The Center for Law, Health and Society at Georgia State University welcomes two new faculty members with expertise in regulatory science: Timothy D. Lytton and Patricia J. Zettler.

The Food and Drug Administration defines regulatory science as “the science of developing new tools, standards, and approaches to assess the safety, efficacy, quality, and performance of all FDA-regulated products.” Increasingly government agencies responsible for developing health and safety regulations rely on scientific data, using scientific principles and methods to advance medical and public health research, to apply that knowledge to improve systems and thus health outcomes, and to translate the findings to other areas of food and drug development.

Recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of regulatory science and the need for those with legal, policy, and behavioral economics expertise to work together, Georgia State University awarded the School of Public Health, College of Law and Andrew Young School of Policy Studies a cluster hire under the signature Second Century Initiative. The 2CI award leverages the School of Public Health’s recent Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science grant award and positions Georgia State as a national leader to pursue additional opportunities in regulation of tobacco and other public health topics.

“Regulatory science is an emerging field, and we are fortunate to be able to bring on such talented new faculty to expand our interdisciplinary collaborations,” said Steven J. Kaminshine, dean and professor of law. “Tim and Patti bring complementary expertise that enriches our legal education curriculum and our research programs. They also add further depth and strength to our nationally recognized health law program.”

Continued on page 4
Director's Message

There are lots of exciting developments at the Center for Law, Health & Society! This summer we moved into our new building. The center now has a physical home, which we share with the other centers. The HeLP Legal Services Clinic has moved to a dedicated clinical suite on the ground floor. Our faculty and students will enjoy the ability to match classrooms to pedagogy – from large lecture halls to intimate seminar rooms to flexible classrooms conducive to collaborative learning.

We also welcomed our new colleagues, Tim Lytton and Patti Zettler. In a short time, they have already proved to be generous colleagues, and we are thrilled to have them join the faculty. We are still settling in, but we look forward to seeing our students, graduates, and friends in our new space.

Best wishes,

[signature]
Leslie Wolf, director

College of Law Moves into New Building, Centers and Clinics into New Space

Georga State University College of Law has a new home at 85 Park Place. The airy three-story Catherine Henson Atrium welcomes students, faculty and visitors into the building. Twenty-one state-of-the-art classrooms, including classrooms of varying sizes, a 230-seat appellate courtroom for training and events, and dedicated clinical space for experiential learning reinforce the commitment to meeting the needs of 21st-century legal education. The Law Library, occupying the top two levels of the building, houses an outdoor terrace, café, alumni reading room, and ample study space for students. The Center for Law, Health & Society is located within the suite dedicated to research centers and institutes. The center boasts a spacious health law library and conference space, as well as a six-station work room devoted to graduate research assistants supporting center faculty research and center programming and administration. The opportunity for collaboration with other research centers and institutes, including the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, the Consortium on Negotiation and Conflict Resolution, and the new Center for Intellectual Property, co-directed by center faculty member assistant professor Yaniv Heled, is exciting. Understanding how the built environment affects health and well-being or the influence of intellectual property law on the dissemination of biotechnology is essential to developing effective policies that improve health, as is consensus building among diverse stakeholders.

“There are natural overlaps among the work of the college’s centers, and we have collaborated in the past,” center director and professor Leslie Wolf said. “But the proximity to each other will foster more conversations that will help us identify those synergies.”

In addition to the fourth-level center spaces, the Health Law Partnership (HeLP) Legal Services Clinic space resides on the ground level to allow for easy and inviting public access. Devoted to service and advocacy, the clinic space includes multiple client interview rooms and phone booths to facilitate confidential communications, as well as rooms for collaborative work. “The new clinic space is beautiful and functional. Students have many areas in which to work collaboratively as they resolve clients’ issues and develop their lawyering skills and professional identity,” Sylvia Caley (J.D. ’89), director of HeLP and co-director of the HeLP clinic, said. “Having all the clinics located in one space specifically designed to serve as a law office creates exciting opportunities for students and faculty.”

“The health law program has contributed significantly to the college’s intellectual life through its programming. The new building provides additional opportunities to engage more broadly with the community including making it possible for Georgia State Law to host the American Society for Law, Medicine & Ethics Annual Health Law Professors Conference in 2017.”

– Steven J. Kaminshine, dean and professor of law
Collaborations in Regulatory Science

Distinguished University Professor and Professor of Law Timothy D. Lytton has a longstanding interest in the public policy implications of tort litigation. He’s expand that interest by teaching Administrative Law, Torts, Products Liability and Legislation & Statutory Interpretation at Georgia State Law. His research examines health and safety regulations, with a particular focus on food policy. He is writing Outbreak: Foodborne Illness and the Evolving Food Safety System, a book about the complex interaction of government regulation, industry supply-chain management and tort liability in the U.S. food safety system. His research also explores food policy in the areas of obesity, nutrition labeling and school food. Lytton previously explored the private regulation of food in his book Kosher: Private Regulation in the Age of Industrial Food.

Lytton’s research also explores how private lawsuits shape public policy. He has gained expertise in this area through case studies of contemporary issues including clergy sexual abuse and gun violence.

Lytton will continue to research how the U.S. regulatory system works and looks forward to collaborating with students and faculty across the university.

“Georgia State Law offers extraordinary opportunities to pursue interdisciplinary research across the university in regulatory science, public health policy and risk management,” he said.

