

# Shaping the Future of Artificial Intelligence

Long before ChatGPT became a household name, Yale Law faculty were immersed in Al

"At Yale Law School we don't just teach students the law, we teach students how to teach artificial intelligence models the law," said Scott Shapiro '90, Charles F. Southmayd Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy.

Shapiro teaches courses on the philosophy of law, cybersecurity, and AI.

Shapiro's students are building an AI model for use in media law with the DocProject, a program of the Media Freedom and Information Access clinic that provides pro bono legal representation for documentary filmmakers.

"One of the things people always say with AI is that data is sovereign and it's hard to get good data. Our students produce incredibly high-quality data that gets thrown away. We're trying to figure out how to recycle it and use it to train models," said Shapiro. "What if we could take this data and use it to handle more documentaries — because each student is building on the work previous students have done?"

AI poses risks for lawyers and the legal profession - including "privacy and cybersecurity risks, the generation of inaccurate content, copyright infringement, and other intellectual property issues," as noted by the office of the president of the American Bar Association.

But it also represents tremendous opportunity.

Long before ChatGPT became a household name, Yale Law faculty were immersed in learning about legal pathways to regulating AI - as well as the technology's potential to introduce efficiencies in legal education and research and widen access to legal services.

Jack Balkin, Knight Professor of Constitutional Law and the First Amendment and Founder and Director of the Information Society Project, has been working on issues surrounding digital technology since the 1990s. He points out that the way people talk about AI now echoes the way they talked about the internet during its infancy. Balkin does not consider AI as an "existential risk ... [although] it's not surprising that it's being treated that way because of the great uncertainty surrounding it," he said. When the internet was born, "nobody could clearly see all of its potentials and dangers." This is true of AI, too, he said.

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PROFESSOR SCOTT SHAPIRO '90

Under the leadership of Dean Heather K. Gerken, Yale Law School has created physical and virtual space to explore the possibilities of AI for the legal profession,

Lillian Goldman Law Library leadership and research instruction librarians have also taken a proactive approach to AI.

Femi Cadmus, Law Librarian and Professor of Law at the Law School, teaches a course called "Technology in the Practice of Law," in which students experiment with AI-driven platforms like Lexis+ AI, Kira, and Relativity, as well as virtual reality headsets and other

"You can't teach every possible technology, but you can teach approaches to critically evaluating and assessing technology, [and] you can give them a framework so that when they're entering a situation using technology they're asking the right questions," said

The Tsai Leadership Program is poised to take a leading role in AI at the Law School — hosting visits from leading AI experts, supporting faculty-led ventures, and enhancing the curriculum. For Shapiro, it's very good news.

"Everyone is focusing on the bad things. [But] being able to service low-income households and clinics so they could handle more clients - that's intellectually exciting and challenging. That's what motivates academics and scholars to solve problems people have always dreamed of solving," he said.

(Read a longer version of this article at law.yale.edu/ AlatYLS.)



that for the Academic year 1918–1919. Next year, there was substituted for it the announcement that "properly qualified women are admitted as candidates for the degrees of Bachelor of Laws," and other named degrees.

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This complete reversal of the former decision was precipitated by the application of Miss Isabelle Bridge for admirance to the law school. She had in the summer of 1918 taken a course at a western university which was conducted by a law professor of the Yale Law School. At he request, the promised to exert what influence he had to induce the faculty to open the school to women. When she made formal application, the law faculty, on September 25, 1918, vored to recommend her admission. The Croporation on Crobber 21, 1918, approved the recommendation and requested the Governing Board of the school to drafts a statement of the conditions under which other women might be admirted as candidates for law degrees. At its meeting of November 18, 1918, the Corporation oved that women who are greduates of recognized colleges be admirted as candidates for law degrees.

degrees

Ill health pervented Miss Bridge from entering the school, but "it was she who caught sight of the promised land and opened the way for others." The first to be accepted was Josephine H. Powers, of New Haven, who applied in the summer of 1919. Because she was a teacher in the New Hayen High School and could attend courses only after hours, she did not receive her degree until 1923. Five others registered in 1919. The first of these tog graduate was Mrs. Shirley M. Moore, who received her degree in 1920, and thus, though second to Miss Jordan in point of time, she was the first to graduate after the school was officially opened to women...

Editor's Note: Also among the early women graduates of the Yale Law School were Hazel Flagler '21, Jeaneste Fox Parker '22, and Mary Berkemeier Quinn '22. Mrs. Parker, who attended the recens New York Alumni luncheon, is believed to be the first woman to have received a Yale LLB. after three fall years of study at the Law School. There are presently 92 women enrolled at the school.

#### A New Seminar: Women and the Law

A substantial increase in the number of women in law schools, together with the increased interest in women's rights and the status of women have brought with them recognition on the part of the Law School that the subject of women and the law is a proper one for scademic treatment. In the spring of 1970, a group of law sudents associated with the Yale Law Women's Association initiated what may have been the first attempt to include in a law school curriculum an intensive examination of the legal problems of women. The venture was launched as an experiment by twelve law students and several women married to law students. Professor Ellen Peters served as faculty sponsor of the course, which was largely student-run and which drew on lawyers outside the Law School, notably Eleanor Holmes

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Last year's seminar went far beyond the interstitial discussions in courses on Family Law or Labor Law which have, until now, largely constituted legal education on the status of women. Considerable time was devored to the implications of the equal protection clause for women and the proposed equal rights amendment, and to detailed examination of the special problems of women in relation to various fields of substantive law.



Mrs. Bowman

Mrs. Bourmans

This year, the seminar on Women and the Law has women and men enrolled and is being raught by Barbara Babcock Bowman, director of the Public Defender Service of Washington, D.C. Mrs. Bowman, a resident of Washington, is a 1963 graduate of the Law School. She was an officer of the Law Joannal, was a member of the Order of the Colif, and won the Harlan Fiske Stone Prize for the best moor court argument. After leaving Yale, she served as law clerk to Circuit Judge Henry W. Edgerton of the District of Columbia Circuit and, in 1964, entered private litigation practice in criminal law with the Washington firm of Edward Bennett Williams. In 1966, Mrs. Bowman became a staff attorney with the D.C. Legal Aid Agency (now Public De-Bennett Williams. In 1966, Mss. Bowman became a staff attorney with the D.C. Legal Aid Agency (now Public De-fender Service) and after two years was named to her present port as director. She is the coauthor (with her husband, lawyer Addison B. Bowman) of Criminal Defense Techniques, How to Defend Homizide Cases (New York, 1969). Mrs. Bowman's course will examine in detail the legal status of women in the United States and will analyze the ef-ficacy of various remedies for sex discrimination. Topies will be chosen from such areas as feminist history, employment

Vale Law Resport



FROM THE ARCHIVE:

# "A New Seminar: Women and the Law"

The article below is a reprint from the Yale Law Report, spring 1971, Volume 17, No. 2, pages 8-9.

