

The Justinian

Volume 2002
Issue 1 *March*

Article 1

2002

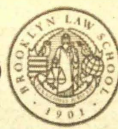
The Justinian

Follow this and additional works at: <https://brooklynworks.brooklaw.edu/justinian>

Recommended Citation

(2002) "The Justinian," *The Justinian*: Vol. 2002 : Iss. 1 , Article 1.
Available at: <https://brooklynworks.brooklaw.edu/justinian/vol2002/iss1/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at BrooklynWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Justinian by an authorized editor of BrooklynWorks.



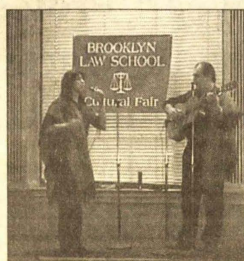
Cultural networking, fun at second annual Cultural Fair

by Rupa Banik, '04

As I walked around the cafeteria during the Cultural Fair, I felt for the first time that I was actually attending a unified law school. Ever since the start of my first semester this past fall, I have felt as if I was attending one of many mini-law schools within BLS. Because the first year class is broken up into sections, I have mainly been exposed to the same students and faculty day in and day out. It is a rarity for me to ever see, let alone bond with, students from other sections. For all intents and purposes, it was as if they went to another law school that happened to be in the same building as mine.

Yet, this perspective changed for me a couple of weeks ago. During the Second Annual Cultural Fair that was

held on Thursday, February 21st, several student organizations came together to give BLS a literal taste of cultural diversity by serving a variety of savory ethnic dishes. The participating groups included AALSA (Asian American Law Students Association), BLSA (Black Law Students Association), ILISA (Italian



Elisabeth Hubbard/ BLS News
More AALSA fun at the festival on February 21.

Law Students Association), JLSA (Jewish Law Students Association), LALSA (Latino American Law Students Association), the Celtic Law Society, the Federalist Society, and the Career Center. One would think that with so many organizations in attendance, it would be a logistical nightmare putting this event together. However, AALSA president Diane Yang '03, who spearheaded this event, noted that it was not at all difficult for the groups to organize this event: "The organization leaders and I are all friends, so we just e-mailed each other and delegated responsibilities amongst ourselves."

Those organizational responsibilities included not just serving scrumptious food, but providing entertainment as well. Performances ranged from singing to poetry read-



Elisabeth Hubbard/ BLS News

AALSA members serve up festive Asian delicacies to fellow members of the BLS community.

ing, and was largely performed by BLS students. The food and entertainment created an atmosphere both culturally rich and exciting, and the students themselves helped further the spirit of multiculturalism that these student organizations sought to promote. Several students that attended the fair wore fashions representing their cultural heritage, including Tibetan, Korean, African, and Bolivian.

As a result of all the hard work that the student organizations put into the fair, many first year students who attended had an opportunity to relax and mingle with students from other sections, as well as with upperclassmen and faculty.

Students that attended expressed much praise for the event. Kerry Ogle '04, said, "It was obvious that every organization here put a lot of time, effort, and pride in launching this event." I overheard another student exclaim, "All the food is so

good, I can't pick a favorite!" As the fair progressed, a sense of community amongst the student body blossomed before my eyes. I was actually witnessing a moving and breathing cohesive mosaic of cultural diversity. Because of this fair, I was able to see beyond the generic law student facade and appreciate the rich, cultural heritage that the BLS student body possesses. We were no longer just one-dimensional, disconnected law school students seen in class everyday. We became a collective that was unified by the spirit of multiculturalism. I no longer felt that I was attending one of many mini-law schools within BLS, but rather, a truly unified law school.

Events like the Cultural Fair should take place more often. They not only promote cohesion but they add dimension and vigor to the student body. The Cultural Fair was truly cultural networking at its finest!

Welcome!

We are proud to present the premier issue of the Brooklyn Law School News and are confident you will find the mix of hard-hitting investigative reporting and lighter entertainment enjoyable and stimulating.

With this new medium, we aim both to promote a stronger sense of school community and to encourage the student body, faculty, and administration to express their views and opinions on important issues. We believe this discourse will lead to better student leadership and a more responsive

administration.

For example, in this edition, our staff reporters address two administrative issues students commonly complain about: the timeliness of grades and the perceived lack of a diverse summer curriculum. We challenge you to read this paper carefully, and to formulate and contribute your ideas and suggestions so that we may continue to bring you a quality newspaper.

- The Editors,
Robert Vidoni and Kristin Harrison

On your marks...

How our grades sprint (or saunter) from test to transcript

by Alex Ryley, '04

"So - how'd you do?" By late January, friends at other law schools had all asked me the inevitable question. At that point, these pals - first-year students at Columbia, Emory, Fordham, Michigan, NYU, and St. John's - all had GPAs to report (my Emory buddy had even been ranked). But I was still waiting on a grade. Why the delay? As it turned out, my recalcitrant professor eventually e-mailed our class an explanation paired with a curious but well-intentioned amalgam of praise and contrition. But questions lingered.

Just what—or who—compels professors to submit grades on time? And what is "on time," anyway? The Student Handbook, presumably written by lawyers, offered little illumination. Professors must submit their grades in a "timely manner," it reads (oh, would that we students had such flexible deadlines!), which is "ordinarily" 28 days following the end of the exam period. Delightfully vague. Feeling utterly unenlightened, I chose to skip the middlemen and consult the cognoscente, our new Registrar, Suzanne Dennis.

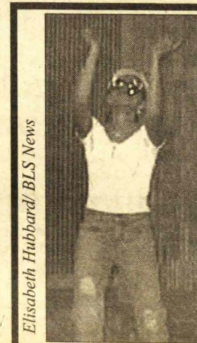
only dispelled some of the maddening mystery surrounding the grading process, but she also described many of the difficulties her office has faced over the last several months. Looking to the future, she offered a glimpse of some important technological improvements that will impact us students directly.

Ms. Dennis became our Registrar in July of 2001, having held the identical position at Middlesex Community College for 15 years. When she arrived at BLS, the Registrar's Office was, incredibly, still waiting on grades from

the spring term. But Ms. Dennis had grander plans than simply tracking down errant grades: she intended to preside over the complete overhaul of BLS's computerized records. So she spent July and August preparing for the launch of the new integrated computer system, which occurred right on schedule - yes, on the morning of September 11.

With the collapse of Building Seven, BLS's internet server disappeared. No data was corrupted as a result, but the

see GRADES, page 4



Elisabeth Hubbard/ BLS News

BLSPI did it again... for the 12th time

On March 7, 2002, Brooklyn Law Students for the Public Interest held their 12th annual auction to raise money for public interest fellowships for Brooklyn Law school students. BLSPI selected a festive Mardi Gras theme and offered auction-goers beer and lots of food. At its height, the

Professor J-Ro (Jennifer Rosato) throws her hands up in triumph at the auction Thursday.

auction was standing-room only, marked by long lines for beer and spirited bidding wars.

