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# Cornell Law Scoops

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March 3, 2008

Published Weekly on Mondays During the Semester

Volume 21 #22

## ≈ Calendar of Events ≈ Week of March 3, 2008

All events will be held in Myron Taylor Hall unless otherwise noted

### MONDAY, MARCH 3

**4:00 p.m. Saperston Student Lounge. All Students: White & Case discussion and reception** in cooperation with the **Women's Law Coalition** and **APALSA**. The program is entitled "*Shattering the Glass: A Path to Success.*" Details on page 3, Career Services column and on page 6, Student Organizations.

**5:00 p.m. Room 290. Sheri Lynn Johnson**, will speak about the **death penalty in America**. This event is part of the National Lawyers Guild Week Against the Death Penalty. Details on page 6, Student Organizations.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 4

**12:20 p.m. Saperston Student Lounge. Muna Ndulo**, Professor of Law, will speak about **capital punishment from an international perspective**. This event is part of the National Lawyers Guild Week Against the Death Penalty. Details on page 6, Student Organizations.

**1:00-5:00 p.m. Room 309. Office hours for Walter Bubl **, Academic Support Counselor. Details on page 6, Walter Bubl 's column.

**3:30-5:00 p.m. Room 263. Office hours for students with Dean Schwab**. Details on page 2, Dean Schwab's column.

**6:00 p.m. Room G85. Briggs International Law Society** presents the **Hon. Delissa A. Ridgway**, U.S. Court of International Trade, New York, speaking on "*Stranger in a Strange Land: Cross-Cultural Issues in the Courts.*" Details on page 6, Student Organizations.

**6:00-8:00 p.m. Olivia Restaurant & Bar** (381 Pine Tree Road). **1L Students: Skadden** reception. Details on page 3, Career Services column.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

**12:30-2:30 p.m. and 4:00-5:00 p.m. Room 309. Office hours for Walter Bubl **, Academic Support Counselor. Details on page 6, Walter Bubl 's column.

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5**

**1:00-4:30 p.m. Room 252. Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Free and confidential consultation for law students with Maurice Haltom** Therapist/Counselor, Counseling and Psychological Services. Details on page 5, Maurice Haltom, CAPS column.

**4:15 p.m. Mancuso Amphitheater** (room G90). *All You Ever Wanted To Know About the New York Bar Exam*. A discussion with **David Gouldin '66**, member of the New York Board of Law Examiners, and **Deans Lukingbeal and Cramton**. All students are invited. Details on page 3, Associate Dean Lukingbeal and Assistant Dean Cramton's column.

**THURSDAY, MARCH 6**

**4:00-5:00 p.m. Mancuso Amphitheater** (room G90). **1L Students: Cahill Gordon** program "*Understanding Corporate Transactional Practice: The Lawyers' Role in an LBO*" followed by a **reception**. RSVPs required. Details on page 3, Career Services column.

**6:00 p.m. Room 285. Christopher Seeds**, Visiting Fellow with the Cornell Death Penalty Project, will speak about the **current moratorium on the death penalty in New York State**, which will be followed by a **screening of "Deadline."** This event is part of the National Lawyers Guild Week Against the Death Penalty. Details on page 6, Student Organizations.



**FROM STEWART J. SCHWAB, THE ALLAN R. TESSLER DEAN**

**Office Hours for Students**

I will be holding office hours for students this **Tuesday afternoon, March 4 between 3:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.** Students wishing to see me should sign up in advance with **Lynda Swafford** in room 263 or stop by and sign in during the office hours.

**FROM NAN COLVIN, REGISTRAR**

**Summer School Study** - Students may petition the faculty for permission to take courses in law summer school programs of ABA-approved law schools and, upon their successful completion, to receive credit toward the Cornell J.D. degree. Such petitions are considered on an individual basis, and in no case is credit in excess of six hours granted for all such summer school law study. For timely consideration of the petition, interested students should submit their petitions to the Law School Registrar's Office (addressed to Dean Lukingbeal) **prior to April 1**. Petition forms are available in the Law School Registrar's Office and online at the Registrar's site: <https://support.law.cornell.edu/students> at the Course Registration/Registration Forms tab/Summer/Winter Intersession Course Credit Request.

