



## USC LAW Alumni eNEWS

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~an electronic newsletter for USC Law alumni and friends

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### 1} Dean Rasmussen to Serve Second Term

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>> Robert K. Rasmussen, dean of the USC Gould School of Law, has accepted a second five-year term in his post offered by USC President C. L. Max Nikias.

Elizabeth Garrett, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, made the announcement following a fourth-year review that included a faculty survey and meetings with staff and the law school's

Board of Councilors.

"This is a tremendously exciting time to lead USC Law and I am eager to continue as dean," Rasmussen said. "As we prepare to join with the university and launch our capital campaign, I am mindful of USC Law's distinguished place in history.

"If you look at legal education over the last 100 years, the two most important developments have been the rise of experiential learning and the borrowing from other disciplines to better understand law's application and a client's needs. USC Law was at the forefront of both of these developments and our plans include ventures to provide the inter-professional education for lawyers for the 21st century. We will draw on the strength of USC, the strength of Los Angeles, the strength of the Pacific Rim and the strength of the Trojan Network to offer the best teaching and scholarship to our students and our society. There is no place in legal education today with a brighter future than the Gould School of Law.

[Read more about Dean Rasmussen's reappointment.](#)

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## **2} USC Law LinkedIn Group Expanded**

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>> This summer, the USC Gould School of Law LinkedIn group surpassed 1,000 members. Having reached this milestone, and in an effort to enhance the "group experience" on LinkedIn, USC Law is pleased to announce the formation of 11 subgroups based on geography and employer setting, as well as a subgroup specifically for LLMS.

New sub-groups under the USC Gould School of Law LinkedIn group include Geographic (Orange County, Northern California, San Diego, New York City, Washington DC), Employer Setting (In-House Counsel, Entertainment & Sports, Government, Public Interest, Small Law Firms & Solo Practice) and LLM Program.

### How to Join a Subgroup

At the top of the USC Gould School of Law group page, click on the "More..." tab, then select "Subgroups" from the drop down menu to view the list of subgroups. Click on the "Join this subgroup" link found on the right side of the screen adjacent to the subgroup.

Subgroups are open to all current group members, and approval is not needed to join. The law school encourages current group members to sign up for subgroups that match their experience and geographic location. Each subgroup has a discussion board that can facilitate the exchange of ideas, business and job leads and other useful information among subgroup members.

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## **3} Alumni Volunteers Sought to Speak with Prospective Students**

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>> Do you want to help the law school enroll its top-tier applicants? USC Law's Office of Admissions is looking for alumni volunteers to take a few calls from some of the law school's most promising prospective students. You can help show these applicants that the Trojan network is for real and have a hand in building the best incoming class yet!

If you are interested in participating, please call 213.740.2523 or e-mail Dean of Admissions Chloe Reid at [creid@law.usc.edu](mailto:creid@law.usc.edu) or Director of Admissions David Kirschner

at [dkirschner@law.usc.edu](mailto:dkirschner@law.usc.edu).

For information on this year's 1L class, [click here](#).

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## 4} Welcome, Class of 2014

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>> It was a whirlwind week during which they met their classmates, visited Universal City Walk, got the scoop from their 2L Peer Mentors about which elevator to ride when a paper is due at 9 a.m., and even located the building's rest rooms. And with Orientation complete, the USC Gould School of Law Class of 2014 should be ready to crack open

the books for the first day of school Aug. 22.

USC Law welcomed 200 J.D. students and more than 130 foreign students enrolled in the Graduate and International Programs as exchange students or in the year-long LL.M., M.C.L. and visiting programs.

[Read more about the Class of 2014.](#)

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## 5} Call for Alumni Mentors

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>> USC Law's Career Services Office (CSO) is looking for volunteers for its Alumni Mentor Program for second- and third-year law students. In the tradition of the law school's annual 1L Mentor Lunch, this volunteer opportunity will allow 2Ls and 3Ls to develop meaningful mentor relationships with USC Law alumni working in a practice area and employer-setting in line with the students' career goals.

The Alumni Mentor Program is part of a larger student program the CSO offers called the Intensive Career Management Program (ICMP). The ICMP provides students with the opportunity to work closely with a career counselor in the CSO in a more structured manner than the traditional career counseling model. The goal of the program is to motivate students to develop a more active job search strategy.

**If you are interested in serving as an alumni mentor**, please complete [the online registration form](#). **The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 24, 2011.** Alumni will be notified in early November once they have been matched with a student.

