2013 marked the 8th year the faculty from Texas Tech University School of Law offered a CLE program without cost to legal services attorneys and public interest practitioners. Texas Tech University School of Law began hosting the seminar in 2005. It was the first law school in the state to offer such a program which began after recommendations from a committee of the Texas Access to Justice Commission on how law schools can contribute to the delivery of legal services to the indigent.

Professor Larry Spain organized the program once again which showcased Texas Tech Law School’s finest faculty on topics such as: 2013 Revisions to the Texas Mental Health Code & Other Key Issues for Representing Persons with Mental Illness; Names and Numbers or Investigating People and Companies through Online Resources; The Intersection of Immigration Law with Family Law and Criminal Law; Developments in Federal Administrative Law; Ethics of Witness Preparation; Indian Child Welfare Act; Ethical Issues in Mediation and Settlement Negotiations; Family Law Legislative Update; and Ethics in the Practice of Elder Law.

In addition to their other pro bono and public service activities, the following members of the Law School faculty presented at the 8th Annual Texas Tech Law School Faculty Update for Legal Services Attorneys, Public Interest Practitioners & Pro Bono Attorneys held October 24-25, 2013 during National Pro Bono Week: Professors Richard Murphy, Brian Owsley, Brian Shannon, and Larry Spain; Reference and Instruction Librarian Elizabeth Caulfield and Faculty Services Librarian Eugenia Charles-Newton; and Clinical Fellows and Supervising Attorneys Rebekah Filley and Terri Morgeson.

This annual CLE program provides training for public interest practitioners and pro bono attorneys without cost in a faculty member’s area of expertise. The program was provided live in Lubbock with 76 attorneys registered while approximately 31 individuals viewed the program by webcast from the following cities in Texas: Amarillo, Austin, Boerne, Brownfield, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Garland, McAllen, Midland, Plainview, San Antonio, and Wichita Falls. There were also two out-of-state viewers in Glendale, Arizona and Nashville, Tennessee.

Thanks to our Tech Law technology team who worked behind the scenes to make the live webcast possible: Randy Norwood, Beixin Ni, Tim Honeycutt, and student assistants. Thank you to all who helped make this seminar a great success!
During the fall semester, the following students were enrolled in the Civil Practice Clinic: Neha Casturi, Sierra Fisher, Andrew Kaldenbach, Katherine Kassabian, Steven Kubik, Bryan Martin, Macarena Ortiz, Mari Park, and Priya Sivaraman. I have been ably assisted by Terri Morgeson, our Clinical Fellow, who has supervised students on individual cases and is always available to students for questions and individual assistance.

Over the course of the semester, a total of 47 new client cases were undertaken, 10 cases were completed and closed and 47 cases remain open and will be carried over to the spring semester. Each of the students, in addition to being exposed to a variety of legal problems through the evening Pro Bono Clinics, participated in the Night Court Divorce Project, a program offered in collaboration with the Lubbock County Courts to provide representation to low-income individuals in simple divorces with hearings held before Judge Judy Parker in the evening at the Law School. In addition to these activities, each of the students has been kept busy carrying an individual caseload of 4-5 clients at all times throughout the semester and assumed primary responsibility for representing clients in matters involving family law, disability claims, wills and estate planning, consumer disputes, Medicaid, and VA claims.

During the semester, most of the students will have had an opportunity to complete a divorce case from beginning to end and have a final hearing held before the court. Several of the students have also participated in Temporary Orders hearings during the course of the semester. Students are working on several DTPA claims which will likely result in filing suit or be submitted to arbitration during the Spring semester.

"Being in clinic has been the most interesting and useful experience I have had in law school. I am grateful for the opportunity to test my ability to be a lawyer before I am thrown out into the real world. I have learned so much just in this past semester, and am looking forward to gaining even more knowledge and experience through the rest of the year!"

Mari Park
Civil Practice Clinic

Teaches Civil Practice Clinic, Family Law, Professional Responsibility, and Advanced ADR Clinic.

Before joining the faculty at Texas Tech, Professor Spain was the Director of Clinical Programs at the University of North Dakota School of Law for eighteen years, where he established several new clinical programs and expanded the range of clinical opportunities available to students. Prior to entering legal education, he worked for several legal services programs in Nebraska.

In addition to law teaching and legal practice, he has also been active in the field of alternative dispute resolution, serving as Chair of the Governing Board of a university-affiliated community dispute resolution center as well as being a frequent trainer and practitioner in mediation skills. He currently serves on the Advisory Board for the Office of Dispute Resolution for Lubbock County.
Teaches Family Law and Housing Clinic, Negotiations, and Race and Racism.