**FROM PAT HALSTEAD, CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR**

**Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE)**

The **Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE)** is assembled and administered three times per year by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) as partial fulfillment of the requirements for application for admission to practice law in most states. It is held at established test centers across the country. **The Holiday Inn, 222 S. Cayuga St., Ithaca, NY 14850, is the March test center for the Ithaca area.** The exam is scheduled for **Saturday, March 8, 2008**, approximately 9:00 a.m.

**Applicants must report to the test center by 9:00 a.m.** Testing will begin as soon as all applicants have been checked in and seated. If you arrive after testing has begun, you will not be admitted. NCBE

cannot be responsible if you are delayed or unable to reach the test center because of weather or road conditions. Beginning and ending testing times may vary depending on the size of the test center and the number of rooms used. Applicants can expect testing to be completed 2-1/2 to 3 hours after the time noted above.

In order to be admitted to the test center, you must present your test center Admission Ticket with your photograph attached, as well as a current form of identification bearing your photograph and signature. Please bring a #2 pencil to the exam with you.

## **FROM ANNE LUKINGBEAL, ASSOCIATE DEAN AND DEAN OF STUDENTS**

### **Law School Prize**

I am delighted to announce that thanks to a **recent gift from the family of John J. Kelly** (Law School Class of 1947) we will once again award a prize in Mr. Kelly's memory to a graduating Cornell Law student who, in the judgment of the Dean of the Law School, best exemplifies qualities of **scholarship, fair play and good humor**. The prize is a cash gift of \$500. Please submit written nominations to me before **Friday March 28, 2008** at Noon. It will be very helpful to the selection committee if you indicate the reasons why you think the nominee would be an excellent candidate for this award. Many thanks.

## **FROM ANNE LUKINGBEAL, ASSOCIATE DEAN AND DEAN OF STUDENTS, AND CHARLES CRAMTON, ASSISTANT DEAN FOR GRADUATE LEGAL STUDIES**

*“All You Ever Wanted To Know About the New York Bar Exam . . .”*

**Wednesday, March 5**

**4:15 p.m. Mancuso Amphitheater (room G90)**

A discussion with **David Gouldin '66**, member of the New York Board of Law Examiners, and **Deans Lukingbeal and Cramton**

**All students are invited to this informal discussion with David Gouldin and Deans Lukingbeal and Cramton. Mr. Gouldin** will provide insights on the nature of the New York bar exam, its components and its grading as well as answer any questions you may have about the New York bar exam. In addition, Deans Lukingbeal and Cramton will be available to discuss bar certification issues that arise as part of the bar certification process. Don't miss this important session if you are planning to take (or think you might some day take) the New York bar exam.

## **FROM JOHN DEROSA, ASSISTANT DEAN FOR STUDENT AND CAREER SERVICES, ELIZABETH PECK, DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICES AND SUZANNE HESS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICES**

- **All Students:** On **Monday, March 3**, **White & Case** is hosting a discussion and reception in cooperation with the **Women's Law Coalition** and **APALSA**. The program is entitled *“Shattering the Glass: A Path to Success”* and will be held at **4:00 p.m.** in **Saperston Student Lounge**.
- **1L Students:** On **Tuesday, March 4**, **Skadden** will host a reception from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** at **Olivia Restaurant & Bar** (381 Pine Tree Road) to introduce you to its summer program.
- **1L Students:** On **Thursday, March 6** from **4:00-5:00 p.m.** in the Mancuso Amphitheater (room G90), **Cahill Gordon** will host a program entitled *“Understanding Corporate Transactional Practice: The Lawyers' Role in an LBO.”* Following the program, the firm will host a **reception** for 1Ls interested in all practice areas from **5:00-7:00 p.m.** in the **Atrium**. To **RSVP** for the program, reception, or both, please email **Isabella Ciprianno** at [iciprianno@cahill.com](mailto:iciprianno@cahill.com).