The auction included both a silent auction and a live auction. Stuart Medow, an auctioneer by trade, presided over the live auction, encouraging students and faculty to increase their bids and keeping raucous students focused on the task at hand.

Faculty, alumni, and companies all contributed items to the auction. This year's big ticket items included four Knicks tickets in a luxury skybox for \$500, and two Disney World passes with round-trip airfare, which

see BLSPI, page 7

In this Issue...

Black History Month
.....page 4

The People's Lawyer
.....page 3

Law and Television
.....page 5

Law Review
.....page 6

A Summer Challenge to the Registrar
.....page 8

People's lawyer Kinoy encourages student activism

by Karen Chang, '04



On February 11th, distinguished civil rights attorney Arthur Kinoy recounted to BLS

students some of the important legal battles he fought, which established many of the civil rights that exist today. He has advocated for the rights of minorities, women, students, and labor unions, to name a few. Kinoy's energy at age 81 still reflects the élan of his younger days (for instance, boisterous and loud conduct once caused him to be dragged out of a House Un-American Activities Committee meeting). He kept the audience captive with his enthusiastic storytelling, regularly punctuated by his unfailingly dramatic "AND."

Kinoy began by telling how he became known as the first "people's lawyer" while representing Alabama blacks in a case arising out of the Rosa Parks-instigated Montgomery Bus Boycott. Hundreds of people came to support him outside the courthouse as he fought inside the

courtroom. He emphasized that the people's mass support played a crucial role in their resulting win. A critical lesson that he learned, and one he was eager to impart upon the students in the audience, was that to effect change, we as the legal minds, must be a part of the mass movement and work together with the organizations of mass struggle. He noted that this teamwork was imperative because as the mass struggles develop, legal experts are needed to utilize the legal structure to fight for the success of these movements.

Kinoy described his role in the historic decision in *U.S. v. Sinclair*, 321 F. Supp. 1074 (E.D.Mich. 1971), over which Justice Damon Jerome Keith, one of the first black federal district judges appointed to the bench presided. Keith held that the government was not justified in conducting warrantless wiretapping based on its belief that the organization being tapped was attempting to subvert the existing structure of government (in its plain language, for organizing to protest American involvement in the Vietnam War).

Kinoy recalled how following the oral arguments of

the trial, the justices left the courtroom, and returning ten minutes later, Justice Keith declared, "I have just reread the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States: where does it say, 'This Amendment shall apply except when Henry Nixon says no'?" This decision ordering the government to hand over the recordings was later unanimously affirmed in *United States vs. U.S. Dist. Court for Eastern Dist. of Mich., Southern Division*, 92 S.Ct. 2125 (1972). And the eventual ramifications? Nothing less than Nixon's impeachment and resignation following the Watergate scandal.

To answer the principal question of what it means to be a people's lawyer, Kinoy's exhortation was for us to uphold our duty to "fight for the preservation of the Constitution as the supreme law of the land." This was the lesson that resonated through all the legal battles in which he engaged. To compromise this fundamental principle, he warned, is to put our entire future at stake.

And while Kinoy's expe-

riences indeed left an enormous impact upon our country's history, he was no less in touch with the realities we face today. He particularly pointed to the grave threat to civil liberties caused by the

Kinoy's exhortation was for us to uphold our duty to "fight for the preservation of the Constitution as the supreme law of the land."

USA PATRIOT Act. The anti-terrorism bill authorizes the government to take away the constitutional rights of any citizen in the name of "the national interest."

While some students did not agree with his strongly libertarian view, others found themselves encouraged by it. Jesse Strauss '03 shared that: "Left leaning law students like me feel very under siege these days. People with narrow interests are taking advantage of the nation's insecurity to violate the constitution's protections. Mr. Kinoy showed us that it is not the first time this has happened." Kinoy encouraged us

to "put our heads together" as students to find ways to assist in these major legal struggles to preserve our Constitution.

Professor William E. Hellerstein, who introduced Kinoy, particularly noted his "ability to combine skill, precision, creativity, and scholarship" into all his work. Kinoy's talk gave us our first close glimpse of this. Haejin Shim '04 expressed her hope that "we may have another opportunity to meet this incredibly

man who dramatically changed history and influenced so many people's lives." Kinoy surely showed us a leader in action from whom we have much to learn.

Kinoy only recounted a few of the numerous significant landmark cases he has been involved in. Among his achievements is his 7-0 record of wins in the Supreme Court. He closed his talk by comparing his experiences with that of a fellow law school alumnus/law firm senior partner and pointing out that, "We may not make as much money, but we have a hell of a better time."

Everyone has an agenda...

Federalist Society facts

Founded in 1982, the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies is a group comprised primarily of conservatives and libertarians dedicated to the principles that the state exists to preserve freedom; that separation of governmental powers is central to our Constitution; and that it is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is, and not what it should be. The student division of the Federalist Society includes more than 5,000 law students at over 150 law schools across the country. Thanks to a handful of our own students who are dedicated to the principles that the Federalist Society seeks to further, there is now a chapter here at Brooklyn Law School.

One of the goals of The Federalist Society here at Brooklyn Law School is to provide opportunities for effective participation in serious discussions involving the public policy process. Its members believe that through serious thought and open debate, students can more effectively form ideas as to how to affect public policy when they become lawyers. Through its sponsored events, the members of the Federalist Society also hope to encourage students to involve themselves more actively in local, state-

wide, and national affairs, and to contribute more productively to their communities.

The Society's first event centered around the United States Constitution's Second Amendment issue regarding the right to bear arms. More specifically, it focused on the question of whether municipally instituted lawsuits against gun manufacturers are matters of good public policy or simply a means to circumvent state legislatures. The participants for the event were Bob Levy, a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, a Washington D.C.-based non-partisan public policy think tank, and BLS Professor and City Counsel member David Yassky, who teaches a seminar in Federalism. The faculty advisor for our chapter is BLS adjunct professor, former dean, and US District Court Judge David Trager. Prof. Trager teaches Comparative Constitutional Law and Conflicts of Laws.

For more information about our organization regarding membership (both at BLS and nationally) and upcoming meetings and events, please contact us.

Sincerely,
Gail Wisner, President
e-mail: gwisner@bls.brooklaw.edu

The purpose of the ACS

The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy is a national organization of law students, professionals and politicians dedicated to the belief that the law, and in particular the Constitution, serves human values. We deeply believe that the law must govern the relationships between and among the individuals and institutions that form our society in order to protect the basic rights of individuals, including those in the minority. In carrying out this duty legislatures and judges should be unafraid to articulate and pursue conceptions of justice that are found in the ideals and concerns of citizens instead of those strained from abstract and dated propositions.

We believe that the Constitution is a charter of liberty, the blueprint for a noble and unique experiment designed to prevent the excesses of government and protect the human dignity necessary for all individuals to realize their full potential.

We believe that there has been a failure on the part of our political leadership to articulate a coherent vision for society that is faithful to traditional values of compassion, decency of treatment, and respect for human dignity. In the resulting vacuum, our culture has moved toward a climate in which most successful political movements have been those that appeal to what is worst in people: pettiness, anger, distrust, xenophobia. What is needed instead,

now more than ever, is a leadership responsive to and trusted by its citizens.