Prior to joining Tech Law at the beginning of the 2005 summer sessions, Professor Ross was a Clinical Instructor of Law at St. Mary’s University School of Law. She served as a Clinical Instructor from 1999 thru 2005. She was also Acting Associate Director for the Office of Academic Excellence. Professor Ross joined the faculty in the fall of 2005 to teach a section of the Civil Practice Clinic and to teach negotiations. She earned her B.A. from Texas Tech University and her law degree from University of Missouri - Columbia Law School. In addition to teaching the Family Law and Housing Clinic, Professor Ross also teaches Race and Racism, Negotiations Workshop, and Marital Property.

Professor Ross has also served on various community organizations throughout the years.

"Family Law Clinic has instilled in me the confidence and baseline knowledge I need to be a competent and confident attorney. Nowhere else in law school can you represent actual clients while learning so much about yourself and the law. This has been my most valuable law school experience to date."

Malorie Crosley
Family Law/Housing Clinic
Eighteen students participated in the Advanced ADR Clinic during the Fall Semester: Katelyn Blackburn, Dustin Dempsey, Alexandra Fielder, Shawn Gyomlai, Andrew Heston, Reid Hudgins, Reid Johnson, Austin Jones, Richard Keeton, Jessica Klaus, Joshua Leamous, Megan Loder, Jeremy Morgan, Alexandra Presnal, Eric Smith, Andrew Wipke, Michael Zant, and Matthew Zimmerman.

The semester began with four full days of mediation training during the week before classes began for the fall semester and the course qualifies for 40 hours of classroom hours of training in dispute resolution training for court appointment as an impartial third party under Chapter 154 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code. Students had the opportunity to observe experienced mediators conducting mediations as well as to co-mediate or solo-mediate a variety of disputes through the Office of Dispute Resolution for Lubbock County.

Over the course of the semester, the students mediated 163 cases resulting in a resolution in 109, a 67% settlement rate. The largest claim settled by students in mediation amounted to $75,000. Approximately 300 hours of mediation services were donated by students. The general breakdown of types of cases mediated by students included the following:

- CPS Cases: 11%
- Divorce: 26%
- Suits Affecting Parent/Child Relationship: 14%
- Civil Claims: 5%
- Justice Court: 9%
- District Attorney (Criminal Complaints): 10%
- Pre-Pleas: 22%
- Direct Referral: 3%

In addition to the mediation of actual disputes, every student videotaped an introductory statement for mediation and completed a research paper and oral presentation on an ADR topic of their choice.

D. Gene Valentini is the Director of the Dispute Resolution Department of Lubbock County, an administrative entity that manages an innovative ADR System, which began in 1985. He is also responsible for the statewide USDA mediation program. A mediator since 1981 and an active trainer for the past nineteen years, Gene is the Master of Dispute Resolution for the courts of Lubbock County, Dean of Texas' ADR System directors and also co-teaches the Spring ADR course.

"I think the experienced I gained working in the mediation clinic is one of my most important takeaways from Tech law school. Mediation is, and will continue to be, a major part of the practice of law, so I know that what I learned here will pay big dividends for me and my clients in the future."

Matt Zimmerman
Advanced ADR Clinic
The fall semester has been a wonderful one at the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic. With seven hardworking Qualified Student Representatives gladly taking on the challenges inherent in representing low-income taxpayers in our service area before the IRS and the United States Tax Court, we have made giant strides and achieved admirable results. Let me begin, therefore, by saluting the seven (old codger that I am, I shall call them “The Magnificent Seven”): Jacinda Ballard, Andrea Farkas, Charlie Gonzales, Holly Monaghan, Molly Socha, Codi Steiner, and Bill Wells. Words are insufficient to express my appreciation for the hard work The Seven put into helping our clients find peace of mind. Some clients expressed their gratitude orally; others sent in cards of thanks; most of our clients – from those sitting in prison cells to others sitting at desks running their own businesses – were happy with the way our Seven represented them.

Of course, we had some clients who had some difficult issues and who truly tested our students’ abilities and individual and collective wills. But The Seven did their best; they put in long hours, sacrificed personal, study and family time, and helped our clients. No task was too big for them to handle.

Notwithstanding the hard work done by our Magnificent Seven, our success as a Clinic would have been minimal without the assistance of three true experts. First, Jenn Martin, our Administrative Assistant. Hers is the voice our clients and potential clients hear when they call the Clinic. She is pleasant, knowledgeable and

(continued on page 6)
competent. She takes copious notes of what the callers say, and pass on initial reports to us that enable us to do our work. Moreover, she does all this with a smile on her face. And no: she is not typing this article and inserting her own words of praise therein; I do my own typing.

