Champions For Justice & Public Interest Auction 2016

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Please join us for a special evening to celebrate and support the students, alumni, partners and friends whose exceptional devotion to social justice increases access to justice for all.

Friday, January 29, 2016
Omni Providence Hotel
One West Exchange Street

EVENING PROGRAM

Reception
6:00–7:00 p.m.
Join us as we shine a light on RWU Law students and alumni and celebrate their dedication to serving low-income and disenfranchised communities in New England and around the country.

Dinner & Awards
7:00–8:00 p.m.
We will applaud the accomplishments of our 2016 Champions for Justice award recipients and salute the meaningful differences they have made.

Public Interest Law Auction
8:00–9:30 p.m.
A new twist on an annual tradition bringing together the Bench and Bar to raise funds in support of social justice programs. Items will include one-of-a-kind experiences designed to connect members of the legal community with law students and one another.

To purchase tickets visit: http://lawalumni.rwu.edu/champions2016

Proceeds from the evening will benefit the many social justice programs within RWU Law:
Alternative Spring Break
Pro Bono Collaborative
Public Interest Clinical Externships
Public Interest Summer Stipends
RWU Law Clinics

COMMITTEE & BOARD

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Roger Williams University School of Law
Judge Judith Colenback Savage is currently serving her second year as Distinguished Jurist in Residence at RWU Law and is Co-Chair of Governor Gina Raimondo’s Justice Reinvestment Working Group, which has been tasked with proposing changes to Rhode Island’s criminal justice system. She came to RWU Law after serving with distinction for twenty years as a Judge on the Rhode Island Superior Court.

Last year, Judge Savage planned and presented a symposium on mass incarceration that brought approximately 300 stakeholders and students together at the Law School to take an unflinching look at the criminal justice system in this country and in Rhode Island.

She also taught courses in Advanced Criminal Procedure and on The New Jim Crow, Michelle Alexander’s powerful critique of the criminal justice system.

Judge Savage began her legal career at the Providence law firm formerly known as Edwards & Angell, and worked as Executive Counsel for Governor Bruce Sundlun from 1991 until her appointment to the bench.

Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island provides client-centered services, advocacy and opportunities based on its expertise in family literacy and adult education, employment services, refugee resettlement, translation, interpretation, and immigration services. Dorcas International welcomes those working to overcome cultural, educational, economic and language barriers; and empowers them to achieve self-sufficiency and to participate actively in the community.

Over the past decade, Dorcas International has been an unflagging partner to RWU Law, mentoring dozens of law students who have externed and volunteered with the organization. Dorcas International is a dedicated community partner through our Pro Bono Collaborative. Dorcas International staff attorney Cecily Zeigler provides training and serves as an expert consultant to the Pro Bono Collaborative’s U Visa Project with Locke Lord LLP. Carl Krueger and Cecily Zeigler have both shared their expertise and supervised our law students at numerous Pro Bono Collaborative community presentations.

Dena M. Castricone, Esq. ’98 L’02 has been a leader in the LGBT Community her entire adult life. She founded The Alliance – LGBT group at RWU Law. In 2007, Dena founded the Connecticut Alliance for Business Opportunities (CABO), an LGBT and allied chamber of commerce, which won national awards including National LGBT Chamber of the Year in 2011 – the youngest LGBT chamber to ever win that honor. Dena was a standout law student, graduating cum laude and second in her class, winning “Best National Oralist” in the Moot Court Trademark Competition, and serving on Law Review.

After clerking for Chief Justice Frank J. Williams of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, she joined Murtha Cullina, LLP, in 2003 where she started her career as a litigator and is now part of the Long Term Care/Health Care Practice Group. In March 2011, Connecticut Magazine named Dena one of Connecticut’s 40 Under 40 and in August 2011, the National LGBT Bar Association recognized her as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers under 40.
Please complete registration online at http://lawalumni.rwu.edu/champions2016

Online registration closes on Friday, January 22, 2016. For event registration questions, please call Caitlin Krouse at (401) 254-3166.

