



## News Highlights



### **Fighting for Justice - 130 Years of Civil Legal Aid in the United States**

Justice Earl Johnson, Jr. (Ret.) was the featured speaker at the 2013 Justice Lester W. Roth Lecture. Johnson spoke to an audience of alumni, students and friends about important milestones in the evolution of legal aid in United States. The history of civil legal aid in America is one of pitched political battles fought in the most hallowed halls of U.S. government, Johnson said.

As a member of USC Gould's faculty in the 1960s and 1970s, Johnson and others created the USC Clinical Semester program, which won the Justin Dart Award for Academic Innovation in 1971. "I think it's fair to say that without the effort of Justice Johnson and his colleagues, the clinical education movement would look nothing like it does today," Dean Robert K. Rasmussen said during his introduction of Johnson.

[Read more about the event.](#)

### **Alumni Ambassadors Sought**

The Office of Admissions seeks Alumni Ambassadors to speak with top admitted students about the benefits of attending USC Gould. Many of our admits are deluged with negative information regarding the legal profession, and we hope to offer some balance to the discussion. As an Ambassador, you will serve as a point of contact for a small group of admitted students. Their questions might concern clinical programs, journals, the post-graduate job search, faculty, life on the West Coast, individual practice areas and a variety of other topics.

If you are interested in participating in the effort to bring the nation's very best students to USC Gould, please fill out our [online survey](#).

Should you have questions about the program, please contact Amy Stevens, Associate Director of Admissions at [astevens@law.usc.edu](mailto:astevens@law.usc.edu).

### **Reflecting on the High Cost of Law**

USC Gould School of Law Professor Gillian Hadfield has published [new research](#) on improving access to legal services. Hadfield's paper, "The Cost of Law: Promoting Access to Justice

## Calendar

### **FEATURED EVENTS**

**DECEMBER 14: USC GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY**

**JANUARY 15, 16, 21, & 22: USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESENTS ADR SERVICES EXCLUSIVE CLE EVENTS (DOWNTOWN LA, ORANGE COUNTY, CENTURY CITY, SAN FRANCISCO)**

**JANUARY 27-29: TAX INSTITUTE**

**MORE EVENTS**

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through the (Un)Corporate Practice of Law," argues that the lack of access is rooted in U.S. law firm economics. Her research was published in the International Review of Law and Economics.

[Read more about her research.](#)



#### **Attorneys speak about alternative career paths**

USC Gould students recently discovered ways they could use their law degree to serve a variety of interests at the "Out of the Box": Alternative Careers in Law" event presented by the Women's Law Association and Career Services.

[Read more about the event.](#)

#### **Law Firm Challenge Launches**

The 2014 USC Law Firm Challenge kicks off in January. Currently, 58 firms and organizations are participating in this annual fundraising campaign and competition. Help increase the philanthropic impact of the Challenge by enrolling your organization and joining this friendly contest.

[Learn more about the Challenge, view participating organizations and enroll yourself and your colleagues.](#)



#### **U.S. Attorney Shares Outlook, Advice**

United States Attorney for the Central District of California André Birotte Jr. visited USC Gould recently where he spoke to students about his job as head prosecutor for the most populous federal judicial district.

"It's an enormous responsibility," Birotte said. "I try to impart that on every [assistant U.S. Attorney] that I've hired. I tell them, 'You come into this job with a reservoir of trust and good faith; your job is to keep that reservoir full... The only way to do that is to do the right thing, the right way, all the time.'"

[Read more about the event.](#)



#### **Government attorneys offer tips on working in the public sector**

Assistant United States Attorney Nicholas Trutanich, Deputy District Attorney Louis Avila '98, and Gary Tavetian '84 of the natural resources division of the California Attorney General's Office spoke to students about what their offices look for when hiring. They spoke at the "Government Employers Panel," presented by the Government Law Organization.

[Read more about the discussion.](#)



#### **Trojan Parents enjoy discussion of U.S. Supreme Court**

USC Gould offered parents an engaging discussion of the U.S. Supreme Court with professors who have served as clerks for the highest court in the land. Gould Professors Rebecca Brown and Sam Erman reviewed several cases before the Court, discussed ramifications of recent landmark decisions and offered insight as to how cases are selected.

[Read more about the event.](#)

#### **Women on the Bench**

More women have earned law degrees in the past decade, yet the



number of females in legal positions continues to pale in comparison to their male counterparts.

At part one of this year's "Women on the Bench" series, sponsored by the Women's Law Association and Government Law Organization, female state court judges spoke with students about their careers and gave advice on what it is like to be a woman in the industry.

