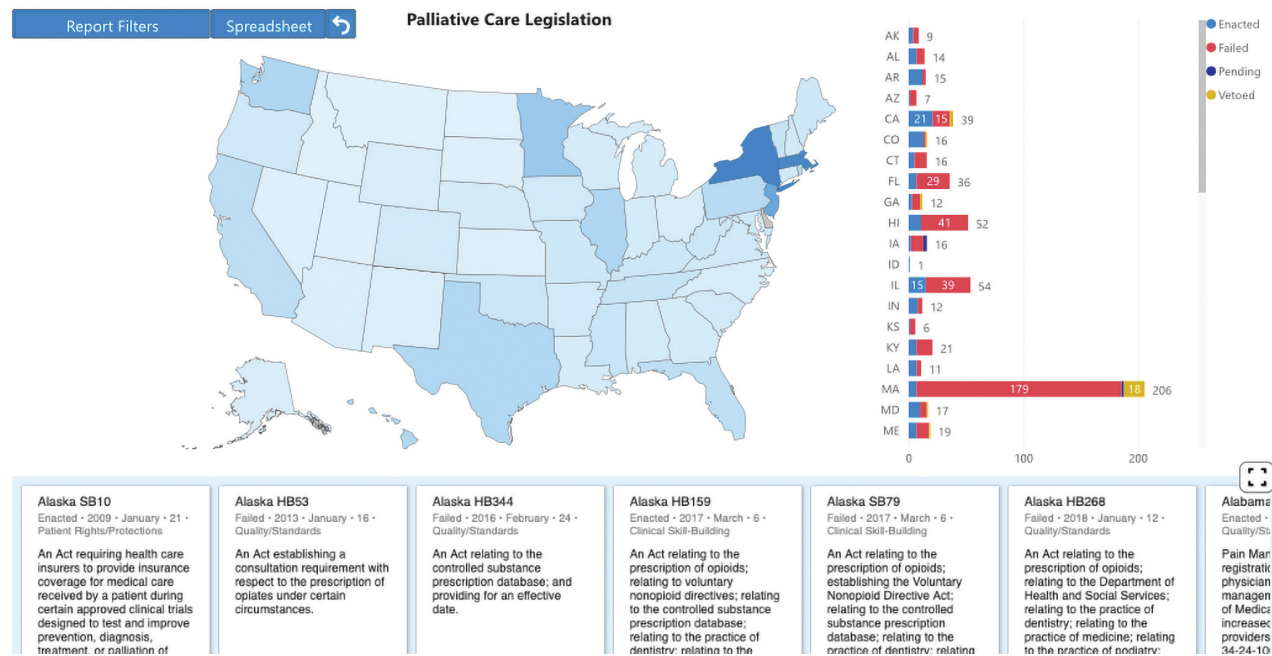


Palliative Care Law and Policy GPS

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The Palliative Care Law and Policy GPS is a regularly updated and publicly accessible database tracking legislation on palliative care and improvements in the care of people with serious illness across the 50 states. It is a joint collaboration between the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School and the Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC).



Solomon Center Drives Palliative Care Reforms

Law and policy for those with serious illnesses

The Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy at Yale Law School has established the country's first comprehensive interdisciplinary initiative dedicated to palliative medical care, law, and policy — a pathbreaking effort that is already shaping reforms for patients of all ages.

The fast growth of the palliative care field, which aims to reduce the symptoms and stress of serious illness, has created a pressing demand for policy guidance. Little regulation exists at the federal level, leaving a complex array of state and local laws and policies.

Drawing from its deep health law and policy expertise, the Solomon Center is working in areas ranging from pediatric palliative care, to clinical workforce needs, to improving health outcomes for Native American communities, incarcerated patients, and other vulnerable populations.

The work is supported by a first-of-its-kind open-access research platform for palliative care policy across the states, developed by the Center, in collaboration with partners at Yale School of Medicine, Yale School of Public Health, Yale School of Nursing, and Mount Sinai's nationally renowned Center to Advance Palliative Care.

"Palliative care is mostly not end-of-life care; it's essential medical care for those living with chronic illness across the life spectrum," said Abbe R. Gluck '00, the Alfred M. Rankin Professor of Law and Solomon Center faculty director. "Our work is equipping state, local, and Native American lawmakers, medical professionals, and advocates with the legal and policy tools they need to rapidly adopt and assess impactful reforms."

The Center's leadership is highly visible in Connecticut, where the General Assembly has established a working group to recommend statewide reforms to improve pediatric palliative care. Seeing an opportunity to support policymakers, the Center launched an ambitious research effort to help reframe the state's approach to pediatric palliative care. The working group highlighted the Center's research in its interim report to the legislature in March 2025, and soon after awarded the Center a seat on its advisory committee.

