

A Handbook on Law School Pro Bono Programs

The AALS Pro Bono Project

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Table of Contents

Foreword	3
Acknowledgements	5
Introduction to Handbook	6
Law School Pro Bono Programs in the United States	7
A Short History	7
An Overview of Programs	8
Structure.....	9
Location/Identity	14
Staffing.....	18
In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects	19
Methods of Recruitment, Retention and Recognition.....	21
Ingredients of a Successful Pro Bono Program.....	23
Institutional Support	24
Adequate Staffing of Program.....	27
Independent Identity	28
Flexibility.....	29
Quality Control	29
Taking Pro Bono to the Next Level	30
Faculty Pro Bono	30
Curricular Integration.....	31
Programs on Pro Bono in the Law Firm.....	32
Pro Bono Continuing Legal Education and Other Trainings.....	32
A Directory of Individual Programs	35
Appendix of Sample Program Materials	

Foreword

This handbook marks the final contribution of the staff of the AALS Pro Bono Project. The material within is based largely on information gathered by the staff between July 1999 and June 2001, primarily through site visits at and correspondence with law schools. This handbook focuses on the nuts and bolts of the operation of pro bono programs in law schools in the United States. It is designed to help schools inspire and enable their students to live up to the legal profession's highest ideals of public service.

This handbook builds upon the foundation laid by the AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities [the Commission] in its Report, *Learning to Serve: The Findings and Proposals of the AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities*, released in October 1999. The Commission was created by AALS through the leadership of Deborah L. Rhode, 1998 President of AALS, and funded by the Open Society Institute. Its activities marked “the first systematic effort by the Association of American Law Schools to address the role of pro bono and public service in legal education.”¹

The Commission, chaired by Professor David Chambers of the University of Michigan Law School, conducted a national survey of law schools regarding their pro bono activities. It also held three day-long focus groups-- in Washington, San Francisco and Chicago—attended by staff administrators of pro bono programs as well as law school deans, law students and professors. Finally, the Commission held a meeting in Washington with representatives of eight national organizations involved in working with pro bono projects. At the conclusion of its study, the Commission produced *Learning to Serve*.

In *Learning to Serve*, the Commission set out its findings, conclusions, and recommendations regarding pro bono programs in American legal education. It found that “at some American law schools, no students participate in law-related pro bono projects and, at most American law schools, only a minority of the student body participate in such a project during their law school years.”² The Commission concluded, “law schools should do more.”³

The Commission grounded its conclusion on three premises. The first is ethical: law schools help shape professional values and a crucial value is a commitment to pro bono service to persons of limited means.⁴ The second premise is pedagogical: pro bono programs offer multiple educational benefits in such areas as professional responsibility, problem solving, lawyering skills, and leadership skills.⁵ The third premise is pragmatic: pro bono programs assist students' career development and help foster good will between law schools, their alumni and their broader community.⁶

¹ Deborah Rhode, *Forward to Association of American Law Schools Commission on Pro Bono & Public Service Opportunities, Learning to Serve: The Findings and Proposals of the AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities*, at vii (October 1999). *Learning to Serve* is available on the web at www.aals.org/probono/report.html.

² *Learning to Serve* at 2.

³ *Id.*

⁴ *Id.* at 3-4.

⁵ *Id.* at 4-5.

⁶ *Id.* at 5-6.

The Commission made two specific recommendations to law schools: 1) “that law schools make available to all law students at least once during their law school careers a well-supervised law-related pro bono opportunity and either require the students’ participation or find ways to attract the great majority of students to volunteer,”⁷ and 2) “that all law schools adopt a formal policy to encourage and support faculty members to perform pro bono work.”⁸

The Commission’s long-range goal for legal education is “to increase dramatically the numbers of law students and law faculty involved in pro bono work.”⁹ To further this goal, the Commission recommended that the AALS establish a new Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities. In 1999, the AALS did so. The mission of this new Section is “to promote the communication of ideas, interests and activities among members of the section and to make recommendations to the Association on matters concerning Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities.”¹⁰

The Commission also helped to obtain funding from the Open Society Institute to hire staff for a two-year period to help launch the new Section and to assist individual law schools create and expand pro bono programs.¹¹ The staff of the AALS Pro Bono Project spent much of their time meeting with individuals at law schools to gather information on pro bono programs and to discuss with law school leaders ways to improve pro bono programs. The Director of the Project personally visited 90 of the 185 ABA approved law schools and corresponded with numerous others during this period.

Since the publication of *Learning to Serve*, the number and quality of pro bono programs in American law schools has increased. The AALS is hopeful that the publication of this handbook will help continue this trend. But the work does not end here. The AALS is committed to supporting efforts that will build on the progress made. To this end, the AALS has partnered with the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service, which has contracted for services from Duke University School of Law, to follow-up on the work of the Pro Bono Project for one year.

In addition, the AALS Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities is working to increase its membership so that every school is involved in a national discussion of the best ways to instill the value of pro bono service. Resources for pro bono programs and information regarding the work of the Section will remain, as needed, on the AALS website, www.aals.org/probono.

The AALS Equal Justice Project will work collaboratively with the Pro Bono Section and other groups that seek to increase access to legal services. Under the guidance of Elliott

⁷ *Id.* at 7.

⁸ *Id.* at 18.

⁹ *Id.* at 2.

¹⁰ Bylaws of the AALS Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities, Article I, Section 2, (2001). Membership in the section is “open to faculty members and professional staff of a law school that is a member of the [AALS].” *Id.* at Article II, Section 1(a). Associate Membership is “open to any other person who is concerned with the teaching, administration, and improvement of legal education in the subject area of the section.” *Id.* at Article II, Section 1(b). For more information on the Section, visit www.aals.org/probono/section.html.

¹¹ *Id.*

Milstein, past-president of the AALS, the Equal Justice Project held 19 colloquia across the country during the 2000-01 school year. It “aspires to highlight examples of the excellent equal justice work that schools and faculty are doing, to develop models for other schools to adopt, and to encourage those in law schools who would like to contribute to issues of equal justice to find their own paths to do so.”¹²

The AALS is not alone in helping law schools improve pro bono projects. The ABA Center for Pro Bono offers technical assistance to pro bono programs in law schools, including confidential consultations through its Peer Consulting Project. The Center recently hosted a half-day workshop on law school pro bono programs in conjunction with the annual ABA/NLADA Equal Justice Conference and has several useful publications for law schools on pro bono.¹³ PSLawNet continues to offer its international database of pro bono and public interest opportunities to member schools. It also offers sample forms and sponsors workshops for pro bono coordinators.¹⁴ NAPIL provides workshops and materials to assist pro bono coordinators and students seeking to start pro bono programs.¹⁵ NALP has a Public Service Committee available to promote and assist pro bono programs through its network of career services offices.

Thus, clearly, this Handbook is just the next step in supporting law schools as they develop their pro bono programs and related curriculum. It is, however, an important step, providing a body of information and materials not previously made widely available. There is much law schools can learn from one another in developing the best practices for teaching the importance of pro bono service. The information contained within is intended to be a resource for that learning.

Acknowledgements

Many persons, at many schools and organizations, have encouraged and furthered the work of the AALS Pro Bono Project over the last two years and, therefore, are partly responsible for the publishing of this Handbook. Advice on the direction of the Project was generously provided by the Project’s Advisory Board: Don Burnett, Sande Buhai, Jeffrey Chinn, Curt Crossley, David Hall, Greg McConnell, Michael Millemann, Barbara Moulton, and Deidre Stephens. A word of appreciation goes to these persons, as well as to many unofficial advisors who include Dina Merrill, at the ABA Center for Pro Bono, and Steve Scuddard, Counsel for the Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service.

A special thanks for assistance in publishing this handbook goes to the Open Society Institute for providing its generous funding of the Pro Bono Project. Further appreciation is owed Deborah Rhode, David Chambers and the AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public

¹² Dean Hill Rivkin, *AALS Project Provides Forum for Collaborative Thinking and Action*, Dialogue (Division for Legal Services) Spring 2001, Vol.5: 2 at 2. For more information on the Equal Justice Project, visit its website at www.aals.org/equaljustice.

¹³ Visit www.abanet.org/legalservices for more information. See, e.g., Path to Pro Bono, Attachment 20.

¹⁴ Visit www.pslawnet.org for more information.

¹⁵ Visit www.napil.org for more information.

Service for their vision and advice and Carl Monk, Executive Director of the AALS, and the staff at the AALS office for their support and assistance.

Introduction to Handbook

This Handbook is for law school administrators, faculty, and students interested in creating or expanding programs that provide information and experiences that help inculcate within law students the value of public service as a professional ethic. It focuses on law school *pro bono* programs. These are programs designed to engage a large number of students in *pro bono* service, usually uncompensated by credit or pay, while in law school.¹⁶ These programs operate so as to introduce students to *pro bono* service, to give them a positive experience providing *pro bono* service and to assist them in incorporating *pro bono* service into their practices.

Pro bono programs, however, are just one part of a broader educational responsibility. A law school must address issues of equal justice and public service in a multitude of ways to reach all students. Other key parts include clinics, externships, public interest classes, programs and career placement opportunities, and meaningful professional responsibility instruction. Thus, users of this handbook are encouraged to examine the whole picture of justice education and to determine how a *pro bono* program best fits.

A *pro bono* program should not be expected to accomplish the in-depth education and skills training that for-credit classes, particularly clinics, can provide.¹⁷ Nor should a *pro bono* program be used as a program just for students planning on having a public interest career. Public interest students should be provided programs specifically targeted for their special needs for job placement and financial assistance.¹⁸ A *pro bono* program is for *every* student.

The unique and important role that *pro bono* programs play in legal education is explored in the material that follows. The body of this handbook is comprised of four parts: 1) a short history of *pro bono* programs in law schools in the United States, 2) an overview of these programs as they currently exist, 3) a list of ingredients for a successful *pro bono* program, and 4) ideas for taking programs to the next level. There is also a directory of individual law school *pro bono* programs and an appendix of sample forms and publications.

¹⁶ Mandatory public service programs that sometimes allow compensated public service are also included.

¹⁷ There are a wealth of materials on clinical education. Most recently the Clinical Education Section of the AALS and the Clinical Legal Education Association published an impressively comprehensive annotated bibliography on clinical legal education. Visit <http://clinic.law.cuny.edu/clea/clea.html> for more information.

¹⁸ For information on the state of law school loan repayment and public interest scholarship programs in law schools today, see *Financing the Future*, available from the National Association for Public Interest Law, www.napil.org or 202-466-3686. In addition, PSLawNet has developed an extensive, international database of job and fellowship listings.

LAW SCHOOL PRO BONO PROGRAMS IN THE UNITED STATES

A Short History

Until the late 1980's, law students interested in volunteering with law-related organizations in the community generally had to find the opportunities themselves. There was little administrative support from law schools for these activities. Some students found individual placements, usually in the summer, on their own. Many students organized into groups at their law schools to work with a particular organization or on a particular issue. One group of students, at the University of Minnesota, even formed a non-profit – the Minnesota Justice Foundation -- to coordinate pro bono placements of students.¹⁹ Nevertheless, for most students, first-hand exposure while in law school to public interest clients occurred almost exclusively in for-credit clinics and in externships, if at all.

In the late 1980's, a number of individual deans, professors and students began encouraging law schools to do more to address the unmet legal needs of low income persons and to do more to educate all law students about these needs. The “pro bono projects” that emerged were seen at the time as “an innovative solution [to] integrate actual pro bono work with real clients who have real problems – into the curriculum so that all future lawyers will have first hand experience working without pay to help others.”²⁰

Tulane Law School, in 1987, became the first American law school to institute an administratively supported service program for the express purpose of instilling an ethic of pro bono service within all law students. This program was also the first pro bono graduation requirement in an American law school, requiring all students to perform 20 hours of law-related public service in their third year of law school.²¹

Within five years, by the end of 1991, several other pioneering law schools had instituted a formal, administratively supported, pro bono program providing a variety of volunteer opportunities. The law schools at the University of Pennsylvania, Florida State University, Valparaiso University, Touro College, the University of Louisville and the University of Hawaii began mandatory pro bono/public service programs. The law schools at the University of South Carolina, New York University, Duke University, Georgetown University, Santa Clara University and Seton Hall University began voluntary programs.

Over the next ten years, many other law schools started pro bono and public service programs, often instituting a program similar to the first pro bono programs but with their own twist. Three initiatives contributed to the growth of new programs.

¹⁹ See, ABA Standing Committee on Lawyers' Public Service Responsibility & National Association of Public Interest Law, *Pro Bono in Law Schools*, at 5-10 (October 1991).

²⁰Michael Caudell-Feagan, *About this Issue . . .* in *Pro Bono at Law Schools: New Solutions to Old Problems*, The NAPIL Connection, 1990 Supplement.

²¹John Kramer, *Mandatory Pro Bono at Tulane Law School* in *Pro Bono at Law Schools: New Solutions to Old Problems*, The NAPIL Connection, 1990 Supplement.

In 1990, New York University School of Law created Pro Bono Students, a program designed to place the school's students in pro bono placements with public interest organizations.²² The goal of the program was "to offer students the opportunity to do volunteer legal work, to provide a means of assisting students in their career choices, to teach students the value of public interest work and encourage a pro bono ethic, and to help underserved communities and organizations."²³ The program expanded statewide just one year later, creating a network in which twelve New York law schools participated.²⁴ Subsequently, it expanded to become Pro Bono Students America, a national, and then international, support program for pro bono and public interest students at any law school that joined as a member. Its most unique contribution has been its Web-based database of public service opportunities.²⁵ It was also the first organization through which pro bono coordinators could network and participate in workshops.

In 1996, the American Bar Association amended its accreditation standards to provide that "[a] law school should encourage its students to participate in pro bono activities and provide opportunities for them to do so."²⁶

In 1999, the AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities made its recommendation urging law schools to provide all students with pro bono opportunities and helped create the Pro Bono Project.²⁷

Currently, 99 law schools have a formal, administratively supported, pro bono program. Defined in more detail below, these programs offer and/or encourage a variety of pro bono opportunities and attempt to involve all or a substantial portion of the student body. These programs often co-exist with, and sometimes collaborate with or create, in-house student group projects that are narrower in scope and participation. Twenty-four law schools have no formal pro bono program but have one or more in-house and/or collaborative student group projects that offer law-related pro bono opportunities. In total, 123 law schools currently have pro bono opportunities available for their students.

An Overview of Programs by Defining Characteristics

Upon examination of the existing pro bono programs in 123 law schools in the United States, one will find a group of wildly diverse programs. Certain characteristics, however, stand out as defining the look and operation of a program. These defining characteristics are:

²² Pro Bono in Law Schools at 11.

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ *Id.*

²⁵ Today, the organization is named the Public Service Law Network Worldwide, PSLawNet. According to its materials, it "helps law students and law graduates across the country find public service opportunities with public interest organizations, government agencies, judges, and private firms with public interest or significant pro bono practices." See, www.PSLawNet.org.

²⁶ ABA Accreditation Standard 302(e) (Curriculum)

²⁷ See discussion in the Introduction, *supra*.

- Structure
- Location/Identity
- Staffing
- Type and number of student group projects
- Methods of Recruitment, Retention and Recognition

This section provides an overview of these characteristics in existing law school pro bono programs in the United States.

Structure

There are three models for structuring pro bono opportunities in the law school context. Two models are formal, institutionally supported programs: Graduation Requirement Programs and Formal Voluntary Programs. The third model is student driven and run: Independent In-House and Collaborative Group Projects. Both of the formal models have sub-types.

Graduation Requirement Programs

The Graduation Requirement Program model requires students to engage in public service as a condition of graduation. There are three types of these mandatory programs.

The first type of mandatory program is the Pro Bono Graduation Requirement Program. These programs require students to perform a set number of hours of law-related public service. The number of hours required by these programs ranges from 20 to 70. The students' service is *pro bono* as they receive neither academic credit nor pay for their service. A few of these programs allow non-legal service to count towards *part* of the requirement. Currently, fourteen law schools have this type of program. These schools are:

- Columbia University
- University of the District of Columbia
- Florida State University
- University of Hawaii
- University of Louisville
- University of Nevada
- University of Pennsylvania
- Roger Williams University
- St. Thomas University, Miami
- Southern Methodist University
- Stetson University
- Texas Wesleyan University
- Tulane University
- Valparaiso University

The second type of mandatory program is the Public Service Requirement Program. The way in which this type of graduation requirement can be met varies from school to school. Most programs require students to perform law-related public service but are flexible in the form of the service, allowing service in pro bono placements, externships, clinics, and/or internships to count towards the requirement. Some of these programs allow the requirement to be met only through participation in a for-credit clinic. A few of the programs do not require actual service

but allow the requirement to be met by exposure to poverty law through a class or independent study. Currently, twelve law schools have this type of program. These schools are:

- City University of New York
- District of Columbia University
- Harvard University
- Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
- Loyola University, New Orleans
- University of Maryland
- University of Montana
- University of New Mexico
- Northeastern University
- University of Puerto Rico
- Touro
- University of Washington

The third type of mandatory program is the Community Service Requirement Program. This program is identical to the Pro Bono Requirement Program except that it allows non-legal service to meet the graduation requirement. Only one school has this type of program: Gonzaga University.

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Programs

A second model for structuring a law school pro bono program is the Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program. There are two types of these programs.

The first type of formal voluntary program is characterized by a referral system with a coordinator. The referral system matches students with law-related pro bono opportunities in the community. These programs have a designated pro bono coordinator/advisor, or group of coordinators/advisors, who has the responsibility of developing, promoting and/or coordinating pro bono placements. Some coordinators/advisors provide individual counseling sessions; others maintain lists that students use to find their own placements. In some schools, these coordinators/advisors also provide administrative support to in-house and collaborative student group projects. Students participate voluntarily. Currently, 62 schools have this type of program. These schools are:

- University of Alabama
- American University
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Los Angeles
- California-Western
- Capital University
- Chapman University
- Chicago-Kent University
- University of Cincinnati
- Cleveland State University
- University of Connecticut
- Cornell University
- University of Dayton
- Drake University
- Duke University
- University of Florida
- Franklin Pierce
- George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Hamline University (MJF)²⁸
- Hofstra University
- Howard University
- Indiana University, Indianapolis
- University of Iowa
- Lewis & Clark University

²⁸ The Minnesota Justice Foundation (MJF) is a non-profit organization that coordinates pro bono placements and activities for the three law schools in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. Each school has a coordinator on-site.

- Loyola University, Chicago
- University of Maine
- Marquette University
- University of Miami
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota (MJF)
- University of Missouri, Kansas City
- New England
- New York Law School
- New York University
- University of North Carolina
- North Carolina Central University
- Nova Southeastern University
- Oklahoma City University
- University of Oregon
- Rutgers-Camden
- Rutgers-Newark
- University of San Francisco
- Santa Clara University
- Seattle University
- Seton Hall University
- University of South Carolina
- University of Southern California
- Southwestern
- Temple University
- University of Texas
- Thomas Jefferson
- University of Utah
- Vanderbilt University
- Villanova University
- University of Virginia
- Washington University
- University of West Virginia
- Western State
- Widener University
- William Mitchell (MJF)
- Yale University

The second type of Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program is characterized by administrative support for in-house and collaborative student group projects. The student groups often work in partnership with outside organizations. The type of support provided by the school ranges from full-time staffing of a center where the pro bono projects may locate to administrative assistance in tracking hours volunteered. Students participate voluntarily. There are eleven schools with this type of program. These schools are:

- Arizona State University
- Boston College
- Brigham Young University
- Fordham University
- University of Illinois
- Ohio State University
- Pepperdine
- St. Mary's University
- University of Tennessee
- Wayne State

Independent In-House and Collaborative Group Projects

The third model for structuring pro bono opportunities is to have no formal program for school-wide pro bono coordination and support but to rely on students to form and run group projects. These group projects generally target a particular legal need or a particular segment of the population. Most groups work with a faculty supervisor and/or in collaboration with an

outside organization. Some of the groups are long-standing and raise their own funding. There are 24 law schools using this model. These schools are:

- University of Akron
- Albany (Union University)
- Boston University
- Brooklyn
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Hastings
- Campbell University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Catholic University
- Emory University
- University of Indiana, Bloomington
- University of Memphis
- Mississippi College
- University of Nebraska
- Northwestern University
- Ohio Northern University
- Samford University
- University of South Dakota
- Southern Illinois University
- Stanford University
- University of Vermont
- Wake Forest University
- Willamette University
- William & Mary University

LAW SCHOOL PRO BONO PROGRAMS*

(123 Law Schools Represented)

Graduation Requirement			Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program			Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects (24)
Pro Bono (14)	Public Service (12)	Community Service (1)	Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator (62)		Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects (11)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Columbia • District of Columbia • Florida State • U of Hawaii • U of Louisville • UNLV • U of Penn. • Roger Williams • St. Thomas (Miami) • SMU • Stetson • Texas Wesleyan • Tulane • Valparaiso 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CUNY • District of Columbia • Harvard • Loyola, LA • Loyola, NO • U of Maryland • U of Montana • U of New Mexico • Northeastern • U of Puerto Rico • Touro • U of Washington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gonzaga 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U of Alabama • American Univ. • U of Cal, Davis • UCLA • Cal-Western • Capital • Chapman • Chicago-Kent • U of Cincinnati • Cleveland State • U of Connecticut • Cornell • U of Dayton • Drake • Duke • U of Florida • Franklin Pierce • George Wash. • Georgetown • Hamline (MJF) • Hofstra • Howard • Indiana, Indy • Iowa • Lewis & Clark • Loyola, Chicago • U of Maine • Marquette • U of Miami • U of Michigan • U of Minn (MJF) • U of Missouri, KC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New England • New York • NYU • U of North Carolina • North Carolina Central • Nova Southeastern • Ok. City U • U of Oregon • Rutgers - Camden • Rutgers-Newark • U of San Francisco • Santa Clara • Seattle • Seton Hall • U of South Carolina • U of So. California • Southwestern • Temple • U of Texas • Thomas Jefferson • U of Utah • Vanderbilt • Villanova • U of Virginia • Washington U • West Virginia • Western State • Widener • William Mitchell (MJF) • Yale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona State • Boston College • BYU • Fordham • U of Illinois • Ohio State • Pepperdine • St. Mary's • San Diego • U of Tennessee • Wayne State 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Akron • Albany • Boston U • Brooklyn • U of Cal, Berkeley • U of Cal, Hastings • Campbell • Case Western • Catholic • Emory • U of Indiana, Bloom. • Memphis • Mississippi College • U of Nebraska • Northwestern • Ohio Northern • Samford • So. Dakota • So. Illinois • Stanford • Vermont • Wake Forest • Willamette • William & Mary

*For definitions see accompanying memo entitled Models of Law School Pro Bono Programs

Location/Identity

For the 99 schools with formal pro bono programs, the physical or administrative location of the program may be one of its most defining characteristics. The location may be determined by the vision for the program, by the location of the pro bono coordinator, or by other practicalities such as space and resources.

There are six locations within a law school where one might “find” a pro bono program. Four of these locations are outside the administrative offices of the law school and, collectively, represent the majority of pro bono programs. These programs may exist 1) as a “stand-alone” program, 2) within a public interest or service center, 3) with the clinical or externship program, or 4) with faculty. The administrative offices where one might find a pro bono program are the Office of Career Services and the Office of Students Services/Affairs. OCS is the single most popular location for a pro bono program.

Regardless of the location of a law school pro bono program, the structure, staffing and operation of these programs differ greatly. No location by itself defines how a program looks or operates. Mandatory programs, for example, exist in each of the six identified locations. No location guarantees success; successful pro bono projects exist in each of the locations.

Outside Administrative Offices

Sixty-three law schools have located their pro bono program outside of the law school’s administrative offices. These programs often have a curricular feel about them. Sometimes this is true because a faculty person is in charge of the program; other times it is true because the program is part of a larger effort to provide an array of public interest programming or to incorporate public service pervasively throughout the curriculum. Often these pro bono programs have an identity separate from any other program in the school, even if within a larger public interest or service center.

Twenty law schools have “stand-alone” pro bono programs. These programs are not part of any other office and maintain a separate identity. Some are mandatory programs; some are not. Some have full-time staffing; others have minimal staffing. Schools with a stand-alone pro bono program are:

Arizona State University
Hamline University (MJF)
Harvard University
University of Hawaii
University of Iowa
University of Louisville
Loyola University, New Orleans
University of Minnesota (MJF)
North Carolina Central University
Northeastern University

University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of Southern California
University of South Carolina
Southern Methodist University
University of Tennessee
University of Utah
University of West Virginia
William Mitchell (MJF)
Yale University

Twenty-four law schools have located their pro bono programs within a public interest or public service center. The director of the center may or may not also serve as the pro bono coordinator. Other programs found within these centers include public interest career programs, co-curricular public interest programs, and in-house clinical or externships programs. Schools with pro bono programs in these centers are:

University of Alabama	New England
University of California, Los Angeles	New York University
University of Cincinnati	University of Pennsylvania
Columbia University	Roger Williams
Duke University	Rutgers-Newark
Fordham University	St. Mary's University
Franklin Pierce	Seattle University
Georgetown University	Temple University
Howard University	University of Texas
Loyola University, Chicago	Tulane University
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles	Villanova University
University of Michigan	University of Virginia

Twelve schools have placed their pro bono program with their clinical or externship program. This arrangement most often exists because of the unique interest of the faculty in these programs. This arrangement is less popular, in part, because of the already high time demands on clinical faculty. However, some schools have avoided burdening clinicians. At a few schools, for example, the clinicians with pro bono responsibilities have less than a full-time teaching load and are paid specifically to run the pro bono program. One school, Widener University, houses in its clinic the local bar association pro bono coordinator who also serves as the student coordinator. Four of the schools have a public service graduation requirement that can only be met through participation in a for-credit clinic. These schools have no pro bono coordinator.

Schools with a pro bono or mandatory public service program located with their clinical/externship program are:

Brigham Young University	Pepperdine
Chicago-Kent	University of Puerto Rico
Cleveland State University	Seton Hall University
University of Missouri, Kansas City	Vanderbilt University
University of Montana	Wayne State University
University of New Mexico	Widener University

Seven schools have given responsibility for their pro bono or public service program to faculty outside the clinic. Each of these programs is very different, as seen from their individual listings in the directory below. The University of the District of Columbia, which has a mandatory clinical program and a mandatory pro bono program, involves all faculty members as pro bono advisors for an assigned group of students they otherwise advise. At George Washington University, a faculty-student committee, chaired by a faculty member, serves as the

coordinating group. At Gonzaga University and Valparaiso University, a faculty member has accepted the additional responsibility for serving as pro bono advisor. The other schools are CUNY, Drake, and the University of Maryland.

Inside Administrative Offices

Twenty-five schools have located their pro bono program within the Office of Career Services. Some schools have chosen this location in order to emphasize the importance of pro bono as a professional value to be carried into one's career. For others, it is a matter of practicality. In either case, the most successful programs in this location maintain an independent identity that serves to counter the danger that, given the many demands on an Office of Career Services, the pro bono program will get short-changed on time and resources. Some of these schools have a separate pro bono/public interest counselor in the Office of Career Services. In a few cases, this function is delegated to students, who may or may not be paid.

Schools with a formal pro bono program in their Office of Career Services are:

American University	Marquette University
Boston College	New York Law School
University of California, Davis	Nova Southeastern University
California-Western	University of Oregon
Capital University	Rugers-Camden
Chapman University	St. Thomas University, Miami
University of Connecticut	Santa Clara University
Cornell University	Stetson University
University of Florida	Thomas Jefferson
Hofstra University	Touro
Indiana University, Indianapolis	University of Washington
Lewis and Clark University	Yale University
University of Maine	Western State

Ten law schools have located their pro bono programs within the Office of Student Affairs/Services. Only one of these schools--Washington University--has a full-time pro bono coordinator. In the other programs, the person coordinating opportunities is doing so for no more than 25 percent of their time. Some programs rely heavily on student assistance in running the program. The schools with a pro bono program in their Office of Student Affairs are:

Florida State University	Ohio State University
University of Illinois	Oklahoma City University
University of Miami	Southwestern University
University of Nevada	Texas Wesleyan University
University of North Carolina	Washington University

Location of Pro Bono Programs* in Law Schools

Stand Alone Program (20)	In a Public Interest/ Service Center (24)	In Office of Career Services (25)	In Office of Student Affairs (10)	With Clinical or Externship Program (12)	With Faculty (7)
Arizona State Hamline (MJF) Harvard U of Hawaii Iowa U of Louisville Loyola, NO U of Minnesota (MJF) No. Carolina Central Northeastern San Diego San Francisco U of So. California U of So. Carolina SMU U of Tennessee U of Utah West Virginia William Mitchell (MJF) Yale	U of Alabama UCLA U of Cincinnati Columbia Duke Fordham Franklin Pierce Georgetown Howard Loyola, Chicago Loyola, LA U of Michigan New England NYU U of Pennsylvania Roger Williams Rutgers-Newark St. Mary's Seattle Univ. Temple U of Texas Tulane Villanova U of Virginia	American Univ. Boston College U of Cal - Davis California Western Capital Chapman U of Connecticut Cornell U of Florida Hofstra Indiana U, Indianapolis Lewis and Clark U of Maine Marquette New York Nova Southeastern U of Oregon Rutgers-Camden St. Thomas (Miami) Santa Clara Stetson Thomas Jefferson Touro U of Wash. Western State	Florida State U of Illinois U of Miami UNLV U of No. Carolina Ohio State Oklahoma City U Southwestern Texas Wesleyan Washington U	BYU Chicago-Kent Cleveland State U of Missouri, KC U of Montana U of New Mexico Pepperdine Puerto Rico Seton Hall Vanderbilt Wayne State Widener	CUNY U of DC Drake George Washington Gonzaga U of Maryland Valparaiso

*formal school-wide programs

Cynthia Adcock, AALS, June 27, 2001

Staffing

Staffing is another defining characteristic of a pro bono program. A pro bono program is inevitably impacted by whether a pro bono coordinator is paid or volunteer, full-time or part-time, a student or a faculty member, a group or one person. Indeed, the personality of the coordinator greatly shapes the program's identity.

Nine schools have one or more full-time pro bono coordinators:

Fordham	University of South Carolina
Georgetown	Southern Methodist University
Hamline	Tulane
University of Minnesota	William Mitchell
New York University	

Twenty schools have a full-time staff person who is responsible for a pro bono program and other public interest program or courses:

University of California, Los Angeles	Pepperdine
Columbia	St. Mary's
Franklin Pierce	Seattle
Hofstra	Temple
Howard	University of Texas
Loyola, Los Angeles	Villanova
University of Michigan	University of Virginia
New England	University of Washington
Nova Southeastern	Washington University
University of Pennsylvania	West Virginia

Thirteen schools have half-time pro bono coordinators:

University of Cincinnati	Loyola, New Orleans
Cleveland State	University of Miami
University of Dayton	University of Nevada
Duke	North Carolina Central
University of Florida	Seton Hall
University of Louisville	University of Utah
Loyola, Los Angeles	

Four schools – Gonzaga University, Lewis & Clark, Rutgers-Newark and Santa Clara University -- pay one or two students to work as the pro bono coordinator. At each school, there is a faculty or staff member who supervises the student(s). Four schools have “collective coordinator” arrangements where a committee or group is responsible for promoting and coordinating pro bono opportunities: George Washington (Faculty-Student Pro Bono Committee); University of Iowa (The Pro Bono Society); University of San Diego (Pro Bono

Legal Advocates); Yale (The Pro Bono Network). These groups have no faculty member or administrator directly responsible for the pro bono program.

The remaining 45 schools have persons designated as being responsible for the pro bono program but for less than half of their time. Some of these persons are paid for these duties; others have undertaken these duties in addition to their full-time jobs.

Some schools use students to supplement the work of the pro bono coordinator. At least two schools pay students to assist the pro bono coordinator: Nova Southeastern University and the University of Virginia. At least five schools have students participate as members of a board or committee that assists directly the person in charge of the pro bono program in its operation: Arizona State University, Chicago-Kent, the University of North Carolina, the University of Oregon, and the University of Tennessee. At least six schools involve students in the pro bono program as members of an advisory board or committee: the University of Alabama, the University of Florida, Howard University, the Minnesota Justice Foundation (the University of Minnesota, Hamline University and William Mitchell), the University of South Carolina and Washington University.

