

UConn Law Student wins seat on Zoning Commission

By Alexa Millinger

Matt Grimes, a 4L evening student, won a seat on Brookfield's Zoning Commission in November's local elections. Grimes, who ran as a Republican, came in first out of five candidates in the race, securing one of the two available Zoning Commission seats.

Currently working full-time as a bond claim manager at The Hartford, Grimes has a formidable history of town government service. After graduating from the University of Richmond in 2001, Grimes became a member of the Brookfield Board of Education while working for AIG in New York City. He eventually became the Board's Chairman, in which he served from 2003 to 2005. At the time, Grimes was the youngest Board of Education Chairman in the United States at age 24.

Grimes worked for a time as the Chief of Staff to the First Selectman of Bethel. In 2008, Brookfield's Board of Selectmen nominated Grimes to fill an open alternate spot on the town's Zoning Commission.

Grimes had no formal experience with zoning issues, but his grandfather had been the Chairman of the Planning Commission and his father worked in the construction industry, and he saw it as an opportunity to serve his town.

"When I got on Zoning, I had no clue about land use. I just had a law student background...but I knew how town government worked," he said.

After serving as an alternate on the Zoning Commission for several years, the town Republican caucus nominated Grimes to run for an open regular member seat in the November election. Grimes spent the ensuing months campaigning on the Republican slate with sixteen other candidates for town offices, attending various town events and writing position papers for local newspapers. Grimes said constituents' main

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Economics, Tax Policy, and Health Care

By Erica McKenzie

On November 11th and 12th, the Insurance Law Center, Connecticut Insurance Law Journal, and Connecticut Law Review presented a joint symposium on the legal and policy implications of health care reform and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). *Pro Se* sat down with UConn Law's own Professor Stephen Utz, who presented on the tax policy considerations of the ACA, to discuss his impressions of his panel and the topic in general.

Professor Utz remarked that fellow panelists Professors Ted Ruger (University of Pennsylvania) and Rex Santerre (University of Connecticut School of Business) presented an overview of the "tough reality" implications of ACA. They reported that the cost containment measures do not seem realistic. The lack of coordination between various areas of the medical field creates inefficiency in the U.S. healthcare system.

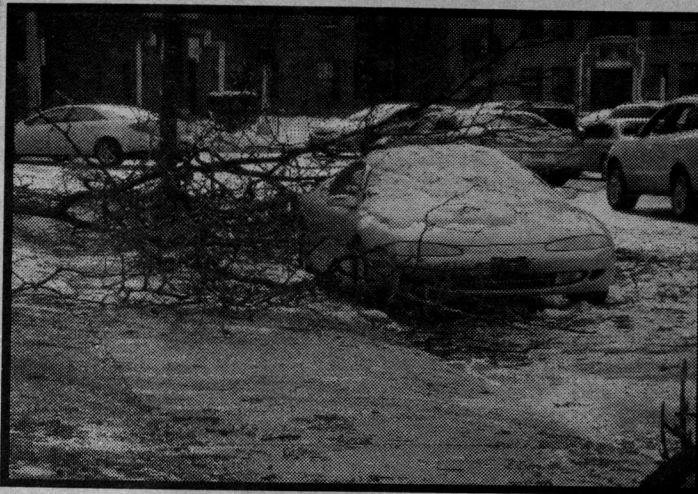
Professor Utz explained that currently doctors are practicing self-defensive medicine to protect against lawsuits. This involves ordering expensive, unnecessary, and duplicative tests. "There is too much treatment because no one is sitting down to figure out what patients actually need and coordinate the testing."

During the discussion "the Mayo Clinic was held out an ideal" for how health care should operate. It follows an integrated care model for its patients, in which the doctors collaborate over patient treatment. Rather than having doctors re-order the same tests and examinations as the patient works his way through the treatment process, the doctors focus on coordinating the treatment and providing seamless integration of all levels of care.

While this integrated model certainly works well for Mayo, the principle underlying such treatment may not accord well with the U.S. conceptions of health care: "We see that as a

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UConn Law takes another beating from Mother Nature



UCONN/Karen Rabinovici

Winter Storm Alfred causes destruction in Hartford.

By Karen Rabinovici

This year, a much anticipated Halloween weekend did not go according to plan. While students contemplated whether to go out or not in light of the dismal weather, trees cracked and wires snapped all around Hartford and West Hartford. Those students who dared to venture forth into Hartford for the Halloween party sponsored by the school found that it took over two hours to drive from Hartford's West End to downtown - and also found that other students hadn't been so brave as to make the trek.

The next day Hartford and West Hartford looked like snowy battlefields. Trees, branches, wires, and leaves left no yard or road unmarked. Cars were damaged. The cage around the tennis courts at Elizabeth Park was

torn apart. And worst of all, a large amount of the population had lost power, a real detriment in this dark and cold winter weather.

Because it was virtually impossible for students to prepare for school, and also impossible for many other students to get to campus, classes were canceled on Monday and Tuesday. The Law School itself, however, in the midst of surrounding devastation, had retained power, heat, and connectivity. Although there was tree damage on campus, it was minimal compared to the damage only blocks away. Because the school was fortunate enough to have remained in such good shape, the use of its facilities was offered to help alleviate the burdens placed upon the Law School community. The facilities were offered to faculty, staff, students, and their respective families.