Second, Nancy Mojica (former coordinator for the Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas Equal Justice Volunteer Program). She joined the Clinic in July 2012. She possesses a wealth of experience in community outreach efforts. Accordingly, she has been successful in organizing community outreach activities to educate the community about our existence and the services we provide, has organized community educational workshops, and has made it possible for us to offer pro bono Tax Clinics to the community. My heart bleeds for Nancy, though; towards the end of the semester, she lost a family member to death. We are all sorry for her loss. Yet, even at her time of sadness, Nancy continues to show up at the Clinic, leading the charge to bring our services to the community – even when that means dispatching me to Muleshoe to conduct a workshop.

Third, Elma Moreno. In Tax Clinic rules and procedure, Elma is a walking encyclopedia. She has a wealth of knowledge that she readily shares with The Seven, with Nancy, and with me, too. Where would I be without Elma? My students can easily answer that one: heading down the path of sin and perdition – as far as running the LITC is concerned. Elma keeps our records, write our grant requests (which I then sign and take the credit for writing), keeps track of our billable hours (for which no one gets paid), and reminds us of everything we need to be reminded of. Elma is a gem.

I am writing this article at the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport. I am heading to Washington, D.C., for the annual National LITC Grantees Conference. At the conference, I shall garner fresh ideas and new directives to guide the Clinic through the next year. I look forward to returning to Lubbock, to putting into effect the plans I’ll leave the conference with, knowing that I have a great team of Qualified Student Representatives and an equally great team of staff members to help me put these plans into action. I am thankful to them all, and to the clients who give us the privilege to serve them.

Happy Holidays.

Great big thanks to our summer Tax Clinic students for a job well done!!

Pictured L to R:
Front Row: Neelam Pai, Amber Oldham, Alexandria Dover, and Brynea Landrum
Back Row: Nicholas Ward and Professor Vaughn James

WORDS FROM OUR STUDENTS

“The tax clinic have given me the opportunity to put to use the knowledge I’ve learned throughout law school while being able to help low-income taxpayers. It has been a very fulfilling and enlightening experience.”

Holly Monaghan
Tax Clinic

“The Tax Clinic provided numerous opportunities that I would not have been exposed to in the regular law school classroom. For example, in my first week at the Tax Clinic, I met with clients and performed intakes, something that few students experience while in law school. In managing an extensive caseload, I also learned how to effectively juggle multiple tasks with critical deadlines.

The Tax Clinic assists low-income taxpayers with cases or controversies. Resolving these disputes is life changing for these clients. They feel overwhelmed and paralyzed by the time they reach out for assistance from the Tax Clinic. Through my work in the Tax Clinic, I had the opportunity to zealously and effectively advocate for these clients with IRS and resolved numerous tax disputes and settled other matters before they reached the United States Tax Court.”

Brynea Landrum
Summer Tax Clinic Student

Article on Professor James was published in Texas Tech Discoveries: Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity. If you are interested in reading this article please see: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/vpr/discoveries/Fall2013/james/james-story.php
FROM THE DESK OF PATRICK S. METZE
DIRECTOR, CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC

Just a short note to let everyone know the students in the Criminal Defense Clinic are, as always, busy representing real people in real cases in real time. Since the beginning of this semester, through December 4th, students have handled or are handling 61 cases for 46 different clients. Students handle all phases of representation from initial interview through appearance in Court. The responsibility of representation falls entirely on the clinic students shoulders under the ever watchful eye of Clinic Fellow Terri Morgeson and the Clinic Director. Without the assistance of Ms. Morgeson, the heavy case load of the Criminal Defense Clinic would not be possible.

This semester, to date, of those 61 cases, 12 have been completed with 5 pleas of guilty and 7 dismissals - for a 58% dismissal rate. Representing clients in the Magistrate Court, two Lubbock County Courts at Law, Lubbock Municipal Court and in the District Courts of Lubbock County are: Carly Castetter, Deniz Kadirhan, Krizia Martinez, Mario Olivarez, Katie Owens, Bukky Oyewuwo, Martin Pina, and Ariana Salinas.

Please congratulate them all for their hard work. Space does not allow an individual account of all they have accomplished in about 4 months. Suffice it to say, these students are practicing law at the highest level for the benefit of their clients every day. They are learning the real life lessons of the practice of law and putting their education to great use. All students are members of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. In October, DWI gurus Deandra Grant and Chris Hoover from Dallas worked with the students in a special two hour DWI 101 class learning the basics of DWI representation and then spent an entire day with the local bar and the students on the more specialized issues of blood and breath testing in DWI defense. The students will also attend the 33rd Annual Prairie Dog Lawyer Advanced Criminal Law Seminar in January. As members of the State organization, all students may also attend a board meeting of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association to network with the best criminal defense lawyers from throughout Texas – and maybe land a job.

