

# IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

2011 REPORT

PUBLIC INTEREST AND PRO BONO



DUKE LAW

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[www.law.duke.edu/publicinterest](http://www.law.duke.edu/publicinterest)

## Service by the Numbers

(statistics for 2009–10 academic year)

**345**

individual students enrolled in 74 different placements or group projects

**144**

members of Class of 2010 who contributed more than 50 hours of service

**9,387**

hours of service in pro bono projects

**3**

new pro bono groups

**33,721**

hours of service by 177 members of the JD and LLM Class of 2010 (including clinic and externship hours)

**12,829**

hours of service through Duke Law Clinics



JAMES GILLENWATER WITH HIS RUGBY TEAM

## Schweitzer Fellows support healthy kids, build leadership skills

TRICIA HAMMOND '11 AND JAMES GILLENWATER '12 LEAD SERVICE PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES IN DURHAM

**T**WO DUKE LAW STUDENTS have mobilized their peers to help vulnerable Durham children and teens through ambitious service programs. Tricia Hammond '11 and James Gillenwater '12 receive funding for their initiatives and leadership training from the North Carolina Schweitzer Fellows Program, one of 13 Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Program sites in the United States.

The highly competitive Schweitzer Fellowship program for graduate students supports initiatives that address health disparities in the United States through the development of leaders in service.

Hammond, in partnership with Duke medical student Simon Ascher, leads a group of more than 50 law and medical student volunteers in teaching and mentoring young people incarcerated in a local juvenile detention facility, providing legal, health, and life-skills education.

Gillenwater, a former professional and collegiate rugby standout, is building a partnership between Duke University's rugby team — of which he is assistant coach — and Durham's John Avery Boys & Girls Club by establishing a program that pairs academic mentoring with participation in a youth rugby league.

### Hammond: Focusing on rehabilitation for young offenders

Hammond and Ascher, along with dozens of classmates from Duke, spend several of their weekday evenings at the Durham County Youth Home teaching interactive lessons on life-skills topics like personal finance, goal setting, applying for a job, effective communication, health and sex education, and constitutional and criminal law. The program combines and expands the efforts of Duke

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SARAH CAMPBELL WILL CLERK FOR JUSTICE SAMUEL A. ALITO.



## Four on the Court

JUSTICE SAMUEL A. ALITO selected Sarah Campbell '09 as a clerk for the next Supreme Court term. She will begin her clerkship in July 2011. Campbell follows Garrick Sevilla '07, who is clerking for Alito in the current term. Amy Mason Saharia '05 is currently a clerk for Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Allison Jones '07 clerks for Justice Clarence Thomas.

"I was honored to receive the offer. To work for a year for a Supreme Court justice — especially one for whom I have such respect and admiration — is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Campbell, who is currently a litigator at Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C. Campbell previously served as clerk for Judge William H. Pryor Jr. on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit in Birmingham, Ala.

"I loved everything about clerking," said Campbell, a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville who pursued dual degrees in public policy and law at Duke. "An especially fun part of the job was getting to discuss the cases with the judge and see his decision-making process," she said.

Pryor encouraged Campbell to apply for the Supreme Court clerkship, as did Duke Law Professor Ernest Young and Dean David F. Levi.

"Sarah will be a great law clerk for Justice Alito," said Levi, who noted that the Justice has taught a short course on constitutional interpretation at Duke Law School for the past two years. "The faculty, Career Center, and I have put a high priority on helping Duke Law students gain these unique clerkships, which present such great opportunities for service and for learning." ♡

## Students study housing in Jerusalem

A SPRING SEMINAR is offering Duke Law students a unique opportunity to engage in academic and field research relating to one of the thorniest disputes in the Middle East conflict: housing issues in East Jerusalem.

Curtis Bradley, the Richard A. Horvitz Professor of Law and a leading scholar of international law, is teaching the three-credit seminar titled Translating International Human Rights Law: Housing Issues in East Jerusalem. In addition to guiding students through a study of international law and comparative legal issues relating to the construction and demolition of housing in East Jerusalem, Bradley is leading them on an intensive fact-finding trip to the region over spring break. While there, students will meet with various interested stakeholders such as Israeli and Palestinian government officials, homeowners, and NGOs to help them assess the legal issues in context and deepen their understanding of the challenges the region faces. Following their trip, the students will collaborate on a substantive paper analyzing the legal issues underlying the situation.

While students will offer "tentative conclusions" based on their class work and field research, the purpose of the seminar is academic study and assessment of difficult and interesting questions of human rights law, not advocacy, said Bradley. Their

analysis will not be designed to aid any particular parties in the ongoing dispute.

"Obviously, issues surrounding the relationship between Israel and the Palestinians, including issues relating to Jerusalem, are intensely controversial and many people are passionate about one side of the debate or the other," he said. "But it will be a good challenge for the students to be able to think objectively about these very contentious issues and avoid partisanship. There is pedagogic value in having the students navigate through these politicized issues in an objective and balanced manner that considers the role and limitations of law and legal analysis."

The sort of research seminar students will undertake mirrors the type of work that might be done by U.S. State Department lawyers, added Bradley, who served as counselor on international law in the Legal Adviser's Office in 2004. "A lot of diplomacy involves quiet discussions with the Israelis or the Palestinians, but policymakers need advice from the lawyers in the State Department about the relationship between these contested issues and international law," he said. Duke's Center for International and Comparative Law, which Bradley co-directs, is helping sponsor the trip. ♡

### DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,



As you'll see in this newsletter, our students' commitment to public service is stronger than ever. It is a privilege to assist them as

they envision opportunities to help those in need, make our community and world better, and remind us all of the power of our legal education.

Thank you for all you do to support Duke Law and our students. As donors, volunteers, employers, mentors, and friends, you make all of this possible.

Best wishes,

**Kimberly Ann Bart '02**

Assistant Dean of Public Interest and Pro Bono, Duke Law School

## Report outlines indigenous land-rights battle in Brazil



STUDENTS SPENT SPRING BREAK 2010 IN BRAZIL, STUDYING LAND-RIGHTS ISSUES.

**“Collective land title, and the avenues for socioeconomic development that such title is thought to open, remain out of grasp for many Afro-Brazilians.”** — Student report

Brazil's 1988 constitution included a provision allowing quilombos — Afro-Brazilians communities descended from slaves — to apply for collective title to lands where they have long resided. But implementation has been problematic. Applications filed by many quilombos are enmeshed in a bureaucratic quagmire, according to the report.

“Complex bureaucratic procedures and structures, negative treatment in the news media, and social exclusion of quilombos from Brazilian society render the quilombola titling laws and regulations difficult to implement,” the report states. “As a result, progress in granting titles has been slow. And even after gaining legal title, quilombos encounter considerable obstacles in pursuing funding for socioeconomic development projects. Collective land title, and

the avenues for socioeconomic development that such title is thought to open, remain out of grasp for many Afro-Brazilians.”

