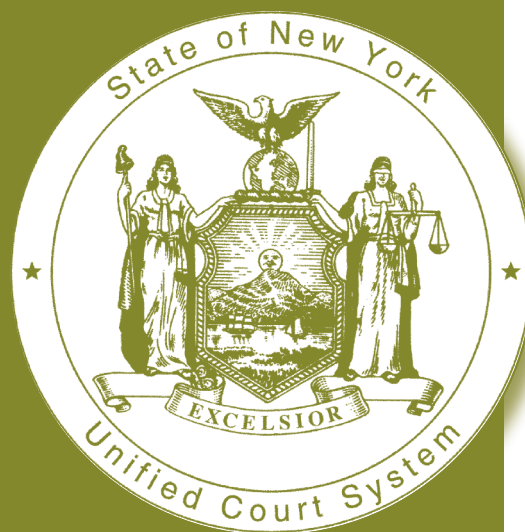


THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

THE ROLE OF NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOLS

THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES
THE ROLE OF LAW SCHOOLS
IN HELPING MEET THE ESSENTIAL
CIVIL LEGAL NEEDS OF
LOW INCOME NEW YORKERS



CONVENED BY THE
TASK FORCE TO EXPAND
ACCESS TO CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES IN NEW YORK

CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW, LONG ISLAND CITY

May 12, 2014

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

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THE CONVERSATION CONTINUES • THE ROLE OF LAW SCHOOLS IN HELPING TO MEET THE ESSENTIAL CIVIL LEGAL NEEDS OF LOW-INCOME NEW YORKERS

MAY 12, 2014 • CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW, LONG ISLAND CITY, NEW YORK



9:00–9:30 A.M. REGISTRATION AND CHECK IN LOBBY
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SECOND FLOOR

9:30–10:00 A.M. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION AUDITORIUM
HELAINÉ M. BARNETT CHAIR, TASK FORCE TO EXPAND ACCESS TO CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES IN NEW YORK

OPENING REMARKS

HON. JONATHAN LIPPMAN CHIEF JUDGE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

10:00–10:45 A.M. OPENING PLENARY SESSION AUDITORIUM

OVERVIEW: ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN LEGAL EDUCATION

MODERATOR: HON. FERN A. FISHER DIRECTOR, NYS COURTS ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM
DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE FOR NEW YORK CITY COURTS

PANELISTS: DEAN MICHELLE ANDERSON DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW

HON. JENNY RIVERA ASSOCIATE JUDGE, NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS

JAMES R. SILKENAT PRESIDENT, AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION; SULLIVAN & WORCESTER LLP

10:45–12:30 P.M. MORNING WORK GROUP SESSIONS

A. PREPARING STUDENTS FOR ACCESS-TO-JUSTICE ACTIVITIES IN CLINICAL COURSES

ROOM 3/114

MODERATOR: SUSAN BRYANT PROFESSOR OF LAW, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW

PANELISTS: ANN CAMMETT PROFESSOR OF LAW, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW

CAREY DUNNE PRESIDENT, NEW YORK CITY BAR ASSOCIATION; DAVIS POLK & WARDWELL LLP

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The Work Group will consider the following questions:

- What professional values, knowledge and/or skills do law students need to learn to be competent in access-to-justice activities while in law school and in practice?
- How can we educate law students to adopt a professional identity that embraces the professional responsibility for achieving justice and providing access to justice?
- How do different clinics, externships and practicums educate and equip students with the knowledge, skills and values to deliver a range of legal services and address the legal needs of low-income people?

B. BEST PRACTICES FOR SUPERVISING STUDENT *PRO BONO* WORK ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:

ROOM 3/115

MODERATOR: ELLEN P. CHAPNICK DEAN FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL

PARTICIPANTS: BRYAN HETHERINGTON CHIEF COUNSEL, EMPIRE JUSTICE CENTER

LYNN M. KELLY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER

STEVEN LEE J.D. EXPECTED 2015, MAURICE A. DEANE SCHOOL OF LAW AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY;
DIRECTOR, VETERANS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT (VLAP)

The Work Group will develop guidelines for a manual that references best practices for supervising all types of student *pro bono* activities in a variety of practice contexts. The Roundtable discussion will

identify best practices and provide an outline of the framework for creating the manual. Following the discussion, the Work Group will divide into small groups to consider discrete best practice “supervisory” issues, such as informing law students about professional ethics/responsibility applicable to the assigned *pro bono* project; providing orientation and training on the assigned *pro bono* project; developing mechanisms for responding to questions and giving feedback and evaluation to students; and, for student evaluation of the *pro bono* experience.

The project to create the manual will continue after the close of the Conference.