Last year, the Center also officially launched the Palliative Care Law and Policy GPS, a first-of-its-kind, publicly accessible database of state and local proposed and enacted legislation related to palliative care. It currently holds 15 years of data covering all 50 states and is open to any researcher. The Center is adding an AI element to the platform to make its contents even more efficient and accessible.

The Center also operates the Palliative Care Medical-Legal Partnership with the Yale School of Medicine and Yale New Haven Hospital. Solomon Center students and faculty work closely with the hospital's palliative care team to address critical needs of patients toward the end of their lives, including housing, guardianship, and benefits.

As for the next step in this project, "We are just getting started," said Jeremy Pilaar '18, the Center's executive director. "We will keep doing all we can to advance reforms and innovations that support patients and families when they need it most."

"Palliative care is mostly not end-of-life care; it's essential medical care for those living with chronic illness across the life spectrum. Our work is equipping state, local, and Native American lawmakers, medical professionals, and advocates with the legal and policy tools they need to rapidly adopt and assess impactful reforms." ABBE R. GLUCK '00

SCHOOL NEWS



(top) Lecturer in Law Bruce Swartz '79 (left), who formerly supervised the Justice Department's global rule of law programs, was one of the organizers of the series; (bottom) The series was moderated by Harold Hongju Koh, Sterling Professor of International Law.

Speaker Series Examines Challenges to the Rule of Law

Experts discuss the current legal landscape

From the plaintiff in one of the term's biggest Supreme Court cases to international law experts, an array of speakers shared their insights on the rule of law as part of The Tsai Leadership Program last fall. The series was co-sponsored by the Peter Gruber Rule of Law Clinic and the Ludwig Program in Public Sector Leadership.

Over six lunchtime sessions, the "Introduction to the Rule of Law" series offered students a variety of frameworks for considering recent challenges to the rule of law in the United States and abroad, said Clinical Lecturer in Law Sonia Mittal '13. Mittal co-organized the series along with Rule of Law Clinic instructors Harold Hongju Koh, Sterling Professor of International Law, and Bruce Swartz '79, lecturer in law and Aharon Barak Rule of Law Fellow.

"These are challenges that all three of us have considered as attorneys for the government and as scholars, and we wanted to join our law school colleagues in helping students make sense of this very complex time," said Mittal, who is a former federal prosecutor.

Each session was moderated by Koh, who served as legal adviser to the State Department from 2009 to 2013 and senior political appointee in that office in 2021.

"Recent times have confirmed that lawyers need to understand what the 'rule of law' is that they will swear to uphold," Koh said. "But most law schools never provide background or debate about just what it means, especially in turbulent times. This series was intended to fill that critical gap."

The interdisciplinary series combined discussions by leading legal scholars with insights from practitioners and public servants. Topics included separation of powers, structural constraints on presidential power, rights and national security, due process and habeas corpus, the independence of rule of law institutions, and rule of law as a global concept.

Mittal said the series sought to feature speakers with a broad range of scholarly perspectives and professional experiences.

While the series was open to all students, Mittal said it was particularly geared to first-term students who are not yet eligible to take upper-level courses or join clinics.

"I wanted to be part of creating a space for the sustained, constructive dialogue that is essential to the health and durability of our democratic system." MADELINE BABIN '26



Rebecca Slaughter '07, the former Federal Trade Commissioner whose suit challenging her dismissal was argued before the Supreme Court, spoke to one of the sessions via Zoom.

"We felt an obligation to help situate this moment for all of our students, but in particular those who have just joined the Law School," Mittal said. "Sometimes when you read your very first cases, it can be hard to see connections between them and what you're reading about in the news. We wanted to help our newest students make some of those connections."

Madeline Babin '26, who was a student director in the Peter Gruber Rule of Law Clinic, was gratified by the popularity of the series. "We had an average of 120 to 150 students register for each event, which to me reflected the need and the appetite for this kind of dialogue," she said, continuing, "I wanted to be part of creating a space for the sustained, constructive dialogue that is essential to the health and durability of our democratic system."

Students and Faculty Consider Lawful Peace in Ukraine after War's Fourth Year

Faculty and students marked the fourth anniversary of the Russia-Ukraine War in writing and in conversation in February. Sterling Professor of International Law Harold Hongju Koh and students in the Peter Gruber Rule of Law Clinic wrote a two-part series published in *Just Security*, “Toward a Just and Lawful Peace in Ukraine.” The series looked at the progress made under international law so far and urged that frozen Russian central bank assets be used to finance reconstruction in Ukraine. Koh and Oona Hathaway ’97, the Gerard C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law, also took part in a virtual panel on the war organized by the American Society for International Law.



