

## Cardozo Celebrates Its 30th Commencement

Student speaker  
Jason Auerbach '08



Yeshiva University President  
Richard Joel, Commencement  
Speaker Hon. Dennis Jacobs,  
Yeshiva University Chancellor  
Norman Lamm, Board Vice Chair  
Bonnie Steingart '79, and  
Dean David Rudenstine



Calling on graduates to “challenge yourself without defeating yourself,” Chief Judge Dennis Jacobs of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit gave the keynote address at Cardozo’s 30th commencement. As in previous years, the ceremony was held at Avery Fisher Hall of Lincoln Center and was attended by family and friends, who celebrated the awarding of degrees to the class of 2008, which included 363 J.D. candidates and 70 LL.M. candidates.

Judge Jacobs, a native New Yorker who was appointed to the Second Circuit in 1992, when he was a partner in the New York law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, became chief judge in 2006. He was instrumental in organizing a lively and memorable conversation that took place at Cardozo in March 2007 among members of the Cardozo faculty and several judges of the Second Circuit on the utility of academic law reviews. Dean David Rudenstine, in introducing Judge Jacobs, said “I have not met his equal,” and went on to call him thoughtful, forthright, and courageous.

The ceremony was highlighted as well by Jason Auerbach’s address to his classmates. He said, “There is no real ending today...merely part of a much grander journey. It is a time to reflect, and to be proud of what we have accomplished.” The Monrad Paulsen Award for devoted service

to the continued vitality of the ideals and purposes of legal education was awarded to Norma Feld, assistant librarian, who has worked at Cardozo since 1986.

Itai Maytal, vice president of the Student Bar Association, announced the awards for notable administrators and faculty as voted on by the students: best administrator to Judy Mender, dean of students; best professor to Stewart Sterk; best first-year professor to Peter Goodrich; and best adjunct professor to Burton Lipshie, who wins the award virtually every year. Amy Sugin, director of graduate and international programs, was recognized for outstanding assistance to the student body.

At a ceremony the evening before commencement, students were honored for scholastic excellence and contributions to the Cardozo community. In addition, Prof. Marci Hamilton received the E. Nathaniel Gates Award for outstanding academic work and for public advocacy that contributes to the achievement of equal justice under the law, and Prof. Michel Rosenfeld received the Telford Taylor Award for outstanding achievement in the field of constitutional law. Top academic honors and the Order of the Coif designation (top 10 percent of the class) were announced in June. Joseph D. Mueller received the Louis D. Brandeis Award for the highest grade point average.

After the students receive their diplomas from Dean Rudenstine and YU President Richard Joel, academic hoods are placed over their heads by members of the faculty and administration. This year, special hoodings marked some particularly noteworthy University relationships. They included YU Chancellor Norman Lamm hooding his granddaughter, Tamar Warburg; Prof. William Schwartz hooding his granddaughter, Jessica Jacobs; and Mark Yagerman, a graduate of Cardozo’s class of 1979, hooding his son, Evan Yagerman.

Dean Rudenstine hosted a postcommencement reception at the Law School that was attended by several hundred graduates and their families and friends.

RIGHT: LL.M. graduate Olga Gromyko from Belarus and her brother, who is wearing her cap and gown



ABOVE: Erin Russ, winner of the National Association of Women Lawyers Award for Outstanding Graduate

FAR LEFT: Megan Jack, winner of the Stanley H. Beckerman Public Interest Award, and Timothy Yip, winner of the ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award

LEFT: Yeshiva University Chancellor Norman Lamm hoods his granddaughter, Tamar Warburg



RIGHT: Dean Michael Herz and Lawrence Bluestone, winner of the Benjamin N. Cardozo Writing Award—Best Written Work for Civil Advocacy. Bluestone graduated with the second highest GPA in the class.

FAR RIGHT: Gaynor Cunningham, winner of the Archie A. Gorfinkel Award; Alexandra (Sasha) Wiener, winner of a Jacob Burns Medal; Sarah Resnick, president of the Public Interest Law Students Association; and Paula Birnberg, winner of the Jonathan A. Weiss Award for Public Interest Law



**JOSEPH MUELLER WINS TOP HONORS, ORDER OF THE COIF ANNOUNCED**

Students from the 2008 graduating class received awards and honors for academic excellence and contributions to the Cardozo community at a ceremony held in the Jacob Burns Moot Court Room the day before commencement. Joseph D. Mueller received the Louis Brandeis Award for graduating first in the class. Mueller and Lawrence Bluestone graduated summa cum laude. Announcement of those receiving the Order of the Coif was made on July 1 by Vice Dean Michael Herz.

**CLASS OF 2008 ORDER OF THE COIF**

- |                        |                           |                           |                        |
|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Joshua B. Abrams       | Dana L. Gale              | Rachel M. Kurth           | Jennifer D. Sapp       |
| Carissa L. Alden       | Ezra S. Greenberg         | Benjamin P. Lesnak        | Daniel Shternfeld      |
| Jason A. Auerbach      | Christina T. Holder       | Elaine S. Mekhlin         | Benjamin J. Steele     |
| Laura K. Barandes      | Christopher Howell-Little | Jaclyn M. Metzinger       | Evan S. Storm          |
| Christopher B. Benecke | Zeba A. Huq               | Christopher M. Migliaccio | Marcia V. Valente      |
| Lawrence Bluestone     | Vera M. Kachnowski        | Joseph D. Mueller         | Jason L. Wojciechowski |
| Talia S. Bony          | Russell L. Kameron        | Alice Rose Nasar          | Cody L. Wright         |
| Gaynor L. Cunningham   | Jessica Reingold Katz     | Megan Pendleton           | Timothy H. Yip         |
| Selina M. Ellis        | Cassie L. Kimmelman       | Joseph Philip             |                        |
| Ira M. Friedman        | Erica Smolow Koenig       | Judith Sara Portnoy       |                        |



Hon. Eileen Rakower '84 and David Gerson, former OUTlaw alumni chair

## Justice Eileen A. Rakower '84 Receives E. Nathaniel Gates Award

Cardozo OUTLaw honored Eileen A. Rakower '84, acting Supreme Court Justice, Civil Term, New York County, with the E. Nathaniel Gates Award.

