Dear Friends and Supporters of PILF:

Welcome to our annual update of PILF’s activities and accomplishments. As always, it has been an eventful year so far, and plans are well underway for a busy second semester as well.

This year, we have been working hard to strengthen the public interest community at Columbia Law School. Our Guaranteed Summer Funding Program has reached unprecedented levels, as over three hundred students have signed up to pursue public interest work this summer. Last year, PILF contributed over fifty thousand dollars so that students could work with district attorneys, legal services organizations, public defenders, human rights organizations, and a host of other employers here and abroad without worrying about how they would cover their living expenses. We are proud to make public interest work a reality for so many Columbia students.

We have also begun a new initiative to strengthen the ties between current PILF members and PILF alumni. At our Public Interest Career Panel and Spring Mixer, students connected with recent alumni working in the public interest world in both formal and informal settings. Students called the events “fun and informative,” and alumni enjoyed the chance to speak with students and catch up with old friends. So that we can include you in our public interest network for future events, please submit your updated contact information to pilf@law.columbia.edu, or send in the card at the back of this newsletter.

Our Twentieth Annual Dinner was an outstanding example of how PILF students, alumni, and faculty can come together as a public interest community. The Dinner took place on November 20 in the newly renovated Faculty House, and was a resounding success with over one hundred and sixty attendees. This year, we had the privilege of honoring David Vladeck, a Columbia Law School alumnus and Director of the FTC’s Bureau of Consumer Protection. After receiving the Public Interest Achievement Award, David spoke about the importance of public interest law, and the opportunities that lawyers have to pursue justice on the individual and societal level. David’s talk was moving and inspiring, and as one first-year student recounted, “reminded me why I had come to law school.” The event was especially well attended by alumni from David’s Class of 1976, and by members of the extended Vladeck family, many of whom also have long-lasting ties to Columbia. It was wonderful to see so many students, faculty, and alumni come together to honor David’s dedication to public service.

Next week we’ll host another major community-building event, our Eighteenth Annual Bid for Justice Auction. Along with the Dean’s Cup basketball game between Columbia and NYU law schools in the spring, the Auction is our biggest fundraiser. Last year, with the help of many sponsors and participants, we raised $49,000. This year we hope to match or surpass that figure, despite tough economic times, so that we can continue to support students and the greater public interest community at a high level. The Auction will take place on March 4 from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Roone Arledge Auditorium. With your support, we look forward to another fun-filled evening and successful fundraising event!

The spring semester also begins our annual Community Grants allocation process. Each year, PILF receives applications from dozens of organizations around the country for innovative legal initiatives that address needs in local communities. A panel of students and faculty readers evaluate the applications. Last year, we gave a total of fifty thousand dollars in grants to five organizations: the Legal Aid Society of Tennessee, National Immigrant Justice Center, Center for Appellate Litigation, YKASEC, and the Learning Rights Law Center. We are happy to continue to support the practice of public interest law in such a tangible way.

We greatly appreciate your continued support of PILF. Please take a look at the back page of the newsletter to find out how you can become a Friend of PILF, or to update your contact information so that we can keep you updated throughout the year. Thank you, and I hope to see you at our upcoming events!

Best wishes,
Rena Stern (CLS ’11)
President, Public Interest Law Foundation
This year, PILF will host its 18th Annual Bid for Justice Auction on March 4. The Bid for Justice Auction is an annual fundraiser to support the Community Grants and Guaranteed Summer Funding Programs at Columbia Law School. Last year, more than 500 students, faculty, alumni, and admitted students attended this much anticipated event, bidding on coveted items such as a weekend getaway to Professors Robert and Elizabeth Scott’s vacation home in Nantucket, a Justice Antonin Scalia bobble head doll, tickets to professional sporting events, and lunch with Dean David M. Schizer. Our volunteer auctioneers, Professors Matthew Waxman, Tim Wu, and Ted Shaw, led an exciting live auction, and bidders also had the opportunity to participate in a silent auction featuring over a hundred items donated by law firms, alumni, local businesses, and fellow students.

Get those paddles ready because the 18th Annual Bid for Justice Auction will be held next week—March 4, 2010, from 7 to 10 p.m. at Roone Arledge Auditorium. Thanks to the hard work of Vice Presidents of Fundraising Marti Morgan and Tiffany Ikeda, we know that this year’s Auction will be an incredible success! To join us, visit www.columbiapilf.org/auction-tickets to purchase non-student tickets. For information or questions about the Auction, please email pilf@law.columbia.edu. We hope to see you there!

The Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee identifies and resolves legal problems that affect the ability of low-income students in the Appalachian coal fields to succeed in school. The project seeks to remove the impediments facing these students in their education, such as abuse, neglect, and health concerns.

