

## National Advisory Committee

### Member Biographies and Contact Information 2011-2012

**Ben Aguilar** is a 3L at Thomas Jefferson School of Law where he is the President of the International Law Society. Ben is involved in various student organizations, including Law Students for Reproductive Justice, Phi Alpha Delta, and the National Lawyers Guild. He also serves as the American Bar Association's 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Lieutenant Governor of Communications. Ben spent his first summer in law school interning at the Center for International Protection in Moscow, Russia where he assisted in providing legal aid to Russian nationals' victims of human right violations in filing complaints before the European Court of Human Rights. He spent the summer after his second year in law school taking law classes in Hangzhou, China. Ben is currently a legal intern with the American Civil Liberties Union of San Diego and Imperial Counties and the California Innocence Project. Ben received his B.A. in Sociology with a minor in Education from the University of California, Irvine in 2007.

**Dwayne Barrs Jr.** is a second year student at William and Mary School of Law, where he's involved in student organizations, such as the National Trial Team and Phi Alpha Delta. He has served as an intern for the Chief Staff Attorney's Office of the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Honorable Anthony J. Trenga of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, and the Gwinnett County Solicitor's Office and Administrative Office of the Court. In 2010, Dwayne received his B.A. in Philosophy from Furman University, where he co-founded and served as President of the Furman NAACP, was a leader in the Furman University Gospel Ensemble, and participated in the Student Judiciary and Arbitration Board.

**Monika Batra Kashyap** is Associate Director of the Access to Justice Institute for Seattle University School of Law. She collaborates with local, statewide and national social justice organizations to create projects that develop the leadership capacities and legal skills of law students; develops social justice programming within the law school curriculum; supports student-initiated initiatives related to social justice; connects law students to social justice lawyers in the local community; and develops and administers law school post-graduate fellowship programs. Before beginning with the Access to Justice Institute in 2008, Monika focused much of her time on immigration issues as an Adjunct Professor of an immigration law clinic at Seattle University, an Immigration Attorney with a law firm and an Equal Justice Works fellow working with immigrant youth in foster care at The Door Legal Services Center. She received her J.D. from the University of California at Berkeley School of

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Law and her B.A. in Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures from Columbia University. Before law school, Monika did extensive community organizing and anti-trafficking work within the South Asian domestic worker community in New York City.

**Kate Cramer Lawrence** is the Director of Public Interest Programming at the Penn State University Dickinson School of Law, and an Attorney with the Children's Advocacy Clinic. Kate manages the Miller Pro Bono Program and the Center for Public Interest Law and Advocacy; coordinates with various organizations within the law school and the greater legal community on public services initiatives and resources, including loan repayment assistance programs, bar association pro bono projects, public interest law conferences and workshops; and counsels individual students on pursuing public interest careers. She also supervises certified legal interns in the Children's Advocacy Clinic. Kate has also volunteered with several legal services and advocacy organizations and has served as a law clerk with a private firm. She received her J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law and received her B.A. in Political Science, *summa cum laude*, from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

**Celeste Davis** is a second year student at Boston University School of Law. At BU, Celeste serves as a student representative for the school's Public Service Committee and also is a career services co-coordinator for the Public Interest Project. This past summer, Celeste worked as a legislative and legal intern for the ACLU of Michigan where she helped advocate for civil liberties legislation through education, bill drafting, and legislative research. Prior to law school, Celeste received her Masters of Public Health in Health Management and Policy from the University of Michigan and directed the Community Health Division for a regional health care non-profit in Detroit. During her 1L year, she helped plan the school's first spring break pro bono service trip to Detroit. Since college, her interests have included women and children's health, HIV/AIDS, and legislative advocacy. Celeste received her B.S. in Psychology from Bennett College in 2003.

**Jill Friedman** is the Director of Pro Bono and Public Interest Program at Rutgers Law School in Camden, New Jersey, focusing on community law-related education projects. In 2010, she inaugurated a Summer Law Institute for rising high school sophomores. She also teaches professional responsibility and interviewing and counseling, and directs the law school's Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project. Early in her

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career, Jill served as a Senior Staff Attorney in the Criminal Defense Division of the Legal Aid Society in New York City. She has consulted to Planned Parenthood Southeastern Pennsylvania, Public Citizens for Children and Youth (PCCY) and Good Shepherd Mediation Program, where she co-founded a divorce and child custody mediation project serving low and middle income families. Jill earned her A.B. at Yale University and a J.D. from New York University. She is a Director of New Jersey Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and a Trustee of Camden's LEAP Academy University Charter School.