Lytton previously taught at Albany Law School as the Albert & Angela Farone Distinguished Professor of Law. He has been a fellow in the Harvard Program on Ethics and the Professions, as well as the Hartman Institute for Advanced Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. He also helped develop conflict resolution programs in Nicaragua after the civil war and spent two years in yeshiva in Jerusalem studying Talmud.

Associate professor of law Patricia J. Zettler brings her expertise in the regulation of medicine, biotechnology and biomedical research to the College of Law.

“Tim’s expertise in regulation through tort law and Patti’s knowledge of FDA law add new areas of expertise to the Center. Their combined background opens up additional opportunities for collaboration within the center and with our university partners.”

– Leslie Wolf, Director of the Center for Law, Health & Society and Professor of Law

Patricia J. Zettler
Associate Professor of Law
J.D., Stanford Law School
B.A., Stanford University

Timothy D. Lytton
Distinguished University Professor and Professor of Law
J.D., Yale Law School
B.A., Yale University
Honorary Center Faculty Member:

Eric Segall

By Leslie Wolf, Director, Center for Law, Health & Society

Past few years because two important
considerable time on health law over the
Segall’s primary interest. But he has spent
and other medial commentary — and you’ll
review articles, and numerous op-eds, blogs,
One look at his curriculum
are not Judges
Supreme Court is not a Court and its Justices
author of the book
Supreme Myths, Why the
Lawrence Ashe Professor of Law and the
about the case. Segall is the Kathy and
Burwell. We recognize he may return to his
 supplemental workshops to the docket, and we’ve endowed him with a
Scholars Workshop, a joint initiative of SLU and ASLME.
This workshop offers junior faculty members the
opportunity to present promising works-in-progress and
receive in-depth critique from experienced health law and
bioethics scholars,” said professor Sidney Watson
with the Center for Health Law Studies at SLU, in announcing
the scholars. “In addition to encouraging scholarship, the
program is designed to cultivate a sense of community
among health law academics.”

Zettler Named Health Law Scholar

Associate professor Patricia Zettler was named a 2015 Health Law Scholar at the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics’ 2015 Health Law Professors Conference hosted at Saint Louis University School of Law. As one of four professors selected nationwide, Zettler will participate in the Health Law Scholars Workshop, a joint initiative of SLU and ASLME.

“This workshop offers junior faculty members the opportunity to present promising works-in-progress and receive in-depth critique from experienced health law and bioethics scholars,” said professor Sidney Watson with the Center for Health Law Studies at SLU, in announcing the scholars. “In addition to encouraging scholarship, the program is designed to cultivate a sense of community among health law academics.”

According to the 2014 Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress, nearly one-third of the U.S. homeless population is children and youth. This number has increased significantly in Georgia due to sex trafficking, child welfare systems and the growing number of youth abandoned because of their sexuality.

This summer, assistant professor Courtney Anderson participated in Atlanta’s first comprehensive project to count and assess the number of homeless youth in Atlanta: the Atlanta Youth Count! led by Georgia State sociology professors Eric Wright and Erin Ruel. The project team, which consists of Georgia State students and faculty as well as local organizations and service providers, not only counted the number of homeless youth in the state but also examined the state of youth homelessness.

This project was a natural fit for Anderson, who was hired in 2012 as part of a faculty cluster with the School of Public Health focusing on achieving health justice through improving health equity and reducing health disparities. She has previously written on homeless youth and housing, and her Law and Health Equity course connects students with community members to address issues impacting health.

“My involvement with the project highlighted the need for client interactions skills and the gaps in the laws serving this community,” Anderson said. “I plan to use the information from the count to inform my future research, as well as to involve my students in legal solutions to the homeless crisis in Atlanta.”

The researchers intend to present their findings and recommendations based on the field journals and surveys completed over the summer to legislators later in fall 2015.
Earlier this year, professor Jonathan Todres was appointed to a new study committee of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. The National Academy of Medicine houses the honorific functions formerly under the Institute of Medicine. The Committee on the Biological and Psychosocial Effects of Peer Victimization: Lessons for Bullying Prevention. This is the third National Academies committee Professor Todres has served on since 2012.

“It’s an honor to be selected to contribute to any work of the National Academies,” Todres said. “And given my interest in issues that affect child well-being. I’m delighted to be participating in this study on the effects of bullying and opportunities for prevention.” Todres’s research explores a breadth of issues related to children’s rights and child well-being, with a special focus on child trafficking and related forms of violence and exploitation. The committee’s report, which will be published next year, will include recommendations that can inform future policy, practice, and research aimed at preventing and responding to bullying.

In May, Leslie Wolf, director of the Center for Law, Health & Society and professor of law, delivered a keynote address at the 25th annual Kinsman Conference, held by the Center for Ethics at the Oregon Health & Science University. An early Kinsman Conference helped launch the Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment movement, which complements patient advance directives regarding care with a portable physician order (Georgia passed POLST legislation in 2015). “It was an honor to participate in the Kinsman Conference,” Wolf said.

Wolf’s presentation focused on lessons from the Ebola epidemic for health care and public health. She noted that there were numerous lessons to be derived from the experience, including the need to strengthen the global public health infrastructure, but that many efforts would be doomed to failure without rebuilding trust in the health care and public health systems.

Wolf asserted that trust is essential to public health because, while public health has the authority to coerce actions, it often relies on cooperation to achieve its goals. For example, infectious disease surveillance only works if people are willing to reveal the truth about their exposures. But, as Wolf explained, there were numerous examples in Africa and the U.S. demonstrating a lack of trust in the public health system—both in a willingness to come forward and in accepting public health messages about how the disease is spread. Disparate treatments of African and American patients may also exacerbate mistrust.

