

# Class Day May 16, 2024

Camden, NJ

Host

Louis Thompson, (Retired) Associate Dean of Student Affairs

# Program

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Award winners are encouraged to take photos with their favorite professors!

# Faculty and Staff Awards

Professor of the Year J.C. Lore

Adjunct Professor of the Year Lisa Szymanski

Lawyering Professor of the Year Sandra Simkins

Grand Marshall John Oberdiek

Hooders Katie Eyer

Thea Johnson Michael Carrier Ari Afilalo

Ari Afilalo

Readers Jacob Russell

Adnan Zulfiqar Stacy Hawkins Rick Swedloff

Senior Administrator of the Year Rhasheda Douglas

Administrator of the Year Pam Mertsock-Wolfe

Staff Member of the Year Arlene Lentini

#### Service Awards

# Chancellor's Awards for Diversity, Inclusion, and Civic Engagement

These awards celebrate those who strive daily to foster understanding and learning, invest in building relationships across differences, and offer new ways to promote equity and diversity. These honorees were celebrated during a special event in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Campus Center.

Dean's Award for Service to Rutgers Law School recognizes particularly significant contributions to the law school and the surrounding community.

David Dolgenos Memorial Award honors a successful New York real estate, entertainment, and commercial lawyer. He was from a working-class family and put himself through law school by working as a dance instructor, construction worker and waiter, and holding other jobs. This award is for a student who has overcome similar difficult obstacles in the path to a J.D., such as being a non-native English speaker, the first in a family to attend college, a single parent, disabled, or facing other life obstacles. The award, which is funded by the family of Professor Sarah Ricks, is designed to help the student lighten financial burdens while studying for the bar exam.

Herb and Tricia Hinkle Award for Commitment to Educating Camden Youth About Law recognizes a student or students who demonstrated outstanding commitment to educating young people in Camden about the law through one or more of the law school's projects (including but not limited to the Street Law Pro Bono Project, the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project or the Summer Law Institute).

National Association of Women Lawyers Award is presented to the student who, through academic achievement, motivation, tenacity and drive, shows promise to contribute to the advancement of women in the legal community and in society.

For Student Civic Engagement:

2023-2024: Rachel Tavani

*2022-2023:* **Zaniya Lewis** 

Andrew Ibarra Hannah Soisson Rachel Tavani Nayomi Torres-Velez

**Trang Do** 

Rachel Tavani and Brian Read

Daniella Mannino

Philadelphia Bar Association Eve Biskind Klothen Law Student Pro Bono Distinction Award, in recognition of Eve Biskind Klothen's tremendous support and guidance to generations of public interest attorneys, students, and organizations during her career, honors students from the area law schools for their outstanding pro bono and public interest work during law school.

Thomas Boisvert Chakeema Cruikshank Rachel Tavani

#### Philadelphia Bar Association Public Interest Section Law Student Award

**Meghan DeVol** 

honors area law students for the area law schools who exemplify the pro bono ethic and who have worked tirelessly in support of social justice at their law schools and in their communities.

Mary Philbrook Student Public Interest Award, presented since 1999, recognizes students for exceptional contributions to the public interest during their years in law school. The qualities recognized by the Student Public Interest Awards are: outstanding public service contributions in community organizations, particularly contributions related to law, justice and the legal system; activism in the Rutgers community; a continuous dedication to public interest that goes above and beyond that of most law students; and a G.P.A. of 2.5 or above.

Michael Bauder Thomas Boisvert Lindsey Eveland Allison Jones Haajra Mirza Rachel Tavani Kassidy Tirelli Morgan Walsh Rachael Wolfram

Honorable Judith H. Wizmur Bankruptcy Pro Bono Award recognizes the significant contributions that law students make to underserved populations by performing pro bono work through the Rutgers-Camden Bankruptcy Pro Bono Project.

**Thomas Boisvert** 

### Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project,

enlists law students in an effort to increase civic literacy and participation in American democracy. The project prepares gifted upper-level law student "Fellows" to teach a course in Constitutional and civic literacy in local high schools. The aim is to make the Constitution "come alive" for young people in Camden while reinforcing law students' mastery of the substantive material and lawyering skills. The Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project is supported by funding from a foundation named for Michael Young, an outstanding Rutgers-Camden Law student who died shortly before his graduation in 2004.