**Michelle Garcia** is a 2L at Loyola College of Law New Orleans. She serves on the executive board of the Public Interest Law Group, the Black Law Student Association, the Association of Women Law Students at Loyola. She also co-founded and serves on the executive board of the Lambda Legal Alliance in addition to overseeing a school-wide mentoring program for minority students in New Orleans. She edits for the *Loyola Law and Technology Annual* and was elected Technology Chair of Loyola's Student Bar Association. This summer Michelle was awarded a grant from the Gillis Long Poverty Law Center to work in the juvenile division of Acadiana Legal Services. Prior to law school, she worked at an elementary school in Japan digitizing a literacy library. Michelle received her B.A. in history with a specialization in medieval education in Europe and the Middle East from Loyola University New Orleans.

**Shaye Loughlin** is the Associate Director of the Center for Public Interest Law at DePaul University College of Law, where she manages the day-to-day operations of the Center and works with faculty, students and alumni on program development, event coordination, marketing, business operations, and student advising and support. Shaye also oversees the Public Interest Law Certificate program, the *Journal for Social Justice* and the Loan Repayment Assistance Program. She is a member of the Program Advisory Board for the Public Interest Law Initiative. Prior to joining the Center, Shaye worked at the Community Economic Development Law Project and volunteered with the Legal Aid Bureau of Metropolitan Family Services. Shaye has experience leading service immersion trips with the Civic Education Project at Northwestern University and worked with the Volunteer Legal Service Program's Homeless Advocacy Project in San Francisco. Shaye received her B.A. in American Studies from the University of Notre Dame and her J.D. from DePaul University College of Law.

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**Veronica Paricio** is the Director of Career Services at Roger Williams University School of Law. She counsels law students and alumni on job search and application strategies and legal career opportunities in the public and private sectors. Veronica also oversees all major career development initiatives, including the summer public interest stipend program, federal work study program, on-campus interviews, resume referral programs and career symposia. She is a member of the Advisory Board for the Feinstein Institute for Legal Service and the Loan Repayment Assistance Program, as well as a member of the Faculty Judicial Clerkship Committee. Before joining Roger Williams University School of Law in 2008, Veronica spent several years with the Office of Career Development at the University of Colorado Law School. She also has private sector experience in legal human resources and recruitment. Veronica received her B.A. in Psychology from Dartmouth College and completed Human Resources Management courses at New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies. She is fluent in Spanish.

**Bill Penn** is the Public Interest Law Coordinator at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland Oregon where he has worked since 2007. He counsels students headed toward public interest, government, and judicial clerking careers, manages Lewis & Clark's Pro Bono Program and Loan Repayment Assistance Program, encourages student leadership through Lewis & Clark's student Public Interest Law Project, and offers support and encouragement to anyone with an idea to make the world a better place. He received his B.S. in Astronomy from Caltech and a J.D. from Lewis & Clark Law School. Previously, Bill worked in private practice, doing general civil work in a firm that he opened with a fellow Lewis & Clark graduate and later at a small firm focusing on bankruptcy, tax debt issues, and consumer cases. Bill has served in a number of volunteer and service positions both during law school and since including committee work for the Multnomah Bar Association.

**Shane Dwain Smith** is a second year student at The University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law, where he is the Pro Bono Student Fellow with the Pro Bono Initiative and the Student Director of the American Indian Pro Se Legal Clinic. He received a Master of Urban Planning degree from The University of Utah in 2007 and was a long range planner for West Valley City. Shane has provided guidance on urban planning to TreeUtah, the U.S. Green Building Council and the Campus Planning Advisory Committee of The University of Utah. He has also worked with organizations, such as the Lowell Bennion Community Service Center and

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Utahns Against Hunger. Shane received a B.S. in Sociology and Certificate in Criminology, as well as a B.A. in Environment and Behavior from The University of Utah.

**Larry Spain** is Professor of Law and Director of Clinical Programs at Texas Tech University School of Law. Larry teaches a civil practice clinic, mediation clinic, professional responsibility and family law. He also recruits and coordinates faculty and students for a variety of pro bono initiatives ranging from pro bono clinics in the community to faculty-sponsored CLE programs for pro bono attorneys and public interest practitioners. Prior to coming to Texas Tech in 2001, he was a Professor and Director of Clinical Programs at the University of North Dakota School of Law for 18 years. He has a long-standing commitment to access to justice issues and has worked with a variety of professional organizations and nonprofits on pro bono and legal services delivery. Larry received his B.A. from the University of Iowa and his JD from Creighton University School of Law.

