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## Dean Logan's Blog: Pro Bono Collaborative is "Only in Rhode Island" Annual Reception

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# Dean Logan's Blog

## Pro Bono Collaborative is "Only in Rhode Island" Annual Reception

Posted by David Logan on 07/13/2012 at 09:43 AM

Over 100 luminaries of Rhode Island's bench and bar joined by RWU faculty, staff, alumni and students gathered to raise funds for the Pro Bono Collaborative at the Rotunda at One Citizen's Plaza in Providence. The PBC leverages the historically underutilized resources of the state's larger, more prominent law firms by connecting them with community organizations and our law students, to help maximize the efficient delivery of legal aid. What began as a pilot project has expanded into a program that engages approximately 25 students per year, working with law firms to provide pro bono assistance to low-income citizens of the Ocean State.

The reception was aptly themed "Only in Rhode Island" to underscore the unique nature of the organization. Speakers included RWU Law Dean David A. Logan; PBC director Eliza Vorenberg; [Dylan Griffis '12](#), who participated in the PBC while a student; Erika J. Lindberg, a participating attorney from the leading firm of Edwards Wildman; and Meghan Hughes, executive director of Year Up, a participating community organization. Attendees included Paul Suttell, Chief Justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court; Edward Clifton of the Rhode Island Superior Court; Stephen J. Fortunato, Jr., of the Rhode Island Superior Court; Robert Barge, Executive Director of Rhode Island Legal Services; Rev. Mary Margaret Earl, Associate Director McAuley Ministries; Sol Rodriguez, Executive Director of Open Doors; Arthur Mercurio of Bradley Hospital's Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities; and Jim Gannaway, Executive Director of Casey Family Services.



Eliza Vorenberg, PBC Director



Mark Gemma ('97, RWU Law Board of Directors), Linn Foster Freedman (RWU Law Board of Directors),  
leading litigator Buddy Deluca



Erica Janton ('13), Michael da Cruz ('14), and Reverend Mary Margaret Earl, Associate Director McAuley  
Ministries



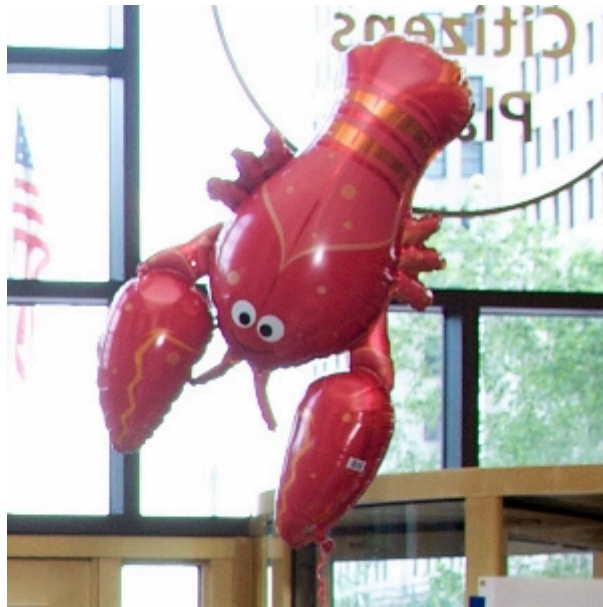
Dylan Griffis ('12)



Meghan Hughes, Year Up Executive Director



Erika J. Lindberg, Edwards Wildman



Larry the Lobster