The report was the final product of an ad-hoc course developed by Kat Shea '10, Noah Browne '11, and Anne Dana '11. Under the supervision of Laurence R. Helfer, the Harry R. Chadwick, Sr. Professor of Law, students analyzed the relationship between land rights and social justice issues through intense research at Duke and on the ground in Brazil, where students interviewed government officials, civil society groups, anthropologists, and legal scholars who work on land rights issues as well as members of quilombola communities.

“I think in all legal systems there's a gap between the law on the books and the law as its implemented,” said Browne. “In this case, I don't think any of us had an idea of the size of that chasm until we went and talked to people.”

**L**AW STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES who spent the Spring 2010 semester studying the land rights of Afro-Brazilian communities submitted their final report last fall to community leaders and Brazilian government officials, institutions, and non-government organizations engaged in the issue.

The report outlined the difficulties Afro-Latino communities have had in obtaining land rights in Central and South America, where six countries recognize some form of collective rights. The problems are especially stark in Brazil. “Nowhere are the connections between Afro-Latinos, access to land, and socioeconomic development more apparent than in Brazil,” the report states. “Afro-Brazilians comprise 45 percent of the Brazilian population, yet constitute 69 percent of those living in extreme poverty. Land ownership remains sharply concentrated, with 3.5 percent of landowners controlling over half of the arable land.”

## New options for tax help

**D**UKE LAW SCHOOL'S Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program (VITA) expanded its services this year to provide tax preparation assistance to international students and to assist people in completing applications for Individual Tax Identification Numbers (ITIN).

Demand for tax preparation assistance continues to be high. Last year, about 40 VITA volunteers at Duke helped complete more than 275 returns for low- and moderate-income households, netting refunds of more than \$430,000, including \$305,000 in tax credits.

“Our volunteers are trained to look for all the credits possible,” said Kim Burrucker, director of public interest and pro bono for Duke Law. “And since VITA doesn't charge for the service, employees get to keep all of the money that is saved.”



### Duke Law Weekend in D.C.

Duke Law students and alumni gathered in Washington, D.C., in October for the Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair, a Duke Law reception, and a half-day conference for Duke Law students interested in public sector work. Students organized the conference, which featured panel discussions with alumni working in government and public interest advocacy organizations and was held at Hogan Lovells.

## Community Enterprise Clinic: Students help charities that help Haiti

**F**IVE COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE CLINIC students have applied a standard procedure learned in the clinic — conducting a legal audit of a nonprofit — to benefit Haitian relief and development efforts. The result is “Duke Law in Relief,” a website that summarizes and publicizes their research on five diverse charities deemed fiscally responsible and effective on the ground.

By identifying and assessing high-impact nonprofits operating in the earthquake-ravaged country, the students hope to draw support to the agencies’ efforts. “Involvement with communications and media is certainly something that transactional lawyers do regularly, but is not taught much in law schools,” said the clinic’s director, Andrew Foster. “This has been an exciting project for the clinic, and it was a great vehicle for several of our teaching objectives.”

After researching aid organizations, 3Ls Nick Collevocchio, Tricia Hammond, Christina Jones, Greg Pollaro, and Brian Schwartz each selected one U.S.-incorporated 501(c)(3) that stood out. They

examined the organizations’ public corporate and financial documents and press coverage, and then interviewed principals and requested further disclosures. The selected organizations — Appropriate Infrastructure Development Group (AIDG); Haitian Education and Leadership Program (HELP); Lambi Fund of Haiti; 1000 Jobs Haiti; and Medical Missionaries — support clean water and energy production, post-secondary education, civil society and democracy, fair and sustainable employment, and health care, respectively. ♡



» See the website at <http://dukewelwinrelief.wordpress.com>

## Environmental Law and Policy Clinic: Promising development in long-running Alcoa case

**E**NVIRONMENTAL LAW and Policy Clinic students and faculty have represented Yadkin Riverkeeper for two years in an effort to overturn certification of Alcoa Power Generating Inc.’s 50-year license to operate dams on the Yadkin River in North Carolina. Their efforts contributed to a December decision by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to revoke Alcoa’s certification and a suspension of testimony in the case.

Testimony and emails introduced by Clinic Director Ryke Longest and others working on the case persuaded DENR to revoke the certification granted in May 2009. DENR Division of Water Quality Director Coleen Sullins cited testimony that, she said, clearly showed that Alcoa “intentionally withheld information material to determining the project’s ability to meet the state’s water quality standards for dissolved oxygen.”

In administrative hearings beginning in September, the clinic had presented legal and scientific arguments to show that the state violated the Clean Water Act and the North Carolina

**“The opportunity to argue a motion in court, examine witnesses, and watch as a trial unfolded was exciting.”**

— Greg McDonough ’11

Environmental Policy Act as well as state rules in granting the certificate.

“The opportunity to argue a motion in court, examine witnesses, and watch as a trial unfolded was exciting — nerve-racking even,” said Greg McDonough ’11, who presented arguments and examined witnesses during the hearings. “More importantly, though, I was able to implement trial strategies that we discussed over the semester and receive feedback on my performance. You can learn a lot in a classroom, but practical experience is where skills are built.”

Third-year students Adrian Broderick, Greg McDonough, Andrei Mamolea, and Hillary Bunsow also worked on the case. ♡



## Children’s Law Clinic: WETTACH HONORED AS “DEFENDER OF JUSTICE”

**C**HILDREN’S LAW CLINIC Director Jane Wettach was among five individuals and organizations honored by the North Carolina Justice Center during its 2010 Defenders of Justice awards ceremony in September.

The awards honor efforts to improve the lives of poor and working families in the state, said the center’s executive director Melinda Lawrence. “As director of the Children’s Law Clinic, Jane has not only connected her students with individual cases, but has taken an approach to teaching in which she really has tried to connect her [law] students with broad issues in North Carolina — how the legal system impacts kids’ lives and how particular issues impact kids’ lives,” said Lawrence.

Wettach practiced poverty law in North Carolina for 13 years prior to joining the Duke Law faculty, where she teaches Education Law and directs the Children’s Law Clinic, which she established in 2002. She previously served as supervising attorney with Duke’s AIDS Legal Project. “Jane’s entire career has advanced the voices of people who otherwise don’t have a voice,” said Lawrence. ♡



SHAWN MASSEY, FAR LEFT, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH DUKE LAW FACULTY AND STUDENTS

### Wrongful Convictions Clinic:

## Two clients released from prison

**T**WO WRONGFULLY CONVICTED men, Scott Pierpoint and Shawn Massey, were released from prison in 2010 thanks to the efforts of Duke Law students and faculty.

On July 6, a North Carolina Superior Court Judge ordered the release of Jonathan Scott Pierpoint, who served 17 years of a life sentence for a crime he did not commit. The order overturned

Pierpoint's 1992 conviction for first-degree sexual offense and dismissed the charges against him.

Faculty and students in Duke Law School's Wrongful Convictions Clinic and Innocence Project worked for two years to develop their claim that Pierpoint's conviction was the result of false testimony; the accuser had, in fact, recanted his accusation 13 years earlier.

