Dean Deutsch to Step Down After 2008-09 Academic Year

Dean Stuart L. Deutsch has announced that he will step down at the conclusion of the next academic year. “I have enjoyed immensely the opportunity to be the dean,” he said, “and have developed a strong love for this law school as well as great pride in our devotion to a high-quality faculty, a top-rate education for our students, public service, and diversity and opportunity.” He will be on leave for 2009-2010 and then will return to the law school as a full-time faculty member, teaching Property, Environmental Law, and advanced environmental courses and seminars.

In reflecting on the achievements of the law school during his nine years since taking over the deanship, Deutsch said, “We have attracted a group of outstanding new faculty members; have defined the status of our clinical faculty; have educated more than 2,000 marvelous students; have strengthened our commitment to diversity and opportunity; have published nearly a thousand articles, books, and papers; have enhanced relationships with alumni; and have assembled a first-rate staff to support the operation of the law school. We surely have a great deal to celebrate as we enter our Centennial Year.”

Rutgers–Newark Provost Emeritus Norman Samuels is chair of the Dean Search Committee.

Newark Mayor Cory Booker Delivers Convocation Address at May 23 Commencement

Two hundred and forty-nine graduates received their Juris Doctor at the law school’s May 23 commencement. On a beautiful spring morning, the graduating students, university dignitaries, faculty, and administrators followed bagpiper James Tansey ’01 from the Center for Law and Justice to the New Jersey Performing Arts Center for the ceremony.

In his convocation address, Newark Mayor Cory A. Booker invoked lessons from history, passages from literature, and personal experiences to encourage the graduates to pursue their vision for the greater good. Dean Stuart L. Deutsch, citing the numerous accomplishments of the class, said: “From organizing symposia with world-renowned legal experts, to securing a coveted Skadden Fellowship, to founding our Street Law program, to winning prominent legal prizes and scholarships, the graduating class has brought well-deserved recognition to our students and the law school.” Professor Mark S. Weiner, Sidney I. Reitman Scholar, and Brian Moore, Class of 2008, also spoke at the ceremony.

2006 Alumna Wins Supreme Court Historical Society Award for Essay Written as Rutgers Student

Constance L. Martin, a 2006 graduate of the law school and an associate in the Boston office of Fish & Richardson P.C., won the 2007 Hughes-Gossett Prize for Best Student Article from the Supreme Court Historical Society for an essay she wrote while a Rutgers student. The article, “The Life and Career of Justice Robert H. Jackson,” was published in the March 2008 issue of the Journal of Supreme Court History. Martin received the award from Justice Anthony Kennedy on June 2 at the Supreme Court.

The essay was written for a seminar on The Supreme Court: Genesis and Progression taught by Judge Joseph A.
Greenaway, Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey. It examines how Justice Jackson’s life experiences influenced his career and informed his jurisprudence. Jackson, who served on the U.S. Supreme Court from 1941-1954, participated in landmark cases involving the New Deal. He also is remembered for his role as chief American prosecutor at the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany.

At Rutgers, Martin was managing notes & comments editor of the Rutgers Computer and Technology Law Journal. After graduation she clerked for Judge Edward F. Harrington of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. At Fish & Richardson her practice focuses on patent litigation and intellectual property litigation.

Three Faculty Promoted to Full Professor, Two Others Reappointed
Associate Professors Karima Bennoune, Donna Dennis, and Sabrina Safrin have been promoted to full professor and granted tenure, effective July 1. Anna Gelpen has been reappointed Associate Professor and Laura Cohen has been reappointed to a five-year term as Clinical Professor. All are outstanding scholars and teachers whose recognized accomplishments contribute to the school’s reputation for its exceptional younger faculty. Their primary teaching and research interests are: Bennoune, international law and international human rights; Dennis, American legal history and law, gender, and sexuality; Safrin, patent law and international law and science; Gelpen, international law and the legal and policy implications of international capital flows; and Cohen, who teaches in the Urban Legal Clinic, juvenile justice and the legal representation of children and adolescents. In addition to their promotions, Bennoune was named Arthur L. Dickson Scholar; Dennis, Justice Frederick Hall Scholar; and Safrin, Arthur L. Dickson Scholar.

Clinic Wins Top Award from Legal Education Association for Jama Case
The Clinical Legal Education Association recognized the work of the Constitutional Litigation Clinic in Jama, et al. v. Correctional Services Corp., et al. with the 2008 Award for Excellence in a Public Interest Case or Project. For 12 years, the clinic sought justice for political asylum seekers who were severely abused while detained by the U.S. government in a privately-run prison. Under the guidance of Clinical Professor Penny Venetis, the case established new precedent in the area of international human rights law, secured significant monetary damages for the detainees, and trained hundreds of Rutgers law students to be skilled litigators. Many clinic students continued to work on Jama after graduation. Alums at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, under the guidance of partner Mary Beth Hogan ’90, were part of the trial team. Alumni partners and associates at O’Melveny & Meyers LLP also worked on the case.