Building trust will not be easy, Wolf explained. Public health must be cognizant of history that may cause good intentions to be misperceived. Overcoming that history requires a commitment to learning from the communities’ needs and to long-term involvement. It also requires a commitment to being honest about uncertainty in recommendations and transparency about mistakes. “This is long-term work that needs to begin now,” Wolf said “so that we’re better prepared for the next public health emergency.”

Universities.

Todres was appointed to a new National Academies Committee.
HeLP Awarded Two Grants

The Health Law Partnership, along with its community partners, is the recipient of two new grant awards to expand its activities in evaluating the impact of its services on clients and education on various stakeholders.

The first grant is from the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Accelerating Health Equity, Advancing through Discovery (AHEAD) initiative. This grant was awarded to three medical-legal partnerships interested in evaluating the role of MLPs in improving community health and reducing health inequities. The initiative is intended to develop uniform measures for assessing the impact of MLPs nationwide and identify effective policies and practices of AAMC-member institutions that may be replicable at other institutions.

Sylvia Caley (J.D. ’89), director of HeLP and co-director of the HeLP Legal Services Clinic at Georgia State Law; Susan McLaren, research associate with the Georgia Health Policy Center at the Georgia State Andrew Young School of Policy Studies; and Robert Pettignano, medical director of HeLP, a doctor with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, and a professor of pediatrics at Emory University lead the project at HeLP. They will collaborate with colleagues from Children’s Law Center in Washington D.C. and Eskenazi Health Medical-Legal Partnership in Indiana on the project.

“Ultimately, this research will affect how we care for our patients, substantiate fiscal responsibility and value based care to the health care provider, and help us to understand how our educational endeavors are impacting our learners so that we can change the focus to upstream identification of health harming legal needs,” Pettignano said.

Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Emory University are each contributing to match the funds of this grant.

The second grant is an assessment of knowledge of asthma and the use of certified asthma educators in the HeLP Legal Services Clinic. Lynda T. Goodfellow, professor and associate dean of academic affairs in the Respiratory Therapy Department at Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions, will lead the project at Georgia State, along with Caley and Pettignano. The grant will examine the understanding of law students and medical residents of National Asthma Education Prevention Program guidelines, review the current asthma education to determine whether it is provided in accordance with evidence-based practice, and identify gaps in knowledge regarding asthma education that need to be addressed.

“Over 20 percent of cases handled by HeLP involve children with asthma,” Caley said. “This grant will help to ensure law and medical students are better equipped to meet the needs of HeLP clients diagnosed with asthma, and that the children will have access to appropriate asthma care.”

HeLP By the Numbers

HeLP has been conducting research on its impact since its inception. Based on the data collected, we know that:

For 2014
- HeLP handled 604 cases with 482 unique clients (parents/guardians) and 504 children.
- These cases resulting in $685,000 in benefits to those clients.
- Of the 504 children assisted, nearly 23% had a diagnosis of asthma, another 20% had some form of developmental delay, and 45% of children had multiple diagnoses.
- Legal problems addressed included issues of family law, disability, housing conditions, education, Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program, and other public benefits.

And over the last 10 years (June 2004 through June 2014)
- HeLP stabilized 236 families, and obtained or retained secure housing for 500 families.
- HeLP secured public benefits for 195 families totaling $1,146,943.
- HeLP acquired Medicaid coverage with an estimated health benefit amount of $1,258,004 based on average recipient costs published by the Georgia Department of Community Health for 164 people.
- A recent study of 50 Medicaid cases published in the Journal of Public Health Management Practice in 2012, estimated that HeLP’s services resulted in Medicaid payments to Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta in the amount of $640,291 over a 4-year period. This represents an average payment of $10,327 per recipient assisted that otherwise would have required allocating the charges to charity or indigent care.

The Health Law Partnership (HeLP) is a medical-legal partnership among Georgia State University College of Law, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Atlanta Legal Aid Society. Through this community collaboration, health care providers and lawyers address the multiple social and economic conditions that affect the health of low-income children. One of HeLP’s core components is interdisciplinary education of graduate professional students through the HeLP Legal Services Clinic at Georgia State Law.

www.healthlawpartnership.org
Courtney L. Anderson
Professor Anderson participated in a court of homeless youth in Atlanta with Georgia State sociology professors. She spoke at the Health Law Professors Conference, and the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning at Gonzaga University School of Law. Anderson has papers on disparate impact and fair housing, and legal reforms for homeless youth forthcoming in the American University Journal of Gender, Social Policy, and the Law; the University of Barcelona Law Journal, and the University of California-Hastings Race and Poverty Law Journal.

Robert M. Berry
Professor Berry taught her Po­vert­y Law Journal at the University of California-Hastings and the University of Barcelona Law Journal, the University of Gender, Social Policy, and the Law Journal of Gender, Social Policy, and the Law. She is engaged in an article on homelessness forthcoming in the American University Journal of Gender, Social Policy, and the Law.

Lisa R. Bliss
Clinical Professor Bliss is a co­editor and co­author of the

book Building on Best Practices: Transforming Legal Education in A Changing World. She was a plenary speaker at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Conference on Clinical Legal Education, where she spoke about how law school faculties are changing in “The Faces of the New Normal.” She also presented “Facing Our Fears in Changing Times: Critically Examining the Benefits and Opportunities of Clinical Legal Education Models in Order to Lead within Our Institutions.”

