

## The Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Ronald H. Brown's Graduation from St. John's School of Law

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## INTRODUCTION

### THE CELEBRATION OF THE 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF RONALD H. BROWN'S GRADUATION FROM ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL OF LAW

BY: LEONARD M. BAYNES\*

On November 13-14, 2009, St. John's School of Law, the Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development (the "Ronald H. Brown Center"), and its official journal, the *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development*, held a two-day conference celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ron Brown's graduation from St. John's School of Law. Governor David Paterson, the first African American governor of New York State, recognized the anniversary and sent a letter to Professor Baynes stating:

I am delighted to send greetings to everyone gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Ronald H. Brown's graduation from St. John's University School of law. Speakers at commencement ceremonies often refer to graduation as a beginning – a time when a graduate embarks on a new journey to fully explore the reach of their talents, missions and aspirations. In 1970, Ronald Harmon Brown graduated from St. John's University School of Law and blazed the trail for countless African-Americans and minorities to follow. . . The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development continues this groundbreaking alumnus' extraordinary legacy of service and his tireless efforts to 'conquer the new and unknown.' Through outstanding scholarship and outreach programs, the Center addresses the vital issues of racial, social, and economic justice and creates opportunities for countless students and professionals to widen

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the path begun by Ron Brown nearly four decades ago.<sup>1</sup>

The first day of the symposium featured scholarly presentations by approximately twenty-five St. John's law faculty<sup>2</sup> on modern adaptations of issues of racial, social, and economic justice. It was impressive to see so many faculty members participating in the Symposium and analyzing their scholarly interests through the prism of racial, social and economic justice. It was remarked by some at the time of the event that this was the largest percentage of St. John's law faculty participation in any symposium organized at the law school. It was also quite remarkable that each faculty stayed within the twelve-minute time constraints given to them. Approximately twelve faculty members who presented at the symposium are publishing their work in this volume commemorating the symposium.<sup>3</sup>

The second day of the symposium featured national experts such as Columbia Law Professor Conrad Johnson, Thomas M. Cooley School of Law Associate Dean and Professor of Law John Nussbaumer, Legal Outreach CEO and founder James O'Neal, and CUNY Law Professor and Director of the Center of Latinos/as and the Law Jenny Rivera who explored ways to increase diversity in the legal profession. In addition, the symposium featured testimonials by students who completed the Center's signature pipeline programs—The Ronald Brown Prep Program for College Students and the Legal Outreach Program for high school students. At the end of the second day, the Prep Program students interviewed with fourteen law school admissions officials from across the country.

During his introduction, Dean Michael A. Simons noted that for the first time in the Law School history, student editors of *The Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development* moderated each of the panels,<sup>4</sup> and students who participated in the Prep Program who are now in law school also moderated panels on the second day of the symposium.

The symposium Introduction allows me to do five things: First, it allows me to publicly thank my colleague Janai Nelson, the assistant Director of the Ronald H. Brown Center, who exercised great leadership in organizing the faculty symposium. It was done flawlessly and could not have been

<sup>1</sup> Letter from New York Governor David A. Patterson to Professor Leonard M. Baynes (November 13-14, 2009) (on file with Professor Leonard M. Baynes).

<sup>2</sup> Members of the faculty who presented at the conference are listed in Exhibit A attached hereto.

<sup>3</sup> Symposium, *The Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Ronald H. Brown's Graduation from St. John's School of Law*, 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 1 (2010).

<sup>4</sup> Press Release, St. John's University School of Law, St. John's School of Law Hosts Symposium On Issues Regarding Racial, Social, and Economic Justice (Nov. 20, 2009), available at [http://www.stjohns.edu/about/news/items/press\\_releases/pr\\_uni\\_091120.news\\_item@digest.stjohns.edu%2Fabout\\_us%2Fpr\\_uni\\_091120.xml](http://www.stjohns.edu/about/news/items/press_releases/pr_uni_091120.news_item@digest.stjohns.edu%2Fabout_us%2Fpr_uni_091120.xml).

achieved without her great efforts. Second, the symposium also allows me to talk about Ronald Brown's life and legacy. Third, it allows me to brag about the work that the Center and the *Journal* do to carry forth the life and legacy of Ron Brown by showcasing the important scholarship and programs of the Ronald H. Brown Center. Fourth, it allows me to talk about my colleagues' symposium pieces. Fifth, it allows me to connect the dots among Ron Brown's life, the work of the Center, and the work of my colleagues in this symposium issue.

## I. RON BROWN'S LIFE

The Center has been blessed by the participation of Brown's daughter, Tracey Brown, in the life of the Center. She is a partner at the Cochrane Firm and honorary Chair of the Center's Steering Committee. In 2003, Tracey did a reading of her book entitled: "The Life and Times of Ron Brown: A Memoir by his Daughter." The book reading was held in the Ronald H. Brown Center in the Rittenberg Law Library. Tracey's memoir was immensely useful to me in writing this Introduction charting Ron Brown's personal historical journey.

Brown grew up in Harlem, New York. He lived in the famed Theresa Hotel where his father was the hotel manager.<sup>5</sup> He attended Middlebury College when at the time he was one of only three African Americans in the entire student body<sup>6</sup> and there were no African American faculty members,<sup>7</sup> which was par for the course for many academic institutions at that time. At seventeen, he was also the youngest student in Middlebury's freshman class.<sup>8</sup> Due to limited family finances, he waited tables in Middlebury's campus dining room to help defray the costs of his education.<sup>9</sup> At Middlebury, he was the first African American member of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity.<sup>10</sup> He experienced some racism at Middlebury in that the national rules for the fraternity he joined limited membership to "white Christians."<sup>11</sup> Fortunately, the local fraternity chapter and Middlebury College decided to stand by his admission and to

<sup>5</sup> TRACEY L. BROWN, *THE LIFE AND TIMES OF RON BROWN: A MEMOIR BY HIS DAUGHTER* 40 (1998).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 55-56.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* at 56.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* at 57

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 57-58.

disregard the fraternity's national membership rules. In addition, given the racial atmosphere at that time, Brown, who had two dates with a white female student named Bonnie, was told by the Dean of Women students that Bonnie's parents were concerned about her dating an African American man, that "he was not supposed to date white students and that he should stop immediately."<sup>12</sup>

After graduation from Middlebury, Brown accepted a job working for the Department of Social Services and attended St. John's Law School at night.<sup>13</sup> His law school education was interrupted because of his ROTC commitment to serve in the military.<sup>14</sup> After receiving a letter from St. John's threatening that he would lose his credits if he did not re-enroll, Brown was released from active duty, and returned to St. John's to complete his law degree.<sup>15</sup> At the time, he was the only African American student in St. John's night program.<sup>16</sup> During the day, he worked at the National Urban League, and he ultimately graduated from St. John's in 1970.