The Brooklyn Law School chapter of the American Constitution Society was established this year. Already we have hosted programs on Judicial Selection, School Vouchers and Lawyers' Social Responsibility, and are now planning events including discussions regarding the War Power's Act, Work-Fare Programs, and the Law and Economics Movement. At these events, students have the opportunity to hear and engage experts on these issues and seek advice about careers in these areas. We students have the chance to see how the rules of law found in our textbooks govern and protect our society in application. Further, these events demonstrate a foundational belief of the American Constitution Society, that it is through engagement in honest and open debate, and not cynicism and apathy, that the future of our democracy is best secured for our generation as well as future ones.

If you are interested in joining the American Constitution Society or want to learn about our regional and National programs and initiatives, please visit our website at www.americanconstitutionalsociety.org.

John C. Knapp, President,
Brooklyn Law School Chapter
American Constitution Society



The Federalist Society
for Law and Public Policy Studies
Published by BrooklynWorks, 2002

The American Constitution Society
For Law And Policy

Celebrating Black history, culture, achievement

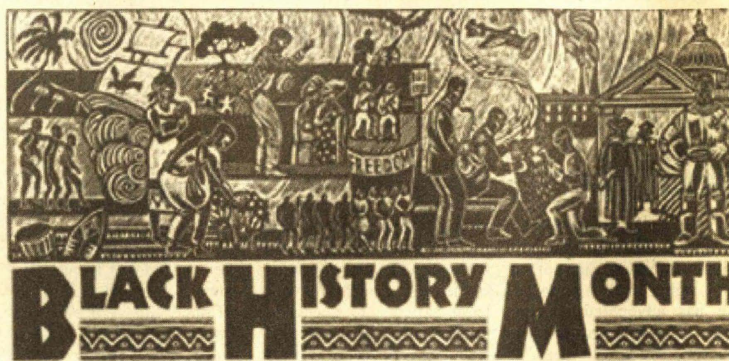
by Anta Cisse, '03

We all know that February has been designated "Black History Month." However, we tend to forget that the African American men and women who help the Black community survive through the tumultuous times do not take action only during the month of February. Their struggle takes place day after day, month after month, year after year. The celebration of Black achievement and Black history is a year-long extravaganza. Yes, we tend to be involved in other things and may be swayed from celebrating the success of our forefathers, but we *do* celebrate everyday. As long as we remember to give 110%, then we are doing everything our forefathers wanted us to do.

BLSA, through its Community Outreach Committee, held several events in honor of Black history and achievement, and particularly Black History Month. The first

event, held on January 31, was the Opening Ceremony, where we had a champagne toast dedicated to all the past, present, and future Black leaders of America. The toast was led by first-year student and BLSA member Duane Baum. The opening Ceremony featured Councilman Charles Barron of the 42nd District of Brooklyn. Councilman Barron blessed the attendees with a very encouraging, spiritual, and motivational speech about Black history, culture, politics, and giving back to the community.

BLSA's second event, Open Mic Night, took place on February 14. It was an intimate and special night dedicated to the students. It was also an opportunity for students to sing, dance, laugh, and recite poems, stories, or anything else they fancied. Students were given a chance to make their own *footprints* by following after other Black leaders or by creating their own paths. Among the performers were



Courtesy of www.efdpac.navfac.navy.mil/

BLSA president, Annette Gill, and BLSA members Kris Macklin and Duane Frankenson.

On February 21, BLSA participated in the Cultural Fair, also creating an African Market Place. At the Market Place, BLSA invited several vendors from the boroughs who brought with them home-made jewelry and pillows, among other items. Alongside the Market, students could taste various spicy, ethnic food varieties -- including the well-loved fish patties -- to bring a bit of African culture back to Brooklyn taste buds.

The final event of the month was the March 1st

Closing Ceremony. Held at Rockwell's, the social occasion helped celebrate not only the achievements of our historical leaders, but also the successes of BLSA members and BLS students.

Another program sponsored by BLSA throughout the month was the weekly update of the BLSA Fourth Floor Showcase, just outside the cafeteria, to display the achievements of Black artists, historians, professors, teachers, poets, and Civil rights leaders. The showcase is a medium for students to take their own time to discover and learn about the men and women who have significantly influenced the continued

success and empowerment of the Black community and its people.

BLSA opens all events to BLS faculty, students, and outside leaders, and will continue to celebrate the achievements of all Black leaders throughout the centuries. With the joint efforts and participation of all, BLSA will have continued success.

For more information on becoming a BLSA member, join us for our open meetings on the first Thursday of every month. Also look for posters and e-mails about upcoming events. You can also send an e-mail to brooklynblsa@hotmail.com for more information.

Students were given a chance to make their own footprints by following after other Black leaders or by creating their own paths.

BLS students may not have to wait so long for grades

GRADES
continued from page 1

interruption proved an inauspicious start to a fairly mammoth undertaking. Among other tasks, Ms. Dennis and her staff have had to convert all the prior system's data to conform to the new system, and rewrite the program that generates our student exam numbers. Ms. Dennis fortunately has the support and assistance of Jennifer Harewood, who Ms. Dennis promoted to Assistant Registrar, Marge Rizzo, the Exam and Grading Coordinator, and Isabella Leung, the Student Data Specialist.

The new system is not merely cosmetic: Ms. Dennis expects that we will be registering for classes on the Web by the fall of 2003, and not long after that, we will have Web-access to our transcripts and other information. However, other than permitting professors to submit grades electronically, which they currently cannot do, the system apparently will not affect the way our grades are reported and processed. As you soon will see, our grades inevitably must follow a trajectory both circuitous and stubbornly resistant to the wondrous powers of technology.

Making the grade

After you finish an in-class exam, the proctors take it to a "control room" on the ninth floor, where staff examine the exam packets and roster. The staff they deliver the exams to your professor that same day (or evening) and the countdown begins.

Reviewing your test is a solitary experience, as no one but the professor may grade it. But there is

no restriction as to where your professor may bring your bluebooks. Your humble author thus proposes that sections pool their resources and send their profs to far-flung tropical retreats on the assumption that felicitous surroundings will incline instructors toward generosity -- though a pile of bluebooks on

Come this spring, professors who submit late grades may look forward to seeing their names publicly posted, for all of us to gawk at.

the beach is admittedly about as unlikely an image as a polar bear in the desert.

Once your prof returns from the Riviera, s/he will either fax or hand-deliver the grades -- paired with their respective student exam numbers -- to the Registrar's Office, at which point an arduous process begins. Ms. Leung and Ms. Rizzo enter the grades by hand into BLS's computer system, print out a "proof sheet," double- and triple-check the grades against the roster of numbers, and determine whether the grades comply with the curve. If nothing is amiss, the Registrar returns the marks to your professor, this time paired with students' names. Your prof may then adjust your exam grade by one "increment" -- up or down, presumably -- based upon what the Handbook terms your "classroom performance." (So if you're not already in the

habit, do offer your opinion, however groundless, in class once in a while.) Once the professor has rewarded your performance -- or not -- the whole process begins anew.

