue. Most student groups shy away from identifying themselves from a political position and choose to simply offer all sides to an issue. The debate is a typical format. While that certainly is important, your school needs you to show some courage to say what you believe in. The more you express the progressive agenda, the less students can hide from the real world. Finally, as students contemplate their first employment, you serve as living example that alternatives do exist to those seductive corporate jobs.

Local Level. One of the best parts of being a student Guild member is the interaction with local Guild attorneys. If your school is located in an area where the local Guild chapters is active, take advantage of it. This is a great way to meet progressive lawyers and learn what it means to be a peoples' lawyer. If there is a public interest issue brewing locally, you can bet that a Guild lawyer is working on it. Get involved with these people and projects! In general, local chapters are very supportive of law students. For example, many have permanent student seats at organizing meetings. Guild activists are also more than willing to help each other out with new job opportunities.

Regional Level. The Guild is divided into nine regions: Far West, Northwest, Tex Oma, Midwest, Southwest, Mideast, Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southern. In regions where there are few Guild activists, the regional vice-president serves as the main organizing unit. Most offer annual regional conferences of which students, of course, are an integral part.

National Level. Organizing apexes at the national level where many projects and policies are formulated and executed. Of course students also organize on this level.

The National Executive Committee (NEC) guides the Guild nationally. The NEC is comprised of a President, Executive Vice Presidents, Treasurer, National Vice Presidents, Regional Vice Presidents, Committee Representatives, and members of the National Office (NO). Students elect a National Student Vice President who coordinates student organizing. The student representative also attends the quarterly meetings at the national office in New York City.

The National Convention is held each Fall at a different location. In addition to the usual innovative panels and workshops, the Convention is when national elections occur. The National Student Vice President is elected by the students for a two year term (additionally, all Guild offices are open to students). Normally, students hold a law student party, caucus, and host some panels. The Convention is a great opportunity to connect with students from all over the country.

The national office coordinates the Haywood Burns Summer Fellowships (see page 15). The Fellowships support Guild organizations by funding student summer interns. This is a great chance to secure quality public interest experience during the summer.

Students communicate with each other through nlg-students@igc.topica.com, a national interactive listserve for student organizing. Launched in January 2000, the listserve has proved to be an invaluable tool for us to have a stronger voice on the national level plus provide ideas for organizing at our own schools.

A symbiotic relationship exists between students and the Guild. We continually support and strengthen each other. Do yourself a favor and join the coolest progressive legal organization that exists. Start building your progressive legal community now. Guild membership will enrich both your personal and professional life. Get active, get with the Guild!

—Cathleen Caron, *National Lawyers Guild Student National Vice-President*

Attitude is everything, when organizing

Welcome to law school. Let's assume that you arrived at school full of ambition to make real changes in the world by using the law for the betterment of society. And you expected to be greeted by similar students. But when you got to orientation you noticed that the progressive students at your school were a bit disorganized, or maybe not even in evidence.

Don't worry! This problem can be overcome. Quite a few of your classmates actually share goals in line with yours. And many more would like to do good work but are not sure it is feasible since law school works hard to convince you that it is impossible to combine law with activism or a public interest career. That is why it is important to establish, reactivate or participate in a Guild chapter at your school, as other articles in this handbook make clear. It is your job to make sure that people know that they can do something useful with their law degree and don't just give up your aspirations.

I was fortunate—on my first day of orientation there was a Guild information table. But, the Guild office was rarely open during my first year and had not really been active for a few years prior. Although this was discouraging, it spurred a very small group of like-minded students to action. You are as responsible for getting things moving as anyone else. To add a little more stress to your 1L life, you don't have much time so get things under way — only six semesters and you are gone. (Oh, by the way, the single most important thing is that you study and do well.)

Remember to never leave the incoming class in the position you now find yourself.

Here is a format for making some meaningful changes at your law school. It is based on what a couple of friends and I did at Rutgers Law School. (Oh, I didn't know them when I got to school either, as far as I knew I was alone too, just like you.)

Remember, attitude is everything when organizing. The first impression that a person has stays with him or her, so you need to project a positive, action-oriented attitude. This is a great motivational tool. Students have little non-study time. If you, the organizer, seem dispirited and disorganized, they will likely choose to spend their time on something else.

1. Put out a flyer and call a meeting. Sample flyers can be had from the Guild website (www.nlg.org). You can download one, adapt it accordingly, and bingo, that is done.

Reserve a room. We held our meetings in conjunction with the Public Interest Law Foundation because it helps acclimate new progressive students to the Guild. You may want to seek a like-minded organization's conference room for meetings. Talk to the few people you know. If no one comes, you know where you are starting from. No big deal. Chances are there will be at least a few people at the first meeting. With only two or three members it is possible to start a group, have an impact at your school, and build a successful organization by the very next year. We did it at Rutgers. Since the stu-

dent body is completely different every three years, a new organization can become an established body in the course of one year.

Be flexible. The structure of the meeting depends on the turnout. If less than ten people attend, you can do the traditional things, i.e. go around the room and introduce yourselves talking about what you are interested in. But if there are more than ten attendees, it is important that you DO NOT do this until you do everything listed below. Otherwise you will run out of time, lose the attention span of the group and accomplish nothing. Meetings should never exceed one hour!

Distribute a printed agenda. Have a meeting Chair. The Chair should attempt to exude optimism. Run a tight meeting and stay on point. The process may not seem democratic but if people don't like it the outcome, they will let you know. Explain first off that this is what you are doing and why the Guild is not usually run this way.

Make people feel that they belong in the Guild and are welcome, because they are. Provide handouts of Guild literature (available from the NLG website at www.nlg.org) and membership forms. Try to get everyone to sign something showing membership; charge a small amount for dues, (people feel like they belong to something if they have put something in) and ask them to pay the \$15 dollars national dues right then. It gets harder later on, and you get so much with a membership.

Circulate sign-up sheets for proposed projects that reflect the mood of the new group. Divide proposed projects into committees. Appoint a

Chair to each committee (in the long run you want the Chair of each committee to be a 2 or 3L) and each Chair should sit on your executive committee (or whatever you call your governing body).

Give every new 1L a very small, easily accomplished task. Worst case, each can write a paragraph or two on an issue for the newsletter that you will publish. It gives each person a feeling of accomplishment and ownership for what will be their Guild. Projects we worked on at Rutgers included: Newsletter, Street Law, Tenants Rights, active Email list of about one-third of the school, Movies, Speakers, Debates, Internet presence, Legal Observers, Orientation, and Death Penalty.