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This year, the seminar on Women and the Law has women and men enrolled and is being taught by Barbara Babcock Bowman ['63], director of the Public Defender Service of Washington, D.C. Mrs. Bowman, a resident of Washington, is a 1963 graduate of the Law School. She was an officer of the Yale Law Journal, was a member of the Order of the Coif, and won the Harlan Fiske Stone Prize for the best moot court argument. After leaving Yale, she served as law clerk to Circuit Judge Henry W. Edgerton of the District of Columbia Circuit and, in 1964, entered private litigation practice in criminal law with the Washington firm of Edward Bennett Williams. In 1966, Mrs. Bowman became a staff attorney with the D.C. Legal Aid Agency (now Public Defender Service) and after two years was

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Mrs. Bowman's course will examine in detail the legal status of women in the United States and will analyze the efficacy of various remedies for sex discrimination. Topics will be chosen from such areas as feminist history, employment law, criminal law, government benefits, constitutional law, and labor law.

Constitutional law is logically and historically the principal framework for any attempt to change the legal status of women. A prime subject for discussion in the course will be differences and similarities between the law's approach to race and to sex. For example, Mrs. Bowman notes, while the struggle against racial discrimination has been based on the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment, classification on the basis of sex has been consistently held reasonable. The course will consider why this is so, and it will develop arguments that might be made against sex as a reasonable basis for classification.

The course work on employment law will include material on the economic position of women and the historical background of present discriminatory practices. The employment area provides an important case study of affirmative federal action against sex discrimination, involving a variety of approaches. Executive orders and statutes, among them the Equal Pay Act and the 1964 Civil Rights Act, will be considered in terms of their actual and potential effectiveness. The course will include cases on the union's duty of fair representation, and it will discuss the application of this doctrine to women.

The course work on women and the criminal law will deal with an area of special interest to Mrs. Bowman. Some of the problems of the woman offender fall directly into the area of sex discrimination. For example, she says, there are cases which indicate that, in the name of "rehabilitation," women sometimes receive longer sentences than men convicted of the same crime. As important, however, as these illustrations of clear-cut discrimination is the fact that the criminal law reflects societal attitudes toward a minority group. Thus, Mrs. Bowman says, there is a confusion

continued on next page

(opposite, clockwise from top) A meeting of the seminar on the legal status of women in the United States from the pages of the Yale Law Report; the cover of the magazine issue; part of the original layout.

#### FROM THE ARCHIVE

continued from previous page

among prison administrators as to what a "rehabilitated" woman prisoner actually is — what skills she ought to have, what stance she should be encouraged to adopt toward the outside world.

There is already an extensive bibliography in the field of women and the law, and additional course materials are being especially developed for the seminar. A great deal of this work has been done by students, notably Ann Freedman ['71], a third-year law student (founder of the Yale Law Women's Association and the National Conference of Law Women). Since April 1970, the Yale Law Library has acquired 20 volumes on the legal status of women, ranging from reprints of a 1919 work on women in the trades and the Proceedings of

the Women's Rights Conventions at Seneca Falls and Rochester in 1849, to the 1970 reports of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women and the President's Task Force on Women's Rights and Responsibilities.

Courses comparable to Yale's course in Women and the Law are presently being offered at the law schools at Georgetown, New York University, George Washington, Rutgers, Pennsylvania, Buffalo, and California. A dozen courses are presently being planned at other schools. And a new women's rights law reporter has been announced, the latest addition to the growing list of legal publication services designed to keep the profession informed of current events in particular areas of the law.



Ananya Agustin Malhotra

#### **Honors to Students**

**Ananya Agustin Malhotra** has been named a 2024 recipient of the Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans. Malhotra plans to join the Yale Law School class of 2027 in the fall. She is among 30 recipients selected from a pool of more than 2,300 applicants for the fellowship.

Four Yale Law School students — Avi Gupta '26. Jeremy Thomas '26, Julia Udell '26, and Jackson Willis '26 - have been named 2023 Samvid Scholars, among 20 students nationwide selected from nearly 1,000 applicants. Samvid Scholars receive up to \$100,000 in funding for their graduate program and engage in two years of leadership development programming.



### **Immersive Trips Showcase Private Sector** and Public Service Leadership

The two pillars of The Tsai Leadership Program — the Chae Initiative in Private Sector Leadership and the Ludwig Program in Public Sector Leadership — held educational trips in January designed to immerse students in the worlds of the public and private sectors.

Chae Initiative fellows visited New York City for four days, where they met with entrepreneurs and C-suite leaders, networked with Law School alumni, and learned from professionals across the private sector landscape.

The guiding theme for the trip was entrepreneurship and business operations.

Chae Fellow Federico Roitman'25 said the trip prompted him to think about possible alternatives to a traditional career in law.

"I was particularly drawn to the stories the founders shared about their experiences getting their ventures off the ground, the risks they took, and how their YLS degrees helped prepare them to take a 'nontraditional' path following law school," Roitman said.

Meanwhile, students from the Ludwig Program traveled to Washington, D.C., and met with government and policy leaders to hear about the experiences that led them to careers in public service.

Ludwig Fellow Ashlee Fox '25, a member of the Cherokee Nation, hopes to work in Washington before returning to Oklahoma to serve her community. "Good government requires good public servants, and that is why I think it is so important that Dean Gerken established the Ludwig Program," said Fox. "I left D.C. eager to get to work alongside so many inspiring public servants."

#### VISITORS



Hossam Bahgat, founder of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights and a globally renowned human rights activist, delivered the 2023 Gruber Distinguished Lecture in Global Justice on Jan. 30 via Zoom.