Event Tickets
(includes reception, dinner, dessert, awards presentation, and auction)

Entrée Choices – Pan Roasted Chicken Breast or Portobello Mushroom Napoleon

$25 Law Student
$75 Attorneys working in public interest, non-profits, legal services, and government
$75 Law Alumni Classes 2011-2015 (young professional rate)
$125 Individual

Sponsorships

$25 Sponsor a Student to attend Champions for Justice
$1250 Table Sponsor (includes two tickets to the event)

If you are unable to attend Champions for Justice, please consider making a gift to support the social justice programs of RWU Law online at http://lawalumni.rwu.edu/champions2016
Champions for Justice are a hallmark of the Rhode Island legal landscape, and we are proud to count so many as friends and supporters of the Law School. This year’s Public Interest Auction will feature opportunities to connect with the RWU Law community of champions.

Each of the items auctioned this evening will focus on strengthening professional connections and building new relationships. Tonight is not about auctioning “stuff.” Instead, all of the auction items are “experience packages” featuring individuals who share our mission of public service, access to justice and the value of experiential education.

Packages feature sporting events, dining around town, and other adventures offered by generous donors to the highest bidder. Follow Champions for Justice on Facebook for package details.

We look forward to an exciting evening!
Silent Auction Packages

Silent Auction will close at 9:00 p.m. Make sure to get your bids in!!

Item #:

5. Red Sox tickets (4) with Joe Farside, Esq.’06 - Locke Lord
6. Barton Gilman Alumni Wine Night - Matt Plain, Esq.’06
7. Ladies Night Out with Trustee/BOD Linn Freedman, Esq., Trustee Arlene Violet, Esq. and Miriam Weizenbaum, Esq.
8. Sailing Trip with Trustee/BOD Joe Whelan, Esq.
9. Fishing Trip with Joe Farside, Esq.’06
10. Aidan’s Pub: 22 to Celebrate 22 – Betty Anne Waters, Esq.’98
11-15. BarBri (5 courses starting at $1,650. Market value $3,100)
16. A weekend stay at the Residences Providence - Michael Voccola, Esq.’97
17. Lunch for 4 at Parkside with BOD Michael Field, Esq.’97 and BOD Stacey Veroni, Esq.
18. Let's Run Out for a Beer - Deans Yelnosky and Lalli, Prof. Brown, Ed Fitzpatrick from ProJo
19. Dinner for 2 at Red Stripe with Professors Monestier and Coombs
20. Dinner for 4 at Capriccio with Professor Anthony & Pauline Santoro
21. Pizza, Pool and Patron with Professor Logan
22. Cookout for 6 at Professor Hashway's seaside home in Little Compton with dog Wilbur!
23. Muse Painting in Providence with Professors Kuckes, Banks and Hassel
24. Brazilian Dinner for 4 with Professor Deborah Gonzalez ’07
25. "Pretend It's Summer" - mini golf & ice cream for 4 with Professor Colleen Murphy
26. Lunch and Cybersecurity Chat with Daryl Ford, RWU IT Director
27. Classic legal movie, beer and pizza for up to 8 with Professors Bogus and Heyman
28. Improv at the Fire House Theater - Feinstein Center (Eliza, Laurie, Suzy, and Lisa)
29. Noodle Dinner for 6 with Professors John Grasso, Esq. ’06 and Michele Alves, Esq. ’03
30. Second Amendment Special with Professor Kogan (breakfast and shooting range)
31. "Day on the Bay" boat trip, lunch and refreshments with RWU VP Peter Wilbur
32. Criminal Justice Reform Chat with Dean Horwitz and Judge Savage
33. Private catered lunch for 6 - Joe Carney and Bon Appétit
34. Tennis Match with Dean Horwitz and Justice Robert Flanders
35. Home-cooked Italian dinner for 4 with Professor Kathy Thompson
36. Authentic Italian dinner for 6 prepared by Erika Zanobini at Hope & Main - BOD George Santopietro, Esq. (Coia & Lepore)
37. Law Alumni Association Wine Night at alum Kim Ahern’s (’09) home - including Jillian Jagling’09, Kara Humm’08, Jamie Bachant’12, Jim Bagley’12, Amy Goins’12 and Nicole Verdi’14
38. NE Patriots General Counsel lunch - Jim Cobery, VP & General Counsel, The Kraft Group

Raffle Tickets:
Dean’s Parking Spot: $10 per ticket
Gift Baskets: $20 per ticket or 3 for $50

