

## CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW FALL 2004 NEWSLETTER

Welcome – and welcome back! We hope you had a great summer. As you think about your priorities for this semester, the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law wants to let you know about courses, activities and projects in which you can participate. Cutting-edge work is being done on a wide variety of projects at WCL – we encourage you to get involved!!!

Included in this newsletter are:

- Introducing the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
- Ways to Get Involved: Taking Action!, Publications and Academic Opportunities and more!
- Professional Development Opportunities: Career Panels and Externships
- Dean's Fellows Opportunities
- Calendar of Upcoming Human Rights Events at WCL
- Fall Course Listings in Human Rights/Humanitarian Law

### ***INTRODUCING THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW***

The Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law was established in 1990 to work with students, faculty and the international legal community to provide scholarship and support for human rights initiatives around the world. Marshalling the extensive human rights resources of WCL, the Center provides hands-on experiences for interested WCL students; coordinates and facilitates faculty scholarship on relevant subjects; and is a resource to the international community on human rights and humanitarian law issues. We also have a lot of fun!

Please join us on **September 2 at 12 noon in Room 401**, for *What is the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law?* Come and hear about the Center's projects and learn how you can get involved in the work that we do.

### **COME AND "MUNCH" ON HUMAN RIGHTS!!**

Interested in human rights but stuck studying property and torts? Join us for *Munching on Human Rights*, an introductory program to educate and engage students, especially 1Ls, about basic issues in international human rights and humanitarian law. Held once a month, *Munching* gives you a great opportunity to informally interact with WCL's internationally-known faculty and get a "taste" of international law. Pizza will be served, so bring your interests and your appetite. The first *Munching* will take place **September 9 at 12pm in Room 401**. The Center's Executive Director, Hadar Harris, will discuss "What Do You Mean When You Say "Human Rights?" An Introduction to Human Rights Law." Of course, pizza will be served! Please see the Center's website, and the calendar at the end of this newsletter, for the full *Munching on Human Rights* Schedule.



### **CRISIS IN SUDAN: THE INTERVENTION IMPERATIVE**

**Thursday, September 23, 9:30am - 4pm, Room 603 (Keynote Address 12pm)**

Ten years after the genocide in Rwanda, we are once again confronting genocide. The current crisis in Sudan has led to tens of thousands of deaths and over a million people displaced. Aid workers and human rights groups report that government-backed militias are decimating villages and perpetrating mass rape. As the rainy season begins and physical conditions on the ground deteriorate, hundreds of thousands of Sudanese are in imminent threat of death. The current atrocities constitute genocide, but the international

community has been slow to act. As we commemorate the 10th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda, where is the imperative for intervention in Sudan?

Please join us for a day of important discussion with key policymakers, activists, religious leaders and lawyers about the current situation in Sudan. The conference will focus on the context of the crisis in Sudan, the legal and moral obligations to intervene, and US policy in the area. Among the invited speakers are Dr. Juan Mendez, UN Special Advisor for the Prevention of Genocide; Hon. Pierre Prosper, US Ambassador-at-large for War Crimes; Rep. Charles Rangel, Congressman from New York; John Prendergast, International Crisis Group; Stephanie Frease, Coalition for International Justice; Gayle E. Smith, Center for American Progress; Roger Winter, Deputy Administrator, US-AID; Dean Claudio Grossman, WCL.

In addition to promoting the public debate about the genocide in Sudan, the Center seeks interested students to convene and develop an action plan to help stop the genocide in Sudan. If you are interested in participating in these efforts, please email Hadar Harris at [hharris@wcl.american.edu](mailto:hharris@wcl.american.edu) with "Action in Sudan" in the subject line. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to participate.

### **THE COOL WORK I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION SEPTEMBER 28, 2004, 12 NOON, ROOM 401**

The Center, in conjunction with the Office of Career Services (OCS), strives to assist students in gaining a better understanding of what working in human rights really means. On **September 28, at 12pm in Room 401**, come hear your peers talk about the amazing human rights work they did over their summer break. Students will discuss working in the domestic and international spheres, how they got their positions, the best and worst parts of working abroad, and will offer advice on finding a great summer experience. All students are invited to attend. Co-sponsored by the Center and OCS.

