COFFEE TALK SERIES

This semester’s Coffee Talk series will feature a range of presentations from persons working with, and on behalf of children. The series takes place on Wednesdays from 4:00-4:50 in the ChildLaw Center, 11th Fl. On February 6th, our Coffee Talk speaker will be David Polsky, JD (Loyola ’11) and Saleem Hue Penny, AM (SSA UChicago ’11). They will discuss their interdisciplinary conflict resolution work with young parents which is conducted through the Department of Children and Family Services – Office of the Inspector General (DCFS-OIG). Mr. Polsky and Mr. Penny will provide a brief overview of OIG reports and summarize state-wide training and outreach work for parenting wards of the state and caseworkers. They will describe a new OIG pilot program focusing on co-parenting skills and conflict resolution for parenting wards.

Coffee Talk speakers for the rest of the month will include, Susan Kennedy, YMCA; Hon. Nancy Katz, Circuit Court of Cook County; Daniel Hochbaum & Olga Pribyl, Equip for Equality; Sheila Merry, Illinois Mentoring Partnership. Our final speaker will be Amy Zimmerman, Health and Disability Advocates.

Coffee Talk is held on Wednesdays from 4:00-4:50 in the ChildLaw Center, 11th Floor.

Social Media & the ChildLaw Center

Happy new year from the Civitas ChildLaw Center!! This year the Center is going viral. Check out our new website, if you haven’t done so already, at www.luc.edu/childlaw. Also you can find the center on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Twitter @CivitasChildLaw
Facebook: Civitas ChildLaw Center
LinkedIn: Civitas ChildLaw Center on Linked In. We can be found directly under www.linkedin.com/pub/civitas-childlaw-center/60/37b/698

Let's not forget Professor Diane Geraghty. She can also be found tweeting @dgeragh.

Like us, Tweet us, Connect with us!!!
ChildLaw Legislation Clinic Visits State Capitol

After a semester of working on legislative initiatives some of which will be considered this spring in the Illinois General Assembly, students in the ChildLaw Legislation Clinic, taught by Professor Anita Weinberg and Post-graduate Policy Teaching Fellow Amy Meek, visited the Capitol in December. The group met with Representative Robyn Gabel, who has sponsored legislation addressing juvenile justice reform and environmental concerns (two topics addressed by the Clinic). They also met with lobbyists working on issues impacting children. The students sat in on the floor debate in the Senate concerning legislation to provide drivers licenses for undocumented immigrants. The bill passed the Senate and the House is waiting to be signed by the Governor.

Picture: from left to right: Elizabeth Scannell, Amanda Crews, Cynthia Herrera, Rupa Ramadurai, Joshua Speer, Elizabeth Youakim, (post-graduate fellow) Amy Meek, Thalia Roussos.

New Child Rights Film Series

The Center on the Human Rights of Children will host a film series on the Lakeshore Campus this spring. First in the series will be Street Children in Africa: Will the Dawn Ever Come. Following the film, Professor James Garbarino, Maude C. Clarke Chair in Humanistic Psychology, will lead a discussion. The program will begin at 5:30 pm on Thursday, February 28, 2013 on the 4th floor of the Richard J. Klarchek Information Commons, LSC.

Street Children of Africa: Will the dawn ever come? is a 1993 film, documenting children without homes and without any means of support other than what they can scrounge for themselves. Though this is a global phenomenon, this film focuses on children in West Africa, inviting a fascinating comparison to their American counterparts regarding their fears, dreams, familial ties, and their sense of home.

2013 PILS Auction

The 24th Annual PILS Auction will be held February 7, 2013 from 7-11 pm in Regents Hall (Lewis Towers). Tickets: $30 pre-register online or buy in person $35 at the door. Cost of admission includes hors d’oeuvres, wine, beer, AND the opportunity to mingle with professors & deans outside of the classroom! Come bid on some great items! All proceeds go towards sponsoring students with summer stipends for public interest positions.

