

SPRING 2005

Texas Tech University
School Of Law

1802 Hartford Avenue
Lubbock, TX 79409

CLINIC NEWS



Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Programs

CLINICAL PROGRAM STUDENTS RECOGNIZED WITH CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

A recognition reception is held every semester to honor clinical program students with a *Certificate of Appreciation* for their dedication and participating in the clinical programs. Students were recognized on Wednesday, April 13th, in the Faculty Conference Room. A few words of encouragement and gratitude were provided by our guest speaker Beni Hemmeline. Ms. Hemmeline is the Chief Attorney for the Civil Division of the Lubbock District Attorney's Office and one of the placement sites for the Civil Practice Students. A total of 31 students participated in the following clinical program courses: Tax Clinic, Civil Practice Clinic, and Criminal Justice Clinic (one academic year commitment). An additional 11 students participated in the Innocence Project led by Professor Angela Laughlin and private attorney Jeff Blackburn.



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INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AWARDS TAX GRANT

The Low Income Tax Clinic began its 5th year of operation in 2005 with a \$50,000 tax grant award. The Internal Revenue Service has awarded \$7.5 million in matching grants to Low Income Taxpayer Clinics (LITCs). A total of 145 clinics will be funded in 2005 representing 48 states and the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The TTU School of Law Tax Clinic is one of the grant recipients.

The clinic provides representation to low income taxpayers who may not be able to afford a tax professional when they have tax disputes with the IRS or are trying to comply with tax laws. The clinic also informs taxpayers for whom English is a second language or who have limited English proficiency of their tax rights and responsibilities.

The grant continues to fund the part-time Community Outreach Coordinator position which has helped promote the Tax Clinic in various outreach efforts.

For more information on the Tax Clinic visit <http://www.law.ttu.edu/lawsite/centers/TaxClinic.asp>.

ADVANCED ADR CLINIC

The following students participated in the Advanced ADR Clinic during the spring semester: **Tametha Barker, Brooke Crum, Meredith Dinkins, Shannan Goss, Kelly Gregan, Melanie Hollmann, Landon Lambert, Lisa Lammers, Tiffani Lohmann, Amanda Navarette, Dawn Payne, Julie Satagaj, Yolanda Sewell, Bria Smith, Jennifer Southard, Christine Stroud, Kristi Ward and Laura Wood.**

In addition to receiving instruction qualifying as a 40 hour basic mediation course, each of the students also participated in or conducted a minimum of four (4) actual mediations through the Dispute Resolution Center.

MIGRANT WORKER PROJECT

A group of students working with Professor Jarod Gonzalez under a grant from the State Bar of Texas Labor and Employment Law Section have developed a brochure being distributed to farm workers throughout Texas to inform them of their rights under the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, Agricultural Workers Protection Act, workers compensation, federal and state wage laws, and immigration issues. Contact numbers were provided for federal, state and local agencies responsible for enforcement of these laws were provided as well as resources for legal assistance.

During the spring semester, in cooperation with Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas and the Texas Tech University School of Law Clinical Programs, two legal clinics were sponsored for individuals with employment law issues and other legal problems at the Law School on February 26 and April 23. The following students participated in the Migrant Worker Project and assisted at the legal clinics: **Judith Blanco, Youngmin Choi, Pamela Ferguson, Richard Fischer, Erick Lucio, Gabriella Martinez, Valerie McClelland, Rodney Montes, Joe Montes, Joe Moody, Andrea Olivier, Gay Pulner, Sam Serrano and Celeste Villarreal.** The following faculty and staff assisted with the legal clinics: **Deans Kay Fletcher, Brian Shannon and Arturo Torres; Professors Jarod Gonzalez and Larry Spain; and Elma Moreno.**



ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CLINICAL CONFERENCE

The Clinical Program at Texas Tech University School of Law will host the 5th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Clinical Conference October 21-23, 2005. Planning is already underway for the program which will include sessions for clinical faculty, adjuncts, clinic administrators and professional staff from law schools throughout Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma, Utah, Wyoming and beyond.

