# ACCESS WINDSOR LAW

## SOCIAL JUSTICE AT WINDSOR LAW MEET OUR STUDENT FELLOWS

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# CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP AT WINDSOR LAW

On August 20, Windsor Law said farewell to Dean Camille Cameron. Camille headed back home to Halifax, Nova Scotia where she has taken up the position of Dean at the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie.

During her time as Dean, Camille spearheaded strategic planning, curriculum reform, and faculty renewal. Of her time at Windsor Law she said, "While I am very excited about returning home to Nova Scotia, it is hard to leave Windsor Law School. It has been a privilege to be the Dean here and to work with such talented and dedicated faculty and staff, smart and creative students, and accomplished and loyal alums. I will miss Windsor Law School and I will always be a friend."

In announcing Camille's departure, University of Windsor President, Dr. Alan Wildeman, said, "Camille has done a wonderful job for Windsor Law and for our students. Her departure is a loss for the University of Windsor and a gain for Dalhousie. We have an outstanding Law School in Windsor and Camille will now be able to watch from afar as our faculty, staff and students continue to set a high bar."

Provost and Vice-President Douglas Kneale said, "Having worked closely with Camille on strategic issues for the Faculty of Law specifically, and UWindsor as a whole, I know what an astute and collegial academic leader she has been. I shall miss her perspective. My best wishes to her as she steps into her new role."

Camille said she is pleased to be handing over the job to Dr. Christopher Waters, whose "ability, experience, excellent judgment and good humour will ensure the continued strength of Windsor Law School during the

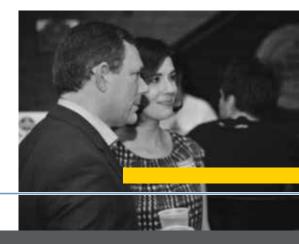


dean search process." Acting Dean Chris Waters joined the Windsor Law faculty in 2007. He served as the Associate Dean from 2009-2012 and teaches International Law and Contract Law. The author of numerous books and articles, Chris has regularly worked and consulted in elections monitoring, rule of law reform and human rights.

#### **WINDSOR LAW**

#### **REUNION WEEKEND 2015**

We welcomed back the classes of 1975, '85, '95, 2000, and '05 September 25 - 27. Festivities kicked off on Friday evening with a cocktail soiree followed by an Open House and address from Acting Dean, Chris Waters on Saturday. The elegant Caesars Windsor Ballroom provided the backdrop to our All-Classes Cocktail Party and Reunion Gala. A Farewell Breakfast at Caesars Artists' Cafe closed the weekend's events.



# NOTES FROM OUR SUMMER 2015 SOCIAL JUSTICE FELLOWS

Windsor Law awarded six Social Justice Fellowships for the Summer of 2015. These Fellowships provide financial, career development and networking support to students interested in social justice advocacy. Since the inception of this program in 2005, more than \$270,000 in financial support has been provided to students to support their social justice pursuits internationally and domestically.

#### **FARAH SALEEM**

Social Justice Fellow 2015



Farah interned with the Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA), a nongovernmental organization committed to research and advocacy through

which public policy is critiqued, in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Since the end of Sri Lanka's civil war, the organization has been calling for an independent, domestic investigation into war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the war.

"During my time working with CPA, I was largely involved in CPA's work relating to accountability. Upon arriving in Sri Lanka, I began organizing a meeting where families of the disappeared were invited to meet with diplomats, ministers, religious leaders, representatives from non-governmental organizations, and Former President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga to recount what their families had been through. Through organizing this gathering, CPA was able to give these citizens a voice. I felt privileged to be able to contribute to the process."

#### **LINDSAY CARBONERO**

Social Justice Fellow 2015



"The Social Justice Fellowship has afforded me the opportunity to learn from leaders in criminal and human rights law while taking part in the first international

war crimes tribunal since the Nuremberg."