After the meeting you should offer something fun, such as food and beverages. If these events are too serious, people may feel that it is more like an onerous duty than a fulfilling and rewarding experience.

Our executive committee met every week for lunch between classes across the street. You are more likely to do some of what you have committed to if you have to face the others fairly often, and you are also always up to date on issues others are working on.

Do not try to do things by consensus, unless the group is very small. There is not enough time for law students to discuss and agree on everything. Make the Guild inclusive by not trying to make it unanimous.

Give a title to everyone who wants one. You can do that for free! Try not to turn anyone away. Redirect them if need be. You need all the help you can get, and this is an educational endeavor.

2. Appear to be everywhere. This is easily accomplished. Get a banner that says

National Lawyers Guild, with your chapter name. They are inexpensive but invaluable to your work. Display the banner at everything you do and at every occasion at which you are present.

If, in the beginning, you do not have many events, co-sponsor events with other progressive organizations. Put up your banner and have your literature available. Pick a day once a week and set up a table in the areas students congregate (such as the cafeteria). Choose a single issue each time, have informational literature and a call to action, such as, but not limited to a petition. This is a good place to meet the rest of your class and get into some debates. Do not lose your sense of humor when debating! This is a learning experience for you both. As you learn in law school, there are many sides to all issues. Action breeds action. Students will approach you with suggestions. If it sounds good, the suggester should now be made the head of that Guild committee. Support them in their efforts. If you want people to come to your events, you must go to theirs.

From the first day of orientation, make sure that the Guild is omnipresent. Rutgers Law School sponsors a two-week Minority Student Program warm-up session, so we made a point of being there and addressing the entire MSP. Have a table at the Orientation all the time with cookies and literature, and last year's newsletter as well as the first issue of the new school year. Make sure to speak at orientation. We do this because we offer special services:

- tours of the surrounding area
- breakout sessions where students can ask questions of other students about law school

- buddy program (this is the easiest — sign up new students who want buddies, then assign them to Guild and progressive students to sort of mentor through the first year, duties include telling them what to skip and giving them free outlines and advice)
- sign them up for all school email lists that announce events and fellowships

Get at least one person in each chapter onto the NLG student email list to stay in touch with what is going on beyond the walls of your school. Forward interesting material to your in-school Guild email list.

3. Institutionalize your new organization so that incoming students will not have to start all over again. Make sure that you get your members to run for SBA, since they usually handle budget allocations. Make sure that you get a Guild representative on most of the school committees so you know what is happening and can exert some influence when needed.

We found that it works best to have 2Ls be Guild officers so that 3Ls can provide an advisory role, and the 1Ls can study. In this way, you establish continuity. It is important to maintain a list of old Guild members as they graduate, since this becomes an invaluable network for jobs and everything else you may need down the line.

And when it is all over, don't forget to have fun!

—By Steven Gotzler, *Public Interest Law Center of New Jersey, Rutgers Law School (2000)*

No Student Chapter at Your Law School? Start One!

Chapters sometimes grow out of organizing around a particular political issue. Other times, informal groups of people who have come together over frustration with the legal system, decide to affiliate with the Guild. Or maybe a couple people who want to start a chapter seek out like-minded folks to join them.

Whatever the original impetus, a small core group of people is necessary to provide the crucial spark to get a chapter off the ground. It is important that these people have a commitment to the Guild, whether from prior knowledge of it, similar political experience, or recognizing it as a progressive alternative to established legal organizations.

The requirements for becoming an official chapter are simple: eight paid members, and ratification at a national meeting. However, a solid footing is an important prerequisite for a successful chapter and potential chapters are urged to lay careful groundwork.

During the period of building a chapter, members and other interested people can meet, get chapter mailings, and sponsor Guild activities to encourage wider involvement and to educate themselves. Get in touch with your Regional Vice President (RVP) and the National Office (NO) contact person for ideas and support. Ask them to plan visits during their next organizing trips, and to let you know when other Guild members will be in the area. Another resource is chapters in adjacent areas.

In a law school, interest in the Guild can be stimulated by announcements of meetings and activities on bulletin boards, special

orientation activities, and articles in the school newspaper. Informing and involving legal workers and lawyers can be more difficult. Legal Services programs are a likely place to start. Find out who represents political activists, defendants in capital cases, tenants organizations, etc.

Rural areas present special problems: long distances and even more isolation. However, there are successfully functioning chapters some of whose members drive 2 and 3 hours to attend monthly meetings while programmatic work is done on a more local level. In fact, beginning chapters are encouraged to affiliate with nearby chapters, whether new or established. Dividing into separate entities can be taken up once the chapter has gained strength and stability.

It's important for law students, legal workers and lawyers to work together building chapters. Chapter members need to be sensitive to the needs and interests of whichever of these components is in the minority, or is less active. Members of a few chapters are working on ways to involve jailhouse lawyers as active members of their chapters.

Participation in regional and national meetings is an important aspect of chapter building. Meeting such a concentration of progressive legal people can be downright inspiring to people who feel isolated legally and/or politically. Those who attend such meetings often go on to be the more active chapter members. So encouraging attendance from the chapter is crucial, even if that means raising some money to help pay transportation costs.

While programmatic work is the

life blood and *raison d'être* of a Guild chapter, it can be the most difficult aspect to develop. Several chapters have found one or two day retreats helpful in brainstorming and planning chapter work. One way to start is talking with community and other progressive local groups. Also, seek out members of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, Black American Law Students Association, La Raza Legal Alliance, and other sister legal organizations to explore the possibilities of joint work.

No work can move forward without financing, and this fact is a mixed blessing. Money over and above that generated by the dues structure is often necessary to maintain local projects, send people to national and regional meetings, and support the regional development. But fundraising can be fun! Chapters have done such things as sponsor benefit concerts, discos, raffles, people's auctions, theater parties, films, boat rides, and coffee and sandwich sales in law schools.

The organizational structure of a chapter is also important to its success and will be a basic strength of its work. Important factors here are strong leadership, active participation in decision making by chapter members, and a regular means of communication such as a chapter newsletter. Chapter structures vary widely: assess the needs of your particular situation, and talk to your RVP, N.O. contact and members of other chapters for ideas.

New chapters are admitted at every national meeting. Join us in building the Guild, and progressive legal work around the country!

