



USC LAW eNEWS

~an electronic newsletter for USC Law alumni and friends

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1} USC Law Seeks Alumni Mentors

>> 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 their career goals.

If you are interested in serving as an alumni mentor, please complete the online registration form at:

<https://mylaw.usc.edu/survey/takeSurvey.asp?surveyID=177>. **The deadline to register is Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.** 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.

2} Life After Securities Fraud

>> Joe Shew, former chief financial officer of real estate website Homestore.com, spoke to parents and students last Friday about his journey from a self-described “clean-cut family guy” to someone guilty of securities fraud. Shew was accompanied by his lawyer, Bob Fairbank, a USC Law lecturer.

To start the talk, Shew played a clip of a news anchor reporting the Homestore.com scandal.

“As I watched that, my heart was pounding out of my chest,” Shew said after the clip was over. “I watched that in my bedroom with the door shut and locked, basically curled up in the fetal position. After months of cooperating and then pleading guilty, the inevitability of my reality hadn’t caught up with me.”

[Learn what Mr. Shew said about his crime and punishment.](#)

3} Panel Debates Definition of Marriage

>> Rarely does a two-year-old ballot proposition continue to garner a steady stream of public debate following its passage. Yet, despite the unseasonably warm weather, students, faculty and staff gathered on Sept. 28 in the Fishbowl Chapel at the University Religious Center to discuss Proposition 8.

Moderated by Dr. Ann Crigler, director of the Unruh Institute of Politics and chair of the USC department of political science, and Lucy Mueller, managing editor of *The Daily Trojan*, the panel discussion --“Defining Marriage: Who Decides” -- focused on the constitutional, political and cultural ramifications of Prop. 8 on California’s residents.

[Read more about the panel discussion.](#)

4} Supreme Court Preview

>> USC Law and the student chapters of the Federalist Society and American Constitution Society presented the third annual U.S. Supreme Court Preview, featuring three of the nation’s top legal scholars – Kathleen Sullivan of Stanford University, John Eastman of Chapman University and Rebecca Brown of USC.

Moderated by Elizabeth Garrett, a USC Law professor who clerked for Justice Thurgood Marshall, the panel discussed a handful of the most important cases the Supreme Court will hear during the 2010 Term.

[Read more about the event](#), or [watch the event in its entirety](#).

5} Legal Recruiter Offers Job-Seeking Advice

>> Amid the recession, many soon-to-be law school graduates are pessimistic about their job prospects. But on Sept. 22, law students who sacrificed their lunch break to attend a

talk on the legal job market found that their situation might not be so bleak.

Rick Kolodny, president and founder of The Portfolio Group, an attorney search and placement firm in Los Angeles, spoke about the legal job market. Over the past 15 years, the firm has placed over 600 lawyers. Kolodny said that when firms were expanding, there was a strong demand for associates. When the market imploded in 2008, large and small firms alike began cutting. However, Kolodny says that today's law students have reason to be optimistic, with market conditions expected to improve over the next several years.

"The good news is that the cost-cutting, the restructuring, the bloodletting is over," he said. "The tone is decidedly upbeat."

[Learn more about what Mr. Kolodny said.](#)

6} Student Law Journal Hosts Unemployment Symposium

>> The *Los Angeles Public Interest Law Journal* held its third annual symposium on Friday, Sept. 17. The topic at the USC-hosted event was "The Hidden Faces of Unemployment," which delved beneath the issue of unemployment to explore how it is affecting marginalized communities: LGBTs, those with convictions on record, immigrants and, most relevantly, public interest law students.

The journal, which consists of law students from USC, UCLA, Loyola, Pepperdine and Southwestern, aims to gather members of the public interest community each year to discuss a relevant topic.

[Read more about the symposium.](#)

7} Moot Court Debuts New Website

>> For the members of [USC Law's Hale Moot Court Honors Program](#), the start of a new school year presented the perfect opportunity to debut the program's website. Advocacy Vice Chair Jaysen Chung '11 worked with Professor Rebecca Lonergan and others to create it. The website will offer up-to-date information about moot court events to current and prospective participants, as well as the legal community at large.

[Read more about, and visit, the new website.](#)

8} Professor's World Health Org Work Highly Commended

>> A book co-edited by Prof. Alexander Capron was honored at the annual British Medical Association's Medical Book Competition ceremony in London Sept. 14.