But what if your professor submits grades late? What can you do to find out what's going on? The Handbook politely requests that students not "telephone or visit the Registrar's Office to ask for their grades or to ask when grades will be mailed or posted." One can easily understand the Registrar's motive in admonishing us, given the potential for civil disobedience. But don't despair: once the newly-conceived system of public censure goes into effect, we may have no reason to complain.

Several months ago, the BLS faculty met to discuss the issue of late grades, and what the consequences ought to be. They decided on a two-pronged sanction. First, the faculty will receive the names of all professors who submitted late grades this past semester. Second, all disobedient professors had their paychecks held. Nothing like hitting 'em where it hurts. But that's not all: Come this spring, professors who submit late grades may look forward to seeing their names publicly posted, for all of us to gawk at. There's nothing like public censure to bring people in line.

According to Ms. Dennis, our grades as an aggregate were finalized two weeks earlier this semester than they were last winter. So who knows -- with the impending wall of shame in place this summer, my friends may have to answer to me this May.

Have you heard the news?

The *BLS News* is looking for contributions for its upcoming issues.

Do you write? draw? read? breathe?

We want you to become a part of our friendly staff!

Email kristin_harrison@hotmail.com for more information.

Law and Television

Not quite real life: CBS' 'The Guardian'

by Sally Woo, '02

The 2001-2002 television season had a rocky start, as news about 9-11 took up the bulk of the air time. Once serial programming returned, old favorites – i.e., *Friends* – remained strong by being comfortably familiar. The newest legal drama on CBS, *The Guardian*, remained unscathed by the Cancellation Hatchet, and is reputedly the rookie with the great ratings, rounding out CBS' Tuesday nights (*J.A.G.*, *The Guardian*, and *Judging Amy*, in that order). While not necessarily a legal night as diversely entertaining as NBC's Wednesday nights (*Ed*, *West Wing*, and *Law and Order*), CBS is earning the ratings. *The Guardian* seems promising, so long as the network lets it continue to grow.

According to the pilot episode and the "prologue" before the opening theme music: Nicholas Fallin, Esq., is a young hot-shot Pittsburgh corporate lawyer. He is arrested for using narcotics. The court consequently orders him to do pro bono work at a child advocacy unit, where he serves as a guardian ad litem for the infants and incompetents that we law students diligently learn and know need special protection. Nick is... The (self-titled) Guardian <cue in the big majestic theme music now>.

My apologies to CBS for my sarcasm. For one thing, the series shamelessly elicits empathy, along the lines of, "Aww, the nice handsome young man is determined to help the poor, defenseless small children who cling to him." If you don't believe me, just watch the opening credits: voilà, a small boy clinging to Nick in the opening montage.

Nonetheless, Nick is a "Bad Boy," so the series' substantive material spares us from any extra saccharine left over from CBS' ancient holdover, *Touched by an Angel*. Nick isn't a mere struggling hero, as the premise tries to mold him to be. He is a classic antihero. Besides the whole drug thing, he lacks good intentions – he's only doing the pro bono effort to avoid jail time, forget saving his career.

Give Nick some credit: he's a zealous lawyer. He protects his clients' interests, corporate or not. And, gee whiz, Nick is human – underneath his cold exterior lies a young man who cannot escape his personal issues (parents divorced when he was a kid; mom shortly thereafter died of cancer; he got shipped off to some boarding school; and, oh, yeah, the drug thing). Just maybe, his pro bono work can help him reclaim his soul. Or maybe not (the drug thing does not disappear after the pilot episode).

The acting has been good, even if the series' editing has been weak. I generally like the cast:

Simon Baker, as Nick, is part of the new wave of Aussies in the media, and has as much talent and looks as the rest of them. In the pilot episode, he struggled to keep his accent consistent, but he still sounded very Australian at times. He's best when he's not talking; when a client divulges a bad revelation, Baker elicits well drawn facial expressions and actions. A viewer can feel his frustration, stress, and sadness – even as he seems cold to those around him.

Dabney Coleman plays Burton, Nick's dad and partner at Fallin and Associates. Personally, I didn't think Coleman would last on the show as long as he has because his previous show (*Drexell's Game*) didn't survive the ratings game. However, he has won acting nominations, and he's really not a bad actor, so he makes Burton an interesting dark horse. Burton wants to be a proud father, but knows he has disappointed Nick.

Alan Rosenberg plays Alvin Masterson, the head of the child advocacy unit. I wonder if he is threatening to be typecast as a lawyer, considering the stints he has done in *Chicago Hope* (as the hospital's general counsel), *L.A. Law*, and *Civil Wars*. In his lawyer role here, he portrays the stresses and pleasures of public interest work.

Charles Malik Whitfield, as James Mooney, a full-time attorney under Alvin, balances the idealism and skepticism of his character very well. James fills in for Nick whenever the plot switches Nick from his guardian character to his corporate lawyer or frustrated son personas. It doesn't hurt to have someone substitute for "The Guardian" – after all, why undermine the series' title?

The show's legal realism is mixed. How likely is it that a first-year associate would yell at Burton that she was frustrated over unfair preference for Nick (who is, for better or worse, the partner's son) and being a virtually overpaid, overeducated paralegal? I suppose that's "drama" for some people.

Otherwise, the character growth possibilities make for good television. Plus, *The Guardian* gives us a rare opportunity to watch another area of law – I don't think there is much child advocacy law out there in TV Land.

The series can be thought-provoking and inspire reaction. While hopeful that it will reach its potential, I would nevertheless reserve judgment until the end of the season before giving it a final verdict.

FCC Chair gives a good Reed

by Karen Chang, '04

In *You Say You Want A Revolution: A Story of Information Age Politics*, author Reed Hundt re-creates his subjective experience chairing the Federal Communications Commission during the dawn of the communications revolution. His 1993-1997 chairmanship empowered him to regulate the unleashing of competition into the long-monopolized industry.

Hundt's story, and indeed his job, is one of politics. To that end, he gives us his version of the agency's partisan battles, often humorously, but always bluntly, exposing the motives he sees driving each character's utterances and actions. While at it, he painfully reiterates that his role is merely to execute the laudable visions of his nominator and friend, Vice President Al Gore.

Hundt's style of storytelling does not neutrally lay out the issues and theories behind telecommunications regulation, and this may lead to some nose-wrinkling skepticism when the reader forgets. But what he does intend to do – put the reader in the throes of political regulatory wrangling wearing Hundt gear – he does well. He reveals to us his role in negotiating on major issues (as well as some less consequential "I met George Lucas" Hollywoodesque ones), interposing critiques of the requisite quid pro quo and media messaging prefacing the agency's every decision.