Most schools give their pro bono coordinators the status of administrator. Six schools have deans of public service who are involved in or run the school's pro bono program. These schools are Columbia University, Duke University, Fordham University, Georgetown University, Tulane University and the University of Virginia. As noted above, some pro bono coordinators/designees are faculty members. At least one school, Duke University, gives the pro bono coordinator faculty (non-tenure track) status. Additional information on who coordinates pro bono programs in law schools can be found in the directory of programs below.

In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

As noted above, student-run pro bono group projects pre-date the formal, administratively supported, pro bono programs now existing at 99 law schools. Most schools, even if they have a formal pro bono program, still have these group projects. As reported in *Learning to Serve*,

Over 90 percent of law school responding to the AALS survey report one or more law-related pro bono projects in existence at their school. Some of these projects operate from inside the school, independent of any external public interest organization; others operate in collaboration with such organizations. Some projects are organized and run by students, others by faculty or paid administrators. The degree to which local attorneys are involved varies. Generally, these projects concentrate on serving the legal needs in a single subject matter area of practice or on the legal needs of a single sub-population of low income people.²⁹

A growing number of formal programs are actively working with students and with lawyers in their communities to develop student group projects that will make it easier for students to find a meaningful pro bono opportunity and will help fill the gap in existing legal

²⁹ *Learning to Serve* at 35.

services. As described in the section above on model structures, some schools have built their pro bono programs around student group projects. Fordham University School of Law has led the way in developing this model.³⁰ At Fordham, there is a well-staffed office that provides all the space, equipment and encouragement a student group might need. Pepperdine University School of Law has added its own twist to this model by starting one large group project, staffed by a paid administrator/clinician, at a homeless shelter in Los Angeles. It is reported that half of Pepperdine's student body *and* faculty participate in this project.

Some of the mandatory programs and the formal voluntary projects characterized by a referral system also work closely with student groups. Some simply consult with and involve the student groups in the formal program; others help create new projects.

Descriptions of selected student group projects can be found in the Appendix to *Learning to Serve*. Other descriptions are included in the directory of individual programs below. The most common subject areas for student group projects are:

- Bankruptcy
- Children's Rights
- Civil Rights/Human Rights
- Community Economic Development
- Criminal Law/Death Penalty/Innocence Projects
- Domestic Violence
- Elder Law•Environmental Law
- Homelessness/Housing
- Immigration/Asylum
- Income Tax Assistance
- Labor Law
- Law Reform/Public Policy
- Law Related Education/Street Law
- Mediation
- Prisoners' Issues

In three of these subject areas, there are national organizations that provide support for group projects.

The IRS sponsors the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. VITA helps train student volunteer groups to provide free tax assistance at community locations to individuals who need assistance with basic income tax return preparation. The program is directed to those for whom paid assistance may be out of reach, those who are non-English speaking, persons with disabilities, those with a low income, the elderly, and other individuals with special needs. For more information about VITA, contact your local IRS Office or call 1-800-829-1040.

³⁰ For detailed information on this model, see Thomas J. Schoenherr, *et al*, *The Fordham Model: Student Initiated Projects for the Public Interest* (unpublished manuscript, on file with author).

“Street Law” refers to “law that is of practical use in everyday life (on the streets).”³¹ Street Law originated at Georgetown Law School in 1971 where law students taught practical law courses in District of Columbia high schools, juvenile and adult correctional institutions, and a number of community-based settings.³² This law-related education project grew into an international non-profit known as Street Law, Inc. Street Law, Inc.’s “approach to law-related education is to provide practical information and problem solving opportunities that develop in students the knowledge and skills necessary for survival in our law-saturated society.”³³ Materials on Street Law are available through the website for Street Law, Inc. at www.streetlaw.org and by contacting their office at 1600 K Street, NW, #602, Washington, DC 20006; 202-293-0088. Some law schools have developed their own variation of Street Law and have their own materials. Many of the law schools with law-related education pro bono projects or clinics are part of a Street Law Law School Network.

The Innocence Project at the Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, acts as a national support center for law school innocence projects. There is a growing network of these projects through which students investigate and help litigate cases involving inmates who are challenging their convictions on the basis of innocence. Currently, there are over 20 innocence projects at law and journalism schools. Some of these are run as credit-bearing clinics; others as pro bono projects. The Innocence Project makes available manuals, reading packets, sample letters, evaluation forms and sample motions. Contacts are Jane Siegel Greene, Executive Director; Barry Scheck, Professor of Law; and Peter Neufeld, Esq. at 212-790-0375.

Methods of Recruitment, Retention and Recognition

There is at least one way in which pro bono coordinators/advisors at schools with service graduation requirements have it easier – they do not have to spend the time, energy and creativity required to convince every student to volunteer. Such is the challenge of the pro bono coordinator at a school with a volunteer program.

At some schools, the way in which the coordinators recruit volunteer students and convince them to give a substantial commitment of time is through pro bono challenges, pledges, and honor programs. At a minimum, these methods help set expectations for the students, expectations that are often exceeded. In some cases, the recognition programs themselves help to define the pro bono program.

What follows is a sampling of recognition programs. Information is provided in the directory that follows on the recognition methods for every school with a pro bono program.

- **The Shepard Broad Law Center at Nova Southeastern University has a Pro Bono Honor Program** that recognizes three levels of service upon graduation. At the Bronze level, students who complete 50 hours of pro bono service over three years wear a special cord at graduation, are listed in the graduation program and receive a certificate at a year-end

³¹ Lee P. Arbetman & Edward L. O’Brien, *Street Law: A Course in Practical Law*, 1 (6th ed. 1999).

³² *Id.* at vi.

³³ *Id.* at v.

reception with employers. At the Silver level, students who complete 125 hours of service receive all the honors for the Bronze level, are listed at a higher level at graduation and are eligible for the student pro bono award. At the Gold level, students who complete 300 hours of service get all the honors as the other two levels and are listed as reaching the highest level of service at graduation.³⁴

- The **California Western School of Law Pro Bono Honors Program** recognizes students who complete 50 hours (post-training) of pro bono service over two trimesters. To participate, students must have completed their first year of school or have finished in the top half of their class after their first semester. Students are recognized by the Dean at an annual Pro Bono Honor Program Award luncheon and are awarded the State Bar of California's Wiley W. Manuel Award. Notation of accomplishment is included on their transcripts.³⁵
- **Lewis and Clark Law School's Pro Bono Honors Program** awards a framed certificate every year to every student completing at least 30 hours of volunteer service during the school year. The awards are given during a recognition lunch and ceremony at the end of each school year.³⁶
- **Georgetown University Law Center** has a **Pro Bono Pledge**. Students are challenged to pledge to complete at least 75 hours of law-related volunteer work over three years. Students meeting the pledge receive a notation in the graduation bulletin and a certificate signed by the Dean.³⁷
- The **University of Oregon School of Law** has a **Pro Bono Certificate Program**. Students completing 40 hours of pro bono service anytime after first semester receive a certificate, are mentioned in the graduation bulletin, and receive letters from the Oregon Supreme Court and the Oregon State Bar.³⁸
- The **University of North Carolina Law School's Pro Bono Program** provides special recognition to students who complete 75 hours of pro bono work. Law students receive a Certificate from the North Carolina Bar Association and the Law School at a Public Interest Celebration held at the North Carolina Bar Center.³⁹
- The **UCLA School of Law** presents "**Give 35**" **Public Interest Service Awards** to students who have performed at least 35 hours of pro bono work in a given academic year. These awards are presented each year at a Public Interest Awards Ceremony. Other persons recognized at this ceremony include recipients of named public interest awards, recipients of public interest fellowship and faculty who have engaged in pro bono service over the year.⁴⁰

³⁴ See, Attachment 1 in Appendix.

³⁵ See, Attachment 2 in Appendix.

³⁶ See, Lewis & Clark materials in Attachment 18 in Appendix.

³⁷ See, Attachment 3 in Appendix.

³⁸ See, Attachment 4 in Appendix.

³⁹ See, Attachment 5 in Appendix.

⁴⁰ See, Attachment 6 in Appendix.

- The **University of Florida’s Pro Bono Project** also has a certificate program. Students completing 35 hours receive a certificate and are recognized in the graduation program.⁴¹
- **Seton Hall University School** of Law encourages all students to donate a minimum of 35 pro bono hours. A notation is made on the transcripts of those that meet the goal.⁴²
- **Duke University School of Law’s Pro Bono Project** recognizes every student who volunteered during the year by awarding them a certificate signed by the Dean at an end-of-the-year Barbeque at which faculty members serve the students. In addition, at a graduation awards ceremony, the school gives the Pro Bono Service Award to “the graduating student who has most distinguished himself or herself by employing the education gained at Duke Law School to provide free legal services, thereby carrying forward one of the finest traditions of the legal profession.”
- The **University of Alabama School of Law** promotes three awards for public service. Students volunteering at least 50 hours in a Legal Services office during their law school experience and attend a *Bridge the Gap* CLE receive the **Volunteer Lawyers Program Student Award** from the Alabama Bar. These awardees are recognized during graduation ceremonies, honored at the swearing-in ceremonies for new members of the Alabama Bar, and receive recognition in [The Alabama Lawyer](#). Students who perform at least 30 hours of non-legal community service receive the **Dean’s Community Service Award**. Students who qualify for both the VLP Award and the Dean’s Community Service Award are eligible for induction into the **Order of the Samaritan**. These students are recognized at graduation with a red and white braid.⁴³

Some law schools with mandatory programs also give special recognitions. See discussion below on the importance of recognition mechanisms for a successful pro bono program for more information on these schools.

Ingredients of a Successful Pro Bono Program

In assessing the success or effectiveness of a law school pro bono project, it is important to emphasize that no single defining characteristic is demonstrably “best.” Schools have different needs, values and cultures. What works in one institution may not work in another.

Ideally, an examination of the effectiveness of a pro bono program would involve calculating the amount of pro bono service, or financial support of such service, conducted by the graduates of a law school. This information, however, has been rarely gathered and is impractical for most schools to gather. Rather, the “proof” of success has, thus far, rested largely upon the wealth of anecdotal reports of law students involved in law school pro bono staying involved after graduation. A few schools with mandatory programs have examined the attitudes of their students and have found that “between two-thirds and four-fifths of students report that

⁴¹ See, Attachment 7 in Appendix.

⁴² See, Attachment 8 in Appendix.

⁴³ See, Attachment 9 in Appendix.

their experience has increased the likelihood that they will engage in similar work as practicing attorneys.”⁴⁴ Currently, a study is underway by Deborah Rhode involving some 3000 graduates of six schools with different pro bono programs.

After extensive consultation and review of the data, the AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public Service concluded that a successful pro bono project is one that, at least, strives to

make available to all law students at least once during their law school careers a well-supervised law-related pro bono opportunity and either require the students’ participation or find ways to attract the great majority of students to volunteer.⁴⁵

This objective is a useful yardstick for measuring the success of a pro bono project. The work of the Commission and of the AALS Pro Bono Project highlight a number of program characteristics, or ingredients, that are most likely to assist law schools in meeting this goal.

Institutional Support

There is little doubt that visible support and encouragement of student pro bono service by deans, administrators and faculty is an important ingredient to a successful project. As the Commission wrote,

Over and over in our focus groups, we heard about the critical role of deans and faculty. . . . we wish to emphasize the importance of the dean and faculty in encouraging and praising student pro bono work. Some deans mention the pro bono program prominently in their speech greeting each new first year class. Some faculty members promote in their classes pro bono projects that relate to their subject matter area. An atmosphere of enthusiasm about the program makes a great deal of difference.⁴⁶

While verbal expressions of support are very important, more institutionalized forms of expressing this support is necessary for a program to excel.

Formal Policy

It is extremely helpful to have a formal pro bono policy or goal. This is probably true because of the rule of human nature that we are more likely to meet expectations if those expectations are stated. Indeed, by stating an expectation the behavior expected takes on a higher level of importance. As the Commission observed about mandatory programs,

the school’s adoption and maintenance of such a program is the strongest possible way for the school to convey the seriousness with which the school takes the message about the importance of volunteer service. A required program becomes a part of the fabric of

⁴⁴ Deborah L. Rhode, *Essay: The Pro Bono Responsibilities of Lawyers and Law Students*, William Mitchell Law Review, Vol. 27: 2 at 1212 (2000).

⁴⁵ *Learning to Serve* at 7.

⁴⁶ *Id.* at 15

the school. If supported by the dean and the faculty, it is a way of incorporating volunteer work into the students' core conception of the school and, we suspect, their conception of the profession.⁴⁷

Similarly, anecdotal evidence shows that schools with voluntary programs that have a well-publicized goal increase the number of student volunteer hours. Many of the existing goals adopted by law schools have been modeled on the aspirational goals of local bar associations.⁴⁸

Visibility

Institutional support for pro bono service must be visible to be effective. If a program is not highlighted, the institutional support for that program appears minimal, and students are less interested. Schools that seek to convey the importance of public service as a professional ethic will promote and publicize their pro bono programs alongside other valued programs. Prospective students should be able to determine easily from the school's website and from the school's promotional materials that the school values public service by all students and that it assists students in finding meaningful volunteer opportunities. Examples of websites and school publications highlighting public service are included in the Appendix at Attachment 10.

Recognition of Service

Institutional recognition of service is a way in which a law school can convey support for public service while building enthusiasm for the program. As the Commission observed,

we also frequently heard in our focus groups that student enthusiasm for pro bono work is greatly enhanced by appropriate forms of recognition. Even selflessness needs applause. . . . Whatever they do, schools should find some way to recognize pro bono work by students in a manner that matches in seriousness the awards the school gives for academic achievement or the honor that comes with law review status.⁴⁹

The level of enthusiasm and support by students of a pro bono program helps make that program a success. Some of the existing recognition programs in use at voluntary programs are discussed above. In addition, a few law schools with mandatory programs, including Columbia Law School and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, hold award ceremonies to recognize outstanding pro bono students.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ *Id.* at 10.

⁴⁸ These expectations, in turn, have often been modeled on the American Bar Association's Model Rules, which provide that "[a] lawyer should aspire to render at least [fifty] hours of pro bono publico legal services per year" or to "organizations in matters which are designed primarily to address the needs of [such] persons." Model Rules of Professional Conduct Rule 6.1 (1998).

⁴⁹ *Id.* at 16.

⁵⁰ See Attachment 11 in Appendix for event materials.

Financial Support

Finally, the degree of institutional support is conveyed by financial support for a program. This support is not so much measured by the dollar amount but by the efforts made to insure a sound program. Fundraising for pro bono programs should be included in the school's fundraising plan. As the AALS Commission noted,

Slightly over half of the administrators responding to our survey reported that their school "had obtained or attempted to obtain outside funding for public service activities for students while they are in law school." In their comments accompanying this question, it was clear that most of these attempts to obtain funding were successful and that a wide variety of sources for funds had been exploited. Local and state bar associations and state Interest on Lawyer Account programs have contributed support to many schools.⁵¹

Accordingly, development officers should be aware of the financial needs of the pro bono program.⁵²

Some schools have had success obtaining alumni or bar contributions to support funding for their programs. The pro bono program at the University of South Carolina has long been financed primarily through IOLTA funds. At least four schools have raised sufficient funds from one source to name their pro bono program after a donor: the University of Louisville, the Samuel L. Greenebaum Public Service Program; Loyola of New Orleans, the Gillis Long Student Pro Bono Program; the University of Virginia School of Law, the Mortimer M. Caplin Public Service Center; and Roger Williams University School of Law, the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service. Other schools have found willing partners in the private bar to fund individual student groups or special expenses, such as dinners and awards. The University of Pennsylvania Law School's Public Service Program has a broad-based Advisory Board which assists in fundraising.⁵³

Some schools are finding creative ways to fund staffing of their programs. As mentioned in the overview, some schools are paying students to run programs or to assist in the running of programs, usually with work-study money. One school--the University of Utah College of Law--pieced together funding from various sources, including the VISTA program, to help fund its pro bono program.⁵⁴ The Minnesota Justice Foundation has housed NAPIL grant recipients to work on particular aspects of the pro bono projects.

Student group projects are sometimes eligible for grant money related to their subject area. For example, in some cases, tax assistance money is available from the IRS and money for domestic violence projects is available through the Violence Against Women's Act.

⁵¹ *Id.* at 16-17.

⁵² As an example, New York University included public service needs in its recent campaign materials. See Attachment 12 in Appendix.

⁵³ See Attachment 13 in Appendix.

⁵⁴ See Steven Ross Thain, *Stats show students who do pro bono service also serve pro bono as attorneys*, Intermountain Com. Rec. & Salt Lake Times, Jan 12, 2001, at A1. (Attachment 14 in Appendix.)

Adequate Staffing of Program

The Commission summarized well the importance of adequate staffing of pro bono programs:

From our surveys, it appears that every school that succeeds in placing a large number of its students in a pro bono placement has at least one staff person who devotes a substantial part of his or her time to pro bono work. This is true both for the schools that have required programs and for schools that attract 100 or more students a year to volunteer law-related projects. The duties of staff persons vary, as do the place where they fit within the law school's administrative structure, but all schools need someone with overall responsibility for pro bono activities who devotes substantial time to those duties. Simply having in the placement office a list, however rich and well advertised, of opportunities that students can pursue on their own will not work. Few students will follow up.

Among the important tasks for a staff person are the following: continuously identifying pro bono opportunities in the community; promoting pro bono opportunities within the law school; matching interested students with appropriate placements; working to entice faculty members to become involved in pro bono projects; and weeding out placements that haven't worked well. Many schools, particularly smaller ones, find that these tasks can be performed by a staff person on a half-time basis (often someone within student services or the placement office). Some of this work can be done by an energetic student paid with Work Study moneys, but a staff person is needed to provide continuity and supervision. To succeed fully, we urge schools to consider hiring a full-time person for this purpose.

The observations of the Pro Bono Project staff confirm that the benefits that professional staffing bring to a pro bono program are essential for success. While students can provide valuable assistance, they lack the necessary perspective for developing the best learning experiences. A staff person can put service into its important pedagogical context and can best insure that service opportunities are good learning opportunities. As the AALS Commission wrote, "law schools are primarily in the business of educating law students, not in the business of providing direct public service, and it is the important educational values of pro bono programs that justify the commitment of substantial law school resources to their support."⁵⁵

A permanent, professional staff person provides continuity and institutional memory that results in efficiency and in the growth of opportunities. He or she has the perspective needed to troubleshoot and to seize opportunities for new projects. He or she also provides a "face" to the program that helps in building enthusiasm and interest in the program and in maintaining positive and productive relations with the legal community. Finally, he or she can participate in regional and national conferences to learn how to be a better teacher and administrator so as to forward the underlying objective of addressing the legal needs of the underserved.

⁵⁵ *Learning to Serve* at 4.

Adequate staffing is as important for voluntary programs as for mandatory programs. Unlike a mandatory program, a voluntary program necessarily involves a lot of creativity, energy and time to attracting students and matching them with rewarding placements. As observed by the Commission,

even among schools with well-staffed voluntary programs, only a few manage to attract more than half their students to participate in a law-related pro bono undertaking during law school. Our survey cannot tell us who the students are who never volunteer, but we suspect that the non-participants include a high proportion of those with the most to gain by taking part.⁵⁶

Thus, for the voluntary program, the challenges are high and demand the full attention of a paid staff person.

Independent Identity

Whether a pro bono program is freestanding, within a public interest center or within an administrative office dedicated to other purposes, it must have an independent identity in order to excel. This separate identity helps give the program stature and visibility. There is also some evidence of financial and social benefit for the law school that creates a pro bono program with a separate identity.

A separate identity is particularly important for a pro bono project when it is located within an office with multiple programs or responsibilities. When within a public interest center, it is important for the program to be distinguished from public interest career programs so that private sector students can easily recognize that the pro bono program is for them and not just for students desiring to go into public interest full-time. All students must feel that they have a place at the center. The same holds true for programs placed within the clinical or externship program. While some schools involve every student in clinical education, these schools are still in the minority. Thus, the challenge is to reach those who are not involved in clinical education, whether it be for lack of clinical opportunity or for lack of interest.

When within an office of career services, the pro bono program must not be relegated to the leftover energies of the staff. Pro bono programs can easily get buried in the cycles of on campus interviewing, leaving only the most assertive students involved.

The best way to ensure an independent identity for a pro bono program is to give the program its own name. This name may be as simple as Pro Bono Program or may be more catchy such as the "Give 35" program or may have a name carrying prestige such as the Pro Bono Honors Program or the Samuel L. Greenebaum Public Service Program. A name gives the program visibility, makes it easier to highlight in materials and helps distinguish it from other public interest programs.

A program can foster an independent identity by publishing its own newsletter and/or promotional materials. Examples of such publications are included as Attachment 15 in the

⁵⁶ *Id.* at 10.

Appendix. As evident from many of these materials, a separate program assists fundraising efforts. It is certainly easier to name these programs for a donor. In addition, a well-publicized program with an independent identity is reported by some deans to have a humanizing effect on the institution, attracting students interested in incorporating the professional ethic of public service into their careers.

Flexibility

In order to successfully inspire and enable students to carry on the ethic of public service into their careers, students must 1) have a good experience volunteering in law school and 2) come away with a sense of how they can continue to volunteer in the future. For this reason, it is important for a pro bono program to be flexible enough to accommodate the interests, talents, and constraints of each student.

There must be a range of placements by subject matter, tasks to be performed, levels of responsibility, time demands, time of day, and location. Some students want and/or need to get away from the school and work in a law office; others want to work at school or at home. Some want to work alone on a project; others want to work as part of a group project. Some want to have minimal responsibility; others want to manage a project or a case. Some want to do research; others want to get into court. Some want to do criminal law; others want to do tax law. Some want to work during the day; others at night. Some want to work with kids; others want no client contact. The list of preferences go on and on. Therefore, the choices should be plenty at a pro bono program.

Student group projects can offer a lot of flexibility to students with limitations on time or transportation. In addition to the subject matter projects listed above, there are several innovative projects particularly accommodating to student limitations/interests. At least two law schools--the University of North Carolina and Ohio State University⁵⁷-- have poverty law research projects through which students conduct research for legal services and pro bono attorneys in their states. Faculty and administrators at some schools--Campbell University, Cleveland State University, and University of North Carolina for example--assist law students interested in volunteering in law-related placements over spring and winter breaks. Finally, many law schools work with individual students to find volunteer placements during the summer, sometimes in conjunction with a private law firm job.

Quality Control

As mentioned above, adequate staffing and adequate funding are essential to assuring, as much as possible, quality pro bono placements. Obviously, selecting quality field supervisors is also essential. Some pro bono coordinators conduct annual site visits or at least have phone conversations with the pro bono field supervisors. But these measures are not always possible.

Two measures are recommended as minimal measures for ensuring a quality pro bono experience: clearly articulating expectations to students and supervisors at the beginning of a

⁵⁷ See, Attachment 16 in Appendix.

placement and gathering feedback from students and supervisors at the end of a placement. As the Commission suggested:

Making certain that students receive adequate supervision in their pro bono work is important not only for assuring that their clients receive competent assistance but also for assuring that students receive the right messages about the quality of services to which all clients are entitled. We advise that schools include within their pro bono program two checks on the quality of students' experiences.

First, to the extent that schools place students with attorneys outside the law school, the school should seek an understanding with each attorney or agency with whom the student is placed about the supervision that is expected from them. Since agencies and outside attorneys are typically providing the supervision without compensation, the law school may find it awkward to ask for a high level of interaction, but both the supervisor and the student are likely to be grateful for having reasonably clear expectations.

Second, at the end of their time on a project, each student should be asked to complete a form describing the work done and reporting their degree of satisfaction with the project and the supervision they received. These forms should be used to provide guidance in matching future students with the same placement and can alert the school to placements that are so unsatisfactory that they should be discontinued.⁵⁸

Sample information packets and evaluation forms are included as Attachment 17 in the Appendix.

Taking Pro Bono to the Next Level

Even successful pro bono programs rarely “inspire and enable” *all* law students to engage in public service upon graduation. Thus, most every program can benefit from “enhancements” which take the program to the next level of successful teaching.

Faculty Pro Bono

One enhancement is to include faculty pro bono service in the school's pro bono program. As the AALS Commission noted,

The Commission believes that active faculty participation in pro bono work is highly important for the sake of their students. Law teachers teach as much about professional responsibility by what they do as by what they say. If our conduct and actions are inconsistent with the principles and rules that we teach, we undermine both our credibility as teachers and the legitimacy of the

⁵⁸ *Id.* at 15.

ethical principles and rules themselves. If we appear to be insincere about our *pro bono* responsibilities, we also will encourage law students to be skeptical, indeed cynical, about the many other moral principles that distinguish our profession from a trade.

We emphasize that it is not just professional responsibility teachers, but all law teachers, who teach (or fail to teach) the responsibility for public service through their actions (or inactions). In this respect, legal ethics education truly is “pervasive,” whether or not the law school has formally adopted and implemented this proposed pedagogy.

For this reason, we recommend that all law schools adopt a formal policy to encourage and support faculty members to perform pro bono work. . . .⁵⁹

Specifically, the Commission recommended that law schools adopt a policy with six components: an annual expectation, universality, beyond teaching and institutional service, institutional support similar to research support, autonomy, and annual reporting.⁶⁰ Examples of faculty pro bono policies are included as Attachment 18 in the Appendix.

At most every law school there are professors who engage in pro bono service. Some schools are working to bring this service to light and to involve more faculty and students. Some are involving professors as pro bono supervisors for students and/or as trainers for specific group projects. Some highlight the pro bono activities of professors through special lunches, newsletters or law school publications. Some give awards to recognize faculty pro bono service. At least one school, Georgetown University, provides “reasonable research assistance and administrative support” in support of faculty pro bono efforts.

Curricular Integration

A school’s curriculum can inspire or discourage student commitment to public service. Some schools are taking extra steps to overcome the many obstacles to public service by integrating public justice issues into the curriculum.

Schools such as CUNY, the University of the District of Columbia, and Northeastern University are known for their integrated public interest curricula.⁶¹ Other schools, such as those listed above in Chart 2, column 2, have established public interest law centers to highlight the importance of public service for every student. These centers, along with some other pro bono programs at other schools, are working in a myriad of ways to integrate public service learning into the curriculum. For example, these centers and programs are working with faculty to incorporate public interest discussions into the core courses, are sponsoring public interest conferences and symposia, are attracting top public interest students through scholar programs,

⁵⁹ *Id.* at 17-18.

⁶⁰ *Id.* at 18-19.

⁶¹ See program descriptions as Attachment 19.

are bringing in public interest speakers, are partnering on pro bono projects with community leaders and are offering classes on poverty law.

Some schools are building their pro bono and public service programming around their clinical programs, working with clinics to produce a seamless web of service from first year to third year. Some non-clinical faculty are adding service components to their courses. Milner Ball, for example, a professor of law at the University of Georgia “recently transformed his jurisprudence course into a ‘Public Interest Practicum’ in which he and his students go into the community and provide assistance to poor people.”⁶² Steven Schwinn, recently at George Washington University, built in optional service opportunities into his Introduction to Advocacy class and his Client Interviewing and Counseling class.⁶³

Programs on Pro Bono in the Law Firm

Students want and need inspiration to engage in pro bono as well as specific information that will help them incorporate this work into their private practices. To this end, many offices of career services sponsor panels of private practice attorneys who talk about how they incorporate pro bono into their practices. Some professors bring private attorneys into their classrooms to talk about their positive pro bono experiences. Some law schools are even planning events for public interest students in ways that include and attract law firm students wanting a pro bono practice. Duke University School of Law, for example, intentionally included law firm students in its most recent annual public interest retreat.⁶⁴

Students also need assistance in feeling comfortable asking about a firm’s pro bono policy and in getting accurate information about the reality of a pro bono practice within a law firm during the interviewing process. The ABA Center for Pro Bono has published a pamphlet to help students in this way. It is attached as Attachment 20.

Pro Bono Continuing Legal Education and Other Trainings

Some schools are increasing access to justice and encouraging pro bono work by holding Continuing Legal Education programs to help educate and train the private bar and students to provide needed pro bono services. The Samuel L. Greenebaum Public Service Program at the University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law, for example, obtained grant funding in 1996 to sponsor continuing legal education seminars on consumer law issues relevant to low-income clients. Attorneys attended a full day seminar free of charge in exchange for agreeing to take consumer law cases from The Legal Aid Society. Law students attended the seminar and assisted the attorneys with their assigned cases in fulfillment of their public service requirement. Seminars were held in Louisville, Lexington and Owensboro, Kentucky, so that all areas of the state

⁶² Stephen Wizner, *Beyond Skills Training*, 7 *Clinical L. Rev.* 307, 339 (2001).

⁶³ For more information on Professor Schwinn’s experiences read his paper “Enhancing Law Classes with Pro Bono,” presented at the 2001 AALS Annual Meeting and included in Attachment 22.

⁶⁴ See, Attachment 21.

would benefit. Advice-and-counsel clinics followed each seminar, where volunteer attorneys and law students met in a one-on-one setting with clients to assist with consumer legal needs.

In January 2001, Washington University School of Law hosted a domestic violence training course provided by the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic Violence. This training was required for students in the Civil Justice Clinic but was open, free of charge, to students, staff, and faculty of the law school. Numerous volunteers who were to work with area agencies that assist victims of domestic violence also attended it. The training covered the cycle of violence, legal issues, and the effect of domestic violence on families, children, the elderly, and the gay and lesbian communities. It offered the chance to meet prosecutors and legal advocates in the domestic violence field, as well as the opportunity to explore volunteer opportunities.⁶⁵

Conclusion

There is much more that could be said about the many pro bono programs and innovations occurring in law schools in the United States today. Thankfully, groups such as the ABA Standing Committee on Pro Bono and Public Service, the AALS Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities and the AALS Equal Justice Project are committed to bringing this information to you. Thus, more information will certainly be forthcoming. What follows now is the directory of individual law school pro bono programs and the appendix of resources.

⁶⁵ See, WULAW Public Service Newsletter, Vol 1, Issue I, Spring 2001, online at www.wulaw.wustl.edu/Pubserv/Newsletter/page01.html.

DIRECTORY OF INDIVIDUAL LAW SCHOOL PRO BONO PROGRAMS

The schools listed in this directory have provided information on formal pro bono projects and/or in-house and collaborative student group projects. The persons listed as contacts include pro bono coordinators/directors and persons involved heavily with pro bono programming at their schools. The group projects listed may be on-going or may be projects typical of the types of projects that occur at that school from time to time. The group projects may or may not have a relationship with any existing formal pro bono program.

The terms and descriptions used in this directory are explained in the body of this handbook. Two further explanations may be helpful: (1) information on location and operation of each school's Student Pro Bono Program is provided only for formal programs and not free-standing, independent group projects, though such information may be included in the description of each group project and (2) information on faculty pro bono is limited to a school's policy and recognition methods for faculty pro bono. Other faculty pro bono information is being collected and synthesized for future use.

University of Akron, C. Blake McDowell Law Center
Jay Levine, Director, Law Career Planning and Placement
330.972.5320 jay10@uakron.edu
(Akron, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Guardian Ad Litem Program -- Students serve as Guardians ad Litem in conjunction with the Summit County Juvenile Court. The work is done at the Juvenile Court of Summit County.

Volunteer Mediation Program -- Law students complete a training program and then mediate cases for a local municipal court.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

The Summer Honors Institute for Gifted and Talented High School Students -- At least two law students and one faculty member lead a three-week course titled "Law and Society." Through this class, local high school students learn about the legal system, substantive law, and practical skills, including how to present a trial.

Street Law -- Upper-level law students visit local high schools to co-teach classes to high school students covering a variety of topics related to the law.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Alabama School of Law
Pamela Bucy, Professor 205.348.1139 pbucy@law.ua.edu
Jenelle Mims Marsh, Assistant Dean for Students/Academic Services 205.348.5751
jmarsh@law.ua.edu
(Tuscaloosa, Alabama)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator(s)

Location:

Public Interest Institute

Operation:

The Director of the Public Interest Institute is a full-time tenured faculty member. As part of her work at the Institute, she and her assistant coordinate student placements in law and non-law related volunteer placements. They are advised by a faculty/student committee, on which approximately five students sit. In addition, about 100 students who have performed 20 hours of qualifying public service sit on the Public Interest Student Board, which also advises the Institute.