—Tom Berning and Candy Culin

Making Changes at Your Law School

Whether you like it or not, one of your primary communities for the next three years is the law school campus. One of the wonderful things about law school organizing is that you can actually effect change on your campus if you spend some of your political energy on any of the forums listed below. Furthermore, you leave law school feeling like you have made a difference and that the law school is at least a little bit better of a place than when you got there.

An important tenet to organizing is to work where you can affect change — in your own community. It is critical that we focus on the areas that affect us in the process of pursuing our professional goals. These areas include:

Admissions

Who applies to law school? Who gets into law school? One of the key battles in working to achieve diversity on law school campuses needs to be how the admissions process works. Most law schools have a committee that may include students to screen through the applications. It is critical that progressive law students get involved in the admissions committee to make sure that it is asking itself the right questions and that the law school community (students, faculty and staff) understands how the admissions process works.

Financial Aid/Loan Repayment Assistance

What is the financial aid budget? How is financial aid given out? Who makes those decisions? What factors are taken into consideration? It is critical in every battle for loan

repayment assistance programs that financial aid be one of the main areas where students look for assistance in trying to figure out a realistic plan for affording law school and being able to pursue a public interest law career.

Loan repayment programs are programs established by schools, employers, and states to assist students who graduate with heavy debt burdens and choose to pursue public interest careers. For further information on Loan Repayment Assistance Programs, contact NAPIL, 118 22nd Street, N.W., 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 466-3686.

Student Government

Who runs the student government? What kinds of activities does the student government support? Student government can be an effective place to promote a public interest agenda, both in terms of doling out student activities funds and being the voice of students. Many law school administrations consider the student government the 'legitimate' voice of the student body. Therefore, students should make sure that voice reflects the diversity of interests and people that composes the student body.

Faculty/Academic Committees

Who decides what courses are required? Who decides what new faculty will be hired? Faculty/academic committees can be powerful places to promote a public interest agenda. Generally, these committees are not opposed to public interest issues, but are unaware of (the role

they can play in promoting them.

Alumni/Public Relations

Who is involved in alumni activities? Who gives money to the law school? Most alumni never give back to their law school. Perhaps by making a public interest agenda more visible, some alumni might be more willing to make a contribution. Also, alumni can be very influential with a law school administration since their financial support can be crucial for the law school budget, as well as helping the law school to maintain a high profile in the community.

Career Planning

Who is serviced by career services? What employers come to campus? What kinds of support does career planning lend to students and alumni committed to public interest law careers? The Career Planning Director/Office can be one of your strongest allies on the law school campus. You will find most Career Planning Directors very willing to sit down and work with students to find ways to support public interest employment searches. There are things that can be done to educate students about public interest job hunting beyond inviting public interest employers to attend on-campus interviewing free of charge. Simple activities such as expanding the Office's resources and contacting public interest alumni can be very helpful to students pursuing public interest careers.

Faculty Diversity

How many people of color, women, disabled persons, critical legal

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 17)

Top Ten Excuses for Working at a Slimy Law Firm Next Summer (and some reasons not to)

10 Firm does a lot of pro bono work.

Non-profits do more. No matter how many pro bono cases a firm takes on, you can't get around the fact that its paying clients are corporations whose environmental and labor practices, investments, and political lobbying and contributions run counter to the political beliefs and values of anyone left of center. And if you consider yourself a true leftist, the Firm's participation in and perpetuation of capitalist profiteering should repulse you.

9 It's only for the summer.

Selling out is selling out, whether it's for ten weeks or a lifetime. And don't be surprised if ten weeks becomes a lifetime when you get used to those 4-digit weekly salaries.

8 Free cocktail parties.

Don't you have anything better to do with your evenings? The only reason to go to these functions is to kiss up to partners in the hopes of getting an "offer" to work after graduation. Remember, you're only there for the summer so why bother?

7 Need money to pay for the expensive suits I have to wear to work.

At public interest jobs, you can wear shorts and t-shirts, unless, of course, you want to spend your summer in pumps, ties, nylons and shoulder pads.

6 Firm has good parental leave policy.

Are you having a baby this summer? Anyway, although a good parental leave policy is commendable, it is a self-serving justification for working there. If parental leave is so important to you, work for a public interest group that is working to make parental leave available to all workers.

5 Firm is queer-sensitive.

Again, great but so what? Are its clients queer-sensitive or the politicians whose campaigns they finance? Rumor has it that gay advocacy organizations are pretty open to queers, even more so than the most sensitized Firm.

4 Too hard to find a public interest job.

Yes, it's very hard — it's difficult to refute this point. There are ways to try to swing it, such as National Lawyers Guild Haywood Burns fellowships, work-study, grants (many law schools award summer grants for public interest work), or part-time volunteering (See list of funding sources on page 19). If all else fails, remember that you do not have to work in the legal field this summer (or ever). If you came to law school to do public interest work but can't find a public interest job, by what logic do you then hire yourself out to a Firm? Just because you have some marketable skills doesn't mean you have to use them doing work that is meaningless or even offensive to you. Work at a cafe, learn another language, write a novel — do whatever you want, just don't sell out.

3 Firm has an affirmative action hiring policy.

See Numbers five, six, and ten.

2 Need to minimize my loan burden.

This is a clever way of saying, "I want a lot of money," which is what working for a law firm is all about. We'd all like to minimize our loans, especially those of us who are committed to working in the public interest after graduation. Many schools have implemented loan forgiveness programs in which the school pays back some or all of your loan, depending on your salary. If your school does not have such a program, push for one, and start now as it takes time to set up. For more information on loan forgiveness, contact the National Association for Public Interest Law at (202) 466-3686.

1 I will change the firm from the inside.

In one summer? If you devote your life to this goal, you are in for a major mid-life crisis. Senior partners have no interest in shunning corporate clients whose accounts are the lifeblood of The Firm. You may persuade The Firm to do more pro bono or hire more people of color, but The Firm itself will never change. It will change you.

—Erica Etelson, *Boalt Hall graduate practicing in San Francisco*

This Summer Work For the Guild

The Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowships for Social and Economic Justice has its roots in the Guild's established tradition of providing legal, political and educational support to the important progressive movements of the day. In the summer of 1964, the Guild, working with the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, sent lawyers and law students south to provide legal support for the emerging Civil Rights Movement in what became known as the Mississippi Summer.