The book is laid out chronologically, commencing with his own interest in being FCC chairman, and ending with his decision to step down after Clinton's re-election. He caps it off with a short personal assessment of his successes from the eyes of 1999. While his chairmanship involved him in a wide range of topics, his daily task of implementing Gore's national agenda to "promote competition, stimulate investment and innovation, and guarantee social benefits" culminated with the congressional passage of the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

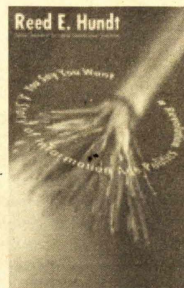
The FCC's role in implementing and regulating the Act gave the agency the power to specifically define the regulations stipulated in the legislation. In closely reading the Act, Hundt's FCC team realized that because the Act was written so ambiguously, its definitions could largely "determine the winners and losers of the new economy..." With that view in mind, he briefly engages the legal reader in word-by-word translations that make the critical difference in the courtroom.

Hundt avidly writes at great length about the domestic social conscience wing of his work, displaying his tireless determination not to let those public interest goals fall to the wayside. Yet, the rationale he presents for achieving kidvid (i.e., mandatory children's educational programming on every television station) and connecting all classrooms to the internet transmits with more passion than persuasion.

While closing with an unconditionally optimistic review of the impact of the interpretations on the future of the telecommunications, Hundt remains silent as to any potential speed bumps in the road ahead. To today's reader of his two-year-old book, that silence is striking in light of the recent stream of federal court reviews over the FCC's interpretations, which hinder the Act's actual effectiveness.

Hundt's writing is very readable and engaging. One need not deeply understand technological terms like "interconnection rules" or "packet-switched networks" to appreciate his narrative; he explains the necessary terminology in clear, common, and concise language before delving into the political and

see HUNDT, page 7



Brit flick worth viewing time

by Sally Woo, '02

When I first heard the title "Gosford Park," I immediately pictured the stereotypical stuffy, British historical period feature film, where the Brits of the empire knew their place in society and where duty and sacrifice for the sake of society (even with its deep flaws) were the end-all, be-all. Fortunately, *Gosford Park* wasn't quite like that. Robert Altman, who won the Golden Globe for his direction of this film, managed to create a pitch-perfect imitative parody of the genre.

Viewers are transported back to 1932, to (where else?)

Gosford Park, Sir William's rural manor. Guests gather together for a weekend of much eating, hunting, and gossiping. Most (if not all) of the guests are looking to get something out of Sir William (played by Michael Gambon). One guest is Sir William's cousin, the actor-director Ivor Novello (played by Jeremy Northam), and he's just about the only person not trying to exploit the old chap. Well, actually, Novello is indirectly using him, since he brings along some Hollywood connections who hope that this setting can inspire them to come up with ideas for their upcoming Charlie Chan-in-

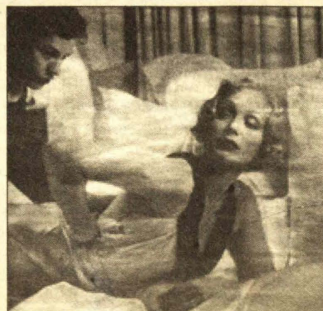
England movie and to imitate the upper crust and stiff-upper-lip types. The Brits are uncomfortable about having the Americans, but they tolerate Novello because he is "one of us." But, to paraphrase, he delicately explains, "I only act like the hoity-toity in the movies."

The guests are accompanied by their maids or valets and these servants are immediately assimilated into Sir William's staff to ensure smooth operations. In an "Upstairs, Downstairs" touch, there are both subtle and obvious interactions between the two social classes. Love 'em or hate 'em (literally, in either case), the servants put up with the shenanigans, especially when they are major participants.

Halfway through the movie, Sir William dies. I had wondered if this made the movie a variation of an Agatha Christie mystery. Considering the numerous suspects (everyone but Sir William's favorite little dog had a motive), I really thought all we needed now was some detective to pop out and point fingers at everyone (and I was practically doing that anyway).

Unfortunately, bumbling Inspector Thompson (played by Stephen Fry) shows up and doesn't solve the mystery (either because he is dim or because he defers too much to the upper class or both).

The movie has different points of view, but viewers get to follow most coherently through the innocent eyes of Mary, a countess' young Scottish maid. She is excited to see Novello, and – despite



Mark Tillie/ djuna.nkino.com
Ryan Phillippe and Kristin Scott Thomas in 'Gosford Park'

are immediately

see PARK, page 6



BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL

Staff

Editors - in - Chief

Robert Vidoni
Kristin Harrison

Executive Editor

Karen Chang

Production Editor

Sandra Fried

Copy Editors

Mary Ann Buckley
Miri Frankel

Photography and Graphics Editor

Elisabeth Hubbard

Contributors:

Rupa Banik, Ian Gaynor,
Paul Haggerty, John Knapp,
Alyson Matthews, Alex Ryley,
Sally Woo, Diane Yang

Faculty Editor

Daniel S. Medwed

Copyright 2002
Brooklyn Law School News

250 Joralemon Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

The Brooklyn Law School News is a monthly publication written and produced by the students of Brooklyn Law School. The opinions herein represent the opinions of the individual article authors and do not represent the views of the student body as a whole or the administration. All students and faculty are encouraged to write. To submit articles, bring them to the SBA Office in room 509 or email them to Kristin Harrison at kristin.harrison@hotmail.com. All articles are subject to editing and approval by the editorial board.

Letter to the Editor

The paper waste

I still recall my excitement during my law school application days at receiving such a diversity and quantity of information from Brooklyn Law School (e.g., touring Brooklyn Heights, the quarterly school magazine, and large envelopes with assorted contents), especially compared to what any other school sent. However, once I confirmed my acceptance, I found that the stream of paper information kept coming. And coming. Housing listings, organization welcome letters, two 1999-2000 course bulletins, an incomplete list of first class homework assignments, to name a few. Disgruntled by this law school version of "being papered to death," I originally began compiling these mailings in a folder in hopes of presenting the incriminating anti-environmental evidence. But at some point, I finally figured I would have no outlet in which to share this concern and just decided to get on the recycling bandwagon.

Many years ago, someone hailed the coming of the "paperless age." I (and my attic) waited in anticipation for that day. Yet it seems like this school is still keeping one foot outside of that revolution. Today, every BLS student checks e-mail. In fact, we have BLS e-mail accounts, and many professors require us to check them for notices about class and other school events. Every BLS student comes to school almost five days a week. So why is it that so much snail mail still comes to us from the school? I have a couple of suggestions.

(1) Provide student mailboxes, where information from all departments (e.g., financial aid, career services, registrar) can be delivered to the student body. If there's an issue about space availability, I happen to know that, for example, Floor GM in the library is inefficiently used. If there's a fear that students won't check their mailboxes, see (2).