### **THE HUMAN RIGHTS FILM SERIES RETURNS! OCTOBER 4 - 25**

Like to go to the movies? This Fall, the Center, in conjunction with the AU Center for Social Media, the Office of the University Chaplain, the School of International Service's International Peace & Conflict Resolution Program, the Office of International Affairs and the Media That Matters Film Festival, will sponsor the Fifth Human Rights Film Series. Films will examine a variety of human rights issues, from the death penalty in the US to the inner workings of the Al Jazeera newsroom during the start of the US/Iraq War last March. Through the month of October, films will be screened twice, the first screening on Monday night at WCL and again on Wednesday night on AU Main Campus. Each film will be followed by a discussion with a guest speaker from local NGOs and institutions. All WCL screenings begin at **6pm in Room 602**. All Main Campus screenings are at 5:30pm in Wechsler Theatre, 3<sup>rd</sup> fl, Mary Graydon Center. Check the Center's website for details on each film.



- Monday, Oct. 4 ***Discovering Domingo*** (On Main Campus, Wed. 10/6)
- Monday, Oct. 11 ***Afghanistan Unveiled*** (On Main Campus, Wed. 10/13)
- Monday, Oct. 18 ***Control Room*** (On Main Campus, Wed. 10/20)
- Monday, Oct. 25 ***Deadline*** (On Main Campus, Wed. 10/27)

### **PARTICIPATE IN THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

The Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition brings together students from all over the world to compete in the only tri-lingual (English, Spanish & Portuguese) moot court featuring written and oral advocacy based on the Inter-American human rights legal system. Last year, 47 teams competed

from 13 countries. This year we will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Competition, and we expect this Competition will be the best ever.

The Competition will be held from May 22–27, 2005 at WCL but the work starts now! You can be involved in a number of ways:

- Be a part of the WCL team and represent WCL at the Competition! A team consists of two students. The deadline for applying is November 1, 2004. Please send a cover letter, resume and a short (10 page max) writing sample to [iamoot@wcl.american.edu](mailto:iamoot@wcl.american.edu). If you want to apply as a two-person team, please submit your applications together. This competition is open to 2Ls, 3Ls and 4Ls. Sorry, 1Ls & LLMs are not eligible to compete.
- **Join us for a Volunteer Meeting on September 30, 2004, 12 Noon, Room 401!** Volunteers are needed to help with publicity, recruitment, event planning, fundraising and more. We need your help NOW to make next year's Competition spectacular!

To learn more about the Competition, go to the Competition website at [www.wcl.american.edu/humright/mcourt](http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/mcourt) or contact the Competition organizers at [iamoot@wcl.american.edu](mailto:iamoot@wcl.american.edu) or (202) 274-4180.

### **THE CENTER'S STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD**

The Center's Student Advisory Board (SAB) is a group of seven highly qualified, creative students committed to human rights advocacy who are selected to help the Center create and implement its innovative programming. The SAB provides students interested in and committed to human rights an opportunity to work closely with the Center, to learn tangible skills beyond the classroom for effective advocacy and activism and to attend special SAB-only events and receptions.

The SAB serves from February to February. We will be accepting applications to join the 2005-2006 SAB in January. This is a great opportunity for 1Ls and 2Ls to get involved in human rights activities at WCL, learn new skills and have fun! Look for SAB members at Center events and watch the Docket and listserv later in the semester for more information on applying for next year's SAB.

### **GET UPDATES ON WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CENTER AND AROUND TOWN—JOIN THE CENTER'S EMAIL LIST!**

Keep up-to-date on human rights events, activities and resources at WCL and in the community by joining the Center's group email list! You will receive occasional updates (maximum one per week) from the Center about human rights goings-on right in your inbox. To subscribe, send an email to [chrhupdate-request@wcl.american.edu](mailto:chrhupdate-request@wcl.american.edu). Leave the subject line BLANK and in the body of the message write SUBSCRIBE.



### ***WAYS TO GET INVOLVED***

#### ***TAKE ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS!***

#### **JOIN DEAN GROSSMAN & WORK WITH THE UN COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE**

Dean Grossman will be selecting a group of 3-5 second and third year law students to participate in a project at the United Nations Committee Against Torture in Geneva, Switzerland. Participants will travel to Geneva with the Dean and others during the week of November 15, 2004 to assist in the Committee's work, attend confidential meetings and review documents. Interested 2L and 3L students must apply **by Monday, September 13** to the Office of the Dean at [grossman@wcl.american.edu](mailto:grossman@wcl.american.edu). Students will be selected based on their record and demonstrated interest in international law and human rights. Applications should address those criteria.

