

PILG auction nets over \$30,000 for fellowships

By Katherine Welsh Laliberte

The 18th Annual PILG auction on November 5th came to a successful close with over \$30,000 in the fellowship coffers and many happy bidders. Upwards of two hundred alumni, faculty, students and locals attended and bid on the 260 items up for auction. A bidding war ensued as members of the Capitol Punishment hockey team took the stage to offer up to four hours of landscaping services. The ladies in the audience just couldn't keep those bidder numbers hidden. Even late in the evening, Matt Zagaja's computer service sessions prompted one of the longer back and forth bidding battles of the night. Starr Reading Room was practically unrecognizable, dressed up as it was with festive decorations, a jazz quartet and the literally hundreds

of exciting auction items.

The highest bid during the live auction was for the five-day stay in a six-bedroom Victorian home in Newport, Rhode Island, coming in at \$1,600. Following closely behind was a week-long stay in a three-bedroom home on Cape Cod that went for \$1,100. A number of other weekend getaway packages attracted bidding fervor from students; three-day getaways seemed just the antidote everyone needed to quell the upcoming exam-season blues. The auction items were donated by local businesses, alumni and faculty and ran the gamut from antique books, to expensive wines, to hand-made quilts and scarves, to sports memorabilia, to massages and everything possible in between. Can a price be put on student-faculty bonding time? You betcha. Faculty members donated bike



Ethan He/ UConn

Live auctioneer works crowd at PILG auction.

outings, jazz dinners, battle brunches and the legendary Professor Strasser offered a day of sailing. While the live auction was the center stage, silent auction tables ran along the walls of the beautifully transformed Starr Reading Room.

There were many triumphs of the

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Republicans rally to regain House of Representatives

By Chris Blustein and Matthew Zagaja

Every two years members of the U.S. House of Representatives are up for re-election. Frequently, the House changes parties during the mid-term, and this was the case during the 2010 election. Of the 435 positions, Republicans gained 61 seats and became the majority (five seats remain undecided). The Republicans are now the dominant, influential party in Washington. For example, Republicans will now chair the various House committees, and therefore have the authority to set the agenda of the House. These powers include latitude to conduct investigations. Taking advantage of this new authority Rep. Darrell Issa pledged to conduct seven hearings a week and to arm federal inspectors with subpoena power to ensure compliance with Congressional requests for information.

Meanwhile Democrats lost significance influence in the House. By moving into the minority, the Democrats had to forfeit their party's representation as Speaker of the House,

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Crime spree shocks residents of West Hartford

By Karen Rabinovici

West Hartford, generally considered Harford's safer neighbor, has been appearing in its fair share of headlines due to recent crimes that have taken place there. Shock value has accompanied these acts as such crimes are not characteristic of the town of West Hartford.

One such crime is the rape of a female jogger running along Fern Street in West Hartford on October 27. She was attacked slightly before 7:00 a.m. and was forced into bushes where the attack did not last longer than five minutes. The woman sought help from the residents of 311 Fern Street who called the police. The victim has since been released from the hospital, and police have cautioned people to stay in groups and remain alert. Police were initially unsuccessful in using DNA information to attempt to find the perpetrator. The West Hartford community has shown solidarity in support of the victim by holding a walk along the jogger's route and a candlelit

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Chinese economics expert educates UConn Law

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Malloy defeats Foley in tight Governor's race

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Pro Se features cutting edge coffee study

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Dean's Corner with Dean Jeremy Paul

By Jeremy Paul

You have probably heard the old chestnut about the three years of law school. The first year we scare you to death. The second year we work you to death. The third year we bore you to death. I know most UCONN students find important educational opportunities in their final two semesters. But the rising cost of legal education provides grounds to consider why it takes three years of school to become a lawyer.

Certain answers are as important as they are obvious. The increasing globalization and complexity of the economy create many topics that demand at least preliminary study. Today's lawyers should have exposure to foreign legal systems. The advanced regulatory state makes it useful to learn administrative law, labor and employment law, energy law, environmental law, and many facets of intellectual property. The third year of law school also provides a vital chance to engage in client representation under the careful supervision of a clinical instructor. Each student should have at least one opportunity to hone her skills by preparing for, performing, and reflecting upon a practical act of lawyering. Finally, contemporary law practice will expect you to be comfortable with the methodologies of other disciplines. You will benefit from immersion in quantitative analysis, from historical and literary study and from a sound understanding of financial analysis. Perhaps even three years is insufficient to sample all that awaits you.

The real gains from law school's third year, however, transcend the particular topics covered in classrooms and courtrooms. Advanced study in your upper class years is designed to produce a crucial growth in perspective. Law school's first year centers on mastering the art of legal argument. Your focus alternates from placing yourself in your client's shoes to imagining the dispute from your adversary's point of view. As your training proceeds, however, you will confront the challenge of solving difficult problems of institutional design. Those who wrote the constitution were lawyers every bit as much as those who argue cases under it.

