



CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRACTICE AND POLICY INSTITUTE

Annual Newsletter 2016-2017

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: SHAWNTA ALBARO



Shawnta was a May 2017 graduate and served as the senior editor for the Criminal Law Practitioner, senior staff on the Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law, as well as a mentor in the Juvenile Justice Society.

Shawnta is now working at the Louisiana Capital Assistance Center in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her most rewarding experience at WCL was "having the opportunity, through classes, discussions, and events, to interact with students and faculty who want to have an impact on the criminal justice system".

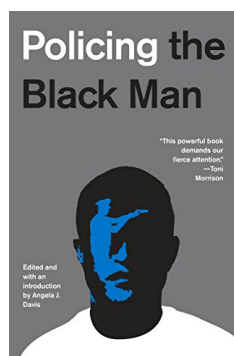
INSTITUTE WELCOMES PROFESSOR BOALS!



[Professor Elizabeth Boals](#) will serve as the new Faculty Director of the Institute, in addition to her role as the Associate Director of the Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program. Please join us in welcoming Professor Boals to the family!

We are extremely proud of AU Washington College of Law Professor Angela Davis's important book, *Policing the Black Man: Arrest, Prosecution, and Imprisonment*. Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Toni Morrison was one of the first to endorse Prof. Davis' new book. "Somewhere among the anger, mourning and malice that *Policing the Black Man* documents lies the pursuit of justice. This powerful book demands our fierce attention," Morrison said.

On Wednesday, August 30th, from 6-7:30, WCL hosted a panel discussion followed by a reception to celebrate the publication of the book.



[@AUWCLDean](#) Dean Nelson's photo with the panelists and contributors to *Policing the Black Man*.

EVENT ROUND-UP

Throughout the past year, the Criminal Justice Practice and Policy Institute (Institute) has sponsored events designed to provide career counseling, enable students to meet potential employers, and engage the community in a range of criminal law-related discussions.

Please email us if you are interested in participating in future events at CriminalJusticeInstitute@wcl.american.edu and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and our [Website](#) to stay up-to-date with our programs and events.

MOCK TRIAL AND MOOT COURT CRIMINAL LAW COMPETITIONS



This year the Mock Trial Honor Society and Moot Court Honor Society competed and succeeded in a number of criminal law related competitions. Congratulations to all competitors!

Mockingbird Challenge at Faulkner University School of Law. Larissa Zavarelli won Best Opening Statement.



Judge Paul Joseph Kelly, Jr. Invitational Trial Competition at Fordham University School of Law. Castell Abner won Best Opening Statement.



Vino Veritas Competition at Golden Gate University School of Law. William Warmke, David Weissman, Brittany Donnellan, and Ghenimah Slopadoe were Champions of the Competition.



The National Trial Competition in Washington, DC, hosted by WCL. Christine Varghese, Olivia Watkins, Kara Simmons, and Ashley Probst advanced to semi-finals.

[For additional Moot Court Competitions attended.](#)

THE CRIMINAL LAW PRACTITIONER

2016 FALL SEMESTER:

- The Institute co-sponsored the Criminal Law Externship Fair with the Externship Department which gave upper-level students the opportunity to network with a wide range of state and federal public defender offices, prosecutor and law enforcement agencies, and criminal justice reform organizations.
- The Institute held its annual "So you want to be a Prosecutor" and "So you want to be a Public Defender" panels. The panels provided a platform for WCL alumni to speak about their experiences, offer advice, and answer questions from students interested in prosecution or public defender work.
- Institute members participated in a networking reception hosted in conjunction with an on-campus trial skills master class for Marine Corp Judge Advocates.



2017 SPRING SEMESTER:

- The Institute hosted a networking session for 1Ls interested in careers in criminal law. WCL Alumni working as prosecutors and defenders and 3Ls who have secured prosecutor and defender jobs, provided advice to the attendees.
- The War Crimes Research Office and the Institute hosted a career panel on national security and international criminal law.
- Professor Elizabeth L. Lippy gave a presentation entitled "Balancing a Defendant's Constitutional Rights and Victim's Rights in the Realm of Rape Shield Law" at the annual Continuing Legal Education and Training Program of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. The program was attended by approximately 150 military judges and attorneys, as well as civilian attorneys. <http://www.armfor.uscourts.gov/newcaaf/Conference2017Handouts.htm>. [Professor Lippy's PowerPoint](#)



- The Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program and Institute co-hosted a panel entitled "Leaks and the Law" with the American College of Trial Lawyers. The panel included Matt Apuzzo (The New York Times Reporter, 2012 Pulitzer Prize Winner), Stand Brand (General Counsel – U.S. House of Representatives 1976-1983) and John Kiriakou (Retired CIA Officer). The panel focused on issues related to attorney interactions with the media in our judicial system.



The Criminal Law Practitioner is a student-run publication dedicated to addressing key criminal law issues in ways that are helpful to practicing attorneys, judges, legislators, and law students. Check out the latest issue [here](#) which includes scholarly articles on stand-your-ground laws, child abuse and the confrontation clause, and terrorist appeals.

ACTION BY STUDENTS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Students Sarah West (left) and Sara Fairchild (right) had the opportunity to represent individuals serving life sentences in Maryland for crimes committed as juveniles as part of the Criminal Justice Clinic. The students testified before the Maryland House of Delegates regarding HB 723, which would repeal provisions in Maryland's parole statute that give the Governor final say in parole decisions for individuals serving life sentences. HB 723 passed in the House in March 2017.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: VINCENT RIVELLESE (WCL '94)



Mr. Rivellese is Senior Appellate Counsel at the Manhattan DA's Office. In addition to working at the Manhattan DA's Office, Mr. Rivellese has worked as an adjunct professor at New York Law School. Mr. Rivellese's advice for students interested in pursuing a career in prosecution is "first . . . [decide] if prosecution is the right work for you." It is important because a prosecutor must have the "courage to do what it takes to pursue vigorously those cases that should be pursued, but also to explain why other cases must be abandoned."