**“I think it’s easy to lose sight of the fact that the legal system impacts people, and this is really about people.”**

— Kim Kisabeth '07

Massey was released from prison in May after Mecklenburg County District Attorney Peter Gilchrist '65 secured a Superior Court order vacating his conviction on multiple counts of second-degree kidnapping and felonious breaking and entering and robbery with a dangerous weapon. Incarcerated since May 1998, Massey, 37, had two years left to serve on his sentence.

Students, faculty, and alumni worked for four years to build their argument that Massey was a victim of erroneous eyewitness identification. Kim Kisabeth '07, who first worked on Massey's case as a student enrolled in the Wrongful Convictions Clinic and later as a fellow of the Center for Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility, said it was a joy to call Massey in prison to tell him he would be released within hours. “He was thrilled,” she said. “This has been a long time coming, and I think he was speechless. I think it’s easy to lose sight of the fact that the legal system impacts people, and this is really about people.” 🐾

### Appellate Litigation Clinic:

## Three oral arguments, three favorable rulings

**S**tudents in the Appellate Litigation Clinic presented oral arguments in three cases in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth and D.C. Circuits during 2010, garnering favorable rulings in all three cases.

In September, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit vacated a conviction against a South Carolina man who was represented on appeal by the Appellate Litigation Clinic. The case, *Rice v. Rivera*, was an appeal of a district court denial of a *habeas* petition filed by a clinic client who contended that his 1990 conviction for use of a firearm during a drug trafficking offense didn't meet a standard set by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1995, which requires active employment of the firearm during the drug offense. The court ruled that the district court did not have jurisdiction to hear Rice's *habeas* claim, but erred in denying the government's motion to vacate the conviction for use of a gun during or in connection with an illegal drug transaction. Stephen Rawson '10 presented oral argument in court.

“The court reversed based on a ground that was separate from the issue it flagged for briefing,” said James Coleman, the John S. Bradway Professor

of the Practice of Law and clinic co-director. “However, at oral argument, the court raised the motion-to-vacate issue and Steve Rawson addressed it, without knowing he would be asked to do so. Talk about thinking on your feet!”

In July, a three-judge panel on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit agreed with Appellate Litigation Clinic students and faculty who had argued that the Transportation Security Administration acted capriciously in barring a commercial truck driver from obtaining a hazardous materials endorsement (HME) for his commercial driver's license. Meghan Ferguson '10 argued the appeal in court.

In April, a panel of judges on the Fourth Circuit ruled in favor of another clinic client who brought a civil rights action after being shot multiple times by a South Carolina Highway Patrol officer in the course of an arrest. The court agreed with his contention that the officer used excessive force in violation of his Fourth Amendment rights, reversing the summary judgment of and remanding the case to the district court. Christopher Vieira '10 presented arguments to the court. 🐾



NATASHA ALLADINA, SECOND FROM LEFT, WITH MAASAI VILLAGERS

Summer Fellowships:

## Work with International Criminal Tribunal offers inside view on Rwanda’s reckoning

**T**HREE DUKE LAW STUDENTS worked with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda last summer, assisting the judges who are overseeing the trial of those charged with perpetrating the 1994 Rwandan massacres in which 800,000 people died.

Jacy Gaige '12, John Doyle '12, and Natasha Alladina '11 spent parts of the summer in Arusha, Tanzania, where the tribunal is based, working in the judges' chambers. The tribunal, established by the United Nations Security Council in 1995, is trying defendants — the alleged political architects of the massacres — on charges that include genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes.

“On a day-to-day basis, the prosecution teams would make a motion to admit a piece of evidence, it would be assigned to one of us to go through the rules and look into whether or not the evidence should be admitted, and if so, whether it could be admitted from video camera from afar, whether it required testimony in court, kind of what the technicalities are,” said Gaige, who worked as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Benin, West Africa, and as a child protection officer with the African Union/United Nations Peacekeeping Mission in Darfur prior to coming to Duke Law. “Then you would draft an order for the chambers to review. Sometimes you’d go into court and hear your order read aloud.”

Gaige appreciated her insider’s view of the unique and unpredictable workings of the international criminal tribunal system.

“Because the body of international criminal law is in its infancy, new precedent is always being created,” Gaige said. One defendant died, 10 years into his trial, and just a few days before the close of evidence, she added. “It was the first time a defendant had died in an international criminal tribunal during trial. Milosevic died before his trial started, and another defendant died after the trial ended, but this was a way to see new precedent developed.”

Doyle found the sheer scope of the trial to be educational. Twenty-two cases are underway in the ICTR; Duke Law students did most of their work on the same decade-old case involving three defendants.

“This is a massive legal proceeding, and just learning about different tools for organizing and cataloging relevant information, and trying to think strategically about case organization was a really useful learning experience,” said Doyle. A dual-degree student who also is pursuing an MA at Duke’s Nicholas School for the Environment, Doyle sought out summer work in Africa in part because of his interest in the disproportionate effects of environmental damage on residents of third-world countries.

Alladina’s experience in Arusha helped her learn “to work with what you’ve got. From power failures to ants on your desk, to working without fully understanding the bigger picture, you have to keep at it and know that every aspect of every task — no matter how insignificant it may seem — is necessary to reach the end goal.”

With roots in Tanzania — her parents were born and raised there — Alladina welcomed the opportunity to explore the country. “I had the opportunity to travel to my father’s hometown and finally understand where he’s from and what has shaped him as a person. I also learned more about the Maasai culture. That was certainly an experience I’ll have for a lifetime.”

The students’ work was supported by Duke’s Carroll-Simon Public Interest Fellowship, the Steckley-Weitzel Public Interest Fellowship, and a grant from the International Development Fund created by Sohini Chatterjee '04 and Sarah Dadush '04. Assistant Dean of Public Interest and Pro Bono Kim Bart '02 and Laurence Helfer, the Harry R. Chadwick, Sr. Professor of Law, helped the students secure their positions with the tribunal.

“The trials and appeals at the tribunal raise complex and unresolved legal issues and provide students with a unique perspective on international criminal justice,” Helfer said. “I’m delighted that three Duke Law students had the opportunity to contribute to the work of the ICTR.”

### In Appreciation

**T**HANK YOU to all our alumni and donors — including many law firms and corporations — for the financial support you provide to Duke Law’s public interest, pro bono, and other service programs. Your gifts enhance our ability to develop meaningful programs and opportunities for students.

In 2009–10, the following Duke Law funds supported public interest and pro bono programs:

- » Public Interest Annual Fund
- » Burdman Fellowship
- » Steckley-Weitzel Fellowship
- » Carroll-Simon Fellowship
- » Horvitz Public Law Fellowship
- » Dean’s Summer Service Grant Program
- » Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)

To lend your support, please contact Assistant Dean Kim Bart at (919) 613-7130 or [bart@law.duke.edu](mailto:bart@law.duke.edu).

# Summer Grants 2010

**D**UKE LAW STUDENTS work in a variety of positions during the summer. In 2010, 128 students worked in the following public service and government positions, supported by a record \$269,000 in grants from Duke Law School and other organizations.