[Read More.](#)



#### **Public Interest Career Fair**

USC Gould held its annual Public Interest Career Fair, presented by the Office of Public Service, the Career Services Office and the Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF). At the fair, students had the opportunity to meet with over 30 local non-profit and government agencies, and learn about summer externships and internships. The goal of the event was to primarily introduce first- and second-year law students to the variety of public interest agencies in Southern California and allow them to connect what they learned in their classrooms to jobs in the real world.

[Read More.](#)



#### **Working in the Los Angeles real estate law market**

A panel of professionals working in the Los Angeles real estate law market - including four USC Gould graduates - spoke about the practice of real estate law at an event sponsored by the Real Estate Law Society.

[Read about the discussion.](#)

#### **Women's Law Association Launches Alumnae Group**

The USC Women's Law Association is thrilled to launch its alumnae group this year. In addition to inviting more alumni to campus, WLA would like to host events tailored to our alumnae. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Paige Smith '15 at [wla@lawmail.usc.edu](mailto:wla@lawmail.usc.edu) with your name and class year. All comments and suggestions for panel topics and events are welcome.



#### **Faculty in the News**

Media outlets routinely seek USC Gould faculty for expert commentary. Following are a few highlights of recent faculty contributions to news stories and publications.

**KPCC-FM (Nov 8, 2013):** Alex Capron was interviewed about the ethics of end-of-life decisions in a story about an Indianapolis man who refused treatment after falling from a tree and becoming paralyzed from the shoulder down. "The situation as described and of course we're all dealing with press reports, he made these decisions in part because he was told he might never breathe on his own again and if that's what was motivating his concern that is very important. The basis for respecting it here is that he was a competent person who was rejecting treatment," he said.

**Wall Street Journal (Nov 3, 2013):** Gillian Hadfield's research on increasing access to legal services was featured. Hadfield said that the organizational structure in the field needs to change, including allowing more non-legal businesses to hire lawyers and provide services. "To reduce the cost of law and increase access to legal assistance, the form in which legal services are produced and delivered to the market has to change," Hadfield said.

**Dallas Morning News (Nov 19, 2013):** David Slawson, a USC Gould emeritus professor who served on the Warren Commission, was quoted about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

"We had some information, evidence rather, that the KGB had evaluated Oswald for some kind of secret agent purposes, but found it easy to determine that he was too unstable and unreliable to put into any spy program that required discipline," Slawson said.

See the full list of "Faculty in the News" highlights.

## Calendar

### **DECEMBER 14: USC GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY**

Celebrate this holiday season at the annual USC Gould School of Law Alumni Association Holiday Party. Join more than 200 alumni, faculty and student leaders for an evening of camaraderie, cocktails and food at Mr. C of Beverly Hills from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Find more information about this [here](#). The last day to register for this event is December 12, 2013. You may also contact [Pasha Hawthorne](#) in Development and Graduate Relations or call her at 213-821-3560.

### **JANUARY 15, 16, 21, & 22: USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESENTS ADR SERVICES EXCLUSIVE CLE EVENTS (DOWNTOWN LA, ORANGE COUNTY, CENTURY CITY, SAN FRANCISCO)**

ADR Services will be hosting CLE events in four different locations exclusively for USC alumni and supporters. These sessions will be held on January 15th at the Downtown Los Angeles ADR Services office, January 16th at the Orange County ADR Services office and January 21st at the Century City ADR Services office from 8:30 am - 1:00 pm. In addition to these half-day events, there will be a two-hour event on January 22nd at the San Francisco Office from 8:30 - 11:00 am. Breakfast will be provided courtesy of ADR Services. Space is extremely limited and admission is complimentary. Register for this event and learn more:

For [Downtown Los Angeles](#)

For [Orange County](#)

For [Century City](#)

Registration for San Francisco will become available in the coming weeks.

### **JANUARY 27-29: TAX INSTITUTE**

Hosted by the USC Gould School of Law, the three-day Tax Institute features more than 60 speakers who will address cutting-edge tax issues affecting corporations, privately held companies, partnerships and real estate, individuals, tax ethics, enforcement and compliance, and estate planning. The event will be held at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel Los Angeles.

For more information, [review the complete programming guide](#). If you have any questions, please call the USC Gould Continuing Legal Education Office at 213.821.3580.

#### **Questions?**

Send an e-mail to: [enews@law.usc.edu](mailto:enews@law.usc.edu)