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CJIL presents New Legal Voices panel in London

By Matt Stein and Lori Cooper,
Connecticut Journal of International Law Editors

While Hartford was being hammered by a snowstorm, CJIL Members were heating up London with discussions on timely international legal topics. *The Connecticut Journal of International Law*, represented by seven respected members, traveled to London to attend a UConn Law School international alumni event. On Saturday morning, the Journal hosted its first ever New Legal Voices panel, an interactive presentation concerning a range of international topics.

Journal members Chris Potts, Janie Crocco, and Kristin MacDougall presented their note topics to an audience comprised of professors and students from around the world, seeking commentary and criticism. Brendan Kelley, who was unable to present due to a lack of time, also prepared written discourse on debit fees.

Potts opened the panel with his presentation of the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and the effect that it will have on the validity of patents issued through the process. One of the questions he presented for scrutiny was the quality of patent examiners throughout the PPH and whether the process would result in an increase in improvidently granted patents.

Crocco presented about a gap in the International Convention on Child Abduction framework, pertaining specifically to cases in which domestic violence is an issue. She engaged in a discussion with the various scholars about the extent to which the U.S. legal system has mechanisms in place to address this gap. Dr. Michael Addo, a highly esteemed senior lecturer, from the University of Exeter, spoke about the merits of a framework such as the one pro-



UCONN/Lori Cooper

Chris Potts presented along with Janie Crocco and Kristin MacDougall at CJIL's New Voices Panel.

vided by the European Convention on Human Rights for addressing issues such as this one.

MacDougall analyzed the differences between Zimbabwe and Kenya's strategies for promoting or failing to promote tribal rights. She introduced a new theory for why these two countries behave so differently based on the historical development of the countries. Dr. Addo, an established specialist in human rights law who had prepared a brief response to MacDougall's note, found a great deal of merit in her analysis and presented questions for further research.

The presenters demonstrated a well-researched and thorough understanding of their respective topics, the discourse was lively (the event ran considerably over schedule), and the commentary was insightful. UConn Faculty proclaimed this event a great success and insisted that the journal continue the tradition stateside. You can look forward to seeing the American adaptation of New Legal Voices panel next spring.



Insurance Law Center, Connecticut Insurance Law Journal, and Connecticut Law Review presented a Tax and Economic Considerations of Healthcare Reform panel during their symposium on healthcare.

Dean's Corner with Dean Paul

By Dean Jeremy Paul

For many Americans raised in the glow of the post-War boom, the idea of living overseas for longer than a year seemed off-putting, if not downright unthinkable. Our country offered average citizens the promise of unrivalled freedom, boundless economic opportunity, a stable rule of law, great natural beauty, and conveniences and security previously unmatched in human history. Of course, not every American had equal access to these precious resources, but conventional wisdom labeled our problems insignificant compared to those confronting other nations.

Today's law students should not let baby boomer parochialism deter you from exploring what the world has to offer. Of course, the United States still leads the world, and we may rightly take pride in our inspirational political and legal institutions. Nor should those of us who love living in Connecticut ever be surprised when any graduate chooses to do so. But when it comes to a monopoly on economic opportunity or the conveniences of modern life, the times they are a changing.

I have just returned from visiting UConn Law School graduates building successful careers and fulfilling lives in seemingly unlikely places. From London to Hong Kong, from Beijing to Madrid, from Istanbul to Costa Rica, those who learned law in Connecticut are now law firm partners, judges, business persons and professors. Your legal training might open similar doors, and our many exchange programs offer a chance to discover whether living abroad might interest you. More important, learning about another culture will make you a better lawyer even if you never again leave the United States.

This was not my first official trip abroad. In 2007 I visited our colleagues at the Free University of Berlin, and later

traveled to Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, where we launched an exchange program. At the Berlin reunion, and at this month's London reunion, thanks to the good offices of Professor Mark Janis and the tireless efforts of Blanche Capilos, I conversed with many graduates now working in Europe. *Connecticut Journal of International Law* students were also in London and earned congratulations for a New Voices discussion at which students shared their work with a diverse, well-educated audience.

But it was during eight days in China that the spread of economic success and the universalism of modern technology most clearly hit home. Opportunities for lawyers to play a part in spearheading international commerce are perhaps greater in no other nation. If Superman were invented today, his tagline would be "faster than a speeding Chinese bullet train, more powerful than the yuan, and able to leap Shanghai skyscrapers in a single bound." Of course, China continues to struggle with issues of free expression and with serious problems concerning air and water quality. But America too had challenges even during the post-War heyday.

While in China, thanks to our marvelous ambassador Yan Hong, I visited five law schools and courted students who might join us in coming years. I urge each of you to consider studying in another country, to master a foreign language, and to take some classes focused on international law. If the U.S. wishes to continue its world leadership, your talents on the global stage are needed. The opportunities remain unlimited.

from H-1B, p. 1

pursue a civil rights lawsuit.

Exploitation of this legal loophole is unavoidable—some employers "bench" H-1B employees for months without pay; some head-hunter, executive hiring or consulting firms keep these employees in their payrolls without pay until they can place them in a job. Once the person is recruited, the firm charges a hefty percentage of the employee's salary for a specific period of time. An aggrieved employee can wage complaints to the U.S. Department of Labor by filing a form WH4. In many cases, when a WH4 investigation is ensued, the employer terminates the employee, and revokes the LCA retrospectively, despite it being illegal to do so. Consequently, the employee becomes an illegal immigrant subject to deportation, which also jeopardizes his re-entry to the U.S. Thus, an illegal termination of an H-1B employee causes irreparable harm that prevents him from seeking remedy under Title VII.