Sylvia B. Caley (J.D. ’89)
For the next three years, Clinical Professor Caley and the Health Law Partnership (HeLP) will be collaborating with two other medical legal partnerships on a grant from the Association of American Medical Colleges to participate in the Accelerating Health Equity, Advancing Through Discovery initiative. HeLP will participate in the development of common metrics to measure the effectiveness of MLPs.

Erin C. Fuse Brown
Professor Fuse Brown’s article, “Resurrecting Health Care Rate Regulation” is forthcoming in the Hastings Law Journal. She presented on a panel titled “Addressing Soaring Health Care Prices” at the annual Health Law Professors Conference in June. She spoke about the Supreme Court’s consideration of the King v. Burwell case at the King v. Spalding 24th Annual Health Law & Policy Forum and at the Southeastern Association of Law Schools’ annual meeting. She has been quoted in the Boston Globe, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, the Houston Chronicle, the Kansas City Star, and on Bankrate.com.

Jessica Gabel Cino
Professor Gabel Cino co­wrote “Shadow Dwellers: The Under­regulated World of Local DNA Databases” for the NYU Annual Survey of American Law Review. Her article, “A New Approach to an Old Problem: Realizing Reliability in Forensic Science from the Ground Up,” was published in Northwestern University’s Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, and her most recent article, “The Lean Legal Clinic: Cost­Effective Methods of Implementing Experiential Education” was published in the Elzin Law Review.

Randall L. Hughes
Professor Hughes was appointed to the Board of Navigant Health, the parent organization for the Medical Center of Central Georgia. He serves on Georgia State Law’s Board of Visitors as well as on the alumni board of the Cooperative Living Organization at the University of Florida. He is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the Atlanta Legal Aid Society.

Stacie P. Kershner (J.D. ’08)
Kershner wrapped up the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation–funded Future of Public Health Law, Faculty Fellowship Program with Charity Scott with a closing conference and development of two online resource libraries. She taught Public Health Law to law and graduate public health students this summer and was quoted in articles on vaccination and religious exemptions for the Daily Report and Georgia State University’s website.

Paul A. Lombardo

Timothy D. Lytton
Lytton presented papers on food safety regulation at conferences in Seattle and London. He was interviewed about his current food safety research by Food Safety News and a South Korean radio program, and about his book on kosher food regulation on the radio program Eating Matters. He was quoted in the Wall Street Journal, the Associated Press, Reuters, and the Hartford Courant in articles about lawsuits from the Newtown, Connecticut school shooting, and in the Minneapolis Star Tribune in an article about clergy sexual abuse lawsuits.

Charity Scott
Professor Scott concluded her leadership of a faculty fellowship program in public health law education, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, by hosting a two­day closing conference in Atlanta. She has arranged with RWJF and the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics to publish a special symposium volume about this program in the Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics. She has been interviewed by Medical Ethics Advisor on issues in bioethics, patient care, and conflict resolution.

Emily F. Suski
Clinical Professor Suski published “Beyond the Schoolhouse Gates: The Unprecedented Expansion of School Surveillance Authority under Cyberbullying Laws” in the Case Western Reserve Law Review. She presented at the University of Kentucky, the American Association of Law Schools Conference on Clinical Legal Education, and the Southeast Southwest People of Color Conference at NCCU School of Law. She is an executive board member of the AALS Section on Poverty Law.

Jonathan Todres

Leslie E. Wolf
The National Human Genome Research Institute funded Professor Wolf and Duke University colleagues to study confidentiality protections applicable to genomic research. She published articles on the Ebola epidemic in the Huffington Post and the Daily Report. She served on a Department of Defense peer review committee for its Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program and as a mentor for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded Future of Public Health Law Education Faculty Fellowship Program.

Patricia J. Zettler
Zettler joined the Health Law Professors Conference, where she spoke about the program in the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics Health Law Journal.
Students Receive Scholarships to Compliance Certification

Each Year, Seton Hall Law School Center for Health & Pharmaceutical Law & Policy, directed by Amy Cattafi, awards two promising health law students scholarships to attend its U.S. Healthcare Compliance Certification Program. For 2015, Georgia State students Sheila Salvant-Valentine (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’16) and Ryan Kerr (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’15) were selected based on their resumes, personal statements and faculty recommendations demonstrating their academic achievement and commitment to a career in health law.

The four-day training offered attendees a opportunity for the students. “I was able to a career in health law. The compliance program was a great experience,” Kerr said. “I got to attend sessions on topics that I have not covered in my classes, as well as hear discussions of federal regulations from the perspectives of experts in the field of compliance and to further develop skills needed to carry-out a strong corporate compliance program.” Stacie Kerisher (J.D. ’08), associate director for the Center for Law, Health & Society, said, “We were honored to have Seton Hall award both of the highly competitive scholarships to Georgia State Law students this year.”

“The compliance program was a great experience,” Kerr said. “I got to attend sessions on topics that I have not covered in my classes, as well as hear discussions of federal regulations from the perspectives of experts in the field of compliance and to further develop skills needed to carry-out a strong corporate compliance program.” Stacie Kerisher (J.D. ’08), associate director for the Center for Law, Health & Society, said, “We were honored to have Seton Hall award both of the highly competitive scholarships to Georgia State Law students this year.”