Professor Jack Balkin leading an AI and Policy class

Prompted by AI, School Takes Long View of Law and Technology

Like the railroad, telephone, mass electrification, radio, and the internet before it, artificial intelligence has pushed the law to change. At Yale Law School, a reading group last fall considered AI as one in a long line of technologies that have shaped the law throughout history. Meanwhile, a library speaker series highlighted the latest scholarship on AI and the law.

Students in the “Technology Law: From Accidents to AI” reading group looked all the way back to the first U.S. copyright act in 1790.

“In each circumstance, the law and the regulatory state adapted to deal with the new circumstance, telling us a lot about the law’s capacity to address technological change,” said Isaac May ’24, who ran the reading group along with Associate Research Scholar in Law Mikey McGovern. Jack M. Balkin, Knight Professor of Constitutional Law and the First Amendment, supervised the group.

Shah Khan, a second-year student in the reading group, came to law school with an appreciation for how AI models work technically after studying statis-

tics and data science as an undergraduate. But the release of ChatGPT in 2022 raised new questions for Khan about AI and the law.

“These generative AI models consume huge amounts of copyrighted data — was that fair use?” Khan asked. “What would happen if the model defamed someone? Could a model even defame someone?”

A speaker series this fall at the Lillian Goldman Law Library explored questions like these through talks by leading scholars. Nicholas Mignanelli, former assistant director for reference at the library and a lecturer in legal research, said the series offered a critical alternative to hype from tech vendors and even some scholars who have pushed for law schools to quickly adopt AI research tools.

“Unfortunately, concerns about the ethical, social, environmental, and economic implications of large language models have received little attention in the discourse surrounding the use of generative AI in law,” he said.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

New Clinics Build on Tradition of Environmental Protection

The Goldman Sonnenfeldt Environmental Protection Clinic (EPC) was founded by Dan Esty '86, Hillhouse Professor at Yale University, in 1995. For more than 30 years it has been Yale Law School's home for students looking for firsthand experience in environmental law and policy. The clinic is winding down this year, but it is not the end of clinical experience in environmental law at Yale Law School. The Environmental Justice Law and Advocacy Clinic, led by Clinical Associate Professor of Law Stephanie Safdi '13, is giving a new generation of students practice in representing clients solving environmental problems.

In addition, a new course being launched through the Law, Environment, and Animals Program will offer students opportunities to collaborate with leading environmental and animal protection organizations to advance policy and accountability at the intersection of climate change and industrial animal agriculture.

Since environmental issues require legal, technical, scientific, and policy expertise, the EPC was designed to be interdisciplinary. The clinic was initially housed at the Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy (YCELP), a joint organization of Yale Law School and Yale School of the Environment. Esty envisioned a clinic in which students would use a variety of lawyering tools, including policy analysis and interdisciplinary research.

"Good science, good analysis, good data, good economics, and good law," Esty said. "All of that came together in this clinic."

By 2013, the clinic had grown to include a full-time director. Josh Galperin, now a professor at Pace University, was first in the role. Doug Kysar, Joseph M. Field '55 Professor of Law, became faculty director.

Though Safdi was not in the Environmental Protection Clinic while studying here, she observed its influence.

"It's exposed many generations of students to partner organizations that work in this space, to diverse theories of change, and to creative modalities for advancing environmental protection and sustainability," Safdi said. "And, importantly, it's held space for environmental students at Yale Law School."

Safdi, who was a joint-degree student at Yale's environment and law schools, credits the Law School's clinical program with her desire to lead her own clinic.

As a student, she worked with the Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic on projects that brought together her overlapping interests in human rights, the environment, and sustainable development — issues that she now pursues in the Environmental Justice Law and Advocacy Clinic.

In a short time, Safdi's clinic has developed a substantial caseload. Some of the clinic's first cases continued work that Safdi started at Stanford. In one, the clinic represents a community organization suing to stop the expansion of California State Route 99 through South Fresno as part of a project to widen the highway through the state's Central Valley.

The clinic is also representing Lowell, Massachusetts, residents fighting a data center encroaching on their neighborhood. The residents won the state's first data center moratorium. The clinic further filed a lawsuit against state regulators, which residents say worked secretly to bypass the regulatory process. (Read more on page 17.)

Today, former EPC students can be found in government, at leading environmental advocacy organizations, and at law schools and universities around the country. Kysar said that, when environmental issues make it easy to be pessimistic, the work of former students "give me a sense of hope whatever else reason and evidence might be telling me about the state of the planet."