FROM THE DESK OF



Larry Spain - Civil Practice Clinic

During the spring semester, the following students were enrolled in this section of the Civil Practice Clinic: **Kevin Curley, Erick Lucio, Marci McClellan, Richard Mitchell, Emily Schroeder, Julia Sladek, Jeff Stewart and Mac Weinstein.** In addition to assuming individual responsibility for cases assigned to

them in the clinic, each of the students also assisted with client intake through Legal Aid of NorthWest, Texas and worked with practitioners from the Civil Division of the Lubbock County District Attorney's Office of Legal Aid of NorthWest Texas. This allowed students to gain exposure to a broader array of substantive areas of practice and be mentored by other public interest practitioners.

Over the semester, a total of 16 new client cases were undertaken, ranging from matters involving family law, disability, consumer law, wills/advance planning and civil rights claims. Fourteen (14) cases were closed during the semester and a total of twenty-nine (29) cases will be carried over to the fall semester.

During the semester, students had the opportunity to represent clients at final divorce hearings (6), protective order hearings and child protection hearings.



Left to Right: Professor Spain, Richard Mitchell, Julia Sladek, Emily Schroeder, (Erick Lucio), Mark Weinstein, Kevin Curley, Jeff Stewart, and Marci McClellan





Congratulations Professor Spain for being selected recipient of the Outstanding Law Review Article Award for 2005 by the Texas Bar Foundation!



DOLLARS BROUGHT BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

The Coalition of Community Assistance Volunteers (a partnership of the LITC) and staff from the Internal Revenue Service trained an estimated 75 volunteers in early January to assist with volunteer income tax preparation throughout the community. Several sites were established throughout the community and operated during the tax filing season. As a result of the efforts of these volunteers, including several law school students and undergraduate students, as of April 9th a total of 1,084 returns were completed and approximately \$1,915,279.00 were returned to families within the community. These totals do not include the last week of tax filing season and the services provided by the International program. An appreciation luncheon is scheduled for April 29th at the Lubbock Club.



Pictured above are members of the CCAV Board of Directors and volunteers who attended the press conference at Patterson Library on January 19, 2005.

FROM THE DESK OF



Marilyn E. Phelan, Director - Low Income Tax Clinic

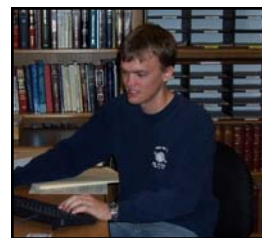
Seven students, Joel Cook, Shawn Hunley, Susan Marx, Holly Haseloff, Chad Olsen. Amber Rasco, and Daniel Simmons, enrolled in the Tax Clinic in the fall semester to help

taxpayers in their controversies with the IRS. These students have helped one organization obtain nonprofit status from the State of Texas and one nonprofit organization obtain tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, the students have been pursuing means to solve tax controversies for several taxpayers. Most of the issues confronting the students involved their clients' entitlement to the earned income credit, to dependency deductions, to head of household status, and to innocent spouse treatment. One student was successful in securing a compromise from the IRS regarding his client's tax liabilities. Another student successfully obtained innocent spouse status for her client (so that the client is no longer liable for tax liabilities shown on a joint return she filed with her former husband). One student is preparing a case for argument before the Tax Court. Identity theft still is a problem confronting taxpayers, and two of the students have been attempting to help taxpayers with this difficult problem.

The students' work in the clinic on actual tax cases and the class sessions on rights of taxpayers and the procedures in place to contest tax deficiencies, which the students must attend, have proved very helpful both to the students and to their taxpayer clients. The seven students should be well prepared to represent clients with tax problems when they begin the practice of law. In addition, the School of Law is providing a benefit to the community in representing, without charge, taxpayers who cannot afford the services of a tax attorney.



Pictured Left to Right: Professor Marilyn E. Phelan, Daniel Simmons, Holly Haseloff, Amber Rasco (front) Shawn Hunley, Susan Marx (front), Joel Cook, and Chad Olsen



“Participating in the Low Income Tax Clinic was truly eye-opening. The tax clinic exposed me to practical areas of substantive tax law of which I was not familiar. It provides a great “hands on” experience for upper-level students.”

**Amber Rasco
Tax Clinic**

CONGRATULATIONS PROFESSOR MARILYN PHELAN FOR BEING NAMED “ PAUL WHITFIELD HORN PROFESSOR OF LAW” BY TEXAS TECH BOARD OF REGENTS!