## ARE YOU EXPERIENCED? PARTICIPATE IN ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROJECTS

Action for Human Rights' Experiential Learning Project (ELP) takes students from the classroom into the field to interact with the real people that live the issues we often discuss in law school. Our goal is to humanize the learning experience, complicate our understanding of social issues, and charge learning with transformative potential. Participants meet with policy makers and those who must live the effects of social policy in their daily lives. ELPs are not designed to encourage any particular political or ethical perspective. AHR seeks out all parties to the issues and conflicts explored in the ELP Projects. Please see our website at <http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center/hrelp.cfm> for information on past projects.

### Fall 2004 Projects:

AHR is developing three experiential learning projects for the Fall '04 semester and is looking for approximately 10-14 participants for each project. Participants *must commit to attend all events* in the project (usually four throughout the semester).



#### ***Environmental Justice on DC's Forgotten River: Community and the Anacostia***

*Forgotten River* presents participants with the environmental disparities between different communities and the challenges faced by community development programs.

The project will begin with a canoe trip down the Anacostia guided by an expert on the local ecology and the affected communities. Participants will then visit with community members, government officials, and action groups to discuss current and future concerns and courses of action. For more information, please contact Kristen Mcgeeny at [km5395a@american.edu](mailto:km5395a@american.edu).

#### ***Alien Justice: Immigration, the Law and the DC Community***

*Alien Justice* will bring participants in contact with immigrant communities in the DC area as well as the public officials, advocates and service providers who work with them. Participants will visit a detention center, DHS forensics lab and organizations which represent the immigrant community. For more information, contact Kelleen Corrigan at [corriganke@hotmail.com](mailto:corriganke@hotmail.com) or Jenn Dodenhoff at [jdodenhoff@yahoo.com](mailto:jdodenhoff@yahoo.com).

#### ***Beyond the Culture War: a Sincere Look at Women's Reproductive Health in the DC Area***

*Beyond the Culture War* takes a look at a part of the political and social landscape of the DC area often overshadowed by the controversy that surrounds it. Participants will visit health care facilities, speak with the women and men providing services and those receiving them. Activists and advocates will expose project participants to their different points of view. For more information please contact Debbie Spinelli-Hays at [debraspinellihays@hotmail.com](mailto:debraspinellihays@hotmail.com) or Michael Waller at [rwaller@usa.net](mailto:rwaller@usa.net).

## HELP TEACH THE LESSONS OF GENOCIDE IN LOCAL CLASSROOMS

The Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Program are seeking WCL students to help teach a lesson about genocide at an area school as part of the Rwanda Commemoration Project. The project began in spring 2004 and has recently been modified to include a section on the current genocide taking place in Sudan.

Educating young people about genocide is key to combating complacency and preventing future genocides. This is an excellent opportunity to gain practical experience in human rights education. Please note that this is not a large time commitment and no prior teaching experience is required. Volunteer positions are open to all WCL students, and all volunteers will be trained and provided with a lesson plan. If you are interested in participating, please email [rwanda@wcl.american.edu](mailto:rwanda@wcl.american.edu) with "Teaching Project" in the subject line.

For more information on the teaching project, please visit the Center's website: <http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center>

### **MAKE AN "IMPACT" ON THE ELECTION**

Join IMPACT and help safeguard democracy in November! The AU chapter of IMPACT is seeking students to be trained in election monitoring. Students will travel to battleground states in November to help ensure proper application of voting laws. You will be trained in relevant election laws and monitoring techniques.

IMPACT ([www.impact2004.org](http://www.impact2004.org)) is a nationwide network of law students organized to ensure the integrity of the voting process. In partnership with American Families United, the Election Protection Coalition, the ACLU, the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, and Rock the Vote, IMPACT is engaged in voter protection efforts in Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Iowa, New Mexico, New Hampshire, Washington, Maine, and Nevada. For more information, or to find out how you can get involved, contact Jamal Jafari at [jjafari@hotmail.com](mailto:jjafari@hotmail.com).

### **LEND YOUR EXPERIENCE TO THE WAR CRIMES RESEARCH OFFICE**

The War Crimes Research Office provides specialized legal research and analysis to international criminal courts and tribunals on issues of international criminal law and humanitarian law. WCRO's current clients include the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Special Panels for East Timor, the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the International Criminal Court. There are many ways for WCL students to get involved in the WCRO's important work.