A recent case may promise a remedy. In *Karakozova v. University of Pittsburgh*, the plaintiff was employed as a Research Assistant on H-1B visa and had a contract to work in her current

A Note from the Student Bar Association

As the semester quickly draws to a close I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize all the amazing student-organization events that have occurred on our campus this semester.

By the time this issue of *Pro Se* reaches you, our student body will have executed several fantastic events. Phi Alpha Delta hosted a kick-ball tournament for incoming 1Ls which promises to be a great ongoing tradition. Mock Trial Society had continued success with its William R. Davis Mock Trial Competition. *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal* worked with Insurance Law Center to host the first of two Symposia in a single semester. Moreover, Moot Court Board welcomed another incoming class to the Board after an extremely competitive William H. Hastie Moot Court Competition. Moot Court Board and Mock Trial Society also collaborated for the first time to host Litigation Week. *Connecticut Law Review*, *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal* and Insurance Law Center hosted their Fall Symposium (the second Symposium with which Connecticut Insurance Law Journal was associated) surrounding healthcare reform in the United States—an event that hosted twenty-nine speakers in just thirty-six hours—quite an accomplishment. Finally, and certainly not least, Public Interest Law Group hosted another wonderful auction to help raise funds for its Fellowship Program.

The above list is not nearly exhaustive of all the student-based programs that occurred on campus just this fall but it is indicative of the incredible work of your fellow students. I think it is important that we all recognize the hard-work and dedication involved in planning these complex, well-attended and successful events. I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to all those students—and administrators without whom all these events would not be possible—that helped enhance our campus so much over a single semester.

Finally, do not forget that the SBA will be doing what it can to ease the frustration and stress of finals week. The SBA, Law School Foundation and Dean's Office will be hosting, for the first time, a joint Holiday Party on December 6. Also, the SBA and Dean's Office will be offering Midnight Breakfast before finals on December 12 at 9:30 p.m. (not midnight) in the Library Entrance Corridor. Additionally, the SBA will be providing free coffee at the Co-op during finals week.

Best of luck on finals to everyone! I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Respectfully,

Marco A. Allocca,
SBA President

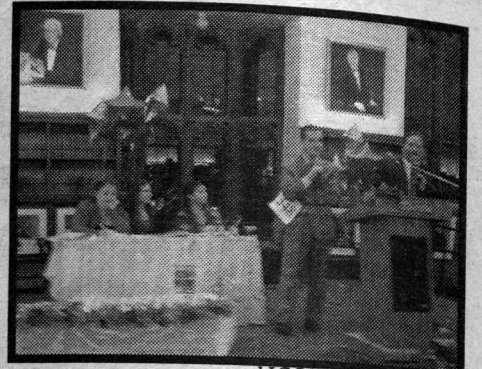
Steals and Deals at the PILG Auction

By Matthew Zagaja

On the evening of November 18th members of the law school community packed themselves into the Starr Reading Room for a night of steals and deals. The night began with the silent auction. Tables adorned the perimeter of the room. Bidders had the opportunity to view items such as artwork by Prof. Pomp and bid on them. In a change from previous years many items had a larger minimum bid size than the customary five dollars. However this change did not appear to discourage bidders from entering the fray. An hour into the auction, bidders were fighting over items like BarBri gift certificates and Italian Lessons from Janie Crocco.

The mood in the room changed as the electric Patrick Soucy returned to the stage for a third-year as the official auctioneer. The owner of Golden Gavel auctions in East Windsor, Mr. Soucy has been selling antiques since age 13. As the auctions start you can feel his draw. Bid on an item and he locks you into his tractor beam. He has that uncanny ability to tell whether or not you want something and whether you are willing to pay just a few more dollars for it if you are given a little encouragement. Yet even with Mr. Soucy working to pry bidders from their wallets incredible deals were had. One lucky student paid a little over \$1000 for a Mexico vacation package valued at around \$4000.

The auction also had a surprise twist this year. Donors donated two of some of the vacation packages to the auction. After the first vacation package was won in the live auction, the auctioneer would



UConn/Matt Zagaja

Auctioneer Patrick Soucy takes bids at the annual PILG Auction.

give the second highest bidder the option to purchase the second vacation package at the same price as the highest bidder. Every time the offer was made, the second bidder accepted. This not only softened the blow of losing the auction for the second bidder, but also increased the money going towards PILG's fellowships.

The end of an auction always brings excitement and disappointment. As some checked out they found that silent auction items they bid on were swiped from under their noses in those last crucial moments. Others were giddy that they now had a place to spend winter or spring break. While a final figure of money made was not available at the time of printing, the real winner is still the law school community. As first and second year students begin their internship hunts for next summer, they may now consider non-paying options with public interest organizations and have the comfort of knowing they can apply to get funding from PILG.

position until June 14, 2009. On January 23, her supervisor sent her a letter stating that her contract would end on June 14 due to insufficient funding. As a result, plaintiff's visa would expire on June 14, requiring her to return to Russia. Plaintiff argued that she was subjected to discrimination on the basis of national origin, in that her supervisor decided not to renew her contract because of alleged insufficient funding, yet hired and/or retained other similarly situated persons of Korean descent. Granting a preliminary injunction, the 3rd Circuit Court stayed the case while plaintiff pursued her claims before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and through the University grievance appeal processes. In the interim, respondent was ordered to maintain plaintiff's employment with equal salary and benefits.