## Civil Rights

Alliance Defense Fund | Phoenix, AZ  
 Arizona Justice Project | Tempe, AZ  
 Brennan Center for Justice | New York, NY  
 Center for Constitutional Rights | New York, NY  
 Duke Center for Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility | Durham, NC  
 Duke Law Wrongful Convictions Clinic | Durham, NC  
 Fair Trial Initiative | Durham, NC  
 Habeas Corpus Research Center | San Francisco, CA  
 Institute for Justice | Minneapolis, MN  
 Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law | Washington, DC  
 NAACP Legal Defense Fund | New York, NY  
 Southern Coalition for Social Justice | Durham, NC  
 Texas Civil Rights Project | Austin, TX  
 UNC Center for Civil Rights | Chapel Hill, NC

## Criminal Defense

Alliance Defense Fund | Phoenix, AZ  
 Associated Counsel for the Accused | Seattle, WA  
 District Court Public Defender's Office | Quincy, MA  
 Fairfax County Public Defender's Office | Fairfax, VA  
 Georgia Capital Defender's Office | Atlanta, GA  
 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office | Los Angeles, CA  
 Mecklenburg County Public Defender's Office | Charlotte, NC  
 New Hampshire Public Defender's Office | Littleton, NH  
 Office of the Capital Defender | Durham, NC  
 San Diego Public Defender's Office | San Diego, CA  
 Society of Counsel Representing Accused Persons | Seattle, WA

## Education

Teach for America | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Department of Education, Civil Rights Division | Washington, DC

## Environment

Conservation Council of North Carolina | Raleigh, NC  
 Duke University Environmental Law Clinic | Durham, NC  
 EarthJustice | Massachusetts  
 Environmental Defense Fund | Raleigh, NC  
 Natural Resources Defense Council | Washington, DC  
 North Carolina Conservation Network | Raleigh, NC  
 North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association | Raleigh, NC  
 Population Connection | Washington, DC  
 South Coast Air Management District | Diamond Bar, CA  
 Southern Environmental Law Center | Chapel Hill, NC  
 The Sierra Club | San Francisco, CA  
 UN FAO LEGN | Rome, Italy  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Washington, DC

## Federal and State Clerkships

193rd District Court | Dallas, TX  
 Clayton County Superior Court | Atlanta, GA  
 Massachusetts Appeals Court | Boston, MA  
 Middle District of Florida | Orlando, FL  
 Middle District of Florida | Tampa, FL  
 New York Supreme Court, Domestic Violence Judge | New York, NY  
 New York Supreme Court | New York, NY  
 Santa Clara County Superior Court | San Jose, CA  
 Superior Court of North Carolina | Raleigh, NC  
 Texas Supreme Court | Austin, TX  
 U.S. District Court, District of Columbia | Washington, DC  
 U.S. District Court, District of Nebraska | Omaha, NE

U.S. District Court, District of Nebraska | Lincoln, NE  
 U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania | Philadelphia, PA  
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of California | San Francisco, CA  
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia | Gainesville, GA  
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois | Chicago, IL  
 U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York | Utica, NY  
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York | New York, NY  
 U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida | Miami, FL  
 U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina | Charlotte, NC  
 U.S. Magistrate, Western District of Pennsylvania | Pittsburgh, PA  
 U.S. Magistrate | Pittsburgh, PA  
 Virginia Supreme Court, Office of the Chief Staff Attorney | Richmond, VA

## Financial and Business Regulation

FINRA | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Internal Revenue Service, Office of Chief Counsel | Chicago, IL  
 U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission | Washington, DC

## Government Prosecution

Arizona Attorney General's Office | Phoenix, AZ  
 California Attorney General's Office | San Francisco, CA  
 California Department of Justice, Public Rights Division, Antitrust | San Francisco, CA  
 City of Baltimore, Law Department | Baltimore, MD  
 Connecticut State Attorney's Office | Stamford, CT  
 Cook County State Attorney's Office | Chicago, IL  
 Florida Attorney General's Office, Antitrust/Special Litigation | Tallahassee, FL  
 Harris County District Attorney's Office | Texas  
 Iowa Attorney General's Office | Des Moines, IA  
 Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office | Los Angeles, CA  
 Massachusetts Attorney General's Office | Boston, MA  
 North Carolina Department of Justice | Raleigh, NC  
 Office of General Counsel | Jacksonville, FL  
 Oregon Department of Justice | Salem, OR  
 U.S. Army JAG Corps | Ft. Bragg, NC  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Connecticut | New Haven, CT  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Maryland | Greenbelt, MD  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of New York | New York, NY  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Middle District of Tennessee | Nashville, TN  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of California | San Jose, CA  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Georgia | Atlanta, GA  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois | Chicago, IL  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Washington, DC | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, Western District of North Carolina | Charlotte, NC  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Delaware | Wilmington, DE  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Montana | Billings, MT  
 U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Nevada | Las Vegas, NV  
 U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Office of Special Masters | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Court of Federal Claims | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Department of Justice | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons, Office of General Counsel | Baltimore, MD  
 U.S. Department of Justice, Criminal Division | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office of Immigration Review | San Diego, CA  
 U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Tribal Justice | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation | Washington, DC  
 Virginia Attorney General's Office | Richmond, VA

## Health Law

Adventist Health System | Winter Park, FL  
 Centers for Disease Control | Atlanta, GA  
 Duke Law AIDS Clinic | Durham, NC  
 Population Connection | Washington, DC  
 Translational Genomics Research Institute | Phoenix, AZ  
 U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Office of Policy | Silver Springs, MD  
 U.S. Food and Drug Administration | Silver Springs, MD

## International Human Rights Law

International Bridges to Justice | Geneva, Switzerland  
 ICTR | Tanzania  
 International Justice Mission | Mumbai, India  
 International Trade Center | Geneva, Switzerland  
 Irish Centre for Human Rights | Galway, IR  
 Tahirih Justice Center | Washington, DC  
 Timap for Justice | Sierra Leone  
 Transitions/PASOS | Czech Republic  
 UN High Commission for Refugees | Washington, DC

## Legal Aid/Poverty Law

Central California Legal Offices | Merced, CA  
 Committee for Public Counsel Services | Quincy, MA  
 Community Legal Service of East Palo Alto | Palo Alto, CA  
 Community Legal Services | Philadelphia, PA  
 Disability Rights NC | Raleigh, NC  
 Duke Law Children's Law Clinic | Durham, NC  
 Duke Law Veteran's Project | Durham, NC  
 Guardian Ad Litem | Durham, NC  
 Homeless Advocacy Project | San Francisco, CA  
 Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Skylark Project | Des Moines, IA  
 Legal Aid North Carolina | Durham, NC  
 Legal Aid North Carolina, Battered Immigrants and Farmworkers Unit | Raleigh, NC  
 Legal Aid Society of New York | New York, NY  
 Legal Aid Society of New York, Criminal Appeals | New York, NY  
 Legal Services of Southern Piedmont | Charlotte, NC  
 New York City Housing Authority | New York, NY  
 New York Legal Assistance Group | New York, NY  
 North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence | Durham, NC  
 Public Counsel Law Center | Los Angeles, CA  
 San Francisco Bar Association's Homeless Advocacy Project | San Francisco, CA  
 Southwest Louisiana Legal Services | Marrero, LA  
 The Women's Center of Chapel Hill | Chapel Hill, NC

## Science/Technology/Intellectual Property

Duke University Office of Licensing & Ventures | Durham, NC  
 Federal Communications Commission | Washington, DC  
 North Carolina State Office of Technology Transfer | Raleigh, NC  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture | Washington, DC

## Other

Barnes Museum | Philadelphia, PA  
 Duke University Counsel's Office | Durham, NC  
 Office of Manhattan Bureau President | New York, NY  
 Office of Government Ethics | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Postal Service | Washington, DC  
 U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee | Washington, DC

## Stanback Conservation Internship Program provides summer support for law students

**E**ACH SUMMER, the Stanback Conservation Internship Program supports as many as 150 summer internships for Duke University students, including Duke Law students interested in environmental law.