"Justice Rakower was selected because of her many personal and professional achievements," said David Gerson '09, OUTlaw alumni chair 2007–2008. "She has blazed her own trail in becoming a New York State Supreme Court judge, and was an early pioneer for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents and families."

The Gates Award was presented at an alumni reception in April in the Greenberg Center for Student Life. The event was generously sponsored by Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, and cosponsored by the Offices of Alumni Affairs and Career Services.

## LL.M. Alumni Start New Interviewing Skills Program

Sharon Herman '06, an associate at Shearman & Sterling, and Robert Doerfler '07, general counsel at SVP Worldwide, are the masterminds behind a new LL.M. Interviewing Program that will pair incoming students with an LL.M. alumnus/a for two interview sessions.

Designed to help students prepare for their job search, the first session, which will take place during the fall semester, is an informational interview; the second session, during the spring semester, is a mock interview. In each instance, students will be coached by the Office of Career Services on how to prepare, what to do during the interview, and how to follow up.

LL.M. alumni interested in participating in this new program should contact Amy Sugin at [sugin@yu.edu](mailto:sugin@yu.edu).

## THREE STUDENTS NAMED IN LANGFAN ORATORY COMPETITION

The annual Langfan Family Constitutional Oratory Competition was established in 1999 and recognizes student excellence in public speaking and rhetoric. Winners are awarded cash prizes.

Judges for the final round were Dayna Langfan '87; Robert W. Bennett, a visiting professor from Northwestern Law; and Christopher Meade, a partner at Wilmer Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP.



Winners of the 2008 Langfan Competition were (from left) Sekou Campbell '10, third place; Debbie Silberman '10, first place; and Brian Baum '08, second place. They are shown here with Dayna Langfan '87.

## Alumni Celebrate Milestone Reunions

The classes of 1988, 1993, 1998, and 2003 celebrated their reunions in May at the Fifth Avenue Ballroom. The joint reception featured good food, live music, and the chance to catch up with old friends. All photo captions read from left.



# 1993

Morris Sabbagh,  
Dara Goldschmidt Iryami,  
Jessica Klotz, Perry Lattiboudere,  
Kirsten Behrens, and  
Matthew Cahn

# 2003

Tricia Cohen Pantzer,  
Wendy Modlin, and  
Suzanne Horowitz



# 1998



Vivien Naim '88,  
Prof. Stewart Sterk, and  
Eric Hochstadt '03



Carrie Gordon,  
Carin Muhlbaum,  
Benjamin Kaufman,  
Joel Muhlbaum,  
Keith Moskowitz, and  
Allen Applbaum

# 1988

## ALUMNI news & notes

### Class of 1983 Celebrates Its 25th

More than 70 members of the class of 1983 came together in June to mark their 25-year reunion. Amy Kroll and Adam Krim presented Dean Rudenstine with a class gift; Jay Ziffer spoke on behalf of the class, bringing back memories of Cardozo's early years.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:  
Dean David Rudenstine, Amy Kroll, and Adam Krim



Lillian Laserson and Lonnie Rosenberg  
  
Randi Weingarten, Dean Rudenstine, and Helen Irwin, who traveled from Los Angeles to attend.

Eric and Gail Cohen

The class of 1983



# CLASSactions

## 1979

**Jerry H. Goldfeder** joined Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP litigation and government relations practice as a special counsel. Mr. Goldfeder most recently served as special counsel to New York State Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo, where his portfolio included public integrity matters. He was a trial and appellate attorney in private practice for more than 25 years and also served as special counsel to the New York State Senate Democratic Conference under then-Senator David Paterson.

## 1984

**James Kosakow** was named to *Worth Magazine's* list of Top 100 Attorneys in the nation.

### ALUMNI DIRECTORY TO BE PUBLISHED

The Office of Alumni Affairs, in cooperation with Publishing Concepts, Inc. (PCI), updated the alumni database, providing current information, enhanced services for networking, and a resource to help students find support and advice.

Those who purchase the printed Alumni Directory or the CD-ROM will receive them in May 2009. All graduates will continue to have free access to the online directory through the Alumni Online Community. Register today at [www.cardozo.yu.edu/onlinecommunity](http://www.cardozo.yu.edu/onlinecommunity) for a calendar of events, alumni news, and more.

## 1987

**Sanford J. Hausler** married Rachel Peterman in July. He is of counsel at Cox Padmore Skolnik & Shakarchy LLP in New York.

**Eric D. Herschmann** was appointed president and chief operating officer of Southern Union Company. Based in Houston, it is one of the nation's leading diversified natural gas companies. Herschmann has been with the company since 1996, serving as senior executive vice president since November 2005 and as counsel since 1996. He was national litigation counsel in 1999 and the company's interim general counsel from January 2005 through October 2007.

**Robert Rediker** joined GoldenTree InSite as director of asset management. The firm invests in global real estate opportunities and Mr. Rediker is responsible for overseeing the management of its diverse real estate portfolio. Rediker spent nearly 20 years at Forest City Ratner Companies in a number of management positions prior to taking his new job.

## 1990

**Janice Schacter**, featured in the previous issue of *Cardozo Life*, was appointed by Governor David Paterson of New York as a member of the new Interagency Council for Services to the Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing.

**Howard Weller**, previously with Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal, joined the New York office of Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp, which is headquartered in Los Angeles. The firm's clients include Jay-Z, Kanye West, Andrew Lloyd Webber, and The Beatles.

## 1994

**Mary M. Chang** joined the New York office of Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP. She practices civil litigation and has particular expertise in real estate, product liability, and insurance coverage litigation.

## 1995

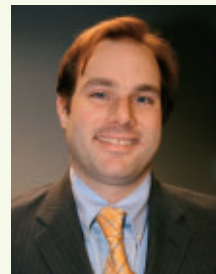
**Ross Brady** is a senior attorney for the Interstate Environmental Commission, a joint agency of the states of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

**Laura Lewis** is the chief development officer at the Hebrew Home in Riverdale. Previously, she was the executive director of the Westchester chapter of the American Jewish Committee.

