



**GRADUATION  
CONVOCATION**

**HONORS PROGRAM**

**NEWARK CAMPUS CEREMONY**

**May 26, 2017**

**RUTGERS**  
Law School



# RUTGERS

Law School

## CLASS OF 2017 HONORS

### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Deanna M. Christian †

Mark Makar †

Robert J. Papazian †

Adam C. Saunders †

Carol R. Yablonsky †

### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

William Wyatt Allen †

Christine A. Armellino †

James S. Arrabito †

Alyssa F. Conn †

Franco Di Maio †

Denis Fatovic †

Autumn L. Knicely †

Stephen J. Marietta †

Nicholas J. Mazza †

Madison S. Riede †

Jarad G. Schaeffner †

Christina N. Stripp †

Thomas A. Tietz †

Peter C. Urmston †

### CUM LAUDE

Philip Aimutis

Beata N. Aldridge

Vanessa Avello

Robert A. Ayes

Sabrina Baig

Lauren E. Bland

John A. Burke

Tareef Chama

Michael A. Conforti

Genna A. Conti

Cristina R. D'Amato

Frankel A. Roger

Laura M. Garcia

Staci Jankielewicz

David W. Kuhrt

Pawel Maziarz

Maria G. McKee

Jason D. Meyers

Corinne Minicozzi

Conner J. Ouellette

Yi An Pan

Ankita Patel

Annabel Pollioni

Andres F. Puerta

Amy A. Pujara

Farah A. Rahaman

Victoria M. Saraiva

Nakul Y. Shah

Paul S. St. Marie

Joseph W. Tartaglia

Kyle A. Valente

# Pro Bono Awards

## PRO BONO SCHOLARS

Each year, the Rutgers Law School recognizes those students who performed 100 or more law-related service hours as Pro Bono Scholars.

William Wyatt Allen	Michael A. O'Brien
Christine A. Armellino	Babatunde P. Odubekun
Robert A. Ayes	Conner J. Ouellette
Sabrina Baig	Robert J. Papazian
Bria S. Beaufort	Ana R. Pincaro
Alexandra C. Bravo	Annabel Pollioni
Taylor W. Brownell	Philip R. Reid
Tareef Chamaa	Nathania Reyes
Marisol Conde-Hernandez	Madison S. Riede
Genna A. Conti	Adam C. Saunders
Cristina R. D'Amato	Steven Savacool
Gurkamal Gill	Jayant S. Sirdesai
Abdus-Sami M. Jameel	Joseph Stimmel
Louis J. Keleher	Christina N. Stripp
Autumn Knicely	Emily P. Strulowitz
Julian N. Krol	Alvina Swati
Kaitlyn N. Maltese	Arij H. Syed
Joseph J. Marrazo	Joseph W. Tartaglia
Justine A. Martolano	Peter C. Urmston
Peter A. Michael	Carol R. Yablonsky
Leslyn T. Moore	Ji Won Yoon
Bisma Muhammed	

# ORDER OF THE COIF

The order of the Coif is an honorary scholastic society, the purpose of which is to encourage excellence in legal education by fostering a spirit of careful study, by recognizing those who as law students attained a high grade of scholarship, and by honoring those who as lawyers, judges and teachers attained high distinction for their scholarly or professional accomplishments. Of the 200 American law schools, only 21 have been granted a charter to establish a Coif Chapter. Rutgers Newark was the first New Jersey law school to establish a Coif chapter 26 years ago in 1991.

Individual membership in the Order of the Coif may be conferred upon graduates of member schools who rank at least in the top 10% of their class.