Recognition:

Students volunteering at least 50 hours in a Legal Services office during their law school experience and attend a *Bridge the Gap* CLE receive the Volunteer Lawyers Program Student Award from the Alabama Bar. These awardees are recognized during graduation ceremonies, honored at the swearing-in ceremonies for new members of the Alabama Bar, and receive recognition in The Alabama Lawyer.

Students who qualify for both the VLP Award and the Dean's Community Service Award (see below) are eligible for induction into the Order of the Samaritan. These students are recognized at graduation with a red and white braid.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

The majority of student organizations participate in volunteer projects through the Institute.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

The Dean's Community Service Award was created in 1999 "to encourage law students to become involved in public interest activities in their communities, and to continue their involvement throughout their lives." To earn this Award, law students must perform at least 30 hours of non-legal community service while in law school.

Fall – Great Day of Service

Albany Law School, Union University
Professor David Pratt 518.472.5870 dprat@mail.als.edu
Professor David Markell 518.472.5861 dmark@mail.als.edu
(Albany, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Homeless Assistance Project-- This project assists residents of a homeless shelter by preparing for, and representing them at, hearings to appeal home relief denials. Members of the law school's clinical and non-clinical faculty supervise the students.

Veterans Legal Assistance Project-- Students assist clients of the Albany VA Medical Center with any legal problems they may have. The students have their own office space at the medical center. Students are supervised by members of the law school clinical faculty, non-clinical faculty and other students. First year students participate.

VITA-- Students help in the preparation of income tax returns for members of the community. The work is performed within the law school and members of the non-clinical faculty and other students supervise. First year students participate.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Hackett Middle School Tutoring Program-- Law students work with school teachers at the local junior high schools, and members of administrative staff, non-clinical faculty and other students supervise.

Albany School District Mentoring Program-- Law students act as mentors to children attending the city's public schools. The administrators of the program supervise this project.

Two Together-- Law students provide reading assistance to the elementary school in the City of Albany where there is a high population of disadvantaged children. The work is supervised by the teachers at the school.

American University, Washington College of Law
Curt Crossley, Law School Public Interest Coordinator
202.274.4094
(Washington, D.C.)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator(s)

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Pro Bono Committee, comprised of faculty, staff, and students, addresses issues regarding public service. The Committee publishes a public interest newsletter called *Public Interest Initiative*. The Committee created a Public Interest Network that promotes WCL activities to the public interest community and provides information to the law school community about pro bono activities completed by students, faculty, staff and alumni. The Committee recently created and filled the full-time position of Law School Public Interest Coordinator who will be responsible for coordinating all public interest and pro bono activities.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA-- Students help area Washington residents with their tax forms on a walk-in basis. About 75 participate each year, for 6 hours and an initial training is conducted in the school's library by local area practitioners. Advice is given at a downtown library convenient to those who need the service. Members of the law school's clinical and non-clinical faculty provide supervision for the students.

Oak Hill Project-- Students are involved with several aspects at Oak Hill, DC's detention facility for juveniles. Work ranges from representation at disciplinary hearings to one-on-one tutoring to beautification projects. Legal work is supervised by lawyers not on staff or faculty at the law school. .

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Marshall-Brennan Fellowship Program--“Marshal Brennan Fellows” teach a course on constitutional rights and responsibilities in Washington, D.C. public high schools. The course is called “We the Students” and is based on a casebook authored by WCL Professor, Jamin Raskin, entitled We the Students: Supreme Court Cases For and About America’s Students. The course focuses on Supreme Court cases that directly affect the lives of high school students and includes a special curriculum about the history of voting rights with an intensive focus on problems of political representation for citizens living in D.C.

These fellows, named in honor of the late United States Supreme Court Justices Thurgood Marshall and William J. Brennan, are selected in a process that seeks to identify second- and third-year students who have excelled in constitutional law and have a passion for teaching young people.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Arizona State University College of Law
Bob Dauber, Clinical Professor 480.965.7359 bob.dauber@asu.edu
Hannah Arterian, Associate Dean, Professor, 480.965.6188 Hannah.arterian@asu.edu
(Tempe, Arizona)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

A Student Board is partly responsible for administering and coordinating student pro bono activities. The board, comprised of 6-10 students with a faculty supervisor (Professor Dauber) administers a number of projects itself; it also coordinates projects administered by other student organizations, it promotes and monitors student involvement, and makes and implements policies and procedures relating to student pro bono activities. There is an application process for board membership.

In addition to the board and its faculty supervisor, a member of the administration (with the Career Services Office) is involved in promoting and facilitating student pro bono activities. Student groups are also provided offices.

Recognition:

Students who engage in 50 hours of service or more receive a notation on their diploma.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Volunteer Lawyers Program (Legal Services partnership)

Immigration Detention Project

Homeless Legal Assistance Project

Advocacy for Battered Women

Attorney General's Pro Bono Project on Consumer Conciliation Justice Project--Students investigate cases of wrongful convictions

Victim's Legal Assistance Project--Law students helping crime victims understand and enforce their rights

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law

Law-Related Education Program

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Boston College School of Law
Rachel Sagan, Public Interest Career Counselor
617.552.4345 saganr@bc.edu
(Newton, Massachusetts)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Public Interest Career Counselor and the Dean of Students Office provide significant support to the student organizations involved in pro bono in terms of counseling, programming and organizing. A staff member also provides significant administrative support to these student organizations.

The Curtin Public Interest Law Center provides office and conference room space for student organizations involved in pro bono projects. The school also provides funds and administrative support to Shelter Legal Services, housed on campus, as well as the Immigration/Political Asylum Project.

Individual students are offered pro bono opportunities through the PSLawNet database and program. Students attend a training session in order to identify a local organization with which to volunteer. The students, including first years, participate in a wide variety of legal work on a pro bono basis at public service organizations, the courts, or government agencies during the semester and summer.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:¹

Domestic Violence Outreach Program--Trains law students to inform victims of domestic violence of their legal rights and to represent them in obtaining temporary restraining orders. It also raises funds for Boston-area shelters for battered women.

Miami/El Paso Immigration Asylum Project--Over winter break, interested law students go to either El Paso or Miami to help low income immigrants fleeing persecution in their home countries. Students have written motions, interviewed clients, prepared country conditions reports and memoranda. Students have also observed courtroom proceedings and visited detention centers.

Children's Rights Project--Researches domestic and international issue related to the legal rights of children and present panels on topics concerning children and the law. Selects some of its members for actual legal experience during the semester and summer.

Community Economic Development (CED) law group -- Group of law students interested in helping people by applying their legal skills to develop communities economically. In addition to education events, the CED law group sponsors an internship program with Hale and Dorr Legal Services Center, located in Jamaica Plain in Boston. The CEP project matches assigns clients to students, who then use their legal skills to draft mortgage documents, write a loan agreement, rewrite a non-profit organization's by-laws, and research city regulatory rules on behalf of a non-profit organization.

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund-- Provides educational, lobbying and volunteer opportunities for those interested in protecting the rights of animals. Law related opportunities are varied, including helping prosecutors in animal abuse cases, defense lawyers of fur protestors, and persons wanting to name their companion animals as beneficiaries to their estates.

Shelter Legal Services – See description under Boston University below.

¹See http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/law/st_org/pilf/ for more info on these organizations.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF) Work Weekends

Boston University School of Law
Elaine M. Bourne, Associate Director, Career Development 617.353.3141 ebourne@bu.edu
(Boston, Massachusetts)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Student Advocates for Ending Domestic Violence (SAFE-D)--Students work in various Boston Courts assisting victims of domestic violence in obtaining temporary and permanent restraining orders. See website at <http://people.bu.edu/safed>.

Community Tax Aid of Boston-- Law student volunteers help elderly and low-income persons prepare their income tax forms. Four hours per week are required. The work is performed at Boston Community Tax Aid Centers and trained tax preparers supervise the students.

Shelter Legal Services -- A student group that supplements the work of its parent group, Shelter Legal Services Foundation, Inc., to increase access to quality, pro bono legal services for the poor. Since 1991, Shelter Legal Services Foundation, Inc. has combined the volunteer efforts of law students and attorneys to represent and advise more than 3,800 homeless and poor people. Shelter Legal Services Foundation, Inc. now includes student volunteers from Boston College Law School, Boston University School of Law, New England School of Law and Suffolk Law School. It holds weekly legal clinics at two Boston shelters and three Cambridge locations. Student volunteers, with the assistance of attorneys, staff the weekly legal clinics, advise clients and advocate in courts and administrative agencies throughout the Commonwealth.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School
Steve Averett, Assistant Librarian 801.378.9023 averetts@lawgate.byu.edu
James Backman, Professor 801.378.2221 jim_backman@byu.edu
Susan Griffith, Assistant Director, Externships 801.378.3947 griffiths@lawgate.byu.edu
(Provo, Utah)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

With Externship Program

Operation:

Most non-clinical public service opportunities are offered through “Law Help” seminars on elder law, immigration, mediation, domestic relations and child advocacy. The seminars have service learning components. In addition, students taking Legal Interviewing and Counseling are required to participate in a Tuesday Night Bar program through which the students assist pro bono attorneys in weekly advice and referral sessions. Other students can volunteer to participate.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Rural Outreach Project--Volunteer lawyers and volunteer students pair up to give legal advice to low income persons in rural areas of Utah. Trips occur about once each semester and require a half-day at each of two locations, plus travel time.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Brooklyn Law School
Joan A. King, Director of Career Services 718.780.7963 jking@brooklaw.edu
(Brooklyn, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Brooklyn Law School Students Against Domestic Violence -- This organization is dedicated to providing legal assistance to battered women. The Battered Women's Project organizes and staffs a legal helpline that provides domestic violence victims with information on legal action and referrals to social agencies. Students work closely with practicing attorneys. Students also work with attorneys on pro bono cases for indigent battered women dealing with issues such as divorce and custody.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (Boalt Hall)
Joanne Karchmer, Associate Director for Public Interest Programs
510.643.2675 jkarchmer@law.berkeley.edu
(Berkeley, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

Public service is a factor taken into consideration for certain awards made to graduating students.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Boalt students have organized a variety of volunteer clinical projects. These projects are typically open to first-year students who work under the supervision of 2L and 3L students and skilled practitioners. No course credit is given for participation in student-run clinicals. These projects share office space with other public interest groups.

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Central American Refugee Clinic-- Students assist asylum seekers with applications to the INS and represent them at hearings. Non-lawyer staff members review applications and declarations.

Homeless Outreach and HIV Outreach-- Students conduct outreach to homeless and HIV-infected persons. Students spot legal issues, give basic information and refer people to social service agencies.

East Bay Worker's Rights Clinic-- Students interview clients about labor and employment problems, consults with attorney, and discusses options with the clients. Training is provided.

Prisoner Action Coalition-- A collaborative student organization, with members from Boalt Hall and Hastings College of the Law, this group works to improve conditions in California's prisons and assists individual prisoners with legal matters. Students interview prisoners about civil rights and human rights abuse claims. They assist prisoners with legal research and referrals via correspondence and interviews. They work on projects with nonprofit organizations in the community, including Justice Network on Women and Legal Services for Prisoners with Children. The Prisoner Action Coalition has a website at <http://www.boalt.org/PAC>.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

The Street Law Project -- This project operates in conjunction with approximately 50 Bay Area high schools and their respective school districts, and with the juvenile courts in Alameda County. Students, working under faculty supervision, teach the course Street Law, which reaches 3,700 Bay Area young people per year. The course includes units in housing, consumer, family, criminal and constitutional law. Students also participate in weekly seminars. Subject to credit limitations and appropriate approvals, some second and third-year students may earn academic credit for Street Law.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Annual food drive
Bring Your Kids to Work Day
Annual holiday toy collection

University of California at Davis School of Law
Jane Thomson, Career Services Office 530.752.6574 jthomson@ucdavis.edu
(Davis, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator(s)

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The King Hall Pro Bono Program encourages students who have completed at least one semester of law school to contribute a minimum of 50 hours legal or law-related service in a year. This work must be performed under the supervision of an attorney or a member of the Law School faculty. The Career Services Office keeps listings of pro bono opportunities, handles inquiries and certifies hours to the Law School Registrar. Students wishing to participate in the program are encouraged to check with the Office regarding placements. Upon approval, students can initiate their own placements.

Recognition:

Students who complete 50 hours of law-related service in a year receive a Certificate of Appreciation, signed by the Dean, and a notation on their transcript of completion of their King Hall Pro Bono Program commitment. Students may renew their commitment each year and earn further certificates and transcript notations.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA-- An income tax return preparation assistance program

Naturalization workshops with immigrants in Sacramento

Employment law clinic at the Legal Services of Northern CA

Domestic violence project-- Assisting abused women with temporary restraining orders

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Outreach to local high schools in disadvantaged communities through visits to the schools and/or bringing students to the law school for a day

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of California-Hastings
Vera Costella, Administrative Assistant to Dean
415.565.4600 costellav@uchastings.edu
(San Francisco, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

General Assistance Advocacy Project -- This student-run program assists the homeless and those in imminent danger of joining their ranks to qualify for and receive general assistance, food stamps and disability benefits. The program counsels more than 3,000 individuals each month. Organized as a non-

profit, it is supported by a staff of three student co-directors, 2 full-time Jesuit Volunteer Corps members and a full time program coordinator.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of California-Los Angeles

Cathy Mayorkas, Director, Public Interest Programs 310.206.9155 mayorkas@law.ucla.edu
Rochelle Adelman, Coordinator and Administrative Assistant, 310.794.5355
adelman@law.ucla.edu
(Los Angeles, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Center for Public Interest Programs

Operation:

The Center for Public Interest Programs maintains a list of organizations seeking student volunteers, accessible to students via a database and notebooks that are located in the office. Information on pro bono opportunities is also provided through handouts distributed to all students and a public interest newsletter called *Public Interest News*. The Center depends substantially on student organizations for in-house pro bono programs.

The purpose of this Center is threefold: 1) to serve as the School of Law's main information center for public interest and community service activities, 2) to provide career counseling and advice to students and graduates interested in pursuing public interest internships and post-graduate public interest internships and post-graduate public interest employment, and 3) to encourage and facilitate pro bono work by students.

Recognition:

Through the "Give 35" program, students are encouraged to volunteer 35 hours of free legal help to a public interest organization during the school year. Students who meet this goal receive an award at the annual Public Interest Awards Ceremony. They also receive a Public Counsel Mug.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Partnership with Public Counsel (Volunteer Lawyer Program)-- Places students with attorneys who have pro bono cases.

Adoptions Project -- The Director of Public Interest Programs supervises 40-50 students a semester on adoption cases. The Project runs over the course of a semester and advanced students serve as intermediate supervisors.

El Centro Legal--This student group coordinates three legal clinics for Hispanic populations: homeless youth, working in conjunction with Public Counsel; landlord-tenant, working in conjunction with the Legal Aid Society; and an HIV legal clinic, working in partnership with HOLSA. Over 100 first year students participated in 1998.

Worker Justice Project --Seeks to provide an essential link between existing community organizations and increasing legal access to low-wage workers. Working through any of several community organizations, students can find a variety of volunteer opportunities, from intakes, case management, and representing workers through administrative hearings, to developing employment law and administrative hearing curriculums for volunteers and workers.

Faculty Pro Bono

Recognition:

Faculty who have performed pro bono work over the year are recognized at the Annual Public Interest Awards Ceremony. A brief description of the work performed is included in the written program.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

California Western School of Law
Alicia Dvoskin, Assistant Director, Career Services 619.525.7642 ald@cwsf.edu
(San Diego, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Dean introduces the idea of pro bono service to all students in the welcoming ceremony. In November, OCS talks with each student about pro bono. They are encouraged to make a commitment of

50 hours of service while in law school, making them eligible for membership in the Pro Bono Honor Society. A Pro Bono Fair is held in February of each year at which only public service agencies that provide legal service are represented.

Recognition:

The Pro Bono Honors Program recognizes students who complete 50 hours (post-training) of pro bono service over two trimesters. To participate, students must have completed their first year of school or have finished in the top half of their class after their first semester. Students are recognized with a notation on their transcripts, a certificate from the school, a state Bar award and a letter from the Dean.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The California Innocence Project-- This law school volunteer program operates out of the Institute for Criminal Defense Advocacy of California Western School of Law. Students work alongside practicing criminal defense lawyers to seek the release of wrongfully convicted prisoners in California. The law students assist in the investigation of cases where there is strong evidence of innocence, write briefs in those cases, and advocate in all appropriate forums for the release of the project's clients. Training is provided by faculty.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law High² -- Since 1991, CWSL has been a partner with inner city San Diego public schools. The “motivation has been to reach out to minority and other populations who are unlikely to believe that either law school or higher education is open to them.” The goal of the program is to “encourage the students to learn to have aspirations for themselves, to take control of their lives and their futures rather than being passive, and to set higher educational goals than they might on their own.”

CWSL students have been central to Law High. “They have planned the program, acted as role models, and offered guidance and an ear for the younger students.” Each session lasts four weeks, two hours a week, at the law school; approximately twenty-five high school students and twenty five law students participate. There are exercises, lessons, speakers and mock trials.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Through Lawyer’s Care Day, area lawyers, faculty and students participate in providing non-legal services for low-income communities, such as day care, house painting and plumbing services.

²For more information on this project, see Ellen Dannin, *Toward Promoting Diversity in Legal Education: A Model Program for At-Risk High School Students*, 49 J. Legal Educ. 292 (June 1999).

Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law
Brandon Wright, Associate Dean, External Relations 910.893.1784
wright@webster.campbell.edu
(Buies Creek, North Carolina)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Project for Older Prisoners (POPS)-- The purpose of this student group is to evaluate the need for the continued incarceration of certain older prisoners. Students screen letters for type of offense and acceptance of responsibility. For prisoners who are good candidates for early release, the students prepare a thorough report, which includes input from the victim, to the parole board recommending early release.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program--Independent of the IRS, this program provides free tax return preparation to individuals with special needs, such as the elderly, the disabled, the poor, and those who speak little or no English.

Texas Immigration Appeals -- Campbell's Law Students Civil Rights Research Council works through the American Bar Association and the Texas State Bar to provide legal assistance, over school breaks, to some of the thousands of applicants for asylum being detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in South Texas, pending their asylum hearings. Students are assigned cases and begin their work well before traveling to Texas. After arriving in Texas, the students work under the supervision of licensed attorneys and participate in the INS hearings.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Capital University Law School
Amy DeLong, Director of Career Services 614.236.6888 or cdelong@long.capital.edu
(Columbus, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator(s)

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Pro Bono Validation Program “seeks to encourage public service by students through recognizing their successful completion of an approved placement.” It is coordinated through the Office of Career Services with both volunteer and paid student assistance. The Director of Career Services is the Dean’s designee for approving pro bono placements.

The student’s work must be uncompensated and consist of “duties that are directly and significantly related to providing pro bono legal services whether in the context of providing legal advice or resolving a legal problem through litigation, legislation, regulation, or alternative dispute resolution (to the extent consistent with the ethical constraints on the authorized practice of law).” The placement must be for a total of 50 hours and may be completed in one of a combination of 5 different sites. To participate in the program day students must have completed their first term in law school and be in good academic standing; and evening students must have completed their first year of law school and be in good academic standing.

Recognition:

Students who complete the Pro Bono Validation Program are recognized by a transcript designation of Pro Bono Honoree.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Case Western Reserve University Law School
Assistant Dean, Student Services 216.368.2097
(Cleveland, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Students teach torts, crime & criminal justice, juvenile law, civil rights and substance abuse to secondary school students. The classes run for six weeks.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service

Catholic University of America School of Law
Joan Vorrasi, Director, Student Life and Special Events 202.319.6777 vorrasi@law.cua.edu
(Washington, D.C.)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA-- Tax preparation for low- income persons.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Shadow Day-- Members of the law student group, Black Law Student Association, are paired with local high school students. The high school students and the law student attend special classes at the law school. The high school students are given the opportunity to ask questions about law school, legal careers, and observe the general law school atmosphere. Both the high school students and law school students have given very positive feedback as a result to this project.

St. Anthony's School Outreach-- Law student's tutor and mentor grade school students.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Brentwood Community Center/Earth Day Clean-up
Homeless Food Runs
Catholic Charities Christmas Gifts
BINGO with Seniors
Clothing Drives
Project Champ Christmas Party and Easter Party

Chapman University School of Law
Vicki Huebner, Director, Career Services 714.628.2517 vhuebner@chapman.edu
Tony Arnold, Associate Professor 714.628.2509 caarnold@chapman.edu
(Orange, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The school attempts to create an atmosphere of expectation of service through its faculty pro bono policies. Faculty members are encouraged to promote pro bono service in the classroom to heighten interest among students. They are encouraged to address in every course the pro bono obligation of attorneys and to invite public interest practitioners to class. In addition, pro bono projects operated in conjunction with a class can count towards the faculty member's pro bono obligation (see below). Legal ethics professors are required to incorporate pro bono service within their courses. Chapman holds workshops on ethics teaching for professors.

The Office of Career Services posts pro bono opportunities for students and, by school policy, must subscribe to "all database services, publications and organizations for pro bono or public service that are

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

In 1997, Chapman adopted a mandatory pro bono policy for full-time faculty. Pro bono is defined broadly as “uncompensated legal or law-related service to people or groups that tend to be underrepresented due to inability to pay, minority status, unpopularity of position or the widely diffused public benefits of their cause”. While the policy encourages law-related work, it does not necessarily limit the work narrowly to legal representation. Therefore, “non-legal service may qualify if it’s a substantial response to a legal problem.” However, “service solely within the Law School and University does not satisfy the service obligation of each faculty member.” No set number of hours is required. Pro bono service is not required every year, taking into consideration periods of heavy commitment to other matters, but faculty must fulfill all expectations over a several year period. Pro bono service is a factor in rank and tenure decisions.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology
Vivien Gross, Clinical Professor 312.906.5073 Vgross@kentlaw.edu
(Chicago, Illinois)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

The office Serving Our Society (SOS) was created to help connect students interested in volunteer or public interest work with groups in need of volunteers. It acts as a clearinghouse of short and long-term public service projects with the realization that many students cannot fully commit themselves to a career in public interest. SOS is run by students who are supervised by Professor Gross. It is administered through the Law Offices at the school. Hours are tracked.

Recognition:

Students who complete 50 hours of public service are given a certificate.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Information available through SOS.

University of Cincinnati College of Law
Mina Jefferson, Director, Public Service and Professional Development 513.556.0075
Jeffermj@law.uc.edu
(Cincinnati, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

The Office of Public Service & Professional Development

Operation:

The Office of Public Service & Professional Development, through its Director, creates and facilitates public service opportunities for the U.C. Law community by serving as a liaison between the College of Law, the local legal services community and the Cincinnati Bar Association. The Director manages the volunteer opportunity program that includes coordinating student placements and designing individual projects, developing training and support materials and recruiting students among other activities. The Director also advises student public service organizations and administers the Summer Public Interest Fellowship Fund, which assists students pursuing public interest careers.

Recognition:

For any public interest work completed, there is a notation placed on the student's transcript.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Tenant Information Project (TIP)--Students operate a hotline to answer questions about Ohio's landlord-tenant law. Students provide no legal advice but read the law to caller with questions about their legal rights and responsibilities. The program has an office and a dedicated phone line with answering machine.

Volunteer Lawyers for the Poor-- With support from the law school, the program is administered by the Legal Aid Society of Cincinnati. Students work with local pro bono attorneys on family and housing law cases. Students receive training through a series of workshops on the relevant areas of law.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program-- Students assist low and middle income and elderly persons in the preparation of their tax forms. The program is recognized by and works closely with the Internal Revenue Service which provides tax forms, training, technical assistance and publicity.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Mentoring Project--Student Bar Association participates in this program for at-risk junior and senior high school students. Sponsored by the Young Lawyers Division of the Cincinnati Bar Association.

City University of New York Law at Queens College
Sam Sue, Director, Career Planning 718.340.4233 sue@law.mail.cuny.edu
(Flushing, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Faculty

Operation:

The stated mission of CUNY to educate and train lawyers for the practice of Law in the Service of Human Needs. CUNY's curriculum emphasizes practical experience during all three years of law school. Each third-year student is required to take at least 12 credits of in-house clinic, a field placement program, or an elective concentration of public importance.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Mississippi Project -- Students spend their winter term break doing civil rights work in the Mississippi Delta with such organizations as the Center for Constitutional Rights.

CUNY Law Coalition Against Domestic Violence -- Founded in order to prevent domestic violence through community awareness and advocacy, this group organizes participation in the Court Advocacy Project which provides legal assistance to those subject to domestic violence in Queens.

The CUNY Labor Coalition for Workers Rights and Economic Justice -- Raises awareness about labor problems.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

National Lawyers Guild (student chapter) -- Organizes Street Law Project through which students provide community legal education to community members.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
Pamela Daiker-Middaugh, Director of Pro Bono Program
& Staff Attorney, Law & Public Policy Program 216.687.6878
Pamela.Daiker-Middaugh@law.csuohio.edu
(Cleveland, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

The Director of the Pro Bono Program is a half-time clinician and half-time program director. Both positions are faculty positions. The Director facilitates individual projects, monthly projects (legal and non-legal) and ongoing larger projects. Each year, the Program holds a Pro Bono Program Volunteer Fair. At this Fair, students meet with representatives from non-profit agencies and governmental entities to learn about community service and pro bono opportunities. Faculty are very involved in the Pro Bono Program.

Recognition:

Students who volunteer at least 40 hours of public service during the school year receive certificates at the annual Academic Honors Ceremony. One student is named Pro Bono Student of the Year and, in addition to receiving a certificate, also receives a cash award of \$50.

The Dean's Community Service Awards are given each spring to selected students for their commitment to community service. In 2000, two students received ½ tuition stipends and three students received \$1000 stipends. (These awards are different from the summer fellowships given.)

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Homeless Legal Assistance Project--Students go to shelters and assist pro bono attorneys in addressing legal issues and rights to homeless people.

International Services Center--Students and alumni provide legal assistance to people seeking asylum to the United States.

Law-related Monthly Group Projects--Single day initiatives – either pro bono or community service -- are selected by the Director and law students. Law related projects have included providing end-of-life decision to the residents of Benjamin Rose Institute for the Elderly and providing intake for the Cleveland Bar Homeless Project. Training is provided.

South Texas Pro Bono Asylum Representation Project--Law professor and students travel to Texas over school break to participate in this project of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Texas and the American Immigration Lawyers Association. A full-time attorney oversees and coordinates the efforts of volunteer attorneys and students who provide representation and counseling to political asylum applicants and immigrants detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Women's Re-Entry Program--Law students work with women recently released from incarceration. Law students conduct intake, make referrals, and assist with legal decision that the women make concerning housing, custody, employment, criminal, and social security issues.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Cleveland Bar Association's Education Initiative--Students, faculty, staff and alumni work in the Cleveland Public high schools on one or more of the following initiatives (law firms and the bar association pick up some of the expenses): 1) **Street Law**: Law students and volunteer lawyers work with high school teachers to team-teach practical law in the social studies elective called Street Law. 2) **Proficiency Exam Preparation**: Help prepare students to take the citizenship portion of the state-mandated proficiency exam that students must pass to receive a diploma. 3) **City Mock Trial Program**: Law students serve as legal advisors to help prepare student teams for competition. Law students also sit with municipal court judges and attorneys to serve as mock trial judges. 4) **Mural Project**: Help high school students' paint a mural showcasing their interpretation of the law.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Monthly Group Projects sponsored by the Pro Bono Project and SPILO include Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers/Big Sisters Project, Cleveland Food Bank, Soup Kitchens, Cleveland Food Bank, and Urban Garden Project.

Columbia University School of Law
Ellen Chapnick, Assistant Dean and Director of the Center for Public Interest Law
212.854.6158 chapnick@law.columbia.edu
(New York, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

The Center for Public Interest Law

Operation:

The Center for Public Interest Law has four full-time employees who administer Columbia's Pro Bono Program, its Human Rights Internship Program and its Public Service Fellowship Program, and provide career services to students and graduates who want to explore the public interest sector. The mandatory pro bono program, which was adopted in response to a student initiative, requires that every student devote 40 hours to public interest law service between the end of their first year of law school and graduation. First year students and those who have completed 40 hours are encouraged to do voluntary pro bono services. The school's adoption of the mandatory pro bono requirement and establishment of the Center has led, among other things, to the creation of a variety of "in-house" pro bono projects in which students work together under the supervision of a faculty member, an alum or other lawyers.

Oversight of the pro bono program is done through the Pro Bono Coordinator who meets with students, arranges and advertises placements and ensures that the necessary forms are filed before pro bono credit is awarded. In addition to an initial registration form, each student must complete an Exit Questionnaire and have his or her Placement Supervisor complete a Supervisor's Report in order to receive credit.

Annual meetings are held with each of the coordinators of in-house projects. Publications of the Center include the *Student Guide to the Columbia Law School Pro Bono Program*, the *Supervisor's Guide to Columbia's Pro Bono Program*, and a newsletter entitled *Public Interest Tribune*.

Recognition:

All pro bono hours are documented on the students' transcripts and those who do more than 75 are honored at the Annual Public Interest Honors Dinner with a certificate.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Alliance for Community Enhancement--A student-run nonprofit organization at Columbia's School of International Public Affairs, which includes a partnership with churches in Harlem to increase the flow of tourist revenue to the community.

Bright Idea-- Using the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and other laws, members of Columbia's Youth Justice Association help parents of NYC's children with disabilities, who often do not receive the proper educational placements and services, and others, often minority children, who are misidentified as disabled.

Campaign Finance Reform Project--A professor supervises students in the creation of a report that examines the problems in campaign financing and recommends legislative reforms.

CCRB Project--Established with the help a professor, this project involves students who investigate allegations of Police misconduct and work with mediators to resolve appropriate cases at the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

Community Lawyering Project--Students assist lawyers at the Legal Aid Society's Community Law Office in the representation of individuals, tenant groups and community development associations in upper Manhattan. Students may research and draft complaints, affidavits, motions and briefs. Other students are involved with tenant associations that are acquiring their buildings through New York City's TILL program. The Project also presents panels that focus on the socio-economic history and current realities of Harlem and a walking tour of the neighborhood as part of the annual Public Interest Awareness Week.

Domestic Violence Project Courtroom Advocates Program--This Program is coordinated by students under the direction of the Legal Director of the Center for Battered Women's Legal Services and an adjunct professor. 1) Courtroom Advocates and Court Watch: Students help women and others who need protective orders and related assistance to defend themselves and their children from abusive family members. Under a special arrangement with the Manhattan Family Court, students may serve as advocates. There is an intensive training process and a two-tiered approach in which experienced students' work with new students. To help develop better procedures for battered women and others, students also monitor Family Court proceedings. 2) Uncontested Divorce Workshop: Students are trained to handle uncontested divorces for women registered at Sanctuary for Families. If the divorce becomes contested, students have the option of assisting the attorney in court.

Elder Law – Planning for the Future--Students counsel older persons and draft wills, health care proxies, living wills and other documents under the guidance of an adjunct professor.

Tenants Rights Project--Students represent indigent persons facing summary eviction from NYC public housing due to punitive drug laws in administrative proceedings. Students are also maintaining a brief and memo bank. An alum serves as the primary lawyer-mentor.

Political Asylum Workshop -- Under the direction of two senior associates at Davis Polk & Wardwell, teams of Columbia students prepare the factual record and brief the legal issues involved in a complex political asylum cases. The lawyers provide two intensive training sessions at the beginning of each semester before students begin work, review all drafts and meet with their teams throughout the project.

RightsLink--An outgrowth of Columbia's Human Rights Internship Program, the project provides legal documents and research to grassroots organizations throughout the world. Directed by a student board, Columbia students work with the guidance of faculty, lawyers at Debevoise & Plimpton and other experts in the specific laws at issue.

Unemployment Action Center and its Chinese Outreach Hotline Project--In this student-directed project, students represent persons who appeal their denial of unemployment compensation. Students fluent in Mandarin or Cantonese monitor the Hotline and represent clients who cannot speak English.

UN Habitat Project--Students research legal issues relevant to the UN Habitat Project, an international center for research, training and information on innovative approaches to urban problems established by Columbia and the UN's Center for Human Settlements. Supervision is provided by a professor.