The H-1B employees are a skilled, hard-working and ambitious workforce. Like most immigrants, they thrive on the aspiration to become successful in the U.S. Unfortunately, for all practical purposes, these employees seem to be miss out on one of the most progressive legislations in the U.S. history—the Civil Rights Act.

Moot Court semester review

By Cody Guarnieri, Moot Court Executive Director and Andrea Gomes, Moot Court Secretary

This semester, the Connecticut Moot Court Board has been very active both on campus and interscholastically. Along with co-sponsoring a litigation night for 1Ls with the Mock Trial Society, hosting Connecticut Supreme Court Justice Peter T. Zarella and hosting the annual William H. Hastie intramural competition, members of the Board have competed in several interscholastic competitions of note, exhibiting the devotion and skill that has come to be expected of UConn Law students.

First, Radha Mohan, Hailey Gallant and Caitlin Loftus participated in the Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Competition at American University in Washington, D.C on October 21st and 22nd. The petitioner, a fictional church, protested outside a military funeral in order to promote its views on illegal immigration. In doing so, the church violated a state statute prohibiting picketing within 1,000 feet and from one hour before to one hour after the funeral. The first issue involved the constitutionality of the state law prohibiting picketing outside military funerals. The second issue involved petitioner's tax-exempt status as a religious institution.

Next, Aaron Rosenberg and Doug Dalena competed in the National Criminal

Procedure Moot Court Tournament held by the University of San Diego School of Law. November 3rd through November 5th. Aaron argued a Fifth Amendment question concerning whether federal agents were required to give Miranda warnings after confronting a drug suspect in a diner. Doug argued a Fourth Amendment question concerning whether federal agents needed a warrant to install a GPS tracking device on the suspect's car to track his movements. Of 44 teams competing, Aaron and Doug advanced to the round of sixteen and scored in the top eight.

Finally, Marco Allocca, Allison Pannozzo and Cody Guarnieri will be competing in the National Moot Court Competition, Region 1, in Boston on November 18th through the 20th. This competition is hosted by Suffolk Law School and includes competing law schools from throughout New England and New York. Marco and Allison will be arguing whether the First Amendment precludes a public school district from disciplining a student for creating an online post regarding another student, which created a disruption of the school's administration. Cody's argument will address a circuit-split regarding what level of mental culpability in relation to the spoliation of evidence is sufficient for a district court to grant the innocent party an adverse inference.

The Connecticut Moot Court Board thanks its membership and the student body for a productive semester and looks forward to advancing appellate advocacy skills in the spring. Have a happy holiday season!

Interested in writing for Pro Se? Drop us a line at prose@students.law.uconn.edu

Stay updated through our facebook and twitter pages!

Also check out our new website at uconnprosenews.com.

Pro Se

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A special thanks to our "columnist in exile" Scott Robson for his monthly column, *Robson's Ramblings*.

Occupy Wall Street: A Collectivist Movement

By Derek Ghan

I visited the Occupy Wall Street camp the same day I saw my brother off to Egypt where he'll spend three years teaching and doing some non-profit work. By that point, we both had talked about how exciting it would be for him to witness the transitions in Egypt after the successful uprising. He'll have a firsthand account of key political moments and witness new historic events that will shape the future of a country.

Visiting the camp in Zuccotti Park, I couldn't help but compare the two situations. I fully expected to arrive to drum circles, competing chants, human microphones, and other vestiges of past political protests plagued by the fractured-message syndrome. How wrong I was. While I walked through the camp I saw and heard discourse; honest and open political discourse. Tourists like me would wade into the fray of the camp, cameras ready, and make it perhaps ten steps before a flyer was in our face, the bearer asking if she could explain to us what it is she was doing there. I overheard conversations between protestors and onlookers, respectfully exchanging ideas and personal philosophies. Listening to these conversations, I started thinking about the fuel behind the movement.

The early criticism of the Occupy movement that continues in the larger media outlets is the absence of a unified message. Those that purport to report the news have become overly reliant on the political system, expecting a scripted message with pretty bullet points and twitterable summations. But this isn't a movement of party sycophants. This isn't even a protest in the truest sense. In my view, this is the resurgence of collectivism. I'll clarify with an anecdote.

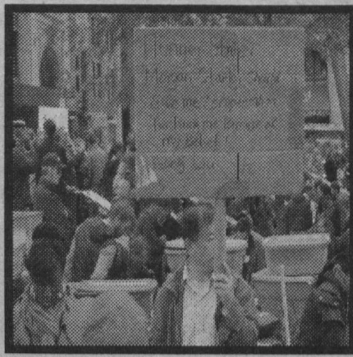
I saw a man sitting on one of the polished granite walls of the park holding up a sign that read "Hunger Strike! Morgan Stanley should give me compensation for firing me because of my beliefs!" At first glance, I didn't understand the connection. I thought perhaps because it was Morgan Stanley, he believed it would be apropos to protest with others adamantly against the financial industry. But this wasn't political or economic disempowerment; it was a simple case of wrongful termination. As I continued to think about his lonely protest, an idea started to fester. You could replace "Morgan Stanley" with any other business and he still would have belonged there. The financial industry isn't the problem - at least not the sole problem; the problem is something more. It's

employment practices that allows a firm to terminate its employees at will and without cause. It's our individual weakness that institutional strength can take advantage of on a daily basis. We've come to this by way of our obsession with personal autonomy. We've somehow been duped into believing that true personal liberty and freedom can only be found in some Rand-ian brand of individualism that rejects collectivism.