New Book by Professor Gary Francione Argues for an End to Treating Animals as Property
Professor Gary L. Francione finds advocates for stronger animal welfare laws at best wrong-headed and at worst complicit in perpetuating the exploitation of animals. True rights for animals, he argues in “Animals as Persons: Essays on the Abolition of Animal Exploitation” (Columbia University Press, 2008) can only be realized by ending the property status of all sentient non-humans. Further, the only logical and moral choice for individuals who support this abolitionist position is to go vegan.

Francione, the first academic to teach animal rights theory in an American law school, has written several articles and three previous books on the subject. “Introduction to Animal Rights: Your Child or the Dog?” was recently translated into Turkish. It has also been translated into Chinese, and presses are seeking publish French, Spanish, and Portuguese versions.

Francione received his J.D. from the University of Virginia, then clerked for Judge Albert Tate, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and for Justice Sandra Day O’Connor of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Constitutional Litigation Clinic Sues Over Iraq War
The Constitutional Litigation Clinic, under the supervision of Professor Frank Askin, filed suit on May 13 in Federal District Court in Newark against President Bush seeking a declaratory judgment that the war in Iraq is being waged in violation of the U.S. Constitution. The unique complaint is based on the annals of the 1787 Constitutional Convention and the adoption of Article I, Sec. 8, providing that only Congress can declare war. Askin and the clinic students worked through the academic year preparing the suit, which is based largely on original research of Professor Emeritus Alfred Blumrosen into the adoption of the war-powers provision. The
suit alleges that decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court in the 19th century held that only Congress could declare an offensive war against a sovereign nation, and that Congress could not delegate that power to the President. The New Jersey Law Journal, Jurist, Fox News, WBGO, and the Record reported on the lawsuit. The complaint is posted at http://law.newark.rutgers.edu/clinics_constitution.html.

Yvette Bravo-Weber New Assistant Dean for the Minority Student Program

Yvette Bravo-Weber will join the law school as Assistant Dean for the Minority Student Program and Externships, effective July 1. She most recently was Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Community Relations at NYU Law School, where she worked from 1993-2007. Prior to joining NYU, Bravo-Weber was director of the Education Division of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund, deputy general counsel for the New York City Commission on Human Rights, and a pro se legal clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Before attending law school, she was a teacher for eight years. Bravo-Weber is a graduate of NYU Law School, has a master’s degree in education from the Bank Street College of Education, and a bachelor’s degree from SUNY Stony Brook.

Constitutional Litigation Clinic Granted Access to Test Electronic Voting Machines

In April voting rights advocates represented by Clinical Professor Penny Venetis and her students in the Constitutional Litigation Clinic succeeded in gaining court approval to test the security and accuracy of the electronic voting machines used in New Jersey. The ruling is the first in the country to give litigants access to these machines. On June 20, in response to requests by Venetis, the ACLU, and press groups, the judge loosened restrictions she had placed on computer experts from publicly revealing their findings. Testing is scheduled to begin on June 30. Since 2004, the clinic has represented citizens in litigation that argues the electronic voting machines should be de-commissioned if they cannot produce a voter-verified paper record. The Associated Press, Star-Ledger, Record, and Gannett covered the latest developments in the case.

State Bar Honors Alycia M. Guichard, Head of Street Law Program, as Young Lawyer of the Year

Alycia M. Guichard, Supervising Attorney and New Jersey Bar Fellow for the Street Law program, received the Young Lawyer of the Year Award from the Young Lawyers Division of the New Jersey State Bar Association. The award honors a young lawyer whose personal and professional achievements merit special recognition and who has made significant community and public service contributions. Besides supervising Street Law, which trains law students to teach lessons about the law and civic responsibility to young people in Newark and surrounding communities, Guichard has served as interim director of the Minority Student Program & Externships. Before joining Rutgers in 2007, Guichard was a teaching fellow and summer law faculty member with the Street Law Clinic at Georgetown University Law Center. She received her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law and her LL.M. in Advocacy from Georgetown University Law Center.

FACULTY NOTES

Associate Dean Bernard Bell wrote “Watching the Web,” an op-ed published by the April 27 Record. The piece commented favorably on the New Jersey Supreme Court’s opinion in the State of New Jersey v. Reid that individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy with using the Internet. Grayson Barber ’91 filed an amicus brief on behalf of the New Jersey Library Association.

“Terror/Torture” by Associate Professor Karima Bennoune was published in the Berkeley Journal of International Law (26 Berkeley J. Int’l L. 1, 2008). She took part in this month’s Brain Trust expert meeting on women’s human rights organized by the Global Justice Center and held in New York.