Allison Jones Priya Kavuru (Michael Young Scholar) Joelle Paull Basma Qazi Brian Read Lewis Rosenblum Rachel Tavani (Michael Young Scholar)

#### Pro Bono Publico Awards

All aspects of the Pro Bono Program are designed with three goals: (1) to address unmet legal needs in the community; (2) to help law students develop substantive legal knowledge, while honing professional contacts and skills; and (3) to help law students cultivate a lifelong commitment to pro bono service. Students receiving a Pro Bono Award have made a significant volunteer commitment to one or more of the Law School's pro bono projects or have served through local, regional, or national public interest legal organizations. Pro Bono Publico awardees have volunteered at least 50 hours (35 for part-time students); Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service awardees have volunteered at least 100 hours (70 hours part-time); Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service, with Distinction awardees have volunteered at least 200 hours (140 part-time).

#### <u>Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service, with Distinction</u>

Thomas Boisvert Arden Walker
Loris Dennis Rachael Wolfram
Rachel Tavani Emily Wolfson

#### Dean's Pro Bono Publico Award for Exceptional Service

Michael Bauder
Stacey Crock
Meghan Devol
Rebecca Doherty
Kaitlyn Flanagan
Jeremy Koepf
Alyssa Le
Keerah McCratic
Alexandra Ruane
Melissa Rebovich
Zahirah Sabir
Alycia Schwamb
Samantha Seltzer
Kaleigh Sisco

Zaniya Lewis Southiwa Souvannaphasy

Emily Makar Kassidy Tirelli Konnor Woodburn

#### Pro Bono Publico Award for Significant Service

Gabriela Aste-Molina Haajra Mirza
Donnelle Bodnarchuk Kaitlyn Owens
Haylee Brister Rutu Patel

Vanessa Calixto
Ashley Casselle
Isabella Cocozza
Samuel Craig
Chakeema Cruickshank
Bruce Dutra

Dominique Perez
Basma Qazi
Jennifer Ricci
Austin Romano
Brooke Rotheram
Michaela Rygalski

Bruce Dutra
Lindsey Eveland
Ashna Gorajia
Spencer Holm
Allison Jones

Michaela Rygalski
Iain Saltzberg Pollard
Daniel Tomascik
Morgan Walsh
Cassidy Young

Renee Marshina

#### Social Justice Scholars

The Social Justice Scholars (SJS) Program is an elite scholarship program for students with a commitment to public service and social justice. Rutgers Law School is committed to promoting public interest law through a variety of programs and opportunities for our students. Each year, Rutgers Law recognizes a small cohort of incoming students at the Camden location as Social Justice Scholars; they remain in the program throughout law school and beyond. These students demonstrate an exceptional commitment to public service and are most likely to dedicate their legal careers to working on social justice causes and on behalf of underserved communities.

Loris Dennis
Meghan DeVol
Jeremy Koepf
Zaniya Lewis
Melissa Rebovich
Zahirah Sabir
Southiwa Souvannaphasy
Arden Walker

#### Rayman L. Solomon Scholars

The Rayman L. Solomon Scholars program at the Camden location of Rutgers Law School in honor of former dean and current faculty member, Ray Solomon. The new program is designed to attract students to Rutgers Law who have distinguished themselves academically and indicated an interest in public service.

Neeraja Aravindan Malley Chertkov Trang Do

# Lawyering Awards

Richard L. Barbour, Jr. Memorial Award is dedicated by family and friends to the memory of a well-loved member of the Class of 1989 who served as Assistant Burlington County Prosecutor until his untimely death in April of 1991. The award goes to a student with good academic standing and a demonstrated interest in and commitment to the support of justice through prosecution or service as a judicial clerk.

**Jacob Haulenbeek** 

Clinical Legal Education Association Award is presented to a student at each law school who has demonstrated excellence in a clinical course. Chakeema Cruickshank

Herman J. Finn Legal Ethics Award, established in loving memory of Herman J. Finn, Class of 1930, by his daughter, Jessica Finn Waxman, is presented to the student who demonstrates superior academic achievement in Professional Responsibility or related classes, and demonstrates the greatest commitment to upholding the highest ethical standards of the legal profession.