#### **SUPRIYA JOSHI**

Social Justice Fellow 2015



Supriya has spent the summer months in Ottawa working with the Persons Against the Crime of Trafficking (PACT-Ottawa). She has done extensive work on the current

state of Forced Marriages in Canadian law, in particular the intersection between forced marriages and human trafficking. She has also worked on Human Trafficking and Organ Removal, specifically looking at the legal response to the problem. Supriya has had the pleasure of being involved in meetings and discussions with officials and dignitaries over the course of her fellowship, most notably The Honourable Joy Smith and the current Attorney General of Ontario, The Honourable Madam Meuiller. Supriya hopes to build on her experiences from the fellowship and continue to devote her legal career to social justice.

#### **LAURA STAIRS**

Social Justice Fellow 2015



"Working at a organization as well established and respected as the Legal Resource Centre has provide me with incredible opportunities to learn from

prominent human rights and public interest lawyers. I am able to sit with lawyers such as George Bizos, who represented Nelson Mandela in various matters spanning over 50 years, and hear stories about struggle and strategies used to overcome the harshest state oppression. It's humbling to witness their steadfast pursuit of justice and equality that continues long after their achievement of democracy." Laura Stairs, Law III

#### **AMNEET SINGH**

Social Justice Fellow 2015



"My experience has been international in scope and practice. In April I travelled to California where I met with the team at Ensaaf, a nonprofit organization working to end

impunity and achieve justice for mass state crimes in India. I have since returned to Toronto where I have been conducting legal research and review. I began with a review of publications highlighting the advocacy of human rights defenders and their legal challenge of state impunity and mass state cremations in Punjab, India. This allowed me to familiarize myself with the progress, or lack thereof, within the Indian judiciary. Under the mentorship of Ensaaf, I then proceeded with the task of increasing my comprehension of international legal standards in the field human rights. I consequently developed an ad-hoc checklist of international legal standards to be used for future analysis of the Indian judiciaries handling of the aforementioned cases. Currently, I am reviewing and summarizing documents obtained via Right to Information requests from the State of India. These documents amount to approximately 30,000 pages. This project will eventually culminate in a final report, assessing the conduct of the Indian Judiciary under a framework of international human rights law.

#### **CONVOCATION 2015**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST GRADUATES, THE WINDSOR LAW SCHOOL CLASS OF 2015!

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S SILVER MEDALIST DANIEL CONRAD RANKS FIRST AT UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR.

**Daniel Conrad**, a graduate of the Canadian & American Dual Juris Doctor Program, was awarded the Governor General's Silver Medal at the June Faculty of Law Convocation.

Daniel has received many awards and scholarships in recognition of his significant academic achievements including the Board of Governors' Medal for each of his three years in the Dual JD Program. He also graduated summa cum laude from the University of Detroit Mercy.

In addition to his outstanding academic achievements, Daniel has been an engaged member of the Faculty of Law student community. He served as a student ambassador, as both a tutorial and a research assistant, and as a student advisor assisting other law students in their career development. In addition, Daniel contributed to the social life of the Faculty of Law as the lead guitarist for the law students' bands "Actus Rockus" and "Force Majeure." Daniel credits his family for both his drive and his success.



Above: Daniel Conrad, Jillian Mulroy, and Valedictorian Katelyn Scorer. To view all the Graduation and Convocation 2015 photos, visit http://goo.gl/BWrZa7

"My time at Windsor Law has been the highlight of my life to-date. The student community and supportive faculty created an intellectually engaging environment that allowed me to find my true calling in corporate governance and securities law, as well as opportunities to cultivate those areas of interest both inside and outside the classroom. Additionally, the array of extra-curricular engagements offered at Windsor have

instilled in me an appreciation for the importance of community service, something I will carry with me as a future practicing lawyer and member of the Ontario bar."

Congratulations also go to Jillian Mulroy, recipient of the Governor General's Medal for the JD Program. Before coming to Windsor Law, Jillian attended Queen's University where she graduated with distinction from the Honours Bachelor of Arts in Psychology program.

At Windsor Law Jillian was a committed volunteer at Community Legal Aid. She returned to CLA as a summer law student litigator and supervised student volunteers during the following academic year. Jillian also worked as a Research Assistant to Dr. Laverne Jacobs. Jillian has accepted a position at Osler Hoskin and Harcourt LLP where she will work with the Corporate and Litigation groups.