In late 1972, New York State indicted 62 prisoners who survived the police assault at the Attica Prison. None of the police officers were indicted despite detailed reports of excessive force. In 1973, the Summer Projects Committee was formed in part to respond to this situation. The Summer Projects Committee sent law students to assist on the defense of the Attica Brothers, to support the growing farm-worker struggles in California and to support Native American treaty rights in the Pacific Northwest.

Summer Projects Since 1972

Over the years, the Summer Projects Committee has expanded to place hundreds of students with public interest organizations that are struggling to protect and further the civil and criminal rights of oppressed people in the United States. Although providing legal work under the direction of their attorney-organizers is still important, the primary mission of the Summer Projects is to strengthen the students' long term commitment to promote justice and equality. Interns have worked with groups to provide legal, political and educational support on a wide variety of issues, including voting rights; union democracy; workplace health and safety; Native American treaty rights; the death penalty and prison reform; Asian-American women seeking decent wages, working conditions and housing; Central American refugees; and illegal government spying.

In 1996 the program was re-named the Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowships for Social and Economic Justice after the death of Haywood Burns, a long-time radical lawyer and law professor whose life and work created a legend to inspire generations to come.

Application packets are sent to law schools in the fall of each year. Applications are usually due at the National Office of the National Lawyers Guild by mid-to late-January. All applicants will be notified by February of their acceptance or rejection. Interns are required to work full time for ten weeks. Starting and

ending dates are negotiated between the intern and the project. The stipend is \$2,000 and is paid in two installments by the project. The stipend may be supplemented with work study grants and student fellowships to a total ceiling of \$3,000.

Past Projects Include:

- Asian Law Caucus
- California Center for Law & the Deaf
- Camden Regional Legal Services, Farm Worker Division
- Centro Para Accion Legal en Derechos Humanos
- Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project
- Georgia Resource Center
- Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center
- Michigan Migrant Legal Assistance Project
- Native American Rights Fund
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project
- Southern Echo
- White Earth Land Recovery Project

2001 Fellowships Schedule

December 1, 2000

Application brochure at law schools and career services offices nationwide

January 19, 2001

Deadline for Fellowship applications

February 16, 2001

Selection of Fellows



Alternative Forms of Law Practice

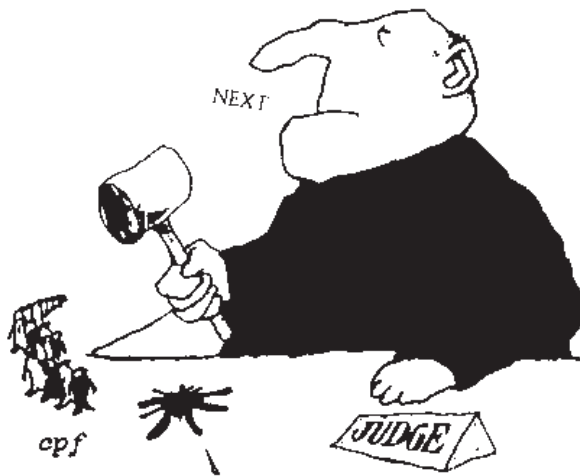
I want to say a word about law practice, and I have a simple message: there are attractive, rewarding alternatives to the top corporate and business oriented legal jobs. I am disturbed by the message that circulates so often around the law schools these days. Corporate work is depicted as the most interesting and challenging, while working for the poor, for working people, or for the environment is considered dull and for do-gooders. To me, quite the opposite is true. I will focus on my experience in a small law office that handles mainly civil-rights and civil-liberties cases, although there are a variety of other alternatives.

I have practiced in Philadelphia for the last thirteen years with a firm consisting of two or three lawyers and one legal worker or paralegal¹, and we have tried to make our work comport with our beliefs as closely as we can. I think it is possible for anyone with a legal education and a license to do this. We do not always succeed; there are compromises and difficulties, and nothing is perfect. But we have found, as have others, mainly those associated with the National Lawyers Guild, that it is possible to follow your ideals and to make a quite decent income and lead a decent life. I am not talking about subsistence. I mean a comfortable middle-class existence. People pay enormous amounts of money for lawyers. It is not difficult to make a lot of money and charge reasonable rates for the normal things that lawyers do. When I first started, we worked primarily on anti-war and civil-rights and civil-liberties cases, but one way we felt we could earn money immediately was by handling consen-

sual divorces. We learned how to do divorce cases, and we wound up divorcing many of our friends.² The fees we charged, as well as our use of paralegals, got us in a little trouble with the local bar. The bar had a recommended schedule of fees for various legal services, and they did not like anyone charging less for those services. As I remember, the recommended fee for a consensual divorce was about \$600 in 1971, the work for which consisted of an interview, completion of a few forms and an appearance at a pro forma hearing. We charged \$300. Our clients were billed at a decent rate, and we made a reasonable income while we pursued the cases we wanted.

I realize that jobs are difficult to find, but that just forces new lawyers and law students to be particularly creative. There are many ways to get started. When we started, we approached a firm of criminal lawyers we knew and asked them if we could rent the extra room they had at the end of their suite. They were very happy to rent it. They liked the kind of work we were going to do; it was different from theirs, but they liked the idea. They gave us the room at a low rent until we established ourselves. We also shared their copying

machine and their library. I do not mean that there are no struggles. There were times when we did not have enough money, but it was not as difficult as it is depicted in most law schools and through the legal profession. We mostly had difficulty imagining that the phone would ring — who would want us? — but it did. We found that most people choose lawyers based on recommendations from friends and from other



1. For the first three years after graduating from law school, I was on a fellowship and primarily practiced as a public defender, so I (and my partner) had litigation experience before starting the firm.

2. Because Pennsylvania law has been influenced by Quakers, it was and is possible to marry there without a license or any state involvement, so we also helped create legally binding marriages on terms a couple could specify themselves.

lawyers. Clients recommend you if you do a good job, which includes treating people with respect and concern as well as being diligent and competent in one's research and courtroom performance.

Moreover, for me this is just a better way to live. It is not necessarily better for everybody, of course, but I would rather spend most of my day talking to people who have, for example, organized a group to label toxic substances in the work place, or to oppose the nuclear arms race. I generally like these people; they are interesting, the things they care about and work on are important to me, and they are fun to have lunch with. I would rather talk to and associate with them for the majority of my work day than with some corporate executive who wants me to find a tax break for him. I do not find greed endearing, and I do not find the work involved in figuring out a tax break for someone who is already quite sufficiently rich either interesting or important.