In giving the idea some more thought, I stumbled across the musing of Dr. Darcia Narvaez, a psychology professor and the director of the Collaborative for Ethical Education at University of Notre Dame. On her blog "Moral Landscapes" on Psychology Today's website, she posted a two part topic asking the question "Are individualism and collectivism compatible?" While I generally shy away from lofty anthropological ideas that threaten to expose my overall ignorance on the subject, Dr. Narvaez's explanation of the consequences of our Western infatuation with individualism is something even I could grasp. She uses the propensities of "Band Life" (think hunter-gatherer tribes) to examine individualism within a collective.

If I've lost you already, consider a couple quotes she pulled from a 1999 study on the subject. Here's how the study describes our notion of individualism: "The Western individual is a self-contained, rational subject, locked within the privacy of a body, standing against the rest of society consisting of an [sic] aggregate of other such individuals, and competing with them in the public arena for the rewards of success." And here's how it explains individualism in the context of band life: "For hunter gatherers, by contrast, the dichotomy between private and public domains, respectively of self and society, has no meaning. Every individual comes into being as a center of agency and awareness within an unbounded social environment which provides sustenance, care, company, and support . . . A person acts with others, not against them; the intentionality driving that action both origi-

See WALL STREET, p. 4



White House fights subpoena

By Alex Anastasio

On November 4, the White House counsel issued a statement in which the White House refused to comply with a recent subpoena by the House Energy Committee over the now-bankrupt company Solyndra. In her response to the subpoena, White House counsel Kathryn Ruemmler argued that the subpoena was overbroad, but did not say that the White House would refuse a more limited request for documents.

Energy Secretary Steven Chu testified before the House Energy Committee, where he denied accusations of incompetence and corruption. Chu refused to apologize for the loan, arguing that Solyndra's bankruptcy was "unfortunate" but a result of unanticipated factors. Chu also stated that he did not foresee that much of the loan could be recovered.

Several members of the Committee have accused the White House and the Department of Energy of rushing reviews of Solyndra's financial stability. Some Republicans and Democrats have also questioned whether Solyndra officials concealed the deteriorating state of the company's finances. As recently as the summer of 2011, Solyndra representatives publicly reassured members of Congress that the company was financially stable. Released records show that in January 2011, Solyndra informed the DOE that the company was in financial trouble.

On September 23, Solyndra executives previously invoked their Fifth Amendment rights and refused to testify before the House Energy Committee. Questioning became so intense that at least one member of the Committee complained. On September 8, FBI agents raided Solyndra's offices, just a week after Solyndra filed for bankruptcy. Several e-mails released by the House Energy Committee indicate that Solyndra and its private investors aggressively sought funds from the DOE, eventually procuring a deal in which private companies invested more money in Solyndra in exchange for priority repayment of their loans in the event Solyndra went bankrupt.

The DOE loan program in question was created by the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The loan guarantees were created in order to assist companies developing jobs in the clean energy market. The loan program was expanded by the 2009 stimulus act. It was under a 2009 provision that Solyndra received more than half a billion dollars in loan guarantees. Vice President Biden announced the approval of the Solyndra loan, and President Obama once visited the factory itself.

Solyndra, which filed for bankruptcy on September 1 of this year, was a manufacturer of thin-film solar panels. These panels, which are different from conventional flat solar panels, became unprofitable to manufacture due to increased production efficiency on the part of flat-panel producers. Solyndra manufactured the panels at an advanced facility, the construction of which was financed with \$535 million in federal loan guarantees, along with nearly \$200 million in private capital. In 2009, Solyndra estimated that the construction of the advanced facility would employ approximately 3000 people and that operation of the facility would create over 1000 jobs in the US. Over 1100 people were laid off when Solyndra filed for bankruptcy.

Hastie Competition concluded November 3rd

By Brendan Horgan

The Moot Court Board's 2011 William H. Hastie Appellate Advocacy Tournament successfully concluded earlier this month. The Board's own Mike Lobie and Emily Bolton worked tirelessly creating the problem, coordinating schedules, and setting up the judging. Everything went incredibly well, and the final argument and dinner were both great successes.

In a well argued final, the Respondent Claire Howard for emerged victorious over Petitioner Gregory Bennici. The competitors argued in front of Connecticut Superior Court (and soon to be Appellate Court) Judge Sheldon, Connecticut Appellate Judges Lavine and Espinosa, and Connecticut Supreme Court Justice Eveleigh. Navigating questions from the bench, Howard and Bennici maintained their composure in front of the large crowd. In the end, after deliberation by the panel, Howard carried the day for the Respondent.

The problem and research universe took the competitors into the world of copyright. Appearing before the United States Supreme Court on certiorari from the 10th Circuit, the case of *Golan v. Holder* et al., asked the court to determine two questions. First, whether the removing of works from the public domain violates the Progress clause of the Constitution. Second, whether adherence to the terms of a foreign treaty violate the First Amendment by applying copyright protection to certain foreign works previously in the public domain. The problem was incredibly difficult. Competitors had a little less than two weeks to sift through hundreds of pages of case law and master an incredibly nuanced area of the law.