Casebook on Ethical Issues in International Health Research, co-edited by Capron,

Richard Cash, Daniel Wikler and Abha Saxena for the World Health Organization (WHO), was awarded Highly Commended in the Basis of Medicine category.

“The best thing about being honored is that it will help to bring the book to the attention of more people conducting programs to improve the capacity of clinical investigators and research ethics committees, especially in developing countries, to grapple with a variety of ethical issues,” said Capron, the Scott H. Bice Chair in Healthcare, Law, Policy and Ethics, and professor of law and medicine.

[Read more about Prof. Capron's book and the award.](#)

9} Upcoming events: ENTERTAINMENT LAW INSTITUTE, ALUMNI TAILGATE, ROTH LECTURE

OCTOBER 23: INSTITUTE ON ENTERTAINMENT LAW AND BUSINESS

Join over 30 speakers and 500 of your professional peers on the USC campus to address the latest challenges facing the industry. This Institute, hosted by USC Law and the Beverly Hills Bar Association, has been a Los Angeles tradition for over 50 years.

Michael Lynton, CEO of Sony Pictures, headlines the event. **David Carson, general counsel of the United States Copyright Office**, is also speaking. Get the latest information on industry trends, real-world strategies for dealing with major challenges, and face-to-face interaction with entertainment players. With morning plenary sessions, four networking opportunities and afternoon breakouts that allow in-depth learning with industry leaders in an intimate setting, this is a can't-miss event for entertainment law and business leaders. CE units for lawyers and accountants are available. [Get a copy of the most recent Institute brochure.](#)

OCTOBER 30: ALUMNI HOMECOMING TAILGATE

Celebrate the USC football season before the USC vs. Oregon game with USC Law alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends in Crocker Plaza from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. The tailgate is free for alumni and other members of the USC Law community. [Register, or learn more.](#)

NOVEMBER 9: ROTH LECTURE FEATURING HON. WILLIAM A. FLETCHER

The Hon. William A. Fletcher, who was appointed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in 1999, will present USC Law's 2010 Justice Lester W. Roth Lecture. “The Death Penalty: Where Are We Now?” will begin at 4:00 p.m. in Town and Gown on the USC campus, with a reception to follow.

RSVP or learn more at events@law.usc.edu.

NOVEMBER 19: TRUST AND ESTATE CONFERENCE

For over 35 years, USC Law's estate planning conference has provided California practitioners with high-quality continuing education, customized for trust and estate and probate planning professionals. Formerly known as the Probate and Trust Conference, the Conference has a proven track record of teaching practical and realistic solutions to typical problems professionals encounter in estate planning, trust administration, probate, trust and estate litigation, substantive law, client relationships and law practice

economics. Attendees are provided with practical syllabus materials in both print and CD formats, including an annually-updated Trust and Estates Directory. CE units for lawyers, accountants and financial planners, and legal specialization credits in Taxation Law and Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law, are available. [Learn more.](#)

DECEMBER 3: BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY

In anticipation of the July California State Bar results, please save the date for the Bar Admission Ceremony for USC Law graduates, which will be held at 6:00 p.m. in Town and Gown. A celebratory reception will immediately follow. For more information, please contact Pasha Hawthorne in Development and Graduate Relations at 213.743.1725 or alumni@law.usc.edu.

LINKS

>>myLAW: <http://mylaw2.usc.edu/login.cfm>
>>ALUMNI WEBSITE: <http://lawweb.usc.edu/alumni/>
>>GIVE BACK TO USC LAW: <http://lawweb.usc.edu/alumni/giving/>
>>CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION: <http://lawweb.usc.edu/why/academics/cle/>
>>ALUMNI CAREER SERVICES: <http://law.usc.edu/alumni/network/careers.cfm>
>>NEWSROOM: <http://lawweb.usc.edu/news/>
>>SUBSCRIBE TO eNEWS (OR UNSUBSCRIBE): To add, change or remove your e-mail address from the USC LAW eNEWS list, or for more information on the newsletter, e-mail alumni@law.usc.edu. Requests must include your full name.
>>SUGGESTIONS? E-mail your suggestions for future newsletters to enews@law.usc.edu.