Dan Esty '86 and Stephanie Safdi '13

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson Speaks on Supreme Court's Emergency Docket

Lecture Series Explores Foundations of American Legal Thought

The Foundations of American Legal Thought course and corresponding lecture series returned to Yale Law School for the spring 2026 term, featuring speakers who examined canonical authors and movements in American legal theory past and present. The program is directed by Samuel Moyn, Kent Professor of Law and History at Yale University.

Speakers included:

Scott Shapiro '90:

"Formalism Versus Realism"

William N. Eskridge '78:

"From Legal Realism to Legal Process"

Randall Kennedy '82 and

Touré Reed: "Race and Class"

Keith Whittington:

"The Past, Present, and Future of Originalisms"

Reva Siegel:

"*Dobbs* and Democracy"



Justice Jackson and Dean Rodríguez in conversation at Battell Chapel in April

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson spoke to a capacity crowd of Yale Law School students, faculty, and staff on April 13 at Yale's Battell Chapel.

Jackson delivered the 2025–26 Thomas Lecture, "Equity and Exigency: A First-Principles Solution for the Supreme Court's Emergency Docket."

Jackson's lecture focused on the evolution of the emergency docket, sometimes known as the shadow docket, where petitioners seek immediate relief from the Court. The topic, she said, "has recently burst into the public zeitgeist, generating a substantial amount of controversy."

When she was a Supreme Court clerk for Justice Stephen Breyer, Jackson said the emergency docket consisted mainly of capital cases. In recent years, the Court has shown a willingness to grant emergency motions in cases brought by the government, often before lower courts have fully considered the case on the merits and made a ruling.

Jackson discussed her concerns about the emergency docket, calling it a "procedural outlier" in a system where the core objective is to ensure that all litigants receive equal treatment. "If we are not careful, the emergency docket can and will become an end run around the standard review process, a special avenue that certain privileged litigants can utilize selectively," she said.

"I don't pretend to have all the answers, but I would like to be a catalyst for change," Jackson concluded. "My hope is that this speech opens up a conversation and that you and all of us will carefully examine the operation of the Supreme Court's emergency docket and suggest reforms with an eye toward ensuring equal justice under the law."

Following her lecture, Jackson joined Yale Law School Dean Cristina M. Rodríguez '00 for a conversation about her life and professional journey, public service, and work on the Court.

"I don't pretend to have all the answers, but I would like to be a catalyst for change..."

KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

*“...My hope is that
this speech opens up
a conversation.”*



PROGRAMS

Law Students Visit from South America

Ten students from law schools in Argentina, Brazil, and Chile completed a three-week visit to Yale Law School in January as part of the Owen M. Fiss Latin American Linkage exchange program.

The academic program of the visiting students consisted of personal research, observing classes, and meeting individually and as a group with Yale faculty and student leaders.

Additionally, Carlos Rosenkrantz '87 LLM, '89 JSD, of Argentina's Supreme Court came to New Haven to pay a personal visit to Professor Fiss. Rosenkrantz spent an hour discussing his vision of the judge's role in turbulent times with the students.

Linkage students (below) at a Yale basketball game and (right) in New York



Students meet with Professor Gideon Yaffe

The group also got a taste of student life at Yale, attending a wide assortment of cultural and sports events, from the Yale Philharmonia to a performance at the University Theatre, women's and men's basketball and hockey games, and the Leitner Family Observatory.

Their experience was made even richer by living with the Yale Law School students who will visit their countries during Yale's summer recess. The hosts benefited from the sunshine, energy, guarana, and hierba maté the guests brought from the southern hemisphere.

JUSTICE COLLABORATORY

Publications Call for Local Control of Public Safety, Solidarity in Communities

A report co-authored by the Justice Collaboratory calls on cities to protect local control of public safety.

"The People's Safety Report," published jointly by the Center for Policing Equity, details how local and state leaders can use political and legal recourse when the federal government encroaches on local safety matters. It was one of two publications this term from the scholarly collaborative, which includes members at Yale Law School.

"As we have seen in Chicago and Minneapolis, local authorities are not powerless against the federal government's incursion," Justice Collaboratory Executive Director Caroline Nobo said. "We hope this will serve as a guide for local leaders across the country seeking to protect communities and the Constitution."

The report includes recommendations in three areas: enacting legislation to combat the federal use of enforcement conducted by masked, unidentifiable individuals and related strategies; keeping communities informed, maintaining clear guidance, and protecting against abuses; and preventing the erosion of the rule of law.

The Justice Collaboratory also had another installment of its series The Notebook. The digital publication, first launched in 2024, lies between academic journal and popular magazine. Centered on the theme of solidarities, the latest issue includes art, social science, and stories. Contributions from researchers and New Haven community members explore the connections people build, the collective actions they take, and the communities they nurture.