In a very competitive field, Howard and Bennici rose to the finals for their ability to coherently corral the law. In an appellate arguments, the advocates take the role of educating the judges on complex areas of law. Howard and Bennici both had an uncanny ability to take a very difficult concept, and communicate it in an understandable manner. This year's Hastie problem demanded taking the very complex, and explaining it in a way that made sense.

The other big winners included Best Oralist Kaelah Smith and Best Brief Lauren Crudele. The night concluded with the invitations to join the Moot Court Board also being extended to Shrina Faldu and Alicia Esposito.

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concerns when voting for Zoning Commission members is that they will be treated fairly when they come in front of the commission.

His November win secured him a four-year term on the Zoning Commission where he will help ensure that all new building plans fall within zoning regulations. Grimes said his legal education has helped him on everything from understanding zoning case law to interpreting the regulations.

from STORM, p. 1

The damage was so extensive in some areas that the Law School offered people to sleep on campus. About fourteen people took advantage of this opportunity for one or more nights. Thirty people took advantage of pre-paid laundry at WashTub across the street from school, and countless others used the shower located in the basement of Starr Hall. When classes resumed on Wednesday, sessions were recorded for those students who were still unable to come to campus. Dean Crawford sent out numerous emails updating the community and extending an offer of help to those in need. A big special thanks to her!

One student reported that he did not lose power and was able to endure the storm comfortably in his apartment located two blocks from the school. He reported, however, that as an out-of-state IL without family in the area, he felt comforted by the fact that had he encountered difficulties, he could have easily walked to school where he "would have been welcomed by people who were doing everything in their power to make us feel safe and comfortable." He could've taken a hot shower, eaten warm food, sought refuge from the cold, and done laundry at no charge. His sentiment of, "Thanks to the kind efforts of the staff at UConn Law, I certainly felt a little bit more at home," is echoed by the entire UConn Law community and *Pro Se*.

Connecticut election results

By Matt Szafranski

Unless an election happens to fall on an even year and often only if divisible by four, elections do not usually bring out the crowds. Nevertheless, Connecticut residents, weary of over a week without power showed up to choose leaders for a host of municipal races. New mayors were elected in Middletown, New Britain, Newington and Waterbury among others. The Secretary of State called turnout normal despite storm related disruptions to some polling places.

In Hartford, Mayor Pedro Segarra won a full term in the general election, as expected. Due to the massive partisan advantage Democrats enjoy over Republicans in the city, the bigger race was actually earlier in the Fall during the Democratic primary. Democrats in municipal races across the state also had an advantage that they had not had in years. The party

in control of the governor's office gets the "A" or top line on the ballot.

In Waterbury, incumbent mayor Mike Jarjura, who recently switched parties from Democrat to Republican, was defeated by Democrat Neil O'Leary, the city's former police chief.

Democrats, who hold a large registration advantage in New Britain, also took back that city's mayoralty. Rep. Timothy O'Brien defeated the incumbent, Republican Mark Bernacki. Meanwhile in Middletown, Democrat Dan Drew overcame Sebastian Giuliano as, in the Hartford Courant's estimate, the race became bogged down into the politics of the city's police department.

In Newington, Democrats took back the mayor's seat on the town council and maintained their majorities on the Council and Board of Education. A recount narrowly secured a spot for a fifth Democrat on the Board of Education. UConn Law

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tioning health care." Additionally, Professor Santerre explained during the panel that "it took decades for them [the Mayo Clinic doctors] to create the systems of trust that allowed them to integrate professionally." The majority of health care providers practice defensive medicine, contrary to this collaborative method.

Professor Utz himself spoke on the interaction of the ACA with tax policy. He noted that one of the goals of our present system is to untangle individual health care payments and government benefits from the tax base, but that ACA only partly accomplishes that goal. "The ACA continues to exclude self-employed self-provided health insurance and large employer-provided health care coverage from income, which accords with this goal, but it also continues to tax some or all of what employees without employer-provided health care pay for their coverage, while imposing a mandate that everyone buy insurance." By continuing to apply exclusions, deductions, and credits unequally, ACA perpetuates inequality inherent in the current tax system.

In addition to the panel on the tax and economic considerations, the symposium included an examination of many of the controversies that have arisen as a result of ACA's enactment as well as scrutiny of the different provisions of the Act itself including issues states face in implementing the Act, disparities in access to health care, and constitutional concerns. Overall, Professor Utz concluded that listeners sitting in on any of the panels would emerge with an improved understanding of the problems facing health care reform.

student Joshua Shulman, profiled in the October Issue of *Pro Se*, won the third-highest number of votes for Board of Education.

Shulman, in a brief interview with *Pro Se*, expressed relief that the rigorous campaign had ended, but saw the result as the "culmination of all the hard work." The Board of Education, which has already been sworn in will focus on organization and meeting with administrators for the time being. Nevertheless, Shulman is already looking to make improvements in instruction and expose upper grade students to more college level curricula.

Although Republicans held several seats around the state, the results provided some relief to statewide Democrats, who worried Governor Dannel Malloy's budget and low approval ratings would drag down the party in local races. Democrats now focus their attention on the open US Senate and House election next year.

The Back Page

UConn Law in the Capital, Part III: Mr. Smith Goes to Washington: One Student's Foray into the Political Thicket

By Peter Smith

WASHINGTON -- The Beltway. The Windy Apple. After three months here, I am officially part of the establishment, and therefore disqualified from running an outsider campaign for President. Fortunately, I'm not too jaded to provide a travelogue for y'all (whoops, Southern influence).

