



RUTGERS LAW ALUMNI NEWS

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Alumni & Friends,

Happy New Year to all. Now that the holiday season is behind us, and the roadmap to 2017 stretches out ahead, I am reminded about the opportunity that a new year brings. As always, there are the standard new year's resolutions of health and wellness, but this new year, I also ask that we add purposeful engagement and dialogue to that resolution. Engagement and dialogue in our communities, engagement and dialogue in our schools, engagement and dialogue in our places of worship, and most importantly, engagement and dialogue with people who are different than us. This is especially necessary in this current time, as the vitriol that pervades the public sphere limits the ability for us to all move ahead. I also encourage everyone to walk in the mission of our law school and to give back to those who need it. With this I am reminded of the saying, "Charity begins at home." My home, is Rutgers Law School. If there are alumni that wish to "come home" and become more engaged in the Alumni Association, we are currently in the process of appointing new Trustees. If you are interested, please forward your resume to rslnaapresident@gmail.com. Again, I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2017!

Sincerely,
Osato F. Chitou

ALUMNI REUNIONS

Mark your calendars! Based on the success of this past year's 50th and 25th reunions, the law school will be holding a reunion on April 28, 2017 for the classes of 10 (1957, 1962, 1967, 1977, 1987, 1997, 2007). The schedule for the day will include: 2 CLE courses (including 1 Ethics, and will be made fun so that non-lawyer guests can enjoy them as well), lunch, a panel discussion with current students, a tour of the new law school, and a cocktail reception in the Great Hall at the "old law school" at 15 Washington. After the cocktail reception, everyone will split into their individual classes for dinner. More information will be available in the coming months.



Osato Chitou '10
President
Alumni Association

Board Meeting Dates 2016-2017

*Board meetings begin at 6:30
p.m.
Law School, Room 292*

Thursday, February 16th
Monday, March 20th
Wednesday, April 12th
Monday, June 19th

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JUDGE MARY CATHERINE CUFF '73 RETIRES AFTER ALMOST 29 YEARS ON THE BENCH

In her judicial career, Mary Catherine Cuff has dealt with everything from public pensions to child custody to medical malpractice.

Cuff, who retired October 1, 2016 after almost 29 years on the bench, served in the trial and appellate divisions of Superior Court and, temporarily, on the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

After serving 18 years in the Appellate Division, Chief Justice Stuart Rabner temporarily assigned Cuff to the Supreme Court in September 2012, where she served until Justice Walter F. Timpone was confirmed in 2016. The court considered cases during that period involving the Council on Affordable Housing, the funding of the public pension systems, and termination of alimony upon cohabitation with a new partner.

Cuff reflected on how the Supreme Court goes about its work, "(t)he Court has a tradition of collegiality that is jealously guarded. Sometimes there are disagreements but they are never personal. Everyone treats each other with respect."

Cuff grew up in Union County, graduated from Rosemont College in Philadelphia, and earned her law degree at Rutgers Law in Newark in 1973.

She vividly remembers the spring of 1972 when civil rights leader Professor Arthur Kinoy taught her federal courts class and learned his defense had led to the successful

reversal of the conviction of the anti-Vietnam Chicago Seven. "It was such an electric day," Cuff recalled.

After law school, Cuff worked as a deputy attorney general, an assistant U.S. Attorney and also at the law firm of Waters, McPherson, McNeill before being nominated to the bench in 1987 by former Gov. Thomas H. Kean. She served on the New Jersey Superior Court in Monmouth County and was assigned first to the civil division and later to family court, where she became the presiding judge.

Cuff said serving as a judge in family court was a different path than she thought she'd take. She aspired in law school to pursue public service and worked in commercial litigation while in private practice.

She said in the family division, she encountered a cross-section of residents that included the very wealthy and the disadvantaged and they all presented with many of the same issues, such as domestic violence or custody and visitation of their children.



Judge Mary Catherine Cuff '73

After serving in the Superior Court's trial divisions, Cuff was elevated to the Appellate Division in 1994, nearly 20 years after she had been a clerk there. She said serving as part of a three-person panel was a much different experience than sitting alone as a trial judge.

Over the years, Cuff has trained many judges and was the chairperson of the Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Education for eight years. Since retiring, Cuff has participated in scholarly panels, conducted Continuing Legal Education courses, including a trial and appellate brief writing seminar, and tackled some long overdue home projects.

DAVID LEHMAN '15 OPENED NON-PROFIT TO HELP CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD

When David Lehman graduated from Rutgers Law School in 2015, he combined his law degree with his passion for photography.