Duke University alumni Fred and Alice Stanback select the host organizations and

the number of internships to be offered each year. Among the Stanback-

approved summer opportunities are positions with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), the Sierra Club, and the Environmental Defense Fund, as well as North Carolina-based groups like the North Carolina Conservation Network and the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association. In 2010, 18 Duke Law students received Stanback funding for their summer internships.

“With the aid of the Stanback internship program, law students have an opportunity to do a wide range of legal and policy work with some of the top organizations working on environmental issues,” said Kim Bart, assistant dean in the Law School’s Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono.

Allyson Gunsallus ’12 spent her 1L summer working in the Sierra Club’s San Francisco office as a Stanback intern.

“I was interested in working at the Sierra Club before I came to school, and one of the reasons I chose Duke Law was because of the Stanback program, which I heard about during Admitted Students Weekend [at Duke],” she said.

After doing legal research in support of the Sierra Club’s ongoing environmental litigation in the first weeks of her intern-

**“These kinds of experiences aren’t just useful for people who want to be environmental lawyers. It’s the kind of work that can give you a solid basis for going in any direction.”**

— Almira Moronne ’11



ALMIRA MORONNE '11



ALLYSON GUNSALLUS '12

ship, Gunsallus had a chance to draft a significant memorandum that was filed in a Florida federal court. “It was a memorandum opposing a motion by Hardee County [Fla.], to intervene in an action on behalf of the Army Corps of Engineers and a private company,” she said. “The county, the Corps, and the company were working to permit a phosphate mine, and the Sierra Club was trying to stop it. I was able to actually write the opposition memorandum, which was filed in the Middle District.

“My Stanback experience ended on a high note when I learned from the director of the legal program that the memorandum I wrote caused the judge presiding over the matter to decide the issue in our favor.”

As a Stanback intern, Almira Moronne ’11 analyzed environmental policy legislation for the North Carolina Conservation Network during her 1L summer and worked for the NRDC in Washington, D.C., after her second year. Each internship offered unique experiences, she said.

“In North Carolina, I got a close look at a number of very effective grass-roots organizations, and with the NRDC I saw firsthand how an NGO can work at the highest levels.”

Over the course of her internships, Moronne helped draft and edit proposed water-quality legislation, researched clean-air issues, and reviewed oil-drilling regulations.

“These kinds of experiences aren’t just useful for people who want to be environmental lawyers,” Moronne said. “It’s the kind of work that can give you a solid basis for going in any direction.”

Gunsallus agrees.

“The experience was so diverse, in terms of the research I did and learning about how federal law is interpreted differently in different circuits. It’s something that I think will help me regardless of what area of law I pursue,” said Gunsallus. “And it can lead in fruitful directions. Next summer I’ll work for the firm that did litigation training for the Sierra Club during my Stanback internship.” ♡

SCHWEITZER FELLOWS (continued from page 1)



SIMON ASCHER



TRICIA HAMMOND

**“Tricia and Simon have taken a daunting, big-picture goal — decreasing recidivism — and translated it into a practical strategy that is empowering for Youth Home residents and Duke law and medical students alike.”**

— Barbara Heffner, director of the North Carolina Schweitzer Fellows Program

Law’s Street Law program, which Hammond co-chaired last year, and Duke’s Med Mentors program, which Ascher founded.

After informal “ice-breaking” exercises, the volunteers launch substantive discussions with Youth Home residents. On one evening, the group discussed a number of news articles relating to bullying and teenage suicides. On another, residents filled out sample job applications and participated in mock interviews. Hammond says that comfortable and frank conversation is key to the initiative’s goal of advancing the young residents’ rehabilitation. “I think all of our volunteers do a great job of being warm, open, and nonjudgmental,” she adds.

Hammond says that the program’s goals are twofold: “First, we hope to offer these kids important information, and to communicate to them that they are valuable, intelligent, and capable of making choices for a different life. Second, by creating an opportunity for other professional students to engage with these kids, we hope to create lifelong advocates for a more rehabilitative juvenile justice system.”

To sustain the program, Hammond and Ascher have catalogued lesson plans and formed a strong, collaborative relationship with the Youth Home staff. “The interdisciplinary connection between Street Law and Med Mentors will be easy to continue going forward,” says Hammond. “We also have had incredible co-chairs of Street Law this year who can carry the torch.”

Hammond says she has gained valuable leadership experience that will likely help her when she starts work at Vinson & Elkins following graduation. She and Ascher also have learned “countless ‘dos and don’ts’ of community

health project design and implementation” through the year, benefiting from feedback and guidance from the North Carolina Schweitzer director and other Fellows.

“Tricia and Simon have taken a daunting, big-picture goal — decreasing recidivism — and translated it into a practical strategy that is empowering for Youth Home residents and Duke law and medical students alike,” says Barbara Heffner, director of the North Carolina Schweitzer Fellows Program.

**Gillenwater: Sharing the game he loves**

A former USA Rugby team captain and All-American player at Vanderbilt University, Gillenwater is delighted to be helping dozens of youngsters at the John Avery Boys & Girls Club connect with the sport he loves.

“I think the thing the kids appreciate about rugby is that everyone gets to run, pass, tackle and play defense,” says Gillenwater, who runs twice-weekly sessions for 8- to 12-year-olds, aided by volunteers from Duke’s rugby team and Durham’s Eno River Rugby Club.

“Everyone has roles on the team. Other sports have roles, but they’re more circumscribed. If you’re a big kid, you’re going to play on the line in football. But in rugby, every one of the kids — boys, girls, whatever age, whatever size — they all get to run, they all get to pass.

“Because it’s a sport none of them have really played before, there’s a lot of learning involved, which takes discipline,” he says, adding that the group plays no-contact flag rugby to prevent injury.

The program promotes physical fitness and provides youth who might otherwise be unable to participate in organized sports a chance to benefit from the structure, discipline, team-building, and mentoring opportunities such sports can provide. Xavier, a 10-year-old player, offers this assessment after a November match: “James is the best coach because he makes sure everyone who practices gets to play, and he showed us how rugby can be really fun.”

