

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wed. Jan. 25** Coffee Talk: *The Gap in Minority Student Achievement* - Supt. Allan Alson  
4:00 - 4:50
- Upcoming:**
- Wed. Feb. 1** Coffee Talk: *SOS Children's Villages*
- Wed. Feb. 8** Coffee Talk: *Latino Child Welfare Initiative*
- Mon. Feb. 13** Landlord tenant training
- Wed. Feb. 15** Careers in ChildLaw Panel
- Thur. Feb 16** Metropolitan Tenants' Organization of Chicago (MTO) -Room TBA  
4 - 6:00 p.m.

### ChildLaw Coffee Talk Speaker to Discuss Gap in Minority Student Achievement

**Allan Alson**, Superintendent of Evanston Township High School, and Founder and Governing Board President of the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN), will be this semester's first ChildLaw Coffee Talk speaker on Wednesday, January 25 from 4:-- 4:50 at the ChildLaw Center. MSAN is an alliance of 25 multiracial urban and suburban school districts across the country working together to study and address the disparity in school achievement between nonminority and students of color, particularly African American and Latino students.

Future Coffee Talk speakers this semester include:

**Tim McCormick**, Executive Director, SOS Children's Villages

**Professor Maria Vidal de Haymes** and **Bob Mindell**, Loyola University Chicago School of Law

**Margie Schaps**, Executive Director, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group

**Bindu Batchu**, Coordinator, A+ Illinois

**Jeanie Ortega-Piron**, Guardianship Administrator, Department of Children and Family Services

### ChildLaw Center's Lead Safe Housing Initiatives Joins Discussion of Community Health Needs

The community of Evanston invited Loyola Chicago's ChildLaw Center to a discussion of the city's health needs. Loyola's representative was **Mary Burns**, the ChildLaw Center's Community Projects Director of the Lead Safe Housing Initiative. The event provided an opportunity to raise the issue of childhood lead poisoning as a housing as well as public health issue.

### Loyola ChildLaw Clinic Visits Chicago High School for Law Career Day

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, **Professor Mary Burns** and third year law clinic student **Eric Fish** visited a freshman class at Chicago Vocational School to talk about law as a career. Participating students played the parts of lawyers, witnesses, and members of the jury in a mock trial. A lively discussion of free speech and the rights of students in school followed the jury's verdict.

### Foster Children and Contact with Siblings

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, **Professor Anita Weinberg** was interviewed on NPR Morning Edition and WBEZ 848 on the right of foster children to maintain contact with their siblings once their parents' rights have been terminated. In 2003, a group of students in Professor Weinberg's ChildLaw Legislation seminar worked with youth who grew up in foster care to draft legislation that created a Task Force to hold

hearings on the issue throughout the state. The final hearing was held November 15th and the Task Force will now make recommendations to the General Assembly. Currently, Illinois does not afford foster children the right to maintain contact with any biological relative after termination of parental rights.

### **Faculty Attend ChildLaw Working Conference.**

In early January, **Professors Bruce Boyer, Stacey Platt, and Anita Weinberg** attended an invitational working conference at the University of Nevada Law School. The focus of the conference was on representing children in the context of families. Proceedings of the conference, as well as the series of recommendations developed at the conference, will be published in The Nevada Law Journal. **Professor Weinberg** served as a group discussion leader during the two day conference.

### **Landlord - Tenant Training: Focus on Lead**

In February, Loyola's ChildLaw Center, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Tenants' Organization of Chicago(MTO), will offer Loyola law students a two-hour training on landlord- tenant law with a focus on lead poisoning. Interested students may sign up for the training sessions to be held on one of two dates: Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> or Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

### **Faculty Activities**

On December 9, **Professor Diane Geraghty** gave a presentation at a conference on Comparative Constitutionalism and Rights: A Global Perspective, at the University of Kwazulu-Natal in Durban, S. Africa. The conference was attended by approximately 100 law professors from around the world. The title of her presentation was "The Rise and Fall of Public Interest Lawyering."

**Professor Weinberg** was quoted in the Chicago Tribune on December 1st in an article titled "Tougher penalties for breaking rules on lead [poisoning] suggested."

**Professor Weinberg** also was interviewed in a story that aired November 14 as part of the Great Lakes Radio Consortium. The story focus is on efforts to assure that the U.S. EPA publishes rules to ensure lead safe work practices are used in housing rehab and remodeling in

order to protect children from lead poisoning. A 1996 federal law required the EPA to issue the rules

### **Career Opportunity**

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is seeking an Associate Attorney in the Family Violence Department. The Associate Attorney must have an understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and experience working in the domestic violence field, experience working with the judiciary, and knowledge about effective adult education methodology. The salary range is \$50,000 - \$65,000. Applicants should submit a letter of interest and a current resume to the Human Resources Department office as soon as possible.

### **Faculty and Staff Directory**

**Bruce Boyer** - Director, ChildLaw Clinic, 915-7927, bboyer@luc.edu

**Katherine Buchanan** - MacArthur Policy Fellow, 915-7949, kbucha3@luc.edu

**Mary Burns** - Community Projects Coordinator, 915-6811, mburns6@luc.edu

**Sacha Coupet** - Director of Research, 915-7134, scoupet@luc.edu

**Diane Geraghty** - Director, Civitas ChildLaw Center, 915-7155, dgeragh@luc.edu

**Michael Kaufman** - Director, Education Law Institute, 915-7143, mkaufma@luc.edu

**Jill Oworu** - Salisbury Fellow, 915-7944, joworu@luc.edu

**Stacey Platt** - Associate Director of ChildLaw Clinic, 915-7931, splatt@luc.edu

**Silvia Rodriguez** - Program Coordinator, 915-7950, srodrig@luc.edu

**Anita Weinberg** - Director of ChildLaw Policy and Legislative Programs/ChildLaw Policy Institute, 915-6482, aweinbe@luc.edu