During the course of each semester each student will spend a minimum of 200 hours representing their clients in addition to a two hour seminar support course held once a week. This equates to a total time investment during each semester of a minimum of 1600 hours of pro bono representation for the clinic clients. The Criminal Defense Clinic is proud to represent the indigent citizens of the South Plains by court appointment only and plays its part in the Law School’s commitment to providing quality, ethical representation to the poor while educating each student of the importance of such work.

Patrick Metze became a full-time faculty member teaching and directing the Criminal Defense Clinic in 2008. Pat is an experienced criminal defense practitioner in Lubbock who is a Past President and Director of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association and current Board member of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. He is enthusiastic about continuing the development of our Criminal Defense Clinic and providing a quality experiential program for our students.

He received a Bachelor of Arts from Texas Tech University and his Doctor of Jurisprudence from The University of Houston. He was admitted to practice in the State of Texas on April 29, 1974.

Prior to joining the faculty, he was one of only 14 attorneys qualified for appointment as first chair in Capital Murder cases in the 45 counties of the 9th Administrative Judicial Region and the only attorney in Lubbock who was qualified and solicited appointments to indigent clients for misdemeanors, juveniles, felonies, death penalty cases, and appeals in all courts.
It is time again for my report on the activities of the Caprock Regional Public Defender Office/Clinic. I am happy to say that we have eight enthusiastic student attorneys this year. They are Venus Tesfaye, Justin Rosas, Melissa Oney, Jennie Radulescu, Aaron Tress, Tyler Mayo, Katy Heflin and Jessica Rugeley. As happens every year, it has been great to see them actively apply what they have learned in the prior two years of law school to their everyday practice of law. Their classroom skills have been extremely beneficial to them in their practice of law considering that since August 1, 2013, they have a 69.73% DISMISSAL RATE!! This may be a new record.

The student attorneys have or are handling cases such as Resisting Arrest, Driving While Intoxicated, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of a Controlled Substance, Theft, Criminal Trespass, Driving While License Invalid, Possession of a Dangerous Drug, Assault, Criminal Mischief, Domestic Violence, Burglary of a Vehicle, Deadly Conduct, Interference with Public Duties, Possession of Inhalants, Terroristic Threat, Unlawful Carrying of a Weapon, Possession of a Criminal Instrument and Harassment.

The student attorneys have travelled as far as Claude, Aspermont and Seminole, Texas representing their clients. They have garnered a reputation of being extremely thorough and willing to fight for their clients. I have had 20 year prosecutors comment about how hard the student attorneys work and what effect that has on their perception of the case. One prosecutor even told me he was going to find the most slam dunk case he could find and beg the defendant to ask to have the clinic appointed so he could actually get one of our clients to plead guilty. Issue spotting along with a great education and willingness to fight is what has made this class so good at their jobs.

Currently one of the student attorneys is representing a client charged with a 2nd DWI. The student attorney has found that the client’s prior conviction is probably not valid and we are in the process of collaterally attacking the prior conviction, hoping to keep the client from having multiple convictions that could result in him being charged with a felony in the future. It is important to note that the student attorneys are handling these cases, not the full time, supervising attorneys. The student attorney, with assistance handle their cases from start to finish. They are no one’s law clerk in the clinic.

That is all I have for this edition. I look forward to finishing out this year’s group and in the Spring meeting with the 2Ls interested in joining us next year. If any of you have any questions or would like to know more about the clinics, please feel free to call, email or just drop in and say hello!
THANKS TO FACULTY AND STUDENTS SUPPORTING PRO BONO

Thanks to the following faculty who assisted at Pro Bono Clinics held in conjunction with Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas during the fall semester: Professors Dustin Benham (1 clinic), Gerry Beyer (2 clinics), Cassie Christopher (1 clinic), Sally Henry (1 clinic), Patrick Metze (2 clinics), Larry Spain (6 clinics); and Librarians Elizabeth Caulfield (5 clinics) and Eugenia Charles-Newton (2 clinics).

The Law School faculty co-sponsored two Pro Bono Clinics held at St. John’s United Methodist Church and a Pro Bono Clinic held at Mae Simmons Community Center during the month of September as well as assisting with three Pro Bono Clinics during the fall semester organized by the Student Public Interest Initiative (SPII), Volunteer Law Student Association (VLSA), and Family Law Society. In addition, all students in the Civil Practice Clinic and Family and Housing Clinic participate in the Pro Bono Clinics as part of their clinical work. In addition to our clinic students, the following students assisted at the Pro Bono Clinics during the summer months and fall semester: Michael Ada, Kristen Beltran, Regina Bost, Jamie Dawson, Andrea Farkas, Whitney Garnett, Megan Gerber, Andrew Heston, Kathy Huddleston, Stephanie Ibarra, Austin Jones, Samantha Kelly, Leah Kosmitis, Bradley Lewis, Nathan McCune, Esther Mijares, Quincy Perales, Parker Pritchett, James Rex, Stacy Riker, Jessica Rugeley, Brittany Ann Weaver, Emily Williams, and Katie Williamson.