After his graduation from St. John's, Brown's career soared. In rapid succession, he became head of the National Urban League's Washington D.C. office.<sup>17</sup> He became the Urban League's voice on Capitol Hill. He left the Urban League to be coordinator on Senator Ted Kennedy's White House campaign. After Kennedy lost the nomination, he appointed Brown as the Senate Judiciary Committee's Chief Counsel.<sup>18</sup> He then became the first African American partner at the prestigious law firm of Patton Boggs. In 1988, Brown served as the campaign manager of the Jesse Jackson for President Campaign.<sup>19</sup> He served as a negotiator between the Jackson camp and the Dukakis campaign at the 1988 convention, which led him to be considered for, and chosen as, the head of the Democratic National Committee, the first African American to hold that position. He received a lot of criticism for being selected as the Chair of the Democratic Committee because of his past association with Jesse Jackson, and he was viewed as too liberal for the position.<sup>20</sup> Moreover, then-Senator Bill Bradley reportedly overheard some other U.S. senators make racist

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 57.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* at 73-78.

<sup>14</sup> *Id.* at 80.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.* at 105-6.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.* at 108.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 117.

<sup>18</sup> *Id.* at 143.

<sup>19</sup> *Id.* at 166.

<sup>20</sup> *Id.* at 181.

comments about Brown.<sup>21</sup>

Despite this early backbiting, Brown went on to be one of the most successful Chairs of the Democratic National Committee. President Clinton credited Brown for his role in helping Clinton win the presidency.<sup>22</sup> President Clinton appointed Brown to be the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, making him the first African American Commerce Secretary. Unfortunately, his life was cut short during a trade mission to the Balkans.

In his role of Secretary of Commerce, Brown decided to turn the Commerce Department into “a powerhouse. . .in growing the economy.”<sup>23</sup> He became an advocate for U.S. business and brought \$40 billion in new business to U.S. companies through his many trade missions.<sup>24</sup>

President Bill Clinton described Ron Brown and his legacy as follows:

History remembers great men as collections of great deeds. More than a year after the tragedy that took his life, history remembers Ron Brown as the chairman who returned his party to the White House, as the secretary who revolutionized the Commerce Department, and as the leader who worked to bring all Americans into the global economy.<sup>25</sup>

For us at St. John’s, it is important to keep in mind Ron Brown’s accomplishments for several reasons. His life serves as a model for what St. John’s students can do with their careers by using the law to help change the world. His life’s work also embodies the values of inclusion to make sure that everyone in life has a fair chance. After his untimely death, St. John’s School of Law created the Ronald H. Brown Center to honor his memory and to advance goals embodied by his life’s mission and legacy.

## II. THE RONALD H. BROWN CENTER

### A. Overview

The Ronald H. Brown Center<sup>26</sup> is the School of Law’s oldest academic

<sup>21</sup> *Id.* at 184.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.* at 221.

<sup>23</sup> *Id.* at 259.

<sup>24</sup> *Id.* at 263.

<sup>25</sup> President William J. Clinton, *Introduction* to TRACEY L. BROWN, *THE LIFE AND TIMES OF RON BROWN: A MEMOIR BY HIS DAUGHTER* i, xiii (1998).

<sup>26</sup> The Ronald H. Brown Center occupies space in the School of Law’s Rittenberg Library. The location was underwritten by Mrs. Mary E. Thompson in memory of her husband, Dr. Leroy B. Thompson, an ardent supporter of civil rights. It provides a space for students to gather and study and

center. It was established in 1999 by Professor Janice Villiers, Judge Phillip Roach, and Justice Patricia Satterfield to honor the memory of Ronald H. Brown, '70.

### *B. Mission Statement*

The Ronald H. Brown Center's mission is to engage in legal studies, research and outreach focusing on issues that affect the lives of underrepresented people, increase the racial and socioeconomic diversity of the legal profession, and educate law students to be leaders on issues of racial, economic and social justice.<sup>27</sup>

### *C. Goals*

- To develop amicus briefs and other legal memoranda in precedent setting cases of racial, economic and social justice.
- To conduct research and studies that not only identify the causes of racial, economic and social injustice but also provide practical solutions.
- To review and examine legislation and public policies that address the problems created by racial, economic and social inequalities.
- To educate the news media and the public in order to promote understanding and focus on political and community efforts on the need to eradicate racism and poverty.
- To provide guidance and support to faculty and students in dedicating their professional careers to issues of racial, economic and social justice.

for special events, such as when Ms. Tracey Brown, did a book reading of "The Life and Times of Ron Brown, A Memoir by his Daughter," and for career panels of lawyers of color who discussed their careers with students participating in the Ronald H. Brown Prep Program.

The initial collection is drawn from the Rittenberg Law Library's holdings of civil-rights related materials. It includes books, videos and microforms on the history of the civil rights movement, affirmative action, voting rights, economic development, biographies and archival works from the civil rights files of the American Civil Liberties Union. Related materials located elsewhere in the Library's main collection are available to scholars and investigators who wish to use the Ronald H. Brown Center's facilities.

<sup>27</sup> Since 2005, the Center has been led by Leonard M. Baynes, who serves as Director. Professor Baynes is a tenured faculty member who is a nationally recognized scholar in the areas of media diversity and legal education. Professor Baynes has been recognized many times for his commitment to diversity. He was inducted into the Minority Media Telecommunications Committee's Hall of Fame; he also received the New York State Bar Association's Trailblazer Award, NEPOC's Shanara Gilbert and Haywood Burns Award, and The National People of Color Extraordinary Service Award.

In 2008, Janai S. Nelson was appointed Assistant Director. Effective August 2010, Professor Nelson achieved the rank of Associate Professor; she is a highly sought after scholar in the areas of election law and was the Center's first Research Professor and Fellow.

- To administer pipeline programs to increase the racial and socioeconomic diversity of the legal profession.

Almost half of the School of Law faculty are affiliated with the Center and have either presented at the Ronald H. Brown Center's academic conferences or taught in the Center's pipeline programs.

Since the Ronald H. Brown Center's early start about eleven years ago, it has grown into the premier academic think tank and national leader on issues of racial, social, and economic justice through its cutting-edge academic conferences and signature pipeline programs designed to increase diversity in the legal profession, the legal academy, and higher education administration.