## 1997

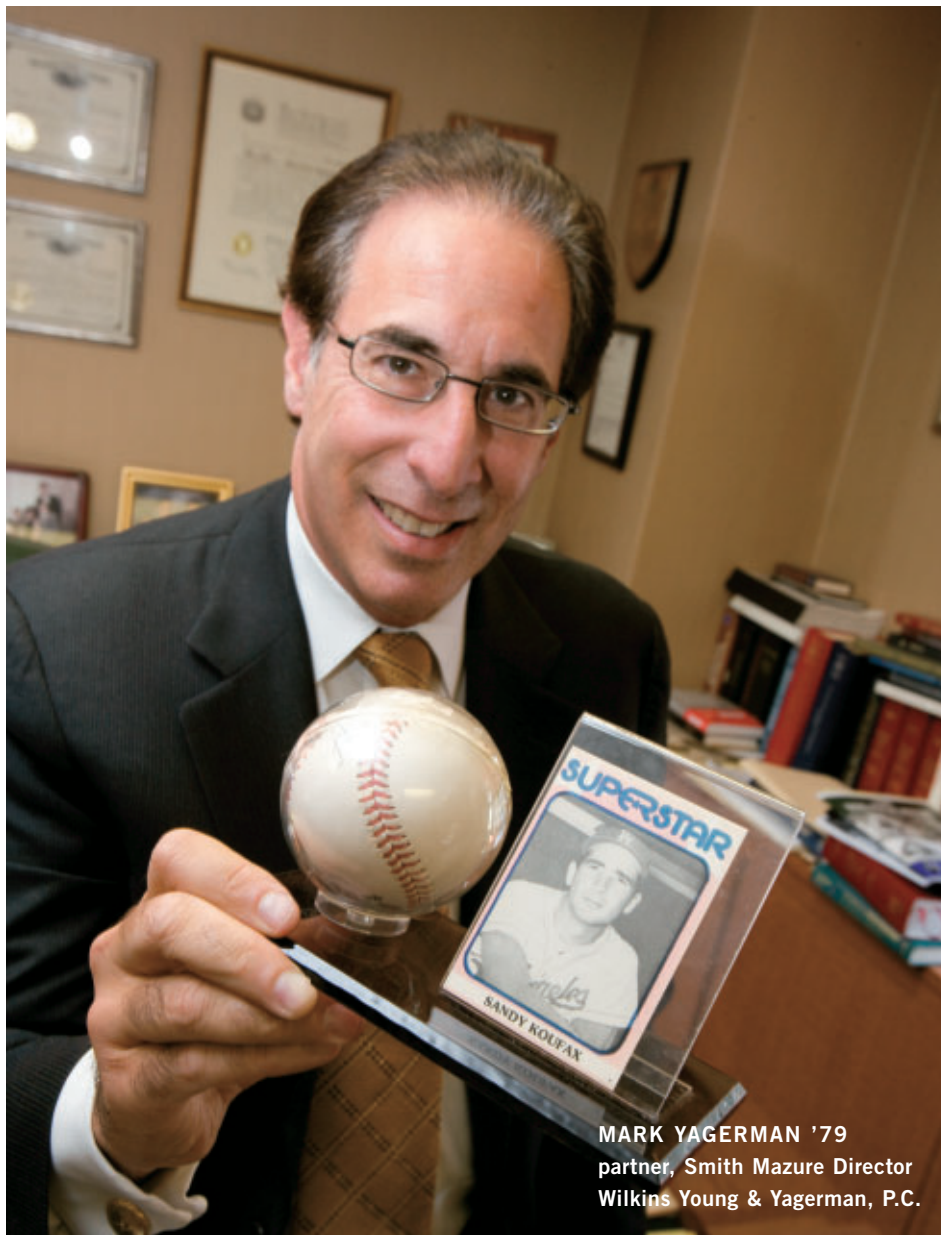
**Paul Catsandonis** is a matrimonial lawyer currently representing Shaniqua Tompkins, the former girlfriend of rapper 50 Cent. Catsandonis is involved in such New York City community groups as the West Side Neighborhood Association and the Lincoln Park Advisory Committee.

**Adam James Halper** married Dr. Jennifer Berson in April. He is director of legal services at the Family Center, a nonprofit agency in Manhattan that provides legal and social services to families affected by serious illness.



**Joshua A. Marcus** became a partner in Franklin, Gringer & Cohen PC, practicing in the areas of labor and employment law, commercial law, and litigation. He has advised and represented clients in litigation concerning employment discrimination, sexual harassment, employee benefits, and related matters. He is the coauthor of an article for the *New York Law Journal* on the Americans with Disabilities Act, and wrote a note for the *Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal*.

## FOCUS ON: mark yagerman



**MARK YAGERMAN '79**  
partner, Smith Mazure Director  
Wilkins Young & Yagerman, P.C.

### **How do you like managing your own firm?**

Very much. The challenge is to stay competitive and deliver quality legal services. My three partners and I focus on maintaining business and acquiring new clients.

### **What's the biggest advantage to being your own boss?**

I can set the tone for the office by working hard and

providing a vision. I am a firm believer in leading by example. I will not ask anybody to do something that I would not do myself. I believe that great ideas come from different sources, so I always reach out to others who can provide advice or help.

### **Can you offer some advice for those looking to start their own firms?**

Be focused about the area of law you want to practice; choose carefully the people you associate with and the client base you want to represent. Have a vision for the future. If you have a knack for getting business and you like your area of practice, run with it. Build slowly, develop a strong base and reputation, and don't overextend yourself. Also, be true to your own ideals.

### **What was your favorite law school class?**

My favorites were procedure classes. I enjoyed Evidence, Civil Procedure, Conflicts, New York Practice, and Criminal Procedure 1 and 2.

### **Who was your most influential law school professor?**

Peter Lushing. He gave some incredibly important advice: "Substantive law you can read in a hammock, but procedure you really have to know cold if you practice law."

### **What's your favorite summer activity?**

Going upstate to my house on a lake. It is so quiet and peaceful. I go bass fishing, play golf, or take leisurely walks with my wife.