View full package details here: http://lawalumni.rwu.edu.champions2016
LIVE AUCTION ITEMS

Dean’s Night Out
(Item # 1)
Up to 10 “clubbers” will join Dean Yelnosky, Dean Hassel, Professor Goldstein and Professor Gutoff for beer and wings at Doherty’s East Avenue Irish Pub in Pawtucket
Value: Priceless
Starting Bid: $200.00

Vermont Ski House
(Item # 2)
March 8-10, 2016
Nestled in the Green Mountains of Vermont
5 sleeping areas, multiple areas to gather (including a yoga/meditation room) and plenty of entertainment options (ping pong, Wii game system, HBO)
Includes 2 (one day) lift tickets at Killington Ski Resort
Donated by Professor John and Jessica Ralston
Value: $2,000.00
Starting Bid: $500.00

The Gutoff Guided Pub Crawl
(Item # 3)
Are you up for an adventure? Dust off that old Huffy and join Professor Gutoff on a pub-crawl for up to 4 by bike. Hop on your bike and follow him from start and finish!
Don’t forget your bike lock!
Value: $150.00
Starting Bid: $60.00

Boston Red Sox vs. New York Yankees
(Item # 4)
Saturday April 30, 2016
3 individuals will join RWU Law Board Member Patrick T. Jones, Esq. at Fenway’s EMC Club for dinner and the Sox/Yankees game (includes one parking pass)
Value: $1,200.00
Starting Bid: $500.00
A special evening to celebrate and support the students, alumni, partners and friends whose exceptional devotion to social justice increases access to justice for all.
Welcome to the School of Law’s Champions for Justice dinner. Tonight we honor three Champions – The Honorable Judge Judith Savage, Dena M. Castricone, Esq. ’98, L’02, and Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island – and celebrate all of those who generously support the School of Law’s commitment to experiential education and pro bono service.

The Feinstein Center for Pro Bono and Experiential Education and the School of Law’s in-house clinics connect students to communities in need. This public interest programming provides students with practical experience, but it also cultivates a pro bono ethic in our students, who make Rhode Island and the world a better place during and after law school. We are indebted to the lawyers and judges who model that ethic and mentor our students. The programs we celebrate tonight include:

- Pro Bono Graduation Requirement
- Providence Legal Clinics
- Public Interest Externships
- Pro Bono Collaborative
- Alternative Spring Break
- Summer Stipends
- Public Interest Loan Repayment

Tonight’s event will raise funds to support these programs that have made the School of Law a leader in experiential education and pro bono service, and that have increased access to justice to those members of our community most in need.

We are so grateful for your support.

Laurie Barron
Director, Feinstein Center for Pro Bono & Experiential Education

Andrew Horwitz
Assistant Dean for Experiential Education, Director of Clinical Programs, and Professor of Law

Michael J. Yelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law

Evening Program

Welcome and Opening Remarks
President Donald J. Farish
Dean Michael J. Yelnosky

Dinner

Champions for Justice Awards Presentation
Alumni Public Interest Champion
Dena M. Castricone, Esq. ’98, L’02
Presented by President Emeritus and Professor Anthony J. Santoro

Community Partner Champion
Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island
Presented by Suzy Harrington-Steppen, J.D.
Associate Director, Pro Bono Programs

2016 Champion for Justice
Judge Judith Colenback Savage
Presented by Dean Michael J. Yelnosky

Video Presentation
Our Champions: Advocacy in Action

Closing Remarks
The Honorable William E. Smith
Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island
Chair, RWU Law Board of Directors

Public Interest Auction

Introduction
Olabisi Davies L’16
Auction Co-Chair & President, Association of Public Interest Law
Brett V. Beaubien L’16
Auctioneer & Chair, Honor Board

Live Auction
Dessert Bar and Silent Auction
We are proud to honor the 2016 Champions for Justice award recipients — The Honorable Judith Colenback Savage, Dena M. Castricone, Esq. ’98 L’02 and Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island — and their devotion to ensuring that quality legal services are available to the neediest populations.

You inspire us with your passionate example.

Congratulations!

Mark Mandell, Michael Schwartz & Yvette Boisclair

We congratulate the 2016 Champions and proudly support the programs at RWU Law that enable those who are most vulnerable to access justice.