Tomorrow's lawyers will need to write bylaws, draft contracts, fashion wills, and ultimately write the rules by which we live together peacefully and productively. As you study for this semester's exams, and as you plan your spring schedules, consider whether you are developing rule-writing skills as well as perfecting the craft of argumentation. Becoming a problem solver as well as a rhetorical master is the best reason why it's worth embracing the all important third year.

Pro Se

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with a special contribution by
Professor Alexandra Lahav

A note from the Student Bar Association

This has been an exciting semester thus far for the Student Bar Association Social Committee. As Social Committee Chair one of my goals for the year was to sponsor quality events while introducing the law school community to new venues in the Greater Hartford Area. In working towards this goal, the Social Committee selected the luxurious Downtown Hartford Marriott for our Annual Fall Ball. This event was a great success featuring a live DJ, delicious food and attendance from over 200 students. In another effort to introduce students to a new venue, the Social Committee chose the Elizabeth Park Pond House for our Annual Halloween Party. The Pond House served as an excellent autumn backdrop for this event and the music from "Tearing Down Tomorrow" headed by UConn Law's own Matt Carlone delighted the crowd of over 100 students. The SBA also sponsored its first football tailgate this semester at Rentschler Field for the UConn - West Virginia Football Game. Approximately 50 students attended and enjoyed tailgate favorites from Wood-n-Tap and cheered our Huskies to an overtime victory against the Mountaineers.

In addition to sponsoring events at new venues, another goal was to continue partnering with the Dean's Office in sponsoring community events for students and faculty. In September we sponsored the Welcome Back BBQ and on December 1st we will host our Annual Holiday Party in the Starr Reading Room. The SBA is also excited to announce that we will be sponsoring the Midnight Breakfast and free coffee in the Co-Op for exams again this semester.

Indeed it has been a very productive fall semester for the SBA Social Committee and the spring semester will be no exception. We are planning on putting together a host of events including a mixer with UConn Medical School, a benefit concert, a ski trip and continuing the popular Annual Spring Fling on the Lady Catherine Cruise aka "the boat." Although very packed with fun events, the spring semester is not finalized and if you have an idea for an event please feel free to contact me via email, stop by the SBA office or come to an SBA Social Committee meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all at one or all of these events. Good luck on finals and happy holidays!

Respectfully,
DeVaughn Ward
VP/Social Chair
Student Bar Association

Senator-Elect Blumenthal shares his goals with *Pro Se*

By Matthew Szafranski

In a year full of Republican victories, Democrats won most Connecticut elections including all five Congressional seats and the Senate seat of retiring United States Senator Chris Dodd. Attorney General Richard Blumenthal beat former WWE CEO Linda McMahon and is eager to go to Washington and continue "putting people first."

In a phone interview with *Pro Se*, Senator-elect Blumenthal reflected on his sixth statewide campaign. Unlike the AG races, "I was outspent seven to one," Blumenthal said referring to the millions of dollars McMahon put into her own campaign.

Despite the election's divisiveness, Blumenthal seeks bipartisan collaboration on several issues. He outlined areas where he felt cooperation was possible, namely Internet safety, migration, and education.

Budget cuts cannot happen "on the backs of the middle class and seniors."

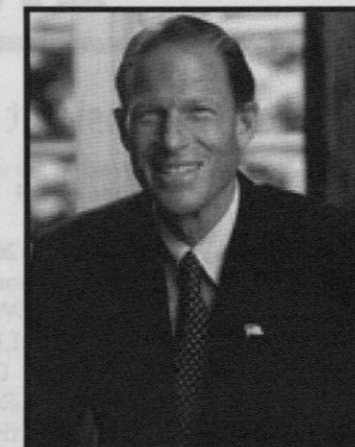
A recurring theme surfaced among Blumenthal's priorities: the middle class. Asked about budget cutting as among his first duties, Blumenthal said steadfastly that it cannot happen "on the backs of the middle class and seniors." He cited a New York Times report which noted a trillion dollars could go toward the deficit over time if tax cuts for the wealthy expire and special interest tax loopholes end.

In keeping with the middle class theme, Blumenthal pledged to get Connecticut back to work saying Washington must "provide tools, remove obstacles, provide capital, access to credit" and remove incentives for companies to relocate jobs overseas. When asked about Congressman Chris Murphy's "Buy American" legislation, he offered his full support and indicated that he looks forward to working with the Cheshire Democrat on the issue.

As Attorney General, Blu-

menthal sued credit rating agencies Moody's and Standard & Poor for misleading investors. As senator, he was quick to note he would look for greater oversight of these agencies, which measure the financial soundness of stocks, bonds, and other investments. An amendment offered by Sen. Al Franken D-MN added to last summer's financial reform bill established some oversight of credit rating agencies, but it was watered down before final passage.