- **1L Students:** On **Monday, March 10, Knobbe Martens**, an intellectual property firm, will host a dinner at **6:00 p.m.** at **John Thomas Steakhouse** for students *with technical backgrounds who are eligible to sit for the patent bar*. If you are not sure whether you are eligible, please see Section III in this document: <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/olia/oed/grb.pdf>. If you are eligible and wish to attend the dinner, please **RSVP** to **Jacque Avakian** at [jacque.avakian@kmob.com](mailto:jacque.avakian@kmob.com).

- **1L Students:** On **Tuesday, March 11, Choate, Hall & Stewart**, a Boston firm, will host a reception from **6:30-9:00 p.m.** at **Stella's** to introduce you to its summer program. Please **RSVP** to **Precillia Soares** at [psouares@choate.com](mailto:psouares@choate.com) if you wish to attend.

- **1L Students:** Occasionally, students seeking summer employment in the **private sector** come across opportunities with corporations which are unpaid and which require **academic credit**. These jobs are especially common in the sports and entertainment industry. While Cornell Law School does not have a formal summer internship program for the private sector (we **do** have such a program for government agencies, non-profits and judges), we may be able to assist in arranging for credit on a case-by-case basis. Please contact **Dean DeRosa** if you come across this sort of opportunity and wish to pursue it.

## **FROM LARRY BUSH, THE BERGER INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM**

### **Coming Event**

**Wednesday, March 12, 1:25 p.m.**

### **Uris Hall Auditorium**

The **Leo Nevas Human Rights Fund** and The **Clarke Program in East-Asian Law and Culture** present “*Militarization and Counter Terrorism Measures in Thailand: The Effect on Women Human Rights Defenders*” **Virada Somswasdi '74**, Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiangmai University Thailand.

**Professor Somswasdi** is an associate professor of law and the founder of the Women's Studies Center at Chiangmai University, Thailand. She is also an LL.M. program alumna of Cornell Law School. Her teaching subjects include Family Law, Women and Law, Law and Society, Women's Movement in Thailand, Sex Crimes and Women's Human Rights. **Professor Somswasdi** is a founding member of the front runner non-governmental regional organization, working for gender equality and justice, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) established in 1986 right after the Third World Conference on Women held in Nairobi. Her advocacy in women's human rights has brought her many national awards; the latest recognition was the 'Woman of Courage' Award presented to her in 2007 by the United States Department of State.

## **FROM KARLA VARGAS, DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL AID**

### **How To Renew Your Financial Aid**

- **Follow these easy steps and you will renew your Federal loans:**

File your tax returns

Complete your FAFSA no later **April 15, 2008**

Send a copy of your Tax returns or Non-filing statement to the Financial Aid Office.

Complete the Federal Verification Worksheet

**Please note:** If you complete your **FAFSA** later than **April 15** and do not alert the Financial Aid Office, we cannot ensure timely payment of loan funds. The **Non-Filing Statement** and the **Federal Verification Worksheet** can be picked up at the Financial Aid office after **April 1**

- **Follow this easy step and you will renew your private loan**

Contact your lender and apply for a new loan for 2008-2009

- **Follow this easy step and you will renew your Graduate Plus Loan**  
Contact your lender and apply for a new loan for 2008-09

- **Grants do not need to be renewed**

## **FROM JAMIE HOFFMIER, DIRECTOR, LAW SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND AND CHRISTIAN SHAFFMASTER, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, LAW SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND**

### **Law School Annual Fund Phonathon: Calling All Students**

**It's not too late.** the Annual Fund Office is still hiring student callers for the spring phonathon. As you may know, phonathon callers raise tax-deductible gifts for the benefit of Cornell Law School from alumni across the country. These gifts benefit law students in many ways, providing scholarships, technology enhancements, visiting lecturers, law library purchases, and program support. The phonathon is an important aspect of the Law School Annual Fund, since Cornell Law School depends on support from alumni and friends to make up the difference between what tuition revenues provide and the cost of operating the School. **Every graduate of Cornell Law School has benefited as a student from the gifts of alumni who preceded them, because tuition never meets the full cost of a Cornell legal education.**

Each night of the phonathon begins with dinner (on us!) and training about phonathon procedures and techniques. Phonathon callers are paid **\$10.00 per hour** and have the chance to make new friends while uniting in the common goal of seeking support for Cornell Law School.