Many of the people in my law school class thought they had to do work they did not really care about. They did this work for higher status, or higher pay, or often without thinking. That seems to be the motivation of most law students today, but people who follow that

path do not seem very happy with it. Practicing law is really not that much fun in itself. I have never heard of anyone who practices law as a hobby. There is an enormous amount of paper work and pressure, it is tedious, it requires long hours, and it is often frustrating. Each judge's opinion is written as if it embodies truth and reason, but often you cannot tell whether a judge will adopt some seemingly ridiculous distinction. Practice can be exciting and fun; but if you practice year after year, and if it has no purpose that means something to you, it is hard to sustain.

So I think alternative legal practice is fun. It is more interesting and more challenging, you deal with weightier social issues, and you can provide real help to people and groups you care about. I do not mean that one should do this kind of work out of guilt. To me, it is simply a question of how you want to live and taking control of your life.

—David Kairys, a Guild attorney, Professor of Law at Temple University in Philadelphia, and editor of *The Politics of Law: A Progressive Critique*. This article is reprinted from 52 *George Washington Law Review* 243 (1984).

Making Changes at Your Law School (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)

scholars, and/or openly gay and lesbian members of the faculty are there? How many of them are tenured? Who decides who gets hired and tenured? The struggle for faculty diversity has made slow, but tangible gains over the past twenty years. It is vital to keep militant pressure on law school faculty and administrators to actively recruit faculty who represent the socioeconomic, political, ethnic, sexual and cultural backgrounds of the students and society as a whole.

Speak Up

Racist, sexist and homophobic stereotyping and slurs must be challenged in the classroom, in the hallways, and in the offices. To

do this means stirring things up, making people uncomfortable with their prejudices, making waves. But we must do so collectively, providing mutual support. We need to talk to each other more about these issues and to collectively develop strategies for confronting them. The Guild, the Black Law Student, Latino Law Student and Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student organizations are natural starting places to work on these issues. Sympathetic faculty should also be called upon to get involved.

Conclusion

Change does not occur without struggle—it takes committed, involved students to make the law school environment more responsive

to human needs. And remember—

- It is critical to publicize your victories within the law school campus, other law schools and the general community to build support and recruit allies.
- Litigation is not the be all and end all. Public interest lawyers need to develop legislative and other types of advocacy skills, as well as organizing and social work skills.
- The more responsive and responsible we make our law school communities, the more likely we will be to produce lawyers both interested and able to pursue careers in social justice.

—Sue Schecter

Create Your Own Public Interest Job

When I began law school I never imagined that, two years out, I would consider fundraising to have become one of my most valuable skills. Competing for the few available public interest law positions can be very tough—especially for someone just out of school. But since the current resources devoted to public interest work do not begin to match the needs in the community, students should recognize finding their own funding is an especially effective route to take. Raising money has enabled me to set up an organization to do exactly the kind of advocacy work I hoped to do on issues of access to health care.

Often, law students feel fearful about pursuing a public interest direction because of the intense

competition for existing jobs. My advice: find a need (we all know there's plenty of that around), focus your efforts, be visionary about how to fill it, build allies, teach people that your interests

“Often, law students feel fearful about pursuing a public interest direction because of the intense competition for existing jobs “

are their interests, and organize coalitions. Work hard — you'll impress those around you with your enthusiasm and you'll increase the opportunities to learn what it is you do best. If you're good at what you do, lots of people will want to hire you,

but they won't have the money. Your first job may be to raise the money that will allow an existing organization to increase their activities to hire you. This strategy has worked for me and for Health Access.

I was out of law school for less than a year when we formally pulled Health Access together. Health Access is a coalition which emerged from a statewide citizen's effort to stop patient dumping in California. I had been active in this movement during my last two years of law school. The hazardous transfers of uninsured patients from private emergency rooms to larger problems of denied health care access. Galvanized by the unifying, pro-active momentum spawned by the stop patient dumping effort, a core of organizations convened Health Access under the organizational umbrella of Public Advocates, a San Francisco based public interest law firm. We united seniors, unions, health activists, policy experts, civil rights organizations, minority groups, health workers, providers and grassroots organizations. I began working as Acting Director and in a few months was hired on as Executive Director. We now have a staff of 2-1/2 and lots of help from our member organizations, volunteers and students.

—*Maryann O'Sullivan,*
Executive Director of
Health Access
San Francisco, CA

Editor's Note:

If you are interested in starting a public interest project and need more information about fundraising, the Foundation Center has libraries nationwide and can assist you in researching potential funders. To locate a library closest to you, contact the Foundation Center at 1-800-424-9836. Two books that are very helpful in fundraising are: *Grant Seekers Guide: Funding Sourcebook* and an annual publication, *Index of Progressive Funders*, published by the Public Media Center in San Francisco, CA. You may consider affiliating with the National Lawyers Guild and/or a Committee of the Guild. Affiliation has many benefits, including a nationwide network of experts in your field, access to a publicity consultant, and guidance from the National Lawyers Guild Foundation. For more information about establishing a Guild affiliated project, contact the Guild National Office.

Summer Funding Sources Nationwide

ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty/John J. Curtin, Jr. Legal Internship

740 15th Street NW
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-662-1692

E-mail: homeless@abanet.org.

Website: www.abanet.org/homeless/apply

- Requires 2 months of continuous work between May 1 and October 1.
- Student must work for an organization run by a bar organization or legal services organization anywhere in the country that serves homeless clients or those at risk of becoming homeless. The ABA provides a list of organization the student may consider, however this list is not exclusive. The student may work at any approved homeless advocacy project run by a bar association or legal services program.
- \$2000 stipend
- Deadline is generally early February and applications become available in mid-November.

Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area (AABA)/AABA Law Foundation

One Maritime Plaza, 20th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111

E-mail: epak@cooley.com or

clee@prestongates.com

Website: www.nonprofitadmin.com/aaaba

- The AABA offers funding to qualified summer law clerks to work on legal projects that provide free legal services to the Asian American community.
- Students must work a minimum of 10 weeks.
- Applications will become available on the AABA's website one to two month's prior to the deadline.
- Deadline is generally early May.

Environmental Careers Organization (ECO)/ CEIP Fund, Inc.

ECO, 179 South St.
Boston, MA 02111
Phone: 617-426-4375

Website: www.eco.org

- ECO offers a wide variety of paid internships on the fields of environmental protections, public policy and

community development, and resource management.