#### *D. Academic Conferences*

The fortieth anniversary symposium that is the subject of this *Journal* issue is part of a long-line of symposia organized by the Ronald H. Brown Center or by the *Journal* in its previous incarnation as the *Journal of Legal Commentary*, which held seventeen annual symposia. Over the past seven years, the Ronald H. Brown Center sponsored or co-sponsored more than thirteen symposia on a wide range of topics including (1) race and corporate law, (2) race and the media, (3) race, media and elections, (4) domestic violence, (5) the economic downturn, and (6) same sex marriage.<sup>28</sup>

#### *E. The Ronald H. Brown Center Publications*

##### *1. Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development*

###### *a. Affiliation with the Ronald H. Brown Center*

On August 1, 2008, the *St. John's Journal of Legal Commentary* became the official publication of the Ronald H. Brown Center.<sup>29</sup> The *Journal of Legal Commentary* was first published in 1985 by a group of law review students who wanted the opportunity to publish their own pieces. The *Journal of Legal Commentary* provided lawyers and nonlawyers with

<sup>28</sup> For a complete listing of the Ronald H. Brown Center's symposia, please see Exhibit B attached hereto.

<sup>29</sup> Press Release, St. John's University School of Law, St. John's Journal of Legal Commentary Becomes the Official Journal of the Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development (Jan. 29, 2008), available at [http://www.stjohns.edu/academics/news/pr\\_law\\_080129.news\\_item@digest.stjohns.edu%2Facademics%2Fgraduate%2Flaw%2Fpr\\_law\\_080129.xml](http://www.stjohns.edu/academics/news/pr_law_080129.news_item@digest.stjohns.edu%2Facademics%2Fgraduate%2Flaw%2Fpr_law_080129.xml).

analysis and insight into various issues of social and legal significance, and its mission was to provide a forum for cutting-edge contemporary and historical topics through articles and essays by distinguished professors and scholars as well as student-written notes and comments.

Then-Dean Mary C. Daly proposed that the *Journal of Legal Commentary* become affiliated with the Ronald H. Brown Center, and in 2008, Professor Baynes became the *Journal's* faculty advisor; Professor Nelson joined Professor Baynes as co-faculty advisor in 2009. Over the past two years, the faculty advisors have worked with the students to improve the overall quality of the *Journal* and have provided counsel and advice to the *Journal* students on three symposia: (1) Making History: Race, Gender and the Media and the 2008 Elections; (2) Symposia Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Ronald H. Brown's Graduation; (3) The Fall of the Economy: How New York Can Rise to the Challenge; and (4) the Legal, Secular, and Religious Perspectives on Marriage Equality/Marriage Protection/Same-Sex Marriage Symposium. This issue celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brown's graduation from Law School will officially launch the *Journal* with a new cover and name change to the *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development* to better reflect the *Journal's* affiliation with the Ronald H. Brown Center.

#### b. Perspectives on Justice Course

The faculty, in the spring of 2010, approved a new course designed solely for the *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development* students called "Perspectives on Justice." This course was offered for the first time starting in the fall 2010.

This three-credit course is year-long and is part seminar and part directed research. It is team taught by Professor Baynes, Legal Writing Professor Elyse Pepper, and Ronald H. Brown Center Research Professor Jennifer Ridha. The course is designed to provide the *Journal* students with an empirical, theoretical, and legal foundation in racial, social, and economic justice issues. In addition, the students will develop and improve their writing skills. The students are required to thoroughly research historical and current topics in these areas of the law, and they are expected to produce a twenty-three page research paper of publishable quality, a five-page blog to be posted on a professional listserv, and a two-page op-ed distilling the essence of the research to be distributed to newspapers nationally. Together these writing assignments will total thirty pages in the

aggregate, and they will satisfy the students' advanced writing requirements.

To be eligible to take the course, the students must be second year (or third year evening) law students, as well as staff members of the *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development*. The course will total three credit hours of which two credits are allocated to the fall semester and one to the spring semester. The students are required to register for each semester of the course or will be withdrawn from the course.

Each student selects a topic addressing a significant legal issue addressing racial, social or economic justice. Each student conducts preliminary research and prepares a draft analyzing the issue, other major relevant authorities, and the possible significance of the topic in the field of racial, social or economic justice.

During the spring semester, the professors conduct a series of workshops and individual conferences with the students to facilitate the completion of their written projects. By the end of the spring semester, the students will have produced a final paper of a quality suitable for publication and will have completed a blog post and an op-ed that will be circulated for publication.

c. Students' Perspectives on Justice Annual Best Notes Competition and Presentation

Starting in March 2010, the Center held a forum to recognize the best notes written by members of the *Journal*. A selection committee of Professors Robert Ruescher and Janai Nelson screened eighteen notes that were submitted and selected the best eight that fit the mission of the Ronald H. Brown Center and were the best written. A selection committee comprised of Professors Leonard M. Baynes, John Hennigan, Mary Lyndon, Ettie Ward evaluated the eight notes and selected the notes written by Peter Harrington entitled, "Untying the Knot: Extending Benefits to Non-Traditional Families by Severing the Link to Marriage,"<sup>30</sup> and Timothy Salter entitled, "Last Prophylactic Standing: Why *Quarles* Public Safety Exception Should Not Be Expanded to Excuse *Edwards* Violations that Occur During Exigent 'Public Safety' Circumstances."<sup>31</sup> Both student authors presented their papers to a group of *Journal* students and Ronald H. Brown Center faculty and staff; each student honoree received a certificate from the Ronald H. Brown Center commemorating his award.

<sup>30</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. (forthcoming 2011).

<sup>31</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. (forthcoming 2011).

## 2. Ronald H. Brown Center Reports

### a. The Q-626 Report

In 2006, the Center issued a comprehensive report entitled: “The Q-626 Report: A study analyzing the diversity of the 626 Largest Businesses, and the 105 Largest Minority Businesses, in Queens.”<sup>32</sup> The Report was written by Professor Baynes and examines the diversity of the Queens business community.

The Q-626 Report had the following key findings:

- 46% of the population of Queens is foreign born
- 54% of the Queens’ population speaks a language other than English at home
- Black and Latino labor participation in Queens is higher than Whites and Asians
- In Queens, Blacks on average have higher family incomes than Whites
- 46.6% of businesses in Queens are minority-owned
- Minority businesses in Queens generate over \$7 billion in aggregate sales
- 105 largest minority businesses have aggregate sales of \$2 billion
- 82% of the 105 largest minority-owned businesses are located in the following five neighborhoods: Jamaica, Flushing, Long Island City, Maspeth and Woodside
- 82% of the 105 largest minority-owned businesses are Asian-owned
- Only four Black-owned and nine Latino-owned businesses could be identified in the 105 largest minority-owned businesses

In summary, despite the recent Census data that heralded Blacks living in Queens as having higher incomes than Whites, the Q-626 Report shows that Black-owned and Latino-owned businesses are significantly underrepresented among the largest businesses in Queens.