Blumenthal responded to a rapid-fire session with his views on some of the issues. On health care, he supports the reform, but looks to improve it. The senator-elect wants legislation that will cut utility costs, but also reward states that pursue green energy. Blumenthal seeks tougher enforcement against employers that hire and create a market for illegal immigrants and wants to reduce the influence and role of banks over student loans. His position on veterans can be best summed up, in his words, as "No veteran left behind."



www.ct.gov

Senator-Elect Blumenthal spoke with *Pro Se* about his election triumph and goals for the upcoming term.

Asked about the bad year that Democrats had and the losses of fellow attorneys general in their races, Blumenthal kept it simple, "Every race is different." However, he acknowledged the anger and frustration people were feeling. "Americans are tired of the partisan bickering and acrimony" and they want officials who will "form coalitions and get results."

Pelosi assumes minority role after Democrats lose key races

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a position formally held by Democrat Nancy Pelosi. Traditionally after a defeat the Speaker steps down from leadership but Rep. Nancy Pelosi made clear that she intended to stay. On November 17 she handily won her election for minority leader against the more moderate Rep. Heath Shuler. By keeping her position, Rep. Steny Hoyer was left to battle with Rep. James Clyburn for the minority whip position. Pelosi resolved the conflict by creating a new position for Clyburn that would be in between the whip and minority leader.

The results of the election did not come as a surprise. Historically, the ap-

proval rating of the President is directly linked to his party's success during midterm elections. Obama's approval rating has consistently dropped from its peak in early 2009 at 68%, to his current rating of 43%. Much of this drop is attributed, by experts in the field, to the President's actions concerning the 2010 Health Care Bill and his handling of the economic depression.

The questions following this election are, what is the Republican agenda, and what influence will the Tea Party have on the Federal government? The Republicans have yet to announce their official agenda following their successful campaigns. However, some of their success is attributed to the Tea Party

movement. The Tea Party movement, a nationwide grassroots campaign which predominantly identifies with the Republican party and specifically calls for change in the Republican party, does have an agenda. Of note, they are calling for more responsible fiscal spending, smaller and more efficient government, repealing of the 2010 Health Care Plan, less earmarking, and an overall return to traditional Republican values. While it is uncertain how this growing movement will influence politics in the future; hopefully, Tea Partiers and Congress will find a way to build a better and more efficient Government, that we as citizens can be proud of.

International

Liu provides insight into evolution of legal and economic systems in China

By Angelique Grant

On Monday, November 8, 2010, the Chinese Law Students Association hosted a lecture by Henry Liu in the William F. Starr Hall Reading Room. Mr. Liu is the former General Counsel and Director-General of the China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) and led the group drafting China's first national securities law. Mr. Liu is currently a partner in DLA Piper's Corporate and Finance practice in New York City.

On several occasions in my childhood, I recall my father encouraging me to learn Chinese. He would say, "China is a sleeping dragon, but this will change in your lifetime." Although I never did take his advice, my father's words proved prophetic. In my lifetime, China has developed a powerful economy of global

reach. Mr. Liu illustrated the details of this transformation in his lecture, *Legal and Economic Transformations and Business Challenges in China*.

In contrast with the image of the Great Wall and idea of a closed Chinese society, Mr. Liu stressed the openness of China's economy. Although Chinese currency is not yet convertible, 30-40% of China's GDP depends on international trade. Spurred by legal changes, the Chinese economy has moved from wholly state-owned to private business contributing 30% of the GDP.

Mr. Liu described China thirty years ago as lacking private business, capital market, securities/stock, sophisticated insurance options, world-class banking and significant commercial law. All now exist and continue to develop with China's economy. He suggested China's urge to

attract foreign investment led to the development of foreign commercial regulations, international company laws, SEC and tax related laws as well.

Legal development lags behind economic development, but progress is made facing ongoing challenges. For example, China addressed the difficulties had by international businesses dealing with the Chinese judicial system by allowing companies doing business in China to arbitrate elsewhere. Mr. Liu believes the contribution of the newer generation of legally trained professionals and judges will prove critical to the success of China's future legal development as "China quietly transforms self."

Following a lively Q&A session that addressed Human Rights, access to capital, social reform, and more, Mr. Liu and the audience enjoyed Chinese food and con-

International Law Society hosts screening of *Sergio*

By Ethan He

On Thursday, November 11 members of the Law School came together to celebrate Veteran's Day with a screening of the Award-Winning Documentary "Sergio." A screening based on the real life story of Sergio Viera de Mello, a humanitarian, world renowned scholar, and a modern-day James Bond. The 55-year old high diplomat, whose boss was none other than Mr. Koffi Anan, was tragically stricken on August 2003 in the Iraqi bombing of the UN embassy. Sergio's whole career had been based on humanitarian work - seeing great suffering and proffering solutions to a great portion of the world's conflict areas. Sergio's most recent accomplish-

ment had included leading Chrisitan East Timor to independence. At the time of his death, his work had revolved around Iraqi nation building following the invasion.

