Legal Research Paper Series

Stanford Law School
2006-2007 Year in Review

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Fall 2006

♦ Stanford Law School welcomes Juliet Brodie, Jeffrey Fisher, Joshua Cohen, Jane Schacter, David Victor, and Alan Sykes as new members of the faculty.

♦ The Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock Center for Corporate Governance, an interdisciplinary center for the understanding and practice of corporate governance, is launched.

♦ The Stanford Constitutional Law Center officially opened its doors with Professor and Former Dean Kathleen Sullivan at the helm. The center was established as a nonpartisan venue to explore and improve public understanding of the most pressing constitutional issues.

♦ The SLS Conference on Intellectual Property Law and Biosciences was held on September 15. Sponsored by the Stanford Program in Law, Science & Technology, this program featured a collection of leading thinkers who examined key legal and policy issues raised by the biosciences industry.

♦ The Stanford Constitutional Law Center Lecture Series held its inaugural lecture on September 18. It was sponsored by the Stanford Law School Dean's Office and the Stanford Constitutional Law Center. The lecturer was legal theorist Cass R. Sunstein of the University of Chicago Law School.

♦ The new Stanford Legal Clinic area opened officially on October 20 in its new location on the garden level of the administration building.

♦ Stanford Law School's new Center for Public Service and Public Interest Law announced the creation of the National Public Service Award and its companion award, the Alumni Public Service Award. William P. Quigley, Professor at Loyola University New Orleans School of Law, was honored for his efforts following Hurricane Katrina, and Christa Gannon ('97), Founder and Executive Director of Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY), was honored for youth advocacy in California.

Winter 2006-2007

♦ A four-hour PBS television series, “The Supreme Court,” aired in January and February. The series traced the Court's evolution from its establishment to the present day by focusing on the temperament and constitutional vision of key justices and crucial cases throughout our history. Dean Larry Kramer was featured in Program Four, "With Liberty and Justice for All."

♦ A panel talk, “Judges as Politicians? Judicial Campaign Finance and the Ethics of Being a Judge” was held on January 23. It was sponsored by the Stanford Constitutional Law
Center and Stanford Center on Ethics. This panel brought together experts to discuss whether judicial elections can be reconciled with a judge's duty to be impartial and fair.

♦ A one-day symposium, “Immigrants’ Rights and Critical Perspectives on Immigration Reform” was held on February 10. Co-sponsored by the Center for Public Service and Public Interest Law, the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, and the Stanford Immigrants' Rights Clinic, the symposium featured prominent practitioners and scholars discussing immigrant rights and immigration reform. Congressman Xavier Becerra '84 (BA '80) gave the keynote address.

♦ The Global Constitutionalism Symposium was held February 16-17. Presented by the Stanford Law Review and the Stanford Constitutional Law Center, it examined the manner in which constitutionalism is developing around the world as viewed from the perspective of the U.S. and other nations with their own proud and distinct constitutional traditions.

♦ The Robert Minge Brown Lecture was held on February 24 in conjunction with a climate change liability workshop held by law students from the Stanford Environmental Law Journal and the Stanford Journal of International Law. This year's lecture, "Skating on Thin Ice: Climate Action One State at a Time" was given by Byron Sher, Law School professor emeritus and former California State Senator.

Spring 2007

♦ On March 3, The Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation (SPILF) "Bid for Justice" auction raised more than $88,000. (In 2006, the auction had raised slightly more than $51,500.) In addition to their traditional silent and live auctions, in 2007 SPILF added an online auction portion that lasted for several days before the live auction. They also hosted a Casino Night where guests could buy and "gamble" on poker, blackjack, craps, and roulette with fake money. All in all, this year's auction was a huge success!

♦ On March 14, Stanford Law School announced the establishment of the John and Terry Levin Center for Public Service and Public Interest Law. The Levin Center will enable the law school to make public service a pervasive part of every law student's experience and ultimately help shape the values that students take into their careers—regardless of ideology or political persuasion and regardless of whether they work as full-time public interest lawyers or work in business, a private law firm, or elsewhere.

♦ The Race, Inequality, and Incarceration Conference was held on April 11. The summit addressed the causes, meanings, and effects of racial disproportion in the American criminal justice system with a focus on massive incarceration and racial disproportion in American prisons and jails. It was sponsored by the Center for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity, The Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, The Stanford Criminal Justice Center; and the Center for the Study of Poverty and Inequality.

♦ On May 3, SLS launched joint degree programs with 11 graduate departments and schools, bringing the total of joint degrees offered to 18. Stanford leads the nation's law schools in the number and quality of joint degree programs offered.
The Fiduciary College Seminar Series held on May 30, was an intimate conversation with industry experts on the ethical challenges and considerations facing fund counsel and trustees as prosecutors and regulators exercise greater scrutiny of fiduciaries' decisions.

On June 4, the biennial International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Law (ICAIL) conference brought together an international and interdisciplinary group of scholars for a program of research presentations, invited talks, workshops, and tutorials.

Summer 2007

Construction continued on the Charles T. and Nancy B. Munger residential hall. Conceived of as a model for interdisciplinary living and learning for students from across Stanford University, the five-building residence will have approximately 600 beds in various studio, one, two, and four bedroom configurations. Munger is slated for completion by Fall 2009.

The second floor of the Robert Crown Law Library was completely renovated over the summer. The many new features include a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week "library within a library" with comfortable study space and teaming areas where students can collaborate. The new configuration also provides more efficient offices for library and faculty support staff.

Professor Larry Lessig announced that he will be focusing his efforts on combating the influence of money on politics.

On June 18, the Stanford Program in Law, Science & Technology, its Center for E-Commerce and the Association of Corporate Counsel, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter presented "The Fourth Annual Stanford E-Commerce Best Practices Conference: How to Deal with the Uncertainties of Online Business."

On June 24-26, SLS hosted Directors' College, an intensive two-day program for directors and senior executives of publicly traded corporations. In its thirteenth year, Directors' College brings together leading CEOs, directors, jurists, scholars, and regulators for a rigorous examination of corporate governance concerns.

Professor Pam Karlan, Professor and Former Dean Kathleen Sullivan, and Lecturer in Law Thomas Goldstein participated on June 28 in a panel discussion, "2006-2007 Supreme Court Term Review," hosted by the American Constitution and Law Society.