### b. Post-Conference Report: Rethinking the Discourse on Race: A Symposium on How the Lack of Racial Diversity in the Media Affects Social Justice and Policy

The Ronald H. Brown Center continued to take the lead in issues of

<sup>32</sup> 80 ST. JOHN’S L. REV. 1007 (2006).

media diversity. It issued a Post-Conference Report<sup>33</sup> that detailed the findings and conclusions highlighting the media's stereotyping of communities of color. The Post-Conference Report was edited by Professor Leonard M. Baynes and is a follow up from the 2006 Ford Foundation-funded conference of the same name.

The Post-Conference Report focused on the following:

How race and representation in the media shape public policy;

How a lack of diversity in the newsroom and in entertainment media production influences representations of people of color;

How the media frame racial issues in the public sphere; and

How the economic and regulatory frameworks shape minority ownership and participation in the media.

The Post-Conference Report was filed in a FCC proceeding dealing with media consolidation. The Post-Conference Report was read by a number of FCC attorneys and policymakers.

### 3. Other Ronald H. Brown Center Media

#### a. Media Diversity Listserv

The media diversity listserv is hosted by St. John's University. It was created as a deliverable from a grant from the Ford Foundation principally to organize a media diversity conference. Over 100 subscribers have joined the media diversity listserv. It is interdisciplinary and comprised academics, policy makers, and media activists who are interested in media diversity issues. It has a vibrant and robust discussion and is a good source of information about upcoming conferences and events. It is believed to be the only listserv in the country devoted exclusively to issues of media diversity.

#### b. NPR Justice Talking Blog

In 2006, the producers of NPR's Justice Talking show started a website at the Annenberg School of Communications and invited members of the Ronald H. Brown Center to write a monthly blog. As of April 2007, the Justice Talking website received over 1.8 million hits, and the site often

<sup>33</sup> 21 ST. JOHN'S J. LEGAL COMMENT, 577 (2007).

had 1,500-3,000 readers.<sup>34</sup> Several of the Center's affiliated faculty wrote blogs for the site, including John Q. Barrett, Leonard M. Baynes, Christopher J. Borgen, Elaine M. Chiu, Akilah N. Folami,<sup>35</sup> Janai Nelson, Rosemary Salomone, Michael A. Simons, Cheryl L. Wade, and Brian Tamanaha.<sup>36</sup>

#### *F. Non-Academic Events*

Each year, the Ronald H. Brown Center collaborates with Law School student affinity groups and alumni of color groups to conduct events to educate the New York metropolitan community on diversity and to celebrate the accomplishments of our alumni and student population of color.

1. Annual Ronald H. Brown dinners are collaborations among the law school student racial affinity groups and the faculty members affiliated with the Center.

Since 1999, the Ronald H. Brown Center has collaborated with the students of color organizations at St. John's School of Law to honor alumni of color and others who reflected the legacy of Ron Brown and the mission of the Ronald H. Brown Center.<sup>37</sup>

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner celebrated the year-long theme of celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brown's graduation from St. John's; the dinner honored four individuals who shared a connection to Brown's professional work life.

2. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner, April 9, 2010

The award recipients were:

#### **Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

Vida Benavides

Principal, Dewey Square Group

<sup>34</sup> The Justice Talking blog ceased production on June 30, 2008; however the site is still available for historical reference. See <http://www.justicetalking.org/> (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

<sup>35</sup> Akilah Folami now teaches at Hofstra Law School. See [http://law.hofstra.edu/directory/faculty/fulltimefaculty/ftfac\\_folami.html](http://law.hofstra.edu/directory/faculty/fulltimefaculty/ftfac_folami.html) (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

<sup>36</sup> Brian Tamanaha now teaches at Washington University in St. Louis School of Law. See [http://www.wulaw.wustl.edu/faculty\\_profiles/index.asp?id=7287](http://www.wulaw.wustl.edu/faculty_profiles/index.asp?id=7287) (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

<sup>37</sup> Attached as Exhibit C is our most comprehensive list of past recipients as far back as the fourth annual dinner. The first annual dinner was in 1999 and honored Congressman Charles Rangel.

**Black Law Students Association**

Rodney E. Slater  
Partner, Patton Boggs LLP

**Latin American Law Students Association**

William A. Ramos  
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
U.S. Department of Commerce

**South Asian Law Students Association**

Anurag Varma  
Of Counsel, Patton Boggs LLP

For the first time at the 2010 dinner, the Center also presented Trailblazer Awards to a corporate law firm and an in-house legal department, for their contributions in developing and creating a mentorship program for the Prep Program students studying for the LSAT. The recipients of the Trailblazer awards are:

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP  
AXA Equitable Legal Department

### 3. The Charles B. Rangel Alumni of Color Reception

As a follow up to the 2006 Alumni of Color Reunion, several alumni of color formed the alumni of color chapter of the Law Alumni Association. The Ronald H. Brown Center working with the Law Alumni Association and the Law Alumni Office, hosted the Inaugural Charles B. Rangel Alumni of Color Reception. Congressman Rangel was on hand to present the award to Basil Patterson, the former New York Secretary of State, former New York City Deputy Mayor, and a member of the law firm of Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C., where he is co-chair of the firm's labor practice.

In 2008, the Alumni of Color held the second Charles B. Rangel Alumni of Color Reception and presented the Rangel Award to Theodore Shaw, the Director-Counsel and President of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

#### 4. Other Ronald H. Brown Trailblazer Awards

The Ronald H. Brown Center presents Trailblazer Awards<sup>38</sup> to individuals whose work and activities in the business and community demonstrate a commitment to uplifting under-represented groups and individuals. The Center has presented Trailblazer Awards to:

- Carla Harris, Managing Director of Morgan Stanley
- Loida Nicolas Lewis, Chief Executive Officer of Beatrice Foods
- Joseph Unanue, Chief Executive Officer of Goya Foods
- Donna Brazile, Founder and Managing Director Brazile & Associates, LLC
- Mary Shearer on behalf of Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for President of the United States (1872)
- Shola Lynch, filmmaker on behalf of Shirley Chisholm who was the first African American to run for President for Ms. Lynch's documentary of Rep. Chisholm's life, "Unbought and Unbossed"

#### 5. Annual AALS Conference Reception for Deans, Law Professors, and Administrators of Color

Starting in 2007, the Ronald H. Brown Center has hosted a reception for deans, faculty and administrators of color who attend the annual AALS conference. The reception gives the academic professionals of color attending the Conference an opportunity to meet each other and network. It also provides the Center with the opportunity to discuss its annual accomplishments.

#### *G. Pipeline Initiatives*

The Ronald H. Brown Center has several path-breaking and successful pipeline initiatives designed to increase the pool of students of color going to law school, lawyers of color entering legal academia, and lawyers of color interested in higher education administration.