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I am grateful to have been awarded a scholarship to participate in the Seton Hall Law healthcare compliance certification,” Salvant-Valentine said. “The course gave me the opportunity to better understand the relationship between the fields of health law and healthcare compliance. With the healthcare compliance certification, I am definitely better prepared for a career in health law.”

The program also served as a networking opportunity for the students. “I was able to meet health law attorneys from across the country, federal agency representatives, and compliance officers of multinational corporations,” Kerr said. “It was also a great chance to meet other health law students at Seton Hall and discuss our programs and our future interests.”

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Students

New SHLA Officers Named

The Student Health Law Association is a student-run organization for law students interested in health-related legal disciplines. The following students were elected as SHLA officers for 2015-2016:

3L President: Choyce Middleton
2L President: Sabalino Jones
Vice President of Competitions: Greg Tanner
Vice President of Mentorship: Jessica Hobbs
Outreach Chairs: Shaun Moore and Kirstin Rodriguez

The position of Secretary is reserved for an incoming first-year student interested in health law and will be selected at the beginning of the academic year.

Georgia State Law Wins 2015 Food Frenzy

Georgia State University College of Law won the 2015 Georgia Legal Food Frenzy Law School Division Attorney General’s Cup, beating the state’s other four schools for the second consecutive year. Students Health Law Association members Luke Donohue (J.D. ’16) and Wayne Satterfield (J.D. ’15) led Georgia State Law’s efforts to raise the equivalent of 22,346 pounds of food (43,533 pounds per person), equating to $5,096 for the Atlanta Community Food Bank.

The Georgia Legal Food Frenzy is an annual friendly competition among Georgia law firms, legal organizations and law schools to raise food and funds for the state’s seven regional food banks to help fight hunger. For the competition, law schools could raise money and collect food items. Food banks are able to use $1 for four pounds of food. Collectively, the participating law schools raised $9,534 (or 35,555 pounds), with Georgia State Law raising more than the rest of the other schools combined.

“We were honored to have Seton Hall award both of the highly competitive scholarships to Georgia State Law students this year.”

The position of Secretary is reserved for an incoming first-year student interested in health law and will be selected at the beginning of the academic year.

“The excitement from last year’s win provided a lot of momentum from the start of the competition,” Satterfield said. “The student body was determined to win the competition again, and I think everybody was excited to do so.”

“For us, the food frenzy was also more than just a competition. It truly is an amazing cause,” Donohue said. “Georgia State Law takes pride in existing at the cross-section of law and service and the Legal Food Frenzy is a great way for students to begin giving back to the community that will one day serve as attorneys.”

A number of organizations donated to the cause, including the Student Health Law Association, Student Bar Association, Law Review, OUTLaw Society, and Family Law Society. A number of professors donated as well. “We couldn’t have won without the faculty and our fellow students stepping up,” Donohue said. “It was great to win, but it was even better to win in such resounding fashion, and we plan to do the same thing next year.”

“One thing that stood out this year is that the other law schools combined to win, but it was even better to win in such a resounding fashion, and we plan to do the same thing next year.”

Students

Health Law Student Presented with Sparks Award

Health law student Carson Lamb (J.D. ’15) is one of four 2015 Sparks Award honorees. The award is one of the greatest honors at Georgia State University and is named for George M. Sparks who served as president from 1928 to 1957. These annual awards recognize faculty, staff and students who display characteristics that Sparks was known for: good humor and perseverance.

When accepting the award, Lamb acknowledged that the odds were against his completion of high school, much less college and law school. After the unexpected and tragic loss of two close friends, he dropped out of high school, left home, and lived on the streets. Two years later, he began to turn his life around, ultimately earning his J.D., graduating with honors from the University of South Carolina and coming to Georgia State Law.

Carson’s story is inspirational,” Kershner said. “He is using his experiences and his talents to help others.”

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“Carson’s story is inspirational,” Kershner said. “He is using his experiences and his talents to help others.”
Health Law Students Honored

Several health law students were acknowledged for their achievements at the 2015 College of Law Honors Day. The Health Law Award went to Ryan Kerr (J.D./M.S.H.A ’15) and Barbara Rogers (M.B.A./M.H.A. ’08, J.D. ’15). This award, which includes a monetary gift sponsored by the State Bar of Georgia’s Health Law Section, recognizes outstanding student achievement in health law including academic performance, writing ability, experiential learning, and involvement in the health law community. “Ryan and Barb are wonderful representatives of our Health Law program,” said Leslie Wolf, director of the Center for Law, Health & Society. “We are so proud of their achievements.”

The ABA/BNFA Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law is awarded to three students with the highest grades in core health law courses. Dean Karandsel (J.D./M.S.H.A ’14) received this award for achievement in Health Law: Quality and Access (Fall 2014) and Health Law: Finance and Delivery (Spring 2014). Matthew Johnson (J.D. ’15) and Genevieve Kazick (J.D./M.S.H.A. ’14) received this award for achievement in Health Law: Finance and Delivery (Spring 2014). These students received a certificate and a complementary book selection from ABA/BNFA.

Peter Watson (J.D. ’16) was presented with the HeLP Legal Services Clinic Award, including a monetary gift sponsored by the HeLP Advisory Council, for demonstrating excellent legal analysis, writing, advocacy, and professionalism in the delivery of legal services to low-income families served by the clinic.

“The Health Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia now sponsors annual health law awards for law students studying health law at several Georgia law schools. The section’s executive committee is excited by the increased interest of students in the fields of health care law and public health law, and has continually been impressed with the qualifications, achievements, and motivation of the talented law students who have received this award.”