After the movie screening, Master Sergeant William von Zehle made a special appearance. Officer Zehle was involved in the rescue operations following the bombing. Due to a lack of infrastructure and coordination, Sergio was left piled under rubble and debris for hours. Still breathing and communicating, Sergio's last requests were to save the others. The failed rescue attempt for Sergio was overshadowed by the heroism displayed by the victims and rescuers. Officer Zehle's ability to captivate the crowd was unquestioned.

Currency manipulation strategies raise international economic concern

By Brendan Horgan

Complex international monetary policy from a layperson in 350 words? No problem.

In an effort to jumpstart a lagging economic recovery and stale job market, this fall the FED implemented a second round of Quantitative Easing (QE2). Essentially, the plan is to print more money to buy \$600 billion in U.S. Treasury Bonds. This influx of new money into the American economy is supposed drive down the price of the dollar, making U.S. goods more affordable to other countries. The idea is to boost exports, close the U.S.'s trade deficit, and boost the domestic economy.

The attending countries expressed worries about a "currency war"...

This plan is controversial at home and abroad. Here, there is concern about long-term inflation. QE2 is a measure to ward off short-term deflation, but no one really knows the long-term effects this will have on the dollar or interest rates. A group of Republican Governors wrote an open letter to FED Chairman Bernanke expressing concern over the potential pitfalls. The bond market initially is responding positively. Investors are betting on the growth of return rates

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Golfman and Lobie face off over First Amendment rights

Hastie competition draws 36 competitors; Golfman wins, Horgan and Langer receive honors

By Jeremy Sauer

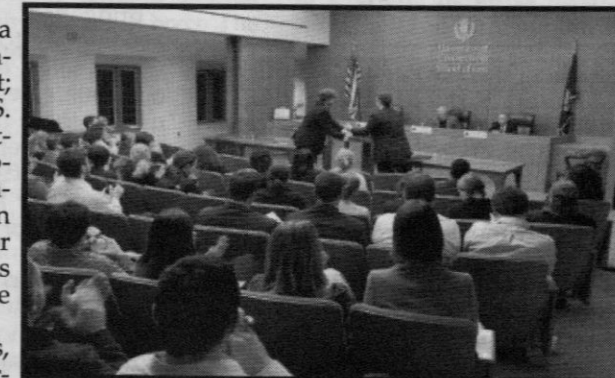
Should the First Amendment right to freedom of speech be protected even if it involves an offensive and discriminatory protest immediately outside of a fallen Marine's private funeral ceremony? According to Peter Golfman '12 the answer is, emphatically and unequivocally, "Yes." By piecing together his persuasive argument through a closed universe of case law, Golfman took home top honors in the annual William H. Hastie Moot Court Competition. The final argument was heard on the evening of November 4th in front of a packed Davis Courtroom, with Golfman representing the respondent in the case of *Snyder v. Phelps* while runner-up Michael Lobie '12 advocated for the petitioner.

To reach the finals, Golfman and Lobie outlasted 34 other competitors through five rounds of competition. Their reward? An invitation to join the Connecticut Moot Court Board and an opportunity to make their case in front of an esteemed panel of judges. This year's panel included the Honorable

Alexandra D. DiPentima '79, Chief Judge of the Connecticut Appellate Court; the Honorable Douglas S. Lavine '77, a four-year veteran of the Connecticut Appellate Court; and the Honorable Michael R. Sheldon of the Connecticut Superior Court, back to reprise his role as Chief Justice of the Hastie competition.

The two competitors, showing poise and deference to a hot—some might say contentious—bench, put forth their best arguments, but when the dust settled Golfman emerged victorious. After a brief 15 minute deliberation, the Court decided that, at least on this night, the respondent's right to freedom of speech outweighed the petitioner's rights to free exercise of religion and peaceable assembly.

Also gaining recognition for their excellence in the competition were Brendan Horgan '12 (Best Brief) and Abby Langer '12 (Best Oralist). Bids to join



Spencer Sloan

Golfman and Lobie congratulate each other after final argument.

the Connecticut Moot Court Board were extended to Golfman, Lobie, Horgan, and Langer, as well as fellow competitors Andrea DiPaolo, Brendan Kelley, Chris de Ocejó, Jeremy Sauer, Lili Chapman, Marco Allocca, Mike Nemec, and Shetera Patterson. Congratulations to the finalists as well as the future members of Moot Court Board.