(2) Utilize the BLS e-mail accounts students received. This could save both postage AND paper (not to mention someone's precious time used stuffing and sealing all those envelopes). E-mail can also be used to inform students to go check their mailboxes about particularly

important information waiting for them there. For example, I was very glad to be formally invited to attend the minority recruitment program luncheon on February 13th, but I didn't think a formal mailed invitation, reply postcard, AND reminder postcard needed to go through the postal system when I sit in class at 250 Joralemon Street five days a week. The e-mail reminder I received would have sufficed. (3) Utilize the BLS web site. I am excited about the new site that will soon replace the labyrinthine one currently existing. I hope it can be utilized to further enhance communication between the school administration and its students and employees. Particularly when information for mailings is incomplete, this is the best way make updates without terrestrial damage.

With these suggestions, I also add a caveat regarding quick, easy solutions: the next step should *not* be a million daily e-mails that students eventually end up deleting before even reading. An editorial in Columbia Law's student newspaper in September 2001 complained of their Administration bombarding them with e-mails, particularly ones containing same day deadlines. If paperless is the way to go, we all need to plan ahead and streamline (student organization leaders too). Perhaps a daily e-mail bulletin combining all administrative and organization messages? Or am I just an anachronistic efficiency dreamer?

I admit: receiving snail mail is wonderful. There are some glossy features that simply cannot and should not be replaced by an e-mail or web site. But some tree out there is wondering whether its life is worth that one particular mailing. And from a more self-centered perspective, a lot of administrative costs go into those mailings, and it is inevitably reflected in our tuition costs. Perhaps we could have SPM cookie time, free morning coffee, or a few extra student scholarships. At the very least, we might cheer up Al Gore a little.

Sincerely,
Waste not, want not '04

'Gosford Park' mystery 'not bad'

PARK
continued from page 5

all the others' sexual romps and misadventures — she remains calm and stalwart, a perfectly admirable person. Mary even solves the murder, which at least resolves one of the many storylines of *Gosford Park*. But, clearly, everyone's only human. The movie deftly and honestly reveals just how human, neither condemning nor praising anyone (except maybe it does praise Mary for being most well-adjusted amongst the mad).

Although I knew this was mostly a drama, I enjoyed the unexpected humor, especially in Mary's employer, the countess (played by Maggie Smith)

— who needs Sir William for his financial support but snubs him for his lack of class. The audience also had giggles over how the movie's Americans got themselves into classic fish-out-of-water moments. The twist about Ryan Philippe's character could have been further elaborated, but I wasn't too bothered about that since he gets his just deserts. Meanwhile, Helen Mirren keeps her stiff upper lip well, playing the housekeeper who would stick to duty no matter what — because it's all she has left. Clive Owen (most recognized in our country as the driver in the snazzy BMW commercials) smolders on the screen as a valet of one of the guests. Kristin Scott Thomas does her role as Sir William's man-hungry wife with cool zest. Kelly Macdonald as Mary performs a sweet and nice job. Emily Watson as Sir William's maid, Elsie, demonstrates simultaneously the character's boldness and vulnerability.

I'm not going to reveal who-did-it.

I'm not going to reveal who-did-it. *Gosford Park* really wasn't a cozy mystery movie anyway, so if you're looking for a movie on social equality and justice, this is not the movie. I think *Gosford Park* is about how the characters get through their humorous and horrific situations. During one weekend in the English countryside, tensions exuded: both the tension between the social classes (upstairs vs. downstairs) and the tension with the modern world (America's Hollywood and the twentieth century's captains of industry vs. the old landed gentry and the lost post-World War I generation). There was poignancy amidst the cynicism and there was more than met the eye with the murder.

But, it wasn't a bad mystery. When I left the movie theater, I kept thinking that a funny appearance by Tim Curry from the movie "Clue" (the one based on the board game) could have further developed the sense of "Clue"; really, I would have been just as content if Colonel Mustard or Professor Plum did in Sir William with the wrench from the basement. And, considering how many British actors were in the movie, where was Tim Curry anyway? Did he miss the invitation to join the cast?

All kidding aside — since the date this review was first written, *Gosford Park* has been Oscar-nominated for best picture and other categories. I can't evaluate it as a "best picture," because I feel I can't do that while having not seen the other movies in the category, nor will I remark on the other categories. But, standing alone, *Gosford Park* is a lovely movie to watch on a winter afternoon.

Law Review

With our first taste of Spring last week, we cannot help but count down the days until winter ends. It's almost that time of year for baseball games, walks in the park, Frisbee, and frozen treats. Who doesn't like an ice cream cone on a warm Spring day? After spending some time looking at some crazy laws, you may want to be careful about what you do with your ice cream cone.

In New York, Georgia, and Lexington, Kentucky a person may not walk around on Sundays with an ice cream cone in his/her pocket. In Oregon, no ice cream may be eaten at all on Sundays and in Alabama you cannot do this on any day. It's hard to say what prompted these legislative acts, but it must have been a problem. I just want to know why you want to carry an ice cream cone in your pocket. How do you do that anyway? Lexington, Tennessee goes even farther than others by prohibiting eating ice cream on the sidewalk. Newark made it illegal to sell ice cream after 6 p.m. unless the customer has a doctor's note. Obviously ice cream once created quite the stir.

These strange laws on food are not all bad. After all, barbers in Waterloo, Nebraska are forbidden from eating onions between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. — excellent news for all their customers. In Gary, Indiana, a person may not enter a movie theater or ride in a public streetcar within four hours of eating garlic. How many times have you wanted a law like that when riding the subway? Lastly, West Virginia forbids children from attending school when their breath smells of "wild onions." Guess you don't have to play sick to get out of school!

With Spring shortly on its way, here's to lots of ice cream, cones in back pockets and all!

— Alyson Matthews, '04

A summer challenge for the Registrar

by Ian Gaynor, '03

In about a month, the Registrar will post its summer course list. If previous years are any indication, a great number of BLS students will be disappointed by the courses available to them. Some of last year's shortcomings included: clinics and independent study programs making up a third of the entire list; all but two courses starting at 6:00 pm, leaving little opportunity for students to take more than one course on the same day, and forcing many to take two courses four days a week; few substantive and required courses; and classes with limited vacancies resulting in mass closures before most students even had the opportunity to register.

To provide a more comprehensive selection, the school will have to challenge itself to improve what have been less than adequate summer course choices. With summer tuition as high as it has been and the very real possibility that it will soon reach a thousand dollars, BLS students should expect the best services this school can offer. The following are suggestions the school should consider before posting this year's summer course list:

Offer substantive courses

Non-required but essential substantive courses should be offered. Courses like Evidence, Corporations, Debtor & Creditor's Rights, and Taxation provide the foundation and requirements for other courses. They, along with courses like NY Civil Practice, Trusts, Wills, and Criminal Procedure, to name just a few, also provide good bar exam preparation for students attending a school that prides itself on its high bar passage rate. These courses are examples of solid courses that employers look for when considering students for positions in

their firms. It is unlikely anyone will be denied a job after graduation for failing to take last summer's Religion & The Constitution or the summer of 2000's Law Practice Management.

Courses that specialize in a particular area should also be offered. A late addition to last year's summer course list was Labor Law. The course allowed students to explore a field that many might have been unfamiliar with, yet found interesting enough to consider doing professionally. Similar specialized courses, such as Copyright, Trademarks, Entertainment Law, Environmental Law, Family Law, and Real Estate Practice, should also be offered.