### **Spring 2008 Phonathon Schedule** (Held each evening in room 276, Myron Taylor Hall)

#### **Sunday, March 2**

Training and dinner: **5:30 p.m.**  
Calling: **6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

#### **Monday, March 3**

Training and dinner: **6:30 p.m.**  
Calling: **7:00 - 10:00 p.m.**

#### **Wednesday, March 5**

Training and dinner: **5:30 p.m.**  
Calling: **6:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

#### **Thursday, March 6**

Training and dinner: **6:30 p.m.**  
Calling: **7:00 - 10:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in working as a phonathon caller, please contact **Christian Shaffmaster** at 254-4722 or [chs86@cornell.edu](mailto:chs86@cornell.edu). Thank you for your consideration! We look forward to working with you!

## **FROM MAURICE HALTOM, COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (CAPS)**

**Let's Talk: Free and confidential support is available to all students**

No appointment necessary. Just drop in.

\* stress \* academic problems \* anxiety \* relationships \* adjustments to a new culture

\* family problems \* depression \* financial \* other concerns

**When:** Wednesdays, 1:00-4:30 p.m. (January 23 through May 21, 2008)

**Where:** Myron Taylor Hall, Room 252

**Who:** Maurice Haltom, LMSW, Counselor from Gannett Health Services

For additional hours and counselor bios: [www.gannett.cornell.edu/LetsTalk](http://www.gannett.cornell.edu/LetsTalk)

## FROM WALTER BUBLÉ, ACADEMIC SUPPORT COUNSELOR

Office hours for individual consultations on academic matters with JD students in **room 309**:

**Tuesdays: 1:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Wednesdays: 12:30-2:30 p.m. and 4:00-5:00 p.m.**

Drop in or arrange an appointment by email at: [wgb7@cornell.edu](mailto:wgb7@cornell.edu)

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- **Briggs International Law Society** and the **Berger International Legal Studies Program**

*“Stranger in a Strange Land: Cross-Cultural Issues in the Courts”*

**Hon. Delissa A. Ridgway**, U.S. Court of International Trade, New York

**Tuesday, March 4, 6:00 p.m. Room G85**

Reception to follow in Saperston Student Lounge

What does “the rule of law” mean in today's multi-cultural society? In a growing number of cases in state and federal courts all across the country, immigrants are pleading “the cultural defense” invoking the customs and traditions of their homelands to explain their actions. Even when it is not raised per se, culture plays a role in many cases both civil and criminal.

**In this engaging and highly-interactive presentation**, audience members will participate and “vote” on the outcome of vignettes drawn from fascinating and controversial real-life cases “ripped from the headlines” and presented by the Hon. Delissa A. Ridgway of the U.S. Court of International Trade. Does the adage that “all men are presumed to know the law” apply to recent immigrants? Should immigrants be held to the same standards as everyone else, on the theory of “When in Rome . . . ?” Please join us and you be the judge! Co-sponsored by Briggs International Law Society and Berger International Legal Studies Program. **Questions**, please contact: **Kathleen Mon** at:

[kcm44@cornell.edu](mailto:kcm44@cornell.edu)

- **National Lawyers Guild (NLG)**

**The Cornell Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild** is proud to present the schedule of events during our annual **Week Against the Death Penalty, March 3-7**. Please contact **Katie Higgins** at [ksk37@cornell.edu](mailto:ksk37@cornell.edu) with any questions. We hope to see you there!

**Monday, March 3, 5:00 p.m. Room 290. Sheri Lynn Johnson**, Professor of Law and Assistant Director of the Cornell Death Penalty Project, will speak about **the death penalty in America**, with a focus on issues of costs, innocence, race, and mental illness. Dinner will be provided.