FROM THE DESK OF



Larry Cunningham - Director of Criminal Justice Clinic

The inaugural class of the Criminal Justice Clinic consisted of Greta Braker, Sean Kilgore, Melissa Morgan, Toby Nash, Gay Pulner, Ken Richey, Collin Shellenberger, and Ben Webb. They have been working in the clinic for the

entire academic year. This semester, they finished up their cases from last semester and began work on new ones.

Gay Pulner obtained a truly amazing plea agreement from the district attorney on behalf of a 17-year-old client who had several felony and misdemeanor charges which were all drug-related. She was able to consolidate them into one plea agreement that included placement of the client in a drug treatment/education program in lieu of incarceration.

Greta Braker and Ken Richey filed a brief in an appellate case in which our clients were convicted of delivering a controlled substance to a child. The State's position was that the clients' fetuses were "children" and that the clients' ingestion of drugs (which then passed to their fetuses through the umbilical cord) constituted "delivery." This is a case of first impression in Texas. Ken and Greta researched the law, wrote the brief, and edited it for content and form.

We did not have any trials this year--this reflects the hard work the students have put into investigating and researching their cases. They have been able to approach plea negotiation conferences with "ammunition" in order to get favorable plea agreements from prosecutors. Sean Kilgore, for example, represented a client on a driving with a suspended license charge. After investigating the case, Sean found some holes in the government's case. After a meeting with the prosecutor, the district attorney agreed to

dismiss the charge upon the client's completion of a small amount of community service.

Various students have fought hard to mitigate the "collateral consequences" of our clients' involvement in the criminal justice system. Melissa Morgan litigated a "due process hearing" with the Lubbock Housing Authority to try to get her client's Section 8 benefits restored after her drug possession conviction. Greta Braker worked with her client and the jail, even after the criminal case was over, to ensure that the client received adequate medical care in the Lubbock County Jail while awaiting a hearing on another matter.

We also had the opportunity to visit a penitentiary facility. We drove an hour to Lamesa to visit the Smith Unit of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Institutional Division. A senior officer gave us a tour of the facility, including the administrative segregation unit, which houses some of the state's most serious and dangerous offenders -- so dangerous that they have to be locked down in their one-man cells for 23 hours a day.

We were also fortunate to have two guest speakers this semester. Chuck Lanehart of Chappell & Lanehart, P.C., gave a presentation on the history of the Lubbock Bar. Stephen Hamilton talked to the class about DWI and gave a demonstration of the instruments used to measure intoxication.

This semester the clinic was the benefit of a \$10,500 gift from the members of the Texas and Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, who held a fundraiser and CLE seminar in Lubbock in early January. The gift will go to fund supplies, books, and litigation expenses for the clinic.



Pictured from left to right:
 (back row) Professor Cunningham, Kenneth Richey, Sean Kilgore, Collin Shellenberger, Toby Nash (front row) Greta Braker, Ben Webb, Gay Pulner, and Melissa Morgan

FROM THE DESK OF



Sonya Garza - Civil Practice Clinic

This semester 7 students participated in my section of the Civil Practice Clinic during the fall semester: Nicole Burkhart, Peter Hall, Katherine Jayroe, Jason McDonald, Stacey Shaw, Nathan Tadema, and Celeste Villarreal. The students were responsible for handling civil cases assigned to them in the clinic and also worked with attorneys at Legal Aid of Northwest Texas, Advocacy, Inc., the Texas Attorney General Child Support Division, and the Lubbock County Courts. In addition, the students completed court observations and conducted new client intake with Legal Aid of Northwest Texas' pro bono clinics.

In the clinic the students have handled primarily family law matters. Peter Hall, Katherine Jayroe, Jason McDonald, and Stacey Shaw all successfully "proved-up" divorce cases in the Lubbock County courts for individual clients. Celeste Villarreal has filed an adoption suit for an individual client. The students did varying civil work in their respective placements. Stacey Shaw, Nathan Tadema, and Peter Hall worked independently on many large cases for Advocacy, Inc. Jason McDonald and Katherine Jayroe assisted their supervisors at the Attorney General's office in

preparing for their heavy docket of cases. Celeste Villarreal saw many cases in the Lubbock County courts clerking for Judge Paula Lanehart. Nicole Burkhart assisted in numerous types of civil cases for Legal Aid of Northwest Texas.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with my students and watching some of their first real world legal practice experiences.