##### 1. Student Pipeline Programs

##### a. The Ronald H. Brown Law School Prep Program

The Ronald H. Brown Law School Prep Program ("Prep Program")<sup>39</sup>

<sup>38</sup> St.Johns.edu, Trailblazer Awards, <http://www.stjohns.edu/academics/graduate/law/academics/centers/ronbrown/trailblazer> (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

<sup>39</sup> St.Johns.edu, Prep Program for College Students, <http://www.stjohns.edu/academics/graduate/>

celebrates its fifth anniversary in 2010. Forty alumni from the Prep Program are enrolled in law schools across the country, including Akron, Boston College, George Washington, Duke (JD-LLM Program), St. John's, UC Davis, UCLA, and Yale. In 2010, we also celebrate our first three law school graduates—Nicole Giambarrese (Touro School of Law), Kisha Miles (Indiana-Bloomington School of Law), Monica Moran (George Washington School of Law).

The Ronald H. Brown Center collaborates with the following undergraduate colleges: (1) John Jay College of Criminal Justice/CUNY, (2) Medgar Evers/CUNY, (3) St. John's University, (4) York College/CUNY, and (5) the United Negro College Fund. These undergraduate institutions initially screen and select students who have completed their sophomore year. After their initial selection, the students are then re-evaluated and interviewed by affiliated faculty members and other members of the Center staff.

Starting as a four-day program in 2005, the Prep Program is now nine weeks long. Students, who have completed their sophomore year, take three weeks of a diverse array of law school classes: Business Organizations, Civil Procedure, Criminal Law, Federal Income Tax, Internship Seminar, Immigration Law, Introduction to Law, Introduction to Clinical Legal Education, Legal Ethics, Legislation, Legal Writing, Race/Racism and the Law, and Torts. They then sit for a comprehensive multiple choice and essay exam of all the materials that they covered during the summer. They also take an LSAT practice diagnostic and receive a brief overview of the LSAT exam. The sophomores then do two weeks of internships with state court judges throughout New York City and then do four weeks of internships with a variety of other legal employers including: New York State Attorney General's Office, the District Attorney's offices of Brooklyn, Bronx, Manhattan, and Queens, the Legal Aid Society, Common Cause, New York City Corporation Counsel, Hughes Hubbard & Reed, Paul Hastings, and AXA Equitable Legal Department.

The Ronald H. Brown Center in collaboration with the undergraduate partners decides whether to re-admit the students into a specially designed LSAT preparation program after the junior year. The students are evaluated by members by the Center's affiliated faculty and staff based on their performance on the comprehensive exam after they completed the sophomore exam, the diagnostic LSAT test, performance evaluations from

the internship supervisors, grade improvement during their junior year back at their home institution, and other factors.

The students who are invited back after they completed their junior year in college take a free and specially designed intensive LSAT prep course which covers Logical Reasoning, Reading Comprehension, and Game Theory. The Prep Program students also learn about exam-taking techniques and take practice LSAT exams. Professional instructors teach the Prep Program students; they are aided by several specially-trained law school student tutors who coach the juniors and help them with their homework assignments during homework sessions scheduled every day. The juniors also have weekly sessions facilitated by trained professionals on how to overcome exam anxiety. The juniors take efficacy training sessions to help them deal with unique racial anxieties that exist in entering the legal profession.

Starting in 2009, the Center has developed a strategic partnership with AXA Equitable Legal Department and Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP; beginning in the summer 2010, Paul Hastings LLP joined this partnership. Pursuant to this strategic partnership, each Prep Program junior is assigned at least one mentor from a pool of attorneys associated with AXA Equitable Legal Department, Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, Paul Hastings LLP, and members of the Center Steering Committee. In addition, each firm hires at least one Prep Program sophomore to work for the four-week internship during the summer. Starting in 2009, AXA Equitable also hired one Prep Program alumna as an intern after she completed her senior year in college. Also as part of the partnership, each year the firms hosted a welcoming reception at Hughes Hubbard headquarters where the Prep Program juniors have the opportunity to meet their mentors. This year, Hughes Hubbard summer associates participated in a mock trial, which allowed the Prep Program students to observe the Hughes Hubbard summer associates argue their cases. The strategic partners also held a workshop for the Prep Program sophomores on the next steps that they should follow to improve their chances of being admitted to law school. Lastly, the strategic partners held a reception in January 2010 to enable the first year law school students from the Prep Program to meet their mentors.

For the past two years, students who participated in the Prep Program have increased LSAT scores on average by ten points, and over 80 percent of them have been accepted into at least one law school, often with scholarships. These percentages far exceed the national averages for increases in LSAT scores and law school acceptances.

Over the past five years, a large percentage of St. John's law faculty

have participated in the Prep Program either by teaching the students, interviewing and screening the applicants, or informally mentoring some of the students.<sup>40</sup>

b. Collaboration with Legal Outreach

Since 2005, the Ronald H. Brown Center collaborates with Legal Outreach, a nonprofit organization, which helps bring legal skills training to rising ninth graders from underrepresented backgrounds in Queens.<sup>41</sup> The number of participating ninth graders has totaled approximately thirty students.

Legal Outreach is a five-week program in which two St. John's law students are selected and trained to teach legal concepts to ninth graders. In addition, each day for five weeks, one of St. John's law alumni will come in and talk to the students about their careers. At the end of the five weeks, the students participate as witnesses and advocates in a mock trial before an actual panel of judges.

Each year of our collaboration, Claire McKeever, the assistant dean for Alumni Relations, organizes daily presentations of St. John's alumni who speak to the Legal Outreach Program. Dean Michael Simons and several faculty members such as Professors Leonard Baynes, Jennifer Baum, and Robin Boyle have also spoken to the Legal Outreach students or have helped them prepare for their mock trials. In fact, Jennifer Baum, the Director of the Child Advocacy Clinic, asks some of the Legal Outreach students to come back to her Child Advocacy Clinic during the school year to do a role play with law school students to facilitate the learning about how to interview and represent young children.

c. Bronx High School for Law, Government, and Justice

Each year and sometimes twice a year, high school students attending the Bronx High School for Law, Government and Justice ("Bronx High School")<sup>42</sup> come to St. John's School of Law for a day-long visit where they meet representatives of the admissions office, take a tour of the building, have lunch, and participate in a law school class.

Dean of Academic Support and Professor of Legal Writing Robin Boyle

<sup>40</sup> See Exhibit D, attached hereto, which is a list the St. John's faculty who, over the past five years, have participated in the Ronald H. Brown Prep Program.