ChildMaltreatment Webinar

On February 7, 2013 at 1 p.m. EST, the children’s Bureau of the Administration for Child and Families, will host a one hour webinar, Child Maltreatment 2011 - Key Findings. In 2011, Child protective services agencies received an estimated 3.4 million referral involving 6.2 million children. Nearly 60% of all reports of alleged abuse were made by professionals such as teachers, police officers, and social services staff. The greatest number of complaints alleged child neglect (78.5%). The vast majority of perpetrators were between the ages of 20 and 49 years. More than one-half (53.6%) of perpetrators were women. Source: ChildLaw Blog, blog@childlaw.us.
Faculty and Staff Updates

In November, Bruce Boyer and Alex Fung submitted an amicus brief to the United States Supreme Court in the case of Chafin v. Chafin, acting as counsel for the London Metropolitan University's Centre for Family Law and Practice. The case involves an international child abduction and raises the question of whether an appellate court may still consider the merits of a Respondent's appeal, even after a dispute has been mooted by the child's return to the requesting jurisdiction. The case was heard for oral argument on December 5, and a decision is expected early this year.

In November, Anita Weinberg and Amy Meek presented to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, the results of an 18-month study focused on youth identified for sexually offending behavior. Over the last three semesters, students in the ChildLaw Legislation and Policy Clinic worked on the study along with Anita and Amy, Commission members, and the University of Illinois Center for Prevention Research and Development. Commission members are in the process of making recommendations for the Illinois General Assembly based on the report.

Sacha Coupet and her husband welcomed baby Alexander Joseph James Clark who joined their family on 12/12/12, born on 11/27/12 at 7lbs. 14 oz.

Congratulations to our colleague, Katherine Kaufka Walts, Director of Loyola's Center on the Human Rights of Children, on the birth of her son, Mason, on December 21, 2012.

On February 20th Mary Burns, along with the Chicago Department of Public Health's chief lead inspector, William Villalona, will present a workshop on lead poisoning prevention to property owners in the Chicago Housing Authority's Housing Choice Voucher program. The workshop is at the request of the CHA to educate property owners in its program about the effects of lead poisoning, especially for young children, the extent of the problem of childhood lead poisoning in Chicago, as well as their obligations as property owners under local and federal laws to ensure that properties are maintained lead safe.

Student & Alumni News

Kendall Marlowe, '13, has been named Executive Director of the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) in Denver, CO. While a law student he served as Deputy Director for Operations and Communications for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Loyola’s Children’s Legal Rights Journal is NACC’s official membership organization.

Daniel Traver, '01, was recognized as a 2012 Rising Star by the Florida Super Lawyers publication.

Sara Howard, a Loyola alumna and ChildLaw Certificate holder, has been elected to serve in the Nebraska state legislature. She represents an Omaha district.

Zach Hunsinger, ChildLaw Fellow, proposed to Meggie Haughey on New Year’s Eve. Congratulations!

Shenaz Mensuri, '98, joined the University of Chicago Law School as manager of its Pro Bono Service Initiative. Shenaz has served as an adjunct faculty in Loyola’s ChildLaw Trial Practice course.

Career/Fellowships

Fulbright Fellowship

The Fulbright Public Policy Fellowship allows fellows to serve in professional placements as "special assistants" in foreign government ministries or institutions and to gain hands-on public sector experience in participating foreign countries while simultaneously carrying out an academic research/study project. The Fellowship is available in Bangladesh, Bruma, Cote d’Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Kazakhstan, and Samoa. Application deadline is February 1, 2013.

International Bureau for Children's Rights

The IBCR is hiring an intern that will start in March 2013. The internships are not pure research, but technical support for project development. The work is mainly related to the promotion and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its three Optional Protocols. The internship will take place in Montreal and at minimal length be for 12 weeks. The deadline for the application is February 22, 2013.

Writing Competition

Hofstra Law & the AFCC are sponsoring the 6th annual writing competition. The subject of entries may be within any area of family law, although topics that focus on international or interdisciplinary subjects of family law are especially encouraged. Articles should concentrate on a current legal issue and must have a strong foundation in legal research. All submissions must be received by March 15, 2013.
Faculty and Staff Directory

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The Loyola Civitas ChildLaw Center is dedicated to promoting justice for children through interdisciplinary teaching, scholarship and service, and through the development of a new legal specialty, pediatric law.

More Upcoming Events

February 28 (5:30pm– LSC) Child Rights Film Series, Street Children in Africa: Will the Dawn Ever Come

March 15 (8:30-4:00pm-WTC) Early Childhood Education for the Future: The Creative Use of Public-Private Partnerships to Provide Cost-Effective, High Quality School Readiness Programs

April 11 (4 - 6 pm- WTC) -- Professor Jeffrey Fagan, Columbia U. Law School, Children, Law and the Police