### **Do you have any career regrets?**

No, I always wanted to be a trial lawyer. After law school I worked for the New York City Transit Authority Law Department in the Torts Division. In 1985, I joined a very small firm and participated in its growth to 40 lawyers with offices in New Jersey, Manhattan, and Long Island. Trying jury cases is a constant reaffirmation of the Seventh Amendment, which I fully believe in.

### **Tell us about your typical workday.**

I wake up early and prepare for trial testimony, then go to court and do trial work. Afterward, I meet with witnesses and deal with



office-related matters—bills, new case in-take, and phone calls and emails from clients. Then I prepare for the next day in court.

**What's your favorite part of being a lawyer?**

Getting the verdict is very exciting, but my favorite time is after summation, when I can reflect upon the case and how it went. While the jury is out deliberating, it's a time filled with real anxiety.

**What is the most challenging aspect of your job?**

Getting a case ready for trial on a moment's notice. It takes a great deal of energy to mobilize quickly.

**And the biggest surprise about being a lawyer?**

The good guy does not always win. As Isaiah said, "Justice, Justice, Justice you shall pursue." It is our job to keep trying to get it right.

**What did you want to be when you were five?**

A baseball player. While I was growing up in Brooklyn, my idol was Sandy Koufax. I still have a picture of him in my office; he represents to me "quiet excellence."

**Do you have a favorite sports team?**

The New York Mets. I always love the underdog.

**What gadget can't you live without?**

Nonelectronic, a corkscrew; electronic, the television clicker or my Blackberry.



**Do you have a memorable law school moment?**

Going through the doors of 55 Fifth Avenue for the first time; being part of a brand-new law school. We all knew the school was going to succeed.

**What about a moment as a Cardozo alumnus?**

My biggest thrill was "hooding" my son, Evan, at graduation this year. As a member of the first graduating class, being able to see my son graduate from the same institution was incredibly memorable.



**Do you want your son, Evan, to practice with you?**

Sure, if he wants to put up with me. It would be an honor. I would hope he could take the practice to another level.

**What course do you wish you had taken in law school?**

Evan was in the Innocence

Project with Barry Scheck. I would have liked to have had that opportunity.

**What stood out most about Evan's education at Cardozo compared to yours?**

Evan's course curriculum was more diverse and the clinical choices were more varied. Also, Cardozo now provides a sophisticated trial program, programs in arbitration and mediation, and opportunities to study abroad. When I went to law school, I worked 20 to 30 hours a week at an outside job, which provided real-world experience. Now you can get work experience through Cardozo's clinics. That is an incredible advantage.



**What vacation spot would you like to visit?**

My favorite places are Jerusalem, Florence, and Capri. I would like to go to the Philippines and see where my father fought during World War II.

**If you could do it all over, what would you do differently?**

One small regret was not pursuing my interest in politics and possibly running for office. However, the prospect of being away from my wife and kids for prolonged periods of time was not appealing, and the balance I find in my life while practicing law has been very comfortable for me.

**How do you typically spend Sunday mornings?**

I get up early, get the Sunday paper, and go to synagogue and say Kaddish for my father, who recently passed away. I come home and take a leisurely walk with my wife. I then review new cases and think about the coming week.

**What book do you have on your nightstand?**

I always have the Book of Psalms on my nightstand. I also have either a mystery/suspense novel or a history book.

**Any thoughts for Cardozo's future dean?**

Wow, that's a tough question. Dean Rudenstine certainly has left some big shoes to fill. Cardozo needs somebody with great intelligence, communication skills, and the ability to attract quality faculty and raise funds.

**What would you say is the most dramatic change at Cardozo since you studied here?**

It's a completely different school physically. Now, the lobby is very dramatic and the Moot Court Room is beautiful and enhanced with technology. The student center, library, and classrooms are extremely comfortable. However, the core values at Cardozo have not changed. We had a fabulous faculty: Dean Paulsen, and wonderful professors such as Eva Hanks, Peter Lushing, Telford Taylor, and Stewart Sterk. The legal education we received was terrific. ■

## 1998

**Valerie L. Boccadoro** married Sanford Craig Fink in June. She is a legal analyst at Bloomberg LP in New York City. She is also president of the New Jersey region of the American Jewish Congress.

**Jarred I. Kassenoff** joined Cozen O'Connor in the firm's New York office. He is in the commercial litigation practice group, concentrating on complex commercial real estate disputes, insolvency issues, and zoning and tax matters. He has published articles in the *Landlord-Tenant Practice Reporter*, the *New York State Bar Association Journal*, and the *New York Law Journal*.

**Jonathan Scott Levy** married Rebecca Lynne Erber in April. He is a vice president and senior counsel of RBC Capital Markets Corporation, a Manhattan-based subsidiary of the Royal Bank of Canada.

**Marlene M. Markard** has formed In the Pink, Inc. (ITPI), a New York not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping breast cancer patients and survivors reduce the risk of bacterial infection to avoid the onset of lymphedema and cellulitis, two of the most common, long-lasting, and potentially life-threatening after-effects of breast cancer treatment.

## 2000

**Carlo Abad** was appointed a judge of the Jersey City Municipal Court in June 2008. He took his oath before Superior Court Judge Frederick DeVesa.

**Batya Goodman** joined Greenberg Traurig LLP as an associate in the Boca Raton, FL office focusing on mergers and acquisitions, general corporate transaction work, private equity transactions, and financing transactions.



New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson with Harry Valetk '00 in Madrid

**Harry A. Valetk** is the corporate privacy director for MetLife, working closely with US operations to protect personal information. He also leads MetLife's strategic efforts to address security breaches. Valetk previously worked for the Entertainment Software Rating Board, where he led the interactive game industry's efforts to protect children. Valetk recently visited Madrid as part of a group of 60 prominent Hispanic leaders for the third Hispanic Leaders' Convention, organized by Spanish government officials to strengthen ties and open new areas of cooperation between Spain and the growing US Hispanic community.