<sup>41</sup> Legal Outreach, <http://legaloutreach.org> (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

<sup>42</sup> Bronx School for Law, Government, and Justice, <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/09/X505/default.htm> (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

is the principal organizer of these visits to the St. John's campus. She was appointed as a member of the Bronx High School's Board of Advisors over ten years ago. Since the school's inception, St. John's has served as its Institutional Partner through the Urban Assembly, a non-profit organization that creates NYC schools with theme-based curricula. The Bronx High School has law as its focus. St. John's has also sent law students to help coach the moot court team of the high school.

d. Catholic High School Law Day

Since 2001, the Ronald H. Brown Center has collaborated with Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School<sup>43</sup> to cosponsor the Catholic High School Law Day for the students in Brooklyn and Queens. The collaboration started initially only with students attending Msgr. McClancy and has now grown and includes all students attending Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens. Many of the students attending these Catholic high schools are members of groups underrepresented in the profession. Every other year, about 100 Catholic high school students attend a one-day workshop where they learn about law school. They are taught a mock law school class, listen to a panel of law students, speak to undergraduate and law school admissions officials, and serve as jurors in a mock trial. Professor Leonard M. Baynes, the Director of the Ronald H. Brown Center is the principal organizer of this event.

e. St. John's University's St. Vincent de Paul Service Day

The St. John's University School of Law Service Day Mock Trial Program is an annual event for children who attend a local parochial school. For several years, the Center's affiliated faculty worked with Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary School in Jamaica, N.Y. For the past two years, the Center partnered with Immaculate Conception School in Jamaica, NY. The initiative is part of the University's annual Service Day, which honors St. Vincent de Paul on the fourth Saturday of every September by fulfilling the core Vincentian value of service.

Law students from the Polestino Trial Advocacy Institute ("PTAI") coach their younger counterparts in conducting a trial using a script that is based on a well-known children's story, i.e., "The Boy Who Cried Wolf." Coaching takes place at the children's school in advance of Service Day. On Service Day, the children try their case in the School of Law's moot

<sup>43</sup> Msgr. McClancy Memorial High School, <http://www.msgrmcclancy.org/s/264/index.aspx> (last visited Oct. 10, 2010).

court room, to an audience of their teachers, principal, families, law school faculty and students. The children take on the roles of prosecutor, defense counsel, judge, bailiff, and witnesses. After a full trial, a jury of their classmates deliberates and announces a verdict.

As part of their trial preparation, the children learn about court procedures, trial techniques, and the rules of evidence from the law students. After the children conduct their trial, the PTAI students demonstrate opening and closing arguments, and speak to the children about law school. The day ends with lunch at the law school. The program has been conducted with fourth graders and sixth graders.

The Service Day Mock Trial allows law students to share their specialized talent and instills in them a core professional value of community service. The children, in turn, learn about the legal system and can see that law school may be within their reach. Professor of Clinical Legal Education Gina Calabrese was the founder of this event and its principal organizer. More recently, it has been organized by Victoria Brown-Douglas, Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education.

#### f. Mock Trial Program for Catholic Middle Schools Students

St. John's University School of Law sponsors and hosts a mock trial program for middle school students from area Catholic schools. The students – mostly Seventh and Eighth Graders – spend approximately ten weeks preparing the case, working with their teachers and with volunteer attorney or law student coaches in each school. On the day of the program, the students assemble at St. John's School of Law with their teachers, coaches, and families for the trials. The trials are judged by faculty and alumni. Over the course of the morning, the students play their roles as prosecutors, defense lawyers, defendants, and witnesses. At the close of each trial, the judge renders a verdict and gives the students feedback.

This program was started in 2002 by St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School in Westbury, New York with just two schools and a few dozen students. As the program became more successful and attracted more schools, it outgrew St. Brigid/OLH's facilities. At that point, St. John's agreed to co-sponsor the program and to host it. In most recent years, approximately 150 students on twenty teams from ten different schools have participated. Including teachers, coaches, and families, over 400 people attended the program at the law school.

The program is sponsored in collaboration with St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School and is jointly organized by Mr. Paul Clagnaz

(Principal of

St. Brigid/OLH) and Dean Michael A. Simons. St. Brigid/OLH is a racially and ethnically diverse school that educates students from Nursery School through Grade Eight. Overall, the school is approximately 56% students of color (34% Black, 13% Latino(a), 7% Asian, and 2% Multi-Racial). The Middle School (Grades Six, Seven and Eight) has a significantly higher percentage of minority students, primarily African American students.

Law students serve as volunteer coaches for two of the schools – St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope and The De LaSalle School in Freeport, New York. As noted above, St. Brigid/OLH is a “majority-minority” school, and the students who participated in the mock trial program were racially and ethnically diverse (48% Black, 33% White, 14% Latino(a), and 5% Asian). The De LaSalle School is an almost entirely minority school, and the students who participated in the mock trial program were all African American or Latino(a). In addition to attending the main program, the students from St. Brigid/OLH and The De LaSalle School also spent an afternoon at St. John’s School of Law as part of a “field trip” designed to introduce them to law school and to prepare them for the mock trial program.

#### g. MINORITY LAW DAY: Increasing Our Numbers

For the past four years, the Center has collaborated with the Admissions Office to host a conference, called Minority Law Day, for college students who are interested in attending law school. Minority Law Day has addressed the following:

- What Every Prospective Law Student Needs to Know before Starting the Admissions Process

- The LSAT: What It Tests and How Best to Prepare for it to Secure a Competitive Score

- The Personal Statement and the Diversity Statement: Similarities, Differences, Tips and Techniques

- Financial Aid Facts that Every Future Lawyer Needs to Know

- Members of the Black, Latino/a and Asian Law Students Associations answer questions and to provide insight on how to navigate through the application process

This event has been organized by the St. John’s Law School Admissions Office, under the leadership of Dorothy Moran, the Associate Director of Admissions, and student representatives from the following St. John’s Law

School student groups: Asian-Pacific-American Law Students Association, Black Law Student Association, Latin American Law Students Association, and South Asian Law Students Association.

## 2. Faculty and Administrative Pipelines

### a. RHB Research Professor Pipeline

The Ronald H. Brown Center is also celebrating the fifth anniversary of the Research Professorship, which is designed to increase diversity in legal academia. The Research Professor position is an untenured two-year commitment designed to groom talented lawyers from underrepresented backgrounds for a career in legal academia. During the course of the two years, the Research Professor teaches a light load of one course for each semester. She attends faculty meetings and faculty colloquium, and is encouraged to attend conferences and workshops in her area of academic inquiry. The Research Professor is also encouraged to do a presentation to the faculty and receives formal and informal mentoring while in residence at the School of Law.

The inaugural RHB Research Professor, Janai Nelson, is a former Director of Political Participation at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund who completed a Fulbright scholarship in Ghana in 2006. Professor Nelson started as a RHB Research Professor at St. John's in 2006. Her position was converted to a tenure track position in 2007 after receiving several tenure-track offers from other highly-ranked law schools. Professor Nelson was promoted to Associate Professor of Law at St. John's effective August 2010, and she also serves as assistant director of the Center. She has published articles on issues of domestic and comparative election law, democracy, race, and criminal justice, including articles in the *Georgetown Law Journal* and the *Albany Law Review*. Professor Nelson has also appeared on CNN as an election law expert and regularly speaks at conferences and symposia nationwide.