Since its launch last fall, the program has grown to include three other Triangle-area teams. “We hope this program will help foster a long-lasting volunteer relationship between Duke University and the community and give hundreds of local kids an opportunity to play the game,” says Gillenwater.

“James’ youth rugby league has served many purposes, providing the children with a fun opportunity to increase their physical fitness, while developing the skills necessary to be ambitious, focused team-players in the process,” says Heffner. “Here is someone whose life was shaped by the sport — and instead of just sitting back contentedly, he wanted to extend the same formative opportunities *he* had to underserved children here in North Carolina.

“It has been a pleasure to witness Tricia, Simon, and James’ development over the course of the 2010–11 fellowship year,” she says. “I have been consistently impressed by how they have handled the challenges that have come their way. They have truly internalized the Schweitzer Fellowship’s mission, and our community is the better for it.”

Hammond and Ascher’s Schweitzer Fellowship is funded by Duke University. Gillenwater is a Kate B. Reynolds Schweitzer Fellow; his fellowship is funded by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, which is committed to improving quality of life for low-income North Carolinians. ♡



ANDREA HAMILTON '11

Pro Bono Update:

## JusticeMatters: Combining faith and legal service

**F**OR MANY, BEING A LAWYER isn't just a career. It's a calling — a calling to serve, a calling to seek justice, a calling to live the ideals of one's faith.

"Micah 6:8 states what God requires of us: To act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with Him," says Andrea Hamilton '11. "As a Christian, I want my personal and professional life to reflect these principles. I have found that I can put my faith into practice even as a law student by using my legal training to serve those in need."

Hamilton's desire to serve led her to a new Durham-based nonprofit organization called JusticeMatters. Founded in 2009 by Libby Magee '08, the organization aims to deliver legal services and education to underserved communities through partnerships with churches and nonprofits in Durham. Member attorneys and law students come from a variety of churches and denominations (and students are from Duke, UNC, and NCCU

**"I have found that I can put my faith into practice even as a law student by using my legal training to serve those in need."**

— Andrea Hamilton '11

law schools), but they share a goal of using their education and skills to serve others.

"I co-founded JusticeMatters with several local attorneys, law students and friends, including Andrea, who recognized that many of our neighbors face legal issues that are socially, psychologically and financially debilitating, but lack the resources and voice to over-

come these issues," says Magee, who is an associate at Parker Poe in Raleigh. "We learned that no local organization existed to meet these legal needs from a holistic, Gospel-centered framework, and that existing legal aid organizations, while providing excellent services, are under-resourced and restricted to certain clientele and cases."

To help fill the gap, JusticeMatters has built partnerships with the Durham Rescue Mission, Duke Law's Veteran's Project, Reality Ministries, and others to host several legal clinics and educational programs for the community. Through the clinics, volunteer attorneys provide on-site legal advice and referrals for ongoing legal needs. JusticeMatters is also working to create a network of local attorneys who will accept pro bono referrals.

As a member of JusticeMatters' law student advisory board, Hamilton is responsible for coordinating law student volunteers to handle client intake and

assist attorneys with client consultation and referrals during the clinics.

"What we really want to do is fulfill the counseling niche of being a lawyer," says Hamilton, who is pursuing a JD and a master's degree in public policy. "We are a listening ear. If they want to talk about a traffic issue, we'll give them the forum to do it. If they want us to pray for them, we'll do it."

Hamilton says her participation in JusticeMatters has been a tremendous learning experience. Clients seek help with everything from landlord-tenant issues and traffic violations to immigration law and child-custody disputes; in addition, Hamilton helped Magee research and create a guidebook on major issues in poverty law and relevant North Carolina statutes. She's also learned a lot about what it takes to operate and sustain a small nonprofit.

"Seeing how everything I've learned in my classes plays out, working with the attorneys who do it day to day — it has been a really neat experience," says Hamilton.

A graduate of Duke University, Hamilton taught middle school for four years in Helena, Ark., through Teach for America before coming to law school. She says JusticeMatters has helped her continue to align her faith and career, and she plans to seek similar service opportunities in the fall when she moves to Tennessee for a two-year clerkship with the chief federal district judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

"I've always had a heart for service," she says. "At the end of the day, faith is a driving force behind what I do, from the classes I choose to the career path I take. I am looking for the best way to use the gifts I've been given." ♪

» To learn more or volunteer with JusticeMatters, contact Libby Magee '08 at [justicemattersNC@gmail.com](mailto:justicemattersNC@gmail.com).

# FACULTY LIVES IN PUBLIC SERVICE

**T**HE MOTTO AT DUKE is familiar — “Knowledge in the Service of Society” — but at Duke Law it is less a motto and more a fact of life. Duke Law faculty are known for being particularly close to the profession, and many have had long and distinguished careers in public service. We asked a few who have served in a variety of ways to reflect on that service — why they chose to serve, how it has influenced their teaching and research, and what they tell students who might be considering opportunities to serve. Here are their responses.

## Arti K. Rai

Elvin R. Latty Professor of Law

*Professor Rai took a leave of absence during the 2009–10 academic year to serve as the administrator for External Affairs in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Prior to entering academia, Rai was a litigator at the Federal Programs Branch of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Civil Division.*

WHEN MY MOVE to the PTO was announced, one of my students asked: ‘Why are you leaving paradise?’ It was a good question. Why interrupt a thoroughly enjoyable academic career to work for a chronically underfunded agency tasked with an enormous workload? In some respects, the decision was obvious. I teach and do research in both patent law and administrative law. What better way to deepen my understanding of those areas than through a senior policy position at the patent office? More fundamentally, however, I saw in government service (and particularly service within the current administration) an opportunity to work with kindred spirits similarly devoted to using science and innovation to address daunting global challenges. What was my experience? For the most part, the reality of Washington does not allow for creative long-term thinking that rises above interest group politics. But it does happen. Some salient examples can be seen in parts of the administration’s recently released ‘Strategy for American Innovation.’ To the extent I was able to work on that strategy, and other similar projects, I am very grateful to have had the opportunity. ♡



## Christopher H. Schroeder

Charles S. Murphy Professor of Law and Public Policy Studies

*Professor Schroeder currently serves as the assistant attorney general for the Office of Legal Policy at the Department of Justice. He has served as acting assistant attorney general for the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice, and as chief counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee. He co-founded the Duke in D.C. program with Sen. Ted Kaufman.*

SEVERAL TIMES during my career, Duke has generously permitted me to take time out for government service, and I have been tremendously grateful for these opportunities. The work has always been strenuous and stressful, yet at the same time exhilarating and rewarding. The American people deserve a government that responds to our needs, respects our rights and advances our well-being. I have found the sense of satisfaction that comes from contributing in some small way to those objectives to be hard to duplicate. Government service has also enabled me to work collaboratively with bright and dedicated public servants toward shared objectives, and this brings rewards that the often-isolating nature of academic research and writing cannot match. At the same time, my academic work has benefited from these periods of government service. My research on separation of powers and constitutional structures, for instance, has been both motivated and informed by my experiences working for the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Department of Justice. My teaching has also been affected, both in the ways I teach some standard subjects like constitutional law, and in the course on Congress that I have designed along with former Sen. Ted Kaufman. Ted and I have both tried to encourage students to consider public service as part of their own career trajectories, and if we have been at all successful in this, it has been because of the enthusiasm we both share for government service. ♡