Jason Furman, Aetna Professor of the Practice of Economic Policy jointly at Harvard Kennedy School and the Department of Economics at Harvard University, delivered the 2023-2024 Judge Ralph K. Winter Lecture, titled "Clear Thinking About Economic Policy: Overcoming the Liberal and Conservative Vices," on Feb. 26. FINANCIAL AID

# Hurst Horizon Scholarship Provides Freedom in Law School and Beyond





The Soledad '92 and Robert Hurst Horizon Scholarship Program turned two years old in February and has already expanded to remove cost as a barrier to law school for a total of 77 law students this academic year. Since Yale Law School launched the program, several peer institutions have followed suit, sparking a new trend for financial aid in legal education.

"When I received the scholarship, I felt even more elated than when I was admitted to Yale. But more than that, I felt relieved," said Jack Sollows '26. "I could seriously consider the possibility of going to YLS—and after that, it wasn't a real choice at all."

In the program's first year, 51 students received the scholarship. Since then, the Law School has expanded eligibility to include students from families with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty line. This year, it covers one in eight Yale Law School students. In the class of 2026 alone, there are 33 Hurst Horizon scholars — about 15% of the current 1L class.

"This program sends a clear message that we recognize the many challenges faced by students from lower income backgrounds, and we understand the urgency of trying to level the playing field," said Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Miriam Ingber '04.

Daniela Alvarez '26 initially was not going to apply to Yale Law School, in part because she didn't think she would belong.

"But I do remember reading the Hurst Horizon launch announcement while studying for the LSAT, and thinking that maybe I do belong here, and that

this is an institution that is not only interested in but values my experience as a first generation, low-income student," she said.

Alvarez is finding that her fellow Hurst Horizon Scholars contribute to her sense of belonging.

"To have a community that can so intuitively understand and share concerns, hesitations, and excitements about the law school experience is really affirming," she said

One goal of the program has been to inspire other peer schools to follow suit with similar need-based programs of their own. In February, Harvard Law School announced a new tuition-free program for low-income students and similar programs have also begun at the law schools of Stanford, Washington University in St. Louis, and University of Michigan.

"It has been wonderful to see other schools join in this effort to rethink financial aid from the bottom up in legal education," said Dean Heather K. Gerken, who led the movement away from the *U.S. News* rankings in large part to advocate for a shift to more need-based aid across the board. "We hope this is just the start of a national trend."

Alvarez said that with the scholarship she can focus entirely on school, a significant change for her. For the first time since she was 15, Alvarez isn't working to support herself or help her family. Instead, she's using the time to get to know her classmates and the faculty.

"My only job right now is to be a law student, and that is incredibly exciting," she said.

Read more at law.yale.edu/horizon2024.

# Public Interest Fellowships Awarded

At the end of the spring semester, 40 public interest postgraduate fellowships were awarded for 2024–2025 and 2024–2026.

Of this number, 24 fellowships were awarded directly by the Law School, while 16 were awarded by external fellowship programs.

The postgraduate fellowships offered by the Law School and outside organizations support one to two years of work in public interest law, jumpstarting the careers of Yale Law School graduates while serving the legal needs of underserved members of society.



Alicia Garza, Principal at Black Futures Lab and co-founder of the Black Lives Matter international movement, delivered the 2024 Gruber Distinguished Lecture in Women's Rights on March 4 in conversation with Crystal Feimster, Associate Professor of African American Studies, American Studies, and History at Yale University.



Berkeley Law **Orin S. Kerr** gave the Michael A. Doyle '62 and Bunny Winter Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law Lecture on March 26. Kerr's lecture, titled "Searching, Seizing, and Moving," considered whether Fourth Amendment protections change when property is moved from one setting to another.

#### RETIREMENT



Associate Dean Mike Thompson at an alumni event in Washington, D.C., in 2015

# Yale Law School **Honors Associate Dean** Mike Thompson

After 34 years at Yale Law School, Associate Dean Mike Thompson retired at the end of the 2024 academic year. But students, staff, faculty, and alumni did not let Dean Thompson slip out unnoticed.

Last year, Yale Law School showed its appreciation for Dean Thompson at its first Diversity Homecoming in 2023, where former Dean Harold Hongju Koh noted his extraordinary contributions to the success of Yale Law School and its student and alumni communities over three decades. Dean Thompson was also celebrated at the Law School's bicentennial community gathering this spring, where he gave remarks about how much the

"He never forgets a name or face, providing the same welcome to alumni that he once offered to them as students."

DEAN HEATHER K. GERKEN

#### **VISITORS**



Nicholas Bloom, the William D. Eberle Professor of Economics at Stanford University, gave the John R. Raben/Sullivan & Cromwell Fellowship Lecture, titled "The Glorious Future of Working From Home," on April 8. Bloom has spent the past 20 years studying the phenomenon of working from home and has been hailed as the "prophet of remote work" by Fortune magazine.

community — and particularly the students — have meant to him during his career. He has been honored at alumni celebrations around the country for the Law School's 200th anniversary.

Addressing the Yale Law School community in April, Thompson told the students that the connections they make in New Haven will stay with them for life, and they are what keep the alumni coming back year after year.

> "You definitely all belong here — you are not mistakes," he said.

"Dean Mike has helped countless students find their place in New Haven and stays connected with thousands of alumni around the world long after they graduate," said Dean Heather K. Gerken. "He never forgets a name or face, providing the same welcome to alumni that he once offered to them as students... Simply put, he is a beloved member of this community."

Dean Gerken also described Dean Thompson as a "guardian of the Law School," serving the community in a demanding role that oversaw large-scale challenges — including Sterling Law Building's 13-year renovation, the 2003 bombing at the Law School, and the COVID-19 pandemic — as well as day-to-day supervision of security, events, and conferences. Through it all, he's mentored generations of students.

Dean Thompson earned his B.A. and M.B.A. at LaSalle University and his J.D. at Georgetown University. He came to Yale Law School in 1990 for a clerkship and became Assistant Dean in 1991; five years later, he was promoted to Associate Dean.

A portrait of Dean Thompson was unveiled at an alumni gathering in Washington, D.C., in June, and will be hung in the Law School this summer.

# Justice's Papers Show Students the Supreme Court Behind the Scenes

In Research Methods in Judicial History, a firstof-its-kind course offered this past fall, students delved into the working papers of Associate Justice Potter Stewart '41 for an intimate view of the making of landmark decisions.

The course, taught by lecturers in legal research Nicholas Mignanelli and Michael VanderHeijden, explored how judges and legal scholars use historical court materials to make sense of judicial decisions.