"Standing on line at the Registrar's office... [is] not one of life's more pleasurable experiences."

The school should also make a greater effort to offer classes required for graduation. Last year, the only required course offered was Legal Profession. This was an improvement over the previous year, which did not include any required courses, but more should be offered.

Offer prerequisite courses or limit courses requiring prerequisites

A 1L or 2L part-timer will be unable to take certain classes because they have not taken the required prerequisite courses. Even upper class students who did not take Corporations, Evidence, or any other prerequisite course could find summer course options limited as graduation approaches. If the school is going to offer only a handful of courses, those should not comprise only courses requiring prerequisites or many stu-

dents may find themselves without course options. It would be reasonable to either provide prerequisite courses during the summer or limit the number of courses requiring prerequisites.

Provide convenient time schedules for courses

Last year, all but two summer courses started at 6:00 pm. Both courses had seat limits and only one of them, Negotiation Seminar, was offered at both 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm. The school must instead offer a more balanced course selection for both the 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm periods. Many students will want to take more than one summer course. They will prefer to take those courses on the same day to prevent the drudgery of taking classes every day. In addition, the traveling costs the student incurs over the extra two days could prove to be an added financial hardship for the commuting student.

Increase the number of courses offered

It goes without saying that if there are only 20 courses offered and a third of them are clinics or independent research, a great many students will either be forced to take courses they would not have considered taking, or resigned to forego summer courses altogether. Offering few high-quality courses with fabulous professors means very little to the vast majority of the students unable to register for them because seats for those classes have already been filled. There must be a balance between the quality of the courses offered and the quantity.

Expand class size limits

Standing on line at the Registrar's office hoping to get into one of Negotiation Seminar's 24 seats or Appellate Advocacy's last remaining 14 seats, only to be told by the voice behind the counter that the class is closed because the guy in front of you just took the last seat is not one of life's more pleasurable experiences. The reason why most students race to the Registrar's office hours before registration commences is so that they can assure themselves of a seat in a summer class. If the school only offers 20 courses, it is unreasonable to limit some of those courses to only 14 or 24 students. Either the class size has to be increased, or the number of classes available has to be increased -- preferably both. To do neither only provides a service to a minority of students at the expense and deprivation of the vast majority.

Offer more three-credit courses

Three-credit courses are the answer for those students seeking to take more than two credits, yet prefer not having to take two classes four days a week. They provide an excellent opportunity for the student to take multiple credits while staying focused on only one course. So why are there not more of them? Aside from clinics and independent research -- options not available to most part-time evening students who work full time -- the only three-credit courses available last summer were Administrative Law and Labor Law. While it may be true many on the faculty might be as disinclined to teach a three-credit course three hours a day twice a week as some students might be to take it, the school needs to provide some sort of incentive or inducement to the faculty to make more three-credit courses available.

Recognize certain students' needs

When creating this year's summer course list, the school must recognize that many students will be taking summer courses to get badly-needed credits in order to lighten up their load during the academic year, to accumulate credits so that they can graduate on time, to fulfill mandatory requirements for certain programs like moot court, and to get courses that might not have otherwise been available to them because of scheduling conflicts in previous semesters.

see REGISTRAR, page 8

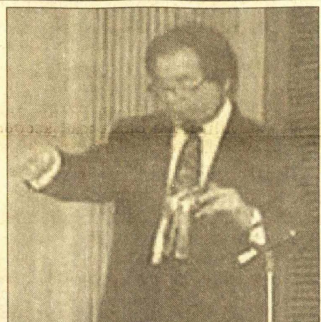
BLSPI raises money

BLSPI continued from page 1

sold for \$700. The biggest item of the evening was an opportunity for one person to be an extra on the television drama *Law and Order*, selling for \$1,700. Bar/Bri also donated several bar review classes for the auction and a cheesecake from Juniors sold for \$46. The faculty was extremely generous with its donations as

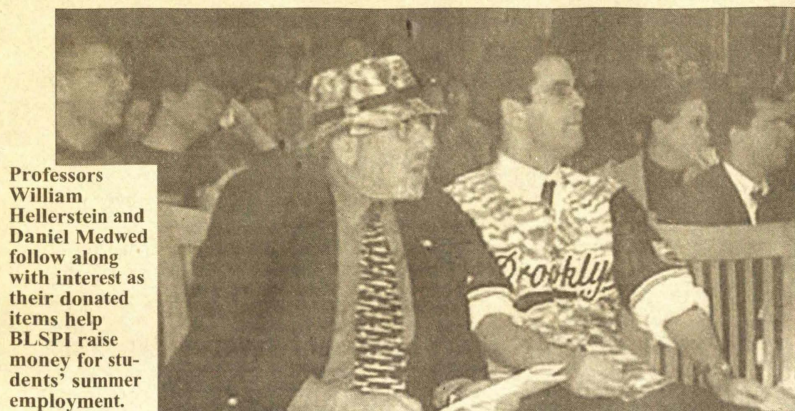
well. Several professors donated home-cooked dinners, a weekend at their homes, and meals at some of the more posh restaurants in the city.

The auction was an overwhelming success and a great social event. BLSPI's hard work paid off and everyone who contributed deserves congratulations. Who knew being charitable could be this fun!



Auctioneer Stuart Medow tries to up the bid at the auction.

Elisabeth Hubbard/BLS News



Professors William Hellerstein and Daniel Medwed follow along with interest as their donated items help BLSPI raise money for students' summer employment.

Hundt leads telecommunications revolution in new book

HUNDT continued from page 5

economic implications of the issue. Whether discussing meetings on cable rate regulation, wireless spectrum license auctions, or monopoly mergers, Hundt personally connects with his audience by giving animated personalities and mental processes to the characters. His personality-punctuated writing style naturally frames his own democratic views as the good guy's, in which he gets to hold the social conscience in one hand and the power to achieve its derivative goals in the other.

While Hundt's own personal faculties are displayed with much life, there remains a bit of a lingering desire to understand more deeply the mental facets of the other players. His characterizations of other actors often produce either decidedly selfish villains (e.g., anti-Big Bird Newt Gingrich) or decidedly angelic heroes ("connect the schoolgirl in Carthage, Tennessee" Al Gore). One can't help but feel

there's more to be had in these figures than what his anecdotes highlight. All in all, this book is a satisfying and fun read. This book gives the reader a new appreciation of the inseparable role of politics and law in effecting widespread technological change. Hundt's account wittily shows that indeed, "[t]ech-

nology shapes possibility in the long run, but politics determines results in the short run."

[Reed Hundt was the keynote speaker at the International Telecommunications Conference held at BLS on March 1st. His book can be purchased online at Amazon.com.]

Bar Review

Sometimes you need an excuse to try something new. We all reach a certain comfort level, often to the point that it seems scary to step outside the boundaries we have drawn for ourselves. After my experience at 2i's, my boundary lines have blurred a bit.