## 2001

**Eric Ebenstein** joined the American Electronics Association (AEA) as a manager and counsel for domestic policy issues, and is the group's southeast regional director. He will split his time between state-level e-commerce issues and federal policy topics. Prior to working at the AEA,

Ebenstein was a trial attorney for the US Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

**Dr. Athena Karamanlis** was designated a certified fraud examiner in July by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the world's leading provider of antifraud training and education.

## 2003

**Eva Canaan** is an associate at Phillips Lytle LLP in the firm's science-based practice group, focusing on pharmaceutical litigation.

**Christian Palmieri** is director, in-house counsel, for Tommy Hilfiger USA in New York City.

### CLASS OF 2011 SETS LEGACY RECORD

As a whole new group of J.D. candidates begin their studies, we have discovered that there is a record number whose parents are Cardozo alumni.

We welcome the following members of the class of 2011 and congratulate their parents:

Michael Berkey, son of Rachel Berkey '89

Deborah Bernstein, daughter of Susan Bernstein '80

Lloyd Gladstone, son of Roger Gladstone '81

Jennifer Haberman, daughter of Paul Haberman '92

Orrie Levy, son of Lynn Goodman '84

Share your Cardozo connections with us at [cardozoalumni@yu.edu](mailto:cardozoalumni@yu.edu).

## Cardozo Offers Many CLE Programs

Last spring, Cardozo's continuing legal education programs featured experts on such legal issues as Jewish divorce, managing experts, real estate negotiation, and patent issues in biotechnology, drawing record numbers of alumni and members of the legal community.

Cardozo is a New York State accredited provider of continuing legal education, offering workshops, panels, and conferences. For more information, visit the Cardozo Web site or e-mail [cardozocle@yu.edu](mailto:cardozocle@yu.edu).



Cardozo Alumni Association and Hadassah cosponsored a CLE program on Intellectual Property and Patent Issues at the Cutting Edge of Biotechnology. Pictured here are the presenter Amy Schofield (center) and program coordinators Ruth Gursky '80 and Sallie Kraus '91.



## BALLSA Establishes Alumni Group

In April, the Cardozo Alumni Association's newest affinity group, BALLSA Alumni, held a kickoff reception at Canvas Paper & Stone, an art gallery in Harlem owned by Averlyn Archer '93. The group, which is composed of former members of the Black, Asian, Latino Law Students Association (now known as the Minority Law Students Association), will continue to promote diversity at Cardozo through events and programs for alumni and students. Plans also call for the establishment of a BALLSA Scholarship Fund.

To become more involved with BALLSA Alumni or to contribute to the BALLSA Scholarship Fund, write Casandra Tolentino at [tolentin@yu.edu](mailto:tolentin@yu.edu).

Glenda Dixon '92, Averlyn Archer '93, Dean David Rudenstine, and Susan John '94

## Spring 2009 Class Reunions

Gala events will mark milestone reunions for the classes of 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004 next spring. Reconnect and reminisce with classmates. Watch your mail for more details or visit [www.cardozo.yu.edu/reunion](http://www.cardozo.yu.edu/reunion) for updates. To join your class reunion committee, e-mail [Cardozoalumni@yu.edu](mailto:Cardozoalumni@yu.edu) or call 212-790-0293.



## Join or Start a Practice Area Group

The Alumni Association is providing enhanced networking opportunities for graduates in different practice areas. The Real Estate Practice Group, cochaired by Leo Genn '98 and the Honorable David Cohen '92, held a mock negotiation and reception in June. The Intellectual Property Practice Group, cochaired by Charles Minkoff '03 and Stephen Kampmeier '02, hosts social and professional programs for graduates. A Tax Practice Group, led by Howard Schneck '95, and a Bankruptcy Group led by Gordon Novod '01 and Shai Waisman '96 are in formation. To join an existing group or propose a new one, please contact Casandra Tolentino, manager of alumni programs, at 212-790-0293 or [tolentin@yu.edu](mailto:tolentin@yu.edu).

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### NOVEMBER 20

Third Annual Toy Drive and Wrapping Party

#### NOVEMBER 23

Parents Brunch

#### DECEMBER 3

Dean's Leadership Circle Reception

#### JANUARY 22

Alumni Association Annual Meeting

#### FEBRUARY 5

BALLSA Alumni Dinner in honor of Justice Dianne T. Renwick '86, New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division

#### APRIL 2

Public Service Auction

## 2004

**Yaacov Brisman** joined Scarinci Hollenbeck in the firm's labor and employment law group. Based in the Lyndhurst office, he works in the areas of employment policies and procedures, collective bargaining issues, grievance arbitrations, employment discrimination, and employment-related litigation before administrative agencies and state and federal courts.

**Andrew J. Chamberlain** joined Scarinci Hollenbeck's environmental and land-use law group and works from the firm's Lyndhurst office. His practice includes compliance, permitting remediation, litigation, and counseling.

## 2006

**Konstantinos Gasidis** has joined Willkie Farr, & Gallagher LLP as a Greek legal analyst, investigating possible breaches to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) overseas.

**Jeremy Seth Keenan** and Lisa Sydney Seliger were married in July at the Winterthur Museum and Country Estate in Delaware. He is an associate in the real estate group at Jones Day.

## 2007

**Matthew D. Asbell**, a first-year associate at the international intellectual property firm of Ladas & Parry LLP, cowrote an article entitled "Combining Trademarks in a Jointly Owned IP Holding Company" with Lanning G. Bryer, a firm partner, that was published in the *Trademark Reporter* in June 2008 (Vol. 98, No. 3). Matthew cowrote "Second Circuit Holds In-State Goodwill Required for New York Unfair Competition Claim" with Bharati Bakshani, another firm partner. The case brief was published in the spring/summer 2008 edition of "Bright Ideas," the newsletter of the intellectual property section of the New York State Bar Association.

**Darron E. Berquist** joined the New York office of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer PA as an associate on the mass tort/class-action team. Wilentz has one of the leading teams in asbestos and toxic injury litigation, fighting for workers and citizens injured by environmental exposure.

**Yarona Y. Liang** is an associate in the New Jersey firm of Anslow and Jaclin, practicing international corporate finance with a primary emphasis on public and private securities offerings.