If you have questions about the program, please call 213.740.7397 or e-mail [careers@law.usc.edu](mailto:careers@law.usc.edu).

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## 6} USC Law Leadership Society Launched

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>> USC Law is pleased to announce the USC Law Leadership Society, a new organization for alumni and friends who support the law school with annual contributions. Members are offered unique involvement opportunities and receive special privileges that acknowledge their generosity. All members of the USC Law community are invited to become inaugural members. [Join or learn more about the society.](#)

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## 7} Audrey Irmas Clinical Teaching Fellowship Created

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>> USC Law has named Elizabeth Henneke the inaugural Audrey Irmas Clinical Teaching Fellow, a two-year position teaching and supervising cases and projects supporting the legal rights of women and children.

The fellowship is funded primarily by Audrey Irmas, a longtime supporter of USC and USC Law. Four generations of her family have attended USC, with four family members graduating from the law school.

[Read more about the Irmas Fellowship.](#)

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## 8} WikiLeaks, Anonymous, and Info-hacktivism

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>> A new breed of hacker is afoot. Having moved beyond targeting and shutting down web sites, this hacker doesn't do it for glory or money, but for political purposes.

Info-hacktivism like LulzSec, Antisec, or the more widely known WikiLeaks and Anonymous, are raising new questions about the legal issues applicable to publishing hacked information. Are there limits on the type of information that can be published? How do we balance the tension between freedom of speech and national (or even personal) security? What are the legal tools that can protect individuals and organizations from info-hacktivism?

A panel of experts addressed these issues Aug. 24 at USC Law during a lunchtime event sponsored by the Cyberspace Law Committee of the California State Bar Association.

[Read about the event.](#)

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## 9} Saks Institute Receives \$225K Grant

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>> The Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics has been awarded a \$225,000 grant from The Sidney R. Baer Jr. Foundation, an organization that funds cutting-edge research and services supporting people with schizophrenia.

"We are honored and thrilled to receive this generous grant," said Prof. Elyn Saks, who in 2010 founded the Saks Institute at USC Law. "We are doing some very exciting work in mental health, and this gift will help us achieve many of our long-term goals."

Saks, who has battled schizophrenia and acute psychosis since she was a teenager, launched the institute with funds she received as a 2009 recipient of the MacArthur Foundation's "genius grant." The institute fosters interdisciplinary and collaborative research among scholars and policymakers who deal with issues of mental illness and mental health.

[Read more about the grant to the Saks Institute.](#)

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## 10} Dean Visits Tokyo Alumni

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>> Just ahead of welcoming the newest class of Graduate and International Programs students to USC Law, Dean Robert K. Rasmussen traveled to Tokyo to reconnect with graduates from years past.

G&IP, which includes the LL.M., M.C.L., Visiting International Programs and J.D. Study Abroad, enrolls its 10th class this academic year. Dean Rasmussen's late summer trip was an opportunity to reaffirm USC Law's commitment to its partners who have helped make G&IP a success, he said.

[Read more about the dean's visit to Japan.](#)

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## 11} Top Honors to ADR Courses and Clinic

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>> USC Law was recently honored when a branch of the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court recognized the law school's course work in mediation, an increasingly important area. The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Committee of the Judicial Council of the Ninth Circuit awarded USC Law the Ninth Circuit ADR Education Award for its "perpetual leadership and ever expanding programs and course offerings in the ADR field."

"Right now we're at the point where fewer than 2 percent of the cases filed in court actually make it to trial. For students entering firms as litigators, I can almost guarantee that they will spend much more time in a mediator's office than in trial," says Prof. Lisa Klerman, director of USC Law's Mediation Clinic.

[Read more about the ADR award and the Mediation Clinic.](#)

[Read a Q&A with Prof. Klerman.](#)

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## 12} Making Your Business Their Business

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>> After winning the USC Marshall School's New Venture Seed Competition, in which entrepreneurial students compete to offer the most innovative business plan, David Radcliff was awarded a stipend to support his business endeavors.

But there was just one problem.

"We couldn't use our award money until we started a business, and we couldn't start a business without money," Radcliff said.

That's where USC Law's Small Business Clinic came in. Directed by Prof. Michael Chasalow and staffed by law students throughout the year, the clinic was able to help turn Radcliff's dreams into a reality by establishing his company, NimbleTrek, LLC.