2i's is a quaint bar/club located on the edge of the village that plays hip hop, rap, reggae, and R&B music. As much as I like this music, I have never ventured to a club that only plays it. Turns out I had the best time there.

2i's is more like a lounge with two floors, two bars, and a dance floor. Stick to the top floor, where the bar is sleek, and the lounge area is located. Opposite the bar, the dance floor is surrounded with comfy couches that provide a cool, yet unpretentious ambience. For those who would rather stick to the

bar than the dance floor, the couches provide the perfect place for some fabulous people-watching. Candlelight only enhances the mood. The crowd picks up around midnight and the dance floor is crowded, but not unbearably packed, with a nice variety of people. Everyone is very friendly, but not in an overbearing, I'm-gonna-grind-up-next-to-you kind of way. The music is pretty good. The only drawback was that every so often we heard a song we loved and after only a minute or two the D.J. would cut to another one.

Overall, I would recommend 2i's to anyone who enjoys this type of music or who wants a change. After spending an evening outside my comfort zone, I'm tempted to expand my boundaries even further!

2i's is located at 248 West 14th Street between 7th and 8th Avenues.

-- Alyson Mathews, '04

Registrar can improve

REGISTRAR
continued from page 7

Moot Court competitors, for example, rely on summer Appellate Advocacy to give them an edge in fall competitions against other schools. All Moot Court students are required to take Appellate Advocacy in order to compete in regional and national competitions. Unfortunately, many find themselves closed out of summer Appellate Advocacy and are forced, instead, to take it in the fall when they are preparing for their competitions. This has a detrimental effect on the amount of time and energy the student can spend on his or her own performance in the competition. BLS should recognize the burden placed on Moot Court students by having to take Appellate Advocacy in the fall, realize the prestige generated by well prepared Moot Court teams, and give these competitors preference in summer Appellate Advocacy classes.

Similarly, third-year full-time and fourth-year part-time students need priority. Course options tend to be exhausted by the student's last year. In all probability the senior will have taken Negotiation Seminar and Trial Advocacy - two classes certain to appear on this year's summer course list. Furthermore, if the student is a part-timer, independent research and clinics will not be an option. Therefore, it is imperative that third and fourth year students have priority in course selection or be faced with the unenviable position of having to scramble for credits in their last remaining semesters.

Make registration more efficient

summer registration day looks like the Yankees' box office when World Series tickets go on sale. Two years ago, registration commenced hours before the posted time because, the Registrar claimed, the number of students filling the halls of One Boerum Place created a fire hazard. Last year, the line to the Registrar wrapped around the lobby and down the staircase. A barricade of students blocked people on their way to the Career Center. There has to be a more efficient way to conduct registration.

Assuring students that summer classes will be available to them can eliminate the lines. This can only be done by increasing the number of classes offered and by increasing the seating limits for those classes. The more choices the student has available, the less likely he or she will find the need to set up camp outside the Registrar's office.

Another remedy might be to staff more people in the Registrar's office during registration. Last year, the Bursar had more staff members working its counter than did the Registrar during summer registration. Registrar staff ran ragged trying valiantly to satiate student needs at its counter. Even at the height of activity, the Bursar never attracted more than a handful of students. This situation cannot repeat itself this summer.

I hope this article will be read with great interest by those responsible for creating the summer course list and they will use these suggestions to guide them in gauging student summer course preferences and concerns. We should know whether they have considered these opinions when the summer course list is published.

Upcoming events at the City Bar

by Sally Woo, '02

This semester, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York ("City Bar") has many events geared to law students, sponsored by its Committee on Law Student Perspectives. The lawyers on the committee include a diverse array whose work spans public service, corporate law, solo practice, and law school career services. Their varied backgrounds make them tremendous resources and they are eager to learn how they can assist prospective members of the profession.

As a student member on the committee, I have had a chance to voice students' concerns and volunteer in various capacities, such as writing articles for the committee newsletter (viewable at their website, www.abcnyc.org) and promoting the Committee to law students throughout the metropolitan area.

Be sure to mark the following dates on your calendars. Their programs are held at the City Bar (food and refreshments served), located at 42 West 44th Street. These events are opportunities to get tips and to network, network, network.

(1) A Conversation with Public Interest Law Firms, Pro Bono Service and Fellowship Providers, Wednesday March 20, 2002, 6-8PM

An overview of the legal aid, legal services, and pro bono system in the New York metropolitan area. A chance for students to learn how the different pieces fit together and what career opportunities are available.

- Moderator: Daniel Greenberg, President and Attorney-in-Chief, the Legal Aid Society of New York City
- William Dean, Executive Director, Volunteers of Legal Services, Inc.

- Andrew Scherer, Executive Director, Legal Services for New York City

- Diane Burman, Director, Pro Bono Affairs, New York State Bar Association.

- Leslie M. Platt, Director, PS LawNet

- Thomas Maligno, Director of Career Development, Touro Law School

(2) Navigating the New York Bar Exam and Admission Process, Tuesday March 26, 2002, 6-8PM

Panelists, including people who write and grade the exam, will offer tips on how to approach the New York State

Bar Exam and will address law students' fears about the bar exam and the attorney admission process. The panelists will also discuss the recent changes to the structure of the bar exam. This was a hit when it was set up last year, and returns for an encore this year.

- Moderator: John L. Downer, Jr., East Coast Regional
- Bryan R. Williams, Member, New York State Board of Law Examiners

- Mauro Digiralamo, Secretary, Committee of Character and Fitness, First Department

(3) Careers in ElderLaw, Thursday, April 4, 2002, Time TBA

Co-sponsored by the Committee on Legal Problems of the Aging and the Law Student Perspectives Committee, this is an informational session on careers in Elder Law.

- Howie Krooks, Littman Roth & Krooks

- David Goldfarb, Goldfarb & Abrant

- Valerie Bogart, Legal Services for the Elderly

- Ann Goldweber, the Clinical Director/Professor from St. John's University School of Law's Elder Law Clinic

What's Happening...

Thursday, March 14

Sparer Public Interest Fellowship Program and Center for International Business Law present "National Security vs. Civil Liberties: Must we Choose?"

.....Subotnick Center, 4 p.m.

The International Law Society Presents: Comparative International Law Panel featuring eight attorney's representing nine countries.

.....Student Lounge, 6-8 p.m.

Monday, March 18

Phi Delta Alpha Initiation

.....Moot Court Room, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 19

Roundtable Discussion concerning what Passover means to us as individuals and as people.

.....Student Lounge, 5 p.m.

Brooklyn Entertainment Law Society Presents a Panel Discussion on Legal Issues in the Music Industry in the new millenium.

.....Subotnick Center, 6-7:30 p.m.

Monday, March 25

.....Spring Break Begins

Monday, April 1

.....Classes resume

Tuesday, April 2

Phi Alpha Delta Meeting and Election of new officers

.....TBA, 1 - 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 6

Phi Alpha Delta Alumni Dinner

.....TBA, 8 p.m.

Spring Fest is coming! Keep April 13th open. More details to follow.