Associate Professor Anna Gelpen discussed her article “Odious, Not Debt” at the Rutgers-Newark Provost’s Annual Research Day on April 23. On April 10, she presented her research on amicus briefs in financial contract disputes to the law school faculty. On May 28 at the First Annual Junior Scholars Workshop on Banking and
Consumer Financial Services Law, held at the University of Connecticut School of Law, she presented her paper, “Deciding When Rules Do Not Apply: Financial Crisis Resolution Beyond Subprime.” Gelpern’s April 21 Commercial Law class featured guest speaker Michael F. Silva, senior vice president and chief of staff at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who discussed the credit crisis and the role of the Federal Reserve. The event was sponsored by the Institute on Corporate Governance, headed by Associate Dean Gregory Mark.

Assistant Professor Steve Gold toured New Jersey during the first week of June with the Rutgers Faculty Traveling Seminar. The seminar introduces the Garden State to recently hired faculty in all parts of the university, emphasizing the possibilities for Rutgers outreach to the community. For Gold, who teaches Environmental Law and is director of the Environmental Law Clinic, it was an opportunity to see firsthand the state’s many environmental challenges. The seminar also sowed seeds of potential collaborations for his research interests as well as the clinic. As one of Gold’s colleagues on the bus put it, from Trenton to the Pine Barrens to the Highlands to Newark, “at every stop there’s been something relevant” to environmental law.

The summer 2008 issue of Heal, a consumer health journal, quoted Legal Research and Writing Instructor Barbara Hoffman on whether cancer survivors should discuss their medical history at work. Hoffman was a panelist for “Addressing the Unmet Needs of Cancer Survivors: A Dialogue for Action,” a May 29 town hall and webcast produced by the New Jersey Commission on Cancer Research and the Cancer Institute of New Jersey.

On May 5 Professor Jonathan Hyman presented a program on “Mediation Advocacy in a Clinical Setting” at the AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, held in Tucson. On June 5, he presented the James B. Boskey ADR Practitioner of the Year Award, posthumously, to Richard K. Jeydel at the ADR Day XI, held at the New Jersey Law Center.

Associate Professor Suzanne A. Kim spoke as a commentator at the Emerging Family Law Scholars Conference, held June 5-6 at Cardozo Law School.

“Problems With Current English-Spanish Legal Dictionaries, and Notes Toward a Critical Comparative Legal Lexicography” by Reference Librarian Dennis Kim-Prieto was published in the Law Library Journal (100 Law Libr. J. 251, 2008).

On May 29 the law school hosted approximately 170 foster youth and their case workers for a program on resources available to teenagers aging out of foster care. The event included presentations by Clinical Professor Randi Mandelbaum, Director of the Child Advocacy Clinic, and Clinical Law Fellow Nana Wilson ’07, based on the clinic’s Aging Out, Don’t Miss Out project, which provides youth transitioning out of the New Jersey foster care system with community education and training about their rights and entitlements. Volunteer groups were on hand with information about employment and education opportunities. The clinic has published a Spanish-language edition of its Aging Out, Don’t Miss Out brochure and a second edition of the English-language version.


The American Public Gardens Association invited Associate Professor Sabrina Safrin to address its annual conference in Pasadena on June 26. She will give an opening presentation on the topic “Plant Germplasm Collecting, Conservation and Exchange: Challenges for Botanical Institutions in the 21st Century.”
Professor Paul Tractenberg contributed entries on educational rights and affirmative action to the new "Routledge International Encyclopedia of Education." The articles grew out of his spring 2007 semester position as a visiting scholar at the Institute of Education in London. In March he made presentations at St. John’s University School of Law on the history of the civil rights movement, especially as it relates to education, and at the Rutgers Race and the Law Review symposium on affirmative action in education. On May 8 he moderated a panel at the Eagleton Institute in which former New Jersey governors and Supreme Court justices discussed their interactions on major legal and policy issues. The New Jersey Department of Education has selected the Legal One project, developed jointly by the Institute on Education Law and Policy, of which Tractenberg is founding director, and the state’s Principals and Supervisors Association and Superintendents Association, as the template for the legislatively-required professional development program for public school administrators.

The April 30 Washington Independent published Professor David Troutt’s essay “Wright as Father Figure” and the May 13 Daily Voice published his “How Right to Be So Wrong: Barack Obama and the Essential Surprise.”