Urban Habitat Project--Students provide legal assistance on a variety of sustainable urban development projects including: The Integrated Waste Management Project, which is analyzing long-term options for NYC to deal with waste disposal needs after the closing of Fresh Kills landfill; and the UN Project, which supports an international center for research, training and information on innovative approaches to urban problems.

Youth Justice Association--

Legal Aid Society, JRD - Foster Care: Students assist JRD Law Guardians who provide legal services to children in foster care.

Legal Aid Society, JRD - Education: Students work with attorneys specializing in education issues relating to children in foster care, often utilizing the Birth to Three and Early Intervention federal programs. An attorney provides training, after which students are assigned individual cases. For 1Ls and 2Ls only.

Center for Court Intervention: Working out of the neighborhood court at the Harlem Community Justice Center, students give legal guidance to residents on issues ranging from housing to insurance to foster care. Students may also work at the Youth Court, where teenagers adjudicate the minor offense of their peers; also available are extensive research projects with the CCI family mediation project.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Legal Outreach, Inc.'s Mock Trial Program--Students coach junior high school students from the inner city in a mock criminal trial competition that is part of Legal Outreach's broader program to inspire and prepare young people to go to college. The supervisor is the Executive Director of Legal Outreach and an adjunct professor at Columbia. He has created the mock trial curriculum, which is a two-month program. He instructs the law students in teaching techniques as well as the curriculum. A student coordinator works as a liaison between Columbia and Legal Outreach.

Faculty Pro Bono

Recognition:

At the Annual Public Interest Honors Dinner, one or two alumni, other lawyers, or faculty are awarded the Lance Liebman Nice Guys/Gals Do Not Necessarily Finish Last Award or the Kellis Parker Award, both honoring long-standing dedication to serving the public interest.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Connecticut School of Law
Michele Hoff, Program Coordinator/Pro Bono Coordinator
Office of Career Services, 860.570.5000 mhoff@law.uconn.edu
(Hartford, Connecticut)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Organizations list pro bono projects with the Program Coordinator. Students are able to select projects of interest to them on a first-come, first-served basis. Organizations are required to take the first student who meets the program requirements and who expresses an interest in the particular project. Students are not eligible to participate in the program until their second semester of law school.

Recognition:

Recognition is based upon the number of pro bono hours completed by a student during the course of the academic year. A recognition event is held each year.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

(Many of these projects offer students the choice to receive credit.)

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Center for Children's Advocacy -- Students represent abused and neglected children and work on class action legislation and testimony before the legislature. An adjunct faculty member supervises the students, who work out of space on the law school campus.

Family Court-Superior of Hartford-- Students assist with domestic violence restraining orders.

Connecticut Urban Legal Initiative, Inc. (CULI) -- Students work on community economic development and revitalization projects and assist in advising non-profit community groups in Hartford and Waterbury. An adjunct faculty member supervises students. CULI operates out of a space located on the Law School campus.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) -- Students volunteer to assist low-income taxpayers with preparing their income tax returns.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Public Interest Law Group Community Outreach--Students tutor and mentor at-risk middle and high school student and run a mediation program.

Street Law Seminar/Clinic - Students teach Street Law curriculum in local high school.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Cornell Law School
Karen Comstock, Assistant Dean for Career Services 607.255.3597
Comstock@law.mail.cornell.edu
(Ithaca, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Volunteer opportunities are advertised to students through Career Services Office.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Cornell Prison Project
Cornell Law Community Volunteer Program

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Dayton School of Law
Gabrielle Williamson, Pro Bono Coordinator 937.229.3211
Gabrielle.Williamson@notes.udayton.edu
(Dayton, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Operation:

New program.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of the District of Columbia, David A. Clarke School of Law
Joseph Tulman, Professor 202.274.7317 jtulman@law.udc.edu
(Washington, D.C.)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement and Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Faculty

Operation:

The University of the District of Columbia is the only law school to have both a pro bono requirement and a mandatory clinical program. In addition to traditional law school course offerings, each student must complete 40 hours of pro bono service during the first year and two clinics during the second and third years.

Through the Community Service Program each faculty member is responsible for being the "faculty advisor" for a pre-selected group of first-year students; the faculty advisor's duties include helping the 1st year student find a project or organizational placement through which to complete the 40-hour pro bono obligation. Students may go to any other faculty member or administrator other than the appointed advisor, and the school tries to identify projects that can be advertised to the class as available to anyone who might be interested. The project or placement must be law-work related and must provide service to underrepresented, poor and disempowered persons.

The clinical requirement mandates that students work on actual cases with clients for a minimum of 350 hours per clinic.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Drake University School of Law
Russell Lovell, Professor and Director of Public Service Program
515.271.1806 russell.lovell@drake.edu
(Des Moines, Iowa)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Faculty

Operation:

Professor Lovell oversees the law school's public service programs. The Law School's Career Services Office provides technical assistance by advertising pro bono opportunities, housing a directory of volunteer activities in Des Moines area; and maintaining membership with PSLawNet and NAPIL.

Recognition:

The Law School annually awards two Ferguson Prizes to students with an outstanding commitment to public service. These are prestigious awards, with plaques and checks of \$1,000 and \$500 (for first place and honorable mention). The Law School also awards a Pro Bono Service Certification upon a student's completion of 35 hours of public service during law school.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Drake Law Women’s Pro Se Domestic Abuse Program-- “Help a woman help herself” is the motto of this project sponsored by Drake Law Women. Any law student can become involved in the Program by simply attending a one night training session. The session trains participants to fill out Domestic Abuse Petitions and become familiar with the legal issues surrounding domestic abuse situations. Participants in the Program assist domestic abuse victims in filling out the necessary paper work without providing legal advice.

VITA

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Student Bar Association sponsors Habitat for Humanity, Reading at School and Work-A-Day Community Service Programs.

Duke University School of Law

Brenda Berlin, Director of Pro Bono Project 919.613.7141 berlin@law.duke.edu

Carol Spruill, Associate Dean, Public Interest, Pro Bono and Special Projects 919.613.7130

Spruill@law.duke.edu

(Durham, North Carolina)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Public Interest and Pro Bono

Operation:

The Director is employed half-time to counsel students on placements and to assist the Associate Dean on general public interest programming. Students are encouraged to complete a goal of 30 hours of pro bono work during at least one semester of their law school career. The Pro Bono Director collects and disseminates information regarding over 100 available pro bono placements in 30 different subject matters. Projects range in time commitment from 1-10 hours/week. The Director also assists student-run pro bono projects, as needed.

Recognition:

Law students who have engaged in pro bono work are recognized with a spring public interest and pro bono dinner at which faculty members serve the students NC BBQ. Every student who volunteered receives a certificate of appreciation, signed by the Dean. In addition, at a graduation awards ceremony, the school gives the Pro Bono Service Award to “the graduating student who has most distinguished himself or herself by employing the education gained at Duke Law School to provide free legal services, thereby carrying forward one of the finest traditions of the legal profession.” This student is also recognized by the North Carolina State Bar.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Innocence Project--This collaborative effort with UNC School of Law was established in the fall of 1999. The project is student run with faculty advisors from both law schools. It was recently set up as a non-profit organization, the NC Center on Actual Innocence. The Center and the students review, investigate and pursue innocence claims of prisoners incarcerated in North Carolina.

VITA--The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program is student-run project which assists low-income individuals complete their income tax forms. Volunteers are recruited, tested and trained every Spring and the project generally runs from January through April every year.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Community Legal Education/Street Law Project--In Fall 2001, the Pro Bono Project will launch a Community Legal Education or Street Law program in a local public high school. This project has a student steering committee. Law students will teach in the Social Studies classes, Bill of Rights and the American Court System. In the Spring, the Project is planning on collaborating with two other local law schools to organize and host a moot court competition.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Dedicated to Durham--This bi-annual project mobilizes students and faculty to do numerous community service projects in the local community during special days arranged during fall orientation and in the spring.

Emory University School of Law
Sue McAvoy, Director, Office of Career Services and Public Interest Advisor
404.727.5503 or smcavoy@law.emory.edu
(Atlanta, Georgia)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

Dean's Public Service Award -- The dean recognizes, annually, up to ten students who have distinguished themselves through activities that are in keeping with the professional tradition of the law and that are undertaken on behalf of the public interest either at the law school or outside its confines.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Homeless Advocacy Project -- Students volunteer their time to meet with homeless men and women and discuss their legal issues under the supervision of attorneys at the Georgia Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. A two-hour training is offered at the beginning of the semester.

Immigrant Assistance Project (IAP) -- A student-run association dedicated to meeting the need for greater awareness, support and dissemination of timely information that relates to current federal immigration laws and policies to members of the Emory University community and those individuals seeking asylum, temporary or permanent residency, or citizenship in the United States. IAP seeks to bring together immigration law attorneys and judges, Atlanta-area law students, and legal workers and community advocates in the Atlanta area which shall serve the growing Metropolitan Atlanta immigrant population.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law Capital Punishment Project-- Through this project, students arrange seminars, brown bag discussions, workshops on administration of capital punishment, and Fourth and Fifth Amendment-based constitutional nights with area middle school, high school and college students. There is also some ad hoc legal support provided in appellate cases. The project is operated out of the office of the school's National Lawyers Guild Chapter.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Florida, Fredric G. Levin College of Law
**Laura Traynham, Assistant Director for Career Services and Director of Public Service and Pro
Bono Programs** 352.392.0499 traynham@law.ufl.edu
(Gainesville, Florida)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Director of Public Service and Pro Bono Programs coordinates the Pro Bono Project whose mission is “to help students develop an awareness of their future ethical and professional responsibilities to provide service to their community. Participation in the program gives students the opportunity to perform valuable community service while learning about the legal needs of the underserved and developing the legal skills necessary to help meet those needs.” The Director provides a list of approved organizations and also encourages students to find placements that cater to their specific interests either through PSLawNet and in their hometowns. The work must benefit an underserved population in the community and be performed without either compensation or academic credit. Students agree to perform all assignments in a professionally responsible manner which includes maintaining client confidentiality and refraining from giving legal advice to clients.

A student Pro Bono Committee, chaired by the Director, meets regularly to discuss the status of current pro bono projects and to develop new opportunities. The Committee also assists with the administration of the pro bono program. To become a member of the Committee, students submit resumes and, upon recommendations from the Director, are selected by the Dean.

The College recommends that students aspire to perform 35 hours of pro bono legal work during law school.

Recognition:

Upon completion of 35 hours, students are eligible to receive a certificate of recognition for their service at the Center for Career Services' annual pro bono recognition luncheon. This luncheon is designed to honor the participating students and celebrate their accomplishments and commitment to the Pro Bono Project. In addition, upon graduation, the names of students receiving a pro bono certificated will be listed in the graduation program.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA

Capital Justice and Restoration Initiative

Eighth Judicial Circuit Guardian ad Litem Program

Labor and Employment Security, Judges of Compensation Claims

Student Legal Services

Restraining Order Assistance Program (ROAP) of the Sexual and Physical Abuse Resource Center (SPARC)

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Alachua County Teen Court Program

Florida Institutional Legal Services

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Florida State University College of Law
Ruth Witherspoon, Associate Dean of Student Affairs 850.644.7338 Rwithers@law.fsu.edu
(Tallahassee, Florida)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

Students are required to complete and report twenty hours of civil pro bono service during the second or third year of law school. Pro bono legal work is defined as "work on behalf of indigent individuals or other uncompensated legal work in conjunction with an individual lawyer, law firm or organization on behalf of a disadvantaged minority, the victims of racial, sexual, other forms of discrimination, those denied human and civil rights, or other work on behalf of the public interest. Work on behalf of the public interest means legal work that is designed to present a position on behalf of the public at large on matters of public interest . . ." Public interest work does not include the direct representation of litigants in actions between private persons, corporations, or other representations of litigants in which the financial interests at stake would warrant representation from private legal sources.

The Associate Dean for Student Affairs has the responsibility for determining whether a student has satisfied the pro bono requirement. There is a mandatory pro bono meeting that covers all aspects of this law school requirement. This meeting is held during the spring semester of the first year of law. A list of approved placements can be found on the web. Most placements are external to the law school.

Recognition:

Students who give forty or more hours to public service receive a certificate recognizing distinguished pro bono accomplishment at graduation.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Fordham University School of Law
Thomas Schoenherr, Assistant Dean, Public Interest Resource Center
212.636.6952 Tschoenherr@mail.lawnet.fordham.edu
(New York, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Group Projects

Location:

The Public Interest Resource Center

Operation:

The Public Interest Resource Center (PIRC) acts as a clearinghouse for student initiated public service and pro bono organizations. The Center is managed by four full time administrators: Thomas J. Schoenherr, Assistant Dean; Susan Zankel, Director; Eleanor Pechersky, Associate Director; and Albilda Hernandez, Executive Secretary. In 2001, PIRC was home to fourteen student run organizations, ten of which provide direct law-related pro bono service.

Recognition:

At the annual Public Interest Resource Center Annual Awards Dinner, Fordham gives two pro bono awards, in addition to the awards recognizing the public service of alumni and friends of Fordham and the certificates to graduating students completed Fordham's public interest scholars program. The pro bono awards are:

- 1) The Archibald R. Murray Public Service Award: This award is given to students in the graduating class of the Law School who have devoted 50 or more hours to pro bono and/or community service work during their years as Fordham Law Students. Those graduates completing 250 - 499 hours will receive the cum laude Murray Award, those completing 500 - 999 hours will receive the magna cum laude Murray award and students completing 1000 + hours will receive the summa cum laude Murray award. The text of the award reads, "in grateful acknowledgment of your response to the call of public need as exemplified by Archibald R. Murray, Class of 1960, whose career embodies the highest standards of public service." 137 members of the Class of 2001 are recipients of this award.
- 2) Student Leadership Award: This award is presented annually to students in the graduating class who have served on the Boards of Directors of their respective organizations in the Public Interest Resource Center during their second, third, or fourth year in Law School. The text of the award reads, "in recognition of your outstanding commitment and efforts on behalf of the Fordham Law School Community through your dedication and service to (your student public interest organization)." 26 members of the Class of 2001 are recipients of this award.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Public Service Law Network Worldwide at Fordham Law School (PSLN) --PSLN utilizes the PSLawNet database of over 10,000 organizations to assist students in finding legal-related public interest work. The goal of PSLN is to offer students the chance to volunteer legal assistance and to provide a tool to facilitate student career choices, while helping to aid under-served communities and organizations. Opportunities exist in a wide range of areas of the law: civil rights, the environment, criminal law, poverty law, and the rights of children, the elderly and battered women.

Domestic Violence Advocacy Center (DVAC)--Founded in September, 1993, DVAC became a member in 1997 of the Law School Domestic Violence Consortium of Manhattan (D.V. Consortium). The D.V. Consortium, a project of the Lawyer's Committee Against Domestic Violence, is a partnership between law school students who are committed to advocating for victims of domestic violence, and seasoned agencies specializing in legal representation of domestic violence victims. A core program of the D.V. Consortium is the Court Room Advocates Program, through which students serve as resident advocates in the Domestic Violence Part in Family Court. As allowed by statute, petitioners seeking protective orders may have a friend or advocate present in the courtroom during proceedings. Advocates 1) assist petitioners in creating safety plans to avoid or escape dangerous abusers; 2) continue to advocate for victims to whom they are assigned after an initial hearing by assisting them and their attorneys in identifying and gathering evidence and accompanying them to Family Court on subsequent dates; and 3) refer petitioners to needed resources, such as domestic violence shelters and hotlines, counseling, health and HIV/AIDS related services. In addition, DVAC's First-Year committee organizes clothing and necessities drives each semester. All donations are given to a transitional shelter in Manhattan that houses victims of domestic violence and their children. The first-year committee also publishes a newsletter every semester. DVAC trainings are conducted with the assistance of the Clinical Instructor of the Domestic Violence Clinic at the Law School and attorneys working at domestic violence legal advocacy organizations in the community.

Unemployment Action Center (UAC)--The UAC is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of unemployed persons and has over 400 members at five New York area law schools. Students are trained as advocates to represent people at unemployment insurance hearings, as counselors for hearings, and as writers of appeals briefs.

Housing Advocacy Project (HAP)--HAP is dedicated to providing law students with the opportunity to advocate for the rights of low-income tenants in public housing in New York City. The Project was founded in the summer of 1994 by two second year law students working in conjunction with several professors, the Director of the PIRC, and the Managing Attorney of a local community Legal Services Office. Student advocates are trained to represent tenants at New York City Housing Authority eviction and eligibility hearings.

Family Court Mediation Project (FCMP)--The FCMP was established in January, 1995, by Clinical Professor Jacqueline Nolan-Haley who teaches the Mediation Clinic at the Law School, along with three students who had completed training in the clinic. Currently, the Project is located in Bronx Family Court and functions as an autonomous and self contained mediation service for the people of the Bronx. The FCMP is designed to provide necessary custody and visitation mediation services to the public free of charge. As a secondary goal, the project educates and disseminates information to the public about mediation. Trainings for student mediators are conducted with the participation of Fordham Law School clinical and adjunct professors. These same professors supervise the student mediators.

Death Penalty Project (DPP)--The DPP was established in August, 1995, to provide a forum for Fordham Law Students to contribute to the New York State and New Jersey capital punishment and criminal justice systems. The DPP focuses on the provision of adequate defense representation to capital defendants, appellants and death row inmates. Student volunteers have worked with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the Capital Defense Office in New York City, the Capital Defense Unit of The Legal Aid Society, and the pro bono department of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. The Project also organizes panels and symposia to educate the Law School community about capital defense representation, capital prosecution, and criminal justice and jurisprudence.

Immigration Advocacy Project (IAP)--IAP provides assistance to people seeking help with immigration related matters. Students work in conjunction with attorneys at the Lawyers' Committee for Human Rights to provide individual assistance to people who are applying for asylum or refugee status. Plans for the future include providing assistance in the areas of: applying for naturalized citizenship, applying for resident alien status or for a green card, or seeking other information or assistance related to their own or their family's immigration issues.

Police Misconduct Action Network (PMAN)--PMAN is a joint collaboration between the PIRC, the Law School's Crowley Program in International Human Rights, and the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU). Founded last year in response to the Abner Louima incident, PMAN seeks to address the issue of police misconduct as both a domestic human rights and a civil rights issue. The PMAN group is comprised of students who work with victims of police misconduct at the NYCLU office to help them have their complaints heard and addressed by the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB), and other appropriate authorities.

Fordham Law Environmental Advocates (FLEA)--The mission statement of the FLEA reads, "One of the gravest problems that we face as we head into the twenty-first century is sustaining growth within an environment with finite resources. As law students, we have the opportunity to use our education and abilities to help bring this crisis to the forefront of political agendas and to educate our community. FLEA is a group of students that will advocate on behalf of the environment on a local, state, and national level while educating the Fordham Law community on reducing their impact on the environment. Our goals will be accomplished by persistent lobbying efforts to administrators, lawmakers, and politicians. Furthermore, FLEA will offer students opportunities to escape from New York City and experience some of the local beauty that our environment has to offer and reinforce the need to preserve our local pristine habitats."

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center Children's Law Project (LSNCCLP)--Through a generous seed grant from an alumnus, the Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center Children's Law Project trains Fordham law students to teach concepts of law, citizenship and literacy to young children - 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders - in an after-school program run by the Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center. During the course of the 1999-2000 academic year, the Fordham law students taught 4 classes including nearly 50 elementary school students in the after-school program. The LSNCCLP program culminated with a mock trial program followed by a graduation ceremony.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

In 1995, Fordham adopted guidelines of faculty pro bono involvement. It is suggested that members of faculty should volunteer at least 50 hours of pro bono work annually, as suggested by the ABA. The guidelines stated the law school should encourage and support pro bono work by the faculty and successful implementation of this should include recognition, administrative support, conferences and faculty colloquia, summer pro bono work and leaves of absences. Successful implementation of this policy has included using students as research assistants, for student pro bono projects, independent study, and course offerings supporting pro bono work.

Recognition:

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Fordham Law Community Service Project (CSP)--The CSP gives Fordham Law students the opportunity to volunteer their time and talents at organizations in the New York City community in a non-legal capacity. Valuable experience includes tutoring, holding drives for the needy and organizing a volunteer fair at the law school to publicize volunteer opportunities.

Habitat for Humanity at Fordham Law School (HFH)--When HFH became an official campus chapter of HFH International, HFH left CSP to become an independent student organization in the PIRC. Since 1990, over 170 Fordham students, faculty, administrators have participated in nineteen projects in eight states. Every year there are at least four weekend trips to work with an HFH affiliate in New York City or the tri-state area, and a week-long trip during the spring break. Students perform actual construction work including carpentry, dry-wall installation, painting and roofing, under the supervision of volunteer skilled tradespeople.

Franklin Pierce Law Center
Bridgett Siff Holmes, Director, Community Lawyering Program 603.228.1963 bholmes@fplc.edu
(Concord, New Hampshire)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Community Lawyering Program

Operation:

Through the Pro Bono Alliance, the law schools and the New Hampshire Bar work together to have students assist the attorneys that have accepted a pro bono case from the Bar's Pro Bono Referral Program.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

George Washington University Law School
James Lovelace, Career Consultant, Public Interest Liaison 202.994.7340
James@cdo.nlc.gwu.edu
(Washington, D.C.)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Faculty

Operation:

The pro bono program aims at coordinating, promoting, and supporting the variety of students and faculty pro bono activities and opportunities at the Law School and in the community. The program is organized through a faculty-student Pro Bono Subcommittee of the Law School's Public Interest Committee. The Committee acts as a clearinghouse for active pro bono projects. The Committee also works with the Student Bar Association, which sponsors a program that recognizes students who perform a certain amount of pro bono work by graduation. Two faculty members currently chair the Committee.

Faculty members engage in volunteer legal work covering a wide range of issues. Following a survey of faculty that was conducted in the summer of 2000, students were provided a list of volunteer opportunities with faculty members. These ranged from conducting criminal law research to assisting with the formation of a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation. It is anticipated that similar surveys will be conducted in the future.

Recognition:

Under the SBA Pro Bono Project, students who engage in 90 or more hours of pro bono work during their tenure at the Law School earn recognition for their efforts at graduation. Their names are listed in the graduation program. The Pro Bono Subcommittee is currently analyzing whether it will also recognize student efforts.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Project for Older Prisoners -- Students assist low-risk prisoners over the age of 55 to help them obtain paroles, pardons, or alternative forms of incarceration. Students can also volunteer to work on a project to introduce recycling and environmental industries in prisons.

Innocence Project of the National Capital Region--A collaborative effort between area attorneys and law schools to seek the exoneration and release of innocent persons, convicted of crimes they did not commit and serving prison sentences or awaiting execution for such crimes in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. Students will engage in fact investigation, interviewing, and legal research/writing, with the goal of bringing justice to the wrongfully convicted.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)--Students assist local residents with their income tax returns.

The National Lawyers Guild Chapter -- Students act as legal observers at demonstrations held in the Washington, DC area.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Georgetown University Law Center
Holly Eaton, Pro Bono Coordinator 202.662.9878 Eatonh@law.georgetown.edu
Barbara Moulton, Director, Office of Public Interest and Community Service
202.662.9655 moultonb@law.georgetown.edu
(Washington, D.C.)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

The Office of Public Interest and Community Service

Operation:

The Office of Public Interest and Community Service (“OPICS”) has three full-time employees and two half-time employees who administer the public interest and community service programs at Georgetown and offer career counseling to students interested in pursuing a career in public interest law. OPICS houses a resource library with extensive information about pro bono opportunities, legal internships, post-graduate fellowships and paid positions in public interest organizations and government offices in DC, throughout the United States, and around the world.

Georgetown asks in-coming first year students to pledge to complete at least 75 hours of pro bono legal volunteer work before they graduate. To count under the Pro Bono Pledge, the work must be law-related, supervised by an attorney, and not for credit or compensation.

Every semester, the Pro Bono Coordinator compiles a list of over 30 pro bono opportunities available to students during the academic year ranging from one-day projects to a weekly ongoing commitment at a local public interest service provider. Projects include intake, telephone advice and referral, policy analysis, as well as research and writing. In addition, OPICS lists thousands of available internships each year through its “Jobs” database.

Recognition:

Every Spring, OPICS holds a “Celebrate the Spirit of Service Awards Reception.” Outstanding Public Service Awards are given to a handful of graduating students who have made significant public interest or pro bono contributions to the Georgetown law community and/or the DC metropolitan area. “1L” and “2L” awards are given to one or two students in each class respectively. The recipients of these awards are determined by a faculty panel in consultation with OPICS staff and are based on nominations received from fellow students, law school faculty and staff. Students who complete or exceed the number of pro bono hours pledged also receive recognition at the Reception. In addition, these students receive a certificate signed by the Dean along with their diploma at graduation and a notation in the graduation bulletin.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC)--Non-profit organization started by Georgetown law students which seeks to serve the special linguistic and cultural needs of the Asian Pacific American community in the DC metropolitan area. Staffed by student volunteers from local law schools with supervision by local volunteer attorneys, the APALRC provides advice, referral, and translation services to clients on legal matters, including immigration, domestic relations, and employment issues.

The Innocence Project--A student group that assists convicted prisoners who claim they are innocent. Under the supervision of attorneys from the Innocence Project of the National Capital Region, the students investigate the prisoners’ claims, help locate any DNA evidence which may exonerate them, and seek testing of such evidence.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Thurgood Marshall Academy Charter School--A student group that assists a new Charter school founded in 2001 by Georgetown law graduates who participated in the Street Law Clinic while at Georgetown. The Charter School is located in Southeast DC and will emphasize citizenship, human rights, and legal reasoning skills. The school currently has 80 ninth grade students. Georgetown law students volunteer as tutors, mentors, teachers, and instructors.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

In November 2000, the Georgetown faculty adopted a resolution encouraging all faculty who are DC bar members to meet their bar obligation of 50 hours of pro bono work a year. Those faculty members who are not members of the DC Bar or who have skills and expertise in non-legal fields are also encouraged to participate in pro bono work and complete at least 50 hours a year. The policy was designed to show students by example that law in service of the disadvantaged is an important calling.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Georgetown Law Habitat for Humanity-- A recognized Campus Chapter of Habitat for Humanity consisting of faculty, staff, LLMS, alumni and students. Sponsors approximately 5-8 day projects a year, an annual Alternative Spring Break trip to Chatham County, North Carolina and an annual Alumni Build every summer. This August, 12 members will participate in the 2001 Jimmy Carter Work Project in Seoul, South Korea and there are plans to go to Africa next summer.

Home Court - An annual silent auction and basketball game organized by Georgetown law students every spring which pits the Georgetown Law Faculty (Hoya Lawyas) against members of Congress (Hill's Angels). Proceeds benefit the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless.

Gonzaga University School of Law
Cheryl Beckett, Instructor and Director, Legal Research and Writing Program
509.323.5790 cbeckett@lawschool.gonzaga.edu
(Spokane, Washington)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Community Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Faculty

Operation:

Each student is required to complete 30 hours of public service after the first year of law school. The requirement can be satisfied by any of the following activities, if uncompensated: 1) volunteering at a nonprofit charitable organization (either law- or non-law related); 2) assisting an attorney or law firm (including University Legal Assistance) on a pro bono case; or 3) serving at a public agency.

Professor Beckett supervises a student who is paid to coordinate the school's mandatory service program. The student coordinates efforts with the Service Learning Coordinator on main campus at the Center for Community Action and Service Learning (CCASL) to secure placement for interested students. Students can also secure placements on their own, with approval from the student pro bono coordinator, through the University's service learning website or through the University's Community Service Fair.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

Faculty members have the same service obligation as students, thirty hours of pro bono or community service. Service on the boards of non-profit corporations is eligible. This requirement is an annual obligation for faculty.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Hamline University School of Law
Sharon Fischlowitz, Executive Director, Minnesota Justice Foundation
612.625.0777 Sharon@mnjustice.org
(St. Paul, Minnesota)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program, run by the Minnesota Justice Foundation

Operation:

Minnesota Justice Foundation is an independent non-profit which coordinates the Law School Public Service Program in Minnesota. An MJF staff attorney runs the MJF office at each school. MJF has a full-time staff of 6 attorneys and various part time college and law students. The Board of Directors is made up of law students, private attorneys, legal services attorneys and client-eligible community members. Three students (from each school) sit on MJF's Board of Directors. Drawn from the membership of MJF's student chapters, these students help steer the agency and its programs- including its law school pro bono program. Each School also appoints several of its own law students to its own Public Service Committee. Students also serve on the Legal Assistance to the Disadvantaged committee of the Minnesota State Bar Association, as well as its Law School Initiatives Subcommittee, where the law school public service program collaboration partners monitor and support the program.

Through MJF's Law School Public Service Program, Hamline asks its students to perform 50 hours of law-related public service and makes the commitment to have placements available. MJF coordinates

volunteer placements with over 150 legal services and advocacy agencies throughout Minnesota, in most (over 25) legal issue areas.

Recognition:

Hamline recognizes students who have performed 50 hours of law-related public service with a transcript notation, "Completed Hamline University School of Law Pro Bono Service Program."

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

MJF Street Law Project --MJF staff, legal services attorneys and alternative learning center teachers train law students to teach low-income, at-risk high school students their basic legal rights, responsibilities and resources. In addition, Hamline students teach Street Law in Duluth over their Spring Break.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Harvard University Law School
Todd Rakoff, Professor and Dean, J.D. Programs 617.495.4634 or trakoff@law.harvard.edu
(Cambridge, Massachusetts)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

Students are required to perform a minimum of 40 hours of uncompensated public interest work at some point during their law school career as a prerequisite to graduation. The work may be, but need not be, performed in a setting in which credit is given. Students may satisfy the requirement by doing nonacademic legal work, under the supervision of a lawyer or faculty member, of a non-clerical nature in programs that offer legal services to persons who cannot afford, in whole or in part, to pay for legal services; to government; to non-profit organizations as defined under IRC § 501(c)(3) and (4); and to public interest law firms. "Legal work" includes work that involves the application or interpretation of

law, the formulation of legal policy, or the drafting of legislation or regulations. Students may perform their service in an approved supervised setting in any year of law school, including the summer between law school years. Certification of the satisfactory completion of the requirement shall be a degree requirement.

The faculty approved this policy in 2000. The school is in the process of hiring a director and establishing the placement process.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

It is expected that all members of the regular, full-time teaching faculty will perform, on the average, at least a similar amount of pro bono activity to that proposed for students. Since all members of the faculty are not practicing lawyers, the qualifying services for faculty members should be rendered to the listed organizations in the fields of their respective expertness. The aspirational goal with respect to faculty service is included to stress the importance of the professional value of pro bono service. It follows the outline of the hours set forth in the proposal with respect to students, with appropriate modifications for faculty who are not practicing lawyers. The hourly goal is about half the 25 hours per year suggested by the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, whose Rule is stated in terms of service to persons of limited means. (That Rule also contains a buyout provision of \$250 to 1% of the lawyer's annual taxable income.) The qualifying services for faculty are set forth in general terms. Since there are no sanctions or reporting requirements, we expect that faculty members seeking to comply would follow their own common sense in deciding to their own satisfaction whether they had met the guidelines.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Hawaii , William S. Richardson School of Law
James Pietsch, Pro Bono Advisor 808.956.6785 or Jpietsch@hawaii.edu
(Honolulu, Hawaii)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

Students are required to volunteer at least 60 hours of law-related work in one or more agencies or projects approved by the law school pro bono advisor.

Recognition:

Pro Bono Award – Indigent Legal Services (Pending Approval)

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Hofstra University School of Law
Paulette Fagen, Director of Public Sector Career Services 516.463.5916
lawjzh@hofstra.edu
(Hempstead, Long Island, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Recognition:

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Unemployment Action Center (U.A.C.)--A non-profit, student-run corporation that provides free counseling and advocacy services to jobless persons seeking unemployment benefits. Approximately 50 student advocates participate each semester, each of whom takes at least one case.

Research, Education, and Advocacy to Combat Homelessness (R.E.A.C.H.)--R.E.A.C.H. is a non-profit, student-run organization that provides advocacy for homeless persons as well as legal support for community-based groups and organizations which work on homelessness and low-income housing issues. Student's staff tables at shelters where they provide law-related counseling and represent clients at fair hearings held at the Department of Social Services. Other activities include food and clothing drives and educational forums. Hofstra has been awarded a grant from The New York Bar Foundation for the further development of its R.E.A.C.H. project.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Howard University School of Law
Nkechi Taifa, Director, Equal Justice Program 202.806.8119 Ntaifa@law.howard.edu
(Washington, D.C.)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Equal Justice Program

Operation:

The Equal Justice Program (EJP) is a part of the Clinical Law Center at Howard. It provides “unique opportunities for law students to engage in legal research and writing, critical analysis, public education, legislative advocacy, and litigation support regarding the myriad of problems facing society today.” The Program carries out its equal justice mission through five projects: Civil/Human Rights Project, Community Outreach Project, Externship Program, Pro Bono / Public Service Program, Public Interest Resource Center.