**Lauren Tetenbaum** is 3L at the Cardozo School of Law, where she leads the Advocates for Battered Women and Law Students for Reproductive Justice clubs. She graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Pennsylvania in 2007, where she interned for the Women's Law Project and participated in *The Vagina Monologues*. Lauren then returned home to New York City to pursue her Masters in Social Work from New York University while simultaneously studying law. In addition to her extracurricular activities, Lauren has interned for an employment discrimination firm, DoSomething.org, NARAL Pro-Choice NY, National Advocates for Pregnant Women, SAFER (Students Active For Ending Rape), and the New York Civil Liberties Union. This coming year, she will take part in Cardozo's Divorce Mediation Clinic as well as intern for the HIV Law Project, Safe Horizon, and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. Lauren will continue to focus on immigrants', women's, and youths' rights in her career.

**Alex Tischenko** is a 3L at Stanford Law School, where he was the Vice President of the American Constitution Society for Law & Policy and is a Public Interest Fellow at the Levin Center for Public Service & Public Interest Law and Articles Editor for the *Stanford Law & Policy Review's Redistricting Symposium*. He has also worked to enhance several pro bono projects at Stanford, including the Voting Rights Project and the San Diego Alternative Spring Break trip. Alex has volunteered for the Legal Aid Society of San Diego, the Orleans Public Defenders, Community

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Legal Services and OneJustice. He served as a summer law clerk for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and the Advancement Project. Alex was able to assist low-income clients as a student of the Youth and Education Law Project. He was also a summer associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton, and Garrison. He received his B.A. in History, *magna cum laude*, from Pomona College in 2007.

### Equal Justice Works Staff Bios

**Sally Carlson** is the Director of Communications and Outreach at Equal Justice Works, overseeing communications, law school relations and educational debt and outreach programs. Prior to joining Equal Justice Works, she was the Director of Communications for Kidsave International, a non-profit organization dedicated to finding permanent families for older orphans and children living in foster care. Before relocating to Washington in 2007, Sally lived in Massachusetts where she ran her own consulting company for 15 years, providing marketing communications expertise to a diverse client list that included Massachusetts General Hospital, Old Mother Hubbard Dog Food, the Essex National Heritage Commission/National Park Service and the Addison Gallery of American Art at Phillips Academy - Andover. She was a member of the board of directors of the YWCA in Newburyport, MA, where she served two years as President. Sally received her B.A. in Communication Studies from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst.

**Charlene Gomes** is a Senior Program Manager overseeing the *Equal Justice Works Guide to Law Schools*, an online resource providing information on hands-on opportunities and other public interest resources at over 150 law schools in the United States. Prior to joining Equal Justice Works, Charlene spent ten years administering pro bono and public interest legal programs for law students and attorneys. She is a founding board member of Mentoring Today, a nonprofit organization serving DC youth before and after they are released from incarceration. Charlene is a 2000 graduate of George Mason University School of Law, and received a B.A. in English *cum laude* with a concentration in French and gender studies from Mary Washington College in 1993.

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**Isaac Bowers** is a Senior Program Manager responsible for Equal Justice Works educational debt relief initiatives. An expert on educational debt relief, Isaac writes a weekly blog for U.S. News, conducts monthly webinars for a wide range of audiences, advises employers, law schools and professional organizations, and works with Congress and the Department of Education on Federal legislation and regulations. Prior to joining Equal Justice Works, he was a Fellow at Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP in San Francisco, where he represented citizen groups and local agencies in environmental litigation and land use and planning issues. Isaac received his J.D. from New York University School of Law.

**Radhika Singh Miller** is a Program Manager focusing on educational debt relief initiatives. An expert on educational debt relief, Radhika served on the Student Loans Team in the Negotiated Rulemaking for the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (CCRAA) in 2008 and has extensive knowledge of this landmark legislation. She contributes to a weekly blog for U.S. News, conducts educational webinars and presentations, advises schools, employers and professional organizations, and advocates for legislation and policy. Prior to joining Equal Justice Works, Radhika was a staff attorney at the Partnership for Civil Justice in Washington, DC, focusing on constitutional and civil rights litigation and advocacy. Radhika received her J.D. from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles and her B.A. in Political Science from American University.

**Lauren Fuchs** is the Law School Program and Member Services Specialist for Equal Justice Works. She was previously a Client & Practice Development Assistant for Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP in Washington, DC and also served as a press intern for the Office of Senator John Kerry. Lauren received her M.A. in Political Science from American University and her B.A. in Communications/Public Relations from Salisbury University.

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