Lehman, a New York native, who warmly remembers participating in the Street Law program during law school, used his legal skills to form a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation called Photo Start. Photo Start is based in New York City and uses photography as a vehicle to teach life and business skills children around the world who are at risk from street gangs and terrorist groups.

Lehman's first stop was the Mathare Slum in Nairobi, Kenya, where he began holding photography classes for children aged 6 -16. "Working with the kids was a gift. They were so talented, and curious. We worked with them every day on a small roof in Mathare. A highlight was taking them to Nairobi National Park, a game park and heritage site just outside of the city. Most had never been in a motor vehicle or left the slum before, and we were visited at a very significant time. Nobody will forget that day." he said.

The students took photographs of people, wild animals, nature - themselves - and their daily lives. Lehman printed the photographs which were exhibited at the Kenya

Cultural Center in Nairobi this past Spring. Lehman expanded the program to Nairobi's infamous Kibera Slum, working with dozens of children from the Inua Mimi Rescue Center, a local organization that takes in children subject to domestic violence, female genital mutilation, and AIDS discrimination.

Lehman is quick to point out that he isn't just teaching photography to the residents of Nairobi, his goal is to provide young people with practical skills that will enable them to get work and better their circumstances.

Lehman divides his time between Nairobi, Jacmel, Haiti and his home base in New York City, where he

volunteers with Legal Aid when he is not running his non-profit organization. By the end of 2016, he has worked with 450 young people and their families.

He credits Professors Gary Francione, Fadi Shaheen, and Alan Hyde, with inspiring him during law school, and former Dean Andy Rothman for helping him get through it all. "It's great to be versatile," he said of his legal interests. "I was able to apply [my knowledge] to business. It goes together perfectly. I am grateful for my time at Rutgers - it certainly had a strong impact on me - and I'm excited to continue using my legal and business acumen to serve and advocate for others."



David Lehman '15

MEET SOME OF RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL'S WINTER GRADUATES

Victoria M. Saraiva said it was her interest in the criminal justice system that inspired her to go to law school.

Though she was a part-time student, Saraiva said, "I took advantage of every possible opportunity afforded to me by the law school." To that end, she interned for both United States District Judge Jose Linares and United States Magistrate Judge Leda Dunn Wettre. She also worked at the American Civil Liberties Union and the Office of the Federal Public Defender in Newark.

Because of her experience with the ACLU, Saraiva said she is interested in becoming involved in juvenile justice reform later in her career.

She also served as a Marsha Wenk Fellow, was the student leader for the Morris Stern Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project, a participant in the Public Interest Committee, the Courtroom Advocates Project, and the Education and Health Law Clinic.

She said of her experience at Rutgers Law, "I always had someone – my family, my peers, Dean Yvette Bravo-Weber, my MSP family, Rutgers Alumni, my supervising attorneys who are now my confidantes – giving me a shove in the right direction, upward, or extending their hand to lift me up. And because of that, I have and will forever continue to do the same."



Victoria M. Saraiva



Moira Batista

After graduation, **Moira Batista** will continue working as a law clerk for McLaughlin & Nardi LLC, before she begins clerking for Superior Court Judge Diane Pincus.

"I have wanted to be a lawyer as long as I could remember," she said. "Growing up in Newark I got to witness so many injustices and saw people in desperate states of being. I thought being a lawyer would be the way to help these people who clearly did not know their rights enough to help themselves."

Batista, who is bilingual, was a member of the Finance and Business Law Society, the Alternate Dispute Resolution Society, the Association of Latin American Law Students, the Black Law Students and also volunteered at Latino Justice PRLDEF in New York City. During her 3L year, she was the Region III President for the

Hispanic National Bar Association for the Law Student Division.

Batista is the first person in her family to pursue a graduate degree. While at law school she won Best Oral Advocate at the New York State Bar Association's/ AAA Arbitration Competition in the Dispute Resolution Section.

Batista also gained experience interning and working with judges during law school, including interning in the Family Division of Superior Court for Judge Marysol Rosero and Judge Walter Koprowski in the Chancery Division General Equity Part.

She complimented the professors at Rutgers Law School, "(They) spend countless hours and various months equipping you with the knowledge you need to succeed, not just right now, but for the rest of your life."

DEBORAH COLLINS '83, WORKING FOR DIVERSITY

After a successful career in labor and employment law with stints at Time Inc., Goldman Sachs, and JPMorgan Chase, Deborah Collins '83 came to Essex County to make a difference.

The Brooklyn native who went to Rutgers Law School in Newark supported by a Minority Student Program scholarship, Collins was initially hired to oversee a disparity study in Essex County and come up with a plan of action to increase procurement opportunities for county contracts to small, women and minority-owned businesses.