- There is no application deadline, but early applications generally receive the best response.
- Applications and information can be obtained from ECO directly.
- Specific information about ECO's various placements can be located on their website.

Equal Justice America Legal Service Fellowships

6 Garfield Place

Hawthorne, NY 10532

Phone: 914-747-4933

Website: www.equaljusticeamerica.org

- Students may work anywhere in the United States, provided that the hiring organization is a non-profit organization providing direct civil legal services to the poor. Equal Justice America generally funds over 100 students per summer.
- Students must work full-time (35-40 hours per week) for at least 10 weeks.
- \$3250 stipend.
- To apply applicants must send a cover letter describing their commitment and interest in providing legal services to the poor, a resume, two letters of recommendation and an employment confirmation letter from the hiring organization to Equal Justice America at the above address. Students may apply prior to securing a placement, but an employment confirmation letter is required before a fellowship will be awarded.
- Deadline is generally mid-March and award recipients are generally announced in mid-April.

Everett Public Service Internship Program

Co-op America, Inc.
1612 K St., NW, Suite 600

Washington, DC 20006

Phone: 202-872-5335

Website: www.everettinternships.org

- Sponsors more than 140 summer internships at over 50 nonprofit organizations nationwide.
- Students must work 10 weeks.
- Stipend is \$200 per week.
- Interested students should apply

directly to participating organizations, a list of which may be found on their website.

- Requirements for applications and deadlines vary because each organization has its own requirements and/or deadlines. However, applications are generally due between March and May.

Federal Communications Bar Association Foundation Robert E. Lee Scholarship and Internship Fund

1020 19th Street, NW

Suite 325, Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 202-293-4000

E-mail: fcba@fcba.org

Website: www.fcba.org

- The FCBA generally awards at least four summer stipends to law students employed as unpaid summer interns in communications positions with government offices. Applicants are considered based on their demonstrated interest in the communications field, their involvement in community activities, and their dependence on financial assistance in order to accept an unpaid internship.
- Stipend is \$2500.
- Deadline is generally late March. Students may call or e-mail the FCBA to request application materials.

National Lawyers Guild Haywood Burns Memorial Fellowships for Social and Economic Justice

126 University Place, 5th Floor

New York, NY 10003

Phone: 212-627-2656

E-mail: nlgno@nlg.org

Website: www.nlg.org

- Funds legal interns at diverse, pre-selected public interest organizations throughout the country. The list of participating organizations generally becomes available in early October and applications generally become available in early November.
- \$2000 stipend for 10 weeks of work
- Deadline is generally late January. Final selections are generally made by mid-February.

**Kellogg Child Welfare Law Institute
University of Michigan Law School**

The Michigan Child Welfare Law
Resource Center
University of Michigan Law School
611 Church Street, Suite 4C
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-3000
Phone: 734-998-9191
Website: [www.law.umich.edu/childlaw/
summerfellows](http://www.law.umich.edu/childlaw/summerfellows)

- Offers summer fellowships in the child welfare field to up to 20 law students. Fellows work in various offices around the country specializing in representation of children, parents and social service agencies. After an initial training at University of Michigan Law School, fellows spend at least 10 weeks at one of the 11 Kellogg Families for Kids Sites.
- \$3500 stipend and transportation costs.
- Deadline is generally early January.
- Students can obtain information and applications from the Institute's website.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius Summer Fellowships

101 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10178
Phone: 212-309-6344
E-Mail: ollm6344@mlb.com

- Website: www.mlb.com/summerf
- Morgan, Lewis and Bockius funds three summer associate positions for exceptional law school candidates to spend the first half of the summer of 2000 in their Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Miami, Pittsburgh or Washington office, and the second half doing pro bono work of their choice with a nonprofit public interest organization.
 - Fellow must spend 7 weeks working at the firm and the public interest organization where the fellow works the second half of the summer must be located in the metropolitan area of the city where the fellow spends the first half of the summer.
 - Morgan, Lewis will award a grant so the summer associate's salary during the second half of the summer equals that of the first half.
 - For more information and an application visit the firm's website.
 - Deadline is generally late October/early November.

NAPIL/VISTA National Service Legal Corps (NSLC)

2120 L Street, NW, Suite 450
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: 202-466-3686 ext. 115
E-mail: nslc@napil.org or
vista@napil.org
Website: www.napil.org

- Approximately 60 grants are awarded each summer to law students to work on community development and capacity-building projects around the country.
- Requires at least 8 weeks of work
- Stipend is \$600-\$800 per month, a \$1000 education award at the end of the summer to apply to qualified loans, and coverage of relocation expenses incurred to participate in the program.
- Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.

Pride Law Fund Fellowship

P.O. Box 2602
San Francisco, CA 95126-2602
Phone: 415-956-1000
E-mail: kdermody@lchb.com

- Offers four funded summer fellowship opportunities for law students seeking experience in the areas of sexual orientation discrimination, individual rights litigation, direct legal services to people with HIV/AIDS, and other legal issues of concern to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered community. Fellows work under the supervision of an attorney at 501(c)(3) organizations throughout the country.
- Applicants may apply for more than one fellowship.
- Projects must be at least 8 weeks, with preference given to those at least 10 weeks.
- The number and amount of the Fellowships given each year is discretionary. In the past, Pride Law Fund has typically awarded fellowships in the range of \$300-\$2500 (depending on requested funding and the existence of additional funding sources). Fellowships can be used to supplement other summer fellowships or income as long as total funding does not exceed \$5000.
- Deadline for fellowship proposals is typically late March. Recipients are notified of funding decisions by late April.
- Application materials may be obtained Application materials and instructions may be obtained by

writing, calling, or e-mailing Pride Law Fund or by visiting the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) website at www.balif.org.

Patrick Stewart Human Rights Scholarship — Amnesty International USA's National Field Project (NFP)

600 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE,
5th Floor, Washington, DC 20003
Phone: 202-544-0200 ext. 298
E-mail: aiusanfp@aiusa.org
Website: www.amnesty.org

- Students can create an independent project or work for a human rights organization.
- Approximately 15 grants are awarded each year to give students the opportunity to gain practical experience in the human rights field.
- Projects may range in duration from 2 weeks to 6 months.
- \$300-\$1800 stipend.
- Application information generally becomes available in January. Program brochures and more detailed application information may be obtained by writing, calling, or e-mailing the NFP.
- Deadline is generally early March and the recipients are generally announced by mid-April.