## 2008

**Tom Braegelmann** is an associate with McLaughlin & Stern in New York City. He married Petra Anders, a lecturer at the University of Bremen, Germany.

**Jorge Cancio Melia** has returned to Spain, where he is the legal and policy advisor on information society issues at the Spanish Ministry for Industry, Tourism, and Commerce.

**Nelly Olas** has joined the intellectual property department of the Paris office of Baker McKenzie.

**Kymerly Robinson** is a family law attorney at Shafer Cohen LLP in Boca Raton, FL.



**CHICAGO ALUMNI RECEPTION** For the first time, Cardozo graduates gathered in the windy city in May for a reception hosted by Monte Dube '81, partner and chairman of the health law department at McDermott Will & Emory (see p. 43). Prof. Barton Beebe was a featured guest and spoke about some of Cardozo's latest offerings in intellectual property and new global initiatives.

## CARDOZO WOMEN Launch New Season

CARDOZO WOMEN kicked off its 2008–09 series of events with a midsummer breakfast meeting featuring Debra Peltz '97 of Sotheby's International Real Estate and Melissa Cohn of Manhattan Mortgage, who spoke on the timely topic "Trends in New York City's Residential Real Estate Market." The event was organized by Bobbi Langer '82, a member of the CARDOZO WOMEN steering committee.

In September, an enthusiastic crowd of alumnae attended the fall networking event. A panel discussion organized and moderated by Loretta Gastwirth '82 tackled the topic "Perspectives on Personal Injury Practice." Plaintiff's attorneys Shoshana Bookson '82 of the Law Office of Shoshana T. Bookson and Lisa Nathanson Busch '93 of Weiss & Luxenberg PC, and defense attorney Marisa Viscelli Goetz '82 of Faust, Goetz, Schenker, and Blee, were panelists.

Forums for students, organized in conjunction with the Office of Career Services, are planned for January 2009 and will be designed in two tracks—one for first-year students, who are just beginning to build their careers, and the other for second- and third-year students, who are making the transition to professional careers.

Alumnae wishing to participate as panelists in the forums can find more information at [www.cardozo.yu.edu/cardozowomen](http://www.cardozo.yu.edu/cardozowomen).



Debra Peltz '97, Bobbi Langer '82, and Melissa Cohn

## NEW FUND WILL SUPPORT PUBLIC SERVICE INITIATIVES

A fund has been established to recognize and support the many public service initiatives advanced by David Rudenstine during his tenure as dean. The David Rudenstine Public Service Fund will provide scholarships, public interest summer stipends, loan repayment assistance, and support international human rights programs and other projects that promote experiences in the public sector.

Alumni, parents, and friends are invited to contribute to the fund to ensure the continued growth of these programs. Donations to the David Rudenstine Public Service Fund may be mailed to Barbara Birch, Office of Alumni Affairs, Cardozo School of Law, 55 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10003.



Mark Lieberman '84

## MARK LIEBERMAN '84 ADDRESSES STUDENTS

The Dean's Speaker Series gives students the chance to hear from Cardozo graduates and others about their career paths and the ways in which law degrees have helped shape them. In March, Mark Lieberman '84 gave his perspective on the "principles of good entrepreneurship," emphasizing how his law degree, coupled with a strong background in intellectual property, helped him at each successive stage of his career. Lieberman is chairman/CEO of TRA (True ROI Accountability for Media), a media and research company, and managing director of Hudson Abel Partners LLC, a boutique media and technology investment bank.

## Laurie M. Tisch Donates \$5 Million to Endow Loan Repayment Assistance Program

A \$5 million gift from prominent philanthropist Laurie M. Tisch will make it possible for many Cardozo graduates to pursue careers in public interest/public service law by providing “forgivable loans” to assist them in overcoming their debt.

The new Laurie M. Tisch Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP), announced at the September meeting of the Cardozo Board, was established through the Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund. “This is a transformative gift,” said Dean David Rudenstine. “It completely changes the face of our current loan repayment assistance program and ensures that our graduates can continue to work for the public good. Such work is a sterling affirmation of our commitment to equality, social justice, and humanistic and intellectual values.”

The Laurie M. Tisch LRAP will annually benefit



about 60 Cardozo graduates who have full-time public service law-related jobs and incomes of less than \$60,000. Recipients will receive an average annual grant of \$4,500 and a total of \$22,500 over five years. For graduates who owe \$100,000, this will result in an approximate 23 percent

reduction of that debt.

Employment statistics for the class of 2007 show that 64 of the 342 graduates are working in either government or public service. Of them, 56 took out student loans collectively totaling nearly \$6 million; 30 of the 56 borrowed in excess of \$100,000.

Ms. Tisch, whose daughter is Emily Tisch Sussman '08, noted that she comes from a family in which “public service was immensely important; it was instilled in all of us from the time we were children. This gift to Cardozo builds on that family legacy.”

She stressed that the public sector—whether it be legal assistance services, the District Attorney’s office, government, human rights groups, or not-for-

profit organizations—should not be deprived of some of the best and brightest legal minds coming out of law school. “The goal of my gift is to provide access and opportunity for these top graduates to pursue such jobs and work for the common good, while not having to worry about being able to meet their outstanding financial obligations.”

The Office of Student Finance estimates that Cardozo students can expect to spend about \$70,000 a year for tuition and living expenses. Eighty percent of Cardozo’s class of 2008 graduated with an average debt of \$105,000. Conversely, the average public service salary for a 2008 graduate is expected to remain at the same level as 2007, some \$40,000.

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## Cardozo Reports a Record-Breaking Year for Fundraising

Cardozo recorded an unprecedented \$10.5 million in new gifts and pledges during the 2008 fiscal year—a 31 percent increase over 2007.

Dean Rudenstine said that the \$10,524,797 generated was more than had ever been raised in any one year during his time as dean. He cited the “great team,” including Yeshiva University President Richard Joel, Vice President for Institutional Advancement Daniel Forman, Cardozo Board Chair Kathy Greenberg '82, and Cardozo's Director of Institutional Advancement Patricia Weiss, who worked collaboratively to achieve the success.