The Pro Bono Program strives to make the professional ethic of pro bono services an integral part of the student’s professional education through the rendering of volunteer legal services. Students are encouraged to find individual placements through the PSLawNet database and to get involved in one or more of the many group initiatives of the EJP.

The EJP has a full-time director and secretarial assistance. Volunteer students assist the Director. They serve as liaisons between the students recruited to provide pro bono service and organizations requesting assistance.

Recognition:

At the annual Law School Academic Awards Ceremony, the Equal Justice Program awards Certificates of Service to students for their tireless community outreach, civil/human rights, and pro bono/public service work with EJP initiatives. These certificates are awarded to all students who participated in one of the programs or projects of the EJP (excluding the Externship Program). In addition, one Equal Justice Program Award is presented to an outstanding student in the Equal Justice Program.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Clemency Project -- Working with representatives from other law schools, students assist in formulating a strategy for clemency for “sixties” era political prisoners in the U.S. Two of the prisoners were granted clemency by President Clinton at the end of December.

Free Legal Advice Clinic --Students volunteer one Saturday a month helping to provide client intake at the DC Bar’s walk-in Advice and Referral Clinics in NW and SE. Students may also sit in with individual lawyers as they assist clients in various areas of poverty law.

Equal Justice in Entertainment Law -- Students work on issues confronting disparity and advancing equal justice in the entertainment, sports and telecommunications law field, interacting with groups such as the Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Association, National Bar Association Entertainment Law Section, National Association of Black-Owned Broadcasters, International Association of African American Music, and the Black Entertainment and Telecommunications Association.

Environmental Justice Project -- Students assist the National Black Environmental and Economic Justice Coordinating Council with its national campaign to insure equal environmental protection for people victimized by environmental hazards. Students also assist in the monitoring of civil rights complaints filed by communities of color and provided legal assistance in support of these complaints.

Innocence Project --A collaboration with area attorneys and law schools, the Project addresses issues of innocence in the death penalty. Students will engage in fact investigation, interviewing, and legal research/writing, with the goal of bringing justice to the wrongfully convicted.

Reparations Litigation and Legislative Project -- Students work with the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America, assisting with legal research and writing in support of reparations litigation and legislation.

Community Public Education Seminars, “For Your Legal Health”--EJP coordinates community public education seminars to educate the community on various issues, including employment discrimination, estate planning (wills, trusts & estates), juvenile justice, child support, bankruptcy, worker’s compensation, and name change. Local attorneys conduct the sessions with student assistance and involvement.

Legal Observer Program--Law students serve as legal observers for demonstrations common to the Nation’s Capitol. Students have served as legal observers for the Million Man March, D.C. Statehood Demonstrations, Jericho March, Nat’l Mobilization Against Police Brutality, NAACP Supreme Court Rally, and Mumia Demonstration.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program--Students participate with VITA, a product of the ABA and IRS, which assists low-income taxpayers, the elderly & disabled.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law Project -- Students teach pre-adjudicated youth at DC Superior Court on Saturdays as part of the Street Law, Inc. “Save Our Streets” Law Program, which targets 13-17 year olds charged with

weapon offenses who have been referred to the Program by the Court. As part of the curriculum, HUSL students also impart problem-solving, communication, and conflict resolution skills.

Eastern High School Project -- Students serve as mentors and guest instructors to Eastern's Law and Legal Services Academy, exposing the youth to the Howard Law school environment through shadowing and participation in selected law school events.

Exposing Legal Education (ELE) Program -- Students designed this comprehensive, half-day program to expose DC youth to the opportunities of a legal education. ELE consists of student presentations, a mock class or presentation on a specific legal topic by a faculty member, and a tour of the law school and library.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Illinois College of Law
Ann Killian Perry, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs 217.233.1097 akperry@law.uiuc.edu
(Champaign, Illinois)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

The College of Law encourages students to engage in pro bono service in a manner consistent with the ABA Model Rule of Professional Responsibility 6.1. Pro bono opportunities are facilitated by the Career Services Office.

Recognition:

Students who complete at least 60 hours of pro bono legal work receive a transcript notation for pro bono legal work.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Prisoners' Rights Research Project--Indigent prisoners incarcerated across the country write to the Project requesting answers to specific legal problems. Working under a student supervisor and faculty adviser, volunteers hone their research skills and gain significant insight into our corrections system by answering these complex questions.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Law students work with an area middle school to teach students basic legal concepts and give the students a better understanding of how law affects their daily lives.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington
Jan Turner, Assistant to the Dean 812.855.7995, turnerj@indiana.edu
(Bloomington, Indiana)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Environmental Research Project--Students provide research assistance to attorneys working on environmental cases on behalf of the public. The work is supervised by the attorneys with whom they are paired. A faculty member works with the group to assure continuity with the handling of cases.

Inmate Legal Assistance Clinic (ILAC)

Legal Services Organization Project--Volunteer students work on administrative law projects and cases as organized by the local LSO offices. Usually around 10 participants, including first year law students and participation is not mandatory. This project is coordinated by the student PILF chapter and they share office space within the law school building.

Public Interest Law Foundation Pro Bono Project--Each semester, PILF arranges a sign-up day for pro bono work with the area non-profit employers. Employers come to the law school to meet with students and discuss various opportunities within the organization. Roughly 50 students participate and perform the work at law offices and non-profit area locations. Lawyers not on the faculty or staff supervise and non lawyers supervise work that is non-legal.

Protective Order Project--Student volunteers provide assistance to community members in obtaining protective orders from court. This project shares an office at the law school with other student groups. The work is done within the law school and at the courthouse. Members of the law schools non-clinical faculty supervise the student work.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Indiana University School of Law, Indianapolis
Shannon Lee Williams, Director, Career Services and Pro Bono Programs
317.278.2172 Shlewill@iupui.edu; **Pat Laskowski, Pro Bono Coordinator, 317.274.2484**
Plaskows@iupui.edu
(Indianapolis, Indiana)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

As a Pro Bono Program participant, students volunteer on supervised projects for non-profit organizations, government agencies, and individual attorneys doing unpaid legal work. The work must benefit the under-served, under-represented, or organizations with limited resources. The Pro Bono Program is open to all IU-Indianapolis law students who have completed their first semester of classes. Students and supervisors are provided with manuals. Hours are tracked.

Recognition:

Students receive recognition for program participation in various ways. A certificate is given at the conclusion of each semester to those students who participated in the Pro Bono Program.

Students are eligible to receive a Pro Bono Program notation on their transcript if 50 hours of pro bono work are completed during the course of their law school career. These students are also recognized by listing their names in the graduation program and by having his/her name placed on a Pro Bono Program Plaque displayed in the law school.

In addition, there are three levels of recognition for the Pro Bono Program. Students who complete 50 hours are awarded the Bronze level, 125 hours completed is the Silver level and 200 hours completed is the Gold level.

Finally, the *Berlon Pro Bono Award* is given to a graduating student who has contributed a significant amount of time to the Pro Bono Program and to other community activities throughout his/her law school career. The recipient of this award is someone who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to public service.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program – Indianapolis --This is a student run project that runs from December through March. Students are expected to work a total of 20 hours during the period.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Reach for Youth – Teen Court Program -- Students serve as mentors helping to train and supervise volunteer teen attorney prosecutors and defense counsel. The mentors assist in training teen attorneys and supervising their work both inside and outside the courtroom.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Inter American University of Puerto Rico School of Law
Doel Quinones-Nunez, Dean Academic Affairs & Associate Professor
787.751.1912 doquinon@inter.edu
(San Juan, Puerto Rico)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

Students are required to take a 2-semester, 6-credit clinical course in which they work with clients of the Legal Assistance Clinic.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

EDUCCA -- A student initiated project to bring general legal orientation to citizens, particularly people in poor communities.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Iowa College of Law
Linda McGuire, Associate Dean & Instructor 319.335.9034 Linda-mcguire@uiowa.edu
(Iowa City, Iowa)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinators

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Pro Bono Society is a student run pro bono program. It exists to reinforce the important values of public service and volunteerism in the legal profession. Membership in the Pro Bono Society is an earned honor and signifies an objectively measured commitment to serving others during the academic year. Organized through the Iowa Student Bar Association, the Society is comprised of Iowa College of Law students. Students who complete and report 15 hours of voluntary public service per semester for two consecutive semesters are considered for membership. Voluntary public service means time donated to a charitable or public service cause. There are many types of voluntary public service (law-related and non-law-related) and this requirement will be interpreted broadly so that students may volunteer in an area of interest.

The Iowa Student Bar Association (ISBA) Executive Board appoints the Pro Bono Society Executive Board members for annual terms. The Pro Bono Society Executive Board is comprised of a minimum of three officers, including at least one officer who is an ISBA Executive Board member. The Executive Board is responsible for implementing the mission and goals of the Pro Bono Society and making all final decisions regarding the organization.

Recognition:

Members of the Pro Bono Society receive a certificate of membership and may include this honor on their resume. They are invited to attend the annual recognition dinner.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

"First Step" -- A volunteer group supervised by the local domestic violence program. Members accompany victims of domestic violence to court when they are obtaining protective orders pro se.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law Related Education (LRE) -- Sponsored by the College of Law's PHIDS chapter, LRE gives law students the opportunity to go into local schools to speak on law-related topics.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Lewis & Clark College, Northwestern School of Law
Libby Davis, Director of Career Services 503.768.6608 Eadavis@lclark.edu
(Portland, Oregon)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Pro Bono Program offers students an opportunity to act as volunteer legal interns with public service organizations. A student is paid to be the Pro Bono Coordinator and is supervised by the Director of Career Services. The Coordinator is a work-study student who works 20 hours a week during the summer and 10 hours a week during the school year. The Program has a website and a prominent display in the school. Individual counseling is available regarding locating pro bono opportunities both from the Pro Bono Student Coordinator and from Career Services. The career counselors meet with every first year student and in that conversation recommend participation in the Pro Bono Program.

In the fall, the Pro Bono Student Coordinator and the Director of Career Services offer an introductory presentation about doing pro bono work and the honors program. The following week, the student coordinator facilitates four days of panels made up of organizations seeking pro bono students.

Each spring, the Law School collaborates with other area schools to present the Northwest Public Service Career Fair. The Fair offers students the opportunity to talk with 60-70 public interest/service employers, many of which have pro bono opportunities available.

Recognition:

The Pro Bono Honors Program is designed “to encourage and foster community-based volunteer legal service projects.” As part of the program, a framed certificate is given to each student who completes at least 30 hours of volunteer, not-for-credit and not-for-compensation work between May and April. Qualifying service included hours performed as a volunteer for an employer who compensates the student for other hours. All work must be certified by the supervisor as qualifying. The awards are given during a recognition lunch and ceremony at the end of each school year.

Students are also recognized by the Oregon State Bar and the Oregon Supreme Court through personalized congratulatory letters. An article on award recipients is published each year in the Oregon State Bar's Bulletin and an article and photo is printed in the Law School's alumni publication.

The Law School's graduation program lists all graduates who have received the award during one or more of their years in law school. Beginning in 2001, pro bono honor awards will also be noted on all recipients' transcripts.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law
Dana Williams, Director, the Samuel L. Greenbaum Public Service Program 502.852.8850
Dana.williams@louisville.edu
(Louisville, Kentucky)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Law School requires that each student perform thirty hours of law-related public service work at an approved placement as a graduation requirement. The Samuel L. Greenbaum Public Service Program coordinates and certifies the students' pro bono service. It is staffed by two part time employees, a Director and an Assistant. The Program is grant-dependent. A local family funds the Program; smaller grants are obtained for special projects.

The Program allows service out of state. It also encourages group projects, including pro bono legal clinics. Law students have been instrumental in organizing legal clinics for the low income. *Pro bono* wills clinics are especially popular, and many have been held at various sites in the Louisville area over the past several years. Recently, students, volunteer attorneys and sign language interpreters coordinated a legal clinic for the deaf, held at the law school.

Recognition:

The John S. Greenebaum Public Service Award of \$1000 is given to five students who have completed at least 50 hours of public service and who meet specified criteria, such as the impact on those served and potential for recognition for the Public Service Program. The award program is competitive and is funded by the son of Samuel L. Greenebaum.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Edwin H. Perry Mediation Fellowships--A local lawyer has funded fellowships to train students for pro bono service. Each year this program offers a number of fellowships in mediation. Student "fellows" receive basic, family and divorce mediation skills training (70 hours), then apply their knowledge in thirty hours of family law mediation to fulfill their public service requirement. The "fellows" become part of the Louisville Bar Association Family Law Pro Bono Teams Project, mediating all matters of child visitation and custody for each case assigned to a team.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Loyola University Chicago School of Law
Beth Sosler, Director, Center for Public Service Law 312.915.7160 Esosler@luc.edu
(Chicago, Illinois)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

The Center for Public Service Law

Operation:

The Center for Public Service Law is closely affiliated with the Office of Career Services. In addition to its career support activities for students and alumni interested in public service careers, the Center helps link all students, regardless of career direction, with pro bono opportunities in the community. The Center serves as the Midwest center for PSLawNet and maintains the PSLawNet public service database listings for Illinois and nearby states. The Center works closely with the Loyola Public Interest Law Society and other student groups that undertake public service activity. It also supports the *Loyola Public Interest Law Reporter*, a student-edited national magazine of news and features on the law of human rights, economic justice, criminal justice, the environment, and government operations.

Recognition:

Students who participate in pro bono programs/volunteer in public service organizations are recognized with a special notation in the graduation programs and are asked to stand during the graduation ceremony.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Students can (and do) volunteer in the School of Law's legal clinics: Children and Family Law Clinic, Elder Law Clinic, Tax Law Clinic, Business Law Clinic, and Community Law Center.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law

Law Related Education (LRE)--Law students educate juveniles incarcerated in the Juvenile Detention Center about the legal system and their legal rights.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Sande Buhai, Clinical Professor and Director of Public Interest Law Program 213.736.1156
Sande.buhai@lls.edu
(Los Angeles, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Public Interest Law Department

Operation:

Every student must complete forty hours of law related pro bono services before their last semester. Only services provided to traditionally underrepresented groups qualifies, work at government agencies does not count. Service may be completed within the context of an in-house clinic or a public interest externship.

The Public Interest Law Department oversees the pro bono program along with other programs. The Director is a clinical professor and is assisted by a full-time Department Administrator

Recognition:

Students receive a certificate upon completion of requirement.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

On Campus Law Centers:

Western Law Center for Disability Rights--Pro bono students work at this independent non-profit public interest law office which provides free legal services to persons with disabilities. Students work on all projects to provide much needed assistance to persons with disabilities through litigation, mediation and meaningful referrals to other agencies.

The Cancer Legal Resource Center--Pro Bono students help to provide information and educational outreach on cancer-related legal issues to people with cancer and other impacted by the disease. The Center, a joint program of Loyola Law School and the Western Law Center for Disability Rights. provides outreach to cancer support groups, cancer survivors and care givers. The Center trains law students, who work with the intake callers, to appreciate and understand the legal needs of people battling cancer and cancer survivors.

The Center for Conflict Resolution--Pro bono students help provide mediation, conciliation and facilitation services, and conflict resolution training to the communities throughout Los Angeles County (particularly those adjacent to the Law School), and to students, faculty and staff at Loyola.

Immigration Pro Bono Project--Twelve teams of two students each are matched with pro bono counsel to assist immigrants.

West Hollywood Homeless Outreach Program--Students and lawyers hold a monthly clinic.

Women's Law Association - Domestic Violence Prevention Program--Students assist victims in court, obtaining temporary restraining orders, preliminary injunctions, etc.

VITA--Students assist low-income persons with income tax forms.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Project Lead--Students go with District Attorneys to elementary schools each week and provide legal education.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

Pro Bono by faculty is encouraged, recognized and counts towards tenure and salary as service to the school and community.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Food drives twice a year during which time Professors give students “passes” if they bring in food. Cell phone drive through which old cell phones are donated and reprogrammed to be distributed to victims of domestic violence.

Loyola University New Orleans School of Law
Judson Mitchell, Jr., Coordinator of Gillis Long Pro Bono Program 504.861.5597
Jmitchel@loyno.edu
(New Orleans, Louisiana)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Gillis Long Poverty Law Center promotes legal research and education about the problems of poor people and assists those providing legal services to those unable to afford representation.³ One of the programs of the Center is the Gillis Long Student Pro Bono Program. Law students at Loyola have the option of participating in the Pro Bono Program to satisfy the Law and Poverty requirement needed for graduation.⁴ The Pro Bono Program requires fifty hours of pro bono work which the student may perform at any time during their law school career.

The Pro Bono Program places students at approved sites where students can gain practical legal experience while performing legal work such as conducting client interviews, legal research and writing, and, in some cases, representing clients before the courts where it is permitted by law. All placements must be approved in advance by the Pro Bono Coordinator. Pro bono placements with private practitioners or firms may be approved where: (1) there is no concurrent paid employment relationship between the law student and the private practitioner or firm, and (2) the work to be performed has been assigned through the local legal aid services provider, by court appointment, or by referral from the local office of the public defender, or (3) approved by the Coordinator of the program in advance. Students can volunteer with one of the in-house clinics.

The program is open to first through third year students. The fifty-hour requirement is merely a minimum guideline. Students are encouraged to do more. Any work performed by students as part of the program must be unpaid. Students shall not receive either academic credit or a grade for the work, other than the graduation credit for the Law and Poverty requirement.

Recognition:

The Program honors a student each year who has demonstrated the greatest commitment to public service. This occurs at a public event, usually during the Distinguished Speaker Series, with the presentation of a plaque.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA -- Volunteer law students provide income tax assistance to low-income filers.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects:

³ In 1985, Congress provided Loyola University with federal funds to create an endowed Poverty Law Center in the name of Gillis W. Long. Congressman Long served the people of Louisiana in Washington DC from 1973 until his death in 1985 and was known for his commitment to the working and poor people of Louisiana.

⁴ Students may satisfy the Law and Poverty requirement by fulfilling any one of the following options: take the Law and Poverty Seminar (LAW 782); take Street Law (LAW 833); represent low income people in the Clinical Seminar (LAW 897); or perform 50 hours of volunteer pro bono legal services to the poor in one academic year in a setting approved in advance by the academic dean.

University of Maine School of Law
Laura O’Hanlon, Director, Career Services 207.780.4889 Lohanlon@ums.main.edu
(Portland, Maine)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Career Services Office maintains a notebook of volunteer opportunities for students, monitors students’ pro bono hours and presents pro bono awareness events. The Office recommends 80 hours of pro bono service over three years. The Office works in collaboration with The Maine Association for Public Interest Law (MAPIL), a group affiliated with the National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL). The organization has three goals. The first is to encourage students to engage in one of many diverse volunteer legal opportunities during the school year and summer. The second goal is to encourage students to pursue careers in the public arena by demonstrating that public interest work is a viable and desirable alternative to working in the private sector. Third, MAPIL promotes the ethic of pro bono work.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects:

Marquette University Law School
Kim Nowak, Career Counselor 414.288.63.97 kim.nowak@marquette.edu
(Milwaukee, Wisconsin)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator(s)

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Foley & Lardner Career Planning Center encourages and promotes pro bono work by maintaining a database of pro bono opportunities within Milwaukee and throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Recognition:

The Pro Bono Society recognizes students who have given 35 hours of service to people and organizations unable to pay for legal assistance. In addition, each year, the Gene and Ruth Posner Foundation select an attorney and a Marquette University Law Student Pro Bono Award Recipient in recognition of his or her outstanding community service.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA

Street Law

GAIN Project (Guardian Advocacy Instruction & Networking)

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects:

Work-a-Day

University of Maryland School of Law
Teresa Schmiedeler, Director, Judicial Clerkships and Public Interest Programs
410.706.7214 Ts Schmied@law.umaryland.edu
(Baltimore, Maryland)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Faculty

Operation:

Through the Cardin Program, all day students at the School of Law must take one of several designated offerings integrating traditional classroom learning with practice experience involving the representation

of indigent clients or organizations designed to assist poor persons and other underrepresented people and communities. The Cardin Program is named for U.S. Congressman Benjamin Cardin (Class of 1967).

The School of Law is an active member of PSLawNet, offering several thousand potential pro bono opportunities for students. Students have access to this database and also, access to a full-time public interest counselor to discuss pro bono opportunities and placements.

One of the activities of the Maryland Public Interest Law Project (MPILP) is to invite speakers to discuss opportunities for law students and law graduates to serve the community.

Recognition:

The Public Service Award is given to several graduating law students from the University of Maryland School of Law who, during their law school careers, have engaged in service and legal work that significantly advances the public interest.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The ACLU, University of Maryland School of Law Chapter -- This organization not only provides awareness of civil liberties through speakers and other programs but links student volunteers to current ACLU pro bono projects and casework in Maryland.

The Maryland Environmental Law Society (MELS)--MELS provides a network for all students interested in the growing field of environmental law. In addition to its programmatic activities, MELS has gained national recognition for its pioneering role in purchasing and retiring emission allowance for sulfur dioxide (SO₂). Since 1994, MELS has purchased 43 tons of SO₂ allowances at EPA's auctions conducted annually pursuant to the Clean Air Act.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

The Black Law Student Association (BLSA) -- BLSA is an integral part of the local black community and bar, sponsoring and/or participating in many community-oriented activities, such as the BLSA-Booker T. Washington Middle School Tutorial Program and career day lectures for young people.

Community Law in Action--This organization provides community service opportunities for law students to work with high school students from Northwestern High School in Baltimore, Maryland. High school students from Northwestern High School engage in community-based legal projects and study legal fundamentals in the classroom. The classroom component is conducted in a Law and Public Service Academy, where students are taught courses in juvenile law and justice, criminal law and procedure, constitutional law, business law, and community-development law. In the practical component, the high school students attend a weekly seminar in which various legal skills are taught by law students and then are used by the high school student in projects to improve community services.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects:

University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law
Donald Polden, Dean and Professor 901.678.2421 djpolden@memphis.edu
(Memphis, Tennessee)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Orange Mound and Frayser Legal Service Centers --The Public Interest Law Organization operates this joint project of the students of the University of Memphis School of Law and Memphis Area Legal Services, Inc. Law Students of all classes and levels of experience work at these two legal service centers, under the supervision of Memphis Area Legal Services attorneys, helping clients with landlord-tenant problems, credit problems, divorce and child custody/support problems, social security, wills and many other legal issues.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Miami School of Law
Marni Lennon, Assistant Dean of Students, mlennon@law.miami.edu
Randee Breiter, Assistant Director of Career Planning 305.284.2599 rbreiter@law.miami.edu
(Miami, Florida)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinators

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

The formal pro bono program is called H.O.P.E., Helping Others through Pro Bono Efforts. H.O.P.E. is run out of the Office of the Dean of Students, though there is a person in the Office of Career Planning who dedicates part of her time to pro bono placements. H.O.P.E. offers opportunities for law students, faculty, staff and alumni to participate in a myriad of legal advocacy and community outreach projects throughout the year. In addition, H.O.P.E. Fellows obtain unpaid positions at non-profit legal advocacy organizations throughout the year and receive a stipend for their service.

The law-related activities of H.O.P.E. volunteers include providing assistance to Legal Services of Greater Miami by assisting attorneys with intake at the Small Claims Clinic and Low Income Tax Clinic and assisting immigrants with adjustment of status and petitions for asylum through Una Nacion.

The Public Interest Law Group (P.I.L.G.) also helps disseminate information about pro bono opportunities.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

National Lawyers Guild Service Projects

Immigration Project--Students do client intake, interview clients and fill out petitions for asylum-seekers who are detained at the INS Krome Detention Center. Training is provided.

Prisoner Advocacy Project--Student volunteers teach legal research to inmates in Miami-Dade County jails.

Law Enforcement Officer Accountability/Civil Rights Project (LEAP)--Students document instances of police brutality in Miami and help develop cases to be pursued by civil rights attorneys.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law Related Education--Through this collaborative effort of the Phi Alpha Delta Public Service Center and H.O.P.E., law students teach elementary and middle school students legal lessons on topics in the legal system, including torts, consumer law and criminal law. The fifteen-lesson curriculum is offered each semester to a different class.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Non-legal projects available through H.O.P.E. include projects reading to children and helping the homeless, senior citizens, infants, and mothers infected with HIV/AIDS.⁵

⁵ For details, see brochure in Attachment 15.

University of Michigan Law School
Rob Precht, Director, Public Interest Program Office 734.647.3256 Rprecht@umich.edu
(Ann Arbor, Michigan)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Public Interest Program Office

Operation:

The full-time Director helps place students in public service firms, through PSLawNet and own database of contacts, and in in-house projects.

Recognition:

The Office publishes a Pro Bono Honor Roll of students who have participated in the program. It also publishes articles about student volunteers on its website, [http://www.law.umich.edu/CurrentStudents/Public Service/](http://www.law.umich.edu/CurrentStudents/PublicService/).

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Family Law Project--Students provide full representation to victims of domestic violence in Washtenaw County.

Pro Bono Cambodia--Students provide off-site legal research support and on-site (in Cambodia) volunteer for Cambodian Human Rights organizations.

Right to Counsel Project--Students provide representation to immigrants facing deportation proceedings without lawyers.

Collaborative Projects

A joint Law School and School of Public Health volunteer project pairing law students and public health students to help local community groups win health benefits

A joint Law School and School of Social Work project pairing law students and social work students representing children in custody proceedings.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Minnesota Law School
Sharon Fischlowitz, Executive Director, Minnesota Justice Foundation 612.625.0777
Sharon@mnjustice.org
(Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program, run by the Minnesota Justice Foundation

Operation:

Minnesota Justice Foundation is an independent non-profit which coordinates the Law School Public Service Program in Minnesota. An MJF staff attorney runs the MJF office at each school. MJF administrative staff is located at the University of Minnesota.

MJF has a full-time staff of 6 attorneys and various part time college and law students. The Board of Directors is made up of law students, private attorneys, legal services attorneys and client-eligible community members. Three students (from each school) sit on MJF's Board of Directors. Drawn from the membership of MJF's student chapters, these students help steer the agency and its programs- including its law school pro bono program. Each School also appoints several of its own law students to its own Public Service Committee. Students also serve on the Legal Assistance to the Disadvantaged committee of the Minnesota State Bar Association, as well as its Law School Initiatives Subcommittee, where the law school public service program collaboration partners monitor and support the program.

Through MJF's Law School Public Service Program, the law school asks its students to perform 50 hours of law-related public service and makes the commitment to have placements available. MJF coordinates volunteer placements with over 150 legal services and advocacy agencies throughout Minnesota, in most (over 25) legal issue areas.

Recognition:

The law school recognizes students who have performed 50 hours of law-related public service with a transcript notation, "Recognition for Law Related Service" and a note in the graduation program.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

School Break Trips--In recent trips, students taught Street Law in Greater Minneapolis, assisted clients in completing immigration forms in Willmar, and participated in the Asylum Law Project, serving refugees in Texas and Florida over their winter and spring breaks.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

MJF Street Law Project --MJF staff, legal services attorneys and alternative learning center teachers train law students to teach low-income, at-risk high school students their basic legal rights, responsibilities and resources.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Mississippi College School of Law
Michael Maloney, Assistant Dean, Student Services 601.925.7107 Maloney@mc.edu
(Jackson, Mississippi)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Pro Bono Assistance to Legal Services--Students assist legal services attorneys working on pro bono cases.

Public Defenders Office--Students assist the public defenders office

ACLU--Students do research for the ACLU attorneys. They are supervised by lawyers not on the faculty or staff at the law school.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)--Students help the youth court make the best decision on where children who have been abused or neglected should live.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Missouri, Kansas City School of Law
William Eckhardt, Clinical Professor & Director of Urban Affairs, Outreach 816.235.2377
Eckhardtw@umkc.edu or **Linda Trout, Director, Career Services 816.235.1669** Troutl@umkc.edu
(Kansas City, Missouri)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

A faculty Pro Bono Committee promotes public service programs and opportunities. The Clinical Program and the Office of Career Services collaborate to assist students in volunteering with public interest law organizations. Each year there is a Volunteer Fair that gives public interest law organizations the opportunity to recruit students.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Kansas City Tax Clinic--A project of the UMKC Graduate Tax Law Foundation with support from the UMKC School of Law. UMKC School of Law students in the LL.M. in Taxation program, the combined J.D./LL.M. in Taxation program, or other students with the permission of the director of the tax program, represent clients in tax controversy matters, under the supervision of the director and volunteer tax practitioners.

The Public Interest Litigation Clinic--The PILC is an independent organization located on the campus. It litigates and provides advice and research assistance to Missouri defense attorneys in capital punishment cases. The School's Death Penalty Clinic and the "Problems and Issues in the Death Penalty" course are taught in conjunction with the PILC, and the center's staff provides valuable resources for the students in those classes.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Montana School of Law
Mary Helen McNeal, Associate Professor and Clinical Director 406.243.6753
mcneal@selway.umt.edu
(Missoula, Montana)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

The Mission of the University of Montana School of Law's required clinical program is to provide for third-year students faculty-supervised, experience-based learning by representing clients in clinics serving the public interest. The clinical program engages students in applying, enhancing, and integrating substantive and skills components of legal education, improves their ability to identify and resolve ethical and professionalism issues, and assesses student performance and the law school's competency-based curriculum. Most students enroll in their first or second choice of clinic.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Family Law Advice Clinic--Montana Legal Services organizes and runs this non-credit opportunity for students to help the legal services attorneys help families.

VITA--Provided by a group of students interest in tax law. The students arrange income tax preparation assistance for low income and elderly individuals during tax season.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--This project designed to educate middle school and high school students about different areas of law. Law students work with educators to provide classroom presentations, mock trials and other activities.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

Pro bono work counts towards the service requirement for promotion and tenure.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Nebraska College of Law
Glenda Pierce, Assistant Dean 402.472.8264 gpierce@unl.edu
(Lincoln, Nebraska)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program --VITA students receive training on tax return requirements. They then provide help on filling out federal and state income tax returns at various sites around Lincoln, including retirement homes, community centers, and shopping malls.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Community Legal Education Project (CLEP) --CLEP coordinates a variety of activities through which the College promotes legal education for non-lawyers. Law students assist elementary, middle and secondary school teachers in helping pupils understand fundamental legal issues, appreciate the legal system, and learn about the law as it affects their daily lives.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Work-a-Day is an annual event sponsored by the Student Bar Association and the Law Student Division of the ABA in which members of the Law College community volunteer their time and labor for a day to benefit local civic organizations.

University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law
Christine Smith, Associate Dean for Administration and Student Affairs 702.895.1872
smithc@ccmail.nevada.edu
(Las Vegas, Nevada)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

The William S. Boyd School of Law Community Service Program, in collaboration with Clark County Legal Services and Nevada Legal Services, is a mandatory program. The Law School has a half-time attorney and a ¼ time assistant assigned to the program. Clark County Legal Services and Nevada Legal Services have one full-time attorney assigned to the program.

After completing a training course, second semester, first-year students, provide free legal information courses on family law (divorce), paternity/custody, small claims, bankruptcy, and housing. The students offer approximately 12 informational classes a week.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Attorney/Mentor Program--Second and third year law students are paired with an attorney mentor, and they work on pro bono cases in the areas of child welfare and consumer law.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law Program--The Public Interest Law Association, a student organization, will begin offering a street law program in the 2001-2002 academic year.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

"As a professional school the Law School places heavy service demands upon its faculty... [importance of service to school and the bar] Pro bono legal representation, testifying before legislative committees, teaching continuing education courses, educating non-lawyers about the law and our legal system, serving as a mediator or arbitrator, participating in professional associations and many other activities are valuable. The School thus encourages and demands service activities by all faculty, as such activities are not only good in and of themselves and are encouraged by the School, as they can inform both teaching and scholarship as well as contribute to the intellectual life of the applicable legal community. . . ."