The 679 boxes of materials that comprise Stewart's papers—held at the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library - span Stewart's early life and time as a Yale undergraduate through his retirement years. The bulk of the papers covers Stewart's time on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and on the Supreme Court, where he served from 1958 to 1981.

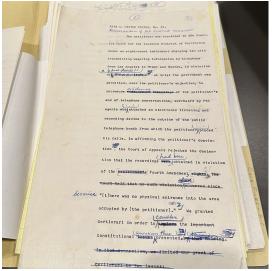
"There's a lot happening when he was on the courts - landmark decisions that have totally reshaped American life," Mignanelli said. "He's participating in all of them, he's writing some of those decisions, and I think that's what made it a really interesting collection for students to explore for themselves."

Through hands-on use of these archival materials, students gained research skills once used mainly by scholars but now increasingly valuable for legal practitioners. Guest speakers helped to round out the course.

Isaac May '24 took the course to learn how to access legal primary source material for his research in American religious and legal history.

"Studying legal history, or even just understanding a legal case fully, requires working through a vast amount of material, much of which is not easy to access," May said. "This course trained me to find the rest of the case and go beyond just the published opinion."





(from top) Students look through the papers of Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart '41: from left, Isaac May '24, Nathaniel Hay '24, Eamon Coburn '25, and Newby Parton '25; an original first draft of the decision in Katz v. United States from the Potter Stewart papers.



In January, the Lillian **Goldman Law Library** inaugurated a new display space with an exhibit titled "Racket: The People v. Hines and the Courtroom as Spectacle." The exhibit featured courtroom sketches from the 1938 corruption trial of James Joseph "Jimmy" Hines, a powerbroker in Tammany Hall politics.

Throughout 2024, the Lillian Goldman Law Library is curating a series of exhibitions to mark the School's bicentennial. "At Gotham: Yale Law School at 200," on view from January to July, showcased treasures from the Library's historical collections. Smaller monthly exhibitions have included "Tools of Industry: Designing the Sterling Law Building Reading Room Stained Glass" and "Finding Law: Maps and Locations of Yale Law School, 1824-2024." In the fall, the Library will remount an exhibition that examines the role of slavery in the lives, work, and law instruction of the founders of Yale Law School

## **Lecture Series Explores the Foundations of American Legal Thought**

The Program in the Foundations of American Legal Thought held a public lecture series during the spring term that explored canonical authors and movements in American legal theory past and present.

"The goal of the series is to start conversations about the biggest ideas in American law, now and in the past," said John Fabian Witt '99, Allen H. Duffy Class of 1960 Professor of Law.

The series began Jan. 17 with Witt delivering a lecture titled "American Legal Thought in Three Big Ideas."

Alongside Yale Law School faculty Scott Shapiro '90, Aslı Ü. Bâli '99, William Eskridge '78, Ian Ayres '86, Monica Bell '09, Amy Kapczynski '03, Anthony Kronman '75, Reva Siegel '86, and Ketan Ramakrishnan '21, this year's series featured three guest speakers: Noah Rosenblum '17, Aziz Rana '06, and Robert P. George.

The lecture series is connected to a formal course offered during the spring.

Twins on the Bench

**Exhibition Travels** 

Barnard College opened

of "Twins on the Bench," a

Lillian Goldman Law Library

2023 exhibit celebrating the

George Bundy Smith '62 and

Inez Smith Reid '62. Curated

by Law Library staff member

Librarian Kathryn James, the

installation draws particular

attention to the work of Inez

Smith Reid as academic and

mentor to generations of

students, including those

taught by her at Barnard

College.

Shana Jackson with Rare Book

portrait of twin siblings

unveiling of a Yale Law School

a capsule installation

to Barnard

SCHOLARSHIP

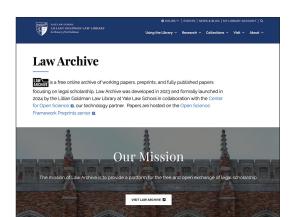
## **Library Launches Open Access** Law Archive

The Lillian Goldman Law Library, in collaboration with the Center for Open Science (COS), has launched Law Archive, the only free open access platform for legal scholarship that integrates collaboration tools, data storage, and sharing of legal scholarship.

The open legal scholarship focus of Law Archive aligns with the Law Library's mission to support and promote global legal scholarship and research. In development since 2023, Law Archive fills gaps in the availability of free and open legal information outside of proprietary and predatory frameworks. Researchers, scholars, and the public now have a reliable source for access to current and historical legal commentary and analysis found in legal scholarship.

"The importance of free, reliable, and open access to legal scholarship and information is critically important. Yale Law School is invested in pushing forward innovative initiatives like Law Archive that provide equitable access to legal information," said Yale Law School Dean Heather K. Gerken.

Law Archive is supported by an advisory board consisting of law faculty and librarians from six institutions including Yale University, led by Femi Cadmus, Law Librarian & Professor of Law at Yale Law School.



HONORS

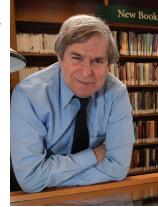
# Law Library's Fred Shapiro **Receives Honors** from American Association of Law Libraries

Fred Shapiro, Associate Director for Collections and Special Projects at the Lillian Goldman Law Library and Lecturer in Legal Research at Yale Law School, has been recognized by the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) for his exceptional achievement in law librarianship and contributions to the field.

Shapiro received the 2024 Marian Gould Gallagher Distinguished Service Award, the AALL's highest

honor recognizing a career of outstanding, extended, and sustained service and achievement in law librarianship and to AALL.

Shapiro also received the annual Frederick Charles Hicks Award for Outstanding Contributions to Academic Law Librarianship, named in honor of the former Yale Law School Librarian and Professor of Law who once served as AALL's president.



"I have been lucky to receive a lot of recognition in my life. But this honor is special because it comes from my colleague law librarians," said Shapiro.

Shapiro received both honors at the AALL annual meeting in July, where he was also inducted into the AALL Hall of Fame, which recognizes those members whose contributions to the profession and service to AALL have been significant, substantial, and longstanding.

In addition to his longtime roles at the Law School, Shapiro is the editor of *The Yale Book of Quotations* and the Oxford Dictionary of American Legal Quotations and has been recognized as the leading contributor to the Oxford English Dictionary.

