

**USC Gould**  
School of Law

**eNews**



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an electronic newsletter for USC Gould alumni and friends

## News Highlights



### **A Freedom Fighter's Story**

"Everything suddenly went very dark. I knew that something terrible was happening to me. If I was alive, I wasn't sure. If I was dead, I wasn't sure."

That's how Justice Albert Louis Sachs opened his Allen Neiman & Alan Sieroty Lecture in Civil Liberties at USC Gould on March 28: with a recollection of the car bombing that nearly took his life 25 years ago.

[Read more about the lecture](#) given by this legendary human rights activist.



### **USC Law Magazine Online Edition Debuts**

The online edition of *USC Law Magazine* is now available at a web browser near you. Designed specifically for the web, the online magazine features videos, photo slideshows, expanded stories and reader comments.

It also contains exclusive web content, including: an article and video of Prof. Christopher Stone discussing the 40th anniversary of his influential article, "Should Trees Have Standing?"; an interview with the current Irmas Fellow; and a first-person account of an alumna's experiences working in Florida with the voter protection legal team during the presidential elections.

View the online magazine at <http://lawmag.usc.edu>.



### **Dean Rasmussen: Practice Law with Purpose**

If law students wondered what life is like in the shoes of Dean Robert K. Rasmussen, they were given a glimpse last month when he spoke about his path from "obnoxious 9-year-old USC fan" to dean of the USC Gould School of Law. Dean Rasmussen's talk was the most recent installment of the student-run "Spirit of the Law" speaker series.

[Read more about the talk.](#)

## Calendar

### **FEATURED EVENT**

**JUNE 15: REGISTRATION OPEN  
FOR USC GOULD REUNION**

## Stay In Touch



### **MYLAW PORTAL**

## Links

### **ALUMNI**

### **CAREER SERVICES**

### **CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION**

### **GIVING BACK TO USC GOULD**

### **NEWSROOM**



### **Moot Court March Madness**

Never mind basketball - this spring, USC Gould is celebrating a number of students who have excelled in moot court competitions. Adding to the several USC Gould national teams that have already fared well is the team of Devin Murtaugh '13 and Brendan Charney '13, who won the regional ABA Law Student Division National Appellate Advocacy Competition (NAAC) in San Francisco. They will travel to Chicago to compete in the finals this weekend.

[Learn more about the competition.](#)



### **Prof. Lee Epstein Named Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar**

Prof. Lee Epstein has been selected to serve as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar for the 2013-14 academic year. She is one of 14 distinguished scholars in the liberal arts and sciences nationally chosen by the honor society to deliver public lectures and participate in academic life at 80 institutions of higher learning.

Epstein, the USC Provost Professor of Law and Political Science and Rader Family Trustee Chair in Law, will travel to eight institutions that house Phi Beta Kappa chapters. She will meet with students and faculty, participate in seminars, class discussions and colloquia, and deliver public lectures on a range of topics relating to the Supreme Court, constitutional law, and judicial behavior.

[Learn more about Prof. Epstein's appointment.](#)



### **Their Fifteen Minutes of Flame**

Yes, the USC Gould Hale Moot Court Honors Program competition is a year-long commitment that entails long hours of researching cases, writing briefs and dissecting arguments.

But like any good competition, what drew scores of students, faculty, friends and family to the USC Norris Theater last month was the prospect of live, unscripted give-and-take between the four students who had reached the final round and a panel of three highly distinguished judges. Posing the questions were the Honorable Frank H. Easterbrook, Chief Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; the Honorable Jacqueline H. Nguyen of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and the Honorable Kim M. Wardlaw of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

[Read about the competition.](#)



### **Advice for the New Lawyer**

A USC Gould alumna returned to campus recently and shared what life is like in a law firm. Elizabeth Barcohana '07, a litigator at Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP in downtown Los Angeles, kicked off the first of a two-part series geared toward advising students on how to succeed in their summer and first-year associate positions. Barcohana's presentation focused on several areas integral to working in a firm: the billable hour, the importance of professional etiquette and advancing one's career.

[Learn what Barcohana told the students.](#)



### **Challenging Detention and Torture**

Law students got a look at the controversy surrounding the Guantanamo Bay detention camp from an insider filing cases on behalf of the detainees. Vince Warren, former national senior staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and current executive director of the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR), discussed surrounding legal and political issues. The CCR's social justice institute director Purvi Shah joined Warren for the lunchtime

event.

[Learn more about Warren's talk.](#)

## Calendar

### **APRIL 11: THIRD ANNUAL USC GOULD VS. UCLA LAW "L.A. SUPREME COURT" CHARITY BASKETBALL GAME**

The students of USC Gould School of Law and UCLA Law School compete in our annual basketball game to raise money for the public interest organizations at both schools, including USC's Public Interest Law Foundation, Street Law, Legal Aid Alternative Breaks, and the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project. Students at both schools have raised more than \$2,000 for these organizations over the past two years, and we hope to surpass those totals this year. The event will take place at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion (301 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, 90095) at 7:30 p.m. For more information, tickets or to make a contribution, please contact Rajeev Mittal at [Rajeev.mittal.2013@lawmail.usc.edu](mailto:Rajeev.mittal.2013@lawmail.usc.edu).