LEADERSHIP

Program Offers Students Immersive Trips, Speaker Series

The Tsai Leadership Program at Yale Law School hosted its annual trips for students in the Chae Initiative in Private Sector Leadership and Carol and Gene Ludwig Program in Public Sector Leadership, offering them the opportunity to connect with alumni and expand their views on the possibilities of a Law School degree.

In January, students in the Chae Initiative traveled to New York City, where they met with alumni from top companies.

“The Chae immersive trip offered such a unique opportunity to engage with Yale Law School alumni who are leading the way in scaling hugely successful businesses across the private sector,” said Ashley Mehra ’26.

That same month, students in the Ludwig Program visited Washington, D.C., to meet with leaders in federal, state, and local government.



Ludwig Program fellows in Washington, D.C.



The Chae Initiative fellows in New York City

“Before the Ludwig Program, I felt as if I needed to have everything planned out. The program has introduced me to so many impressive alumni who didn’t have everything figured out when they graduated,” said Hannah Terrapin ’26. “They’ve taught me that, as the world shifts around us, Yale Law School prepares us to shift with it. Remembering your core values and serving where you are needed will always keep you on the right path.”

In March, former President of Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) Noah Bookbinder visited the Law School for a wide-ranging conversation in which he shared lessons learned during his work to promote government accountability.

The discussion was moderated by Dean Cristina M. Rodríguez ’00, who has known Bookbinder since they were students at Yale College. In her introduction, she described him as “a model of the leadership the Tsai program is designed to empower.”



Noah Bookbinder visited the Law School.

Liman Center Names New Fellows

The Arthur Liman Center for Public Interest Law announced its newest cohort of law fellows for 2026–27, who will be working to lessen the challenges of accessing the legal system and vindicating rights. Since its inception in 1997, the Liman Center has supported more than 220 graduates of Yale Law School for these yearlong fellowships. The 10 new fellows will focus on issues related to workers' safety, immigration law, reproductive rights, and states' efforts to protect their residents.

In addition, three current fellows will have extensions to continue their efforts on behalf of tenants, LGBTQ+ youth, and national parks.

The Budget Lab's Executive Director and Co-Founder Martha Gimbel gave a testimony in March before the Senate Subcommittee on Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth on the Congressional Budget Office's report on the Budget and Economic Outlook over the next ten years.

"As we would all agree, forecasting is an inherently uncertain art," said Gimbel. "But the act of forecasting gives us a chance to examine where we are, where we could be going, and what that means for policymakers and citizens in the meantime."

FINANCIAL POLICY

Budget Lab Reflects on One Year of Tariff Analysis

On April 2, 2025, the Trump administration announced the most sweeping tariff increases since Smoot-Hawley. At the time, The Budget Lab projected that the resulting suite of tariff policies would increase consumer prices by 2.3%, costing the average American household \$3,800 per year.

Looking back after a year of higher tariffs, The Budget Lab aimed to reexamine this estimate of the effect of tariffs on prices. The 2.3% estimate reported last year is large relative to more recent numbers released by academics, policy analysts, and their own, more up-to-date analysis. It is possible this is because not enough time has passed yet for the full burden of tariffs to manifest in the economy. However, if one had assumed that the full impact of tariffs would occur within one year and appear entirely as higher prices rather than through some other mechanism (say, via reduced nominal incomes), then the 2.3% estimate implies almost 80% of inflation over the past year is due to tariffs, according to The Budget Lab.

This presented The Budget Lab with an opportunity to reflect on what they got right and wrong in the modeling of tariffs over the last year. They still believe their current-policy approach has value. It is the same framework CBO uses for budget projections, a

framework designed not to be an unconditional forecast of the future but instead a basis on which the public and policymakers can evaluate the relative merits of different policy choices. Over the past year, they have made substantial improvements to both their effective tariff rate calculations and their economic models. The Budget Lab plans to continue to refine their estimates as new data, new research, and new policy developments warrant.

GHJP

Response to UN Request for Input on Violence and Discrimination Facing LBQ Women

In late 2025, the United Nations Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity requested input on violence and discrimination facing LBQ women. Requesting input from civil society, governments, and IGO and regional agencies is a part of the independent expert's process of assembling the research to undergird their expert analysis of forms of abuses, barriers to remedies, and ways forward for LBQ women to enjoy their full range of rights. This input will become a thematic report presented at the 62nd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

GHJP used public health data, alongside critical race theory, queer and trans theories, disability justice theory, and feminist theory to inform a presentation of an intersectional approach to understanding violence and discrimination related to gender and sexuality, focusing on Black LBQ people in the context of health justice.