TIMELINE



#### 1824

A separate listing of "Law Students," including some from the Staples-Hitchcock school, begins to appear in the Yale College catalogue. This is traditionally accepted as the founding of Yale Law School, although the founding was actually more of a gradual affiliation with Yale over a period of decades.



#### 1826

Yale College catalogue includes a description of "The Law School."

#### **CENTERS**



# Community Vitality and Violence Prevention

**The Justice Collaboratory** at Yale Law School is creating new ways to expand its relationships and reach beyond academia. This spring, the center published its inaugural edition of *The Notebook*, a collection of art, opinion, scholarship, and personal

reflection exploring the concept of community vitality

— the idea that strong communities are safe communities.

The first issue includes articles, poetry, viewpoints from authors including those impacted by the criminal legal system, artwork, and a glossary of justice terminology.

The Justice Collaboratory has sought to hear and amplify the voices of communities in other ways as well.

In February, the center published a new study entitled "How do Communities Respond to Gun Violence Prevention Policies?"

The study sought to better understand the power and influence of gun violence prevention programs through the voices of participants in impacted communities in New Haven, Connecticut, including individuals considered at high risk of being perpetrators or victims of gun violence.

The project utilized a Community-based Participatory Action Research model, in which researchers and participants work together to develop and conduct a study and focused on participants' experiences with gun violence and programs including Project Longevity, Project Safe Neighborhoods, and the Connecticut Violence Intervention Program.

The study ultimately recommended The Credible Messenger mentorship model, in which formerly incarcerated individuals are trained as mentors in their community to engage with youth and prevent violence, as a more effective approach for building trust with youth at the center of gun violence.

# The Budget Lab at Yale Launches

The Budget Lab at Yale, a nonpartisan policy research center based at Yale Law School, launched on April 12. Co-founded by Professor of Law Natasha Sarin, the center aims to provide in-depth analysis for federal policy proposals impacting the American economy, filling a critical gap in policy evaluation by particularly focusing on the long-term effects of proposed policies. At the launch, the Budget Lab released initial analysis examining both the Tax Cut and Jobs Act and the Child Tax Credit.

"For many of the greatest policy challenges of our time — investing in children, combating climate change — their most important impact is not on short-run GDP. We need to understand the effects on poverty, on emissions reduction, on the income distribution," said Sarin. "We are excited to share the tools we have built to analyze the fiscal and social impacts of government policies so policymakers can make better choices."

The Budget Lab's work will look at issues not included in current budget policy assessment methods. The Lab's innovative approach bridges this gap by offering a combination of existing open-source models and a microsimulation tax model to provide fast, transparent, and innovative estimates that unlock deeper insights.

The center is co-founded by Danny Yagan, Associate Professor of Economics at UC Berkeley, who serves as Chief Economist, and Martha Gimbel, who serves as Executive Director and is a former Senior Advisor at the White House Council of Economic Advisers, Senior Policy Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Labor, and Senior Economist and Research Director at Congress's Joint Economic Committee.





#### 1850

Yale Law School moves to the **Leffingwell Building**, next door to its previous location in the Hitchcock Building.



#### 1851

Yale Law Association (alumni association) is founded, with Clark Bissell as President.



SEE FULL TIMELINE

STUDENT LIFE

# **Law School Teams Shine at Competitions**

Yale Law School moot court and mock trial teams excelled in national and international competitions this year.

At New York University's National Immigration Law Competition in February, Audrey Huynh '25, Neha Sharma '24, and Ben Rodgers '24, all students in the Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic (WIRAC), took the top prize, surpassing 25 other teams from law schools across the country.





"Although this was my first moot court, it was not my first immigration law appellate brief, nor my first time preparing for oral argument," Rodgers said. "Clinic helps us build those skills."

The team also took home the award for best brief, and Huynh won an individual award for the best oral

In the spring, a Law School team advanced to the international rounds of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The competition presented a fictional international dispute to students. The Yale Law team placed 81st overall out of roughly 700 law schools in 100 countries and iurisdictions.

"The case we argued delved into various aspects of nationality, including statelessness," said Declan O'Briain '24, a member of the team, of the qualifying rounds. "It required us to navigate complex legal frameworks, examining issues such as the rights of stateless persons, the responsibilities of states towards them, and the implications of international treaties and customary law on these issues."

A third Yale Law team — all first-year students with no previous mock trial experience — placed second at the Northeastern Black Law Students Association Constance Baker Motley Mock Trial competition in Buffalo, New York, in February. The team, which included students Naji Thompson '26, Jordan Andrews 26, Danielle Hopkins 26, and Trenaj Mongo 26, advanced to the national competition in March, where they were semifinalists.

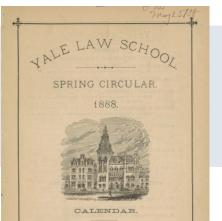
"It was a really rewarding experience," said Hopkins. "I learned a lot, not just about the federal rules of evidence, but about litigating in general."

(left, from top) Ben Rodgers '24, Audrey Huynh '25, and Neha Sharma '24 show their certificates for best brief and (for Huynh) best oral advocate in NYU's National Immigration Law Competition. The team placed first in the competition; NEBLSA competition team members Trenaj Mongo '26, Naji Thompson '26, Jordan Andrews '26, and Danielle Hopkins '26.



#### 1873

Yale Law School moves into the New Haven County Courthouse, remaining there for the next 22 years.



#### 1888

Enrollment reaches 100 students for the first time.



(left) Yale Law students took home the Court Classic trophy with a score of 64-59. (below) Davis Parker '24 refereed the Court Classic basketball game, dressing to look impartial.

# Never Mind "The Game" — For Law Students, These Are the Real Sports Rivalries

Yale may have beaten Harvard at the annual football game last November, but for some Yale Law School students, the weekend's real action took place in a local park and at a high school gym. While the contests between Yale and Harvard law students aren't as old or famous as The Game, these friendly competitions are treasured traditions.

In the Court Classic, a charity basketball tournament that dates to 2004, Yale Law students declared the game officially back after a pandemic pause. Yale won 64-59, led by top scorer Carl Lasker '24 with 17 points. The organizers collected donations from spectators for the New Haven Legal Assistance Association.

"These sparks of joy, community, and school pride may be small on their own, but they add up to so much," Davis Parker'24 said.