**WCRO International Student Resource Panel:** Those students who have legal experience in countries other than the United States are encouraged to sign up for the WCRO's International Student Resource Panel. We keep a list of panel members who are willing to serve as resource persons on WCRO research projects that have a comparative law element. The time commitment for Panel members is very small as volunteers are generally only called upon to answer specific questions related to the legal system they have experience with. If interested, please send your contact information and country (or countries) of expertise to [warcimes@wcl.american.edu](mailto:warcimes@wcl.american.edu).

**WCRO Volunteers:** All students with an interest in public international law are encouraged to volunteer at the WCRO. We have several volunteer opportunities with a wide range of time commitments. Volunteers work on projects including:

- Monitoring of on-going cases before the world's major international criminal courts & tribunals.
- Writing summaries of judgments from the ICTR for publication.
- Assisting with discrete legal research, editing or spading projects.

If you would like more information about volunteer opportunities, email [warcimes@wcl.american.edu](mailto:warcimes@wcl.american.edu), or call us at (202) 274-4067.

### **USE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS TO HELP THE CLINICAL PROGRAMS**

The Clinical Programs are looking for qualified volunteer interpreters who are fluent (nearly bilingual, not just "conversational") in both English and another language for work on cases in all of the different clinics. Experience in oral interpretation or written translation is a plus. If you are interested, please see Samantha Thomas or Janice Iwama in the Clinic office (room 417), to fill out an interpreter/translator questionnaire. Although the clinic is not open to LL.M. students, LL.M. students are encouraged to volunteer as interpreters, and *may* be contacted as country experts in asylum cases. Also, the International Human Rights Law Clinic will be looking for volunteers to role-play in simulation assignments. If you are interested, please see Samantha Thomas in room 417.

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[www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center](http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center)

## **THE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS COALITION**

The Immigrant Rights Coalition (IRC) was founded in 2000 by students with ties to immigrant communities. We have two underlying principles upon which we were founded: immigrant rights are part of the human and civil rights movements, and immigrant rights intersect with all areas of law. As a coalition, we attempt to serve as an umbrella organization for students and organizations working on issues impacting immigrant communities.

We work in collaboration with other WCL organizations, grassroots community organizations and legal services organizations to educate the WCL community on immigrant rights and encourage participation in DC-area community events. Last year, students volunteered regularly with the Virginia Justice Center's Workers' Rights Clinic and with CAIR Coalition's regular jail/intake visits.

We currently have five committees: Immigrant Detention; Refugee & Asylum Seekers; Economic Justice; Civil Rights & Racial Profiling; and Trafficking in Persons. If you have an idea for an event or issue area that falls outside the scope of one of these committees, please let us know. We are always open to new ideas, projects, and committees. For more information, contact Andrew Stawar, Chair, at [as0285a@yahoo.com](mailto:as0285a@yahoo.com).

## **PUBLICATIONS AND ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES**

### **READ. WRITE. LEARN. HAVE FUN! JOIN THE HUMAN RIGHTS BRIEF!**

The Human Rights Brief is now accepting applications for its 2004-2005 staff. The Brief is a student-run publication that analyzes current human rights issues. We publish three issues a year, which are distributed to 5,000 scholars, human rights practitioners, students and legal professionals in over 90 countries around the world. Working on the Brief is a great way to gain experience on a legal publication, to meet other students involved in human rights and to interact with the wide network of Brief alumni.

The Brief is now accepting applications for staff writers and article editors. These positions are open to all JD and LLM students. *ILs are invited to apply.* Applications are available outside Room 630 and are **due on Wednesday, Sept. 8th at 5pm** in the box outside the Brief office. When you drop off your application, please sign-up for an interview. Feel free to contact Co-Editors-in-Chief Sarah Hymowitz or Meghan Stewart at [chief\\_hrbrief@wcl.american.edu](mailto:chief_hrbrief@wcl.american.edu).

### **INTERNATIONAL LAW REVIEW HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE: SPANISH SPEAKERS NEEDED!**

The American University International Law Review is in the process of publishing a book in conjunction with the Human Rights Academy. The Human Rights Academy Books Project will be comprised of articles in English and Spanish and aims to analyze current and unresolved issues in international human rights law. This is also an excellent opportunity for native Spanish speakers to be involved in the project. Participants would get their name credited in the published book. If you have any questions, please contact Adam Falkowitz at (202) 274-4460 or at [adamfalkowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:adamfalkowitz@yahoo.com).