## SPECIAL HOODER RECOGNITION

### Graduate

Sabrina Baig  
John Burke  
Deanna Christian  
Marisol Conde-Hernandez  
Tyler Diekhaus  
Farrah Rahaman  
Sheela George  
Elyla Huertas  
David Kuhrt  
Megan Linares  
Babatunde Odubekun  
Ana Gloria Valentin Perez  
Annabel Pollioni  
Victoria Saraiva  
Adam Saunders  
Steven Savacool  
Michael Sheflin  
Joseph Tartaglia  
Carol Yablonsky

### Hooded by

Beth Acevedo  
Shannon Burke-Gaul  
Prof. Jennifer Rosen Valverde  
Yael Bromberg  
Sara Cohen  
Jeanne LoCicero  
Prof. Andrew Rothman  
Jeanne LoCicero  
Prof. Jennifer Rosen Valverde  
Hon. Jose L. Linares  
Azeem Chaudry  
Hon. Siobhan A. Teare  
Amy Jane Agnew  
Susan Saraiva  
Brian Saunders  
James Maynard  
Amy Jane Agnew  
Prof. Andrew Rothman  
Hon. Daniel Yablonsky

# Public Interest Fellows

Rutgers Law School offers several fellowships directed toward particular interest areas. The public interest fellows program provides academic and professional training and support, to select students pursuing careers in public interest law and policy.

We congratulate the following public interest fellows of the Class of 2017!

Taylor Brownell

## **CENTER FOR GENDER AND SEXUALITY LAW AND POLICY (CGSLP) FELLOW**

This fellowship provides a unique opportunity for a Rutgers Law student to work with the policy initiatives of the Center for Gender and Sexuality and Law and Policy.

Alyssa Conn

## **CHILD ADVOCACY FELLOW**

The Child Advocacy Fellowship is designed to encourage and support the training and development of students who wish to pursue careers in the public interest, and who are particularly committed to children's legal issues. The Child Advocacy Fellow enrolls in the Child Advocacy Clinic, and assists in the development of the Newark Education Advocacy and Access Project.

Cristina D'Amato  
Fara Momen

## **IMMIGRATION RIGHTS FELLOW**

This fellow demonstrates a commitment to public service in the field of immigration law or immigration rights.

Abdus-Sami M. Jameel  
Maria Jose Padilla  
Annabel Pollioni  
Farah Rahaman  
Carol Yablonsky

## **KINOY-STAVIS FELLOWS**

This fellowship began in the name of one of its most nationally prominent and treasured faculty member, the late Professor Arthur Kinoy. It was later expanded in honor of the late Morton Stavis, co-founder with Professor Kinoy of the Center for Constitutional Rights and one of the nation's preeminent civil rights lawyers and former adjunct professor at the law school.

Marisol Conde-Hernandez  
Victoria Saraiva  
Alaina Thomas

## **MARSHA WENK FELLOWS**

Created in memory of Marsha Wenk, a 1987 graduate of the law school who dedicated her legal career to public service and who died in 1996, the Wenk fellowship program seeks to support students interested in developing a career in public interest law, and to foster a cadre of law students involved in public interest activities during law school.

# Pro Bono Awards

## **PRO BONO RECOGNITION**

Rutgers Law School's Pro Bono Program recognizes those students who have performed 50 or more hours of law-related service through the public interest program