Scholars Illuminate Stakes of Supreme Court Drug Patent Liability Case

The U.S. Supreme Court has turned a spotlight on generic drug competition by agreeing to hear *Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA Inc. v. Amarin Pharma, Inc.* The dispute relates to a practice known as “skinny labeling,” a pathway Congress created under the Hatch-Waxman Act of 1984 that allows generic drug manufacturers to seek FDA approval for unpatented drug uses of brand-name drugs.

Research by scholars at the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy suggests that allowing these claims to proceed could discourage timely generic competition by increasing the risk of liability for generic manufacturers marketing products with skinny labels. This could in turn reduce access to generic drugs, which play a major role in the U.S. health care system: prescription drug prices often fall 80% or more after a generic enters the market, while the substitution of branded drugs with generics has saved the health care system approximately \$1.67 trillion over a recent 10-year span.

In an empirical study published this past March, 2024–25 Solomon Center Student Research Fellow Therese J. Ziaks, Solomon Center Distinguished Visitor Aaron S. Kesselheim, and their colleagues examined whether the use of the skinny labeling pathway changed after the 2021 decision in *GlaxoSmithKline v. Teva*. The authors found that while 43% of susceptible brand-name drugs had skinny-labeled generic prescriptions from 2015 to 2019, that figure dropped to 20% in 2023.

In further articles, including one published last September with 2025–26 Solomon Center Student



Research Fellow Jin K. Park, Kesselheim, and S. Sean Tu explained that expansive interpretations of inducement liability undermine the congressional compromises embedded in the Hatch-Waxman Act, which sought to balance the need to protect valid patents with the benefits of generic drugs entering the market in a timely fashion. They showed that skinny labeling is not a loophole but a carefully designed policy tool that has delivered major benefits to patients and the health system while preserving incentives for innovation.

Schell Center's Human Rights Workshop Hosted Event on Chile

On Feb. 19, Dan Israel '23 LLM described Chile's political trajectory from dictatorship to constitutional experimentation to the election of a right-wing president. The arc of Chile's recent history, Israel concluded, illustrates both the fragility and resilience of democratic systems. Constitutional reform can serve as a vehicle for change, but it also demands political compromise and broad-based legitimacy.



Chilean President José Antonio Kast speaks at press conference in Ecuador in December 2025.

SFALP Advocates for Consumers and Gig Workers

In December, the San Francisco Affirmative Litigation Project (SFALP) along with San Francisco City Attorney David Chiu filed a first-of-its-kind lawsuit against some of the country's largest manufacturers of ultraprocessed foods on Dec. 2, alleging they knowingly engineered and marketed addictive products to children while obscuring health risks from the public. In March, SFALP helped secure a \$4.5 million settlement with gig staffing company WorkWhile over the alleged misclassification of delivery drivers as independent contractors instead of employees.

CLINIC ROUNDUP

Clinic Sues Government for Revoking Immigrant Airport Workers' Security Clearances



SEIU members at a press conference in March

The Worker and Immigrant Rights Advocacy Clinic is suing the Trump administration on behalf of immigrant workers forced out of their jobs at Boston's Logan Airport after losing their security clearances.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court against U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), argues that the agency has violated its own regulations, federal statute, and the Constitution's due process protections by revoking the clearances. According to the federal lawsuit, the agency put thousands of workers at risk of losing their jobs at airports nationwide when it revoked security clearances for legal immigrants at Logan.

"Simply put: CBP has concocted new and illegal ways of punishing immigrants by shutting authorized workers out of union jobs they've held for years," clinic member Marisa Houlahan '27 said.

The plaintiffs are an airport workers' union and four former members of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). One plaintiff, Saint Paul Paul, recalled getting a letter from the agency that called him an "unacceptable risk."

"I think this language is an excuse so the government can discriminate against immigrants like me," Paul said.

In other work this year, clinic students testified before Connecticut state lawmakers that automated hiring systems carry potential risks and could perpetuate discrimination.

The testimony, on behalf of client Connecticut AFL-CIO, was in support of a bill that would regulate the use of automated employment-related decisions and artificial intelligence technologies by technology deployers and employers in the state.

CLINIC ROUNDUP

MFIA Clinic Files Lawsuit, Briefs and Gives Testimony

The Media Freedom and Information Access (MFIA) Clinic at Yale Law School, together with co-counsel, filed a lawsuit on March 23 on behalf of four Voice of America journalists and two press freedom organizations against the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM), Acting CEO Michael Rigas, and Kari Lake, who was removed from leadership of USAGM by court order earlier that month. The lawsuit alleges that Kari Lake and other officials have engaged in censorship at Voice of America and used the news group to distribute political propaganda in violation of the law.

