Law students Gabriela Corales and Aaron Baumann conducting an intake with low-wage workers at an outreach event in Yuma.

Law students Mackenzie Richardson and Livia Thevenard, with Bacon Fellow Shayna Kessler (center) tabling for the Workers’ Rights Clinic, Labor Day 2014.

Law Students Heidi Nielsen and Andy Hall with their client and her children, just after they successfully got her out of detention on bond. Since then, she has received work authorization and protection from deportation in the form of “deferred action.”

A Note from
Nina Rabin & Lynn Marcus

Thank you for taking the time to read our inaugural newsletter! We are excited to share with you a glimpse of the many activities underway in our program. We also see this as a first step in developing a network of students, community partners, alumni, and supporters of the Bacon Program. As another step in that direction, we plan to establish a listserv where we can post job opportunities, events, and other announcements of interest to the group. It will not be a constant barrage of messages (we promise!), but a good way to get helpful information out to you from time to time. If you are interested in joining the listserv, please click here.

We hope you will be a part of this electronic community. We welcome suggestions on how to grow and expand this effort, so please be in touch with your ideas and comments.

Best wishes,
MISSION STATEMENT

The Bacon Immigration Law & Policy Program generates immigration policy research, expands opportunities for students to gain exposure to immigration issues, encourages interdisciplinary engagement with immigration issues, and provides services to immigrants in Southern Arizona. The Program serves as an umbrella for the law school’s immigration-related offerings, including its Immigration Law and Workers’ Rights Clinics, doctrinal courses, internships, and opportunities to undertake supervised research on immigration issues.

LATEST NEWS

Launch of Intensive Workers' Rights Clinic--Farmworker Legal Assistance

In January 2015, law students Aaron Baumann, Maria Hubbard, Craig Cordes, and Gabriela Corrales, undergraduate Mariana Gastelum, Bacon fellow Shayna Kessler, and Nina Rabin headed to Yuma and San Luis for the first Intensive Workers’ Rights Clinic. Working with Community Legal Services and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, we organized three events for farmworkers and other low-income immigrant workers.

At each event, the law students provided Know Your Rights presentations on workplace rights, followed by confidential individual consultations. We also helped farmworkers prepare the fee waivers and applications necessary to renew their legal permanent residency cards. We are grateful to the many community advocates who took the time to speak with us about their work during our stay; it was an inspiring and unforgettable experience.

Release of Policy Report:
Out of the Shadows: Shedding Light on the Working Conditions of Immigrant Women in Tucson

This report documents, in broad strokes, the recurring hardships facing immigrant women workers. It is based on one year of field research, between April 2012 and March 2013. Law student and staff collected ninety surveys from low-wage immigrant women workers and conducted twenty-nine interviews of workers, government officials, and community leaders. The report is an effort to inform city and state stakeholders - workers, advocates, employers, government officials, and the general public - about the conditions of this vulnerable population. As detailed in the report's final section, we also identify concrete steps the city and state could take to address the recurring abuses and exploitation we document.
Human Trafficking Training

On December 5-6, 2014, the Bacon Program hosted the Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking ("CAST"), which conducted a 2-day workshop for legal practitioners, Human Trafficking 101: An Introduction to the Immigration, Criminal and Civil Remedies Available to Survivors of Trafficking. The community response was amazing: 59 attorneys participated in the training and are now prepared to take on pro bono trafficking cases. We were proud to co-sponsor this event with Southern Arizona Legal Aid (SALA), and grateful to CAST for their efforts to bring this opportunity to the Tucson legal community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Immigration Bond & Travel Fund

The Immigration Clinic has had several recent successes in which law students have represented our clients in Eloy Detention Center in their "bond hearings," in which immigration judges set monetary bonds that allows the detainees to be released and continue their proceedings while living at home with their families. Often, however, the bonds are too high for our clients, given their limited financial means. Therefore, we have decided to create an "immigration bond fund" that will allow us to fundraise for our clients to help their family members and friends secure their release. Once the immigration proceedings are complete, the bond is returned, which will allow us to apply it to a future case.

One of our current students, Kate Curl, has taken the lead with this effort, designing an online fundraiser. Our goal is to raise bond for her client, which will then be used for future clients once her removal proceedings are concluded. Please consider donating to get our bond fund off the ground! Check out Kate’s website, and/or donate directly to the Bacon Program through the drop-down menu here.

Panel Discussion on Migrant Women in Flight from Domestic Violence

Please join us for a special event on Thursday, April 23, 2015, at 4:00 pm, in Rm 168 for Fleeing Violence, Finding Prison: A Panel Discussion on How the U.S. Immigration System Treats Migrant Women in Flight from Domestic Violence. The panel discussion features three inspiring and deeply knowledgeable advocates:
• **Karen Musalo**, Professor of Law, UC Hastings and Director, Center for Gender and Refugee Studies, who has done groundbreaking work establishing domestic violence as a basis for asylum;

• **Stephen Manning**, Partner, Immigrant Law Group PC, who coordinated an unprecedented pro bono mobilization to ensure that women and children locked up in a remote family detention facility last summer received representation in immigration court; and

• **Lindsay Jenkins**, Assistant Protection Officer, UN High Commissioner for Refugees, who has worked extensively on monitoring how women in flight from violence are treated at the border.

Roxie Bacon, former Chief Counsel for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the namesake of our own Bacon Immigration Law & Policy Program, will provide introductory remarks.

Please register HERE to make sure you get a seat. If you have any questions, please contact Nina Rabin or Gloria Klinicki.

This event is made possible by the Agnese Nelms Haury Program in Environment and Social Justice.

**The Community Law Group is Hiring!**

The James E. Rogers Community Law Group (CLG) is dedicated to (1) addressing the unmet legal needs of low-income community residents in Southern Arizona by providing free legal representation; (2) helping our graduates to transition from the educational environment into the practice environment by providing continuity of legal training and experience for new James E. Rogers College of Law graduates; and (3) promoting professionalism, mentorship, and public service among James E. Rogers College of Law students and graduates.

Its staff will consist of recent James E. Rogers College of Law graduates who serve as CLG Fellows for a one-year term. CLG provides Fellows with supervision and mentoring by seasoned attorneys, as well as guidance in representing clients. CLG’s primary area of legal practice will be immigration and family law. Fellows who excel as CLG Fellows may anticipate continuing on to successful careers setting up their own solo practice, joining a small firm practice, or joining prestigious local and national legal service and advocacy organizations.

You can check out the job description and submit an application here. For more information, please contact CLG Director Negar katirai.

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Thank you for reading our inaugural newsletter. Now, share your news with us!

We hope to include alumni profiles in our next newsletter, so please email us updates and photos. We love to hear where your paths have led since graduation.