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

New England School of Law
Russell Engler, Director of the CSR's Public Service Project and
Director of Clinical Programs 617.422.7380 rengler@fac.nesl.edu
(Boston, Massachusetts)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Center for Law and Social Responsibility

Operation:

The New England School of Law Center for Law and Social Responsibility (the CLSR) dedicates itself to the ideal of law as a means through which to achieve socially responsible goals. In keeping with this mission, the CLSR supports the faculty, students, and alumni in the classroom, scholarship, pro bono projects and other activities that study or otherwise address social problems. The CLSR serves, in part, as the New England School of Law's implementation of Massachusetts Rule of Professional Conduct 6.1, a rule encouraging lawyers to engage in public service activities. The CLSR also aims to assist in the school's mission to perform "public service and other work that further the interests of justice."

The CLSR currently has four projects – Criminal Justice, Domestic Violence, Environmental Justice and Public Service – through which students can take courses, enroll in clinics or volunteer.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Shelter Legal Services Foundation Chapter--This group coordinates student volunteers who participate in the activities of Shelter legal Services Foundation, Inc. (SLSF), a Boston organization that provides free legal services to homeless and low-income people through weekly clinics at New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans and Rosie's Place, a shelter for homeless women. Volunteer law students, supervised by volunteer attorneys, assist clients with a broad array of legal problems. Participating students get experience through client contact and use of their research, writing, and advocacy skills.

VITA--Each spring, law students participate in an IRS program to serve the Boston Community by offering free tax help to people who cannot afford paid professional assistance. Students prepare tax returns for walk-in, low-income clients.

Prison Outreach Program--Students meet weekly with pre-trial detainees to discuss fourth, fifth and sixth amendment issues, bail issues, evidentiary issues and post-conviction relief alternatives.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of New Mexico School of Law
Alfred D. Mathewson, Associate Dean and Professor of Law 505.277.5820 mathewson@law.unm.edu
(Albuquerque, New Mexico)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

Under the active supervision of experienced faculty members, all UNM law students must complete a six-credit clinical course before graduation. Law students are able to enroll in a variety of clinical courses to complete this graduation requirement.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

New York Law School
Adjua Starks, Associate Director of Career Services, Public Interest Coordinator
212.431.2345 astarks@nyls.edu
(New York, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Public Interest Newsletter provides students with information about opportunities and events. Students have access to the PSLawNet database.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

New York University School of Law
Leslie Platt, Director, Public Service Law Network 212.998.6100 Plattl@juris.law.nyu.edu
Vicki Eastus, Director, Public Interest Law Center eastusv@juris.law.nyu.edu
(New York, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Public Interest Law Center (PILC)

Operation:

PSLawNet (formerly known as Pro Bono Students America) was created in 1991 at NYU School of Law to encourage and facilitate substantive law student and lawyer pro bono and public service activity. PSLawNet helps students and lawyers identify internships and employment with public interest organizations, government agencies and offices, the courts, and private law firms with significant pro bono and public interest practices. PSLawNet's newly expanded global database now allows students additional access to volunteer opportunities and paid positions across the world during the school year and summers, as well as after graduation. The PSLawNet database also contains listings for hundreds of fellowship opportunities here and abroad.

Three full-time PSLawNet counselors are available at NYU to assist students in assessing the types of work that might interest them and in selecting placements that suit them. PSLawNet is administered in

cooperation with the Public Interest Law Center. The database is accessible on the World Wide Web at either <http://www.pslawnet.org> or <http://www.pbsa.org>.

Recognition:

The Eric Dean Bender Prize--Awarded annually by NYU School of Law “for a third-year student who has demonstrated a working commitment to a public service-oriented cause or project outside of and separate from Law School commitments.”

The Student Bar Association Community Recognition Award--This award, based on nominations by fellow students, is presented at an annual ceremony to honor student commitment to serving the community.

The Black, Latino, Asian-Pacific Law Alumni Association Public Service Scholarship-- Awarded to a graduating law student committed to public service work.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Amnesty International--The Amnesty International Campus Group, part of the worldwide human rights organization, uses letter-writing campaigns and other forms of publicity to help those imprisoned or harassed because of political beliefs or religious, racial, or ethnic backgrounds.

Battered Women's Project--Student advocates assist victims of domestic violence in obtaining orders of protection in both Family and Criminal Court. Working with the Victim Services Agency in several courthouses in New York City, these students handle individual cases throughout the entire legal process. In addition, students organize social events, dinners, and mixers with the faculty.

Law Students Against the Death Penalty--LSADP was formed in response to the passage of New York State's death penalty in September 1995. Its goal is to fight the death penalty both in New York and around the country. LSADP disseminates facts about the death penalty to law students and the community at large, and brings speakers to campus. There are currently more than 100 students involved in the group, many of whom are helping professors and various anti-death penalty organizations to research cases involving death-row inmates. Future projects include the development of a high school program where law school students visit NYC high schools to stimulate discussion on capital punishment, and a statewide student mobilization conference that will bring together students from every New York State law school for a strategy session.

Prisoners' Rights and Education Project (PREP)--Students provide inmates with practical training on the judicial process by visiting prisons and teaching classes in legal research and writing. Inmates in the program gain the skills necessary to serve as law clerks in prison libraries and represent themselves in their continuing legal proceedings. PREP also sponsors speakers, films, and events on campus and provides individual assistance to inmates in preparing for parole hearings and obtaining legal materials.

Research, Education & Advocacy to Combat Homelessness (REACH)--REACH was incorporated in 1991 by NYU law students to address problems related to homelessness, poverty, and affordable housing. REACH's mission is three-fold: to provide direct advocacy for homeless clients, to provide attorneys and community-based organizations with litigation support, and to educate the community about the causes of

poverty and homelessness and their attendant problems. Through REACH's advocacy branch, law student advocates represent clients on public assistance at administrative hearings and provide information to clients at soup kitchens and shelters. REACH's research branch assists groups such as the Urban Justice Center, the ACLU, and the Welfare Law Project with impact litigation. The education branch develops public education programs connected to poverty and homelessness.

The Small Business Legal Counsel (SBLC)--The goal of SBLC is to match NYU law students with outside attorneys from top level firms to provide free legal services to lower income, minority and/or women owned businesses in the NYC area. The group has established relationships with a few key firms in the city (Paul Weiss, Skadden, Covington) and has worked with a handful of clients. The group is working on developing relationships with community groups which may be able to act as referral sources for the students and aid in securing up the SBLC's operational and administrative processes going forward.

Unemployment Action Center (UAC)--The UAC provides free counseling and advocacy services to jobless persons seeking unemployment benefits and engages in related community education efforts. Students acquire hands-on litigation experience by representing clients at Unemployment Insurance Board hearings in front of Administrative Law Judges. The UAC board of directors is comprised of students who administer the organization and are responsible for training, fundraising, and community outreach.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

East Village Mentoring Program--The Student Mentoring Program offers supportive one-to-one relationships between NYU School of Law students and children attending Public School 64 in the East Village. The Program facilitates children's educational, social, and personal growth and allows concerned law students to play a pivotal role in the education of children by providing the nurturing and guidance, challenge and inspiration that is so needed but often lacking in the lives of many of the students in our public schools today.

High School Law Institute (HSLI)--HLSI was created to provide a law-based educational program for high school students with an interest in law and oral advocacy and to provide mentorship and guidance through the college application process. HSLI works with students from schools in the New York City area with a high minority enrollment, a large number of students from low socio-economic backgrounds, or schools without an organized legal studies program. The organization offers a nine week program on Saturday mornings during the spring and fall semesters that offers law-related classes and discussion groups, college preparation and essay writing workshops, and the opportunity to participate in mock trials to approximately 90 high school students.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Food, clothing, toy drives
City Harvest food donations (from law school events)
Non-legal projects as part of group projects listed above.

University of North Carolina School of Law
Sylvia Novinsky, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs 919.962.7813 Snovinsk@email.unc.edu
Hudson Fuller, Associate Director, Public Interest Law 919.843.6998 vhfuller@email.unc.edu
(Chapel Hill, North Carolina)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

The Carolina Law Pro Bono Program matches law students with practicing attorneys across the state to work on cases that the attorneys have taken for free or reduced rates. It provides clients with high quality, low cost legal representation. A student Board of Coordinators handles the daily administration of the Program. The board has a Student Director; three Student Coordinators (that recruit students and coordinate/oversee individual student placement); an Attorney Coordinator, a Group Project Coordinator, a Student Groups Liaison (liaisons with existing student organizations), a PR Coordinator; and two Winter/Spring Break Coordinators. The Board is supervised by the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, who spends about a quarter of her time overseeing the Pro Bono Program.

Students can participate in the Pro Bono Program in several ways. They may accept placements posted in the Pro Bono Office. These individual placements are received from non-profit organizations, attorneys in private practice, legal services organizations, and corporations providing pro bono services. Students may also create their own projects. Students interested in certain areas of law or working with particular agencies should contact the Program, which will try to match the students with their interests. Finally, students may participate in projects set up and administered by recognized student groups.

Pro Bono postings are advertised on the Pro Bono bulletin board, in an "Available Postings" binder located in the Pro Bono Office and through email. There is also a Pro Bono newsletter. Students must attend an orientation to the program before beginning a project. Opportunities are available throughout the school year. Participants must have completed their first semester of law school.

Recognition:

Students who complete 75 hours of pro bono work receive a Certificate from the North Carolina Bar Association and the Law School at a Public Interest Celebration held at the North Carolina Bar Center.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Domestic Violence Project--This organization supports victims of domestic violence as they confront the legal and court systems. The major goal is to help the women achieve the legal results they need to keep themselves and their families safe.

Lambda's Power of Attorney Project--Provides pro bono legal services in the form of the power of attorney clinics a number of times each year.

Carolina HIV/AIDS Legal Assistance Project -- CHALA works to enable low income individuals and families afflicted by HIV/AIDS anticipate and prevent household instability resulting from illness, incapacitation, or death by helping them draft advance directives, such as living wills, powers of attorney, health care powers of attorney, and other legal documents.

Child Action--This organization committed to fostering the understanding and involvement of law students in children's legal issues by familiarizing them with children's law and the system in which it operates. The group sponsors speakers, supervises the training and work of law students as area Guardian Ad Litem attorneys, and visits area schools in conjunction with the Law-Related Education program. It also sponsors a Continuing Legal Education program on children's issues in the spring.

The Community Legal Project--A volunteer organization that allows law students to gain interviewing skills and practical experience with the Interfaith Shelter in Chapel Hill. Volunteers interview clients on a weekly basis and have their legal research reviewed by a practicing attorney. The Community Legal Project deals with a variety of issues, but assists primarily with landlord-tenant, employment, and family law.

The Entrepreneur Law Association--Students perform pro bono services to local entrepreneurs and start-up companies and encourage community interaction and development.

The Environmental Law Project--This organization of law students share an interest in the legal and political aspects of national, state, and local environmental issues. The primary goal of ELP is to expand the opportunities available to law students in the area of environmental law. Each year, ELP provides pro bono legal research and writing assistance for specific projects to local environmental organizations, including The Nature Conservancy and The National Health Law Program.

Immigrants Outreach Project--The Project assists people who have recently arrived in the Triangle from other countries and who have legally related issues ranging from citizenship status to taxation. The Project's second goal is to raise awareness about the need for immigration lawyers and to help interested law students enter that field.

Prisoners' Rights Project--PRP, which includes the Death Penalty Project and the Innocence Project, has volunteers respond to inmate requests for legal and administrative assistance when possible and seeks to educate students about issues facing incarcerated people in North Carolina.

Volunteer Income Tax Association--VITA provides the community with assistance in completing and filing tax returns.

Workers' Rights Project--Members work to increase awareness of labor, employment, and employment discrimination issues and their impact on workers, and to increase student participation in related activities. Project members sponsor activities ranging from speaker programs to a day-long symposium in the spring.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Law students teach legal related topics to eighth graders in the public school system, one day a week for fall and spring semesters. In the spring, law students work with the eighth graders to do a mock trial. The primary goals of Street Law are to increase law students' ability to communicate to lay persons about the law and to teach middle-schoolers about their rights and responsibilities under the law.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

North Carolina Central School of Law
Natalie McKinney, Pro Bono Coordinator 919.560.5252 Nmckinney@wpo.nccu.edu
(Durham, North Carolina)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Pro Bono Program, administered by a half-time coordinator, serves as a clearinghouse for pro bono projects identified by the law school. Once projects are identified, recruitment of students for these projects begins. There is a Pro Bono/Public Interest bulletin board outside of the pro bono office that has posting of opportunities for students. There is also a column, "Pro Bono Potpourri," that runs in the newsletter of the law school weekly and gives students updates as to which programs are now available.

Recognition:

Pro bono students are recognized at the Annual Law Week Banquet.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Guardian Ad Litem--Students work with attorney advocate doing legal research and writing.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Hillside High School Project--Law students expose high school students to the field of law and serve as mentors.

Law Camp--Law Students spend a week long half-day camp at the law school to expose middle and high school students to the study of law.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Northeastern University School of Law
Valerie Kapilow, Associate Director, Career Services and
Co-Director of Public Interest Advising 617.373.3337 v.kapilow@nuneu.edu
Jeffrey Smith, Associate Director of Cooperative Legal Education and
Co-Director of Public Interest Advising 617.373.4942 jef.smith@nuneu.edu
(Boston, Massachusetts)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

All students must fulfill the Public Interest Graduation Requirement. This requirement may be fulfilled in one of several ways: completion of a public interest co-op, completion of any of the law school's clinical courses, performance of at least 30 hours of uncompensated legal work in a public interest setting or with a private firm on a pro bono project, or a public interest independent study. The independent study option is subject to approval only upon a showing of a compelling reason why the student cannot comply with the Requirement in one of the other three ways.

The Pro Bono Project is jointly administered through the Office of Career Services and the Cooperative Legal Education Program. Pro bono projects must be approved by a Public Interest Requirement Committee, consisting of students, administrators and faculty.

All students are also required to take Law Culture and Difference (LCD). This intensive first year course “challenges participants’ values and help sensitize them to the formidable task the legal system faces in addressing societal differences. The course also provides students with the opportunity to develop team lawyering skills while assisting community organizations that are attempting to effect social change.”

During the second semester of the first year, all first-year students are assigned to a “law office” and participate in a closely supervised clinical experience representing and assisting a nonprofit community based organization in solving a societal problem involving issues of diversity and law. The participating organizations, primarily located in the Greater Boston area, compete for an opportunity to participate in the LCD Program.

Each law office team is responsible for producing a publishable report detailing its findings with extensive legal and anecdotal field research. In addition, each of the law offices presents a highly creative, often multimedia based, oral presentation to client organizations and the entire first year class.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Youth Advocacy Caucus--A coalition of students, faculty, graduate, and youth advocates who work together to improve direct legal representation of children in Massachusetts through education, training, volunteer opportunities and resource identification. The group believes in a holistic approach to providing legal services to children, with the ultimate goal of youth empowerment.

Immigration Law Task Force--Sponsors guest speaker presentations, panel discussions, letter writing campaigns and conferences related to immigrant rights and immigration law. It has organized two student projects: The Immigrant Students Project, working with City Links, which provides support for immigrant students in Cambridge public schools, and the Immigrant Workers Human Rights Project, which documents employer abuses against immigrant workers in the greater Boston area.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Northwestern University School of Law
Cynthia Wilson, Public Interest Advisor 312.503.3100 c-wilson1@law.northwestern.edu
(Chicago, Illinois)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Northwestern University Legal Assistance Project--This provides first-years with the opportunity to gain public interest legal experience outside the classroom. Currently, NULAP teams students with Chicago-area lawyers to assist local children reclaim lost Social Security Insurance Disability benefits, which they have recently been denied due to new welfare regulations. Students work in conjunction with

their attorneys in all areas of the case, including attorney-client meetings, legal research, prep work for the judicial hearing, and legal representation at the hearing.

Social Security Disability Project--This gives students practical exposure to Social Security law and to the administrative processes of the Social Security system, while at the same time provides assistance to indigent individuals who seek to obtain disability benefits. Student pairs work with individual clients through the oral hearing stage of the appeal process. Guided by expert testimony volunteers from the Chicago area as well as student advisors with prior experience in the project, Northwestern law students get a unique opportunity to share the responsibilities and privileges of serving clients in need of representation.

School Expulsion Project--This provides law students practical experience in representing a client. Students work in pairs and represent a Chicago area student who has been charged with a violation of school code. The high school student faces the possibility of expulsion, which is to be determined at a school trial. Law students interview the client and any witnesses, investigate the circumstances of the charges, and make an argument at the trial on behalf of the client.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law- This is a law-related education program for young people incarcerated at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center and for youth, adults and parents in the community. The detention center program brings together volunteer attorneys and law students to teach young people at the detention center about their rights and responsibilities within the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center
Director, Public Interest Law Center 954.262.6296
(Fort Lauderdale, Florida)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Public Interest Law Center, located in the Office of Career Services, operates many programs designed to encourage students to participate in public interest law while they are in law school and to provide information regarding the pursuit of a career in public interest law upon graduation. One of the programs of the Center is the Shepard Broad Law Center Pro Bono Honor Program. This program recognizes students who work pro bono for the public interest while enrolled in law school.

One student works year round, 20 hours a week, as a paid assistant to the Director of the Center. The responsibilities of the student include assisting with the administration of the Pro Bono Program. The Center maintains books of volunteer opportunities. Students can also volunteer with one of the school's public interest centers.

Recognition:

All law students maintaining a minimum 2.0 GPA are eligible for the Pro Bono Honor Program. Students who complete a certain number of hours will be honored at graduation. This honor differs based on the number of hours completed. The Pro Bono Honors Reception is held every year at Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad Law Center where students, who have participated in the Pro Bono Honors Program are given their awards and cords to wear at Graduation. The names of all honorees are posted on the school's website.

Bronze level: Completion of 50 pro bono service hours; wear honor cord at graduation; listed in graduation brochure; attend year-end reception with employers, receive certificate.

Silver level: Completion of 125 pro bono service hours; wear honor cord at graduation; listed in graduation brochure as reaching higher level; attend year-end reception with employers and receive certificate; eligible for pro bono award for student body.

Gold level: Completion of 300 pro bono service hours; wear honor cord at graduation; listed in graduation brochure as reaching highest level; attend year-end reception with employers and receive certificate of distinction; eligible for pro bono award for student body.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Ohio Northern, Pettit College of Law
Cheryl Kitchen, Director, Career Services 419.772.2220 c-kitchen@onu.edu
(Ada, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

Students who complete 50 hours of pro bono work receive a special certificate and a notation on their transcript.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA- Students assist low-income individuals in preparing and filing tax returns for the IRS.

Innocence Project **Guardian Ad Litem**

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law Society--Law students go to local public schools on a weekly basis for 10 weeks to teach student basic law concepts and how the law affects the every day life. They also teach students to participate and compete in a mock trial competition, held at the end of the school year.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

The Ohio State University College of Law
Sheila Kapur, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Public Programs 614.668.4676
Kapur1@osu.edu
(Columbus, Ohio)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

The College of Law encourages students to engage in pro bono service through its Public Service Fellows Program (see below) administered through the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Public Programs, through supporting in-house pro bono projects and through its listings of other pro bono opportunities in the Office of Career Services.

Recognition:

The College of Law honors the students as Public Service Fellows who volunteers at least 50 hours of legal services to a governmental agency or to a 501(c)(3) organization. Public Service Fellows are recognized at the College's Hooding ceremony, and a notation is put on the transcript of students who fulfill the fellowship requirements.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Pro Bono Research Group--Endowed by an alumnus, PBRG is a student-run effort that provides students with the opportunity to work on issues – such as housing, employment, health, and family -- that benefit lower income persons. The primary purpose of PBRG is “to improve the opportunities that all members of the community have to gain access to necessary legal services.” It does this by providing quality legal research to Ohio attorneys and organizations that offer pro bono services.

PBRG is organized like a law journal. An Executive Board of third-year law students manages and oversees the work of the PBRG's Senior Research Fellows and Research Fellows. PBRG offers a forum for participating students and attorneys to develop a networking relationship. It publishes a newsletter listing events, new fellows, and other information on the project.

VITA--Law students participate by helping low-income residents and non-residents prepare federal income tax returns. Training for this program is done in conjunction with the IRS and College of Law tax professors.

Pro Bono Placement Program--The PBPP matches students with volunteer opportunities at the Ohio Legal Services Association, the Legal Services Association, the Legal Aid Society of Columbus and the Lawyers for Justice Project of the Columbus Bar Association.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Law students work with an area public school to teach students basic legal concepts and give the elementary students a better understanding of how law affects their daily lives.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Oklahoma City University School of Law
Deborah Fathree, Assistant Dean of Students 405.521.5334 dfathree@okcu.edu
(Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

Pro bono service is promoted and information on opportunities is provided by the Pro Bono Students Association. Located in the Student Services Office, PBSA's faculty sponsor is the Assistant Dean of Career Services. PBSA maintains a website which encourages students to use the PSLawNet database and which lists local opportunities. PBSA also sponsors trainings and speakers on pro bono service.

Recognition:

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Volunteer Legal Center--The VLC is a partnership of the educational, religious and legal communities. VLC provides OCU law students with the opportunity to work with pro bono attorneys assisting low-income clients in a consumer legal advice clinic conducted at local churches. VLC brings together a number of community partners, including Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma, to reach out to many of the individuals that Legal Aid is unable to serve for a variety of reasons. Saturday morning

clinics are held in churches near OCU that gives students a chance to work, under the guidance of practicing attorneys, with real people and real problems. Initially, the center is providing consumer debt counseling, but it is anticipated that the clinic will expand to handle many different areas of civil law. VLC is headed by an OCU law graduate who is also a Methodist minister.

Early Settlement Program-Mediation--OCU contracts with the Oklahoma Supreme Court to provide confidential conciliation and mediation services to individuals and businesses. Students, certified as mediators, volunteer in District Court to mediate cases referred from the small claims court judges. Students screen clients for domestic violence issues in family and divorce mediation.

Oklahoma Lawyers for Children--OKC provides legal representation by volunteer attorneys, along with Oklahoma public defenders, for children who have been removed from their homes due to severe abuse &/or neglect. Students are trained and then volunteer to interview the children placed in emergency shelters and provide that information to assist the lawyer who will represent the child at the show cause hearing. Recently, the Initial Kinship Evaluation Program has been added to the services provided in order to meet the need to expedite foster care placements. Students are trained to do home assessments of potential foster placements which means quicker placements from the shelter.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Work-A-Day--Students participate in service projects with twelve community organizations.
Adopt-A-School-- Students serve as mentors to elementary school children.
Monthly Service Projects

University of Oregon School of Law
Jane A. Steckbeck, Assistant Director/Career Counselor 541.346.3809
Jsteckbe@law.uoregon.edu
(Eugene, Oregon)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

A Pro Bono Committee, comprised of one faculty member and three to five students, implements the school's student pro bono program. The students are selected by the Student Bar Association and a member of the faculty/administration chosen by the Dean. The chosen faculty member of the Committee

is Jane Steckbeck, Assistant Director/Career Counselor. The Committee pays one student to help coordinate the efforts.

The Committee has the responsibility, at a minimum, for “establishing and maintaining a list of available pro bono opportunities; making the list available to students wishing to perform pro bono work; and, when necessary, determining whether a particular placement qualifies as pro bono work . . .” The Committee runs trainings and holds special events.

Through the School of Law’s Pro Bono Certificate Program students are encouraged to perform at least 40 hours of law-related pro bono work after completing their first semester and before graduation.

Recognition:

Students who complete 40 hours of pro bono service receive a certificate and mention in the graduation bulletin. Eligible work includes governmental service if the position directly benefits underserved populations and causes. Work directly related to the administration of the pro bono program is also considered eligible service.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Child Advocacy Center--Students provide referrals to community agencies to meet the financial, mental and physical health needs of victims, follow-up and case management, keeping families advised as to the status of their case, and escorting them to court.

VITA--Students provide tax preparation assistance for elderly and low-income individuals.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Pennsylvania Law School
Susan Feathers, Director, 215.898.0459 Sfeather@oyez.law.upenn.edu
Pamela Mertsock Wolfe, Assistant Director of the Public Service Program
Pmertsoc@law.upenn.edu
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

The Public Service Department

Operation:

In March 1989, the faculty voted to require that all Penn students perform 70 hours of law related pro bono work as a condition of graduation. Penn's Public Service Program was an outgrowth of this faculty effort to explore ways of meeting the increasing gap between the needs and the resources in the legal community. The Program was based on two premises: 1) that attorneys have an ethical obligation to devote some portion of their professional energy on pro bono work, broadly definite; and (2) that law students' experience in performing law related work would increase their ability and inclination to engage in such services during their careers as attorneys. Since its inception, the Program's mission includes the extension of the legal services delivery network and concomitantly, the development of innovative approaches to legal services work. In the last three years, the Program has emphasized the development of student clinical projects (listed below) that leverage the supervisory skills of a shrinking public interest bar, attempting to meet increased community needs while at the same time cultivating public spiritedness and leadership in our students.

The Public Service Program is a separately administered Department with an attorney Executive Director, a full-time Associate Director, an Administrative Assistant, and an attorney student projects' coordinator (this last position is funded by grants). The Program is monitored by an internal faculty committee. In addition, the Program Executive Director appoints an Advisory Committee of public interest practitioners, graduates and leaders of the bar that provides support and guidance to the Program.

The pro bono program, just one program of the Public Service Department, has a custom designed database that is updated daily to match students with the placement of their choice. Once a placement is approved and listed in the roster, the entire student body can review the placement description. Each student can access a placement by its subject matter, and/or type of organization and work desired.

Recognition:

The Program hosts an Annual Public Interest Recognition Event which honors Penn students who have exceeded the pro bono requirement and/or have participated as student clinical leaders, Public Interest Scholars, or have interned for public interest agencies. Students receive a certificate and the Dean and other leaders in the community speak.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Guild Food Stamp Project--This student run clinic provides advocacy services to clients with food stamp problems.

Penn Advocates for the Homeless--This clinic was designed by students interested in the problems of the homeless. Students fashioned an outreach program at church soup kitchens where they serve meals and provide legal information.

Custody and Support Advice Clinic--CASAC offers advice and representation to indigent clients with family problems. CASAC interns provide coordination of representation, enabling pro se clients to select the proper court and to insure consistency of judicial orders.

Unemployment Compensation Project - UCP advocates represent claimants who have been denied unemployment benefits and wish to appeal the decision.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Pepperdine University School of Law
Jill Cucullu, Director of Legal Aid Clinic 310.506.6350 jill.cucullu@pepperdine.edu
Laurie Buchan, Director of Clinical Education & Assistant Professor 319.317.7449
laurie.buchan@pepperdine.edu
(Malibu, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house/Collaborative Projects

Location:

With Clinical and Externship Program

Operation:

To facilitate pro bono work, Pepperdine has created a pro bono legal clinic at the Los Angeles Union Rescue Mission. Student and faculty volunteers assist with resolving the legal and law-related problems of the men and women in the rehabilitation program at the Mission, as well as those of guests off the street. Some students can receive credit. The clinic has a paid director, a recent graduate of Pepperdine.

The Director of the Clinic also coordinates students in the Adoptions Day Program for Public Counsel of the local bar.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

See above.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Roger Williams University School of Law
Laurie Barron, Director, Feinstein Institute for Legal Service, 401.254.4600 lab2@alpha.rwu.edu
(Bristol, Rhode Island)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

The Feinstein Institute for Legal Service

Operation:

The Feinstein Institute for Legal Service, established by a grant from the Feinstein Foundation, was created to produce an enduring culture of public service among law students. The Institute “provides law students with an education which emphasizes the value and habit of service to the community and the willingness to work pro bono publico.” The Feinstein Institute’s Director administers the school’s pro bono requirement. Students are required to perform 20 hours of law-related service in order to graduate. These hours must be completed at one project and 30 days in advance of the anticipated graduation date.

The Director of the Institute offers a wide-range of opportunities through which students can fulfill the pro bono requirement. Eligible placements are with organizations serving indigent clients, nonprofit or government organizations, public interest groups, political advocacy groups, and private practitioners handling pro bono cases either through the Bar Association’s Volunteer Lawyer Program or independently. Students are required to keep a log of their hours and to write a journal reflecting on their experience.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students assist with tax preparation for low-income taxpayers.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Women in Prison Project--Students hold educational legal workshops for women in prison.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

Faculty handbook states in Section 110, Community Service: “The School of Law also encourages Faculty to engage in activities which improve the administration of justice and the good of society. Such

activities include, by way of illustration, pro bono representation of individuals or groups unable to afford legal assistance, service to the judiciary and participation in charitable pursuits.”

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey School of Law, Camden
Marybeth Daisey, Director, Career Services and External Affairs 856.225.6178
daisey@camden.rutgers.edu
(Camden, New Jersey)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Law School's Pro Bono/Public Interest Advisor and her Assistant oversee existing pro bono initiatives, support public interest programs and develop resources and new opportunities for Rutgers students. The Pro Bono/Public Interest Steering Committee, chaired by the Pro Bono/Public Interest Advisor, includes students in leadership roles in APIL (the Association for Public Interest Law) and specific pro bono projects. Students can become involved in pro bono projects based at the law school or in external placements with public interest organizations, a list of which is provided on the web.

Recognition:

The Law School recognizes significant pro bono service by giving a Pro Bono Award at graduation. The Pro Bono Steering Committee has established the following guidelines for awards: 1) There must be involvement in Pro Bono activities for at least three semesters while at Law School, with at least one of the semesters being during the third year of Law School and with no more than one summer counting towards this requirement; 2) Pro Bono service must be given either through a Law School sponsored project or provided through an external Public Interest legal organization, and 3) Only activities which do not result in course credit or financial compensation will be considered for a Pro Bono Award.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project--The Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project utilizes second and third year law student volunteers to assist indigent clients in filing for bankruptcy. The project is a cooperative effort

of the law school, Camden Regional Legal Services, and the local United States Bankruptcy Court. Students, under the supervision of a bankruptcy attorney, counsel and then assist in the filing of papers for consumer bankruptcy relief. The project utilizes interview rooms available at the law school and three computers with bankruptcy software. On occasion the project works in conjunction with a Bankruptcy Workshop, a course taught by adjunct professors or court personnel.

The Pro Bono Domestic Violence Project--This is a cooperative effort of the Law School and the Camden County Bar Association's Family Law Section. The Project is designed to assist victims with the initial filing of a complaint, obtaining of a temporary restraining order, and the court appearance for the permanent restraining order.

Camden Community Dispute Resolution Committee (CDRC)--This is a joint effort of the New Jersey Courts and the Law School. Law Students mediate disputes referred by Camden City Municipal Court or mediate small claims matters for Superior Court, Camden. Students involved in this mediation project receive formal training and NJ Court certification as mediators.

Public Interest Outreach Project--This provides the opportunity for students from all three classes to volunteer in established Public Interest Legal organizations in Southern New Jersey and Philadelphia.

VITA--Students provide tax assistance for low income residents of the Camden community.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

The Rutgers/LEAP Legal Project--This partnership between the Rutgers Civil Practice Clinic and the LEAP Academy Charter School provides legal advice, representation and community education to the LEAP Academy students and their parents. LEAP Academy is an innovative, full-service, year round grammar school in Camden that provides legal assistance, medical care, social services and parent training to LEAP families. Third year law students have provided legal advice and representation to parents in several different areas, including family law, housing law and consumer problems. Students also presented workshops on landlord/tenant law, employment law, family law and consumer awareness.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Center for Law and Justice (Newark)
Marcia Levy, Clinical Professor and Director of Eric R. Neisser Public Interest Program
973.353.5576 MLEvy@kinoy.rutgers.edu
(Newark, New Jersey)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Eric R. Neisser Public Interest Program

Operation:

Under the supervision of the Director for the Eric R. Neisser Public Interest Program, the Pro Bono Coordinators place student volunteers in a wide variety of civil and criminal law placements in Newark and the surrounding communities. Two students serve as coordinators to recruit student volunteers and interface with placements. Each student volunteer commits to donating at least 35 hours a year of legal assistance to the poor and underrepresented communities. Rutgers participates in PSLawNet and, thus, placements are available throughout the country.

Recognition:

Students who provide 35 hours of pro bono service receive a notation on their law school transcripts and a certificate upon graduation.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Domestic Violence Advocacy Project--This project trains volunteer students to serve as advocates on behalf of victims of domestic violence who are seeking temporary or final restraining orders in Essex County, New Jersey.