If you are interested in participating in a future Pro Bono Clinic, contact Larry Spain, larry.spain@ttu.edu for more information.

Clinical Program Continues to Provide Preceptorship to Estacado High School Law and Justice Magnet Program

Estacado High School Law and Justice Magnet Program students were very helpful to the clinical programs during the Fall semester. Students assisted Clinical Program staff with administrative and clerical duties. Students were also able to learn about what types of cases clinic students handle on a daily basis.

The students who completed their rotation this semester were Malik Woodruff (pictured on the left with Criminal Defense Clinic students), and Michelle Salinas (pictured on the right). The preceptorship in the clinical program is the continuation of a partnership between the School of Law and the Estacado High School Law and Justice Magnet Program which intends to provide additional educational resources and help guide students toward their goals of attending law school.

Elma Moreno worked closely with the students and the program instructor, Lucio R. Trevino, to make the preceptorship rotation visits a learning and helpful experience.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Lauren Munselle (Civil Practice Clinic 2012-2013) is an associate in the labor and employment section at Haynes and Boone in Dallas, Texas.

Nicholas Toulet-Crump (Tax Clinic 2012-2013) is Assistant City Attorney just down the road in Midland, Texas.

Yolanda Rodriguez (Tax Clinic Summer 2012 and CRPDO 2012-2013) is an Assistant Public Defender with the New Mexico Public Defender Department in Clovis, New Mexico.

Vanessa Rosa (Civil Practice Clinic 2012-2013) is doing insurance defense litigation at the law firm of Thompson Coe Cousins and Irons LLP in Dallas, Texas.

Kyle Crowl (Family Law/Housing Clinic 2012-2013) is an Assistant District Attorney in Montgomery County, Texas.

Neil Harris (CRPDO 2012-2013) is an associate at Richardson Koudelka LLP. It’s a civil litigation firm in Dallas. He states that all time not at the office is spent raising his daughter, who is two months olds. Congratulations Neil!
As a member of the Board of Directors of the Coalition of Community Assistance Volunteers, I am seeking volunteers to assist with the tax season around the corner.

The Coalition of Community Assistance Volunteers is asking that you consider volunteering your time and talents to prepare and e-file income tax returns FREE for low income taxpayers in our community.

For more than 20 years Tech Law students have played an important role in the community by serving as volunteers for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. CCAV who oversees the VITA project is asking that you consider volunteering your time and talents to prepare and e-file income tax returns FREE for low income taxpayers across the South Plains. Last year our volunteers enabled more than 2,900 taxpayers to save approximately $440,000 in unnecessary tax prep and rapid refund loan fees, while bringing more than $4.5 million in refunds into the local economy.

Volunteers are needed to prepare basic individual income tax returns on an easy-to-use computer software program. Volunteers are trained by CCAV members and IRS employees, and enjoy protections under state and federal Volunteer Protection Acts. Since students leave for the holiday break, we ask that you take the on-line training and testing provided through the IRS Website at http://www.irs.gov/app/vita/index.jsp (Link N Learn Taxes Course);

While volunteer Tax Preparers may choose to train and test at two different levels (Basic and Advanced), they are only required to train and test at the Basic Level.

We hope you’ll choose to participate with us during the upcoming tax season which runs from January 21st thru April 15th by volunteering 46 hours of your time per week. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me at elma.moreno@ttu.edu if you have any questions or if you would like to pick up a packet.

Please note that, since our volunteers handle so much confidential information, a new policy has been implemented requiring a criminal background check be performed on each volunteer. Of course, this will be done at no cost to you.

Again, if you are willing to assist in the preparation of simple tax returns, and help make a difference in our community, we are in need of your help. Please contact me in the clinic offices at 742-3787, Ext. 222, or by sending an e-mail to elma.moreno@ttu.edu.

For more information on becoming a volunteer for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, please visit: www.freetaxprep4u.org, call 687-2228 or email Elma Moreno at elma.moreno@ttu.edu.
Another fast and condensed semester, at least that’s what it felt like! It has truly been a whirlwind, from direct and indirect outreach to public service announcements, educational workshops and resource fairs, but well worth it. I had the wonderful opportunity of working with the “awesome seven” tax law students. Thank you “awesome seven” and I look forward to the next semester. The following workshops were conducted during the semester, as well as participation in various resource fairs throughout the community:

**September 21, 2013 – Charlie Gonzales and Codi Steiner**

conducted a tax law workshop titled: “The IRS and You”. This event was held at the Patterson Library, 1836 Parkway Drive, Lubbock, Texas. Ms. Rose Wilson, President, of the Lubbock Area Client Council along with 9 members of her group attended this event. Issues addressed during the workshop included: filing status, exemptions, earned income tax credit along with other income tax issues.