Kojo Anaman

Vanessa Avello

Louis Baez

Evan Bakhet

Moira Batista

Anna A. Bennett

Pedro Blanco

Jerome Boston

Cameron Boyd

Alyssa F. Conn

Edumin Corrales

Dina Dalco

Mario Derevjanik

Tyler Diekhaus

Ardinez Domgioni

Denis Fatovic

Robert F. Galvan

Laura Garcia

Sheela George

Gigg Goodlow

Timothy Kawira

Kristy L. Keiser

Abdul Rehman Khan

Megan Linares

Narina Manukian

Vanessa Martinez

Beonica McClanahan

Marian M. Miawad

Adam Morsy

Maria Jose Padilla-Narvarez

Vaughn Parchment

Ankita Patel

Ana Gloria Valentin Perez

Jason Perez

Andres F. Puerta

Amy A. Pujara

Farah Rahaman

John Rinaldi

Marquise Rivon

Victoria Salami

Victoria Saraiva

Nakul Shah

Parampreet Singh

Eric Stevenson

Peter Szafranski

Drew Tanner

Alaina Thomas

Kyle Valente

Dina Younes

## PRIZE AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

Peter C. Urmston	<b>JUSTICE HENRY E. ACKERSON, JR. PRIZE</b> This prize is awarded to the student who has most distinguished himself or herself in the area of legal skills.
Derek J. Prevete	<b>ABA/BNA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – HEALTH LAW</b> This award is given to honor superior academic performance in the area of health law.
Joseph J. Marrazo & Mario Derevjanik	<b>ABA/BNA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW</b> This award is given to the student demonstrating the highest academic achievement in the area of intellectual property law. The prize is awarded this year to two outstanding student.
Alvina Swati	<b>ABA/BNA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE – LABOR &amp; EMPLOYMENT LAW</b> This award will be presented to the student with the highest academic achievement in the fields of labor and employment law.
Taylor W. Brownell	<b>THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MATRIMONIAL LAWYERS AWARD</b> This award is sponsored by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers and is given to the student who has shown the most aptitude in Family Law.
Deanna M. Christian & Alaina Thomas	<b>THE FRANK AND MARILYN ASKIN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL STUDIES</b> This prize is awarded by the law school clinical faculty to the student who, over the course of his or her legal education, has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the clients of the Rutgers Law School Clinics and to the principles and values of clinical legal education. This year's prize goes to two outstanding students.
Katherine DiCicco	<b>THE ALLAN AXELROD PRIZE</b> This prize was established to recognize the immense commitment by Professor Axelrod to Rutgers Law School, and is given to the student with the best grades in Commercial Law.
Timothy M. Kawira	<b>THE AMERICAN BANKRUPTCY INSTITUTE MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE</b> This prize is awarded to the student who most excelled in the area of bankruptcy studies.
William Wyatt Allen	<b>CHARLES DAVENPORT PRIZE IN TAX LAW</b> This prize is awarded to the member of the graduating class having the best grades and highest achievement in Tax Law.

## Certificate in Criminal Law

This program offers students with a special interest in the field of criminal law the opportunity to pursue that interest in a structured framework, and to achieve special recognition for doing so. The program is designed to ensure that students: (1) are exposed to a broad range of issues in criminal law and procedure, (2) have the experience of writing a supervised research paper, and (3) obtain some practical experience in the field. The program is intended to be sufficiently flexible to allow students to pursue a particular sub-interest in substantive criminal law or criminal procedure.

David Alfreds  
Stilianos Cambilis  
Antonio Laberde  
Jennifer Leung  
Conner Ouellette  
Joseph Tartaglia

## Certificate in Family Law

The Certificate Program in Family Law offers students having a special interest in the field of family law a structured framework to pursue that interest, as well as special and formal recognition for doing so. The program has flexibility to allow students to pursue a particular subset of courses related to family law.

Taylor Brownell  
Chelsea Shumaker

# Certificate in Corporate/Business Law

This Certificate Program in Corporate/Business Law will provide students with special interest in corporate and business law a structured framework to pursue that interest, as well as formal recognition for doing so. All students will gain a core competency in the law governing the formation and governance of corporations and in the financing of corporations.

Philip Aimutis Jr.	Adam Morsy
Joshua Baker	Bisma Muhammed
Moiria Batista	Thomas Palma
Jerome Boston	Vaughn Parchment
Carl Carlucci	Ankita Patel
Joseph Doll	Andres Puerta
Denis Fatovic	Amy Pujara
Jarad G. Schaeffner	Adam Saunders
Jordan Green	Thomas Tietz
Joseph Marrazo	Kyle Valente
Justine Martolano	Ji won Yoon
Pawel Maziarz	

David W. Kuhrt &  
Mark Makar

## **MORRIS GANN PRIZE IN EVIDENCE**

This prize is given to the member of the graduating class having the best grade in Evidence.

Laura M. Garcia &  
Stephen J. Marietta

## **SCHILDKRAUT PRIZE IN APPELLATE ADVOCACY**

This award is given to the student or students showing the most promise as an appellate advocate.

Maria G. McKee

## **MYRON HARKAVY PRIZE**

This prize is awarded to the member of the graduating class showing the most promise as a trial lawyer.