Peggy Browning Fund Summer Internship

1818 Market St., Suite 2300
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Phone: 215-665-6815
Website: www.peggybrowningfund.org

- Provides fifteen summer internships with labor related organizations throughout the country. Participating labor organizations are listed in the application packet.
- Only students from certain law schools are eligible to participate * contact the Fund directly or visit your career services/public interest office to determine if you are attending an eligible law school.
- A cover letter, resume and completed application form must be sent to each eligible work site you wish to apply to, together with a copy to the Peggy Browning fund.
- \$3000 stipend for 10 weeks
- Deadline is generally mid-December (Both the Fund and the specific sites to which students are applying must have received your applications by the deadline.)

Robert Masur Fellowship in Civil Liberties, The Nation Institute

33 Irving Place
New York, NY 10003-2332-99
Phone: 212-209-5447

E-mail: info@nationinstitute.org
Website: www.nationinstitute.org

- The Masur Fellowship enables a first year law student to pursue significant summer activities in the areas of civil rights or civil liberties.
- Proposed activities may include a writing or research project, work with a public interest organization, work on a case under the supervision of a law faculty member or lawyer, or any other work in the areas of civil rights or civil liberties.
- \$1,000 honorarium
- Applicants should send a one-to-two page proposal describing their intended summer project, along with a resume and the name of their faculty or organization sponsor to the Institute.
- Deadline is generally end of May.

Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP Summer Public Interest Fellowships

3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20007-5116
Phone: DC Office 202-424-7658 or
NYC Office 212-891-9325

E-mail:

DC Office afredenburg@swidlaw.com
NY Office jmabraham@swidlaw.com
Website: www.swidlaw.com

- Swidler Berlin Shereff Friedman, LLP will choose four second year law students to serve as Public Interest Fellows. Two fellows will work out of the New York City office and two will work out of the Washington, D.C. office.
- Fellows spend the first half of the summer (6 weeks minimum) working at the firm and the second half of the summer working at a public interest legal organization of their choosing.
- Fellows will be paid at the same rate as Swidler Berlin's other summer associates.
- Deadline is generally mid-October. Students may obtain application materials by calling or e-mailing the firm.

Summer Funding Available in Specific Regions

Goldmark Equal Access to Justice Internships, Legal Foundation of Washington — State of Washington

500 Union Street, Suite 545
Seattle, WA 98101-2332
Phone: (206) 624-2536

Website: www.legalfoundation.org/goldmarkintern

- Available to second year students and recent graduates interested in addressing the civil legal needs of the low income population of Washington state.
- Interns must work 10 weeks.
- \$8500 stipend.
- Applications and information are available on the Foundation's website.
- Deadline is generally mid-October.

Hispanic Bar Association of the District of Columbia — Washington, DC

P.O. Box 66105
Washington, DC 20035
Phone: 202-514-0196

- Funds two fellowships for first and second year students to work in a not-for-profit legal services agency in DC.
- Students must secure sponsorship on their own and then apply to the HBA-DC for funding
- Stipend is \$2500.
- Contact the HBA regarding deadlines.

Asian Pacific American Bar Association Educational Fund (AEF) Washington, DC

P.O. Box 2209
Washington, DC 20013-2209
Website: www.aef-apaba.org

- AEF awards summer fellowships to law students to work with public interest organizations (government agencies or non-profits) that benefit either the Asian Pacific American community or the metropolitan Washington, D.C. community-at-large.
- Public interest organizations must be in metropolitan Washington, DC.
- Students must secure sponsorship and then apply to AEF for funding.
- Stipends are generally \$2,500 for 10 weeks or 400 total hours.
- Application materials and information are available on the Fund's website, at law schools, or from AEF.
- Deadline is generally mid-April.

The Internship Program of Alaska State of Alaska

Internship for Alaska
PO Box 104735
Anchorage, AK 99510

- The program coordinates internships offered in various agencies in Alaska, including legal internships.
- The amount of stipends, length of internships, and housing assistance differ depending on the internship.
- Interested students must request an application in writing.

J.P. Morgan Summer Internship Program — New York City

60 Wall Street, 46th Floor
New York, NY 10260-0060
Phone: 212-235-0039

- J.P. Morgan sponsors graduate and law students to work in pre-selected non-profit agencies in New York City. Students are selected on the basis of qualifications and interest in urban problems.
- To apply students must send a resume and cover letter identifying the specific organization for which they are applying and their qualifications for that internship. Students may only apply for one position.
- Stipend is \$675 per week.
- Deadline is generally mid-January. Interviews are generally conducted in January and February, and final decisions are made by mid-March.

Law Students Public Interest Fellowship Program (LSPIN)

New York City Metropolitan Area

Public Interest Law Center
New York University School of Law
110 West 3rd Street, Second Floor
New York, NY 10012
Phone: 212-998-6686

- Funds approximately 40 students each summer to work with public interest organizations in the New York City metropolitan area (this includes certain cities in New Jersey and Connecticut). Only students attending one of the 18 participating law schools in New York or New Jersey are eligible to apply for this fellowship.
- Requires 10 weeks of work.
- \$3250 stipend.
- Deadline is generally early November. Application materials are generally available at participating schools by mid-October.

**Massachusetts Bar Foundation
State of Massachusetts**

Grants Administrator
Massachusetts Bar Foundation
20 West Street
Boston, MA 02111
Phone: 617-338-0500

E-mail: info@massbar.org
Website: www.massbar.org

- Offers approximately 7 stipends to law students who intern for a non-profit civil legal services organization located in the state.
- Students must work 8-10 weeks.
- Stipends range from \$2400-\$3000. Students may also receive funding from other sources to finance the internship.
- To apply students must submit a resume, an official law school transcript, an application form and a prospective program's supporting statement.
- Deadline is generally mid-March and students are generally notified of their status by mid-May.

**New Jersey Summer Public Interest
Legal Intern Program
State of New Jersey**

PO Box 1357
Edison, NJ 08810-1357
Phone: 732-572-9100
E-mail: aoneill@lsnj.org

Website: www.lsnj.org

- The program places law students in public interest legal organizations in New Jersey. Students must apply directly to Legal Services of New Jersey, who refers prospective candidates to participating employers for final selection. Every year over 20 public interest and government organizations in New Jersey participate in the program.
- Program requires 12 weeks of work.
- Stipend for first year students is \$350 per week; second year students receive \$425 per week.
- Applications are generally available in late October and can be found on Legal Services of New Jersey's website.
- Deadline is generally mid-November.