The National Immigrant Justice Center provides informational materials to immigrants facing deportation. As the legal procedures for defending immigration status have become increasingly complex, this project has become even more essential for people who cannot afford an attorney.

The Center for Appellate Litigation, through its Prisoner Reentry Projects, works to prepare prisoners and their families for the reentry process. This process includes finding housing and job training, as well as preparing families for what to expect.

The MinKwon Center for Community Action (formerly YKASEC), through the Asian American Day Laborer Project, provides legal services, advocacy, and education to day laborers in Queens. As many of these workers have limited English proficiency, the Center has been crucial in helping them fight back against unscrupulous employers.

The Learning Rights Law Center, in Los Angeles, provides representation to youth in schools who are being denied their right to an education on the basis of their sexual orientation or gender identity. As part of this project, the Center files complaints with the California Department of Education on behalf of students who are being harassed or otherwise discriminated against.
At PILF’s Twentieth Annual Dinner, held in Columbia’s Faculty House on November 20, PILF presented its Annual Public Interest Achievement Award to David C. Vladeck, the Director of the FTC’s Bureau of Consumer Protection and a Professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

Before joining Georgetown in 2002, David spent nearly 30 years with Public Citizen Litigation Group, serving as its Director from 1992 to 2002. He has handled a wide range of complex litigation, primarily in federal courts, including First Amendment, health and safety, civil rights, class action, preemption and open government cases. He has argued a number of First Amendment and civil rights cases before the United States Supreme Court, and more than 60 cases before the federal courts of appeal and state courts of last resort. David has testified frequently before Congress, advised Members of Congress on legal matters, and written on administrative law, preemption, First Amendment, legal ethics, and access to justice issues.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Vice President of Fundraising Kathy Vermazen Radez (pictured above), the event was a wonderful success, bringing together over 165 law students, faculty, alumni, and community members to honor David and support the public interest community.
PILF is Proud To Welcome the New 1L Board Members!

**Andrea Johnson**
Andrea is from Mankato, Minnesota, and graduated from Macalester College. After graduation she moved to Paris and worked in advertising before moving to DC and working as a Legislative Aide to Congresswoman Betty McCollum. She is interested in human rights, especially women’s rights and refugee rights.

**Ashley Sullivan**
Ashley is from Reston, Virginia and graduated from University of Colorado in the beautiful foothills of Boulder in 2007. She spent the following two years working at a law firm in Washington, DC. Ashley is interested in criminal law and is interning for the Capital Defender Office of Northern Virginia this summer.

**Ashley Simpson**
Ashley is from South Orange, New Jersey. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2007. Before starting at Columbia, she worked as a paralegal at both Sidley Austin LLP and the US Attorney’s Office, SDNY. Ashley is interested in civil rights and immigration law.

---

**PILF 2009-10 Board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>President</th>
<th>Treasurer</th>
<th>VP of External Relations</th>
<th>VP of Membership</th>
<th>VP of Annual Dinner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rena Stern</td>
<td>Lina Zhou</td>
<td>Keita Rose-Atkinson</td>
<td>Elisabeth Page</td>
<td>Kathy Vermazen Radez</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VP of Community Grants</th>
<th>VPs of Annual Auction</th>
<th>VP of Communications</th>
<th>3L Representatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Freeman</td>
<td>Tiffany Ikeda and Marti Morgan</td>
<td>Gregory Johnson</td>
<td>Jacob Croke, Jisoo Kim, and Jean Zachariasiewicz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1L Representatives</th>
<th>Alumni Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Johnson, Ashley Simpson, and Ashley Sullivan</td>
<td>Sandra Flow (Chair of the Board), John Bennett, Kaitlin Cordes, Sarah Crowley, Sheliah Kane, and Elizabeth Kellner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Members</th>
<th>CPIL Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Philip Genty, Peter Strauss</td>
<td>Akua Akyea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Join the Columbia Public Interest Law Foundation Community**

Together, We Can Make a Difference

- Become a Friend of PILF ($200) [Friends of PILF are recognized in the Dinner and Auction programs]
- Join as a Public Interest Alumni Member ($40)
- Join as a Faculty Member ($100)
- Join as a Private Practice Alumni Member ($150)
- Please just update my contact information

Name: ___________________________  Graduation Year: _____________
Employer: _________________________  Email Address: ___________________________

Please make checks payable to PILF at Columbia, Inc. All donations listed are suggested amounts. The public interest community at Columbia Law School benefits from and greatly appreciates any contributions you may send. Thank you for your time and support!

Return to: Public Interest Law Foundation, Columbia Law School, 435 W. 116th Street, New York, NY 10027
Alternatively, respond by email at pilf@law.columbia.edu or donate online at www.columbiapilf.org/donate