— Mark Kashdan (J.D. ’99), Chair of the Health Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia

Graduate Returns to Teach

Samantha Johnson (J.D. ’05, M.B.A./M.H.A. ’14) returned to the College of Law this summer in a new role – that of professor. Johnson serves as general counsel for Grady Health System, where she advises, counsels and educates hospital employees and medical staff regarding the legal aspects of patient care, ethics, human resources, compliance, and regulatory matters. In addition to drafting and reviewing contracts and policies, she represents Grady in litigation in state and federal courts and manages outside counsel representing Grady.

Johnson oversees the guardianship matters for Grady and its nursing home, Cresciview Health and Rehabilitation. She assists Grady Emergency Medical Services in all legal aspects of its operations and center sponsored events.

Johnson used her experiences at Grady to develop and teach a course on legal issues facing in-house counsel at the law school. “My father has been an in-house attorney at BellSouth Companies and AT&T for 39 years. Even before I began my own in-house career, I learned from him that practicing law for a corporation is very different than practicing law in a firm,” Johnson said. “I wanted to introduce the students to the practical and ethical issues faced by in-house attorneys, including issues of attorney-client privilege, internal investigations, and advising and counseling internal business clients.”

Johnson obviously enjoyed her teaching experience, because she will be teaching a course, Legal Environment of Health Care, at the Institute of Health Administration at Georgia State University Robinson College of Business this fall. She also will guest lecture in center director Leslie Wolf’s Health Law: Quality and Access course. Johnson will speak about caring for incapacitated elderly patients during a long-term care setting.

Sam will have the opportunity to expand the center’s teaching experience, because she is teaching a course, Legal Environment of Health Care, at the Institute of Health Administration at Georgia State University Robinson College of Business this fall. She will also guest lecture in center director Leslie Wolf’s Health Law: Quality and Access course. Johnson will speak about caring for incapacitated elderly patients during a long-term care setting.

“Sam has participated in a number of Student Health Law Association and center sponsored events for our students,” Wolf said. “We are lucky that she is willing to share her experiences more formally in the classroom.”

Making a Difference in the Lives of Georgians

In April, Rachel King (J.D. ’99) returned to the Georgia Department of Community Health as executive director of the Office of Health Planning. Previously she served as general counsel for the Department of Human Services, where she provided legal guidance to the commissioner while also overseeing a team of attorneys in addressing legal matters related to core business of the department, as well as human resources, legislation, contracts, regulatory compliance, and coordinating with outside counsel in litigation matters. “That experience was invaluable and provided a whole cloth perspective of how an agency or large company operates and the role in-house counsel plays in sustaining the operation,” King said.

In her new position, King oversees the administration of the Certificate of Need and Managed Care Patient’s Rights programs and the state’s health planning functions. “The work makes a difference every day in the lives of each and every Georgian. The work is a stimulating combination of administrative, health care, and business law.”

She originally planned to pursue a career in employment law, drawing on her earlier experience in human resources. She re-evaluated her career trajectory and began exploring opportunities in health care after enrolling in professor Leslie Wolf’s public health law class. Her enjoyment of the class prompted her to apply for a position advertised through the law school’s externship program at the Department of Community Health. Following the completion of her externship, she stayed on as an employee.

King encourages students to get involved. “I cannot say enough about the wealth of opportunities for student involvement at Georgia State. Engage with the faculty in discussions about career pathways and work-life balance, and consider becoming a student mentor after graduation.”
Bioethics at the Movies

This spring, the 9th Annual Bioethics at the Movies series was co-sponsored by the Students Health Law Association and the Center for Law, Health & Society. One of the most popular events, the series is open to all students at the College of Law as well as members of the health law community. The series features clips from movies and television and discussion on a wide range of topics in bioethics guided by health law faculty and guest speakers. Past years have addressed themes such as vaccination, human cloning, genetic enhancement, surrogacy, and medical tourism.

Doc Hollywood

The first session of this year’s Bioethics at the Movies featured author, producer and the real “Doc Hollywood,” Ned Shulman. Shulman, who is an associate professor of internal medicine at Emory University School of Medicine, wrote the book on which the film Doc Hollywood (1994) is based. The film follows Benjamin Stone (portrayed by Michael J. Fox), an emergency room doctor eager to begin a lucrative career as a plastic surgeon in Beverly Hills, whose “short cut” on his drive West finds him crashing into the fence of the local judge in the small town in the rural South and sentenced to community service in the local hospital. Shulman shared scenes from the movie and responded to questions moderated by professor and center director Leslie Wolf.

While the story is a romantic comedy, Shulman purposely set the story in the fictional town of Grady to highlight the challenges people in the rural South face in accessing medical care and the very real difficulty of attracting doctors to practice in small towns. “Doctors in rural settings have to consider the issues of illiteracy, illnesses specific to a certain area, and practitioners who are able to serve the population,” he said. “Doctors today don’t have as much exposure to a wide range of illnesses because of specialization. In a rural setting, though, specialists may not be easily accessible and the primary care doctor has to deal with whatever walks in the door.”

Shulman also discussed the issue of homegrown remedies. “Some of these non-pharmaceutical remedies may have validity, but they have not been studied because there is no money in proving them safe or effective,” he said, after showing a clip of an older doctor using Coca-Cola to treat an upset stomach.

“And the Band Played On

The second session featured doctors James W. Curran, dean of the Rollins School of Public Health and co-director of the Center for AIDS Research, and Harold W. Jaffe, associate director for science at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, who spoke about the movie And the Band Played On (1993).