This semester I'm working at the Department of Education. Every day I step off the Metro and walk into Ed with a smug smile, in defiance of all the presidential hopefuls who want to cut the department, at least when they can remember it. The externship is completely different from anything else in law school. Rather than writing legal briefs, I analyze policy questions for the Equity and Excellence Commission, which is developing recommendations for states and local districts to make access to education more equitable. The work is very current—for example, the day after President Obama announced new Head Start regulations, my supervisor asked me to look into them and tell him how they relate to the Commission's ideas on the topic. It's exciting to think that my work may, in some small way, affect national educational policy. Not to toot my own horn, but I'm pretty much the most powerful intern in Washington now.

Of course, there is more to do in Washington than work. Sure, we're not the "rising star" that Hartford is, but we still have plenty of clovers and blue moons. In fact, clovers and stars combine at The Star and Shamrock, an Irish-Jewish pub with a fusion menu and plenty of He'Brew on tap. D.C. has a wide assortment of bars and clubs, so there's something for everyone. U Street is a veritable cornucopia of sounds and flavors, pulsing on Saturday nights with live jazz, reggae, and bowls of chili.

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community of nurture to which they all belong." If you wade through the anthropological geek-speak, you'll see a theme start to surface. Our idea of individualism is defined by our ability – our need, really – to compete with one another for resources and success. At what point, do you suppose, is it that competition morphed from the centerpiece of our economic system into the centerpiece of our social structure? Consider why it is that the protesters are massing and occupying spaces in groups. It seems more likely that we're witnessing an emergence of an underlying yearning to return to the band life understanding of individualism, where an individual acts in concert with others to improve everyday life collectively rather than competing to individually improve everyday life for ourselves.

Despite this, irrational fear of losing personal autonomy and independence continues to occupy the occupiers. If you ask about a unified message, the typical response you would likely get from most involved with the movement is that she is there representing her own ideas in a place where marginalized voices can be heard. Many are quick to point out that they are there as autonomous individuals representing only themselves. And yet consensus-building is a central part of the gatherings across the country. General assemblies or caucuses are springing up in various occupations with detailed rules of debate and procedure designed to facilitate them. The unfortunate consequence of years of indoctrination is that many believe that collective action comes at the cost of personal autonomy and individual freedom. But how well off are we actually believing that? The price of our infatuation with individualism in the Western sense is greatest threat to individual freedom. When we compete we effectively create a "race to the bottom" approach to consumption, employment, services, and all other aspects of our economic and political every-day-lives. Competing individually with each other against corporate and institutional collectives surrenders the rule-making power to amoral entities guided by majority rule or profit-based goals.

This is what I saw when I visited Zuccotti park. I saw a group of diverse people searching for a new understanding of individualism that is compatible with collectivism. Whether or not this is truly reflective of the motives behind the movement is irrelevant. Consider this: I spent only a couple hours at the park, but I've been thinking about it non-stop since. Maybe that's what the movement is, a re-examination of social norms that we've just taken for granted all this time. Maybe it's a rebellion against capitalism. Maybe it's a resurgence of anarchism. It doesn't matter. No one can deny that people are opening up new avenues of dialogue and reaching out to educate themselves and each other on issues that are important to them. The true value of the movement is that it is an exchange of ideas and political discourse free from the pathetic artificiality of election politics. If you toss away the pedestrian understanding of "protest" that critics can't seem let go of, you'll be well on your way to understanding the movement. To me, it's a center for collective learning and action. What is it to you?

Robson's Ramblings:

New Pro-Bono Group Offers Holiday Aid to the Needy

By Scott Robson

BARCELONA -- A newly-founded student group aims to make a difference for hundreds of people this holiday season. Armed with a daunting vision, a committed staff, and a robust set of bylaws, the group seems poised to help a great many people. The group's mission is unique among student groups; where other pro bono organizations seek to treat symptoms, this one aims to address the underlying problem.

GOAD (Giving Overworked Attorneys Doppelgangers) was started in secret this August by a handful of summer associates who noticed a common complaint among their supervising attorneys and other colleagues: there just aren't enough hours in the day. Taking inspiration from Michael Keaton's tragically underrated *Multiplicity* (1996) and the \$2 Wednesday special at the Half Door, these young visionaries decided to do something about it.

GOAD is the result of an epiphany: It's not that there aren't enough hours in the day. There just aren't enough attorneys in the day.

Attorneys, they reasoned, are the driving force of society. Lawyers help people. Lawyers are the agents of justice. Lawyers are able to set a congressional budget in a timely fashion. Sometimes.

GOAD's mission is simple – provide attorneys with the assistance they need to juggle work and

life. They train students and members of the community to precisely mimic overworked attorneys in appearance and behavior, and then assign them to lawyers in need. Since it would be illegal and unethical to have the doppelgangers replace the attorneys professionally, GOADers instead replace lawyers in social and family contexts.

Think about it. The Thanksgiving holiday alone is a full 24 hour period, midweek – prime time for productivity and due diligence. If every attorney were able to focus on their work, knowing that they had an accurate doppelganger at home dealing with the pleasantries of turkey and pecan pie, the benefits would be incalculable.

With 168 hours in the week, a doppelganger frees up at least 112 of those hours for billing – they can do everything at home but sleep for you. Clients and attorneys alike now have something to truly be thankful for!

