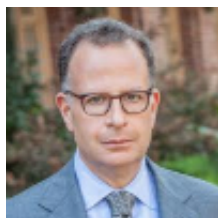# USC Gould
School of Law

eNews

Announcements

PANEL DISCUSSION: ED KLEINBARD'S "WE ARE BETTER THAN THIS"

A distinguished panel of leading economists and tax scholars is convening at USC Thursday, Dec. 4, to discuss USC Gould Prof. Edward Kleinbard's critically acclaimed book, We Are Better Than This: How Government Should Spent Our Money. Alan Auerbach, a UC Berkeley professor and one of the country's most highly regarded public finance economists; Joseph Bankman, a leading tax law scholar at Stanford; and Edward McCaffery, a USC law, economics and political science professor, are headlining the event, which will be held at USC's Bashor Lounge in Heritage Hall. They will respond to and debate the arguments in the book, which relies on cross-country benchmarking and a wide range of prior empirical studies. This event will take place from 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Lunch will be served.

News Highlights

USC Gould Holds Supreme Court Preview

Three of the nation's top legal experts examined key issues facing the U.S. Supreme Court at USC Gould School of Law's seventh annual Preview event. Cases involving religious freedom, threats on Facebook and same-sex marriage were examined at the U.S. Supreme Court Preview by former Assistant Solicitors General Miguel Estrada and Benjamin Horwich, and USC Gould Prof. Rebecca Brown.

USC's Post-Conviction Justice Project Welcomes Home Longtime Client

Calendar

FEATURED EVENTS

DECEMBER 5: BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY

DECEMBER 9: USC GOULD SANTA BARBARA ALUMNI RECEPTION

DECEMBER 13: USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY AND TOY DRIVE

JANUARY 21: REUNION 2015 KICKOFF RECEPTION

JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 6: PARTICIPATE IN THE SPRING 2015 ALUMNI MOCK INTERVIEW PROGRAM

MORE EVENTS

Stay In Touch

Students, alumni and professors with USC's Post Conviction Justice Project welcomed home longtime client Hilda Riggs, a 50-year-old victim of spousal abuse, who served two decades in prison for a murder committed by her batterer.

Federal Judicial Externships
Two federal judges from the United States District Court shared valuable insight about judicial externships with USC Gould students during an informal panel organized by the Office of Public Service. Judge Michael Fitzgerald, appointed by President Obama in 2012, joined Magistrate Judge Jean Rosenbluth '93, appointed in 2011 and former director of the Legal Writing and Advocacy program and professor at USC Gould.

Sorros Fellowship Awarded
Thanks to a Soros Justice Fellowship awarded to her earlier this year, Kristen Bell will spend the next one-and-a-half years at USC Gould School of Law facilitating implementation of SB 260, the so-called hope bill. The California law gives more than 5,000 youthful offenders serving long adult sentences a chance to leave prison after a minimum of between 15 to 25 years if they can prove to a parole board that they no longer present a danger to society.

USC's Initiative and Referendum Institute Releases 2014 Election Report
Voters looked favorably on ballot propositions on Election Day, approving 70% of the 146 measures they faced, according to John Matsusaka, president of USC's Initiative and Referendum Institute.

Protecting Pluralism
At a USC Gould talk recently, Equal Employment Opportunity Commissioner Chai Feldblum gave examples to explain the EEOC's individualized approach in defending people's religious rights, and to bring about an understanding of the commandedness of religious rules.

Doing Good Together
Attorneys from both sides of the pro bono/legal aid working relationship spoke to USC Gould students recently. They discussed the dynamics of working together and the transferable skills accessible on either side of the aisle. Panelists included attorneys from legal services who initiate cases and the law firm attorneys who assist on those cases pro bono.

Faculty in the News

Los Angeles Times

Emily Ryo was featured in an extensive Q&A with columnist Patt Morrison. She was interviewed on the beliefs of undocumented immigrants and the challenges inherent in shaping fair immigration laws without taking the viewpoints of immigrants into account was run. "By not recognizing that there might be these non-economic factors at play, we really missed an opportunity to think about what shapes people's decisions, [to] build a tool kit for a more effective and transparent system that could promote voluntary compliance with the law, " Ryo said.

CNN.com

An op-ed by Dan Simon was published about how DNA testing could save a Texas man's life. The state of Texas is battling to avoid conducting any DNA testing in a case beset with failures during the police investigation. "The best explanation for the state's aversion to the testing may be the dread of learning the truth," Simon said.

ABC News

Heidi Rummel was interviewed about a grand jury decision on a police-involved shooting in Ferguson, Mo. "The benefit of a grand jury is that it can give you a real sense of where the community stands on the evidence and how they're viewing it… it's an opportunity to put uncooperative witnesses under oath," Rummel said.

Calendar

DECEMBER 5: BAR ADMISSION CEREMONY

The annual Bar Admission Ceremony will be held in Town and Gown for USC Gould School of Law recent graduates who have passed the July 2014 California Bar Exam. Graduates will be sworn into the California State Bar by the Honorable Bobbi Tillmon '77 and into the federal courts by the Honorable Dorothy Nelson '56. RSVP to the USC Gould School of Law Events Office at (213) 740-3841 or email events@law.usc.edu. Please contact Rakib Haque in the office of Development and Graduate Relations at (213) 821-3569 or email rhaque@law.usc.edu for any questions. Please click here for more information.

DECEMBER 9: USC GOULD SANTA BARBARA ALUMNI RECEPTION

Join Dean Robert K. Rasmussen for cocktails and an evening of networking with fellow USC Gould Alumni and supporters. This event will take place at the Four Seasons Resort | The Biltmore Santa Barbara, El Mar Room, Santa Barbara, California from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. For more information or to register, please click here.

DECEMBER 13: USC GOULD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HOLIDAY PARTY AND TOY DRIVE

You and a guest are cordially invited to attend the USC Gould Alumni Association Holiday Party and Toy Drive. Come celebrate the holiday season with USC Gould alumni, faculty and friends during one of the most anticipated events of the year. The Holiday Party & Toy Drive will take place at Mr. C Beverly Hills from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm. The cost to attend this event is $40 per person, Complimentary for Law Leadership Society Members and one guest, and Complimentary for Faculty and one guest. The price increases to $50 per person beginning December 3, 2014. All toys collected will be donated to LAC+USC Medical Center children's ward. To

register for this event or for more information including discounted hotel room rates, please click here.

JANUARY 21: REUNION 2015 KICKOFF RECEPTION
The Reunion 2015 Kickoff Reception will officially begin the Reunion 2015 festivities. Potential reunion committee members from all the 10 reunion classes are invited to learn more about the Reunion event and the giving campaign. The reception will take place at the law school from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Please click here for more information.

JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 6: PARTICIPATE IN THE SPRING 2015 ALUMNI MOCK INTERVIEW PROGRAM
USC Gould School of Law's Career Services Office cordially invites you to participate in our annual Spring Alumni Mock Interview Program limited to first-year students. The mock interviews are held at the graduate's office and usually comprises 30 minutes of mock interviewing and 15-30 minutes of constructive feedback. If you are able to participate, please sign-up online by Friday, January 16, 2015. Please contact CSO Assistant Director, Lynn Yang, at (213) 740-7397 or lyang@law.usc.edu with any questions.