This fundraising milestone is an important benchmark as the Law School prepares for a capital campaign and seeks new funds to strengthen its scholarship and academic programs, enlarge the faculty, expand clinic opportunities, enhance global initiatives, and make an already dynamic educational program better. “Raising over \$10.5 million this year is a very good indicator that our community—our Board, alumni, parents, and friends—will pull together to generate the necessary philanthropic support for Cardozo's continued growth and success,” said Dean Rudenstine.

The following are leadership gifts for 2008:

- A \$5 million gift from prominent philanthropist Laurie M. Tisch for the Loan Repayment Assistance Program (see facing page for full story).
- The Jacob Burns Foundation, a benefactor of Cardozo and longstanding friend of the Law School, made a new pledge of \$1.5 million for scholarships. Jacob Burns was a member of Cardozo's Board of Directors from 1977 through 1994 and chair from 1986 through 1991. His grandson, Barry Shenkman, president of the Foundation, has been a member of the Cardozo Board since 1995 and is currently its secretary.
- Moshael and Zahava Straus '80 designated \$1 million of their gift to the University to Law School scholarships. Mr. Straus is a member of the Yeshiva University Board of Trustees, chair of Azrieli, and secretary of RIETS.
- An anonymous donor, introduced to the Law School by Rachel Warren '92, a vice chair of the Cardozo Board, contributed \$1 million.
- Steven and Ruth Katz, parents of Hilary '02, gave a new gift of \$200,000 in support of scholarship assistance. The endowed Lorraine and Stanley R. Katz Scholarship Fund is named for Mr. Katz's parents.
- Stephen B. Siegel, chairman of global brokerage at CB Richard Ellis, Inc. and a member of the Cardozo Board for more than 20 years, made a gift of \$100,000 to support The Charles and Ann Siegel Scholarship Fund, in honor of his parents.

### FACULTY LOUNGE NAMED FOR TELFORD TAYLOR

At a special ceremony, the faculty lounge, recently renovated as part of the top-to-bottom rehabilitation of the Law School, was officially named after Cardozo founding faculty member Telford Taylor. Dedicated by Seryl and Charles Kushner, the lounge, which overlooks Fifth Avenue, is designed as a welcoming place for faculty and visiting scholars to meet. Dean Rudenstine said “the Law School now has a lounge worthy of its excellent faculty.”

Seryl and Charles Kushner, longstanding and devoted supporters of Cardozo, the Stern College for Women, and the greater University, both serve on the Stern College for Women Board of Directors.

Taylor, who taught at Cardozo until his retirement in 1994, was best known as counsel for the prosecution at the Nuremberg Trials after World War II. Dean Rudenstine likened Taylor's “leap of faith” decision to join the Cardozo faculty in 1976 to that of a parachutist preparing to make a jump. In a coincidental comment, Taylor's son, John, mentioned that in 1948 his father had to parachute from a plane over Berlin when the airplane in which he was flying developed engine trouble. Also attending were Taylor's widow, Prof. Toby Golick, director of clinical legal education, and their son, Sam.

## Cardozo Board Establishes Junior Advisory Board

At its June 2008 meeting, the Cardozo Board of Directors approved the creation of a Junior Advisory Board.

“It is so important to build a strong relationship with alumni during their first five years out of law school,” said Board Chair Kathy Greenberg '82. “There is so much that recent graduates can contribute to admissions, career services, and other areas of the law school.”

The first meeting of the Junior Advisory Board, chaired by Douglas Schneider '05, was held in September. Members of the new group were selected from recent graduates who actively participated in the life of the Law School. They will be liaisons to various administrative offices, providing support, feedback, and ideas to the Board of Directors and Alumni Association. They will also be involved in projects and initiatives that contribute to the growth of the Law School.

### JUNIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Douglas Schneider '05, chair	Marli Reifman '07
Sara Hudson-Plush '07	Melissa Roth '06
David Kim '10	Matthew Schneider '08
Sara Klein '05	Becky Sendrow '05
Jonathan Lenzner '04	Emily Tisch Sussman '08
Emily Posner '08	Aaron Wright '05

## Cardozo Parents Council Hosts Inaugural Event



Parents had the opportunity to get an overview of the broad range of services offered to students at “Meet the Deans: An Introduction to the Offices of Admissions and Career Services.” This event, hosted by the Cardozo Parents Council, was held in April in the Greenberg Center for Student Life.

Dean David Rudenstine welcomed the group and underscored the unique relationship parents have to the life of the Law School. Following introductory remarks from Stephen Cooper, chair of the Parents Council, Barry Wolper of the Parents Council steering committee moderated the discussion.

David Martinidez, dean of admissions, gave a statistical and substantive overview of Cardozo’s student body. Arthur Fama, dean of

career services, spoke about the resources his office provides as well as the behind-the-scenes work that consistently raises the profile of the Law School in the legal, corporate, and public service arenas.

Jane Schuster ’07, who was then clerking for Justice Helen E. Hoens of the New Jersey Supreme Court and has since joined the firm of Paul Weiss, and Matthew Schneider ’08, who is now at Proskauer Rose, spoke about their experiences with the Office of Career Services and the wide range of resources offered. Bonnie Steingart ’79, a vice chair of Cardozo’s Board of Directors and a partner at Fried Frank, talked about the role alumni play in promoting the Law School and recruiting and mentoring students.

The Cardozo Parents



Council was established in the fall of 2007 to promote and sustain the involvement of families in efforts that enhance the academic, professional, and financial success of the Law School. Several events are planned for the 2008–09 academic year, including the Ninth Annual Cardozo Parents Brunch, one of the most highly anticipated events of the fall semester, on

Sunday, November 23.

For more information about the Cardozo Parents Council, please visit [www.cardozo.yu.edu/parents-council](http://www.cardozo.yu.edu/parents-council), or contact Stephen Cooper at [scooper@nemcobrokerage.com](mailto:scooper@nemcobrokerage.com) or Patricia Weiss, director of institutional advancement, at [pweiss@yu.edu](mailto:pweiss@yu.edu) or 212-790-0270.