Innocence Project--Students assist volunteer supervising attorney in connection with criminal cases.

Bankruptcy Project--This program, which is in the development phase, will place volunteer students to serve as advisors to debtors who have filed bankruptcy petitions. Students will work under the supervision of volunteer attorneys.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law Project--Law students visit Newark area high schools to educate students about civil rights and civil liberties

The Consortium for Pre-College Education in Greater Newark--Law students mentor college-bound high school students and educate them about legal education and careers in the law.

In addition, on a regular basis, Rutgers faculty and students participate in a wide range of community education and outreach programs on the issues of women and aids, child advocacy, special education, domestic violence, federal tax, and other issues.

Faculty Pro Bono

Recognition:

The University recognizes faculty members' pro bono service through the Distinguished Service Professor program.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Academic Challenge Program--Faculty and students participate as judges in academic competition among area high school students.

St. Mary's University of San Antonio School of Law
Joaquin Amaya, Jr., Director, Public Interest Law Program 210.436.3424
Amayaj@law.stmarytx.edu
Ray Lopez, Associate Director 210.431.5764 lopezr@law.stmarytx.edu
(San Antonio, Texas)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

Public Interest Law Program

Operation:

The staff of the Public Interest Law Program identifies opportunities for students who are interested in providing pro bono legal services or pursuing careers in the public-interest sector. They spend much of their time and energy creating projects to meet the legal needs of the poor in Texas and supervising students involved in these projects. Individual projects and/or opportunities are created for law students interested in particular fields of law.

Recognition:

Students who perform at least 50 hours of pro bono work receive a Pro Bono Certificate at the time of graduation. Eligible pro bono work must meet the definition of pro bono as set forth in the State Bar of Texas Pro Bono Policy directed at service to poor persons.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Colonias Immigration Rights Project--This project assists person living in low-income settlements, called *colonias*, at the U.S.-Mexico border with immigration issues. It is done in partnership with the Texas A&M University *Colonias* Program in Laredo, TX and Catholic Charities.

Pro Bono Wills Project--This project pairs law students with pro bono attorneys to prepare basic estate planning documents for low-income elderly people. This project is co-sponsored with the Bexar County Women's Bar Association.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Fox Tech High School Law Magnet Project--The Law School works with Fox Tech, one of only three law magnet programs for high school students in the state of Texas, to expose high school students to the profession of law. Events usually involve law students as well as faculty.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

St. Thomas University School of Law
Assistant Dean for Career Services 305.623.2350
(Miami, Florida)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Each student is required to do 40 hours of uncompensated law-related work designed to benefit those groups that are traditionally under-served by the Bar. The Pro Bono Program is designed to give second and third year students legal experience under the supervision of lawyers in a variety of non-profit offices, government agencies, and law firms. The objectives of the Program are to: 1) supplement the educational experience of students by developing a lasting commitment to public service, 2) enhance empowerment and access to the legal system for persons and communities who have been traditionally underserved by the bar, and 3) build a positive identity that strengthens admissions, placement, and the overall standing of St. Thomas University School of Law in the South Florida community and nationally.

The Program is administered through the Office of Career Services. The Office provides students information on placements. It also publishes a Student Manual to assist students. In addition to providing information on approved placements and opportunities, students are encouraged to propose their own

placement. All placements must be approved. The 40-hour requirement can be met through several small placements.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students assist in filling out tax forms for low-income persons of the community.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Samford University, Cumberland School of Law
Linda Rainey, Assistant Director of Career Services 205.726.2798 lfrainey@samford.edu
(Birmingham, Alabama)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Law student volunteers receive special training each semester in practical law for youth, pair with a local teacher, and meet with that teacher's students one hour a week for six weeks. Topics covered include "Juvenile Rights & Responsibilities," "Who is a Juvenile," "Guns & Violence," "Alcohol & Drugs," etc. Priority is given to schools and alternative settings working with "at risk" youth.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of San Diego School of Law
Steve Hartwell, Professor 619.260.2353 hartwell@acusd.edu
(San Diego, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Group Projects

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

Pro Bono Legal Advocates is a student-run organization that provides opportunities for law students to donate their time and talents to the community. The purpose behind PBLA is to promote charity, selflessness, and justice in law students so that each may bring those qualities into the professional arena. PBLA achieves its goals each year by molding its programs to meet the changing needs of the student body.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

AIDS Clinic--Working through the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer, AIDS Legal Clinic Volunteers have a unique opportunity to gain legal experience and help the community. Every Monday night the clinic provides free legal services to anyone with HIV/AIDS.

Civil Rights Clinic--Students volunteer through Casa Cornelia Legal Center. Civil rights claims identified by the U.S. District Court as well as civil rights claims from approved agencies in San Diego refer these matters to Casa Cornelia. USD law students receive training and investigate claims through interviews and research as appropriate. Students find a diverse pool of clients with whom to interact and aid.

Domestic Violence--This program is run with the cooperation of Center for Community Solutions. After receiving training from CCS, students staff the Domestic Violence Restraining Order Clinic at Family Court in downtown San Diego. Students assist domestic violence clients in obtaining temporary restraining orders and other legal documents, explain the legal process and make referrals to social support agencies.

Court Accompaniment--Volunteers attend Family Court and assist clients who have experienced domestic violence in obtaining a protective temporary restraining order from the judge.

Mediation--Students are trained to be mediators in small claims court. Students learn to identify each party's interest, listen actively and develop strategies for resolution. Upon completion of training, students become certified mediators able to mediate disputes and draft agreements.

Special Education--Students review children's dependency and special education files. Students assist in legal action to ensure local schools are complying with these children's special education needs.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Mentoring--This program pairs an elementary school with law students. USD volunteers serve as role models for these students. By developing a relationship, the volunteers provide guidance and encouragement to seek higher goals.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Beach Clean-up--Students participate one semester in an area beach clean-up process.

University of San Francisco School of Law
Jacqueline Ortega, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs 415.422.2278 or Ortegaj@usfca.edu
(San Francisco, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Law in Motion Service Program's motto is "Knowledge, Service, Justice." It provides legal and non-legal community service projects for law students, faculty and staff. The University of San Francisco School of Law is a member of the Public Interest Law Program (PILP). PILP is sponsored by the Public Interest Clearinghouse⁶ and among its projects is a pro bono placement assistance program. At the

⁶Located in San Francisco, the primary mission of the Clearinghouse is to provide information, support, and statewide coordination to the legal services community in order to enhance the delivery of legal services to the indigent. The Public Interest Law Program is a certificate program. Students are required to fulfill the academic, practicum, and community service components of the Program. A special graduation ceremony is held each year to honor the participants who successfully fulfill the Program requirements. At the ceremony, students receive a certificate acknowledging them as Public Interest Law Scholars. See website at <http://www.pic.org>

School of Law, the Office of Student Affairs, in cooperation with the Office of Career Services and the Public Interest Clearinghouse, promote and advertise pro bono opportunities.

Recognition:

Certificates are presented at the End of Year Public Interest Law Program Celebration and at graduation.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Spring Break Projects in the Tenderloin District of San Francisco

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law Program

The Center for Law & Global Justice projects--The Center for Law and Global Justice has projects in the United States and around the world, including Cambodia, Viet Nam, Indonesia, and El Salvador, focusing on legal education, judicial training, free and fair elections, and the protection of human rights.

Faculty Pro Bono

Recognition:

Faculty pro bono activities are recognized by the Dean through announcements to the law school community.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Through Law in Motion Service Program (above).

Santa Clara University School of Law
Skip Horne, Director of Law Career Services 408.554.4767 Mhorne@scu.edu
(Santa Clara, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The Pro Bono Project involves students in pro bono service to the low-income community and gives students education and practical training in various areas of the law. The Pro Bono Project is located with and administered by the Public Interest Resource Center (PIRC). The Public Interest Resource Center (PIRC) is an organization run by Santa Clara Law students that is dedicated to helping students and graduates of SCU obtain legal employment in Public Interest Law. PIRC is a separate organization from the Public Interest Coalition (PIC) that raises awareness of public interest issues among the students and organizes fundraisers to support public interest activities and fellowships.

A student is paid to be the Student Public Interest Coordinator. He or she is supervised by the Director of Law Career Services and assists students in finding pro bono placements with law firms or community groups who serve low-income people and others in the public interest.

Recognition:

A Pro Bono Recognition plaque awarded to students completing 50 hours of volunteer work.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Students teach practical legal skills to pupils at lower-income high schools in the east side of San Jose. Legal concepts taught include criminal, civil, constitutional, employment discrimination and consumer protection. This is available for credit or no credit.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects:

Seattle University School of Law
Chris Crowell, Director, Access to Justice Institute, 206.398.4310 allenc@seattleu.edu
L'Nayim Shuman-Austin, Pro Bono Fellow shumanl@seattleu.edu
(Seattle, Washington)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Access to Justice Institute

Operation:

The Access to Justice Institute seeks to fulfill the School of Law's mission to prepare its students for a lifetime of service to justice. The Institute seeks to fulfill this mission by nurturing a commitment on the part of all members of the law school community to the service of justice for all. The Institute's goal is to allow students contact and direct involvement with those unmet needs of poor and disadvantaged persons in the community. The Institute works with the access to justice community to provide opportunities for students to volunteer with a variety of community based organizations. The Institute also hosts conferences and sponsors other activities.

The Institute recruits students for pro bono positions through a variety of means, including announcing positions in classes, publishing weekly articles in the Prolific Reporter, posting position descriptions on the Institute's pro bono position board, counseling students individually, speaking at student group meetings, and encouraging faculty members to promote pro bono projects that relate to their class subject matters. The Institute also hosts a pro bono fair at the beginning of each semester in order to match students with pro bono positions early enough in the semester to allow ample time for training and service.

The Institute is staffed by a full-time director, a full-time graduate fellow, and student assistants. The Institute also receives the services of a community advisory board and a student advisory board.

Recognition:

Students volunteering fifty or more hours per year receive a plaque commemorating their achievement the first year, and supplementary bars to add to the plaque for any additional years in which they volunteer fifty hours. The Institute provides an annual award to a student from each class for outstanding service and to a faculty member who has made a significant contribution to access to justice. All students volunteering for any amount of time receive certificates of commendation for their efforts.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Institute sponsors some in-house projects usually initiated by students to serve specific populations of clients. The Institute also sponsors two visiting adjunct faculty each year who are practicing public interest attorneys. These attorneys operate a project or represent clients from the Institute offices with student assistance.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Seton Hall University School of Law
Philip Ross, Clinical Associate Professor, Juvenile Justice Clinic & Pro Bono Coordinator
973.642.8500 Rossphil@shu.edu
(Newark, New Jersey)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Clinical Program (The Center for Social Justice)

Operation:

Students at all levels of learning and experience are encouraged to participate in the Center for Social Justice's Pro Bono program. At minimum, students in the program donate 35 hours of their professional time during a semester. The program has a part time pro bono coordinator who works at least half-time promoting the pro bono service.

Recognition:

Participation of donating 35 hours is noted on the student's transcript.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of South Carolina School of Law
Pamela Robinson, Director, Pro Bono Program 803.777.3405 Robinson@law.law.sc.edu
(Columbia, South Carolina)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The University of South Carolina established its Pro Bono Program to engage students in a variety of volunteer opportunities. It is run by a full-time Director who is assisted by a Student Advisory Board. Duties of the board members include: recruiting fellow students, serving as a sounding board, bringing new ideas and projects to the attention of the Director, serving as a representative of the Pro Bono Program on various law school and Bar committees, and being spokespeople for the Program.

The Program strives to get all law students involved in one or more projects. It publishes informational brochures and a newsletter. The Program works closely with the South Carolina Bar and is funded primarily with IOLTA funds. The Program also holds fundraisers.

Recognition:

At the end of each year, the Pro Bono Program awards 11 volunteers: 1 Volunteer of the Year and 10 Outstanding Volunteers. These awards go to students who have shown leadership in public service and have provided guidance to other student volunteers. The program also shows its appreciation to all student volunteers by rewarding them with informal parties, gatherings, free coffee hours, and personal letters of recognition.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students assist low-income individuals in the community with preparation to filling out income tax forms.

Hospice--Students assist attorneys with wills and medical directives.

Non-profit Cooperative--Using a comprehensive screening tool, the students conduct interviews with non-profits seeking legal assistance. The cases are then referred to local pro bono attorneys. Students follow the process to conclusion assisting the attorney where possible.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)--Trained students represent the best interest of abused and neglected children in family court proceedings.

Pro Bono Law Clerks--Assist pro bono attorneys with case preparation and research through the SC Bar Pro Bono Program and the legal service providers.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Communities in School—Students serve as mentors and tutors to at-risk youth.

Choices-Legal Awareness Sessions for Juveniles--Trained students teach a 120-hour curriculum prepared specifically for SC youth. The sessions include conflict resolutions in addition to basic legal information.

Juvenile Arbitration--Trained students serve as mediators between victims and youth offenders and make recommendations to the solicitor.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects:

The Pro Bono Program provides information on community service projects including: Habitat for Humanity, food drives, local shelters in need of specific assistance, literacy tutoring, and crisis hotlines.

University of South Dakota School of Law
Diane May, Associate Dean 605.677.5443 or dmay@usd.edu
(Vermillion, South Dakota)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

R.D. Hurd Volunteer Law School Society—Second and third-year law students have the opportunity to provide pro bono legal services to low-income persons in collaboration with East River Legal Services and Dakota Plains Legal Services. The students interview selected clients off-campus at Legal Services locations, perform research, prepare documents and, in some instances, make court appearances. Students are assigned an attorney supervisor who offers assistance to the students throughout the cases.

Beginning fall 2001, all law students will have an opportunity to perform client intake at the Law School through the use of telephone and specialized intake software. Students will then conference via polycom units with Legal Services attorneys on the issues presented by the client.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Southern California Law School
Karen Lash, Associate Dean 213.740.9415 or Klash@law.usc.edu
(Los Angeles, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

Students run the Pro Bono Campaign that encourages students to perform a minimum of 35 hours of pro bono during the school year. Two officers of the Public Interest Law Foundation are dedicated exclusively to the Pro Bono Campaign. Karen Lash, Associate Dean, advises the students as does the entire PILF Board that includes two deans, a faculty member and five graduates.

Recognition:

Students logging a minimum of 35 hours during the school year are honored at an annual luncheon, which includes a Certificate of Appreciation from the Los Angeles County Bar Association. For the last 10 years, the County Bar President addresses the audience and presents the certificates. The luncheon also honors an "Outstanding Public Interest 3I" and "Outstanding Public Interest Graduate."

Students who excel in public interest and community service are also recognized in the Law School's annual student awards ceremony. The Miller-Johnson Equal Justice Prize is awarded to a student in recognition of commitment to civil social justice. The Warren J. Ferguson Award goes to the best essay on a social justice topic.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Children's Legal Issues--Students represent children and their interests. Such cases include guardianship for neglected or abused children or for children of single parents with AIDS, school disciplinary hearings, and special education entitlements for children with physical or emotional disabilities.

Adoption Day--Administered and supervised by a clinical law professor, students in the Children's Legal Issues clinic team up with student volunteers and the Los Angeles Children's Court to represent families adopting children who were formerly wards of the court.

Maribel Cuban detainees--Administered and supervised by clinical law professors, the Post-Conviction Justice Project students team up with student volunteers to represent Maribel Cubans in immigration parole hearings.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law -- Law students do outreach to local high schools serving as guest lecturers, mentors, and hosts for school visits to campus.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Southern Illinois University School of Law
Mary Rudasill, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs 618.453.8717 rudasill@siu.edu
(Carbondale, Illinois)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Southern Illinois Regional Family Law Pro Bono Project--This project is a joint endeavor by the SIU School of Law, Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance, Inc., and the Illinois Pro Bono Center. Volunteer law students are matched with volunteer attorneys from all over Southern Illinois to provide free legal services to indigent clients. The cases are typically family law cases such as divorce, guardianship, custody or adoption, although other civil cases can be referred. Each student works on one case only until completion and then may volunteer for another case. In order to volunteer, the law student must have completed his or her first year of law school and be a student in good standing. This project is administered through the in-house Legal Clinic.

The Self-Help Legal Center--This pro se center has three missions: 1) to help those who help pro se litigants by providing training, acting as a resource, and creating materials to address the specific problems; 2) to help pro se litigants find the information they need through self-help packets and other materials available on various subjects; 3) to act as a clearinghouse for self-help legal information so the information is readily and easily accessible. For law students, the Center has paid, credit-bearing and voluntary positions. Volunteer students can provide research assistance, conduct customer intake and assistance, and create and edit new self-help materials.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Southern Methodist University, Dedman School of Law
Rebecca Greenan, Director, Public Service Program 214.768.2567 Rgreenan@mail.smu.edu
(Dallas, Texas)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The School of Law has a mandatory 30-hour pro bono requirement for graduation. The work must be law-related and no academic credit is awarded; nor is any financial remuneration permitted. The 30-hours cannot be satisfied until after completion of the first-year curriculum. Students may perform their 30-hours at any of the law school's clinics (civil/criminal/family violence/tax), provided that the hours are not being claimed for both public service and academic credit.

The Public Service Program has a full-time Director. The director administers the program and reports to the Dean of the Law School. The director also consults with and receives direction from the law school Public Service Committee. The committee includes three faculty members, appointed by the Dean of the Law School. In addition to the director, the school employs a half-time administrative assistant.

Recognition:

Students performing in excess of 100 hours of public service are recognized at graduation.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students receive training from representatives from the IRS and are assigned to sites throughout the Dallas metro area between January 15th-April 15th to help tax-payers complete Income Tax returns.

Domestic Violence--Students who complete training in domestic violence may assist clients with applications for protective orders at two local domestic violence shelter outreach offices.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law Related Education Program (LEA)--LRE is a partnership between Dallas Public Schools and the Public Service Program. It seeks to provide Dallas young people with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for self-governing and democratic participation. LRE's "preventive law" approach reaches young people before a crisis arises, providing them with the tools necessary for responsible decision-making. Law students teach about (1) lawmaking and the principles underlying the Bill of Rights, (2) the structure of the American legal system/trial courts, (3) respect for property and persons, (4) promise-keeping/contracts, and (5) freedom of expression. These areas are taught in a ten-session series, using interactive methods such as small group exercises, simulations, and case studies. The program culminates with the 5th graders participating in a mock trial at the law school. The Public Service Program Director is the LRE Placement Supervisor who ensures that law students are adequately prepared and coordinates policy and procedure with Dallas Public Schools.

Dallas Kid's Project (DKP)--DKP targets talented and gifted children in two DISD schools; third grade in the fall and fifth grade during the spring semester. Third graders participate in a moot court and fifth graders participate in a mock trial. The program is coordinated by law students through the Board of Advocates (BOA). Law student participants may obtain public service credit for their work with the DKP.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy

The Faculty at SMU supports the need for public interest legal services and commits each member of the faculty to engage in public interest legal services consistent with the public service requirement for students. The faculty passed a resolution requiring faculty members to perform public service, the same as the law students.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Southwestern University School of Law
Jane Powell, Director of Student Affairs 213.738.6715 LCpowell@swlaw.edu
Gary J. Greener, Assistant Dean, Career Services 213.738.6794
(Los Angeles, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

As stated in its Pro Bono Policy, Southwestern should "make law students aware of the special needs of those persons often under-represented in legal matters, including minorities, poor, elderly, and handicapped or disabled members of society; facilitate student services to those groups; and should instill

a sense in their students of the profession's obligation to provide legal services to those who are unable to afford them." The Office of Student Affairs, in collaboration with Career Services, provides information to students interested in volunteering in law-related and non-legal volunteer opportunities. Information about opportunities is also posted on the law school's website.

The Southwestern Public Interest Law Committee is comprised of students, faculty, and staff committed to providing legal services to the under-represented members of society. The Committee furthers the goals of the Southwestern Pro Bono Policy. It sponsors a number of events each year to raise awareness throughout the student body of the importance of providing legal services to the under-represented, including speaker's programs and various activities to raise funding for summer public interest law grants.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Tax Law Society--The group is comprised of students, professors, and practitioners interested in the law of taxation. Throughout the year, the Society invites local attorneys to campus to speak about current tax law changes and taxation issues, and provides discussions concerning various sectors of practice available to the future tax attorney. It sponsors the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program that provides free income tax return preparation assistance for the elderly and low-income taxpayers of the Los Angeles area.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Hoover Elementary School--Southwestern officially "adopted" Hoover through the Los Angeles Unified -A-School Program which encourages companies and nonprofit organizations to become involved in their community schools. Southwestern's outreach efforts at Hoover are designed to help local youth develop a better understanding of the legal system as well as a sense of responsibility and a desire to continue their education. Projects involving volunteer law students include tutoring, the Mock Trial Program (held at Southwestern) and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program (held at Hoover).

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Stanford University School of Law
Eduardo Capulong, Director of Public Interest and Public Policy Program 650.725.4192
capulong@stanford.edu
(Stanford, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

A cash scholarship, the Lisa M. Schnitzer Memorial Award, is given to one student per year who, among other accomplishments provides substantial pro bono services, primarily to low-income women.

There are other awards to recognize students committed to public service, encourage public service before, during and after law school, and to provide support for public interest minded students.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Asian and Pacific Islander Law Students Association (APILSA)--Members of APILSA established and staff the Asian Community Immigration Clinic, which provides free advice to Asians in the San Francisco Bay Area.

East Palo Alto Community Law Project Student Steering Committee (SSC)--The SSC helps to coordinate the relationship between the East Palo Alto Community Law Project and the Law School. The Project houses four practice areas - community economic development, family advocacy and support, housing, and youth and education. In addition, it serves as the hub of the Volunteer Attorney Program, through which local attorneys handle a variety of pro bono cases with the help of student volunteers. The Student Steering Committee encourages participation in all aspects of the Project, including provision of legal services, Spanish translation, community outreach, and fund-raising. The SSC has two votes on the Board of Directors of the Law Project and participates fully in the hiring, development and other committees of the Board. The SSC recruits and organizes students for special volunteer opportunities at the Law Project. Work on the SSC gives students the opportunity to devote energy and time to the successful operation of East Palo Alto's primary legal resources institution.

East Palo Alto Community Law Project Volunteer Attorney Program (VAP) Interviewing Clinic--Through this pro bono clinic, 1Ls have the chance to get out of the classroom and see how the law works in the real world. Students conduct intake interviews of clients seeking legal help and draft a memorandum summarizing the client's legal issues. Students may attend a follow-up meeting of the client with a volunteer attorney from local law firms and can assist in legal research or other case activities.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Street Law participants volunteer their time to teach kids about their legal rights in one-hour classes, held once a week for eight weeks in Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall or in one of five alternative high schools.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Building Community Day is a day of service, bringing Stanford students from graduate programs together with residents of East Palo Alto to beautify their community through gardening, painting, repair and building projects. Traditionally, first-year law students spearhead this day in April, working on community outreach, sponsorship and in-kind donations in partnership with City government and community leaders.

Stetson University College of Law
Catherine Fitch, Director of Career Services 727.562.7815 Fitch@law.stetson.edu
(St. Petersburg, Florida)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Students are required to complete 20 hours of pro bono work; a minimum of 10 hours must be completed in law-related work. All pro bono requirements must be completed 6 months prior to graduation. Legal related activities are limited to: a) pro bono service for the indigent, b) pro bono work for public agency, c) pro bono work for a private attorney on a case in which the attorney is working pro bono.

The Assistant Dean promotes pro bono opportunities and maintains a list of approved placements. Non-legal activities must be approved by the Assistant Dean.

Recognition:

The William F. Blews Pro Bono Service Award --In honor of William F. Blews, '66, the College of Law has established this award to recognize those students who, at a minimum, perform twice the number of Pro Bono service hours required for graduation.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

Each full time member of the faculty has a 10-hour annual public service requirement. This requirement can be fulfilled by volunteering at any charitable organization (legal or nonlegal) such as legal aid, food banks, the SPCA, or by serving on the board of a charity or by serving on a bar committee (city, state or ABA).

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

See discussion on requirement above.

Temple University, James E. Beasley School of Law
Karen Forman, Director of Public Interest 215.204.2248 Karenf@vm.temple.edu
(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

The Office of Public Interest Law Programs

Operation:

Through its Office of Public Interest Law Programs, Temple Law strives to provide positive pro bono experiences to law students. The Director of Public Interest is a full time pro bono and public interest coordinator. The Office has a multitude of both pro bono and public interest programs and houses the staff for Temple-LEAP (see below). The Office also oversees the student-led pro bono and public interest projects.

Public Interest Experience (PIE) is the Office's pro bono program. It gives students the opportunity to participate in one of the region's public interest organizations during the school year. Students are encouraged to complete 50 hours a year of public interest work. They have access to the PSLawNet database.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students receive training and supervision to assist in law and moderate income persons filing income tax returns.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law, Education, and Participation (LEAP)--LEAP is a multi-faceted law related and civic education program which teaches non-lawyers about the law. LEAP directs the John S. Bradway Programs that include the Philadelphia High School Mock Trial Competition, Trial Advocacy Day, Juror Experiences, and Elementary Scripted Mock Trial Programs. Through Temple--LEAP, law students can become involved in Teen Court, an alternative disciplinary program currently operating in seven Philadelphia public high schools, The North Philadelphia Firearms Reduction Initiative, an after-school program that trains youth to become peer educators on the issue of gun violence reduction, and the PULSE Project (Philadelphia Urban Law Student Experience), a collaboration between Temple and the University of Pennsylvania Law School designed to encourage students from both law schools to help meet the legal needs of underserved populations in Philadelphia and implement law-related education programs in local schools.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Tennessee College of Law
Doug Blaze, Professor and Director, Clinical Programs 865.974.2331 Blaze@libra.law.utk.edu
(Knoxville, Tennessee)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The student organization UT Pro Bono promotes and coordinates pro bono placements for the student body. Its focus is on providing legal assistance to those who otherwise could not afford representation. It has a faculty advisor and each component has an involved faculty member. The Law School also has a faculty working group on pro bono and public interest law.

UT Pro Bono currently has eight service components: The Homeless Project, the Family Justice Project, Domestic Violence Program, the Saturday Bar Program, the Tennessee Innocence Project, the Secundo Domingo Project, and the Research and Clerking Project. Student volunteers work closely with area

attorneys, the Knoxville Legal Aid Society (KLAS) and Rural Legal Services. The group has raised money from KLAS, the U.S. Department of Justice and the State IOLTA Program to fund its projects.

Recognition:

Annual awards reception.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Homeless Project--Enables students to assist in the legal representation of individuals who are temporarily or permanently displaced, and who need assistance with social security, disability housing, healthcare, food stamp and minor criminal matters.

Domestic Violence--Volunteers are recruited and trained to assist attorneys working with clients on domestic violence cases, providing valuable research assistance and in negotiating orders of protection.

Tennessee Innocence Project--Newly established in cooperation with Tennessee Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers to provide legal assistance to incarcerated individuals asserting claims of innocence.

Family Justice Project--Provides legal assistance in cooperation with KLAS as part of a program to provide a full range of social services to low income families with children through the children's schools.

Secundo Domingo--Provides advice and referral assistance to growing population of Latino immigrants in east Tennessee.

VITA-- Students assist low income and elderly persons in preparing their tax returns.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

University of Texas at Austin School of Law
Eden Harrington, Director of Center for Public Interest Law 512.232.7068
EHarrington@mail.law.utexas.edu
(Austin, Texas)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Center for Public Interest Law

Operation:

The Law School promotes student involvement in public service through the programs of the Public Interest Law Center. The Center educates students on the value of and responsibility to do public service. The Office of Career Services is responsible for recruiting and maintaining relationships with public interest organizations and helping students secure paid and non-paid placements. Through PSLawNet, students can volunteer in a wide range of opportunities.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Texas Wesleyan University School of Law
Richard Storrow, Associate Professor 817.212.3962 rstorrow@law.txwes.edu
Patti Gearhart Turner, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
817.212.4020 pturner@law.txwes.edu
(Fort Worth, Texas)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

The School of Law requires each of its students to perform 30 hours of law-related pro bono service through the Equal Justice Program. The program's purpose is two-fold. First, it ensures that all students will have the opportunity to practice lawyering skills in a real-world setting before they graduate. Second, it imparts to our students the importance of giving back to the community in recognition of the privileged status lawyers occupy.

The Program is administered by the Student Affairs Office. There is information in the Office of Career Services to help students find placements.

A student run Pro Bono Board encourages students, as early as during the first year, to participate in volunteer legal services and helps provide volunteer opportunities. The Board serves as advisors to the Program and is in charge of pro bono recognitions.

Recognition:

Outstanding pro bono service is recognized by an annual award.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students provide free tax assistance to low or limited income, disabled, elderly and non-English speaking taxpayers each spring. Sponsored by the Tax & Estate Planning Law Society.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Annual 5K run to benefit West Texas Legal Services
Staff- and student-organized fundraisers for Women's Haven, a women's shelter

Thomas Jefferson School of Law
Andrea Lamb, Assistant Dean, Career Services andreal@tjssl.edu 619.297.9700
Kim Morioka, Assistant Director, Career Services kmorioka@tjssl.edu
(San Diego, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

The law school encourages pro bono service. The Office of Career Services provides students with a list of volunteer opportunities.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students assist in low-income tax assistance.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center
Thomas Maligno, Director of Career Development and Public Interest
631. 421.2244 Thomasm@tourolaw.edu
(Huntington, New York)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Students must fulfill the Public Interest Law Perspective Requirement in order to graduate. Students may do so in one of three ways: (a) successful completion of one of the following clinics: Civil rights Litigation Clinic, Criminal Law Clinic, Elder Law Clinic, International Human Rights/Asylum Clinic, Family Law Clinic, or Legal Institutions-Civil Clinic, when the placement is in a Pro Bono position; (b) completion of forty (40) hours of Pro Bono work; or (c) completion of twenty (20) hours of Pro Bono work *and* successful completion of either Rights of the Poor or Racism and American Law.

Pro bono work is defined as legal in nature, unsalaried and without other compensation, such as academic credit; under the supervision of an attorney; and designed in some way to directly or indirectly address the legal needs of poor persons or of traditionally underrepresented. Work in a private firm will not count unless it is performed exclusively on behalf of an indigent or needy client referred to the firm through a pro bono matching program. Training time shall not be counted towards the requirement.

The program is overseen by the Director of Career Development and Public Interest. He has the responsibility for promoting and coordinating pro bono service but spends less than half of his time doing so.

Recognition:

Upon completion of the 40 hours of pro bono work, it is noted on the students' record that the Public Interest Law Perspective has been completed.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Domestic Violence Project--Students represent women seeking Orders of Protection in Family Court, under the supervision of staff attorneys in the local Legal Services Program.

Housing Rights Project--Under the supervision of staff attorneys at the branch office of the local Legal Services office located at the Law Center, students represent clients in eviction and housing condition cases and in matters related to admission or removal from public housing. Open to first year students.

Political Asylum Project--Students participate in a training program run by the local Bar Association and the Central American Refugee Center and then represent one or two applicants seeking political asylum.

VITA--Students take a preparatory course given by the IRS and staff a volunteer tax preparation service open to the public.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Phi Alpha Delta - Law-Related Education--Students teach law-related classes to middle school and high school students on such topics as voting rights, discrimination, privacy rights and free speech.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Tulane University School of Law
Julie Jackson, Assistant Dean for Community Service &
Pro Bono Activities and Lecturer in Law 504.862.8815 Jjackson@law.tulane.edu
Eileen Ryan, Program Coordinator Eryan@clinic.law.tulane.edu
(New Orleans, Louisiana)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

Community Service Program Office

Operation:

Each student must complete a minimum of 20 hours of legal service on behalf of indigents in the New Orleans metropolitan area or, if more convenient during vacation periods, in the student's home or summer community. The required hours are ungraded, but appear on the student's transcript as Community Service credit. The Tulane Law School Community Service Program is run by a full-time Director and a full-time administrator.

Community Service students are encouraged to participate in all phases of case preparation. Students conduct client interviews, assist in intake, draft pleadings and memoranda, conduct legal research and investigations, file documents, and attend court hearings. Community Service placements are found both within the civil and the criminal justice systems. Subject matter areas include domestic abuse, child abuse/neglect, consumer finance, death penalty, elder law, AIDS, housing, child custody and support, immigration, mental health, criminal defense and juvenile law. The Program also sponsors the Project for Older Prisoners (POPS) and legal advice programs in areas of special need, including consumer finance/foreclosure, juvenile and family law.