Corporate Raw stresses flexibility, diligence

By Elise Baun

When life gives you lemons, don't make lemonade, make orange juice and figure out how you managed that later.
—Heidi Cha

The Corporate and Securities Law Society's event "Corporate Raw: Thinking Outside the Corporate Box" was aimed at generating this type of atypical thinking. The event started out with easy conversation and students showing off their chopstick skills while eating sushi. The attending students each had the opportunity to eat dinner at a table with one of the lawyers before the panel began.

The panel began with Steven Camerota introducing each of the members of the panel and listing their accomplishments. Umar Moghul is a partner at Murtha Cullina and Christine Bromberg is a partner at Robinson and Cole, LLP. The third panelist, Jeffrey Jennes is the Vice President/Senior Compliance Officer at Hartford Investment Management Co. Richard Sigal is a partner at Hawkins, Delafield and Wood, LLP. The final panelist was Chrystal Szeto, a UConn Law alumna and associate at Bracewell and Giuliani, LLP.

With Professor Hillary Greene moderating, the panelists attempted to follow the theme of "thinking outside the box." They explained to students that the path chosen for a career does not have to be a student's best class. Most of the panelists are working in fields in which they did not earn the best grades in the relevant class. Instead they followed jobs in the field about which they felt the most passionate. Panelists reiterated the point that if students want to do well in the jobs they receive right out of school they need to learn flexibility and diligence. With these three skills (passion, flexibility and diligence), UConn Law students will go on to be great lawyers and provide positive representation of our community in the greater one.

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(yield) in U.S. Treasury bonds at a rate 8 times higher than this April.

On a global scale, the FED's decision is sparking criticism. A cheaper dollar will hurt exports of other countries and stifle their own attempts at economic recovery. At the recent G20 summit in South Korea, the attending countries expressed worries about a "currency war" where countries competitively try to drive down the value of their own currency to spur domestic growth. European, Asian, and South American countries are pushing for more collective measures that will work to reconcile global trade imbalances.

Despite U.S. monetary policy, all eyes are on China. The Chinese have allegedly been manipulating currency exchange rates for the better part of a decade. As a result, Chinese goods have consistently stayed cheap, and Chinese exports have risen. The U.S. and the rest of the world attempted to persuade China to allow its currency to naturally appreciate. Unfortunately, without a cooperative worldwide effort, there are no real incentives for China to change course. The G20 came and went, and no specific penalties for Chinese currency manipulation were brought to the table. The world economy is still fragile, and no one has the guts to risk alienating a market as powerful as China.

EXAM TIPS INSERT

PROFESSORS:

Kurt Strasser (Contracts, Environmental Law):

1. Listen to what the professor said she or he wants during the course. We do vary.
2. A clear head is more important than anything else you can learn by staying up all night.
3. Read the question carefully, more than once. Then do what it says.
4. Think before you write; you are writing down a new analysis you make sitting in the exam room, not simply regurgitating bits of law or policy you already knew coming in to the exam. You use those bits, but to make a new analysis.

Stephan Utz (Property, Tax Policy, Federal Income Tax):

1. Don't begin an essay answer with general statements of rules. Instead, get into the thick of it right away.
2. Prioritize the parts of your answer to an essay question so that the more interesting issues come first.

Marcia Canavan (Lawyering Process, Writing for Law Practice):

Take timed practice exams. Carefully review the sample answers and make sure you completely understand your mistakes.

STUDENTS:

Keegan Drenosky: Do as many practice exams as you can, especially if the Professor supplies answers. These can be found on the UConn website under the exam archives under "services for students". Or, some teachers prefer to leave hard copies of their exams at the library, so check at the front desk.

Frederick Melkey: Obtain old exams and write them out under exam like conditions (time, materials allowed, etc.). You can build proficiency at law school exam taking with practice. If you are lucky enough to have a professor that will critique your practice exams, take advantage of that.

Brendan Horgan: Don't be afraid to write an interesting exam. Understand the type of professor you are dealing with, and when appropriate do not be scared of humor and creativity. The professor has to read 70, and you need to write a memorable exam in order to get a good grade. Obviously, being professional is more important than standing out, but do not lose sight of your writing "voice" just because you are writing about legal issues.

Cody Guarnieri: Study during daylight hours. Studies show that it significantly aids in the mind's retention of materials.

Jeremy Potter: Get as many hypos and sample questions as you can find and as soon as you finish your outline, just do hypos for the rest of the exam period. Become more comfortable using the information and explaining it than memorizing it. Do not memorize.

Julia Singer Bansal: If a professor posts sample answers to exams, take notes on them. Note which cases they use for which issues, and what they say the case stands for. Also make note of any general policy arguments made. If you are allowed, bring the sample answers with you! Use CALI lessons (see library help desk), especially when you are getting worn down, and need some "easier studying". Law in a Flash makes good flashcards for people who like studying that way. Older editions work just fine, and they are cheap on Amazon used.