Pictured left to right:

Back Row: Nathan Tadema, Celeste Villarreal, Nicole Burkhart, Jason McDonald, Katherine Jayroe
Front Row: Professor Sonya Garza, Stacey Shaw, Peter Hall

HONORS AND AWARDS

Samirah Abdalah, Clinic Legal Secretary, was honored for her 20 years of service with Texas Tech on Thursday, March 31st, at the Market Alumni Center. Join us in congratulating Samirah for her years of service!



Congratulations to Criminal Justice Clinic student attorneys **Melissa Morgan** and **Kenneth Richey** who were the recipients of two clinic awards this year. Kenneth was awarded the Clifford W. Brown Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association Award, which recognizes a student who shows excellent in the art and science of criminal defense advocacy. Kenneth's name will

be inscribed on a plaque that hangs in the main lobby of the Law School. He will also receive a cash prize. Melissa was selected by the entire clinic faculty to receive the Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Student Award. CLEA, an organization of clinical professors, recognizes a student at each law school who excels in his or her cases as well as the classroom/seminar component of a clinic. Congratulations to Kenneth and Melissa!

Professor Larry Spain has been selected by the Texas Bar Foundation to receive the Outstanding Law Review Article Award for 2005. The Award is presented for the most outstanding article published in any Texas law review the previous year. *Congratulations Professor Spain!*

Professor Marilyn Phelan has been designated as a Paul Whitfield Horn Professor by the Texas Tech Board of Regents. *Congratulations Professor Phelan!*

FROM THE DESK OF



Jeff Blackburn - Innocence Project Co-Director

It all seemed fairly simple:

1. Get an office ;
2. Put some computers, phones, and books in it;
3. Set up a non-profit organization dedicated to overturning false convictions throughout West Texas;
4. Get some clinic students;
5. Start investigating innocence claims made by prisoners.

The office opened in January. It had phones, computers, clinic students and a barbecue joint next door. It had solid faculty support from Professors Larry Cunningham and Angela Laughlin. It had moral support from the law school and material support from Jeff Blackburn, a practicing lawyer from Amarillo, who set up the office and agreed to spend three days per week in Lubbock.

Within the first week of operation, it also had about twenty boxes of old files, letters, and pleas for help that had accumulated over the last two years when a predecessor project run by the Criminal Defense Lawyers Project existed. As it turned out, those boxes contained more than three thousand [!] potential and existing files. Each one of those files, letters, and pieces of paper needed to have something done about them.

"Doing something about them" became the mission, the obsession, and the central goal of the fledgling West Texas Innocence Project this semester. Each file, letter, and piece of paper had to be read carefully. Each one had to be logged and organized. Each one had to have some action taken on it. None of this work was very romantic, and all of it was tedious, hard and sometimes boring. In the beginning, these tasks seemed overwhelming.

Overwhelming or not, the clinic students who participated in this first semester went after their work with energy and discipline. As a result of their work, the West Texas Innocence Project will be fully operating by the fall semester. With the help of students who will be coming into the Project this summer, every case that needed something done on it will have been handled.

The dedicated students who made this happen are listed below, in alphabetical order:

Alberto Barbosa, Todd Celeste, Kimberly Clark, Adriann Darnell, Jeff Hawkins, Teresa Hellstern, Dana Lockett, Cade Lovelace, Kayla Murray, Sarah Roland, Terry Smith, Kimberly Warminski

Kristi Ward, a Tech law student who had worked with the prior innocence project, volunteered of time and energy without credit and was invaluable in helping with the transition from one group to another.

These students took on a hard job, made the most of it, and laid a solid foundation for the building of a great regional innocence project. Because of them, people in West Texas who have known nothing but injustice will have a chance.



Front Row (L to R): Teresa Hellstern, Kimberly Clark, Kayla Murray, Dana Lockett, Alberto Barbosa
Back Row (L to R): Terry Smith, Jeff Hawkins, Angela Laughlin, Kimberly Warminski, Cade Lovelace, Jeff Blackburn
Not pictured: Sarah Roland and Adriann Darnell

\$10,000 RAISED FOR TEXAS TECH CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC

A fundraiser, jointly sponsored by the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association ("LCDLA"), the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association ("TCDLA"), and the Texas Tech University School of Law, raised approximately \$10,000, for the Texas Tech Criminal Justice Clinic. The fundraiser was held January 7-8, 2005 at Texas Tech, in conjunction with the 25th anniversary celebration of LCDLA and that organization's annual CLE seminar.