Recognition:

Students receive a transcript notation of hours completed.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

ACLU, Tulane Law School Chapter--The Chapter was founded to safeguard civil rights and liberties and to promote discussion and awareness of these issues at Tulane Law School. The Chapter promotes community service work of student members with the ACLU of Louisiana by coordinating the preparation of legal memoranda used by the ACLU Legal Panel.

Cuban Detainee Program--Law students administer this program that provides assistance to Cubans detained by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and housed in prisons throughout Louisiana. Students participating in the program interview and advise the detainees at the prisons and then proceed to assist them at their scheduled INS hearings.

Project for Older Prisoners--POPS was established to address the problems of prison overcrowding and the rapidly growing geriatric inmate population in Louisiana's prisons. POPS' primary mission is to aid elderly and infirm inmates seeking parole, pardon, or commutation. POPS provides students with the opportunity to interview inmates, analyze cases, and advocate for inmates before the State Parole and Pardon Boards.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

SCHOOLMATES is an organization made up of volunteer law students who tutor elementary, junior and high school students.

University of Utah College of Law
James Seaman, Pro Bono Coordinator 801.581.6833 seamanj@law.utah.edu
(Salt Lake City, Utah)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Pro Bono Initiative is designed to promote an ethic of public service in University of Utah law students and to increase the availability of legal services to Utah's low-income populations and non-profit organizations. With the launch of the Initiative, the College of Law encourages its students to perform at least fifty hours of law-related pro bono work before graduation. To facilitate this work, the Pro Bono Initiative office matches interested students with volunteer opportunities along the Wasatch Front. The program is run by a half time pro bono coordinator, who is currently assisted by a Vista Volunteer.

Recognition:

The Utah Bar Foundation supports two \$3,000 Community Service Scholarships at the College of Law to recognize students who make significant contributions to the community by performing pro bono services in public service organizations.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Guardian Ad Litem

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Students, faculty, and staff participate in a community service project each year in conjunction with the Lowell Bennion Community Service Center at the University. Past projects have included performing maintenance work at the Pacific Heights and Pacific Avenues public housing sites, the Jackson Elementary School and at the New Hope Refugee Center.

Valparaiso University School of Law

Ivan Bodensteiner, Professor 219.465.7852 ivan.bodensteiner@valpo.edu
Arthur Bousel, Assistant Dean for Career Services Arthur.bousel@valpo.edu
(Valparaiso, Indiana)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Pro Bono Graduation Requirement

Location:

With Faculty

Operation:

Students who have completed their second year must complete 20 hours of pro bono legal service. Qualifying service tracks the language of Rule 6.1 of the Indiana Rules of Professional Conduct and includes assisting a private attorney on matters handled without a fee or a reduced fee, assisting an attorney who represents government, assisting a judge, and assisting an attorney employed by a public interest organization. The activity must be of the type of work expected of an attorney or law clerk.

The program is run by Professor Bodensteiner and administered through the Career Services Office.

Recognition:

Students who complete 40 or more hours of pro bono activity receive a notation on their transcripts.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Vanderbilt University Law School
Susan Kay, Clinical Professor and Assistant Dean of Clinical Education
615.322.4964 susan.kay@law.vanderbilt.edu
(Nashville, Tennessee)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

The Pro Bono Program of the Vanderbilt Legal Aid Society is student run with a professor as the faculty sponsor. The VLAS organizes a number of activities designed to assist traditionally underrepresented groups in the Nashville area, such as residents of state prisons, mental health hospitals, and juvenile detention facilities. These activities are directed by law student members of the Society, assisted by members of the Law School's clinical faculty. Informal meetings are sponsored for law students to exchange ideas and experiences relating to public interest law practice. The Pro Bono Program, a recent addition to the Society's activities, allows students to assist local attorneys with pro bono cases. The Program is administered in coordination with the Nashville Bar Association, with the objective of encouraging current and future lawyers to undertake more pro bono work. The cases involve a variety of practice areas such as personal injury, social security benefits, and divorce. Participating students work one-on-one with attorneys and gain practical experience assisting in library research, legal writing, and client or witness interviews. Any student may participate on a voluntary basis; second-year and third-year students can earn one extracurricular credit per semester by completing certain requirements set by the Legal Aid Society.

Recognition:

The Office of Career Services, in conjunction with the Legal Aid Society, give an annual Public Interest Participation Award. These certificates are given to recognize the public interest work that students at the Law School do for the community and are given in conjunction with Public Interest Law Week.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Amnesty International--AI is an international human rights organization that seeks the immediate and unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience, fair trials for all properly charged with legitimate criminal offenses, and the complete abolition of torture, disappearance, and state-sanctioned killing world wide. The Law School chapter takes up cases of individual prisoners on a regular basis, using letter-writing campaigns and telex-petition drives. The chapter also sponsors educational forums on major international human rights treaties and campaigns for their U.S. ratification.

The Animal Law Society--This group of students focus on the nexus between animals and the law. Some of the organization's goals and activities include: conducting a Holiday Pet Food Drive to benefit a local Humane Society; sponsoring an Animal Law Lunchtime Discussion Series; participating in Nashville Cares, an organization which helps the elderly care for their pets; assisting a local county in establishing an animal control organization; and building a resource center that students and faculty can use to learn about the current state of animal laws on a local, national, and global level.

Ayuda Legal Independiente A Nashville (ALIANza)--Through this project, students assist public defenders with cases involving Spanish-speaking clients. ALIANza was created to provide Vanderbilt students with the opportunity to help serve the needs of Nashville's quite large Hispanic population.

The Rutherford Institute--The Rutherford Institute at Vanderbilt Law School is a student organization dedicated to the protection of First Amendment rights and the preservation of religious liberty in this country and abroad. In addition to sponsoring educational and social events, the Institute gives student members the opportunity to acquire hands-on legal experience by providing legal research for First Amendment cases tried by the national Rutherford Institute. The group has a faculty sponsor.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Vermont Law School
Abby Armstrong, Director, Career Services
802-763-8303 ext. 2208 or armstro@vermontlaw.edu;

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund--The students support the passage of current Animal Advocacy Group legislation, drafts new legislation, spreads awareness of the plight of animals and provides information useful in improving their situation. Students have also participated in litigation to save animals.

Guardians ad Litem--Guardians ad Litem are appointed by the court to protect and promote the interests of children and mentally incompetent adults who find themselves involved in judicial proceedings. Students may join the Vermont Law School chapter, which provides training, informational meetings, referrals, and opportunities to exchange experiences. Student guardians experience the legal process first-hand while providing a valuable service to the community.

L.E.E.P.--Students of the Legal Education & Empowerment Program at Vermont Law School have committed themselves to bringing legal knowledge to secondary level students in local and regional schools in Vermont.

VITA- The Vermont Law School VITA program provides federal and state tax assistance to elderly, low-income, and disadvantaged taxpayers living in the communities surrounding the law school. Training is provided by the Internal Revenue Service and the Vermont State Tax Department. Designed to meet a community need, the program also gives second- and third-year students the opportunity to develop their skills in interviewing and counseling clients.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Villanova University School of Law
Michelle Pistone, Director of Clinical Programs 610.519.5286 Pistone@law.villanova.edu
(Villanova, Pennsylvania)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Within a Public Interest/Service Center

Operation:

The law school recently hired a Director of Public Interest, Government Careers and Pro Bono Programs, who divides her time roughly equally between serving as a career services professional specializing in public interest/government career counseling (reporting to the Assistant Dean of Career Services) and as the coordinator of VLS's growing pro bono programs (reporting to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs). As pro bono coordinator the Director works closely with the clinical faculty, student Public Interest Fellowship Program, student Pro Bono Society and the Alumni Affairs Office to develop educational programs and student pro bono/public service placements.

The Director also oversees administration of Villanova's "Lawyering Together" program, which pairs Villanova Law alumni and Villanova Law students in pro bono projects. This program works in coordination with the Homeless Advocacy Project, Senior Citizen Judicare, and Volunteers for the Indigent Program, all of which are headquartered in Philadelphia, PA.

The student run Pro Bono Society has as its purpose "to provide students the opportunity to volunteer their time and unique skills as law students for members of our community." It focuses on individuals and community groups that traditionally have lacked access to the legal system. PBS offers opportunities to volunteer for both long and short-term projects in various areas of the law and in non-legal volunteer opportunities. It is advised by Professor Pistone.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Lawyering Together--See above.

Pro Bono Society Projects--Homeless Advocacy Project, Children's Educational Outreach, Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance, Volunteers for the Indigent, Pennsylvania Immigrant Resource Center, Delaware County Bankruptcy Assistance Program, Delaware County Legal Assistance Association, Senior Citizens Judicare, and Pennsylvania Health Law Project

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Know Your Rights Presentations--Conducted by student groups to low-income taxpayers and detained immigrants.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Organized by the Director of Public Interest and by the Pro Bono Society.

University of Virginia School of Law
Kimberly Emery, Assistant Dean of Public Service 434.924.3883 kac5e@virginia.edu
(Charlottesville, Virginia)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

The Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center

Operation:

The Mortimer Caplin Public Service Center develops and coordinates pro bono programs at the law school and provides public service job search assistance to student and alumni. The Center has a full time director. Her duties include coordinating and promoting public service and providing placements for interested students. A student works 10 hours a week, for pay, as an administrative assistant for the pro bono program. The Center also has a full-time public service career counselor who, in addition to his career counseling and development responsibilities, supervises criminal pro bono projects. The Center publishes a bi-weekly newsletter.

The Pro Bono Project encourages all students to complete at least 75 hours of pro bono service during their three years of law school. It maintains an on-line pro bono database and provides weekly email updates of new projects.

Recognition:

Students who are certified by the Pro Bono Project as having completed at least 75 hours of pro bono work during their three years of law school receive recognition in the printed graduation program and a certificate that reflects their dedication to the provision of pro bono service. They are also honored at an award ceremony with the Dean. A student with “extraordinary commitment” to pro bono receives a \$2500 Pro Bono Award.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

The Legal Assistance Society--L.A.S is dedicated to helping underprivileged people in Charlottesville and the surrounding area. Through its projects, LAS provides varied opportunities for its members to gain practical legal experience. In addition to DVP and VITA, described below, L.A.S. currently has these other projects: Legal Education Project, Migrant Farmworkers Project, Native American Legal Project, and Rappahannock Legal Services.

The Domestic Violence Project--A sub-organization of L.A.S., the Project educates the law school about issues of domestic violence through discussion panels and films, monitors the Juvenile and Domestic

Courts to inform women about the services available to them if they are being abused, and sends volunteers to the Shelter for Help in Emergency (SHE) and the Magic Circle (children of women in SHE).

Volunteer Income Tax Association (VITA)--A sub-organization of L.A.S., VITA students help low income and elderly residents of Charlottesville complete their income tax returns on Saturday mornings during tax season. Students receive training in how to provide assistance and are encouraged to come as often as their schedules allow.

Pro Bono Criminal Adjudication Project (P-CAP): P-CAP is a student volunteer organization of the law school that provides an array of legal assistance in the community, primarily in the area of criminal defense work. There are currently five P-CAP groups: Appointed Cases, Bail Project, Capital Cases, Beaumont Juvenile Project, and Litigation Committee.

Children's Advocacy Project: Students under supervision of project attorney handle the civil legal needs of low-income children.

J.B. Moore Society of International Law – This student volunteer organization sponsors pro bono human rights projects.

Intake Project – With a paid, part-time attorney-supervisor, students coordinate intake for the local legal aid society at soup kitchens, the Salvation Army and other homeless shelters.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Legal Education Project--Sponsored by the Legal Assistance Society (above).

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Wake Forest University School of Law
Deborah L. Parker, Assistant Dean for Students, Professor of Legal Writing
336.758.5127 parkerdl@law.wfu.edu
(Winston-Salem, North Carolina)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

One third-year student is recognized at graduation each spring with the North Carolina State Bar Pro Bono Service Award. This award honors a graduating student who has worked to provide opportunities for pro bono service among students while they are in law school.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Association Against the Death Penalty--AADP is a student led advocacy group committed to the abolition of the death penalty, helping local attorneys represent defendants who face the death penalty, and raising awareness of the inherent fallacies and immorality of capital punishment. AADP is a student run organization open to all Wake Forest Law students with a faculty advisor serving as a liaison with the administration and faculty.

Domestic Violence Advocacy Center--The Law School participates with the Domestic Violence Advocacy Center at the Legal Aid office to provide student volunteers to help in the fight against domestic violence. The students help give legal representation to indigent victims of domestic violence. They answer the women's questions at the courthouse and provide representation with pro bono attorneys at civil court hearings. For more information on the activities of the Center visit www.law.wfu.edu/students/dvac.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

The Public Interest Law Organization (PILO) and the Law School's administration developed the Pro Bono Project to send the 1Ls out to work on a non-legal community service project during the first week of law school. More than half of the faculty help on this project.

University of Washington School of Law
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Millicent Newhouse, Director, Career Planning and Public Service Millicen@u.washington.edu
(Seattle, Washington)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Public Service Graduation Requirement

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

All students enrolled in the Juris Doctor program are required to perform 60 hours of public service legal work to graduate. Students can fulfill the public service requirement in any of the following ways: 1) By enrolling in and satisfactorily completing a law school clinic. Currently the Law School offers eight clinics in different areas: Appellate Advocacy, Child Advocacy, Criminal Law, Immigration Law, Indian Law, Mediation, Refugee Advocacy, and Unemployment Compensation Law. There is no limit on the number of clinic credits a student can take. 2) By enrolling in and satisfactorily completing a Public Service Externship for at least two academic credits. Students can undertake externships with government agencies, nonprofit organizations, legislative bodies, the judiciary, or private law firms on pro bono matters. Students cannot undertake externships with a private law firm or agency on fee-generating matters. Students can enroll in externships only after completing the first year of law school, can take a maximum of 15 externship credits, and must work 30 hours over the course of a quarter for each credit. 3) By enrolling in and satisfactorily completing the Street Law Course. In this program, students are assigned to teach a practical law course to high school students.

The program is overseen by the full time staff of the Career Planning and Public Service Center, a director and three program coordinators. These are people who spend their time coordinating, developing and promoting pro bono and public service placements to students. The Center sponsors regular programs and workshops on public interest law practice.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Immigrant Families Advocacy Project--These students work with the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project and pro bono attorneys to assist immigrant women who are victims of domestic violence to get their permanent residency in the United States. Students gain valuable real-life legal experience working directly with clients and attorneys. All students are encouraged to apply.

Innocence Project Northwest ("IPNW")--IPNW is a non-profit group of volunteer attorneys, law school faculty, and law students united to ensure that innocent persons do not remain incarcerated. With the assistance of University of Washington School of Law faculty and students, IPNW attorneys provide pro bono representation to inmates who are wrongly convicted of serious crimes, who no longer have a right to counsel and where there is a cognizable claim of actual innocence. Faculty and students read inmate letters and questionnaires to select cases for further investigation and, if warranted, for pro bono representation by counsel.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington--Working in conjunction with SYLAW, a new non-profit organization started by an alum, volunteer law students participate in training and orientation sessions conducted by local child advocacy attorneys. They then educate street youth through scheduled presentations and, under the supervision of pro bono attorneys, represent youth clients in civil legal matters.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Law Outreach --The vehicle through which students participate in non-law related community service projects.

Washington University School of Law
Liz Pejeau, Public Service Coordinator 206.543.4550 Lapejeau@wulaw.wustl.edu
(St. Louis, Missouri)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Student Affairs

Operation:

In the strategic plan for 2000-2005, the School of Law emphasized the importance of the Schools' commitment to public service and declared an "ambition to significantly augment ongoing [public service] initiatives." Thus, the Public Service Project was established to 1) provide desperately needed services to the St. Louis community, 2) instill in students a sense of professional responsibility that includes a commitment to public service, 3) help students to learn about representing the underserved and to inquire into the fairness and effectiveness of the law and legal institutions, and 3) provide students with valuable practical experience and the opportunity to interact with representatives from public interest organizations, and law firms.

The Project has a full-time coordinator to develop and promote public service projects. She is assisted by an Advisory Board comprised of students.

To encourage public service and help students and other interested members of the law school community discover what volunteer opportunities exist, the Project coordinates an annual Student Public Service Fair. At the Fair, public interest lawyers, providers of legal and social services, members of nonprofit organizations, students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to meet over breakfast and explore volunteer opportunities. The Project also publishes a newsletter to keep students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the St. Louis community informed of public service and public interest activities.

Recognition:

The School of Law specially recognizes students who make significant public service contributions. Students are eligible to receive recognition of their public service work if they complete a certain number of hours or participate in a substantial public service project. At the end of the school year, there is a Public Service Recognition Reception.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Break Away In Law (BAIL)--BAIL is a alternative break program at the School of Law. BAIL's mission is to educate law students about current local and national legal issues, to heighten social awareness and sensitivity for various cultures and opinions, and to inspire a lifetime of law-related service. The Public Service Project and BAIL sent a dozen students to Los Angeles during spring break 2001 to work for Break the Cycle, a non-profit organization that educates and offers free legal services to young victims of domestic violence. In preparation for the trip, BAIL members received domestic violence training, participated in local community service activities, and read materials recommended by Break the Cycle. BAIL raised funds to help pay for expenses. In addition, the generosity of an anonymous donor allowed participants to pay very little out of their own pockets.

VITA--Students provide free tax assistance to low income and disabled taxpayers, as well as to international students.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law-Related Education (LRE)--LRE is a program coordinated by Phi Alpha Delta (PAD), although it is open to both PAD and non-PAD members. LRE is a community service program in which law students teach 4th and 5th grade students basic legal concepts. At the end of spring semester, law students help the elementary students conduct a mock trial in the law school courtroom.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

The Public Service Project works in conjunction with student organizations to sponsor one-day community service projects to be held each month. These projects may include building homes with Habitat for Humanity, cleaning up neighborhoods, planting urban gardens, or working in a food bank.

Wayne State University Law School
David Moss, Assistant Director of Clinical Education 313.577.3970 david.moss@wayne.edu
(Detroit, Michigan)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by Administrative Support for In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

Recently, the Law School created a student pro bono program called *Access to Justice for All*. This program will link student volunteers with nonprofit advocacy organizations, Law School alumni, and other attorneys providing pro bono assistance to persons of limited means. The program will have two main goals: (1) educating students regarding the pro bono service obligation they will be expected to fulfill after graduation, and (2) providing legal assistance to individuals who otherwise would be unable to obtain representation.

Access to Justice for All will begin two projects this fall: an Asylum Project and an Elder Law Project. Additional projects in other practice areas will be added in subsequent years. Each project will recruit eight to ten first-year students willing to perform thirty hours of pro bono service in each of their three (or more) years of law school. The students will be supervised by pro bono attorney-mentors, recruited from the school's alumni base and local law firms, each of whom must agree to handle several pro bono cases each year with student support.

Each project will operate in collaboration with a nonprofit advocacy organization, which will provide training, technical assistance, and case referrals. The Law School will recruit the participants, coordinate training events, and provide appropriate recognition to participants for their pro bono efforts.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Asylum Project--This project will be operated in collaboration with Freedom House and the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association. Participants will assist INS detainees without criminal records who are seeking political asylum in the United States.

Elder Law Project--This project will operate in collaboration with the Legal Aid and Defender Association of Detroit. Participants will assist senior citizens with estate and health care planning documents such as wills, living wills, powers of attorney, and deeds.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Students Helping Students Read is a tutoring and mentoring program which pairs Law student volunteers with Detroit school children. The goal of the program is to provide encouragement and assistance to grade school children.

West Virginia University College of Law
Randy Minor, Director, Appalachian Center for Law and Public Service
304.293.8555 Rminor@wvu.edu
(Morgantown, West Virginia)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program

Operation:

The Appalachian Center for Law and Public Service is the law school's vehicle for promoting public service at the College of Law. The Center's goals include the provision of legal services to indigent West Virginians, the development and enhancement of law students' lawyering skills, and the fostering of the ethic of *pro bono* service to West Virginia communities and their residents. The Center has a full time director who has the responsibility of promoting pro bono and public service to the law students. Law students are encouraged to donate up to 25 hours of their time each semester to provide legal services.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Western State University College of Law
Tim Mallory, Director, Career Services 714.526.2483 tim@wsulaw.edu
(Fullerton, California)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Office of Career Services

Operation:

Western State's voluntary Public Service Program provides substantial resources and opportunities for service to the disadvantaged and to the community. Students perform work broadly related to the professional skills attained through the school's course of study in service to the poor, underprivileged, and the community under the supervision of government agencies, non-profit institutions, and law firms conducting pro bono projects.

Recognition:

Institutional recognition is given to students who complete a minimum of 40 hours of approved service. There are additional levels of recognition at 100 and 200 hours. Recognition is given by the Program at various programs and events. In addition, completion of the Public Service Program is noted on the student transcript.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Students assist low-income individuals fill out and prepare tax returns forms for the IRS.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Law-Related Education--Students make presentations on legal topics to students at middle schools under the combined direction of the Public Service Program and the Constitutional Rights Foundation.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Widener University School of Law
Nathaniel Nichols, Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Programs
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Dana Harrington, Supervising Attorney 302.478.8680 DanaHC@aol.com
(Wilmington, Delaware)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

With Clinical Program

Operation:

The local bar association pro bono coordinator, housed in the law school's clinic, also serves as the pro bono coordinator for students.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Fifteen students assist low-income people in the community with filing tax returns. Students work roughly seven hours per week.

Consumer Bankruptcy Assistance Project--15 Students provide pro bono legal services to indigent clients needing to file bankruptcy.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Street Law--Ferris Detention Center for male juveniles- Students teach criminal law and procedure in 50 minute blocks and an effort to give more education to these juveniles. Developing into a credit course.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

Willamette University College of Law
Jennifer Wright, Director, Clinical Law Program 503.370.6140 Jlwright@willamette.edu
(Salem, Oregon)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-House and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

Pro Bono Student of the Year Award

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

VITA--Student provide tax preparation for low-income persons and free electronic filing of both state and federal returns for interested taxpayers.

Naturalization Clinic--Students help immigrants fill out their US Naturalization paperwork.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Tutoring/Mentoring--Phi Delta Phi students mentor teen parents.

Faculty Pro Bono

Policy:

The Clinical Law Program has begun a Pro Bono Program which provides malpractice coverage, mentoring and clerical support to faculty members who take pro bono cases.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

College of William and Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law
John Levy, Professor 757.221.3824 jmlevy@facstaff.wm.edu

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Independent In-house and Collaborative Student Group Projects

Recognition:

The Gambrell Award is given to a student in each Legal Skills “law firm”⁷ who has done the most community service.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Law Students Involved in the Community--This group coordinates pro bono projects in the community for students.

⁷ The Legal Skills Program is a two-year required program, taught primarily via small student “law firms” which handle simulated cases. Each “firm” develops its own pro bono policy after a class session on pro bono.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)--Students receive training and then are assigned by the Juvenile Court Judge to be an advocate/friend/voice for a child or children in the court – usually in a custody or related proceeding.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Marshall-Wythe Law Related Education Program -- The law related education program provides a resource to help local K-12 teachers discuss and explain academic and practical legal issues. Law students run the program with help from a faculty adviser. The Program's law student members work closely with teachers to tailor lessons to each teacher's specific curriculum. Lessons are designed to stress creative thinking and to sharpen students' analytical skills. Although law students assist teachers with lectures, the program encourages interaction and even role-playing. Finally, the program's law students can arrange for school students to observe a mock trial.

Faculty Pro Bono

Recognition:

The University awards the Sullivan Award for Community Service.

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

William Mitchell College of Law
Sharon Fischlowitz, Executive Director, Minnesota Justice Foundation,
612.625.0777 Sharon@mnjustice.org
(St. Paul, Minnesota)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand-Alone Program, run by the Minnesota Justice Foundation

Operation:

Minnesota Justice Foundation is an independent non-profit which coordinates the Law School Public Service Program in Minnesota. An MJF staff attorney runs the MJF office at each school. MJF has a full-time staff of 6 attorneys and various part time college and law students. The Board of Directors is made up of law students, private attorneys, legal services attorneys and client-eligible community members. Three students (from each school) sit on MJF's Board of Directors. Drawn from the membership of MJF's student chapters, these students help steer the agency and its programs- including its law school pro bono program. Each School also appoints several of its own law students to its own Public Service Committee. Students also serve on the Legal Assistance to the Disadvantaged committee

of the Minnesota State Bar Association, as well as its Law School Initiatives Subcommittee, where the law school public service program collaboration partners monitor and support the program.

Through MJF's Law School Public Service Program, the law school asks its students to perform 50 hours of law-related public service and makes the commitment to have placements available. MJF coordinates volunteer placements with over 150 legal services and advocacy agencies throughout Minnesota, in most (over 25) legal issue areas.

Recognition:

William-Mitchell recognizes students who have performed 50 hours of law-related public service with a transcript notation, "Achievement in Volunteer Public Service" and a note in the graduation program.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

MJF Street Law Project--MJF staff, legal services attorneys and alternative learning center teachers train law students to teach low-income, at-risk high school students their basic legal rights, responsibilities and resources. In addition, Hamline students teach Street Law in Duluth over their Spring Break.

Yale Law School
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Director, Public Interest Counseling and Programs 203.432.4992 Theresa.bryant@yale.edu
(New Haven, Connecticut)

Student Pro Bono Program

Structure:

Formal Voluntary Pro Bono Program Characterized by a Referral System with Coordinator

Location:

Stand Alone Program

Operation:

The Pro Bono Network is a student-run clearinghouse of pro bono opportunities. It is a joint effort of Student Public Interest Network (SPIN), the Lowenstein International Human Rights Project, the Schell Center for Human Rights, and the Career Development Office. There is one student director, two students managing faculty relations, three students soliciting new projects and three students overseeing the matching process and ongoing relationships between students and the organizations with which they work. The Director of Public Interest Counseling and Programs advises PBN.

The Pro Bono Network is just one program of SPIN. Another program is the Pro Bono Challenge which invites students to pledge to do at least 25 hours of pro bono work during the school year. The Pro Bono Network facilitates these efforts by linking students to public interest organizations in need of student volunteer, term-time assistance. Currently, the Network staff 13 pro bono projects (some of which are listed below).

Recognition:

SPIN gives students who meet the Pro Bono Challenge a refillable coffee mug, a letter from the Dean and a certificate to celebrate their work.

In-House and Collaborative Pro Bono Projects

Projects Providing Specialized Legal Services:

Allard K. Lowenstein Project on International Human Rights--This student organization performs advocacy and research projects for human rights organizations around the world. Students initiate their own projects or work together with non-governmental organizations that request assistance through the Pro Bono Network. In past years, the project has supported activities such as providing research assistance to the South African Land Claims Court, promoting the work of the Guatemalan Truth Commission, raising awareness about the problems of child soldiers worldwide, collaborating with the Southern Center for Human Rights on a pending death penalty case in Alabama, and assisting in research for a Supreme Court brief defending a Massachusetts law, which prohibited the state from contracting with corporations that invest in Burma.

Temporary Restraining Order Project--The T R O Project is run by law students in conjunction with the clerk's office of the Connecticut Superior Court (New Haven County Family Division) and the family division attorneys at New Haven Legal Assistance. Student volunteers staff an office at the courthouse that provides assistance to individuals seeking civil temporary restraining orders from the family court.

Workers' Rights Project--The WRP gives students a chance to assist workers' rights organizations and learn about cutting-edge areas of labor and employment law relevant to the situation of workers in the global economy. The Workers' Rights Project is dedicated to protecting and expanding the rights of all workers, with a particular focus on issues facing low wage workers in New Haven and around the world. To this end, the Project uses multiple strategies to fight for workers' rights. Since its inception, the Project has worked on multiple petitions under N A F T A to support immigrant workers. Students recently wrote a new N A A L C petition targeting minimum wage and other labor abuses suffered by Mexican "guest workers" who are employed by U.S. companies. The Workers' Rights Project also supports local union organizing campaigns and grassroots community efforts to fight poverty in New Haven.

Yale Environmental Law Association (YELA)-- sponsors activities to promote heightened awareness and action on environmental issues. Activities include assisting lawyers in the Connecticut environmental justice network. YELA plans to start conducting more legal research on environmental issues, including both self-initiated projects and assistance to other organizations.

Projects Teaching About the Law and Legal Education:

Black Law Students Association--B L S A is actively involved in a variety

of public-interest initiatives throughout the school year. In election years, it holds voter registration drives. In the area of education, B L S A is currently working with the Yale Partnership for Public Schools to organize a college summit for area high school students. In addition, B L S A is developing a database of scholarship and financial aid information for New Haven high school students, and working to match high school students with mentors to help them through the college application process and beyond.

Collective on Women of Color in the Law--The Collective is a student organization dedicated to creating a supportive community for women of color law students, promoting the scholarship of women of color legal scholars, and advancing common goals of women of color. In addition to numerous other activities this year, the Collective started a pre-law mentoring program for undergraduate women of color at Yale College. In conjunction with the mentoring program, the Collective sponsored two panels open to all undergraduate women of color on law school and the admissions process. Among the group's projects for next year are an exploration of ways to help girls of color in the New Haven area and a program dedicated to increasing awareness of issues affecting women of color in the legal employment recruiting process.

Green Haven Prison Project--Law students and Green Haven prisoners share their knowledge and thoughts on topical and controversial issues at a New York state maximum security facility. The meetings between students and prisoners usually begin with a fifteen-minute introduction by a guest speaker and then proceed into a spirited discussion involving many of the approximately twenty students and forty inmates present for each visit. In past years, prisoners and students have discussed topics such as the lawyer/client relationship in criminal defense, domestic and international human rights, police brutality, the Americans with Disabilities Act in the prison context, children's issues, and reforming the sentencing guidelines. The program, which has benefited both Yale students and Green Haven inmates, is a component of a prisoner self-improvement group called P A C T (Prisoners Alliance for Calculated Transition). Inmates who participate receive a certificate from the Dean of Yale Law School that becomes a part of their file.

Street Law--Street Law's goal is to use participants' knowledge and experience as law students to introduce New Haven high school and middle school students to the law in a way that is relevant to their lives. After training at the beginning of each semester, the participants teach for approximately eight weeks in public school classrooms, using lesson plans and class assignments that they design. These lessons in law provide practical knowledge but also build active citizenship skills, decrease delinquency, and encourage productive conflict resolution. Topics include civil rights, criminal law, family law, politics, trial practice, and the Bill of Rights.

Umoja--Umoja is an education project, grounded in the philosophy of Paulo Freire, which works in public schools to cultivate critical consciousness and social action. Yale University students guide young people to: 1) study and reflect critically on histories of social change and 2) engage in their own community action projects.

Women and Youth Supporting Each Other--W.Y.S.E. is a national, curriculum based mentorship program co-founded at UCLA in 1992 by Sarumathi Jayaraman, YLS '00. The program was originally founded to prevent teenage pregnancy and to provide young women with greater options at an earlier age. Since its inception, the program has expanded to include sites in New York, Boston, Chicago and New Haven. Mentors from Yale Law School have worked with undergraduates to mentor girls in New Haven middle schools since 1995.

Faculty Pro Bono

Institutionalized Community Service Projects

New Haven Cares--The central mission of New Haven Cares is to administer a homeless voucher program. The paper vouchers, each worth 50 cents, are redeemable as cash at area supermarkets, Laundromats, pharmacies, thrift shops, and the bus company. Each year, tens of thousands of dollars worth of goods and services are purchased by homeless and poor people in New Haven using New Haven Cares vouchers. Yale Law students have initiated several new projects for New Haven Cares this year. Special voucher drives were organized around the winter holidays as an alternative gift giving arrangement, and the proceeds went to area homeless shelters and domestic violence programs. Additionally, vouchers were distributed to all law students to encourage students to get in the habit of distributing vouchers to individuals requesting help on the streets. Finally, New Haven Cares expanded its partnership with area churches and other Yale schools including the undergraduate College, the Divinity School, the Medical School, and the School of Management in order to increase the distribution of vouchers throughout New Haven. New Haven Cares is an independent 501(c)(3) organization with a growing board of directors that includes representatives from the business community and social service providers, several Yale Law alums, the Yale Public Interest Director, and volunteers from the community.