STUDENT NEWS


Money raised at the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) annual auction, and from donations by faculty, students, alums, and law firms has enabled 10 students to work this summer in unpaid public interest/public service jobs. Students and their placements are: Joy Trueworthy, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Emily Anderson, Iran Human Rights Documentation Center; Nicole Siegel, Act Blue; Michael Pignatiello, Volunteer Lawyers for Justice; Gioconda Rodriguez, Asylum Access: Ecuador Project; Randal Defalco, Documentation Center of Cambodia; Kathleen Wells, Brennan Center for Justice; Ellery Asher Ireland, New York Legal Aid; Chadwick Gaines, King County District Attorney; and Laszlo Szabo, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics has selected the following Class of 2009 students as Eagleton Fellows for the 2008-09 academic year: Asha Abraham, Tamara Britt, Neal Kronley, Nicole Siegel, and Jack Zatz. During the fall, fellows enroll in a seminar in applied politics at the Eagleton Institute that prepares them for spring semester placements in New Jersey legislative offices, the Governor’s office, executive agencies, or other government offices.

ALUMNAE/I HIGHLIGHTS

Marcia Anderson ’86 has been confirmed as a brigadier general in the Wisconsin Army Reserve, the first African-American woman to hold that rank. In her civilian life, she is a Bankruptcy Court clerk.

Carline Brizzolara ’99, Mark E. Hall ’99, Jennifer Lazor ’98, and Daniel W. Zappo ’98 have been named partner at Riker Danzig, Scherer, Hyland & Perretti LLP. Scott E. Reynolds ’99 and Brenda C. Liss ’84 have been named counsel. Liss was most recently executive director of the Institute on Education Law and Policy at the law school. Diane Crothers ’74 is deputy commissioner for the Division of Citywide Equal Employment Opportunity, part of the New York Department of Citywide Administrative Services. Crothers, co-founder of the Women’s Rights Law Reporter, previously held top-level EEO positions for the IRS and the U.S. Department of Labor.
Leticia Diaz ’94, dean of Barry University School of Law, received ImpreMedia Company’s first-ever Hispanic Women Who Make a Difference Award. ImpreMedia is the country’s leading Hispanic news and information company in online and print.

Karen Kunstler Goldman ’76, an assistant attorney general in the Charities Bureau of the New York State Department of Law, has been appointed to the IRS’s Advisory Committee on Tax Exempt and Government Entities.

Kenneth Grispin ’73 and Thomas W. Sumners ’84 have been confirmed as Superior Court judges. Grispin, assigned to Union County, had practiced criminal and civil law with Leib, Kraus, Grispin and Roth in Scotch Plains. Sumners, appointed to Mercer County, had been a partner in the Trenton firm of Sumners George & Dortch.

Cressie Thigpen, Jr.’73 was appointed a special Superior Court judge in North Carolina. Thigpen, a partner with the Raleigh law firm Thigpen, Blue, Stephens & Feller, was inducted in 2007 into the North Carolina Bar Association general practice hall of fame. He was the first African-American to serve as president of the North Carolina State Bar.

China TransInfo Technology Corp., Beijing, has named Jay Trien ’66 to its board and chair of the company’s audit committee. He is a senior partner at the accounting and business consulting firm Trien Rosenberg Weinberg Ciullo & Fazzari LLP.

“A way out of college debt,” an op-ed co-authored by Harvard Law School Professor Elizabeth Warren ’76, was published in the June 9 Boston Globe.

R-N LAW IN THE NEWS

A May 1 Press of Atlantic City article about corruption accusations raised in a local election included a quote by Professor Frank Askin. He also commented on the Congressional power to investigate for a report in the April 23 Turkish newspaper Today’s Zaman on the limited power of that country’s legislative body to investigate.

Associate Dean Bernard Bell was interviewed for an April 7 New Jersey Lawyer story about the “disclosure and apology” movement aimed at reducing malpractice litigation.

Adjunct Professor Nicholas Groombridge, co-chair of the patent litigation practice at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, was quoted in the April 13 Star-Ledger about the increasingly common early-entry strategy of generic drug companies.

The April 30 New Jersey & Company, May 12 New Jersey Lawyer and June Metropolitan Corporate Counsel reported on Sills Cummis & Gross P.C.’s selection of Jared Heady ’10 as the second Charles J. Walsh Scholar.

Record columnist Lawrence Aaron interviewed Professor Louis Raveson for an April 30 article on the verdict in the trial of the New York police officers charged in the shooting death of Sean Bell.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The law school’s Fifth Annual Golf Outing will take place at Baltusrol Golf Club on Monday, Sept. 22. Proceeds benefit the Justice Morris Pashman Endowed Scholarship Fund. For information about the event, contact the development office at 973-353-5094 or golf@kinoy.rutgers.edu.

The Annual Alumni Recognition Dinner will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 22, at the Hilton at Short Hills. Honorees are: Hon. William Martini ’72. Hon. Rudy Coleman ’74, and Anthony Coscia ’84.