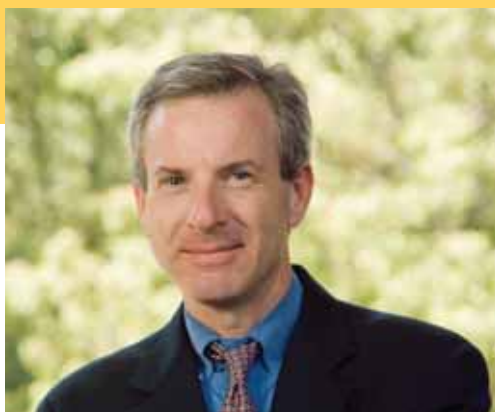
# FACULTY LIVES IN PUBLIC SERVICE

## Jonathan B. Wiener

William R. and Thomas L. Perkins Professor of Law

*Before joining Duke Law in 1994, Professor Wiener worked on U.S. and international environmental policy in positions at the U.S. Department of Justice and the White House, serving in the first Bush and Clinton administrations. While working at the President's Council of Economic Advisers, he also helped organize the AmeriCorps National Service program. He has helped launch servathons in Boston and Washington, D.C., as well as Duke Law's "Dedicated to Durham" service days.*

I GOT INVOLVED in public service because I hoped to make a positive difference in the world, and because it was so interesting. My first experience in environmental policy was in seventh grade, as a delegate from my school district to our state's mock legislature on environmental issues; I chaired a committee and found it fascinating. After law school, I clerked for two judges who were inspiring public servants, and I went to Washington where I served in government with superb lawyers, scientists, and economists. I had the privilege of helping to shape initiatives such as the first climate change treaty, the presidential executive order on regulatory review, and the launch of AmeriCorps. Those efforts gave me enduring insights into the ways government works (and doesn't), how policy can be better designed, and the power of good ideas. I've learned so much through service — about intriguing issues, institutions, incentives, group dynamics, and how people with diverse interests can find shared solutions to complex problems. I've learned that a life in the law is a life of public service. ♡

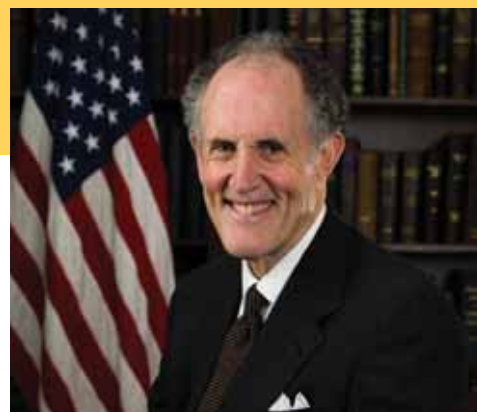


## Ted Kaufman

Senior Lecturing Fellow

*Senator Kaufman served as Delaware's United States Senator from January 2009 to November 2010, filling the seat vacated by Vice President Joseph Biden, for whom Kaufman had served as chief of staff for 19 years. Kaufman also served as a charter member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors. He has taught at Duke Law School since 1991, and he co-founded the Duke in D.C. program with Professor Christopher Schroeder. He now serves as chairman of the Congressional Oversight Panel for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP).*

IN MY EARLY YEARS, I did not plan on a career in public service. It gives me a very good feeling, however, that I spent most of my career in the public sector. Over the last 20 years teaching at the Law School I have spoken to many students trying to decide on their career. I tell them that I have enjoyed my time in both the public and private sector, and that one big advantage of the public sector is the satisfaction that comes from knowing you are working to make the world a better place. It is a comfort to know that all these years I never had doubts about what I was doing with my life. Many of my students ended up in government. I never met a one who regretted that decision. ♡



# FACULTY LIVES IN PUBLIC SERVICE

## Lisa Kern Griffin

Professor of Law

*Professor Griffin served as an assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago for five years prior to beginning her teaching career and after having clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Judge Dorothy Nelson of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In 2008 she served on the Law and Judiciary Policy Committee for the Obama presidential campaign.*

WHEN I SOUGHT A POSITION as a federal prosecutor, I knew that I would find the substance of federal criminal law engaging, and I was also committed to the idea that ethical prosecutors can do far more to ensure the fairness of the criminal justice process than the courts or defense lawyers. Both of those things turned out to be true, but the most memorable and fulfilling aspects of the job were surprises. I found that I loved the strategic thinking that goes into investigations and the procedural intricacy and intense pacing of trial work. The camaraderie, loyalty, good humor, and sense of collective endeavor in the office were also highlights of the experience. It is a great luxury to have a mandate to 'do the right thing' in every case, and professional relationships forged in the context of that duty — without regard to the economic imperatives that dominate private-sector work — are lasting and rewarding ones. I tell my students that they will often feel weighty responsibility as prosecutors, but that they will also enjoy some autonomy in their work, great variety in their cases, the opportunity to experience litigation from the beginning of an investigation through the appellate process, and tremendous collegiality. ♣



## Scott L. Silliman

Professor of the Practice of Law and Executive Director of the Center on Law, Ethics and National Security

*Professor Silliman was called to active duty as an Air Force judge advocate in November of 1968. During his career as a military attorney, he held a variety of leadership positions, including staff judge advocate (the senior attorney) at two large installations and three major Air Force commands. His last assignment was as senior attorney for Tactical Air Command and later Air Combat Command, serving as general counsel to the commander of the largest principal organization in the Air Force, with 185,000 military and civilian personnel at 46 primary locations throughout the world.*

MY 25-YEAR CAREER as an Air Force judge advocate prior to joining the Duke Law faculty in 1993 was professionally rewarding in every sense. In my first year of service, I was given a tremendous amount of responsibility for and control over criminal cases I was prosecuting and other legal issues confronting my command. As I progressed through the ranks from captain to colonel, the legal challenges grew more diverse, but I was always granted great latitude and authority to deal with them. Perhaps my most memorable and personally gratifying task was to deploy and help supervise all the Air Force uniformed attorneys involved in the first Persian Gulf War of 1990–91, the successful effort to oust Saddam Hussein from Kuwait. Throughout my military career, I was privileged to be the principal legal adviser to some of the most talented leaders in the Air Force, leaders comparable to CEOs of top Fortune 500 companies. As corporate lawyers serve their clients in industry, I found satisfaction in doing the same thing in government practicing the dual professions of arms and the law. For any law student seeking a challenging and rewarding position in government where responsibility comes early, you can't beat JAG. ♣



Alumni Profile

# Michael Buckler '00

## Memoir chronicles graduate's Peace Corps experience



MICHAEL BUCKLER, TEACHING IN MALAWI

**J**OINING THE PEACE CORPS permanently changed Michael Buckler's life, which is why he hopes his new book will inspire others, particularly Duke students, to follow a path of service themselves.