In a tag football game, the editors of the Yale Law Journal and Harvard Law Review gathered in a New Haven park to carry on a tradition that goes back to at least the 1950s. The YLS team avenged a defeat last year in Cambridge with a decisive 49-35 victory. "This is a really special rivalry, one built on deep mutual respect," said Yale Law Journal Editor-in-Chief Dena Shata '24.



The Yale Law Journal football team and some of its fans.



#### 1891

Yale Law Journal begins publication. It eventually became one of the most prominent law reviews in the country.



#### 1894

The School's baseball team won the World's Fair Intercollegiate **Baseball Tournament.** 

**EVENTS** 

# **Crossing Divides Events Showcase Civility Despite Difference**



**The Ronnie F. Heyman '72** Crossing Divides Program, which launched in October 2023, offered a full slate of events designed to demonstrate the importance of working across ideological divides.

An initiative of The Tsai Leadership Program at Yale Law School, the program includes a formal speaker series as well as faculty panels, co-teaching opportunities for courses, and support for student-led initiatives — all themed around the importance of collegiality despite difference.

Notable guest speakers included Bob Bauer, former White House General Counsel under President Barack Obama, in conversation with Ben L. Ginsberg, former Counsel to the Bush-Cheney presidential campaign; Judge J. Michael Luttig, Co-Chair of the American Bar Association Task Force for American Democracy, in conversation with Dean and Sol & Lillian Goldman Professor Heather K. Gerken; and Judge Thomas B. Griffith in conversation with former U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson.

The program also invited judges to visit the Law School and discuss their cooperative working relationships on the bench. In April, Chief Judge Sri Srinivasan and Judge Amul Thapar visited the Law School as part of the Admitted Students Program, an event that was also open to current students. In March, two student groups — the Federalist Society and the American Constitution Society — brought Chief Judge Boasberg and Judge Dabney Friedrich to the School for a Judges Chat with support from the Crossing Divides Program.

All of the speakers offered candid advice on how they have approached building consensus in their careers, whether in public service and law or on the federal bench.

"Of all the people in the nation, lawyers ought to be the ones at the forefront at getting rid of the contempt in our public discourse. When you're in court, you have to treat your opponent civilly, and speak respectfully to the judge," said Judge Griffith during his discussion with Johnson. "We also think those are the values we ought to take out into the public square."

## 1895



The Law School's new home, **Hendrie Hall**, is built.



#### 1912

Yale Law School faculty allows case system of instruction for the first time. **Dean Henry Wade Rogers** notes that "the instruction is now given almost exclusively by resident professors who devote their entire time to the work of the School and who are withdrawn from the active practice of law."

**HEALTH LAW** 

# **Solomon Center Events** Tackle Elder Abuse, **Organ Transplant Equity**

"Innovating Elder Justice: Law, Medicine, and Technology to Address Abuse and Financial Exploitation in Today's Aging Society" held on Feb. 16 brought together leading authorities and visionaries in the field to discuss the root causes of elder fraud and abuse and share promising responses.

Sen. Richard Blumenthal '73 joined Solomon Center Faculty Director and Alfred M. Rankin Professor of Law Abbe R. Gluck 'oo for a keynote conversation. They discussed the federal government's role in promoting elder justice, including oversight of nursing homes. Panels discussed the relationship between elder abuse and financial fraud and specific interventions to help prevent elder abuse. New Yorker staff writer David Owen concluded the event by sharing his own mother's experience of financial exploitation and emphasizing the role journalists can play in uncovering and exposing elder abuse. The symposium was held in collaboration with Yale General Internal Medicine and was part of the work of The Adrienne Drell '92 MSL and Franklin Nitikman '66 LLB Elder Law Project at Yale Law School.

In another Solomon Center panel this term, experts examined reforming the national organ transplant



Professor Abbe R. Gluck 'oo and Sen. Richard Blumenthal '73 gave the keynote talk for a Solomon Center symposium on elder fraud and abuse.

system in a conversation that focused on racial equity. A 2022 study found that people of color receive organ transplants at a disproportionately lower rate than others with similar medical needs. Recent legislation promises to make allocation of organs for transplantation fairer and more efficient.

Also this spring, the Solomon Center heard from scholars who offered alternative perspectives about well-studied cases in health law. At one event, the University of Pennsylvania's Karen Tani and Jasmine Harris discussed their article "The Disability Lens," co-authored with disability rights attorney Shira Wakschlag. The speakers explained how reading Supreme Court rulings with disability in mind reveals patterns in jurisprudence, even in cases that do not directly pertain to disability.



# Journal Issue **Examines** Medical-Legal **Partnerships**

A first-of-its kind academic collaboration between lawyers and doctors has produced the latest issue of The Journal of Law, Medicine, and Ethics, titled "Medical-Legal Partnerships: Equity, Evaluation, and Evolution." The volume contains 19 articles exploring cutting-edge questions about structural health inequities, including racial justice, intersectionality, and ethics considerations, as well as policy challenges, such as the establishing the economic benefits of medical-legal partnerships. The Yale Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) is the largest academic MLP in the country.

# IV. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for Degree of LL.B.

Admission to the professional curriculum in law leading to the degree of Bachelor of Laws is granted without examination to the following persons:

Graduates (both men and women) of colleges and scientific schools of approved standing.

#### 1918

Women are explicitly allowed to be admitted to Yale Law School.



SEE FULL TIMFLINE

<sup>\*</sup> Graduates who wish to know whether the degree of their college or scientific school will be recognized for admission are advised to communicate with the Secretary of the Yale School of Law, Hendrie Hall, New Haven, Conn.

**Braner** '93 Named

**Executive Director** 

Kate Braner '93 has been

named Executive Director of

the Arthur Liman Center for

**Public Interest Law. Braner** 

Interim Public Defender of

of the Public Defender. An

human trafficking, Braner is

nationally recognized for her

practice of holistic indigent

advocate for victims of

criminal defense.

the San Diego County Office

most recently served as

**Liman Center** 

# Liman photo by Harold Shapiro

**CENTERS** 

# **Liman Colloquium Examines** Incarceration's "Toxic" Effects on Public Health

The 27th Liman Colloquium explored the health care problems raised by incarceration for people inside prisons, when they leave, and for the communities in which they live at the annual event, titled "Detention's Toxicity," held April 4-5 at Yale Law School.