TCDLA and the Criminal Defense Lawyers Project put on a free, 11-hour CLE that drew speakers from around the country. A barbeque was held on the first night of the seminar, at which founding members of the LCDLA were honored by Daniel W. Hurley, Jr., President of the TCDLA. *The Derailers*, one of Austin, Texas' hottest bands, entertained the crowd. Attorney David Botsford gave an enthusiastic speech in which he highlighted many of the past successes of the LCDLA, which is one of the most organized and proactive criminal defense bars in Texas. Approximately 360 people attended the barbeque, and 180 attorneys attended the two-day CLE.

Proceeds from the weekend went to support the activities of the Texas Tech Criminal Justice Clinic. The clinic is a new, in-house criminal defense clinic for third-year students at Texas Tech University School of Law. Supervised by Professor Larry Cunningham, the clinic affords 3Ls the opportunity to spend a full-year defending clients in criminal matters throughout West Texas. Students are currently representing clients charged with burglary, drug crimes, fraud, and other offenses. Students are fully responsible for their cases, but work under the close supervision of Professor Cunningham, a former prosecutor.

The money raised from the LCDLA/TCDLA fundraiser will go towards supporting scholarships for clinic students, as well as supplies and other expenses of the clinic.

"I am extremely grateful for the support of the local bar and all they have done to help the clinic," Professor Cunningham said. "The bar and bench rightly recognize the importance of producing an annual cadre of students who are committed to social justice and advocacy within the criminal justice system on behalf of the accused."

Texas Tech University School of Law, a public law school in West Texas, is deeply committed to clinical legal education. Each of the clinical instructors are tenured or tenure-track members of the faculty. The clinic is supported by two full-time professional staff members and enjoys spacious facilities in a dedicated wing of the Law School.



L to R: Joseph Martinez, Executive Director of TCDLA; Chuck Lanehart, Court Liaison of LCDLA; Daniel W. Hurley, Jr., President of TCDLA



Members of the Lubbock bar enjoy 11 hours of *free* CLE from some of the top lawyers and judges in Texas.

\$10,000 RAISED FOR TEXAS TECH CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC (cont'd)



Attorney David Burrows demonstrates voir dire in the Alvin Allison Courtroom at Texas Tech. A live feed ran from the courtroom to the main lecture room where the CLE participants watched the presentation on a large-screen projector. Texas Tech University School of Law is one of the most technologically advanced law schools in the country.



Professor Larry Cunningham (R), Director of Texas Tech Criminal Justice Clinic, thanks the 360+ guests at the barbeque fundraiser for their generous donations to the clinic. Daniel W. Hurley, Jr. (L), President of TCDLA, looks on.



LCDLA President Fred Stangl (L), Lubbock attorney Mark Snodgrass (M), and TCDLA President Daniel W. Hurley, Jr. (R), prepare to tailgate in advance of the men's basketball game on Saturday, January 8, 2005, following the conclusion of the CLE seminar.



Judge Paula Lanehart (Lubbock County Court at Law #3) and Chuck Lanehart (Court Liaison, LCDLA) boogie down at the charity fundraiser on January 7, 2005.

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC HOLDS RECEPTION

Dean Walter B. Huffman, Professor Larry Cunningham, and the students of the Texas Tech Criminal Justice Clinic hosted a reception honoring the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association's donation of \$10,000 to the Texas Tech Criminal Justice Clinic was held in the forum on March 1st.

The reception featured a presentation of the donation by the LCDLA to the Law School. We were honored to have several members of the Lubbock Criminal Defense Lawyers Association attending the reception.



For more information on the clinical programs visit:
<http://www.law.ttu.edu/lawsite/centers/ClinicalPrograms.asp>

RECENT CASES OF INTEREST

Laura Wood represented a 57 year old individual with a ninth grade education and a history of back fusion, cardiac stent placement, asthma and hypertension before an administrative law judge on a disability claim and received a fully favorable decision. A decision found that the claimant's exertional residual functional capacity had been reduced to less than sedentary and that she has been disabled since March, 2002. She received \$15,084 in retroactive benefits and continuing benefits of \$480 per month.