**September 28, 2013 – Molly Socha and Bill Wells**

participated in the Community Awareness & Resource Fair held at the Iles Elementary Gym, 2401 Date Avenue, Lubbock, Texas. Pastor, J. Jerome Johnson of Mount Gilead Baptist Church invited our organization to be a part of their first annual Care Fair. Pastor Johnson’s goal is to provide these kinds of events for our community in order to bring awareness on all levels and the edification of our citizens. Bill and Molly certainly enjoyed doing their part in educating the public, as well as some of the vendors regarding the services provided by the LITC to our community. There were a total of 40 individuals attending this event.

**October 19, 2013 – Holly Monaghan and Jacinda Geis**

took part in the Walk Like MADD Resource Fair held at the Lubbock County Courthouse, 904 Broadway, Lubbock, Texas, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Dawn Bevan, Lead Victim Services Specialist, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) invited us to partake and inform the public about the services available in our community and at the same time they raised money for their wonderful organization.

Holly and Jacinda educated the public about our program and the services provided to an estimated 150 individuals who participated at this event. They were truly tax law warriors who braved the cold weather that morning….burr! Thank you, Holly and Jacinda!

**October 25, 2013 – Andrea Farkas and Molly Socha**

participated at the McWhorter Elementary Resource Fair. Andrea Cruce with Superior Health Plan and McWhorter Elementary sponsored their annual resource fair. There were plenty of ghost and goblins roaming the halls of horror….scary! This event was held during their annual fall festival and hundreds of students and their parents were on hand to join in on all the festivities. We had a chance to visit with the parents regarding our program and the service we provide. We handed out a ton of brochures, posters and candy. They had a really good turn out with at least a dozen or more vendors and over 200 adults and children participating to make this event a success for us all. We had a blast visiting with all the parents and enjoyed all the ghost and goblins. Thank you, Andrea and Molly!

**October 30, 2013 – The South Plains Career Expo 2013**

was held at the Lubbock Civic Center and sponsored by Region 17 and South Plains Workforce. I had a chance to visit with hundreds of Junior and Senior High School students from over 50 schools in our service area. Also, I had the opportunity to visit with some of the counselors and teachers regarding our program. I informed them of our educational workshops and what we had to offer their students. There were an estimated 4,000 students on hand for this event and at least 600 business and colleges. I distributed over 1000 flyers, posters and brochures.

**November 12, 2013 – Dr. Amanda Banks, College Advisor for Dunbar College Preparatory Academy and Texas Gear Up**

sponsored the Dunbar CPA College & Career Fair on Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at 10 a.m. to noon. LITC student, Bill Wells, joined other businesses and colleges at this event. He distributed brochures and had a chance to visit with over 600 students and other vendors on hand about our program and the services we offered.
Katherine Kassabian represented a 63 year old individual in an administrative hearing before the Texas Health and Human Services Commission after his Personal Care Attendant Services were discontinued by the Managed Care Organization based upon a finding that he had no unmet needs. Upon cross-examination of the registered nurse and establishing that the assessment was faulty for relying exclusively on the statements of the client who had been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia and dementia, the Hearing Officer directed the agency to do a reassessment resulting in an increase in the number of personal care attendant hours that the client had been receiving prior to the determination appealed from.

Drew Kaldenbach negotiated a favorable settlement for our client who purchased an automobile from an individual seller who did not have a clear title to the vehicle inasmuch as it had been pledged to a Title Loan Company to secure a personal loan. We were able to secure a settlement involving the seller and the Title Loan Company that involving the purchase of an automobile.

Sierra Fisher and Steven Kubik each represented individual clients on disability claims before an administrative law judge in late October. Although a decision has not yet been issued in either case, it is expected that both will result in fully favorable decisions for the clients.

Sierra Fisher was able to negotiate a settlement discharging collection on an account in the name of our client with a home security system company after establishing identity theft.

Molly Socha - The taxpayers are a married couple in their 80s and celebrated 50 years of marriage this past August. The husband is a retired United States Air Force veteran, and they live solely on military retirement and social security. In 2011, the IRS assessed taxes totaling almost $1000 as a result of cancellation of debt income. Unable to pay the tax as a result of living on a fixed income, the taxpayers sought the help of the Texas Tech University School of Law Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic. In only four short months, the LITC's able students and Director were able to secure from the Office of Appeals the acceptance of the taxpayers' position and a determination that the taxpayers owe nothing.

“My experience in the clinic has been scary, exciting, nerve-wracking and fantastic. I have learned so much in 3 months about what it means to be a good criminal defense attorney, and have bonded with so many wonderful people.”