**Tuesday, March 4, 12:20 p.m. Saperston Student Lounge. Muna Ndulo**, Professor of Law, will speak about **capital punishment from an international perspective**, followed by a short Q&A discussion. Lunch will be provided.

**Thursday, March 6, 6:00 p.m. Room 285. Christopher Seeds**, Visiting Fellow with the Cornell Death Penalty Project, will speak about the **current moratorium on the death penalty in New York State**, which will be followed by a **screening of “Deadline,”** a film about the decision of former Illinois Gov. George Ryan to commute the sentences of all Illinois death row inmates. Pizza and popcorn will be provided.

- **Women’s Law Coalition (WLC) & Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)**  
**“Shattering the Glass: A Path to Success”**

**March 3, 4:00 p.m. Saperston Student Lounge**

**WLC and APALSA are hosting a speaker, Sylvia Chin**, who will speak about her career path as an Asian-American woman in the legal profession. **Mrs. Chin's** practice involves corporate and commercial financing with an emphasis on asset-based financing transactions. **White & Case will be**

hosting an informal reception with wine and appetizers afterwards in Saperston Student Lounge.  
Questions? Contact **Kathie Mon** at [kcm44@cornell.edu](mailto:kcm44@cornell.edu)

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

- **Students are needed part time** to do a variety of tasks associated with the **Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS) 2008** which will take place at Cornell Law School on September 12-13, 2008. **Professors Valerie Hans, Ted Eisenberg, Michael Heise and Jeff Rachlinski** are planning and hosting this conference. Part time work may be needed during this spring term; as well as during the summer months and in the early part of the fall term right up to and including the conference weekend. If interested, please contact **Heidi Best** at [shb5@cornell.edu](mailto:shb5@cornell.edu) with your name, year, contact information and your availability to work during these time periods.
- **Professor Rossi** wishes to hire **several research assistants** to work during Summer 2008. The research will involve the preparation of materials for a course on “Great American Trials.” Interested students should email **Professor Rossi** at [ffr1@cornell.edu](mailto:ffr1@cornell.edu) and submit a résumé electronically or leave it in his mailbox. If you have questions about the nature or quantity of the work, stop by Professor Rossi’s office sometime within the next two weeks.
- **Professor Liz Karns** of the School of Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR) needs a Research Assistant for the remainder of Spring 2008. Professor Karns is developing materials for teaching quantitative arguments in law and policy. She needs to obtain cases and briefs that address statistical issues particularly in occupational, environmental, and pharmaceutical litigation. The research assistant should have experience with Lexis, Pacer, and have completed an Evidence course. Hours and pay flexible. Contact **Liz Karns** ([ek368@cornell.edu](mailto:ek368@cornell.edu)) for further details.

## INSTITUTE FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES EVENT

The ISS Contentious Knowledge Team presents:

- **March 4**

*The Epistemology of Contentious Knowledge: Deforestation in Madagascar*

**Jacques Pollini**, Natural Resources, Cornell University

12-1:30 p.m., ISS Conference room (146 Myron Taylor Hall)

Lunch will be served.

- **March 11**

*GMO: Authoritative Framing and its Discontents*

**Ron Herring**, Contentious Knowledge Team Member and Professor of Government, Cornell University

**12:00 Noon-1:30 p.m.** ISS Conference room (146 Myron Taylor Hall)

Lunch will be served.

For more on this ISS research team: [http://www.socialsciences.cornell.edu/0609/contentious\\_desc.html](http://www.socialsciences.cornell.edu/0609/contentious_desc.html)  
Questions? Contact **Anneliese Truame**, ISS Administrative Coordinator: [amt58@cornell.edu](mailto:amt58@cornell.edu)

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*Scoops* is the weekly publication of the Cornell Law School. *Scoops* publishes notices of Law School events, administrative notices, notices from student organizations and other informational notices of general interest to the Law School community. It is published every Monday while classes are in session. Items for the newsletter should be submitted to the Law School Registrar’s Office or by email to: [scoops@lawschool.cornell.edu](mailto:scoops@lawschool.cornell.edu) no later than 12:00 Noon on Thursdays for inclusion in the following week’s edition. Please note that items may be edited if necessary.