## Berg Foundation Increases Support of Summer Stipends

For the past seven years, the David Berg Foundation has been a dedicated supporter of Cardozo's public interest law program, making it possible for students to accept otherwise uncompensated internships in the public or nonprofit sector. The David Berg Foundation announced recently that it will increase its generous support with a gift of \$200,000 over the next two years. Each year, 30 qualified students will be designated Berg Fellows and awarded stipends to work in a nonprofit organization, in the government, at an international human rights organization, or as a clerk for a judge.

Dean David Rudenstine said, "The Berg Foundation's commitment to Cardozo's Public Service Law Program has been integral to the program's vigorous growth and to its vital role in educating students who seek to serve the underrepresented in the United States and around the world. This is an important and very much appreciated gift."

### DEAN'S SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN EXCEEDS GOAL, RAISES \$4.5 MILLION

In January 2007, Dean Rudenstine inaugurated a scholarship campaign with a goal of raising \$3 million in 18 months—an endeavor that was met with an outstanding response. Gifts and pledges from alumni, parents of students and graduates, members of the Cardozo Board of Directors, and friends generated more than \$4.5 million. Dean Rudenstine said, "We are awed by the ambitious efforts made by those in our community who rose to address our students' pressing needs. Their commitment and participation significantly enhance Cardozo's ability to attract and enroll outstanding students."

Three years at Cardozo can run more than \$210,000 with tuition, room and board, books, and a modest sum for living expenses. As a result, most Cardozo students graduate with an average debt of \$105,000; some owe as much as \$200,000. That tough reality can deter students from pursuing a legal education and often precludes graduates from embarking on careers in traditionally lower-paying public service and nonprofit jobs. The importance of the campaign and the need for its continuation cannot be overestimated.



### JACOB BURNS SCHOLARS MEET FOUNDATION HEAD

Each year, a luncheon celebrates the achievements of Jacob Burns Scholars, a group of about a dozen students selected for their high academic achievement and community leadership. Barry Shenkman, secretary of the Cardozo Board, president of the Burns Foundation, and grandson of Jacob Burns, for whom the scholarship is named, greeted several recipients. (Counterclockwise from front left) Jordan Walerstein '09, Aaron Zakem '09, Sara Gross '09, Matthew Schneider '08, Carrie Van Fleet '09, Barry Shenkman, Brian Sogol '10, and Jennifer Congregane '10. Scholars not included in the photo are: Julie Burakoff '09, Adam Lesman '08, and Robert Mendez '09.



YESHIVA UNIVERSITY  
EIGHTY-FOURTH ANNUAL  
**HANUKKAH**  
DINNER AND CONVOCATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2008  
THE WALDORF=ASTORIA  
NEW YORK CITY • 5:30 PM

BLACK TIE

## Stephen A. Cooper Joins Board

Stephen A. Cooper, chair of the Cardozo Parents Council and father of Samantha Brand '08, was elected to the Cardozo Board of Directors at the Board's June meeting.

For many years, Cooper has dedicated much of his personal time to educational organizations. He served on the executive board at the Horace Mann School, is a trustee and current treasurer at Birch Wathen Lenox School, and for more than 10 years has served on the board of trustees of the Museum of American Finance (formerly the Museum of American

Financial History). As chair of the Cardozo Parents Council, Cooper has lent enormous energy and talent to the group's formation, its growing presence on campus, and the participation of parents in the life of the Law School.

"Stephen has proved to be so effective as chair of the Parents Council that I know he will be a great asset to our Board. He has great enthusiasm and as the father of a recent graduate brings insight and experience that will prove beneficial to all of us," said Cardozo Board Chair Kathy Greenberg '82.



Stephen Cooper began his career in the insurance business as a brokerage representative with Aetna Life and Casualty in Brooklyn, NY. In 1975 he joined an agency of the Travelers and,

in 1977, joined Alexander and Alexander as an assistant vice president.

In 1981 Cooper became a vice president of Monumental National Marketing, a subsidiary of Monumental Life in White Plains, NY. Together with a partner he purchased the division and renamed it National Enrollment and Marketing, which became NEMCO Brokerage in 1983. NEMCO was purchased by National Financial Partners in January 2000.

Cooper holds a B.A. in psychology from Queens College and an M.B.A. in finance from St. John's University.

## Center for Jewish Law Receives Early, Invaluable Support

In its first year, the Yeshiva University Center for Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization (CJL) at Cardozo has drawn hundreds of people to its programs, begun to guide policy and shape opinion, and inspired considerable interest and support. Its mission includes shedding light on what the Jewish legal tradition can contribute to creating an ethical civil society and exploring the relationship between religious wisdom and secular knowledge.

Early, invaluable support has come from the Tikvah Fund and from Barry Novack and Dr. Anna Baum.

The Tikvah Fund, a New York City-based foundation that promotes Jewish ideas and culture, has given a grant for distinguished scholars to play a lead role in CJL's Graduate Program in Jewish Law & Interdisciplinary Studies. Designated as Tikvah Visiting Professors, these scholars will direct sessions of the graduate colloquium and mentor graduate fellows, a group of the most promising Ph.D. candidates in Jewish studies at leading universities. Through this program, CJL seeks to train a new generation of scholars, leaders, and public intellectuals

to bridge religious and secular thought.

Tikvah Visiting Professors will be selected from academic fields such as law, political theory, religious thought, and Talmud, enriching the interdisciplinary approach to Jewish law and thought that stands at the core of the CJL mission. For the 2008-09 academic year, Tikvah Visiting Professors will include Yair Lorberbaum, Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law; Aharon Shemesh, Department of Talmud, Bar-Ilan University; Shahar Lifshitz, Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law; and Shmuel Trigano, sociology of religion and politics, University of Paris X-Nanterre.

Barry Novack and Dr. Anna Baum of Los Angeles, CA, have pledged a generous gift to help support, over two years, the many important events organized and sponsored by CJL. Their gift, in memory of Novack's parents, Max and Jean Novack, will assist in the organization of conferences, lectures, monthly workshops, and reading groups. Novack and Baum share a long-standing history of philanthropy and involvement in their community, and both Novack's son and Baum's daughter are students at Cardozo.