Ariana Salinas
Criminal Defense Clinic

“The Criminal Defense Clinic has given me the confidence and experience necessary to become a lawyer. Without it I would not believe in my capabilities to defend people in the criminal justice system.”

Carly Castetter
Criminal Defense Clinic

“Being a leader is about using our gifts and our talents for the service and benefit of others. Texas Tech School of Law Criminal Defense Clinic has shown me how important it is to reach out to those in need; I know these experiences will form my career.”

Krizia Martinez
Criminal Defense Clinic

“Working in the Low-Income taxpayer Clinic has been an invaluable experience for me. You really get to learn what it is like to practice law and work with clients. The educational experience alone is more than I could ask for, but when you throw in the experience you gain the Clinic takes on a whole new level of academic value. I think the best part is that while we are gaining all this experience and knowledge we are able to help people who need it the most.”

Bill Wells
Tax Clinic
“I have truly enjoyed my experience in clinic. Being able to help people while learning how to practice is what makes me feel that clinic was the best choice I could have made in law school.”

Mario Olivarez
Criminal Defense Clinic

“The Texas Tech Clinical Program is, without a doubt, the most beneficial thing I have done in law school. The real world experience I have received in the Civil Clinic is incomparable to any class or competition because I am assigned real cases where my clients have actual legal problems that they need my assistance with. When I begin my legal career, I know I will already have a leg up on any other first year associate because of the simple fact that I have essentially already been an attorney for a year.”

Priya Sivaraman
Civil Practice Clinic

“For me, participating in the Civil Practice Clinic has bridged the gap between the classroom and the courtroom. The fundamental topics I learned in my first two years of law school didn’t mean much until I had to use them on a daily basis as part of representing clients. I have enjoyed the opportunity to learn by doing, and it has made me feel more prepared for when I enter the workforce.”

Bryan Martin
Civil Practice Clinic

“I fully expect to look back upon my time with the Criminal Defense Clinic as the most beneficial and rewarding portion of my law school career. Nothing beats real-world experience and that is exactly what you get when you walk through those double doors into the clinic offices every morning.”

Martin Pina
Criminal Defense Clinic

“The criminal clinic has given me the confidence that I can be both a competent and zealous advocate for my client when I graduate. There is no better way to gain confidence in your ability to practice law than actually getting first-hand experience with real clients with real problems. It is such a great feeling to know that I have made a difference in somebody’s life.”

Kathryn Owens
Criminal Defense Clinic

“Being a part of the Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic has been a great opportunity for me thus far. There is only so much that you can learn in a classroom, the real value of the Clinic comes from being able to interact with prosecutors and our clients. The best part of the Clinic is seeing the happiness and satisfaction from our clients after resolving their case. Not only because their legal trouble is behind them, but because for the first time, they have someone that will actually fight for their best interests.”

Tyler Mayo
CRPDO Clinic

“The clinic program is the perfect opportunity to use the skills we learn in law school for the benefit of those who need them most. No other experience in law school can compare. It has been extremely rewarding.”

Steven J. Kubik
Civil Practice Clinic

“Participating in the Civil Practice Clinic has been one of the most practical experience I have had in law school. On day one I did not even know where the courthouse was, much less how to file a petition. Through this program I have gained confidence in my ability to represent my clients and gained a heart for pro-bono work. The experience I have gained is invaluable to my legal education and future career.”

Sierra Fisher
Civil Practice Clinic

---

Selection process for Clinical Program will be held in mid-February for the 2014-2015 academic year! Watch for announcements in late January and visit the clinic website for more information.
“Excellent opportunity to get face time in front of a judge with real cases, and the students and staff of the clinics are great.”
Andrew Kaldenbach
Civil Practice Clinic

“The Clinical program has given me the opportunity to give back to the community by working with people who otherwise would not be able to afford legal counsel.”
Kathy Kassabian
Civil Practice Clinic

“Caprock Regional Public Defenders clinic has been an invaluable experience. I have learned more about defending criminal cases in the past semester than I did in my first two years of law school. I would highly recommend a criminal clinic to anyone that has an interest in working as a defense attorney after law school.”
Jennie Radulescu
CRPDO Clinic

“The practical experience I have gained from being part of the Family Law & Housing Clinic is invaluable. I will continue to use the knowledge and skills I have obtained from the clinic throughout my legal career.”
Jessica DuBose
Family Law/Housing Clinic

“Thus far, I have had a great experience in the Family Law Clinic! I am lucky in that I have been assigned a variety of cases, and thus I have gained practical knowledge within many facets of this area of the law. To be honest, serving my clients has been the best experience I have had in law school.”
Angelica Rolong
Family Law/Housing Clinic

“My experience gained in the ADR Clinic was very rewarding and will pay dividends in practice. The skills learned, sharpened, and honed in this clinic are applicable in virtually every aspect of law and daily interactions.”
Andrew Wipke
Advanced ADR Clinic