Melissa Rebovich

Chief Justice Richard J. Hughes Award, supported by the New Jersey County Court Judges Association, is presented to the student who demonstrates the highest achievement in the field of New Jersey practice and procedure. This award is made in honor of the distinguished contribution to the cause of justice in New Jersey and the nation by the Honorable Richard J. Hughes, retired Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Nayomi Torres-Velez

International Academy of Trial Lawyers Student Advocacy Award, an honorary scroll, is presented to a student who demonstrates overall ability in trial advocacy by high achievement in trial practice, evidence, pleading and procedure courses. **Bailey Gunner** 

Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association James J. Manderino Award for Trial Advocacy is presented to a student at each of the Philadelphia area law schools who has shown outstanding abilities in the area of trial advocacy. **Meghan Devol** 

### Judge James Hunter III Memorial Advanced Appellate Advocacy Board

Faculty: Professor Lisa Szymanski

These students served as the 2022-2023 Hunter Appellate Advocacy Fellows and supervised, organized and managed the James Hunter III Memorial Advanced Moot Court Competition.

Loris Dennis Michael Hatch Makayla Monica Jordan Ohl Eric Richwine Daniel Tomascik

### Judge James Hunter III Memorial Advanced Appellate Advocacy Competition Awards

**Faculty**: Professor Barbara Gotthelf Professor Lisa Szymanski

Dedicated to the memory of an admired member of the United States Third Circuit Court of Appeals who served from 1971 until his death in 1989, these awards honor students who have excelled in written and oral appellate advocacy.

<u>Graduating Best Oralist Winners, Spring</u> 2023

Malley Chertkov Trang Do Kandace Smith

<u>Graduating Students with Best Brief Awards,</u> 2023

Plaintiff/Appellant: Noah Baumgartel Plaintiff/Appellant: Gwin Duangnapa

<u>Graduating Students with Best Brief Awards,</u> 2022

Defendant/Respondent: **Makayla Monica**Defendant/Respondent: **Broderick Graham** 

#### **Doctrinal Awards**

Don F. D'Agui, Esquire Memorial Award is presented to the law student achieving the highest average in and displaying greatest aptitude for the area of the law of torts. This award is funded by an endowment contributed to the law school in memory of Don F. D'Agui, Class of 1953, and his son, Don D'Agui II.

**Avrohom Tober** 

Deborah Michael Richards Award for Family Law, in memory of Deborah M. Richards (Class of 1983), is presented to a student who has demonstrated a commitment to practicing in the area of family law, who will serve a judicial clerkship or accept appointment for public service in a government agency and who has indicated a desire to engage in the practice of family law.

**Kassidy Tirelli** 

M. Donald Kepner Award, established to honor the career of a former dean and distinguished professor of law, this award is presented to a student or students in the graduating class who excelled in the study of federal jurisdiction.

Elena Gladkoff

The Nicholas and Kathleen Talvacchia Land Use and Real Estate Development Award is presented to a law student who has demonstrated excellence in the study of land use and/or real estate development.

**Thomas Boisvert** 

Neil Wise Environmental Law Award is given to a graduating student who has excelled in the study of environmental law.

**Meghan Devol** 

Leonard Zack Award for Academic Achievement is presented annually to a graduating student or students on the basis of financial need and excellence in the study of dispute resolution. **Kandace Smith** 

# Legal Writing Awards

Achievement Award in Legal Writing was established to promote excellence in practice-oriented writing and to honor those students who are best able to represent simulated and/or actual clients' interests by means of written advocacy. It is presented to the student who has demonstrated the highest caliber of legal writing abilities in a graded law school course or courses. The award may be made for a single piece of writing or a portfolio of pieces. This award is funded by Professor Ruth Anne Robbins and her husband, Steven C. Robbins.

Nicholas Hansen and Kaitlyn Owens for their work in the Housing Advocacy Clinic in Fall 2023

Albert P. Blaustein Memorial Award, in honor of the late and beloved Professor Albert Blaustein, is presented to the students whose written works published in the law school's journals exemplifies the highest standard of legal scholarship.