### **TAKE COURSES IN THE ACADEMY ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW**

The Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law is a unique bilingual program, the only program in the world to offer three weeks of intensive summer courses in English and Spanish taught by world-renowned scholars and activists in the human rights field. The seventh annual Academy will take place **May 31-June 17, 2005**, and is open to both law students and human rights professionals from around the world.

Courses can be taken for credit and will include: Economic, Social & Cultural Rights (1 credit), European Human Rights Law (2 credits), Human Rights Advocacy (1 credit), International Humanitarian Law (2 credits), International Justice & Domestic Accountability for Human Rights Violations (2 credits), Regional Approaches to Human Rights Law: Africa, America, & Asia (2 credits), Teaching Human Rights: Design & Methods in Law School Clinics (1 credit), Terrorism & Human Rights (1 credit), United Nations Human Rights System (1 credit), and Women & International Human Rights Law (2 credits). Please visit our website <http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/hracademy/> for details about the Academy or contact us via e-mail at [hracademy@wcl.american.edu](mailto:hracademy@wcl.american.edu) or by phone at 202-274-4070.

### **ATTENTION LLM STUDENTS! ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD**

The Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law will be announcing a Call for Papers for the annual Human Rights Award. We welcome all applicants who hold a law degree and have a demonstrated interest in international human rights. The Academy will grant two Awards, one for the best article in English and one for the best article in Spanish. The complete rules and the topic for the 2005 Award will be announced on our website in early September and the deadline for submission of articles will be **February 11, 2005**.

Please visit <http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/hracademy/haward.cfm> for details. If you have any questions, please contact us at [hracademy@wcl.american.edu](mailto:hracademy@wcl.american.edu) or 202-274-4070.

### **OTHER OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COFFEE HOURS**



For the second year in a row, Action For Human Rights will sponsor early morning coffee hours for students, faculty and staff interested in human rights and public interest law to come and share fair trade coffee and tea, bagels, donuts, ideas and inspiration. The weekly Coffee Hours provide a forum for announcements, recruitment, campaign information and a great place to get to know others interested in human rights. Come join us every Wednesday throughout the semester in the 6th floor Student Lounge (behind the cafeteria). Stop by anytime between 8:30-10:00 a.m. We open the floor to announcements twice each morning. If you would like to help with Coffee Hour, please contact Debbie Spinelli-Hays at [debraspinellihays@hotmail.com](mailto:debraspinellihays@hotmail.com) or Michael Waller at [rwaller@usa.net](mailto:rwaller@usa.net). The first AHR Coffee Hour will take place on **Wednesday, September 1, starting at 8:30am**. Everyone is welcome!

#### **LLM STUDENTS! JOIN THE GENDER ROUNDTABLE!**

The Gender and the Law Roundtable is a joint initiative of the Women and International Law Program and ILSP LL.M. students interested in gender issues or specializing in Gender and the Law. The Gender Roundtable meets regularly throughout the school year to provide students a forum to share experiences and skills, explore international law from a gender perspective, and discuss projects and ideas related to their studies of gender and the law. The Roundtable also organizes site visits to non-governmental and advocacy organizations that promote women's legal rights, providing the students with the opportunity to exchange expertise with local practitioners. Both ILSP and Law & Government students are welcome!

**Attend our Informational Meeting!!** If you are an LLM student interested in gender and the law, or if you are interested in participating in the 2004-5 Roundtable, **please attend our informational session on LLM Opportunities in Gender and the Law on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in Room 601**. For more information, please contact April Fehling, Program Coordinator for the Women and International Law Program at [afehling@wcl.american.edu](mailto:afehling@wcl.american.edu).

## INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM BRINGS THE WORLD TO WCL

Each year, WCL welcomes visitors from all over the world as part of the International Visitors Program. This year, we are pleased to receive scholars, judges, lawyers, government officials and human rights activists to engage in scholarship and professional development at WCL. These accomplished visitors are sponsored by programs such as the Humphrey Fellowship Program, the Fulbright Scholars Program and the Junior Faculty Development Program. This year's international visitors are from Armenia, Australia, Cambodia, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Israel, Korea, Moldova, Pakistan, Peru, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan and Uruguay. Students are encouraged to attend presentations and panel discussions throughout the semester and to seek out the unique perspectives they bring to the law school. For a list of the visitors at WCL in 2004-2005, please visit:



[www.wcl.american.edu/scholars](http://www.wcl.american.edu/scholars) or contact Amy Reid, International Programs Coordinator at [areid@wcl.american.edu](mailto:areid@wcl.american.edu) or (202) 274-4391.