She did better than come up with a plan. In Dec. 2005, Collins became the Small Business Development and Economic Opportunity Officer and the county's Affirmative Action Officer in 2007.

Since then, her department has hosted 45 business expos for small, women and minority business owners; helped launch a bonding readiness program that helps vendors become bonded or increase their bonding limits and also unveiled the very first vendor registration system to allow vendors to receive notifications of upcoming county business opportunities.

Initially reluctant to accept the county job, Collins recalled a friend asked her, "Don't you want to make a difference in the lives of women and minority vendors?" Collins, the daughter of a union shop steward, resoundingly answered, "Yes."

Collins' efforts, under the

leadership of Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, have paid off. In 2014, Essex County awarded \$58.7 million, or 41 percent of its contracts to small, woman-owned and minority businesses. In March 2016, she became the Deputy County Administrator for Essex, the third most populous county in the state and home to Newark, its largest city.

"Promoting small businesses continues to be a priority of my administration, and Deborah Collins has played a key role. She has led our Office of Small Business Development and Affirmative Action since its beginning, and has created a valuable, one-stop resource for the business community," said DiVincenzo.

Collins, who previously earned her master's degree in Spanish from New York University and taught, for a time, on the Rutgers New Brunswick campus, admitted she applied to law school on a dare. She chose Rutgers, in part because of civil rights leader Professor Arthur Kinoy. As a non-traditional student, Collins said Rutgers Law was the perfect fit, "Rutgers is a great place for older returning students past the age of 30. My study groups were made up of people like me. They had come from the military, or had other degrees. You build a network of people from around the nation who have had other experiences."

Collins initially worked for a labor law firm, representing union members who were jailed after striking. Later, as an employment

lawyer, she helped to investigate the transit police on behalf of the Metropolitan Transit Authority and its leader, former NYC Police Chief William Bratton. From there, Collins went to Time Inc., as the manager of employment law, worked for JP Morgan as vice president of employee relations – which involved serving on the diversity committee; before becoming a vice president of employee relations for Goldman Sachs.

"My professional experiences have taught me that learning is a lifelong process," she said. "It is my hope and expectation that my reach will always exceed my grasp."



Deborah Collins '83

RUTGERS LAW STUDENT WINS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PRIZE IN BRAZIL

Cristina de Hollanda Sheldrick '17 used her knowledge of intellectual property law to compare laws in the United States to the Intellectual Property Law Statute in Brazil.

Her article "The Legal Protection of Scientific Data Submitted to Governmental Agencies" won her the 2016 Carlos Henrique de Carvalho Fróes Prize, from the Brazilian Intellectual Property Agents Association ("ABAPI") in association with The Brazilian Intellectual Property Lawyers Association ("ABPI").

Sheldrick received the award at a ceremony on the 15th of December in São Paulo, Brazil.

In her acceptance speech Sheldrick said: "I feel profoundly honored by this recognition, because the prize's topic this year was the Celebration of Twenty Years of the Brazilian Intellectual Property statute, which was enacted, coincidentally, on the same date on which I started my professional career".

Sheldrick, who is of Brazilian heritage and has dual citizenship, competed against other leading practitioners in a contest for the best written contribution on intellectual property law, sponsored by the two Brazilian associations.

"The focus of the paper was the legal protection of pharmaceutical scientific data submitted to governmental agencies (such as the FDA, in the U.S.); it compares the legal treatment afforded to

scientific data under the U.S. law and the Brazilian law," she said.

Her paper was blind peer reviewed by two Brazilian federal magistrates and two members of ABAPI and ABPI.

The paper concludes that the exclusive rights conferred over scientific pharmaceutical and clinical data provide a crucial commercial advantage over competitors in the U.S., where the law strikes a balance by providing for mandatory data disclosure in exchange for market exclusivity. However, Brazil, the fifth largest market for drug companies, does not provide such exclusivity rights and the protection of scientific data therefore still largely depends on trade secret law in that country. Thus, in the absence of harmonized rules at the international level, companies trading globally must be mindful of local differences in applicable law, so as to protect their intangible assets effectively.

While she said all Rutgers Law professors have been influential during her time at law school, she credited in particular Professor Christina Ho with teaching information she used

in her winning paper: "Professor Ho was my professor of FDA law, and the paper covered issues that she and I discussed extensively during her Food and Drug Law class and my direct research assignment, which she supervised. Professor Carlos Ball was also important for his guidance in the area of constitutional law, which is superficially addressed in the paper, as well as Professor Amy Soled, whose classes contributed to my legal writing skills."