In February, the clinic testified before the Vermont House Judiciary Committee in support of House Bill 572, legislation that would restore meaningful public access to criminal court records in Vermont. Anna Selbrede '26, a student director of the clinic, testified based on research conducted on behalf of the New England First Amendment Coalition examining Vermont's restrictions on electronic access to criminal case records.

In March, the clinic filed an amicus brief on behalf of the Pentagon Press Association, arguing that a policy restricting access to the building violated the First Amendment by burdening routine newsgathering, granting officials sweeping discretion, and engaging in viewpoint-based retaliation against journalists. Later that month, the clinic welcomed a federal court ruling striking down key provisions of a Pentagon policy that restricted journalists' access to the building, saying the policy threatened the public's access to independent reporting on national security and military affairs.

Also in March, the clinic filed an amicus brief on behalf of a group of First Amendment scholars urging the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit to unseal parts of Special Counsel Jack Smith's final report prepared in the criminal prosecution of President Donald Trump over his mishandling of classified documents. The brief argues that U.S. District Judge Aileen Cannon violated settled law in declaring that Volume II of Special Counsel Smith's report is not a "judicial record" subject to disclosure.



Anna Selbrede '26 testified before the Vermont House Judiciary Committee



Rule of Law Clinic Files Briefs on Birthright Citizenship and Anthropic

Represented by Yale Law School's Peter Gruber Rule of Law Clinic and the Wiggin and Dana law firm, the Society for the Rule of Law Institute and a group of 28 former Republican appointed and elected officials filed an amicus brief on Feb. 26 urging the Supreme Court to reject President Trump's attempt to deny birthright citizenship to certain persons born in the United States based on their parents' immigration status.

The brief argued that the President's order violated the separation of powers by attempting illegal lawmaking through a radical reinterpretation of the 14th Amendment, a century of Supreme Court precedent, and two independent congressional enactments.

In a separate matter, the clinic and the Farella Braun + Martel law firm represented a group of 16 former senior U.S. national security officials in filing an amicus brief on March 13 urging the district court in the Northern District of California to reject the Pentagon's attempt to punish the artificial intelligence company Anthropic for its independent business decisions by designating it as a supply chain risk.

Vermont Supreme Court Sides with Housing Clinic on Foreclosure Rules

The Vermont Supreme Court affirmed its decision that mortgage servicers in the state must show that they have a legal right to foreclose at the start of foreclosure proceedings, a ruling that incorporates points made by Yale Law School's Housing Clinic. According to the clinic, which filed an amicus brief in the case, the decision prevents mortgage providers from filing first and papering over their poor recordkeeping later. The clinic represented amici Vermont Legal Aid and the National Consumer Law Center.

Suit over Denial of Benefits for Agent Orange Birth Defects

At a press conference at Yale Law School on April 27, Ron and Michele Christoforo announced the filing of a federal lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut challenging a denial of benefits as unconstitutional sex discrimination. The Christoforos are represented by the Veterans Legal Services Clinic.

Ron Christoforo served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and was exposed to Agent Orange. His daughter Michele was born with achondroplasia, a form of dwarfism linked to that exposure. Under federal law, the Department of Veterans Affairs provides benefits to children born with dwarfism to mothers who served in Vietnam. Because it was Michele's father who served, she is ineligible for benefits.

CLINIC ROUNDUP

Students' Catch Forces State Supreme Court to Reckon with AI Errors

When Housing Clinic students spotted what appeared to be AI hallucinations in a brief filed by their opponents this spring, their cases took a historic turn. It was the first time the Connecticut Supreme Court was forced to consider what happens when artificial intelligence use by lawyers goes wrong.

The two eviction cases that raised questions about AI were already a milestone for the state's highest court. These cases were the first the court had heard concerning municipal fair rent commissions, which in Connecticut hear complaints from tenants about rent increases and living conditions. In both *TOV Realty, LLC v. Suarez* and *Kosel Equity LLC v. MacGregor*, landlords sought to evict renters who were challenging their rent increases through their respective cities' commissions. The clinic argued in two amicus briefs that evicting the tenants before the commissions ruled on these complaints would undermine tenants' rights statewide. The brief was filed behalf of a coalition of

organizations that regularly represent clients before fair rent commissions.

However, it was what students noticed in a brief filed by plaintiffs — two large, out-of-state landlords who were pursuing evictions — that ultimately brought wider attention to the cases. The clinic found errors in one plaintiff's brief, including a phrase quoted in a citation that does not appear in the cited case “nor has any other court ever written this phrase,” the clinic wrote in its own brief.