While at Duke, Buckler pursued public interest classes and clinics on topics such as HIV/AIDS and the death penalty; he also spent a summer working at the Child Advocacy Center in Durham. "I sought out professors and administrators at Duke who supported students taking a non-traditional path," said Buckler.

When he joined the Peace Corps, Buckler left behind a demanding legal career in patent litigation (mostly as outside counsel for Microsoft), as well as the residue of a difficult divorce. He carefully weighed the pros and cons by talking beforehand with returned Peace Corps volunteers, and also received encouragement from consumer advocate Ralph Nader.

"Peace Corps wasn't my only option, but it was the only option I wanted," he wrote in his book, *From Microsoft to Malawi: Learning on the Front Lines as a Peace Corps Volunteer*. "Peace Corps was a life-changing experience, and I am as proud of serving as I am of graduating from Duke Law."

He left in 2006 to teach mathematics in a rural village at the base of Mulanje Mountain in Southern Malawi. During his

two years of service, he kept a journal of his emotions, challenges, and adventures. Those entries provided the foundation for his memoir.

Placed at a village school miles from fellow Peace Corps volunteers, he found community with the school's headmaster and students. Three of the schoolchildren, Alfred, Gift, and Myson, became his housemates and newfound family, and Buckler is now using the book as a fundraiser for their college educations.

"Each was a good student and lived far from school, and by opening my tiny teacher home to them, I was able to change their lives," Buckler said. "Each studied extremely hard and passed the college entrance examination, yet none has the funds to attend college."

Though he was halfway around the world from his legal education and professional experience, Buckler found both to be crucial in his aid work.

"Lawyers are trained to understand systems and to navigate them to maximum effect, using zealous advocacy and creativity," Buckler says. "As an aid worker, I served as an advocate for the people in my village, applying for numerous grants to fund community projects. Because of my legal background, it was easy for me, working with my community, to research fund-

**"Peace Corps was a life-changing experience, and I am as proud of serving as I am of graduating from Duke Law."**


— Michael Buckler

ing sources, write persuasive proposals that captured the attention of donors and politicians, and build credibility by strictly complying with grant requirements."

*From Microsoft to Malawi* highlights Buckler's belief in the "interconnectedness" of humanity, the importance of cultural awareness, and the need for education. Buckler, like many Peace Corps volunteers, wore many hats that exposed him to the complexity of aid work. Work that included everything from garden and tree-planting projects to building a girls' boarding facility offered lessons about development work and policy. In addition to describing Buckler's life in Malawi, the book provides detailed statistics and research findings that highlight problems with current development policy and insights into alternatives.

"We need to approach the challenge as students with something to learn, not teachers with something to prove," said Buckler, who returned to live in Washington, D.C., and now works as an environmental planner for the National Parks Service. (A former staff editor for the *Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum*, Buckler also incorporated his interest and expertise in environmental law into many of his projects in Malawi.)

He says he is not content with traditional approaches to development policy.

"Aid work is not about changing or enlightening, it's about exposing people to options, and letting them choose for themselves," Buckler said. "It's about dignity."   
— Reprinted with permission from Duke's Office of News and Communications.

» Learn more about Buckler's book and its charitable goal at <http://teachmebook.com/wp/>.

## Veronica Allen: Skadden Fellow

**Veronica Allen '10** received a two-year Skadden Foundation Fellowship to support her work with the Georgia Legal Services Program, where she is designing programs that expand access to civil legal services for at-risk youth. She provides an update on her work below.

### What is the focus of your work?

My legal work primarily involves representing students who are facing suspension or expulsion in school discipline hearings and helping parents obtain adequate special education services for their children. By doing so, I hope to identify youth who are experiencing behavior problems in school that affect their ability to learn and connect them with additional academic and behavioral supports to prevent their disruptive behaviors from recurring. So far, I have done three school discipline evidentiary hearings, one State Board of Education hearing, and several IEP (individualized education plan) meetings, which are meetings to discuss a student's special education services. I also attend community events to inform others of my work and to learn of other individuals and groups who are engaged in similar work.

### How did your experiences at Duke Law prepare you for this work?

I had the opportunity to take several substantive classes that have had direct bearing on my work, such as Education Law, Family Law, Advanced Issues in Children's Law, Poverty Law, and Administrative Law. My semesters in the Children's Law Clinic and working for Advocates for Children at Legal Aid of North Carolina gave me the opportunity to actually do the same work that I am doing now under the guidance of professors such as Professors Jane Wettach and Brenda Berlin. Those opportunities were priceless. Everyone expects a lot out of Duke grads, so I am teaching myself to expect the same of myself — or perhaps even more.

### What is the most rewarding or challenging aspect of your work?

The most rewarding aspect of my work is



getting to know my clients and providing them with quality legal service. Most of my clients have encountered system after system and they typically don't receive quality service, so I try to ensure that they have a positive experience when they reach me. The most challenging aspect of my work has been remaining encouraged and continuing to fight even when the odds are stacked against me. It breaks my heart to see so many children suspended or expelled from school. I work hard to prepare for each hearing, but it is difficult to win cases when the school climate is so heavy with "zero tolerance." My clients are removed from school for the most trivial of infractions, and it is going to take more than me representing clients in hearings to reduce the number of kids suspended or expelled.

### What do you hope to do next?

I would love to either start a youth center or join forces with an already existing one to open up a legal clinic for youth. It would be nice to set up shop where youth are constantly present so that I can be readily available to them and their parents. There's so much work to be done with regard to fighting zero-tolerance school policies — I expect that I may be doing this work for a while. ♡

## Katherine Record: O'Neill Fellow

### Katherine Record JD/MA '10

received the O'Neill Fellowship in National and Global Health Law at the O'Neill Institute at Georgetown University for 2010–11. The fellowship supports writing projects and academic research pertaining to public health law. Following is an update on her efforts.

### What is the focus of your work?

My work at O'Neill has focused primarily on public health law reform in low- and middle-income nations and planning for implementation of the use of antiretroviral drugs as HIV prophylaxes. A few discrete projects have centered around domestic matters — mental health law and the Affordable Care Act.

### How did your experiences at Duke Law prepare you for this work?

Duke allowed me to pursue an interdisciplinary degree track that I needed to go into public health law. Working with the Psychology Department and the Duke Global Health Institute exposed me to professionals and students pursuing public health from different angles, and helped me to develop a well-rounded understanding of the field. My experience at the law school completed this — a few truly spectacular faculty members and the AIDS Legal Project were instrumental in helping me hit the ground running as I started my career. Being able to focus my upper-level classes on domestic and global health law was critical to being prepared for what I am working on now.

### What do you hope to do next?

Over the long term, I plan to focus on expanding access to essential medicines as well as HIV prevention and treatment. ♡

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IN THE **PUBLIC INTEREST**

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Contact Kim Bart in the Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono for more information,  
[bart@law.duke.edu](mailto:bart@law.duke.edu)