After trials with cardboard cut-out lawyers and mannequin lawyers proved to have a less than optimal success rate (28% and 64% convincing, respectively), GOAD decided to train students and community members instead. With a large pool of unemployed workers at their disposal, GOAD quickly began its mission to free attorneys of the shackles of home life.

No doppelgangers could be positively identified for interview.



UCONN/Peter Smith

Peter Smith pondering the Capitol.

Dupont also promises the possibility of wacky adventures. Be sure not to miss Mad Hatter, which is similar to Black Bear but with more white rabbits, or the free happy hour taco bar at Front Page, featuring a whole roasted pig. Finish the night with a Now and Zen burger (soy sauce, ginger, sesame) at Black and Orange. As for the most authentic gyros this side of Athens, a trip to Cava near Eastern Market is a must for foodies everywhere.

We've made the most of our time here, visiting different agencies every week, seeing the do-nothing Congress in action, and sitting in on a Supreme Court argument. I even snapped an obligatory campaign photo with the Capitol building in the background. I wish I could stay longer, and if *Pro Se* sponsors me, I would gladly be a full-time bar and restaurant reviewer. No? Ok. See y'all in January.

Reflections on London and the University of Connecticut School of Law Alumni Reunion

By Kristin MacDougall

On October 26th, 2011, Matt Stein, Janie Crocco, Randall Blowers, Chris Potts, Lori Cooper, Brendan Kelley, and myself embarked on our trip to London to be part of a University of Connecticut School of Law Alumni Reunion.

The first night, the seven of us were too excited to stay in (although some of us succumbed to jetlag and slept most of the day-me), and decided to explore London's famous pub scene in the Russell Square neighborhood. I had a very hard time believing that the day before I had been in Biz Org class, and now was drinking wine at charming little pubs in an entirely different country. Our first official alumni event was Saturday morning, where we were given the chance to tour the famous "Inns of Court," specifically the Temple Inn, where barristers come from all around the globe to be trained in the British legal system. I think the seven of us were pretty amazed to learn how the Knights Templar had established the Inn, and we even got to tour a small Templar church that was almost a century old (can't find this in America!). After this, most of us indulged in the traditional fish and chips at the Inn cafeteria, while Barristers and Barristers-in-training below chatted.

Fast forward a few hours, and we were at a panel discussion by J.D. graduates Clifford Hendel '83, and Sophie van Til Leedham '95, and L.L.M. graduate Sarah Wilkens '01. For us who are still students, it was nice to hear how different a person's career can be after they leave UConn. I can only hope that I will be in a similar place to any of the three panelists once I have my law degree in hand. After the panel, we were able to meet all the former L.L.M. students for dinner. These former UConn students came all the way from Kazakhstan, Germany, and the Netherlands to be part of this Alumni event.

Saturday night, the seven of us made our way to London's famous SOHO neighborhood to take part in the nightlife of Halloween weekend. Instead of focusing on pubs, we really experienced what London had to offer for a club scene, and found ourselves dancing until the wee hours of London's daylight savings weekend.

Sunday finally arrived, and we fully took advantage of our free day to see the tourist sites. First we walked again through Hyde Park, and made our way to Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey (after mistakenly thinking the Parliament Building was the Abbey). After exploring West London, we made our way over to the Tower of London, to see the original "City of London" which is the oldest part of the city. Although we missed a formal tour of the Tower, it was amazing to see the fort and Tower Bridge lit up at night, and we got some great photo opportunities. Since we were hungry at this point, we made our way to Leadenhall Market to find some traditional English dinners. Although the market was abandoned since it was Sunday, it was exciting to see the actual place where the Harry Potter movies shot their footage for "Diagon Alley."

When the sight-seeing day was over, I think we realized that our long weekend in London was coming to an end. For me the experience was amazing, exciting, and extremely enriching. The next morning, I think we were all a little sad to step back on the Heathrow Connect in order to get back to Boston.

Voices From the Quad

By Patricia Martins

This month's question:

If you could travel through time and watch past events (but not alter them), where in time would you be?

"The first Olympics because I would love to see what ancient Greece really looked like! That or when Beatlemania hit the US."

-Julia Lavine, 2L

"Around the American Revolution."

-Joe Hochheiser, 3L

"If I was in a safe spot, the bombing of Pearl Harbor."

-Phil Ratliff, 4L Evening

Wendy's Wise Words of Wisdom

Dear Wendy,

I have a question regarding men's hairstyles. As I move closer to graduating from law school, I can no longer deny that I am balding. What do you think I should do about this, especially considering my ongoing job search and the interviews I hope to get over the next several months?

---Growing Hairless in Hartford

Dear Growing Hairless,

Hmm, this is quite the quandary, Growing Hairless. Under normal circumstances, I would beg you to shave it all off now before people start noticing--bald is always better than balding! However, you're entering a tough employment market and you'd be foolish to make hasty hair decisions at this point. If you go completely bald now, the glare from your glossy head might be distracting at an interview. You might be deemed a little too flashy: no substance, all looks. They'll think to themselves, "Is this obviously vain gentleman willing to devote 90% of his waking hours to being a motion-drafting machine? Not with that head!" On the contrary, keeping yourself in that visibly balding state might increase your marketability. You might feel self-conscious, yes. But just explain that your dedication to achieving that stellar resume (your resume is stellar, right? of course it is) has resulted in sleepless nights, malnutrition or obesity, rampant drug and alcohol abuse, and a somewhat-diminished-but-surely-distinguished head of hair and you will find success.

Yours,
Wendy