## STUDENT GROUPS! PLAN YOUR EVENT WITH THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL EVENTS & CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

The Office of Special Events and Continuing Legal Education (SECLE) provides support in creating exciting and unique programs, workshops and seminars at WCL. We seek to support the students and faculty of WCL with conferences and special events addressing key issues of our time, including human rights and other contemporary social issues. Whether you are planning a small event or a large conference, we can assist you! Please contact Natasha Rennie at [nrennie@wcl.american.edu](mailto:nrennie@wcl.american.edu) or 202-274-4003 to find out how we can help you plan your human rights event.

## MULTICULTURAL & INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION (MISO)

MISO brings together students interested in sharing global perspectives and international experiences to enhance the experience of international students at WCL. In conjunction with the Legal Rhetoric department, we host weekly workshops for first-year students on legal writing, oral advocacy, exam-taking and research skills. We also host events such as lunches with practitioners to give students opportunities to meet professionals in the international legal field. We also sponsor panel discussions on issues affecting the international community at WCL, including working abroad or US-based jobs for international students. Finally, we host social events, including happy hours, potluck dinners, and salsa dancing! If you are an international student or are just enthusiastic about multicultural experiences, join MISO! Please contact us at [miso@wcl.american.edu](mailto:miso@wcl.american.edu).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



### THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES IS HERE TO HELP YOU!

#### Use Your Public Interest Specialist in the Office of Career Services

Need help writing a cover letter for a public interest job? Want to explore fellowships? Visit your Public Interest Specialist in the Office of Career Services. Contact Stephanie Sullivan, Public Interest Specialist,

[Sullivan@wcl.american.edu](mailto:Sullivan@wcl.american.edu).

#### Gain Public Interest Experience through Pro Bono Work

Law students can provide valuable pro bono services to the community while gaining public interest legal experience. Want to find out more? Contact Charlene Gomes, Public Interest Coordinator, at 202-274-4099 or [cegomes@wcl.american.edu](mailto:cegomes@wcl.american.edu).

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[www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center](http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center)

### **Join the OCS Public Interest and/or Government Listservs**

Make sure you receive all future updates about government or public interest careers. Sign up for these group email lists. These lists are the only way you can receive opportunities and updates by email. To sign up or find out more information on the variety of listservs offered by the Office of Career Services, visit <http://wcl.american.edu/ocs/listserv.cfm>.

### **Office of Public Interest Programming, Fall 2004**

The Office of Public Interest has a wide variety of programs planned for the Fall. For more information about any of these programs, please see the OCS website or contact Charlene Gomes, Public Interest Coordinator, [cegomes@wcl.american.edu](mailto:cegomes@wcl.american.edu), 202-274-4099. Here are some events to watch for:

- Tuesday, August 31, Postgraduate Public Interest Fellowships Panel, 12 pm, Room TBA
- Tuesday, September 14, Speed Networking Event with Public Interest Employers, 5:00–7:00 p.m. at George Washington University Law School
- Wednesday, September 15, 1L Public Interest Roundtable Luncheon, noon, Room TBA
- Wednesday, September 22, Getting Involved in Pro Bono, noon, Room TBA
- Wednesday, October 6, Session on Preparing for the Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair, noon, Room TBA
- Wednesday, October 20, 1L Public Interest Roundtable Luncheon, noon, Room TBA
- Thursday, October 21, “Politics and Public Interest” panel debate co-sponsored by the Law and Government Society, noon, Room TBA
- Thursday, October 28 and Friday, October 29, Equal Justice Works Career Fair and Conference, Washington DC
- Wednesday, November 17, 1L Public Interest Roundtable Luncheon, noon, Room TBA

### **WCL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM: OPPORTUNITIES IN HUMAN RIGHTS LAW IN DC & AROUND THE WORLD**

Students participating in the Externship Program have a unique opportunity to integrate practical experience with the theory of the classroom by receiving academic credit for work experience and related academic supervision. Each year, hundreds of WCL students earn credit for working with local, state and federal government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, courts, and law firms engaged in *pro bono* cases. Many externship employers focus on human rights, civil rights and humanitarian law.