Sheldrick is a resident of New Jersey and is of counsel to the New York-based law firm Sheldrick & Co., PLLC.



Cristina de Hollanda Sheldrick '17 receives her prize in Brazil in December 2016.

DUE PROCESS TELEVISION SHOW FILMS AT RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL

"Due Process," the university's award-winning weekly public television series on law and justice, has begun taping its episodes on location - at home at Rutgers Law School in Newark.

The longtime series, which has won 25 New York and Mid-Atlantic Emmy Awards, features episodes that examine social and criminal justice, civil rights, national security, government and politics, race and class and public policy.

A production of Rutgers Law School and Rutgers University-Newark, "Due Process" is devoted exclusively to legal, criminal and social justice. Rutgers Law School Co-dean Ronald K. Chen is an executive producer, and episodes often include professors from the law school and other Rutgers University-Newark programs and schools.

Award-winning journalist Sandra King hosts the weekly series, while writing, reporting and executive producing "Due Process" along with producer Tania Ivanova Bentley.

"Our home is here at the law school, but, for the past five years, we've had to leave Newark to tape our show in Piscataway. Although taping in a studio was easier, it was less relevant than bringing our expert guests and our full production into our law school moot courtroom," said King. "So instead of looking for a new studio, we decided to bring Due Process home; in essence, creating a studio inside the Baker Courtroom for one day - bringing in dozens of lights, four cameras, a teleprompter, a switcher, a crew and at least a quarter mile of cable - and emerging after 12 hours with the elements to build four important new shows."

According to its website, "Due Process" is, "Guided by a mission to engage and educate the public television audience on the social, legal and policy issues that impact their lives."

King launched "Due Process" 20 years ago at New Jersey Network (NJN), which was then the state-run public station. With the dissolution of NJN five years ago, former law school Dean John

Farmer invited the program to make its home at Rutgers Law School.

Recent shows include a two-part special on DNA rape exonerations of those wrongly convicted and imprisoned, a profile of Newark's experimental "community court," and a look at an America divided over what to do about marijuana. In the last year, topics have ranged from reform of the Newark Police to the fight for meaningful drug policy reform; from the complicity in slavery of the nation's most prestigious colleges to the stark reality of solitary confinement in New Jersey's prisons.

In addition to award-winning minidocs, "Due Process" features spirited debate on critical issues, which will continue to be produced on-location in the moot courtroom at Rutgers Law School, and aired five times a week on WNET/13 and NJTV. Episodes of "Due Process" can be viewed on [YouTube.com/DueProcessTV](https://www.youtube.com/DueProcessTV) or on watch.njtvonline.org/program/due-process.



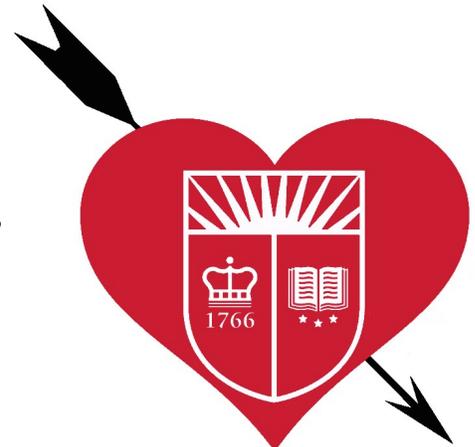
MARC R. STAENBERG '73 NAMED METNEWS'S PERSON OF THE YEAR

Beverly Hills Bar Association Chief Executive Officer Marc R. Staenberg, as been chosen as one of the Metropolitan News-Enterprise 2016 "persons of the year." Staenberg gained his post with the Beverly Hills Bar Association in 2004, having previously been in practice as an entertainment lawyer. He served for four years as chair of the Beverly Hills Bar Association's Entertainment Law Section from 1989-92, was on the group's Board of Governors from 1993-97, and received the BHBA's "Governor's Award" In 1997. While studying at Rutgers Law, he served as a research assistant to then-Professor (now U.S. Supreme Court Justice) Ruth Bader Ginsburg. After graduating from Rutgers, he went on to obtain an LLM from Georgetown in 1977. He served in the District of Columbia as an attorney-advisor in the Department of Defense's Office of General Counsel from 1973-75 and as a senior attorney in the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Legal Director from 1975-80. Staenberg left for Los Angeles in 1980, and was admitted to the State Bar of California the following year.



DO YOU HAVE A GREAT RUTGERS LAW LOVE STORY?