[Read more about the work of the Small Business Clinic.](#)

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### 13} Faculty on the Move

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>> Prof. Jean Rosenbluth '93 has been named a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California. Rosenbluth, director of USC Law's legal writing program since 2002, was appointed by U.S. District Court Chief Judge Audrey Collins. [Read more about Prof. Rosenbluth's appointment.](#)

>> President Barack Obama announced that USC Law Associate Dean Robert M. Saltzman will be appointed to the Commission on Presidential Scholars, a group of distinguished citizens charged with selecting and honoring the nation's top graduating high school seniors. [Read more here.](#) Saltzman has also been reappointed for an additional five-year term on the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners.

>> Prof. Alex Capron was elected in July to the Operations Committee that oversees the work of the Clinical Research Ethics Key Function Committee, which is made up of representatives from the 60 research institutions, including USC, that have received Clinical and Translational Science Awards.

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### 14} Upcoming events: CONVERSATIONS WITH THE DEAN, SUPREME COURT PREVIEW

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#### **SEPTEMBER 19: DOJ PROSECUTOR OF NAZIS SPEAKS AT USC LAW**

Eli Rosenbaum, director of the Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section of the U.S. Department of Justice, has spent a lifetime pursuing former Nazis and modern-day perpetrators of human rights violations living and hiding in the United States. Come hear him speak about the work of his office investigating and prosecuting individuals for genocide, torture, war crimes, and recruitment or use of child soldiers in U.S. courts. The event, sponsored by USC Law's International Human Rights Clinic, the USC Shoah Foundation Institute and the USC International Law and Relations Organization, includes lunch and will be held beginning at 12:15 p.m. in USC Law Room 7. For more information, contact the Law Events Office at 213.740.3841 or [events@law.usc.edu](mailto:events@law.usc.edu).

#### **SEPTEMBER 28: CONVERSATIONS WITH THE DEAN: DAN WOODS**

Join Dean Robert K. Rasmussen for a conversation with Dan Woods '77, who successfully represented the Log Cabin Republicans in the landmark federal court challenge to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," the military's policy barring openly lesbian, gay, and bisexual people from serving in the military. Woods continues to fight the law in court, arguing that lesbian and gay service members will be guaranteed their full rights only once it's affirmed the law is unconstitutional. The event includes lunch and will be held beginning at 12:30 p.m. in USC Law Room 7. For more information, contact the Law Events Office at 213.740.3841 or [events@law.usc.edu](mailto:events@law.usc.edu).

#### **OCTOBER 3: SUPREME COURT PREVIEW**

USC Law will present the fourth annual "U.S. Supreme Court: A Preview," featuring distinguished legal scholars Michael McConnell of Stanford Law and Rebecca Brown of USC Law. USC Provost Elizabeth Garrett will serve as moderator. The event begins at 5:00 p.m. at USC's Town & Gown. The panelists will discuss and debate the upcoming



U.S. Supreme Court Term, which will begin that day. USC Law, a State Bar of California-approved MCLE provider, certifies that this activity qualifies for a minimum continuing legal education credit in the amount of 2 hours. For more information and to RSVP, contact the Law Events Office at 213.740.3841 or [events@law.usc.edu](mailto:events@law.usc.edu).

### **OCTOBER 22: INSTITUTE ON ENTERTAINMENT LAW AND BUSINESS**

Hosted by USC Law and the Beverly Hills Bar Association, the Institute on Entertainment Law and Business has been a Los Angeles tradition for over 50 years. Join dozens of well-known speakers and over 500 of your professional peers to address the latest challenges facing the industry. The 2011 Institute will be held at the USC University Park campus. Download a [preview of its programming](#) or a [complete guide](#) to the 2011 Institute.

Stacey Snider, co-chair and CEO of DreamWorks Studios, will participate in a luncheon conversation on the state of the industry with Institute chairman Bruce Ramer.

### **OCTOBER 29: ALUMNI TAILGATE**

Come enjoy hamburgers and hotdogs with alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends as we celebrate the USC football season. The USC Law Alumni Tailgate kicks off at 2:00 p.m. (three hours before the USC vs. Stanford game) at the front steps of the law school. The tailgate is free to the USC Law community! [Click here to register](#) by Oct. 24. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Development and Graduate Relations at [alumni@law.usc.edu](mailto:alumni@law.usc.edu) or 213.743.1710.

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## **LINKS**

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>> [FACEBOOK](#)

>> [TWITTER](#)

>> [myLAW](#)

>> [ALUMNI WEBSITE](#)

>> [GIVE BACK TO USC LAW](#)

>> [CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION](#)

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