The court then ordered the landlord's counsel to explain the errors, making this “the first time the state's highest court was forced to reckon with what appeared to be AI hallucinations and potential sanctions,” Law 360 reported. The Connecticut Law Tribune, Hartford Courant, and Hearst Newspapers also covered the story.

The plaintiff acknowledged the errors, saying that lawyers had not properly proofed the citations.



(from left) Housing Clinic students Dylan Shapiro '26, Uma Menon '27, Grady Martin '28, and Galen Fastie '26 at the Connecticut Supreme Court

VISITING THE LAW SCHOOL



Douglas G. Baird, the Harry A. Bigelow Distinguished Service Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School, gave the Judge Ralph K. Winter Lecture on Corporate Law and Governance on April 6. His lecture was titled “Two Stories of Corporate Governance.”



On March 23, **Daniel Boyarin**, the Hermann P. and Sophia Taubman Emeritus Professor of Talmudic Culture at the University of California Berkeley, gave the Robert M. Cover Lecture, titled “Halakha and Aggada: After ‘Nomos and Narrative.’”

CLINIC ROUNDUP

Clinics Sue for Veteran Access to Infertility Treatment

Yale Law School third-year students Indu Paley and Liz Beling presented argument before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit in February on behalf of veterans and service members who cannot access in-vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment for infertility.

Beling and Paley were members of the Law School's Veterans Legal Services Clinic and Gender and Reproductive Justice Clinic, respectively. The clinics represent the National Organization for Women-New York City (NOW-NYC) in its suit against the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), which argues that the agencies' IVF restrictions are unconstitutional and discriminatory under federal law.

Service members and veterans experience infertility at higher rates than the general population, according to NOW-NYC. But DoD and VA require military families to prove that their infertility is linked to a specific injury or illness incurred during military service, an onerous task since the causes of infertility are understudied and often unexplained.

"IVF stands alone as one of the only medically necessary procedures for which DoD imposes a service connection requirement," said Tobey Phillips '27, an Army veteran and student in the Veterans Legal Services Clinic.

"VA singles out IVF as the only form of healthcare with extra restrictions for veterans who otherwise receive all healthcare from VA. These discriminatory rules cost many military families the chance to have children," Phillips added.

NOW-NYC contends that the VA and DoD policies are especially harmful for female service members and veterans. "VA estimates that female veterans suffer from infertility at four times the national average and more than 10 times the rate of male veterans," said Sonia Ossorio, president of NOW-NYC. "The cause of female infertility is also over 14 times more likely to be unexplained than in men, making it more challenging to connect to military service."

EJLA Clinic Advocates Against Data Center Expansion in Massachusetts City

A coalition of Lowell, Massachusetts, residents represented by the Environmental Justice Law and Advocacy Clinic has earned a major legislative victory in its struggle to secure protections against the impacts of commercial data centers on its community. On March 10, the Lowell City Council adopted a temporary moratorium on new construction and

development of data centers in the city. The community group Honest Future for Lowell championed the measure, which was adopted into law in the spring by a 10-0 vote.

The moratorium, the first of its kind in Massachusetts, went into effect immediately, halting any new data center development in Lowell for one year.

This moratorium vote comes amid mounting controversy about data center development in Lowell and throughout the country. A decade ago, the Markley Group converted a former Prince Pasta factory in Lowell's Sacred Heart neighborhood, a state-designated Environmental Justice community, into the city's first major data center. Unlike data centers proliferating across rural America, this one sits beside residential homes, a park and ballfield, a public preschool, and other community facilities.

"While the temporary moratorium doesn't fix the current issues, it prevents them from getting worse by pausing the company's efforts to expand its footprint into other properties it has acquired quietly throughout the years," said Jacob Fortes, a member of Honest Future for Lowell. His house is approximately 80 feet from the nearest diesel generator at the data center.



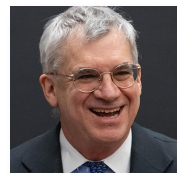
Lowell, Massachusetts

“While the temporary moratorium doesn’t fix the current issues, it prevents them from getting worse by pausing the company’s efforts to expand its footprint.” JACOB FORTES

Baird, Dubal, and Lerner photos by Harold Shapiro; Lowell photo by Adobe Stock



Employment and labor law professor **Veena Dubal** gave the spring 2026 Gruber Distinguished Lecture in Global Justice on March 2, titled "Contemporary Challenges in Higher Education." Dubal is a professor of law at the University of California Irvine School of Law.



Josh Lerner, the Jacob H. Schiff Professor of Investment Banking at Harvard Business School, delivered the John R. Raben/Sullivan & Cromwell Fellowship Lecture titled "The Government as Investor in an Era of Great Power Competition" on Feb. 9.