C. DEVELOPING A BLUEPRINT FOR AN ACCESS-TO-JUSTICE CURRICULUM AND TESTING ACCESS TO JUSTICE ON THE BAR EXAMINATION

ROOM 3/302

MODERATOR: JOSEPH ROSENBERG *ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR CLINICAL PROGRAMS, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW*

PANELISTS: MICHAEL COLODNER *MEMBER, NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS*

LILLIAN MOY *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK*

YOGI PATEL *LLOYD PATEL, LLP*

ALLIE ROBBINS *ASSISTANT DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW*

RUTHANN ROBSON *DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF LAW, CUNY SCHOOL OF LAW*

The Work Group will:

- Examine how to utilize the “traditional” law school curriculum to prepare students for access-to-justice careers by, e.g., highlighting actual and potential courses that would provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary for access-to-justice careers, and identifying methods and/or models to create opportunities for providing legal services in conjunction with such courses.
- Develop Proposed Questions for Bar Examination:
Offer suggestions to supplement the statewide study underway on modifications to the “Content Outline and Bar Examination Questions” to test student knowledge and skills important for working with underserved populations in matters involving landlord/tenant issues, foreclosures, family law, installment contracts, consumer credit proceedings and access to public benefits, and propose other topical areas that warrant consideration for testing on future bar examinations.

D. ROLE OF LAW SCHOOLS IN WORKING WITH NON-LAWYER ADVOCATES TO HELP NARROW THE JUSTICE GAP

ROOM 3/301

MODERATOR: HON. FERN FISHER *DIRECTOR, NYS COURTS ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM; DEPUTY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE FOR NEW YORK CITY COURTS*

THOMAS MALIGNO *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PUBLIC ADVOCACY CENTER; DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INTEREST, TOURO COLLEGE, JACOB D. FUCHSBERG LAW CENTER*

PANELISTS: KIM DIANA CONNOLLY *PROFESSOR OF LAW; VICE DEAN FOR LEGAL SKILLS; DIRECTOR, CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION, SUNY BUFFALO LAW SCHOOL*

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PAULA LITTLEWOOD *EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION (VIA SKYPE)*

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JANE M. SPINAK *EDWARD ROSS ARANOW CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL*

Based on the panel presentation, the Work Group will consider the following questions:

- What role do non-lawyers have in helping to close the justice gap?
- What role do law schools have in training non-lawyer advocates?
- Is there a direct role for non-lawyer advocates to play in access-to-justice efforts at the law schools by, e.g., partnering with students, working with clinics?

- What factors — financial, philosophical, ethical and cultural — will the law school encounter in developing programs for non-lawyers, and what is the sentiment among faculty?
- What type of supervision is appropriate for non-lawyers?
- What type of training and support is incumbent upon the law school to provide for such supervision?
- Could the development of non-lawyer advocate programs be perceived as devaluing the mission of law school and/or the J.D. degree?

12:30–12:50 P.M. BOX LUNCH PICK UP **SECOND FLOOR BEACON/AUDITORIUM**

12:50–1:10 P.M. DEMONSTRATION OF STATEWIDE CONSORTIUM WEBSITE FOR STUDENT *PRO BONO* OPPORTUNITIES **AUDITORIUM**

JENNIFER A. GUNDLACH *SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION & CLINICAL PROFESSOR OF LAW, MAURICE A. DEANE SCHOOL OF LAW AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY*

LAREN E. SPIRER *DIRECTOR OF PRO BONO PROGRAMS, COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL*

1:15–1:45 P.M. PRESENTATION: *PRO BONO* SCHOLARS PROGRAM **AUDITORIUM**

HON. A. GAIL PRUDENTI *CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE, NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM*

HON. VICTORIA A. GRAFFEO *SENIOR ASSOCIATE JUDGE, NEW YORK STATE COURT OF APPEALS*

1:45–2:00 P.M. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD: *PRO BONO* SCHOLARS PROGRAM

2:15–3:45 P.M. AFTERNOON WORK GROUP SESSIONS **RETURN TO ROOMS**

Morning Work Groups will reconvene in concurrent sessions to consider the following questions related to the *Pro Bono* Scholars Program and to finalize topical recommendations based on morning work group sessions for presentation at the closing plenary session.

- How will the *Pro Bono* Scholars Program generally affect legal education, and what will the overall academic course of study for *pro bono* scholars specifically include in terms of courses, both pre-requisites and required courses, lawyering seminars with clinical or simulation components, doctrinal courses, bar electives, practicums, supervised externships, law school clinics, etc.?
- How will the academic component for *pro bono* scholars be defined for externships and clinical placements?
- What are the best practices for supervising students in the *Pro Bono* Scholars Program including, but not limited to, the division of responsibility among law school professors and the host organizations (providers, courts, law firms, etc.) and for the evaluation of both students and programs?
- What are the potential implications of the *Pro Bono* Scholars Program on employment opportunities for all law graduates?

3:45–4:30 P.M. CLOSING PLENARY SESSION **AUDITORIUM**

DEAN MATTHEW DILLER *DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW, BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW*

Reports from Work Group Sessions and Conference Recap

CONCLUDING REMARKS

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The Law School Conference Planning Committee gratefully acknowledges the generosity of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP for the Conference refreshments.

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