Seth Levine:

1. Build your outlines as you read: this avoids the need to re-read cases and annotations during exam period, and streamlines your review and keeps you better organized during exam prep.
2. Be aware that for most classes you want to mention either case law or statutory law to back up each proposition. And you want to get to the point as quickly as you can (just answer the question, don't tell write a treatise).
3. Just answer the question that was asked: identify the key issue(s), state them, and then resolve them as efficiently as you can, with a clear conclusion. And remember to explain WHY this is the right answer, always.
4. For Civil Procedure, Glannon's audio lectures are amazing, as is Mary Che's Sum and Substance for constitutional law. They're like complete courses in themselves.

John Neumon:

1. Outlining - take your reading notes, your class notes, and any study guides to create your own outline. Overlay one on the other - any place you have a question or see issues is where the exam is going to go.
2. Do the practice exams - find old exams and work your way through them. This is the single most important tip/suggestion I have.
3. Go back and pretend you are the Professor - what questions would you ask? What materials would you cover?
4. Forget study groups. They become talking and griping sessions, not work sessions.
5. Stay off campus. The stress gets too palpable.
6. Exercise, sleep, eat right.
7. Don't forget to order all your holiday presents on Amazon BEFORE your exams. It'll save on shipping.

Thank you to all those who contributed to this section

Malloy defeats Foley in race marred by voting irregularities

Connecticut elects first Democratic Governor in 24 years

By Peter Golfman

On Monday November 8th, Thomas C. Foley, Republican nominee for Governor, conceded a muddled and contested election to his Democratic opponent, Dannel P. Malloy and thus brought an end to one of the uglier chapters in the history of the Nutmeg State. The strangeness of this story begins and ends in the great town of Bridgeport, Connecticut:

It all began several hours before polls closed on Election Day at 8 p.m. on November 2, 2010, when Bridgeport officials came to the lofty conclusion that they were unfortunate estimators and had not given Bridgeport voters the benefit of the doubt regarding completing their civic duty of voting. As a result, the city ran out of ballots hours before the 8 p.m. voting deadline. Not knowing quite how to handle the situation, Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz urged a judge to order an extension on voting hours at twelve Bridgeport voting locations until 10 p.m. Voters were notified of the extension via a reverse 911 emergency notification call, which has now been debated as an apparently questionable use of the emergency service.

Bridgeport officials decided that making photocopies of voting forms would solve the shortage crisis without issue. Reportedly about 300 hundred of these photocopied ballots were used and then deliberately placed in an official "bag." This bag proceeded to disappear for two days, which for some strange reason concerned Mr. Foley.

In the morning, Ms. Bysiewicz declared that Mr. Malloy was the champion. Mr. Malloy concurred. Mr. Foley, however, disagreed and declared that in fact it was he who was the champion. In a more civilized society such dispute would surely be decided by a quick game of Russian Roulette, but instead officials decided to handle the problem Florida-style, with a weekend full of debatable recounts.

Mr. Foley's concession came on the Monday after a supposedly definitive recount secured Mr. Malloy's victory. Mr. Foley decided not to pursue any legal redress for questionable procedures because he said it would be "disenfranchising" to voters. In a press conference following Mr. Foley's concession speech the Governor-Elect cordially called his Republican counterpart "a very classy guy."

Official results show that Mr. Malloy won by a margin of 5,600 votes in an election where over a million ballots were cast thus making it the closest contest for the governorship of Connecticut in over half a century. Coincidentally, Mr. Foley's concession came just moments after the announcement of the death sentence verdict in the notorious Steven Hayes case, adding to the historic impact of the day. Mr. Malloy will succeed Republican Governor M. Jodi Rell who decided not to run for re-election in 2010. Mr. Malloy was one of only 5 Democratic candidates across the country to take the governorship from the Republicans (California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Minnesota, and Vermont). Republicans took 11 governorships from Democrats (Iowa, Kansas, Ohio, Oklahoma, Maine, Michigan, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Wisconsin, and Wyoming).

As a reward for his glorious victory, Mr. Malloy will inherit an estimated budget deficit of over \$3 billion, as well as serious concerns over Connecticut's economy and education system. Mr. Malloy will be the first Democrat to claim the governor's office in Connecticut since 1986.

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evening, but one of the greatest according to Auction Chair Emily Nicholson-Gross, was the move back to campus. In the past, the auction was held in West Hartford town center, but this year students could walk over from the library after studying.

