



Governor of California  
Edmund G. Brown Jr. '64

# Coast to Coast



Governor of Rhode Island  
Gina Raimondo '98

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Alumni gathered  
in October to celebrate  
Yale Law School  
and honor governors  
from the boundaries  
of our nation.

More than one thousand graduates returned to campus on October 21–23 for Alumni Weekend 2016. Though rain fell on and off through the weekend, nothing could dampen the spirits of those reconnecting with their classmates and school.

The centerpiece of the weekend was the Award of Merit presentation on Saturday, October 22, with **Governor of California Edmund G. Brown Jr. '64** and **Governor of Rhode Island Gina Raimondo '98** receiving the honor.



Dean Robert C. Post '77, in his remarks introducing the honorees, reminded the audience that there is reason for profound hope. "You simply need to know where to look. In Rhode Island, there is hope. And, in California, there is hope. Today we honor those who have the courage both to listen and to lead, and so to sustain the possibility of faith in our future," Post said.

Governor Brown recalled fond memories of his time at Yale Law School and Professor Fritz Kessler introducing the idea of the rule and the counter rule. "Yale Law School is an elegant place," Brown said. "I think tradition is profoundly important. And, yes, we need change, but we need continuity. We need rigor, but we need imagination. If all we have is rigor, we have paralytic death. If all we have is imagination, we have insanity. But if we can put rigor and imagination together — the rule and the counter rule — we get Yale Law School, and we get a better society."

In Governor Raimondo's speech, she emphasized that the people are what make Yale Law School so special. "What I learned [at Yale Law School] was how to be fact based, how to be analytical, how not to be afraid to speak up, how to bring everybody around the table," Raimondo said. "I understand The Wall is now electronic. When I was here, it was actually the wall. ... We all went to the wall, and we argued. And then we learned how to form consensus and get behind something and take action."

Since 1957, the Yale Law School Association, the alumni organization of Yale Law School, has presented the Award of Merit annually to an esteemed graduate of Yale Law School or to a person who has served as a full-time member of the Yale Law School faculty for at least ten years. The recipients of the Award are recognized for having made a substantial contribution to public service or to the legal profession.

The weekend also included five panels on topics from community policing and national security to environmental law. Classes held individual events and gathered for meals on and off campus. The student organizations hosted various events during the weekend providing opportunities for alums to connect with students.

A memorial service and reception were held on Friday to honor the life of Jan Deutsch '61, Walton Hale Hamilton Professor Emeritus of Law and Professorial Lecturer in Law. Remarks were given by many close to Deutsch, including classmates Adam Walinsky '61, Robert Egan '61, and Amy Herz Juviler '61. Booklets containing the tributes from the memorial are available by emailing [publicaffairs.law@yale.edu](mailto:publicaffairs.law@yale.edu).

## Alumni Weekend 2016



### Health Law, Policy, Politics, and Progress: What Lies Ahead

**Catherine E. Livingston '91**

Partner, Jones Day

“We’ve greatly expanded coverage [through the Affordable Care Act]. We have cut the uninsured rate in the country by half, which is a very impressive and important and morally significant accomplishment in my view. But we have far from tamed cost. It’s kind of ironic that the law has been shorthanded the “affordable” care act. It might be termed the accessible care act and that would be very fair truth in labeling, but affordable care for many people—that’s not at all the view.”



### Reproductive Rights, Family, and Faith

**Neera Tanden '96**

President and CEO of the Center for American Progress and the Center for American Progress Action Fund

“Issues surrounding family economic policy from large-scale investments in child care to ideas of a national paid leave program have been more relevant and more the focus in this presidential debate than in any other debate I have seen or witnessed.”



### Climate Change: Are We Now on a Path to Real Decarbonization?

**Daniel C. Esty '86**

Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; and Clinical Professor of Environmental Law and Policy, Yale Law School

“We have had a very big year, in terms of action on climate change in particular, environmental issues in general, and movement toward a sustainable future, more broadly. The agreement last December in Paris, which many people see as a big breakthrough, was a moment for the world to come together to address an issue that had for too long not been moving in the right direction.”









# Alumni Weekend 2016







## National Security in a Turbulent World

**Robert S. Litt '76**

General Counsel, Office of the Director of National Intelligence

“Our country, and the whole world, have become increasingly dependent on information technology. We’re all connected electronically through ways known and unknown to us, and our economy is increasingly digital rather than analog. But, as we’ve seen, our systems are astoundingly vulnerable.”



## To Serve and Protect: New Paradigms in Community Policing

**Deborah Archer '96**

Professor of Law at New York Law School; Co-Director of the Impact Center for Public Interest Law; and Director of the Racial Justice Project

“We have police officers responding to and addressing the homeless crisis because we, as a society, are not. We have police responding to and addressing our mental health crisis because we, as a community, are not. We have police who are responding to issues that come from poverty and lack of economic opportunity because we, as a community, are not. And until we start to take on ownership of those problems, and not leave them at the feet of police officers, we are going to continue to have tension between the police and the communities they serve.”