Gay Pulner obtained a truly amazing plea agreement from the district attorney on behalf of a 17-year-old client who had several felony and misdemeanor charges which were all drug-related. She was able to consolidate them into one plea agreement that included placement of the client in a drug treatment/education program in lieu of incarceration.




Emily Schroeder received a favorable determination from the Social Security Administration that waived recovery of an overpayment of \$5,890 in survivor benefits paid to the client and her son. She was able to demonstrate that the overpayment resulted without fault on the part of the client because the client had erroneously been informed by the Social Security Administration that she was entitled to the increased benefits before cashing the checks and, additionally, that it would represent a financial hardship to have to repay the benefits.

Marci McClellan and Marc Weinstein continued work on a case involving the sale of a used motor vehicle begun last semester which involved violations of both state and federal consumer laws, including the Deceptive Trade Practices Act.



Marci McClellan represents an elderly woman who had purchased a burial plot and a monument from an individual under contracts which were sold and assigned to a bank in Austin shortly before the seller filed for bankruptcy. Although the burial plot is secured as the seller was acting as an agent of the City of Lubbock for sale of the plot in the Lubbock City Cemetery, she had no assurance that she would receive the monument when she completed payments under the contract. Marci was able to negotiate an agreement with the bank to refund all payments made to them since the contract was assigned.

Tony Fidelie and Yolanda Sewell had completed much of the investigation of the case last semester and sent an initial demand letter. Marci and Marc were able to negotiate a settlement with the seller's attorney which waived any deficiency claim, recovered substantially all of their out-of-pocket expenses and release of a lien on another vehicle owned by the consumer which was taken as additional security for the loan.



Greta Braker and Ken Richey filed a brief in an appellate case in which our clients were convicted of delivering a controlled substance to a child. The State's position was that the clients' fetuses were "children" and that the clients' ingestion of drugs (which then passed to their fetuses through the umbilical cord) constituted "delivery." This is a case of first impression in Texas. Ken and Greta researched the law, wrote the brief, and edited it for content and form.

STUDENT SELECTION PROCESS COMPLETED

Approximately 51 students attended the mandatory meeting held February 23, 2005. Clinic faculty gave a brief summary of their individual clinics and answered questions from the students. The clinical program received a total of 94 applications. Most students were interviewed for the slots available, students were selected and offers were made by the individual clinic faculty. Selections were made for the following:

Summer Tax Clinic: Arimy Beasley, Mitzi Franks, Henry Inge, Justin Mock, Tom Sell.

2005-2006 Tax Clinic: Arimy Beasley, Nathan Daley, Lakeisha Forte, Christina Lee, Amy Ott, John Strong, Jami Swofford, and Mathew Williams.

Fall 2005 Civil Practice Clinic: Belinda Arroyo, Markus Boenig, Scott Bradney, Tanya Buler, Joshua Craven, Pamela Ferguson, Teresa Hellstern, George Hoyt, Crystal Marchesoni, Amy McCormick, Kayla Murray, Marie Rojas, Lindsay Rose, John Sallaway, Heather Scott Threadgill, Velma Solorzano, and Mary Melissa Tyroch.

Spring 2006 Civil Practice Clinic: Renee Castillo, Brandy Criswell, Jennifer Kajs, Misty King, Steven Leary, and Andrea Olivier. Additional applications will be accepted during the Fall semester to fill the remaining slots.

2005-2006 Criminal Justice Clinic: Guillermo del Barrio, Stacy Estes, D.Chris Hesse, Michael King, Jennifer Mauer, Lisa Minjarez, Sarah Roland, and Chad West.

Spring 2006 ADR Clinic: Markus Boenig, Scott Bradney, Kimberly Clark, Joshua Craven, Pamela Ferguson, Kayla Gibbs, Christian Hodges, Eric Holt, Amy McCormick, Anna McSpadden, Lindsay Rose, Jeffrey Sheets, and Mary Melissa Tyroch. Additional applications will be accepted during the Fall semester to fill the remaining slots.

Fall 2005 Innocence Project: Renee Castillo, Kimberly Clark, Misty King, Dana Lockett, Neiosha Mark, Heather McDonald. Additional applications from students are being considered.

Spring 2006 Innocence Project: Greer Ackley, Teresa Hellstern, George Hoyt, Amanda Ivey, Crystal Marchesoni, and Kayla Murray. Additional applications from students are being considered.