**Pennsylvania Legal Services Martin
Luther King Internship Program
State of Pennsylvania**

118 Locust Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1414
Phone: 800-322-7572

E-mail: marcuspa@worldnet.att.net
Website: www.palegalservices.org

- The Martin Luther King (MLK) Interns are assigned to local legal service programs across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The interns are selected and assigned by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Hiring and Training Committee.
- The Hiring Committee will assign those awarded internships to local legal service agencies.
- Minority law students from any law school are invited to apply.
- Application deadline is generally early February.

**Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) of
Chicago Summer Internship Program
Chicago**

c/o DePaul University College of Law
25 E. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Phone: 312-362-6959
Website: www.pili.org

- PILI recruits law students from across the nation for summer internships with public interest law agencies in the Chicago metropolitan area.
- \$4000 stipend.
- For more information about participating public interest law agencies in the Chicago area and for application materials please visit PILI's website.
- Deadline is generally mid-March. (Please note: Because each agency hires at a different time, including a few that start the hiring process as early as November, it is very advisable to apply early.)

**The Robert M. Takasugi Summer
Fellowship Program — California**
c/o Edwin Prather Minami, Lew & Tamaki LLP, 360 Post Street, 8th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108
Phone: 415-553-9309

- The Fellowship program has been created to honor Senior District Court Judge Robert M. Takasugi for his contributions to public interest law, pro bono work, and minority law students/attorneys throughout his 24 years of service on the federal bench.
- Two fellowships will be awarded: one for a student working in Southern California, and one for a student working in Northern California.
- \$5000 stipend.
- To apply, send a resume and cover letter describing your interest in and/or dedication to the ideal of Judge Takasugi to the above address.
- Deadline is generally mid-March.

**Women Lawyers Public Action Grant
Foundation, Women Lawyers
Association of Los Angeles — Southern
California**

PO Box 480197
Los Angeles, CA 90048-1197
Phone: 323-653-3325

- The Foundation will make grants to law students for projects that make governmental and social services agencies more accessible and responsive to individuals or groups whose needs are not adequately met. The Foundation is interested only in proposals that will produce some tangible program, such as information booklets, brochures, educational curriculum and videotapes.
- A strong preference is given to projects that benefit residents of Southern California.
- The maximum stipend/grant amount is \$5000.
- Deadline is generally mid-February.

PSLawNet would like to thank the following member schools for their assistance in the creation of this list of summer funding sources:

- American University
- Washington College of Law
- City University of New York Law School
- Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- New York University School of Law
- Stanford Law School
- University of California at Davis School of Law
- University of San Francisco School of Law
- University of Virginia School of Law

—*Kathy Szybist, National Fellow Public Service Law Network Worldwide, NYU School of Law*

Other Progressive Legal Organizations

ADVOCATES FOR BASIC LEGAL EQUALITY

740 Spitzer Building
Toledo, OH 43604
(419) 255-0814

ACORN

51420 Hunters Crossing
Court, Granger, IN 46530
(219) 674-0718

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

125 Broad Street, 18th
Floor, New York, NY 10014
(212) 549-2500

AMERICAN INDIAN LAW ALLIANCE

404 Lafayette Street, 8th
Floor, New York, NY 10003
(212) 598-0100

ASIAN AMERICAN DEFENSE

& EDUCATION FUND
99 Hudson Street, 12th
Floor, New York, NY 10013
(212) 598-0100

ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDERS LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION

(ask about a local chapter
at your school)

AYUDA – CLINICAL LEGAL LATINA

1736 Columbia Road NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 387-4848

BLACK AMERICAN LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION

(ask about a local chapter
at your school)

CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

666 Broadway, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10012
(212) 624-6464

EAST BAY COMMUNITY LAW CENTER

3130 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94750
(510) 548-4040

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND

1875 Connecticut Avenue
NW, Washington, DC 20009
(212) 387-3500

FLORENCE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS PROJECT

P.O. Box 654,
300 South Main Street,
Florence, AZ 85232
(520) 868-0191

GEORGIA RESOURCE CENTER

303 Elizabeth street, NE
Atlanta, GA 30307
(404) 222-9202

HIV LAW PROJECT

841 Broadway, Suite 608
New York, NY 10003
(212) 674-7590

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE & EDUCATION FUND

120 Wall Street, 15th Floor,
New York, NY 10005
(212) 809-8585

LESBIAN AND GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

One Little West 12th Street,
New York, NY 10014
(212) 620-7310

MEXICAN AMERICAN LEGAL DEFENSE & EDUCATION FUND

634 S. Spring Street,
11th Floor, Los Angeles,
CA 90014
(213) 629-2512

NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE & EDUCATION FUND

99 Hudson Street, Suite
1600, New York, NY 10013
(212) 219-1900

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC INTEREST LAW (NAPIL)

1118 22nd Street NW,
3rd Floor Washington,
DC 20037
(202) 466-3686

NATIONAL COMMITTEE AGAINST REPRESSIVE LEGISLATION

1313 W. 8th Street,
Suite 313, Los Angeles,
CA 90017
(213) 484-6661

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BLACK LAWYERS

2 West 125th Street
New York, NY 10027
(212) 864-4000

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA

810 First Street NE, Suite
300, Washington, DC
20002
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National Lawyers Guild

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Suggested Dues Schedule:

New Member Attorneys and Legal Workers: \$50 Law Students: \$15

Jailhouse Lawyers: No dues (\$7.50 REQUIRED FOR OPTIONAL SUBSCRIPTION TO *GUILD NOTES*)

Renewing Attorneys and Legal Workers:

Income under \$20,000: \$45-75	\$30,000 to \$40,000: \$165-220	\$65,000 to \$75,000: \$325-375
\$20,000 to \$25,000: \$75-100	\$40,000 to \$50,000: \$220-275	\$75,000 to \$100,000: \$375-425
\$25,000 to \$30,000: \$100-165	\$50,000 to \$65,000: \$275-325	over \$100,000: \$500 or more

Send checks to: National Lawyers Guild, 126 University Place, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10003



National Lawyers Guild Foundation
126 University Place, 5th Floor
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*“...lawyers, law students, legal workers and
jailhouse lawyers...in the service of the
people, to the end that human rights shall
be more sacred than property interests”*

—Preamble to the NLG Constitution