#### Rutgers Law Review

Margaret A. Tobey for Battle of the Books: How New State Laws Legitimize the Resurgence of Book Banning Efforts and Prove the Inadequacy of Current Judicial Standards to Protect Student First Amendment Rights (2023)

<u>Rutgers Journal of Law & Religion</u>

Rachel Tavani for The End of the Establishment Clause? Constitutional Chaos Created by the Court in Kennedy

## Blaine E. Capehart Award for Legal Writing

Excellence was established by the firm of Capehart & Scatchard to honor its most senior shareholder, Blaine E. Capehart, and to promote and recognize excellence in legal writing at Rutgers School of Law - Camden. This award is presented to a student who has written an outstanding piece of scholarly or practical writing during the past academic year, exemplifying the highest standards of writing in the legal profession.

#### Priya Kavuru for

Appropriation Makes the Art Grow Fonder: The Fair Use Doctrine and the Future of Contemporary Art First-Year Writing Awards are presented to students for their outstanding performance in the Legal Analysis, Writing and Research I and II courses. These students mastered the fundamental lawyering skills of research, analysis, and writing and were selected based on their demonstrated ability to write clear and precise practical legal documents. This solid foundation should serve them well in their legal careers as they continue to develop these important skills.

<u>Jenoff</u> **Eric Richwine Heather Zelcs** 

Ricks Makayla Monica

Robbins
Daniel Boucot
Nicole Aguiar

<u>Simkins</u> **Austin Reid Iulio Leon** 

<u>Wallinger</u> **Elena Gladkoff** 

<u>Campanella</u> **Timothy Walter** 

<u>Shashoua</u> **Catherine Muncy** 

William McNichol Annual Award in Intellectual

Property This award was established by Adjunct Professor William J. McNichol, Jr. in honor of his late father, William J. McNichol, to recognize and encourage scholarship in intellectual property law. It is presented annually to a student who has authored an outstanding piece of scholarly or practical writing during the past academic year that exemplifies the highest standards of the law school and of the legal profession.

#### Alexandra Schoellkopf for

Countering Counterfeits: A Legislative Solution to Reduce the Number of Counterfeit Products on E-Commerce Platforms

# Recognition for Participation in Journals, Moot Courts, Mock Trials

## **Journals**

Rutgers Journal of Law and Public Policy is a premier periodical for scholarship articulating vital intersections between the law and public policy. Grounded in the ever-deepening awareness that interdisciplinary investigation is crucial to an understanding of law and culture, the RJLPP provides a unique intellectual forum for encounters between law and a variety of disciplines. The RJLPP is primarily located in Camden.

Jack Andreas Michael Bauder Kristen Bentz	Bailey Gunner Andrew Hall Michael Hatch	Christian Rodriguez Alexandra Ruane James Santoro
Garrett Bolton	Jacob Haulenbeek	Miranda Stafford
Mary Casper	Kyle Jackson	Kassidy Tirelli
Samuel Craig	Michael Marchese	Nayomi Torrez-Velez
Skylar Demartinis	Kee Min	Morgan Walsh
Ryan Fader	Melissa Rebovich	

Rutgers Journal of Law and Religion is the world's first online legal journal dedicated to the study of the dynamic interaction between law and religion. The RJLR publishes controversial and current articles relating law and religion. The goal of the RJLR is to explore how law impacts different religions, and reciprocally, how various religions impact the law. The RJLR is primarily located in Camden.

Jack Abdalla	Admir Molic	Southiwa Souvannaphasey
Loris Dennis	<b>Wyatt Morrison</b>	Rachel Tavani
Daniella Mannino	<b>Austin Romano</b>	Tianna Williams
	Chloe Sokol	

Rutgers Law Review is the flagship law journal of Rutgers Law School. The Law Review, co-located in Camden and Newark, is a professional publication devoted to critical discussions of current legal problems. Issued five times a year, the Law Review publishes lead articles by practitioners and scholars, as well as student contributions in the form of notes, comments, and online commentary. The Law Review publishes an annual survey of state constitutional law and an issue featuring work presented at its yearly symposium.