Based on a book of the same name, And the Band Played On depicts the early years of the AIDS epidemic. Jaffe and Curran’s presentation focused on the work of the CDC task force, of which they were both members, that investigated the then unknown disease. Using clips from the movie, Jaffe illustrated how they and their colleagues gathered the information that would lead them to identify how the disease ultimately became known as AIDS was spread, long before the virus was identified. The path was not easy. As Jaffe and Curran explained, they followed a number of unproductive leads, such as the use of drugs called “poppers.”

The movie documenters how “shoe leather” detective work ultimately paid off with the identification of “patient zero,” whose links to clusters of people affected by AIDS helped demonstrate it was sexually transmitted. While Jaffe highlighted a few facts that deviated from reality during his presentation, both doctors agreed that the fear evident in the film was accurate. Curran reflected on how frightening it was to interview so many sick people – mostly young people – during their investigation, especially with how deadly the disease was.

“I attended this event because I felt a strong need to better understand the history of HIV/AIDS,” said law student Christine Dennis (J.D.’15). “In my view, this is one of the few ‘great epidemics’ of our generation and it was profoundly important for me, as a student of health law, to understand the history behind this deadly disease.”

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The event ended with a stirring movie clip showing a montage of various people who had died of AIDS. Even with the dramatic license taken, the film serves to inform viewers about HIV/AIDS, its history, and the impact of public health research in responding to this deadly infectious disease.

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The Center for Law, Health & Society sponsored a two-part lecture series, “Understanding the Vaccine Debates,” following the Disneyland measles outbreak, which affected 147 people in seven states.

Prior to the measles vaccine, the disease infected more than 500,000 Americans each year, hospitalized 48,000 hospitalized and killed 500. Fifty years after the vaccine’s introduction, public health may be a victim of its own success, said Seth Mnookin, award-winning journalist and best-selling author of The Panic Virus: The True-Story Behind the Vaccine-Autism Controversy, in his March 25 lecture, “Misinformation and Measles: The Disneyland Outbreak, Public Health, and the Nature of Truth.”

Some parents do not vaccinate their children because of fears about vaccine risk. “The study alleging a link between autism and vaccines has not only been proven false, but the author Andrew Wakefield’s data has been found to be fraudulent and his license to practice medicine was revoked,” Mnookin said.

Yet misinformation about vaccine safety persists. “Media bears some of the guilt in perpetuating this myth and thereby endangering the public’s health,” he said. “After all,” Silverman stated, “ultimately, people want to do what is best for their children.”

Why are high vaccination rates important? When vaccination rates are above a certain threshold, people who cannot be vaccinated because, for example, they are too young, pregnant, or have compromised immune systems are protected because they are less likely to come in contact with someone with the disease. This threshold, which varies, in part, based on how easily the disease is transmitted, is called herd or community immunity. In some communities, low vaccination rates have compromised herd immunity and place others at risk of infection.

“The fact that the outbreak occurred, not in isolation, but at the place where ‘dreams are made’ has brought this issue to the forefront of public discussion,” Silverman said. “It presents an opportunity for action.” However, he also highlighted the challenges facing legislators. “We are a diverse country. We must be careful not to stigmatize people in the process of swaying the pendulum toward stricter vaccination requirements.”

When asked whether he supports doctors dismissing unvaccinated families from their practices, Silverman concluded that continuing the vaccine conversation is the safest approach to keeping vaccine-hesitant parents within the health care system rather than isolating them. “After all,” Silverman stated, “ultimately, people want to do what is best for their children.”

Scientists’ inability to communicate effectively to the public also contributes to the problem. As Mnookin illustrated, “Which story grabs your attention more? The one with a staunch old scientist saying that the likelihood of causation is minuscule or the one with the devoted mother tearfully recalling how her toddler’s spirit dimmed before her very eyes within days of receiving a vaccine?”

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Georgia Traditionally Has Had High Rates of Vaccination, said Stacie Kershner (J.D. ’08), associate director of the center, said. “However, some areas fall below acceptable rates which could prove dangerous in a disease outbreak. It has been easy to claim a religious exemption in Georgia and parents have taken advantage of this exemption to avoid vaccination.”

Previously, Georgia regulations required parents to simply submit a written statement affirming vaccination conflicts with their religious beliefs. Effective May 27, parents now need to complete an official Department of Public Health form and have it notarized. While not required to state a specific religion, parents must swear or affirm that the vaccination is contrary to their religious beliefs, they understand vaccines prevent the spread of dangerous diseases and that they are putting themselves, their children and others at risk by choosing not to vaccinate.

Kershner, who teaches as an adjunct, brought law and graduate public health students from her Public Health Law course to the public hearings on the proposed regulations. Barrett later discussed the role of the department and the regulatory process for regulations to improve public health outcomes in Georgia in class. “It was inspiring to see legal counsel working in public health take action to change the law in Georgia based on talks I heard just a few months earlier at the law school,” said Michelle Namer (J.D. ’17).
Public Health Law Faculty Fellowship Comes to a Close

In May, 10 public health law faculty fellows, their mentors, and the program team convened for a closing conference of the faculty fellowship program known as The Future of Public Health Law Education, which was funded through a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to enhance public health law teaching nationwide.

The closing conference allowed fellows to share and reflect on their experiences creating new public health law-related courses at their institutions. Combined, the projects involved strategies to reach more students, offered students practical experience through collaborations with a variety of community partners, and expanded externship and clinical opportunities. Most of the projects were taught on an interdisciplinary basis with law and public health students or other health-related graduate students.