Melinda Molina, a former associate at Sullivan and Cromwell, became the second RHB Research Professor when she joined the St. John's faculty in 2008. She successfully co-authored a nationwide study of Latinas in the legal profession that was commissioned and published by the Hispanic National Bar Association. The study has been the subject of international discussion and will be published in the *Pepperdine Law Review*. Professor Molina joined the Capital Law School faculty in Columbus, Ohio in August 2010.

In August 2010, Jennifer Ridha started serving as the third RHB Research Professor. Professor Ridha is a Columbia Law School graduate who clerked for Judge R. Guy Cole, Jr. of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Professor Ridha also worked as an associate at Lankler Siffert & Wohl, LLP and Gibson Dunn & Crutcher, LLP; she also served as an adjunct professor at Columbia Law School. She has been a Human Rights Fellow for Amnesty International and has published articles in the *New York Times*, *Middle East Report*, and the *Arab Studies Journal*. Her field of academic inquiry is international criminal law.

b. RHB Administrative Fellowship

Cynara Hermes is a seventh- year litigation associate at Proskauer Rose. At Proskauer, her practice area covered general commercial litigation, corporate defense and investigations, and pro bono matters in the area of human rights and immigration. She also served as head of Proskauer's Latino/a affinity group and as a member of its associates' council.

Starting in October 2009, Ms. Hermes received community service leave from her firm to serve in the Ronald H. Brown Center's administrative fellowship pipeline program designed to increase diversity among higher education administration. In that capacity, Ms. Hermes has counseled students participating in the Prep Program; she has drafted funding proposals and reports; she has taught a class on professionalism to the Prep Program students; and she has reviewed the students' personal statements, resumes, and law school applications. She has also worked with Professor Baynes on completing research into the enrollment of minority students in the fifteen New York State law schools.

H. *Summary of Ronald H. Brown Center's Symposia, Publications, and Pipeline Programs*

In summation, the Ronald H. Brown Center, the oldest academic center at the School of Law, through its symposia and other events provides intellectual rigor and analysis to contemporary issues of racial, social and economic justice. Through its pipeline programs, it provides opportunity and access to people from underrepresented backgrounds to the legal profession, academia, and higher education administration.

### III. MODERN ADAPTATIONS OF RACIAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE SYMPOSIA

During the 40th Anniversary Symposium, my colleagues presented on a wide range of issues that covered the gamut of inclusion and diversity. Ron Brown would have been proud in how my colleagues adapted their work to the mission of the Center and his legacy.

In their symposium articles, several faculty members specifically focused on some of the racial inequalities, which exists in the United States. Lawrence Joseph, in his article entitled, “Issues of Race in the Age of Obama,”<sup>44</sup> analyzes a New York Times book review written by Orlando Patterson. Professor Joseph uses Patterson’s essay as a roadmap to discuss the conditions of African Americans in the United States juxtaposed to Barack Obama, being elected the first black president. Professor Joseph notes that despite the very strong symbolism of having an African American in the White House, very significant and troubling economic inequality still exists between African Americans and whites.

Victoria Brown Douglas, Professor of Clinical Legal Education, in her presentation and article, “Is it Time to Redefine the Negro Lawyer,”<sup>45</sup> charts the historical evolution and development of African American lawyers. She also uses the historical developments in the legal profession as an anchor for her analysis. She notes how standards for admissions to law school and the legal profession continually increased since the advent of the American Bar Association, and that the practice area of the African American lawyer has moved from purely a civil rights practice to a broader practice. But she notes, even though there is now an African American lawyer as President, some of society’s racial dysfunction still exists.

Melinda Molina, the then-RHB Research Professor of Law and Senior Fellow of the Ronald H. Brown Center, presented and wrote an article entitled: “Role Models: Theory, Practice, and Effectiveness Among Latina Lawyers.”<sup>46</sup> Professor Molina highlights the small number of Latina lawyers in the profession. She notes that this small number has an effect on the ability of this group to advocate for its civil rights. Moreover, there is a dearth of Latina roles models for other Latinas to emulate in the legal profession. She notes how Justice Sonia Sotomayer served as a role model and was the first U.S Supreme Court Justice to use the term “undocumented immigrant” in one of her first opinions, blazing a trail for

<sup>44</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 47 (2010).

<sup>45</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 55 (2010).

<sup>46</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 125 (2010).

others by example.

Dean Michael A. Simons presented and wrote an article entitled, "Sense and Sentencing: Our Imprisonment Epidemic."<sup>47</sup> In his article, Dean Simons notes that the U.S. has one of the highest incarceration rates on the planet. He attributes this high per capita incarceration to the failed policies of the War on Drugs. Moreover, he acknowledges that this high U.S. incarceration rate is a relatively new phenomenon in that the U.S. incarceration rate was much lower forty years ago. He notes that some of this disparity is wrapped up in race and that a fair amount of the disparity in the incarceration rate is not "attributed to greater involvement in crime"<sup>48</sup> by people of color.

Elayne Greenberg, the Director of the Hugh Carey Center for Dispute Resolution, used her presentation and article entitled, "Dispute Resolution Lessons Gleaned from the Arrest of Professor Gates and 'Beer Summit,'"<sup>49</sup> to advocate for dispute resolution principles to be used in situations of racial conflict. She is of the opinion that mediation would effectively address covert racial bias. She asserts that the "beer summit" between police officer James Crowley and Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates, organized by President Obama, was a metaphorical mediation, which led to understanding between the two individuals involved in charges of racial profiling and resisting arrest.

In their symposium articles, several faculty focused on changing demographics as a result of increased immigration. In her symposium article, Professor Rosemary Salomone presented and wrote an article entitled, "Caught in a Time Warp; the Education Rights of English Language Learners."<sup>50</sup> In her article, Professor Salomone observes that disagreements over policy serve as proxies for concerns over immigration. She highlights the changing demographics of young people, of which a significant minority are non-English speakers. She notes that studies show that dual language learners perform better than single language learners; despite these findings, the Supreme Court and some educational administrators have gone down the path of single language learning. Professor Salomone proposes a federal statute to address these issues. Margaret Turano, Associate Academic Dean and Professor of Law, also notes the changing demographics in the United States in her symposium

<sup>47</sup> 25 J. Civ. Rts. & Econ. Dev. 153 (2010)

<sup>48</sup> *Id.* at 161.