### **APRIL 18: ANNUAL USC BLSA BANQUET PRESENTED BY THE BLACK LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION**

Please mark your calendar for an event celebrating members of the African-American legal community. Speakers will discuss why diversity is defined by more than skin color, specifically addressing the talents and strategies that brought them success in life. Join the festivities at 7:30 p.m. in the Vineyard Room of USC's Davidson Conference Center. For more information, please contact Autumn Anderson at [autumn.anderson.2014@lawmail.usc.edu](mailto:autumn.anderson.2014@lawmail.usc.edu) or Kyle Joseph at [kyle.joseph.2014@lawmail.usc.edu](mailto:kyle.joseph.2014@lawmail.usc.edu).

### **APRIL 19: USC OUTLAW 2ND ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT DINNER**

Please join us for this student-driven event, which brings together students, faculty, staff, alumni and the Los Angeles legal community and aims to raise funds for an annual scholarship to benefit LGBT students and/or students working toward LGBT equality through the law. Featured speakers this year will be Dan Woods '77 and James Gilliam, deputy executive director of the ACLU of Southern California. The event will take place at the Radisson Hotel Los Angeles Midtown at USC. To buy tickets or make a donation, please visit [law.usc.edu/outlaw](http://law.usc.edu/outlaw). For more information, contact Elliot Rozenberg at [Elliot.rozenberg.2013@lawmail.usc.edu](mailto:Elliot.rozenberg.2013@lawmail.usc.edu).

### **APRIL 20-21: LOS ANGELES TIMES FESTIVAL OF BOOKS AT USC**

For the third consecutive year, USC hosts the *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books, the largest book festival in the U.S. Come to campus and enjoy this free public event. In addition to authors and booksellers, the festival features talks, interviews, storytelling, cooking demonstrations and poetry readings. If you have never attended this event, make plans to go this year! Get information on ticketing, authors and events at the [official festival site](#). And be sure to visit USC's festival information [site](#).

### **APRIL 24: ORANGE COUNTY JUDGES' NIGHT RECEPTION**

The Fifth Annual USC Orange County Judges' Night will celebrate USC Gould alumnus the Honorable John Woolley (Ret.) '62 and USC alumni in Orange County who have given back to the community through their service as judges. The event will take place at Big Canyon Country Club from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you would like more information about this event or if you would like to register, please visit <http://law.usc.edu/oc-judges-night>.

### **MAY 22-24: CONDUCTING EMPIRICAL LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP WORKSHOP**

Presented by the USC Gould School of Law and Washington University School of Law, the 12th Annual Conducting Empirical Legal Scholarship Workshop is for law professors and other members of the legal community, social science faculty, and graduate students interested in learning about empirical research. Leading empirical scholars Lee Epstein of USC Gould and Andrew Martin of Washington University teach the workshop and provide the formal training necessary to design, conduct, and assess empirical studies and use statistical software (Stata) to analyze and manage data.

Participants need no background or knowledge of statistics to enroll in the workshop. Register at: <https://mylaw.usc.edu/empiricalWorkshop/registerOnline.cfm>

For more information, visit: <http://law.usc.edu/EmpiricalWorkshop>.

**SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 7: CRIMINAL LAW AT THE CROSSROADS**

The American criminal justice system is currently in the throes of an important transition. USC Gould will host a one-day conference, "Criminal Law at the Crossroads," at which leading figures from the judiciary, legal practice and academia will share insights on how to best harness this momentum towards meaningful reform. The conference is intended for defense attorneys, district attorneys, members of the judiciary, legal academics and law students. It is open to invitees only.

Conference topics include the role of accuracy in the criminal justice process and its relationship to Due Process; the proper role of judicial gatekeeping; and assimilating empirical data into criminal justice policy. The Honorable Stuart Rabner, Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, will give the keynote address.

USC Gould School of Law, a State Bar of California-approved MCLE provider, certifies that this activity qualifies for minimum continuing legal education credit in the amount of 5.5 hours.

**JUNE 15: REGISTRATION OPEN FOR USC GOULD REUNION**

Next summer's reunion brings together the classes of 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008. The event will take place at JW Marriot at LA Live and begins with individual class receptions followed by an all-class reunion dinner. If you are interested in joining your class reunion committee, please contact Rakib Haque at 213.821.3569 or [reunion@law.usc.edu](mailto:reunion@law.usc.edu). For more information or to register for this event, visit [law.usc.edu/reunion](http://law.usc.edu/reunion).

**Questions?**

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