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

– Martin Luther King
Dena Castricone has been a leader in the LGBT Community her entire adult life. As a law student, she founded The Alliance – LGBT group at the law school. While the group was small but mighty at its inception, it has become one of the most active student groups. In 2007, Dena founded the Connecticut Alliance for Business Opportunities (CABO), an LGBT and allied chamber of commerce, which won national awards including National LGBT Chamber of the Year in 2011 – the youngest LGBT chamber to ever win that honor.

Dena was a standout law student, graduating cum laude and second in her class, winning “Best National Oralist” in the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Trademark Competition, and serving on Law Review. After clerking for Chief Justice Frank J. Williams of the Rhode Island Supreme Court, she joined Murtha Cullina in 2003 where she started her career as a litigator and is now part of the Long Term Care/Health Care practice groups. In 2013, she was selected by the Connecticut Law Tribune as one of Connecticut’s “New Leaders in the Law” and as a Rising Star by Business New Haven; in 2010, the Connecticut Law Tribune recognized her in its Women in the Law - High Achievers edition; in March 2011, Connecticut Magazine named Dena one of Connecticut’s 40 Under 40; and in August 2011, the National LGBT Bar Association recognized her as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers under 40. Dena is on the executive committee of the LGBT section of the Connecticut Bar Association, on the steering committee of the Health Care Council of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, and was recently appointed by the Governor to serve as one of nine commissioners of the governing body of the Office of State Ethics. Dena also takes on Pro Bono cases for the CT Veterans Legal Center. Dena’s leadership, pro bono work, and tremendous achievements in making the world a better place for everyone makes her an inspiration to all of us and particularly to our law students.
Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island provides client-centered services, advocacy and opportunities based on its expertise in family literacy and adult education, employment services, refugee resettlement, translation, interpretation, and immigration services. Dorcas International welcomes those working to overcome cultural, educational, economic and language barriers; and empowers them to achieve self-sufficiency and to participate actively in the community. For years, the International Institute of Rhode Island and Dorcas Place provided invaluable services to the most vulnerable communities as separate non-profit organizations. In 2012, they joined forces by merging their organizations into Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island.

Over the past decade, Dorcas International has been an unflagging partner to RWU Law. Carl Krueger, Esq., Bruno Sukys and Cecily Kerr Ziegler, Esq. have mentored dozens of RWU Law students who have externed and volunteered with the organization. In addition, Dorcas International has been an excellent community partner through our Pro Bono Collaborative. Dorcas International staff attorney Cecily Ziegler provides training and serves as an expert consultant to the Pro Bono Collaborative’s U Visa Project with Locke Lord LLP. Carl Krueger and Cecily Ziegler have both shared their expertise and supervised our law students at numerous Pro Bono Collaborative community presentations and clinics serving the vulnerable immigrant communities in Central Falls, Pawtucket, Providence and Newport.

We are grateful to Dorcas International for its commitment to our students, for providing them with excellent supervision and mentoring, and for teaching them what it means to be a zealous advocate for the underrepresented.

Judge Judith Colenback Savage is currently serving for a second year as Distinguished Jurist in Residence at RWU Law and is the Co-Chair of Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo’s Justice Reinvestment Working Group, which has been tasked with proposing changes to Rhode Island’s criminal justice system. Savage came to RWU Law after serving with distinction for twenty years as a Judge on the Rhode Island Superior Court.

During her first year at RWU Law, Judge Savage planned and presented a symposium on mass incarceration that brought approximately 300 stakeholders and students together at the law school to take an unflinching look at the criminal justice system in this country and in Rhode Island. She also taught courses in Advanced Criminal Procedure and on The New Jim Crow, Michelle Alexander’s powerful critique of the criminal justice system.

Judge Savage earned her B.A. from Wellesley College in 1979 and her J.D. from Case Western Reserve University School of Law in 1982. She began her legal career at the Providence law firm formerly known as Edwards & Angell, and she then worked as Executive Counsel for Rhode Island Governor Bruce Sundlun from 1991 until her appointment to the bench.