“Excellent opportunity to get face time in front of a judge with real cases, and the students and staff of the clinics are great.”
Andrew Kaldenbach
Civil Practice Clinic

“The ADR clinic gave me the chance to get practical experience in an area with a slightly different perspective than that of the typical attorney. It was a lot of fun and I would highly recommend it.”
Andrew Heston
Advanced ADR Clinic

“The time spent at the clinic has been invaluable. Working with the staff and students has taught me so much, and the friendships we have made will last forever.”
Andrew Aus
Family Law/Housing Clinic

“The clinics help build confident and competent practitioners and prepares students to hit the ground running after graduation. The mentorship is unrivaled and the experience is invaluable. Participating in the Civil Practice Clinic has truly been the highlight of my Law School career.”
Neha Casturi
Civil Practice Clinic

“I really enjoyed participating in the ADR Clinic. The ability to learn a new skill in a fun and friendly environment was rewarding. I believe my training as a mediator will be very useful in practice.”
Josh W. Leamons
Advanced ADR Clinic

“The clinic has been a great experience! So far it has been the highlight of my three years in law school!”
Melissa Oney
CRPDO Clinic

“My experience gained in the ADR Clinic was very rewarding and will pay dividends in practice. The skills learned, sharpened, and honed in this clinic are applicable in virtually every aspect of law and daily interactions.”
Andrew Wipke
Advanced ADR Clinic

“The Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic has been a great experience this semester because I’ve had the opportunity to see how the criminal system affects real people. I have really enjoyed working with my clients and learning about working with other attorneys and judges.”
Jessica Rugeley
CRPDO Clinic

“The Criminal Defense Clinic has been one of the most valuable experiences during my law school career. I feel confident in my ability to start representing clients by myself the day after I become licensed. If it were not for the CDC, Professor Metze, and Terri, then I would not be able to say that. This experience is setting me up for a successful career doing criminal defense.”
J. Deniz Kadirhan
Criminal Defense Clinic

“The time spent at the clinic has been invaluable. Working with the staff and students has taught me so much, and the friendships we have made will last forever.”
Andrew Aus
Family Law/Housing Clinic

“The clinics help build confident and competent practitioners and prepares students to hit the ground running after graduation. The mentorship is unrivaled and the experience is invaluable. Participating in the Civil Practice Clinic has truly been the highlight of my Law School career.”
Neha Casturi
Civil Practice Clinic

“Excellent opportunity to get face time in front of a judge with real cases, and the students and staff of the clinics are great.”
Andrew Kaldenbach
Civil Practice Clinic

“The ADR clinic gave me the chance to get practical experience in an area with a slightly different perspective than that of the typical attorney. It was a lot of fun and I would highly recommend it.”
Andrew Heston
Advanced ADR Clinic

“The time spent at the clinic has been invaluable. Working with the staff and students has taught me so much, and the friendships we have made will last forever.”
Andrew Aus
Family Law/Housing Clinic

“The clinics help build confident and competent practitioners and prepares students to hit the ground running after graduation. The mentorship is unrivaled and the experience is invaluable. Participating in the Civil Practice Clinic has truly been the highlight of my Law School career.”
Neha Casturi
Civil Practice Clinic

“I really enjoyed participating in the ADR Clinic. The ability to learn a new skill in a fun and friendly environment was rewarding. I believe my training as a mediator will be very useful in practice.”
Josh W. Leamons
Advanced ADR Clinic

“The clinic has been a great experience! So far it has been the highlight of my three years in law school!”
Melissa Oney
CRPDO Clinic

“My experience gained in the ADR Clinic was very rewarding and will pay dividends in practice. The skills learned, sharpened, and honed in this clinic are applicable in virtually every aspect of law and daily interactions.”
Andrew Wipke
Advanced ADR Clinic

“The Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic has been a great experience this semester because I’ve had the opportunity to see how the criminal system affects real people. I have really enjoyed working with my clients and learning about working with other attorneys and judges.”
Jessica Rugeley
CRPDO Clinic
SNAPSHOT CORNER

The Clinical Programs hosted several tables with information regarding the individual clinics and promoted the Clinical Program Open House on Wednesday, August 27, 2013, in the forum during the Student Fair. Several students helped disseminate information.

Civil Practice Clinic and Family Law/Housing Clinic Students Participate in Divorce Night Court—Presiding Judge Judy Parker
SNAPSHOT CORNER

Clinic Orientations

Just for Fun!
CLINIC NEWS
Fall 2013 Edition
1802 Hartford Avenue, Lubbock, Texas 79409
(806) 742-4312

FROM

FALL 2013 CLINICAL PROGRAMS
FACULTY AND STAFF