News Highlights

"Woman in Gold" Features Alum's Landmark Case
E. Randol Schoenberg '91 made a name for himself in the legal world litigating a landmark case to reclaim works of art stolen during the Holocaust, and now his story is making its way to the silver screen. Ryan Reynolds portrays Schoenberg in "Woman in Gold," which opened in theaters nationwide on April 1. The film depicts Schoenberg's restitution case brought against the Austrian government, representing family friend Maria Altmann. He worked for years to reclaim paintings by renowned Viennese artist Gustav Klimt. The paintings were confiscated from Altmann's family by the Nazi regime in 1938, when Germany took control of Austria.

All in the Family at Mentor Lunch
This year's annual USC Gould mentor lunch, held at Town and Gown on Feb. 25, drew 320 students and alumni, who represented class years from 1967-2014. The lunch offered a premier opportunity for 1Ls seeking practical advice about pursuing a legal career. Students were grouped with USC Gould alumni at assigned tables based on shared interests, such as international, corporate, entertainment, government or public interest law.

Gould Professors Headlining USC's Festival of Books
Elyn Saks, Jody Armour and Edward Kleinbard are headlining the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books at USC on Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19. Saks is author of "The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness;" Edward Kleinbard is author of "We Are Better Than This: How Government Should Spend Our Money" and Jody Armour is author of "Negrophobia and Reasonable Racism."

Calendar

FEATURED EVENTS

APRIL 18 AND 19: LOS ANGELES TIMES FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

APRIL 22-23, 2015: EXECUTION, SPECTACLE & LAW SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 23-24: REFRAMING THE WELFARE QUEEN: WORK, PRIVACY AND REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

MORE EVENTS

Stay In Touch

MYLAW PORTAL
Lessons from Moot Court
Arguing a case at the federal level would test any attorney’s mettle. Yet four USC Gould second-year law students proved to be up for the challenge, as they presented arguments before three United States Circuit Court Judges at the 66th annual Hale Moot Court Honors Program competition. The prestigious panel of judges -- the Hon. Alex Kozinski, the Hon. Reena Raggi, and the Hon. William Duane Benton -- treated the student lawyers as if they were arguing in a real courtroom, often interrupting them with rapid-fire questions and challenging the basis of their arguments.

PCJP Victory: Juvenile Offender Serving Life Released from Prison
The first juvenile offender resentedenced under the California Fair Sentencing for Youth Act was released from prison in March thanks to the work of law students with USC Gould’s Post-Conviction Justice Project (PCJP). Edel Gonzalez, who was sentenced to life without the possibility of parole for a crime he committed at age 16, was represented by the PCJP and Irell and Manella. Human Rights Watch consulted on the case.

A Supreme Courtside Seat
Not only did Los Angeles Times Supreme Court reporter David Savage make some significant SCOTUS predictions when he recently appeared at USC Gould’s Conversations with the Dean event, he also revealed what it’s really like to cover the justices who serve on the highest court in the land. “It’s a great beat because the Court takes on such serious issues,” Savage said, noting that the Court has held his interest for nearly 30 years because it’s different every Term. “The longer I cover the Court, the less I want to leave.”

Spring Break Justice Trip
13 USC Gould students spent two days of their spring break in Goshen, Calif., an agricultural town just south of Fresno, aboard a project called the Justice Bus. The group offered legal expertise to dozens of low-income residents and undocumented immigrants on topics ranging from tax advice to fair labor standards, marking the fourth time that USC Gould and Justice Bus, a project of nonprofit organization OneJustice, partnered.

Art in the Court
Three of the country’s most prominent courtroom artists shared their stories and experiences with USC Gould Professor Jody Armour before a packed crowd at the USC Visions and Voices event, “Art in the Court: Famous Trials Illustrated,” held at Doheny Memorial Library. “You don’t just find the truth in law -- to a large extent it’s a very creative enterprise,” Armour said. “We create outcomes, we tell stories, we create narratives, and all those narratives require artistic sensibilities. To be a great lawyer, you’ve got to be a great artist in a sense to tell good stories that are compelling.”
**USC Gould and Lateral Link Launch Scholarship**
Legal recruiting firm, Lateral Link, announced that it will donate a portion of its commission to student scholarships when it places USC Gould alumni in jobs. “Lateral Link has been fortunate to enjoy a strong presence in the Los Angeles legal community, and we are proud to be partnering with a world-class law school in this city,” said Michael Allen, founder of Lateral Link, adding that the company will donate 10 percent of its commission to USC Gould. “For every talented Gould graduate who is placed by the firm, support will be directed back to current Gould students.”

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**Faculty in the News**

**Fox News**
Edwin Smith was quoted about a criminal case involving a man who helped his fugitive son flee across the Texas border into Mexico. “There have been serious problems between the U.S. and Mexico,” he said, adding that extradition of the fugitive in Mexico could be difficult.

**The Daily Beast**
Elyn Saks was quoted about the stigmatization of mental illness in a story about potentially replacing the term "schizophrenia." “We need to consult consumer/patients and see what’s least stigmatizing,” she pointed out. “A more benign name can be good in terms of people accepting that they have it. Kraepelin-Bleuler Disease might be the way to go, on the model of Down syndrome or Alzheimer’s disease. I’d also like to see it called a ‘spectrum disorder’ to emphasize differences in outcome.”

**KPCC-FM**
Dan Nabel was interviewed on 'AirTalk' about a copyright infringement case involving the estate of Marvin Gaye. “This is one of the biggest verdicts that we may have ever seen. We're going to see more cases like this,” he said.

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A two-day symposium on capital punishment, "Execution, Spectacle, & Law" will feature Austin Sarat of Amherst College and include viewing of a short film on the topic directed Krysztof Kieslowski. For location, further details and to RSVP, please contact clhcserv@law.usc.edu. The symposium is sponsored by the USC Center for Law History and Culture, Comparative Studies in Literature and Culture and the Law School Faculty Workshops.

A two-day conference will explore what we can learn about the State's response to the threat of the Welfare Queen and how to imagine policy alternatives. Acclaimed gender studies scholar, Dorothy Roberts, will deliver a pre-conference lecture on April 23. For further details and to RSVP, please contact clhcserv@law.usc.edu.