We are proud to honor Judge Savage for all her public service - in the executive branch, as a judge, and now as an opinion leader. And we are most grateful for and amazed by the work she has done at the school of law both in and outside of the classroom.
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Jackie Roller, Esq., L’11
Nicole Verdi, Esq., ’12 L’14
William K. Wray, Jr., Esq., L’13

Behind the Champions for Justice that we are recognizing tonight are other champions who support their good works. In that spirit we wish to thank the many individuals who have devoted their time and exceptional talents to making tonight’s celebration a success.

Our Generous Sponsors

For their incredible generosity and belief in the mission of RWU Law and the school’s commitment to supporting access to justice, we thank the law firms, corporations and individuals who sponsored Champions for Justice.

Student Leaders and Volunteers

Olabsi Davies L’16 and Rachel Horsman L’16 have led a corps of students who worked over the course of several months to organize the silent and live auction, and who are assisting at tonight’s events. Thank you to all of the student volunteers for your tireless efforts and dedication.

Event Committee

Members of the Event Committee have invested tremendous energy and enthusiasm in planning tonight’s events; hosting sponsors, students and guests; and encouraging support and attendance from the legal community and beyond.

Volunteer Auctioneer

Brett Beaubien L’16 is our gracious Live Auctioneer tonight and we thank him for his tenacity and wonderful support.

Faculty

We are especially grateful to Cecily Banks for negotiating all of the fabulous and creative Auction packages contributed by faculty. Thank you to Cecily for her persistence and to the faculty for their generosity.

Special Events

The staff in the Office of Special Events, Heidi Dagwan and Melanie Stone, have helped to shape and coordinate the many new aspects of Champions for Justice and have ensured the ongoing success of the APIL Auction tradition.

Law School Staff

Finally, we salute the passion and leadership of RWU Law staff who support the extraordinary range of programs that expand access to justice for underserved communities in Rhode Island and throughout the region.

Feinstein Center for Pro Bono & Experiential Education

Laurie Barron, J.D., M.S.W.
Director
Eliza Vorenberg, J.D.
Director, Pro Bono Collaborative and Pro Bono & Community Partnerships
Suzanne Harrington-Steppen, J.D.
Associate Director of Pro Bono Programs
Lisa Quinn
Pro Bono Experiential Learning Coordinator

Law Clinical Programs Faculty & Staff

Professor Andrew Horwitz
Assistant Dean for Experiential Education and Director of Clinical Programs
Professor Deborah Gonzalez ’04 L’07
Director of the Immigration Clinic
Professor Katie Ahern L’07
Director of the Business Start-Up Clinic
Margie Caranci
Legal Administrator/Paralegal
Barbra Supsky
Administrative Assistant
Peggy Zang
Administrative Assistant
RWU Law wishes to thank the following organizations for their extraordinary philanthropic support of three of the public interest law programs that are featured this evening:

Whelan, Corrente, Kinder, & Siket LLP is a Champion for the Pro Bono Collaborative.
The PBC is recognized as an innovative model for providing pro bono legal service and increasing access to justice. The PBC facilitates collaboration among law firms, law students and community based organizations to identify unmet legal needs and create pro bono projects that address those needs. Whelan, Corrente, Kinder & Siket are loyal and longstanding supporters as well as participants in the PBC.

Chisholm Chisholm and Kilpatrick LTD is a Champion for the Veterans Appeals Disability Field Clinic.
The Clinic is a one semester program in which law students represent military veterans whose applications for disability benefits have either been denied or granted at a level that is inappropriate to the level of disability. Working with experienced attorneys from Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick, a nationally recognized law firm specializing in this work, students research and draft legal memoranda and briefs, participate in pre-briefing conferences and, when appropriate, argue cases before the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

BARBRI is a Champion for the Summer Stipend Program.
Public interest summer internships are invaluable opportunities to gain experience, make contacts and build upon students’ commitment to public interest. Because many public interest opportunities are unpaid, students can apply for a summer stipend. Approximately twenty-five to thirty stipends are awarded annually. Stipends have allowed RWU Law students to work for employers such as the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, Harvard Legal Aid Bureau and the American Civil Liberties Union of Rhode Island, to name a few.

THANK YOU!

Whelan, Corrente, KINDER & SIKET LLP

Chisholm Chisholm & Kilpatrick LTD

BARBRI