Last year, Rutgers Law School featured a Valentine's Day story about Kerry Flynn and Chris Andrew – who met on their first day at Rutgers Law School in Newark in 1999. It was one of the most-read stories on the law school website. This year, we'd like to mention the names of other married couples who met at Rutgers Law School. We'd like to know how you met your spouse, what years you attended law school and what you're up to now. Your story may be featured in next month's alumni newsletter and on the law school website. If you've got a love story to share, please email Communications Director Elizabeth Moore at: e.moore@law.rutgers.edu



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW TO HOLD ALUMNI RECEPTION

The Rutgers University Law Review will be holding its 6th Annual Alumni Reception on February 23rd. The reception will be held at the Crystal Room in the Iberia Tavern in Newark, New Jersey, and will run from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. On-site parking is provided, and both dinner and drinks will be served. Attendees will hear from Law Review alumni, including a Keynote Speaker and our Alumni of the Year. If you have any questions, please contact the Law Review at RutgersNewarkLawReviewAlumni@gmail.com.

RECENT ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Jonathan Koles '81 has been installed as the President of the Hudson County Bar Association.

Tayan Patel '06 has been promoted to partner at BakerHostetler, in Washington, D.C.

Dorothy T. Daly '96 has been elected a shareholder at Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, P.C., in Pittsburgh, PA.

Michael A. Iannucci '07 has been made a partner at Blank Rome LLP, in Philadelphia, PA.

Reynold Lambert '07 has been made a partner at Lowenstein Sandler LLP.

April Caso Ishak '89 has been appointed City Attorney of Havre de Grace, Maryland.

Charles H. Friedrich, III '74 has been made a partner at Scarinci Hollenbeck, in Lyndhurst, NJ.

David S. Handler '02 has been made a partner at Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP, in New York, NY.

CJ Griffin '09 has been made a partner at Pashman Stein Walder Hayden, PC, in Hackensack, NJ.

Eli Granek '13 has been invited to join the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance, a nonpartisan alliance comprised of thousands of insurance companies, corporations, Corporate Counsel, Litigation and Risk Managers, claims professionals, and attorneys.

Jennifer Webb-McRae '94 has been reappointed as the Cumberland County Prosecutor. She is the first African American and first female prosecutor for the county.

Brian D. Pagano '07 has become a Member of the Firm at Burns White LLC.

Kirsten Scheurer Branigan '95 was named to the 2016 elected group of Fellows of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers,

Reneé F. Bergmann '00 has joined the firm of Subranni Zaubler LLC.

Russell B. Bershad '77 has been named to the NJBIZ Real Estate Power 75.

Maritza Dominguez Braswell '08 has started a law firm in Greenwood Village, Colorado, specializing in complex civil, commercial, and capital markets litigation.

Hillary Ladov '13 has been elected to a three-year term on the Young Lawyers Division Executive Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Marc Staenberg '73, CEO of the Beverly Hills Bar Association, has been selected as one of the Metropolitan News-Enterprise's 2016 "Persons of the Year".

To submit an update, please email alumni@law.rutgers.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, February 20, 2017

12:15PM - 1:15PM
Rutgers Law School
123 Washington St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Center for Gender, Sexuality, Law and Policy Lunchtime Lecture

Speaker: Holning S. Lau, *Reef C. Ivey, II Distinguished Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Faculty Development, and Faculty Director of the LL.M. Program, UNC School of Law*

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Treno Pizza Bar
233 Haddon Ave.
Westmont, NJ 08108

Rutgers Law South Jersey - Philadelphia Alumni Gathering

Registration: Ralumni.com/trenolaw2017

Wednesday, March 8 , 2017

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM
Rutgers Law School
123 Washington St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Center for Gender, Sexuality, Law and Policy Lunchtime Lecture

Speaker: Jessica Clarke, *Walter V. Schaefer Visiting Professor of Law, University of Chicago School of Law and Associate Professor of Law and Vance Opperman Research Scholar, University of Minnesota Law School*

Monday, March 27 , 2017

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM
Rutgers Law School
123 Washington St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Center for Gender, Sexuality, Law and Policy Lunchtime Lecture

Speaker: Tracy Robinson, *Senior Lecturer, The University of the West Indies, at Mona and former Commissioner, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights*

Thursday, April 6, 2017

6:30PM - 10:30PM
Nanina's in the Park
540 Mill St.,
Belleville, NJ

Minority Student Program 49th Annual Banquet

Registration instructions to follow

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM
Rutgers Law School
123 Washington St.
Newark, NJ 07102

Center for Gender, Sexuality, Law and Policy Lunchtime Lecture

Speaker: Clare Huntington, *Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Law, Fordham School of Law*