#### ALUMNI ON THE MOVE: ALLAN STITT

Earlier this year, Allan Stitt (LL.B. '88) was appointed by the Minister of Justice to be one of three members of the Canadian delegation at the United Nations meetings conducted by UNCITRAL, relating to Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The issue currently up for debate is whether there should be a UN convention for the enforcement of mediation agreements internationally. There is already an international convention for arbitration agreements (the New York Convention), and the UNCITRAL committee will spend the next couple of years debating whether to create a similar convention for mediation.

At the first meeting in New York in February, there was consensus that the issue was worth spending the time to debate and discuss. Members of the business community made presentations about the importance



Above: Allan Stitt, Class of '88, with his son Jason, Class of 2015.

of having a convention and how it would encourage parties to mediate their disputes, and give them comfort about enforcement of any deal reached. The next meeting of the committee will be in Vienna in September, and Allan looks forward to participating in the discussion and contributing ideas based on his mediation experience.

Allan is a mediator and arbitrator based in Toronto, and is President of ADR Chambers, the largest private ADR organization in the world. He is also president of the Stitt Feld Handy Group which provides training to the public around the world in Negotiation, ADR and Dealing with Difficult People, in joint venture with the University of Windsor Law School. He's the author of a number of books, including Mediating Commercial Disputes and ADR for Organizations, both Business Books bestsellers.

## FACULTY NEWS

AND ACCOLADES

# JEFFREY BERRYMAN NAMED DISTINGUISHED UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR



Jeff Berryman will receive the title of Distinguished University Professor at Fall Convocation 2015. This honour recognizes "a member of Faculty at the rank of Professor who has distinguished achievements in teaching and wide national or international reputation for scholarship or creative or professional accomplishments." Congratulations Professor Berryman for this well-deserved honour.

# PROFESSOR REEM BAHDI HONOURED



The Royal Society of Canada named Windsor Law professor Reem Bahdi among the incoming 48 members of The College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. Those named to the College represent the emerging generation of scholarly, scientific and artistic leadership in Canada.

Together, the members of the College will address issues of particular concern to new scholars, artists and scientists, for the advancement of understanding and the benefit of society, taking advantage of the interdisciplinary approaches fostered by the establishment of the College. Please join us in congratulating Reem. ■

# TOP INTERNATIONAL LAW SCHOLARS JOIN WINDSOR LAW

# WELCOME JOHN CERONE AND JANELLE DILLER



**John Cerone** 

Windsor Law is delighted to announce the appointment of our two Paul Martin Senior Professors in International Affairs and Law. John Cerone also holds a faculty appointment at The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy (Tufts University). During the 2014-15 academic year, he was the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Human Rights & Humanitarian Law at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute and Visiting Chair in Public International Law at Lund University Faculty of Law. Professor Cerone joined us this month.

Janelle Diller works at the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva where she advises on international law and policy relating to human and labour rights, development, and migration, and negotiates agreements with governments, other international organizations, and the private sector. She will join Windsor Law in January 2016.

#### WINDSOR LAW LLM LAUNCHES



We are excited to announce our new LLM program. This is a unique program that will enable a small group of students an opportunity to pursue their academic and professional aspirations. The program will offer two streams: a one-year (12-month) regular LLM or a two-year (24-month) LLM with a Certificate in University Teaching and Learning.

Students in the teaching stream will be designated as Teaching Fellows and have the opportunity to complete a teaching practicum at the Faculty of Law. The central requirement for both streams is the completion of original publishable research.

This major written piece of original research, or thesis, may be submitted as a single document or as a set of related publishable papers addressing a single research question and totalling approximately 100-125 pages.

The deadline to apply is
January 15 for the following
Fall term. For more information
contact us at 519.253.3000
x4230, email us at
gradlawinfo@uwindsor.ca
or go to our website at
uwindsor.ca/graduate-llm

# ANNOUNCING THE ROBERT VAN KESSEL WRITING PRIZE



The family, friends and colleagues of Robert J. Van Kessel have established a writing prize to honour his distinguished career as a lawyer. The Robert J Van Kessel '87 Memorial Writing Prize

is presented annually to a law student who submits a 2500 word paper on the topic of Commercial or Corporate litigation.