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR SPOTLIGHT: PROFESSOR KENNETH P. TROCCOLI



Professor Troccoli teaches Evidence and Criminal Procedure at WCL. When not at school, Professor Troccoli is a Senior Litigator in the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Eastern District of Virginia. His past litigation experience includes a position at the Alexandria Virginia Public Defender's

Office and at three white collar criminal defense firms in Washington, DC: Krooth & Altman; Arent, Fox, Kintner, Plotkin, & Kahn; and Cadwalader, Wickersham, & Taft. Professor Troccoli's advice for students interested in pursuing a career in criminal defense is, "[D]o it. Don't doubt yourself and have confidence . . . have the confidence to be brave and courageous."

INSTITUTE BOARD OF FACULTY ADVISORS

The Institute is supported by a Board of Faculty Advisors, comprised of an accomplished group of WCL Professors, some of whom are Founders of the Institute.



Professors [Jennifer Daskal](#), [Angela J. Davis](#), [Cynthia Jones](#), [Ira Robbins](#), and [Jenny Roberts](#) have actively engaged in criminal justice reform initiatives and worked with a wide variety of local and national organizations, including the Sentencing Project, the Innocence Project, the Southern Center for Human Rights, the Vera Institute, the Pretrial Justice Institute, Human Rights First, the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section, and the American Constitution Society.

PROFESSOR JENNIFER DASKAL



Professor Jennifer Daskal teaches and writes in the fields of criminal, national security, and constitutional law. She was on academic leave from 2016-2017 and recently received an Open Society Institute Fellowship to work on issues related to privacy and law enforcement access to data across borders. Recent publications include: [Law Enforcement Access to Data Across Borders: The Evolving Security & Rights Issues](#).

PROFESSOR ANGELA J. DAVIS



Professor Angela J. Davis published an anthology entitled [Policing the Black Man: Arrest, Prosecution, and Imprisonment](#) (Pantheon, 2017) and co-authored "[How Policing Black Boys Leads to the Conditioning of Black Men](#)" with Kristen Henning (NPR, Code Switch, 4/23/17). Professor Davis discussed *Policing the Black Man* at Politics and Prose Bookstore (7/20/17), the Atlanta History Center (7/10/17), and the Auburn Avenue Research Library (7/11/17), and was interviewed about the book on Baltimore NPR, Portland NPR, Georgia NPR, and other radio stations.

PROFESSOR CYNTHIA JONES



Professor Cynthia Jones specializes in Evidence, Criminal Law, and Criminal Procedure. Professor Jones recently gave an evidence lecture for the federal judges of the 10th Circuit in Park City, Utah, and lectured on proposed changes to the Federal Rules of Evidence at the Federal Public Defender training conference and the Louisiana State Bar Association conference. In addition, Professor Jones gave a series of presentations in Brazil on the American Criminal Justice System and criminal justice reform.

PROFESSOR IRA ROBBINS



Professor Ira Robbins is an expert on criminal law and procedure, the death penalty, habeas corpus, prisoners' rights, privatization of prisons and jails, conspiracy, insanity, and other legal issues. Selected recent publications include: [Prisoners and the Law](#) (Thompson/Reuters, six vols., 2017); [Habeas Corpus Checklists](#) (Thomson/Reuters, 2017); [Regulating Gun Rentals](#) (UCLA L. Rev.2017); and [Vilifying the Vigilante: A Narrowed Scope of Citizen's Arrest](#) (Cornell J. of L. & Pub. Policy 2016).

PROFESSOR JENNY ROBERTS



Professor Jenny Roberts continues to focus on misdemeanors, collateral consequences of criminal convictions, and plea bargaining in her teaching, writing, presentations, and trainings. Her recent activities and publications included: [Amicus brief](#) in *Lee v. U.S.* (SCOTUS); [blog post](#) about the case; [Collateral Consequences of Criminal Convictions: Law, Policy and Practice](#) (3rd ed., forthcoming, 2018); Plenary panel, *Misdemeanors*, AALS mid-year meeting; panelist, [Plenary Session - Client Relationships in Periods of Significant Legal and Political Change: Flexible Pedagogy to Maximize Skills Transfer](#), AALS Clinical Conference; Plenary panelist and small group facilitator, [AALS Workshop for New Law School Teachers](#); Panelist, Collateral Consequences, [26th Annual Federal Sentencing Guideline Seminar](#); and Co-organizer and moderator, ABA Criminal Justice Section's Ethics & Forensics workshop (held at WCL). Professor Roberts is also a member of the Association of Law Schools Committee to Review Scholarly

Papers, a member of the Planning Committee for the [AALS mid-year meeting](#), a member of the National Advisory Board of the [Misdemeanor Justice Project](#), and a member of the Advisory Board of the [Journal of Collateral Consequences and Reentry](#).

Selected recent publications by additional criminal law, procedure, and policy faculty include: [Adjudicating the State's Role in International Crime](#) (2017); [Australia's Refugee Policy May Be a Crime Against Humanity](#) (2017); [Toward Democratic Police Reform: A Vision for 'Community Engagement' Provisions in DOJ Consent Decrees](#) (Wake Forest L. Rev. 2016); [State v. Sanchez, Case File and Teaching Guide](#) (2nd ed. 2017); [State v. Peyton: Case File and Teaching Guide](#) (2d. ed. 2016)

CONTACT US:

If you would like to be a part of the Institute's listserv and are a current student please sign up here or if you are an alumni and would like to be on the Institute's listserv, email us [here](#).



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