This year, the Externship Program has added a number of international externships with human rights commissions, tribunals and non-governmental organizations. Placements include the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (Costa Rica), Casa Alianza (Guatemala), the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (Sweden), and the World Health Organization (Geneva). Students interested in externships outside of the United States should contact the Externship Office for a full list of available placements.

The office will hold an **Externship Orientation for 1Ls** and an **Externship Workshop** for upper class students in **October**. Please watch *The Docket* and online events calendar for details. The annual **Externship Fair**, at which students have the opportunity to meet with employers in an informal setting will be held in January 2005.

Please visit the Externship Database, which contains over 500 potential employers, at [www.wcl.american.edu/externship](http://www.wcl.american.edu/externship). Email [externship@wcl.american.edu](mailto:externship@wcl.american.edu), call (202) 274-4200, or stop by the Externship Office, Room 413, to obtain the password and username for the database or for more information.

## **DEAN'S FELLOW OPPORTUNITIES**

### **THE CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD DEAN'S FELLOWS!!**

The Center for Human Rights has exciting opportunities for two Dean's Fellows this fall. We seek one individual for 20 hours per week, and another for 10 hours per week.

#### **Center Dean's Fellow: 20 Hours per Week**

We are looking for an enthusiastic student to take a high level of responsibility for the Center's exciting programming, to manage marketing of Center events and initiatives and provide support for our many fun projects. Attention to detail, organizational skills, familiarity with Microsoft Office programs and interest in human rights issues are essential. Experience/skills in design are a plus.

#### **Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition Dean's Fellow: 10 Hours per Week**

We are in need of a Spanish speaking Dean's Fellow (and Portuguese skills are a real plus!) to help translate materials, communicate with students from throughout Latin America and assist with Spanish and Portuguese language writing and editing. The ability to write effectively in both English and Spanish is critical. Attention to detail, organizational skills and familiarity with Microsoft Office programs are essential.

To apply for either position, please send a cover letter, resume, and short (10 pages max.) writing sample to [humlaw@wcl.american.edu](mailto:humlaw@wcl.american.edu). Please indicate the position for which you are applying in the email subject line AND in your cover letter. We hope to fill both positions by the first week of class, so please apply right away!

### **WOMEN AND INTERNATIONAL LAW PROGRAM SEEKS A DEAN'S FELLOW**

The Women and International Law Program needs a Dean's Fellow to help promote WCL's LLM Specialization in Gender and the Law around the world and to assist in organizing projects and programming. Students with a background in international and/or gender issues are especially encouraged to apply. We are seeking someone willing to make a 20 hour/week commitment. Do you have attention to detail, organizational skills, excellent English skills and familiarity with Microsoft Office programs? To apply, please send a cover letter, résumé and short English-language writing sample (no more than 10 pages) to April Fehling at [afehling@wcl.american.edu](mailto:afehling@wcl.american.edu) as soon as possible. Please put "Dean's Fellow Application" in the subject line.

### **WCRO DEAN'S FELLOWS' POSITION FOR FALL 2004**

The War Crimes Research Office is seeking Dean's Fellows for Fall 2004. JD (2L and 3L) and LL.M students are eligible. Interested students with a background in international law, particularly international criminal / humanitarian / human rights law, are especially encouraged to apply, as are those with prior volunteer experience at the WCRO. Please submit a resume and a cover letter, along with a short writing sample and a transcript (unofficial is fine) to Susana SaCouto, Director, War Crimes Research Office, by email to [warcimes@wcl.american.edu](mailto:warcimes@wcl.american.edu). The deadline for applications is **Friday, September 3, 2004**. If you want to discuss the various possibilities of working at the WCRO with us first, please feel free to stop by our office at 4910 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Suite 16, just one block from WCL, call us at 202-274-4067, or e-mail at [warcimes@wcl.american.edu](mailto:warcimes@wcl.american.edu).

**THE ACADEMY ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW** will be receiving applications for several Dean's Fellow positions to support the programs of the Academy. Students interested in this opportunity should periodically review the Docket, where the Academy will post a call for applications for the positions. You can also contact the Academy at [hracademy@wcl.american.edu](mailto:hracademy@wcl.american.edu) or 202-274-4070.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING HUMAN RIGHTS EVENTS AT WCL

All listings are tentative.

Please contact the appropriate WCL office or student organization directly as dates, times and rooms may change.