The auction itself raised \$23,442 but with the outpouring of law school support for the PILG Auction promotion days at Cosi, Reuben's Deli and Robeks in West Hartford center, the final numbers came in above the \$30,000 mark. These West Hartford businesses offered support by designating a portion of their profit on a given day to the auction and students turned out in droves to support the cause. The money raised goes to the PILG Endowment Fund, which supports UConn law students in low- to non-paying public interest internships over the summer.

Dean Jeremy Paul, Assistant Dean Ann Crawford, Blanche Capilos, Donna Gionfriddo, Marilyn Walsh, Claudia Norworthy, and Jane Thierfield Brown worked tirelessly alongside Student Auction Chairs, Rebecca Arnold, Ben Cheney, and Emily Nicholson-Gross, and many other student volunteers to create the successful evening. Preparation for the event began long before the school year and the level of commitment to the cause shined through during the actual event. Hillary Wasicek kept the night interesting with her delightfully comedic commentary and the live auction itself went off smoothly thanks to the graciously donated time of Golden Gavel Auctioneer, Patrick Soucy. All in all, another successful year for one of the campus' most popular events.

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investigated, and ultimately, using the IP address of the computer from which the emails were sent, the trail led to Kendriana Manning, a 19 year old UConn student. The warrant stated that Manning felt too much pressure about school but could not withdraw because of her parents. Manning was charged with falsely reporting an incident, second-degree breach of peace, first-degree threatening, second-degree harassment, and an act of terrorism.

Although it often feels that as law students studying on a beautiful campus we live in a bubble separate from the community around us, but these crimes hit home and make all too real the fact that we are part of a community outside of the law school.

Public safety tips can be found here: <http://www.law.uconn.edu/student-handbook/guide-student-services/public-safety>.

Court says no patent for breast cancer genes

By Alexis Shevchenko

As of the end of the October, the United States Department of Justice has reversed its longstanding federal policy by issuing an amicus brief stating that gene patenting should not be eligible for patenting. Gene patenting has been practiced extensively since 1906 when the first patent was issued for the chemical composition of adrenaline. The judge of the time argued that patents could be permitted for natural genes because their purified and ex-

tracted forms are much more useful to the research community than their non-purified states. As of today, 20% of the human genome alone has been patented. Until last year, U.S. courts have been steadfast in their protection of these patents from challenge. However, in March of 2009, Judge Robert Sweet of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York held that Myriad Genetics' patents on BRCA1/BRCA2 (the primary breast cancer genes) had been improperly granted because

the mere process of isolating a gene does not transform it significantly from its normal form in the human body. The government cites Sweet's ruling as its motivation for re-evaluating its policy on gene patenting. The brief agrees with Sweet that isolated DNA should not be patented as they are still "products of nature", but allows claims for manipulated or man-made DNA. It also says nothing against the methods governing specific gene extractions. Myriad has since appealed its case and, be-

fore the amicus brief, most expected the federal circuit court to overturn the lower court's decision. However, the amicus brief might mark a change in governmental attitudes toward gene patenting, giving support to the district court's decision. While some biotechnology companies have argued that gene patents are necessary to protect their research and development, others are ecstatic at the possibility of a policy change and are excited that it might open up business opportunities.

THREE BASIC EXAM-TAKING TIPS

By Professor Alexandra Lahav

Tip #1 - Practice.

The best way to learn how to take law school exams is by taking law school exams. Sit down and take several of the professor's old exams, writing out your answer completely (listing issues will not get you the full benefit of this tool). Afterwards, brainstorm what additional facts you could have used in your analysis, what counter-arguments you could have marshaled, what analogies you could have drawn to other cases with a friend. If the professor hasn't put exams on reserve, ask them where you might find sample questions that will approximate their style.

SEE INSERT FOR ADDITIONAL EXAM TIPS

Tip #2 - Answer the Call of the Question

Look for a specific question at the end of the narrative or question. If there is one, answer that question. This may seem elementary but I have seen many exams that address all kinds of creative issues except the one I specifically asked to be addressed.

Tip #3 - "Because"

When writing your analysis of a problem, use the word "because" in your sentences because it forces you to articulate the reasons for your conclusion. To succeed on law school exams, you must demonstrate what the relationship is between the facts in the exam question and the legal conclusion that you reach. How did you reach your conclusion? Why is this one the best argument? Using the word "because" is a reminder that helps you get into the habit of explaining your reasoning

Voices from the Quad

By Patricia Martins

What is your dream job?

Secretary General of the UN.
-Chris Giuliano, 1L

I want to own an olive grove and harvest my own olives.
-Valerie Letendre, 2L

I want to be an astronaut, but I'm too short.
-Lisa Tren, 1L

The general manager of the Boston Red Sox.
-Jeremy Potter, 2L

Students encouraged to attend Hartford Tax Club meetings

By Erica McKenzie

On Wednesday, November 18th, the Hartford Tax Club met for its bi-monthly meeting at UConn Law. The Hartford Tax Club is a group of some of the most sophisticated tax attorneys in the community, who meet to learn about current issues facing practitioners and current trends in tax practice. The club meets at UConn Law, and, although it is not affiliated with the law school, law students are encouraged to attend.