Rob completed his law degree at the University of Windsor Law School in 1987 and was called to the Bar in 1989. He articled at

Lawrence, Lawrence, Stevenson LLP and spent his entire legal career practicing with Lawrences.

Over his years at the Bar, Rob built a stellar reputation as a litigator in insolvency and commercial matters. His clients greatly valued his counsel. He enjoyed a similar reputation in the courts, both trial and appellate. He was always ready to give wise advice on cases and to mentor younger lawyers, and he was greatly respected by the profession for his clear insight on legal matters. In that respect, he leaves a great legacy.

Rob leaves another legacy to the legal profession. Rob wrote prolifically, contributing papers and presentations to the Ontario Bar Association and authoring or co-authoring six legal texts that are frequently cited by courts in their reasons for judgment. In addition to his last text, Law of Fraud in Canada (being completed by co-author,

Paul Rand), his legal publications include Enforcing Judgments and Orders, Summary Judgment and Dispositions Before Trial, Interim Receivers and Monitors, Dispositions without Trial, and he assisted with Receivers in the 2006 Halsbury's Laws of Canada.

His writing was not limited to legal texts. Rob also wrote a memoir of the fascinating and harrowing experiences of the Van Kessel family during World War II in Holland, *Making it Through The Nazi Years*. Rob was also putting the finishing touches on a murder mystery.

Rob was no less engaged in the community. Community service was an essential part of Rob's life. He was a devoted Rotarian and a Paul Harris award winner. Rob founded the annual Brampton's *Rib n' Roll* festival and rode each year in the *Ride to Conquer Cancer*, raising thousands of dollars for cancer research.

#### FROM CLASSROOM TO COURTROOM

#### A PERSPECTIVE ON CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION



Ida Mirzadeh, 3L

I was first introduced to the practice of family law prior to attending law school. While interning for a family law lawyer during the summer leading into 1L, I realized that I developed a keen interest in particular legal issues surrounding custody and divorce. Accordingly, I entered law school with the primary objective of becoming a family law lawyer. Today, as a Student-at-Law practicing in the area of law that I am most passionate about, I am well on my way to achieving this goal.

Although my path was not always clear, and there were times where I truly contemplated whether I was "meant to be a lawyer", I knew my passion for the law would persevere.

My journey as a law student taught me two things: trust my struggle and focus on my strengths. After completing my first semester, I realized that law exams were my Achilles heel; however, I knew that dwelling on my failed attempts to master a perfect GPA would not further my career goals. Just to be clear, I am not suggesting that your grades do not matter; but if you share my "struggle" and determine that your strengths are more evident in a practical setting, focus on developing your skills through an approach that best complements your learning potential.

Regrettably, I may not have been the most socially active law student, yet, I never missed an opportunity to engage in practical work experiences and develop my professional network. Traditional law school curriculum emphasizes legal analysis through the application of substantive law while doing little to prepare students for the daily practice or "business" of law. Although understanding legal concepts is the first

step to effective lawyering, I found clinical legal education to be most advantageous because it requires a student to apply legal concepts in a real world situation rather than a hypothetical one on an exam.

As a firm believer in the benefit of experiential training, I was excited to be accepted into the Family Law Practice Program at Community Legal Aid. My final semester of law school was likely one of my most effective in terms of preparing me for my current articling position. It also instilled confidence in me to maintain carriage of a family law file from start to finish. The program provided me with the opportunity to research intricate legal issues, meet with clients, and draft various pleadings, which helped me develop my professional legal identity. This experience reaffirmed my ability and desire to effectively advocate on behalf of my clients and also fulfill my personal goals of becoming a family law

Overall, I was given the tools and mentorship that I needed to succeed, while setting a strong foundation for my legal career.

# Please support our Windsor Law Annual Giving Campaign and help our students achieve their dreams.



Funds raised through the campaign strengthen the unique Windsor Law student experience, ensures that faculty and students have the tools and space they need for effective teaching, learning and research, and provides vital financial aid to students who could not pursue their studies without it.

You can make a gift at www.uwindsor.ca/donate or say yes when one of our law students calls you in October and November.