### August

- 18 *Center Welcome Reception for Incoming Students*, 3–4 pm, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge (behind the 6<sup>th</sup> floor cafeteria)
- 31 *Postgraduate Public Interest Fellowships Panel*, 12 pm, Room TBA

### September

- 1 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 2 *What is the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law?* 12-1pm, Room 401
- 8 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 9 *Munching on Human Rights: What Do You Mean When You Say “Human Rights?” An Introduction To Human Rights Law*, 12-1pm, Room 401
- 9 *LLM Opportunities in Gender and the Law*, 4pm, Room 601
- 14 *Speed Networking Event with Public Interest Employers*, 5–7 pm, George Washington University Law School
- 15 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 22 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10a., 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 22 *Getting Involved in Pro Bono Work*, 12–1 pm, Room TBA
- 23 *Genocide in Sudan: An Imperative for Action*, 9:30am-4pm (Keynote, 12pm), Room 603
- 28 *The Cool Human Rights Work I Did on My Summer Vacation*, 12-1 pm, Room 401
- 29 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 30 *Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition Volunteer Meeting*, 12–12:50 pm, Room 401

### October

- 4 *Human Rights Film Series, Discovering Dominga*, 6pm, Room 602
- 6 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 6 *Preparing for the Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair*, 12–1 pm, Room TBA
- 11 *Human Rights Film Series, Afghanistan Unveiled*, 6pm, Room 602
- 12 *Munching on Human Rights: What is the Universal Bill of Human Rights*, Speaker TBA, 12-1pm, Room 401
- 13 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 18 *Human Rights Film Series, Control Room*, 6pm, Room 602
- 20 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30- 10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 21 *“Politics and Public Interest” Panel Debate* co-sponsored by the Office of Public Interest Programming and Law and Government Society, 12–1 pm, Room TBA
- 25 *Human Rights Film Series, Deadline*, 6pm, Room 602
- 27 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30- 10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge

### November

- 3 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 10 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30-10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge
- 16 *Munching on Human Rights: What Is the Difference Between Human Rights Law and Humanitarian Law?* Speaker TBA, 12–1pm, Room 401
- 17 *Action for Human Rights Coffee Hour*, 8:30 – 10am, 6<sup>th</sup> floor Student Lounge

WCL CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW

[www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center](http://www.wcl.american.edu/humright/center)

**SAMPLE LISTING OF FALL 2004**  
**COURSES IN HUMAN RIGHTS/HUMANITARIAN LAW TOPICS**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Professor</b>
Law 618-001	International Environmental Law	Hunter
Law 621-001	Conflict of Laws	Robbins
Law 655-001	Immigration and Naturalization	Cooper
Law 660-001	International Law	Goldman
Law 660-002	International Law	Orentlicher
Law 664-001	Employment & Labor: Employment Relationship	Seltzer
Law 668-001	Employment Discrimination	Carle
Law 675-001	Transnational Litigation	Epstein
Law 682-001	Critical Race Theory	Hutchinson
Law 691-001	Sex-Based Discrimination	Johnson
Law 721-001	Seminar: Law of the Sea	Oliver
Law 723-001	Current Issues in International Organizations	Maksoud
Law 725-001	Intl Protection Refugees and Displaced Persons	Vu
Law 729-001	Wrongful Convictions	Gilbert
Law 738-001	Seminar: International Courts	Heywood
Law 739-001	Seminar: Advanced Human Rights	Goldman
Law 739-002	Ethnic Identity and International Law	Orentlicher
Law 753-001A	Women and the Law Clinic	Chavkin
Law 755-001	International Human Rights Clinic	Wilson/Milstein
Law 768-001	Community Economic Development Clinic	Bennett
Law 795-001	Advanced International Law	Williams P.
Law 795-006	Social Justice Seminar	Schwartz
Law 795-007	Family & Employment Based Immigration Law	Lawrence
Law 795-008	International Human Rights Advocacy	Purohit
Law 848-001	Global Economics and Human Rights	Kilney
Law 850-001	International Criminal Law	Kittrie
Law 893-001	Global Public Interest Practice	Wilson

**WCL CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN LAW**

Hadar Harris, Executive Director  
Shazia N. Anwar, Program Coordinator  
April Fehling, Program Assistant

Reach us at (202) 274-4180 or by email at [humlaw@wcl.american.edu](mailto:humlaw@wcl.american.edu).

Our office is in the WCL Annex, one block away from the main building:  
4910 Massachusetts Ave, Suite 16 (lower level)

Please come by and see us anytime!!!