The Hartford tax club

has been around since the fifties and sixties and is composed of about thirty tax practitioners. Membership to the club is based on nominations by current members and is open to tax practitioners in Hartford and the surrounding areas. Every other month, the group meets over lunch at UConn Law to hear one member speak about a current tax topic.

These meetings give students the opportunity to meet practicing attorneys, as well as hear lectures and discuss current

issues in tax law. The club has met twice already this school year. In September, Attorney Richard Convicer of Convicer and Perry, LLP spoke about "Representing Clients in Federal Tax Fraud Matters." Just this month, UConn Law's own Professor Stephen Utz presented information to the group about gathering pressure for reforming U.S. domestic treatment of international taxation.

Watch for the next Hartford Tax Club meeting in the spring semester!

The Back Page

Pro Se brings you a cutting edge study on the coffee of the Co-op

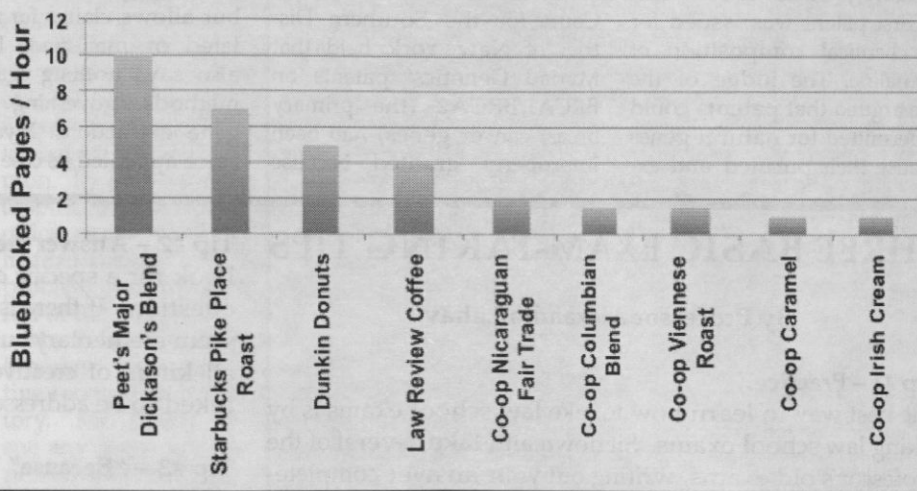
COMMENTARY

By Scott Robson and Matt Zagaja

It's the lifeblood of the legal system. Without this vital and primordial element, our hallowed institutions of law and higher education would grind to a crashing halt. It is the finest organic suspension ever created. Coffee, dear readers, is that which concerns us today.

For over five hundred years, coffee has sustained, stimulated, and shocked our systems. From its humble beginnings as the roasted seed of an unassuming Ethiopian shrub, coffee has become both popular and profitable around the world. Today, coffee may be found in thousands of different flavors, served in thousands of different ways, made from beans with thousands of different origins. It is an essential offering at gatherings and restaurants, in offices,

Coffee Strength



and at places of higher learning.

The Law School's Co-op coffee, served in Knight Hall, comes from local coffee giant Omar Coffee, headquartered in Newington. There, on a rotating schedule, different blends and flavors of coffee are available all-day for purchase.

Fair trade organic coffee is available, and the Co-op offers a discount for mug refills.

Pro Se assembled a crack team of coffee aficionados, addicts, admirers, and adepts for a double-blind scientific study of the Co-op's coffee. All coffees were sampled black, much like the author's heart.

Of the five blends sampled by the panel, the Nicaraguan Fair Trade coffee earned top marks. Team members praised its hint of raspberry on the nose and palate, while noting a slight

chalkiness that lingers after consumption. Even this coffee was unremarkable according to the team.

The Columbian blend earned an honorable mention by the team, but was criticized for a slight saltiness and bitterness that seemed to unbalance the brew.

The Viennese Roast was found to be unpalatable by the panel, who described it as "acidic," with strong hints of minerals and clay that weighed heavy on the palate.

Two flavored blends were analyzed by the team. Of these, the Caramel flavor was preferred for its welcoming aroma and slight sweetness, which masked the bitterness that characterized some of the other brews. The Irish Cream flavored coffee was derided as artificial for its fake alcohol flavoring and ambiguous scent.

The team's findings were conclusive in a few important respects. All of the agents felt that the Co-Op could improve its coffee by producing stronger brews. A few agents noted that the school's coffee could benefit by improved water filtration.

It falls to you, then, dear readers. What do you think? What can we do to improve? Help me help you.

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