Amy Campbell’s approach exemplifies the types of innovations undertaken by the fellows. An associate professor of law and director of the Institute for Health Law & Policy at University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, Campbell created partnerships with community stakeholders, including a children’s hospital, to provide healthy homes for children in Memphis.

“I find the adage ‘Students learn most by doing but best by serving,’ to be true,” said Campbell. Her work provided a context for student learning and service, while addressing a recognized community need.

Attendees also furthered the community of practice among public health law faculty and practitioners developed through the fellowship year, including a meeting with attorneys who work for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in various capacities and a CDC tour.

“Paula Kocher, the chief legal counsel at CDC, who I met at the fellowship’s Summer Institute in Park City, helped me establish an internship placement for my students,” said Kimberly Cogdell, associate professor at North Carolina Central University School of Law, said. “The visit allowed me to foster the relationships that will benefit my students.”

“The impact of the fellows’ projects on their schools of law and public health and their larger communities is tremendous,” said Charity Scott, Catherine C. Henson Professor of Law and lead faculty for the fellowship program. “Perhaps the greatest impact has been on the fellows themselves who have experimented, even outside their comfort zones, to create truly original and effective teaching innovations.”

“The fellowship program was a master class in how to teach in a dynamic, creative, multi-modal manner,” said Laura Hermer, associate professor of law at Hamline University School of Law. “Through the program, we’ve created a community from which we can draw ideas and help going forward.”

The American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics will publish a special edition of the Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics in spring 2016, featuring articles by the fellows and others in the fellowship program.

New Resources for Public Health Law Education

Georgia State Law has developed two new online resource libraries for faculty at schools of law and public health, a collection of teaching tools and a database of substantive public health law materials, with contributions from the fellows, mentors, and other public health law faculty. Materials are continuously being added and included in both sites. The libraries can be accessed at law.gsu.edu/PHL.Fellowship.

Fellows

Micah Berman, J.D.
College of Public Health
Montana College of Law
The Ohio State University

Controlling Health Department Accreditation with Education. An Interdisciplinary Public Health Law Course (with Franklin County Public Health Department)

Kimberly Cogdell Boies, J.D., M.P.H.
North Carolina Central University School of Law
Diversity in Public Health Law Teaching: Public Health Law, Vulnerable Populations, and Externships

Amy Campbell, J.D., M.B.E.
Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law
University of Memphis
Longitudinal Curriculum Development: Public Health Law, Health & Policy Practice with Healthy Homes Partnership: Medical-Legal Partnership (with Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital)

Sarah Davis, J.D., M.P.A.
University of Wisconsin Law School
Externship Central: Public Health Law Online Practice Workshop

Robert Gatter, J.D., M.A.
Saint Louis University School of Law

Mentors

Mary Crossley, J.D.
University of Pittsburgh School of Law

James Hodge, J.D., LL.M.
Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law

Kathleen Hoke, J.D.
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

Ross Silverman, J.D., M.P.H.
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Leisl Wolf, J.D., M.P.H.
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Debra Gerardi, R.N., M.P.H., J.D.
Emerging Health Care Communities
Nancy Kaufman, M.S.
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Congratulations 2014-15 Faculty Fellows

Jennifer Herbst, M.Bioethics, J.D., LL.M.
School of Law
Frank H. Netter M.D. School of Medicine
Quinnipiac University
Interdisciplinary Hybrid Public Health Law Course (law, medicine, nursing & social work)

Laura Hermer, J.D., LL.M.
Hamline University School of Law
Community Health & Vulnerable Populations: Medical-Legal Partnership (with United Family Medicine)

Heather McCabe, J.D., M.S.W.
Indiana University School of Social Work
Seminar in Public Health Law & Policy in an Intersessional Setting (with Indiana Health Advocacy Coalition and Policy Child Development Center)

Elizabeth Tobin Tyler, J.D., M.A.
School of Public Health
Warren Alpert Medical School
Brown University
Prevention: Medicine, Public Health Law & Policy (Interdisciplinary; with RI Department of Health, Alliance for Healthy Homes, Center for Prevenior & Human Rights, Providence Health Communities Office)

Elizabeth Van Nostrand, J.D.
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh
Law in Public Health Practice (interdisciplinary; with Allegheny County Health Department)
Stay Connected to the Center for Law, Health & Society

**On the Web**
Visit our website at clhs.law.gsu.edu for information on the center, news, and upcoming events.

**On the Blog**
Check out our new blog at centerforlawhealthandsociety.wordpress.com for opinion pieces and commentary on current events.

**On LinkedIn**
College of Law graduates, students and faculty can network and share job postings and other announcements by searching the Center for Law, Health & Society on LinkedIn.

**Graduate Health Law Network**
Graduates of Georgia State Law may join the Graduate Health Law Network at clhs.law.gsu.edu/contact/join-graduate-network/ for updates on events and activities through our newsletter, e-alerts and mailings.

**Friends of the Center**
Not a Georgia State Law graduate? You can still receive updates by becoming a friend of the center at clhs.law.gsu.edu/contact/become-friend/.

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Charity Scott, Catherine C. Henson Professor of Law
Emily F. Suski, Assistant Clinical Professor
Jonathan Todres, Professor of Law
Patricia J. Zettler, Associate Professor of Law

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Wendy F. Hensel, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development and Professor

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