With its co-sponsors, the Liman Center welcomed more than 100 people to explore detention's impact on health. Participants discussed topics including how the environment of jails and prisons affects incarcerated individuals, staff, and communities; the impact of gender, race, and other differences; and health care costs and sources of financing. They also talked about models of health care oversight, the state of law and litigation, and strategies for decarceration.

Andrea Armstrong '07, a national expert on prison and jail conditions, opened the event. Armstrong, a professor at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, described how involuntary labor is a major cause of injury and death in prison. Her research project, IncarcerationTransparency.org, documents and memorializes deaths behind bars in Louisiana.



Liman Colloquium speakers: from left, Dr. Brie Williams, Dr. Emily Wang, Professor Judith Resnik, and Loyola University New Orleans Professor Andrea Armstrong '07

A session led by Brie Williams, Professor of Medicine at UC San Francisco, focused on how prison even harms the health of prison staff. She quoted data showing that staff have similarly high rates of chronic health conditions as people who are incarcerated.

"We focus so much on the individuals that have been directly impacted," said Emily Wang, Professor of Medicine and Public Health at Yale. "For each person that's behind bars, there are families and whole communities that have been impacted where the toxicities are also present."

# **LEAP Speakers Cover Animal** Agriculture, Animal Welfare, and Biodiversity

The Law, Ethics & Animals Program (LEAP) kicked off its spring 2024 speaker series on Feb. 22 with a presentation by award-winning reporter Georgina Gustin on the topic, "Animal Agriculture's Climate Lobbying and Misinformation Strategies."

On March 7, LEAP hosted Chris Green, Executive Director of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, for a talk on "The Evolution of Animal Advocacy: Alternative Strategies to Achieve Animal Welfare Policy Advances."

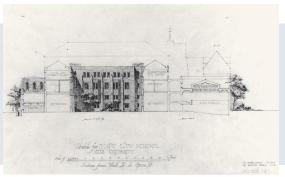
The series concluded on April 10 with a presentation on "The Social, Economic, and Legal Consequences of Uneven Biodiversity Information in the United States" by LEAP Student Fellow Diego Ellis-Soto, a student in Yale's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

A new study by Clinical Lecturer Daina Bray and Thomas Poston '24 of the Law, Ethics & Animals Program examines legal challenges to major animal agriculture firms' contributions to climate change. The article, "The Methane Majors: Climate Change & Animal Agriculture in U.S. Courts," was published in the Columbia Journal of Environmental Law on April 1. Bray and Poston presented their paper at the journal's annual symposium on April 18.



1927

A group of students instigates the formation of the New Haven Municipal Legal Aid Bureau, the beginnings of clinical legal education at Yale.



1931

The Sterling Law Building is opened, modeled after the spirit and atmosphere of the English Inns of Court.

# **Vets Clinic Continues Fight Against Discriminatory Policies**



Members of the Veterans Clinic team who represented the Transgender American Veterans Association with Professor Michael Wishnie '93 (right)

In recent months, the Veterans Legal Services Clinic has made significant progress in the fight against discrimination towards veterans by federal agencies.

On March 29 — National Vietnam War Veterans Day — the clinic scored a major victory when a federal judge in Connecticut issued a landmark decision allowing Monk v. United States to proceed. The lawsuit, filed on behalf of Black veterans, seeks damages for the failure of VA leaders to address persistent bias against Black veterans since 1945 and is the first-ofits-kind challenge to racial discrimination in veterans' benefits.

"Rather than take steps to redress the harm of years of pervasive anti-Black bias, the VA moved to dismiss this lawsuit on various technical and procedural grounds. We are pleased that the Court rejected each of VA's arguments," said clinic student Jared Hirschfield '25.

In a separate case, a lawsuit begun in 2023 has resulted in a Department of Defense (DoD) decision to eliminate discriminatory eligibility rules for in vitro fertilization (IVF). Previously, DoD denied IVF care to unmarried service members and prohibited the use of donor sperm or eggs, effectively barring all queer service members from IVF; in January, in response to the suit, DoD announced it would end both requirements, and in March 2024, the VA did the same, ending its own similar rules for veterans. The clinic, together with the Reproductive Rights and Justice Project at the Law School, represents the plaintiff, the National Organization for Women-New York City (NOW-NYC), against the DoD and VA. Both agencies have retained a condition that one prove one's infertility was caused by an injury or illness incurred in service, a rule NOW-NYC continues to challenge as sexspecific discrimination.

In a federal lawsuit filed in January 2024 against the VA, the clinic represented the Transgender American Veterans Association (TAVA) seeking an order that the VA act on TAVA's 2016 rulemaking petition to make gender-confirmation surgery available to veterans. VA responded by denying the long-pending petition, and in April, the clinic filed a second federal lawsuit for judicial review on the merits, contending that VA's refusal to provide necessary medical care reneges on its public promise and violates the Administrative Procedure Act, the Constitution, and Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act.

# **CT Supreme Court** Sides With Clinic in Fight for Cold Case Files

The Connecticut Supreme Court has ruled in favor of the Media Freedom and Information Access Clinic in its fight for police records from a decade-old homicide case made famous by a true crime documentary.

The ruling supports the clinic's position that an exception to the state's open records law for certain activities in ongoing police investigations is narrow. In February, the court turned the matter to the trial court to apply this standard, which makes it harder for police to withhold files on cold cases.

The files in question concern the murder of Barbara Hamburg, who was killed outside her home in 2010. No one was ever charged. The clinic's client is a filmmaker who was working on the HBO series Murder on Middle Beach with the victim's son when he first sought town police records from the case. He requested the files under Connecticut's open records law.

## **Housing Course** Wins Design **Education Award**

A Yale course on affordable housing that is about to yield eight new homes in New Haven has received the **Housing Design Education** Award from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and the American Institute of Architects. The course, "Housing Connecticut: **Designing Healthy and** Sustainable Neighborhoods," is a collaboration between students and faculty from Yale Law School, Yale School of Architecture, and Yale School of Management along with local nonprofit housing developers to produce proposals for affordable housing. One of the group's proposals received city approvals last fall to start construction on four twofamily houses in New Haven's Newhallville neighborhood.



Legal Aid Association is formed by students to serve the community and gain practical legal experience.



1949

The movie Adam's Rib features a fictional Yale Law School graduate, Amanda Bonner, played by Katharine Hepburn.