SNAP SHOT CORNER



Congratulations
Jason and Nikki
on the birth of
your son!



A WORD FROM OUR STUDENTS



"The clinical program has been a total learning experience. The satisfaction of helping a client - your client - is fulfilling. Professor Spain, Elma, Samirah and the rest of the professors are all great to work with. You also get to bond with other students in the clinic, and get to know them in a way that would not be possible otherwise. All in all it was great experience."

Jeff Stewart
Civil Practice Clinic



"I have really enjoyed my experience in the clinic. I have met so many wonderful people at my placement, Advocacy Inc., and I have learned so much of the practical aspects of practicing law that I didn't learn

in law school, i.e. actually creating and filing documents with the court."

Stacey Shaw
Civil Practice Clinic

"The clinic experience has been awesome! The hands-on education I have received with real live clients in real life predicaments has boosted my confidence in my ability as an advocate. It will serve as a benefit to me as well as my future clients....Thanks Larry!!"

Gay Pulner
Criminal Justice Clinic



"There is no question that participating in the Criminal Justice Clinic has been the most rewarding experience in my law school career. It puts a whole new perspective on being a lawyer. All the

research, all the drafting... now it has a purpose... the client."

Melissa Morgan
Criminal Justice Clinic

"I learned more about the law in the clinical program in one semester than I learned in any class. The clinic is a great way to get practical experience and prepare to enter the legal community."



Jason McDonald
Civil Practice Clinic

"I had a wonderful clinical experience. The clinics have allowed me to practice the law, work under difficult time constraints and with other lawyers and their support staff. I have met judges, court coordinators and clerks. I couldn't ask for a more rewarding experience."

Richard Mitchell
Civil Practice Clinic

"Working for low-income clients in the tax clinic has been an extremely valuable experience for me. The program was very well organized as well as supervised....Overall my experience has led me to recognize the value of pro bono work—why it is necessary and, furthermore, why it is fulfilling."

Holly Haseloff
Tax Clinic

"I think that the low income tax clinic is a very valuable program, both to students and to clients. I think it is a great opportunity for students to serve the community by helping low income taxpayers....Overall, I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to work in the clinic, and I have and will continue to recommend this experience to other students."

Susan Marx
Tax Clinic

"My experience in the clinical program was beneficial because it gave me the experience of dealing with cases on a day to day basis. It helps to know what a lawyer typically does on a daily basis with their caseload and how you handle your clients."

Marci McClellan
Civil Practice Clinic

WHERE ARE THEY NOW??????

Marilee Hazel - (Civil Clinic, Spring '04) - Assistant County Attorney in Paris, Lamar County, Texas. (Misdemeanor prosecutor)

Brent Sykora - (Tax Clinic, Spring '04) - Gilbreath Law Firm in San Antonio, Texas.

Dina Hardwick - (Civil Clinic, Fall '04) - living in Victoria, Texas and awaiting the bar results.

Amanda Harris - (Civil Clinic, Spring '04) - staff attorney with Legal Aid of Northwest Texas in Amarillo, Texas.

Josh Reno - (Criminal Prosecution Clinic, Spring '04) - working at the Lubbock District Attorney's Office and assigned to County Court at Law #1.

Erin Odle - (Civil Clinic, Spring '04) - Assistant County Attorney in Hereford, Deaf Smith County, Texas.

Meghan Frkuska - (Tax Clinic, Spring '04) - currently working for Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association as a clerk and awaiting February 2005 bar results for the Texas Bar.

Sarah Adams - (Criminal Prosecution Clinic, Spring '04) - Briefing Attorney for the 11th District Court of Appeals in Eastland, Texas.

Holli Ebeling - (Tax Clinic, Spring '04) - working on my Masters in Accounting

FACULTY AND STAFF

Larry R. Spain
Civil Practice Clinic

Marilyn E. Phelan
Low Income Tax Clinic

Larry Cunningham
Criminal Justice Clinic

Sonya Garza
Civil Practice Clinic

Elma Moreno
Office Manager/Legal Assistant

Samirah Abdalah
Legal Secretary

Janie Gonzales
Tax Clinic
Community Outreach Coordinator



CONGRATULATIONS MAY GRADUATES!

GOOD LUCK WITH THE BAR EXAM!!!