Nedal Abusaif
Nicole Aguiar
Neeraja Aravindan
Edward Bank
Daniel Boucot
Lydia Budd
Malley Chertkov
Joshua Cleveland
Trang Do
Lindsey Eveland
Sarah Gladieux

Broderick Graham Nicholas Hansen Timothy Hinton Shellea Jackson Priya Kavuru Alyssa Le Emily Makar Colin McHugh Nicholas McLean Makayla Monica Joelle Paull Brian Read
Eric Richwine
Benjamin Salvatore
Alexandra Schoellkopf
Julia Stager
Margaret Tobey
Alexander Walenczyk
Timothy Walter
Konnor Woodburn
Ryan Pletcher

Business Law Review is the preeminent space for research and publication in the area of business and corporate law within Rutgers Law School and primarily operates as an academic outlet for students interested in pursuing these ever-expanding fields of law. Areas of research and publication include, but are not limited to, securities law, corporate governance and entity formation, mergers and acquisitions, cryptocurrency and blockchain, as well as international trade and tax law. The RBLR is proud to have a vibrant student membership in both Newark and Camden.

Gabriela Aste-Molina
Daniel Brown
Francis Casey
Spencer Holm
Andrew Hubert
Zachary Mitchell
Ryan Nameth
Jordan Ohl
Heather Zelcs

International Law and Human Rights Journal brings into the American discussion on international law and human rights, those scholars which have heretofore been ignored or undervalued. The Journal is committed to highlighting the work of scholars or practitioners from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and other overlooked legal communities, to enhance the international legal debate in the United States.

Rebecca McCusker Katherine O'Donnell Adam Stomel Rachael Wolfram

Race and the Law Review provides a forum for scholarship and dialogue on race, ethnicity, and the law. It addresses the concerns of people of color and covers various types of political ideologies, philosophies, and religions. Of special interests are treaties, agreements, and laws promulgated among different nations and the impact they have on people of color. Consequently, the *Race Review* will cover international as well as national topics of race and the law. The RRLR is primarily located in Newark.

Evan Alban Julio Leon

Rutgers Computer & Technology Law Journal is one of the earliest and longest running academic journals dedicated to scholarship on the interaction between law and technology. Issued semi-annually, the RCTLJ publishes scholarship on the legal implications of computer technology and the use of such technology within the legal profession. The RCTLJ is primarily based in Newark.

Jacob Davis Zaniya Lewis

Rutgers Law Record is a general subject matter journal that focuses on articles that provide important contributions to current legal scholarship and discourse. Its staff members are selected through a rigorous writing competition that evaluates writing, analytical, and editorial skills. The *Record* is primarily located in Newark.

Renee Marshina

Women's Rights Law Reporter is a quarterly journal of legal scholarship and feminist criticism published by students at the Rutgers Law School. Founded in 1970 by late-Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and feminist activists, legal workers, and law students and first published independently in New York City, the Reporter moved to Rutgers in 1972 and became formally affiliated with the law school in 1974. It is the oldest legal periodical in the United States focusing exclusively on the field of women's rights law. The Reporter examines legislative developments, significant federal and state court cases, judicial doctrines, litigation strategies, and the lives and careers of prominent women jurists, the legal profession, and other areas of the law or public policy relating to women's rights. The *Reporter* is primarily located in Newark.

Isabella Cocozza Dominique Perez Brooke Rotheram Hannah Soisson

#### **Moot Courts & Mock Trials**

National Black Law Students Association Constance Baker Competition 2023-2024 Chakeema Cruickshank Alyssa Olagbegi

Oxford International Property Moot Court

Fall 2022 Paul Ravelli

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team

2022-2023 Katherine O'Donnell Kayla Ramirez Chloe Sokol Julia Stager

#### Intramural Mock Trial Team & Board

 Fall 2023
 Fall 2022

 Board
 Team

Meghan Devol Meghan Devol

Jacob Haulenbeek Shellea Jackson

**Team** Shellea Jackson Christian Rodriguez Rachel Tavani

**Konnor Woodburn** 

**Heather Zelcs** 

#### **Trial Advocacy Competition Team**

Spring 2024Spring 2023Meghan DevolMeghan DevolBailey GunnerShellea JacksonHeather Zelcs

# **Outstanding Academic Awards**

#### Honors, High Honors, Highest Honors

#### Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Awards

These awards are presented to two or three students based on their scholarly accomplishments.

#### Paul C. Ireton Memorial Award for Highest Grade Point Average

Funded by the Rutgers Law School Alumni Association in memory of a faculty member, this award recognizes the student or students in the graduating class having the highest cumulative grade-point average.