Daniel J. Parziale

## **CHIEF JUSTICE RICHARD J. HUGHES PRIZE**

This prize is awarded to the graduating student who has achieved the best record in the New Jersey Practice course.

Farah A. Rahaman

## **ELI JARMEL MEMORIAL PRIZE**

This prize is awarded to the student who demonstrated the greatest interest and proficiency in public interest law.

Cristina R. D'Amato

## **HELEN LEVINE COHEN AWARD**

This award recognizes a student who has demonstrated the highest caliber of advocacy on behalf of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender community.

Tyler A. Diekhaus &  
Robert F. Galvan

## **MENDLOVITZ FAMILY FUND PRIZE**

This prize is awarded for outstanding and distinguished work in law and humanities. This award is given this year to two outstanding students.

Megan Linares

## **G. A. MOORE PRIZE**

This prize is awarded to the student who has done distinguished work in the field of equal employment opportunity law. It was donated by Mr. Moore, a participant in a symposium held in 1975 at the law school to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

Taylor W. Brownell

## **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS AWARD**

This prize is given to the student or students showing the greatest commitment to women's issues.

Genna A. Conti

## **CAROL RUSS MEMORIAL PRIZE**

This prize is awarded to the student who has best demonstrated a commitment to and a record of distinction in promoting women's rights through the law.

Alyssa F. Conn	<p><b>SERA RAMCHARITAR MEMORIAL AWARD</b>  This prize is awarded to the student who has excelled in work on behalf of the underprivileged, particularly women, children and families.</p>	Deanna M. Christian	<p><b>ANTHONY ENGELBRECHT PRIZE</b>  This prize is awarded annually to the graduating student who attains the highest average in his or her final year.</p>
Franco Di Maio	<p><b>H. THEODORE SORG PROPERTY PRIZE</b>  This prize is awarded to the student with the highest average in Property.</p>	Deanna M. Christian	<p><b>PHILIP KRAVITZ MEMORIAL PRIZE</b>  This prize is awarded to the part-time student with the highest academic average.</p>
Pawel Maziarz & Brian J. Taboada	<p><b>MIRON M. WALLEY MEMORIAL PRIZE</b>  This award is given to a graduating student who has excelled in course work in the area of Real Estate transactions.</p>	Deanna M. Christian	<p><b>A. HARRY MOORE &amp; SAUL TISCHLER MEMORIAL PRIZES</b>  These prizes are awarded to the student with the highest grades for his or her entire three years.</p>
Kaitlyn N. Maltese	<p><b>OUTSTANDING CLINICAL STUDENT AWARD</b>  This prize is presented by the Clinical Legal Education Association to a member of the graduating class based on the high quality of representation provided to clients and for exceptionally thoughtful, self-reflective participation in and accompanying clinical seminar.</p>	Marisol Conde-Hernandez & Annabel Pollioni	<p><b>JUDGE J. SKELLY WRIGHT PRIZE</b>  This prize is awarded to the student who has done most for civil rights, civil liberties, and human affairs.</p>
Autumn Knically	<p><b>RUTGERS LAW SCHOOL FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP AND LEADERSHIP AWARD</b>  Demonstration of excellence in a combination of scholarship and leadership.</p>	Stephen Marietta & Robert Papazian	<p><b>ALUMNI SENIOR PRIZE</b>  This prize is awarded to the graduating senior exhibiting the greatest achievement during his or her entire law school career, and who has the greatest promise as a future member of the legal profession.</p>
Kyle A. Valente	<p><b>RUTGERS OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR BUSINESS AND CORPORATE LAW</b></p>		
Carol R. Yablonsky	<p><b>RUTGERS OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW</b></p>		
Christina N. Stripp	<p><b>RUTGERS OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR ETHICS</b></p>		
Alyssa F. Conn	<p><b>RUTGERS OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW</b></p>		
Carol R. Yablonsky	<p><b>RUTGERS OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR BEST STUDENT NOTE, COMMENT OR SCHOLARLY PAPER</b></p>		