CLINIC ROUNDUP

# **Challenging Mass Incarceration** Clinic Helps Secure Sentence Modification

On April 3, Eriberto Deleon Jr. walked out of Cheshire Correctional Institution (CCI) and into pouring rain. Unfazed by the weather, Deleon, who goes by Eddie, was all smiles. Hours earlier, Judge Courtney Chaplin of the Hartford Superior Court had granted his sentence modification request, reducing a 60-year sentence to time served and freeing him after more than 32 years of incarceration.

The outcome is the culmination of decades of dedication from Deleon and his loved ones and more than two years of work by the Peter Gruber Challenging Mass Incarceration Clinic (CMIC).

Founded by Miriam Gohara, Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization, the CMIC represents clients in federal sentencing proceedings and Connecticut state parole hearings. Under Gohara's supervision, two student teams represented Deleon: Andrea Deleon Cruz '24, Sam Feineh '24, and Emma Perez '23 in 2022-2023, and Dominique James '24 and Henry Robinson '24 in 2023-2024.

Incarcerated at 19 in 1991, Deleon gradually acclimated to prison life and dedicated his life to self-improvement. While incarcerated, he co-founded the Lifers Group at CCI, which united individuals serving long sentences to help serve the communities they once harmed. He was also selected to be one of the founding mentors in the T.R.U.E. Unit, in which older incarcerated mentors provide guidance to younger men serving short sentences.

After Deleon became eligible for parole under Senate Bill 952, a new law that two Yale Law School clinics - the CMIC and the Criminal Justice Advocacy Clinic – advocated for, Deleon and the team decided to pursue a sentence modification. With Hartford State's Attorney Sharmese Walcott's agreement, the Court granted Deleon a hearing in February 2024.

Deleon, now 52, hopes to continue the work he has long been committed to. He plans to spread the frame-



Dominique James '24, CMIC client Eriberto Deleon Jr., Henry Robinson '24, Professor Miriam Gohara, and Thea Montañez following Deleon's release.

work of the T.R.U.E. Unit to transform communities in need.

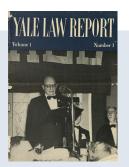
"I am looking forward to expressing my newfound freedom in a positive way through community interaction, volunteering, and simply being an outstanding good citizen," Deleon said.

# **Unanimous Connecticut Supreme Court Sides** with Housing Clinic

In a win for the Housing Clinic, the Connecticut Supreme Court sided with students who argued that allegations of a bank's insurance kickback scheme can be raised as defenses in a foreclosure action. The clinic represented the defendant against plaintiff M&T Bank.

In a unanimous decision, the Court held the alleged scheme "wrongfully and substantially increased the mortgagor's overall indebtedness," and thus allowed the defendant to plead special defenses based on the plaintiff's "unclean hands" and "breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing."

Clinic students Alex Emmons '24 and Kyle Ranieri '24 argued the case for the defendant last November. Callie Bruzzone '23, Leah Kazar '23, Miriam Pierson '23, Natasha Reifenberg '24, and Zachary Shelley '23 worked on the briefs under the supervision of Clinical Lecturer in Law Jeff Gentes and Clinical Professor of Law Anika Singh Lemar.



#### 1955

Yale Law Report, the School's alumni magazine, publishes its first issue. To date, the popular publication chronicling the life of the School has produced 70 volumes.



#### 1955

The Ford Foundation grants \$1,600,000 to fund major revision of Yale Law School's curriculum. The School pioneers the small-group approach to instruction, among other ambitious curricular reforms.

# Lowenstein Clinic Study Finds Mental Harm Inflicted on Myanmar's Rohingya To Be a Form of Genocide

Severe post-traumatic stress disorder and depression among Myanmar's Rohingya community constitute serious mental harm, defined by the Genocide Convention as an act of genocide, according to a new study, "'My Tears Could Make a Sea': Mental Harm as Genocide Against Rohingya," released on April 24 by Fortify Rights and the Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic at Yale Law School.

The study reveals that serious mental health conditions caused by Myanmar military-led attacks continue to afflict the Rohingya people and recommends ways to hold responsible parties criminally accountable for mass atrocity crimes.

"U.N. member states should adopt the recommendations of the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar and take immediate, coordinated action to deprive the junta of access to weapons, revenue, and political legitimacy and support efforts to hold perpetrators of atrocity crimes in Myanmar accountable," said Binger Clinical Professor of Human Rights Jim Silk '89, who supervised a team of three former Lowenstein Clinic members who were primary authors of the report.

In a separate matter, the clinic and Green Advocates International have called for stronger protection of



The formal opening of COP28 during the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Dubai on Nov. 30, 2023.

environmental defenders' free speech at the world's largest forum for international climate negotiations, the Conference of the Parties (COP).

Clinic students and Clinical Professor of Law Claudia Flores also helped the U.N. Working Group on Discrimination Against Women and Girls with contributions to a Feb. 20 statement urging the international community to recognize gender apartheid in Afghanistan as a crime against humanity.

Under Flores's supervision, Rossella Gabriele '25, Andrea Deleon Cruz '24, Philsan Isaak '25, Helen Malley '24, Laura Roberts '24, and Schell Center Community Human Rights Fellow Shannon Sommers helped contribute to the drafting process.

# WIRAC Aids Communications Workers' Union in Challenge of Contractor Mandate

The Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic (WIRAC), part of the Law School's Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization, is representing the Communications Workers of America (CWA) Local 1298 in challenging a new mandate threatening Local 1298 workers' right to work.

In April, CWA Local 1298 filed a formal petition with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) to invalidate the Connecticut state agency's requirement that utility pole owners, including Frontier Communications of Connecticut, use nonunion, third-party contractors to work on damaged poles.

According to WIRAC, PURA blocks CWA Local 1298 members from working on damaged poles in entire towns for months at a time and instead grants third-party contractors exclusive rights to perform the work. The petition states that PURA is interfering with a collective bargaining agreement committing Frontier to use CWA Local 1298 members to the greatest extent possible.

#### 1957



The Legal Aid Bureau is renamed the Jerome N.
Frank Legal Aid
Association. The student-led group is later renamed the Jerome N.
Frank Legal Services
Organization (LSO).



#### 1970

Fire, thought by some to have been set by radical undergraduates, breaks out in basement of Yale Law Library, and law students organize a bucket brigade.

TIMELINE continues on page 30