<sup>49</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 99 (2010)

<sup>50</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 141 (2010)

article entitled, “Social Justice in the Surrogate’s Court.”<sup>51</sup> Dean Turano gives concrete examples of how the surrogate’s court in New York has taken this into account. She notes how the courts have increasingly used their discretion to appoint non-English-speaking persons to serve as fiduciaries.

Two faculty members focused on issues of economic justice. In his symposium article entitled, “Bankruptcy Reform and Economic Recovery,”<sup>52</sup> Associate Dean G. Ray Warner explores the role that the consumer bankruptcy system plays in economic recovery. He posits that because the economy is driven by consumer spending, not having bankruptcy “fresh start” provisions delay these consumers from immediately spending, which would help to jump start the economy. In her symposium article entitled, “Might Houses of Worship Enable Currently Uninsured Economically Disadvantaged Individuals to Obtain Affordable Health Care?,”<sup>53</sup> Professor Nina Crimm notes that many uninsured individuals are low income and many are people of color. She proposes to make universal health insurance a reality for Americans by having religious organizations extend their network umbrella of health care to nonemployees.

Two faculty members focused on issues of social justice. In his symposium article entitled, “Pope Benedict XVI, (President?) Ron Brown, and Workers’ Rights,”<sup>54</sup> Professor David Gregory discusses Catholic social teaching as it relates to labor, materiality, and income inequality. He notes that Catholic social teaching honors work over capital and the rights of unions to represent their interests and the interests of other workers who are disadvantaged. In his symposium article entitled, “New York’s Post-Verdict Scheme For the Treatment of Insanity: Balancing Public Safety with the Rights of the Mentally Ill,”<sup>55</sup> Assistant Dean Larry Cunningham discusses what happens to the person who is acquitted by reason of insanity, spelling out the statutory requirements. Dean Cunningham proposes several reforms to the current review system that he asserts “adequately takes into account the competing interests of public safety and individual freedom.”<sup>56</sup>

Each of my colleagues has done a wonderful job of advancing the ball of

<sup>51</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 173 (2010)

<sup>52</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 181 (2010)

<sup>53</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 69 (2010)

<sup>54</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 115 (2010)

<sup>55</sup> 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 81 (2010)

<sup>56</sup> *Id.* at 98.

racial, social, and economic justice. They have analyzed and highlighted problems in their fields of study through the lens of racial, social and economic justice. Some of have proposed novel and interesting solutions to some of the problems that they see. Professor Nelson and I would like to take this opportunity to thank our colleagues for their participation in this wonderful symposium.

#### CONCLUSION

At St. John's School of Law, we are very proud to call Ron Brown one of our graduates. His life and career serve as an exemplar to our alumni and current students of how one can use the law to advance social change. Through the Ronald H. Brown Center's programs, events, and activities, we plan to keep his memory and life's work alive. As the mission of the Center indicates, we are making a difference, and, in our own way, highlighting and remedying issues of racial, social and economic justice.

So on this fortieth anniversary of Ron Brown's graduation, we are delighted to share with you Ron Brown's memory, the work of the Center named after him, and the scholarship of the Center's affiliated faculty discussing their own work through the lens of racial, social and economic justice.

**Exhibit A**  
**List of Faculty who presented at the Fortieth Anniversary**  
**Celebration of Ron Brown's Graduation from St. John's Law School**

John Q. Barrett  
Professor of Law

Jennifer Baum  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education and  
Director, Child Advocacy Clinic

Leonard M. Baynes  
Professor of Law and Director  
The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic  
Development

Christopher J. Borgen  
Associate Dean for International Studies and Professor of Law

Robin A. Boyle  
Assistant Dean for Academic Success and Professor of Legal Writing

Victoria L. Brown-Douglas  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Education

Gina M. Calabrese  
Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Associate Director  
The Elder Law

Nina J. Crimm  
Professor of Law

Larry Cunningham  
Assistant Dean of Students and Assistant Professor of Legal Writing

Ann L. Goldweber  
Professor of Clinical Legal Education  
Director of Elder Law Clinic  
Director of Clinical Legal Education

Elayne E. Greenberg  
Director Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution

David L. Gregory  
Dorothy Day Professor of Law

Lawrence Joseph  
Rev. Joseph T. Tinnelly, C.M., Professor of Law

Melinda S. Molina<sup>57</sup>  
Research Professor of Law and Senior Fellow  
The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic  
Development

Janai S. Nelson  
Associate Professor of Law and Assistant Director  
The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic  
Development

Elyse Pepper  
Professor of Legal Writing

C. Mario Russell  
Adjunct Professor of Law

Rosemary Salomone  
Kenneth Wang Professor of Law

Jeremy N. Sheff  
Assistant Professor of Law

Michael A. Simons  
Dean and John V. Brennan Professor of Law and Ethics

Margaret V. Turano  
Associate Academic Dean and Professor of Law

<sup>57</sup> Professor Molina joined the faculty of Capital Law School in Ohio in September 2010.

Janice D. Villiers  
Associate Professor of Law

Cheryl L. Wade  
Harold F. McNiece Professor of Law

Ettie Ward  
Professor of Law

G. Ray Warner  
Associate Dean for Bankruptcy Studies and Professor of Law

## Exhibit B

### ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

Over the past seven years, the Ronald H. Brown Center has sponsored or co-sponsored more than thirteen academic symposia on a wide array of topics reflective of the Center's mission. They include the following:

*A. The Intersection of Race, Corporate Law, and Economic Development*

*April 3, 2003-April 6, 2003*

The Ronald H. Brown Center and NEPOC held a symposium devoted to race and corporate law at the Manhattan campus of St. John's University. The conference was entitled, "The Intersection of Race, Corporate Law, and Economic Development." Congressman Gregory W. Meeks delivered the Kellis E. Parker keynote speech, Queens Borough President Helen Marshall spoke on economic development, and Professor G. Mitu Gulati of then of Georgetown University gave a speech entitled: "The Economics of Workplace Homogeneity." The symposium was published in 77 *St. John's Law Rev.* 701 (2003).

*B. The LSAT, U.S. News & World Report, and Minority Admissions*

*September 7, 2005*

The Ronald H. Brown Center held a national conference addressing declining number of African American and Latino/a law students. At the LSAT conference, major gatekeepers to the legal profession participated on panels such as Janice Austin, the former Chair of the Minority Affairs Committee of the Law School Admissions Council, Philip Shelton, the then-President and Executive Director of the Law School Admission Council, Camille de Jorna, Associate Consultant of the Section on Legal Education of the American Bar Association, Erica Moeser, President of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, and Robert Morse, Director of Data Research at *U.S. News & World Report*.

The symposium on the same topic with many of the participants writing articles and essays was published in 80 *St. John's Law Rev.* 1 (2006).

*C. People of Color, Women and the Public Corporation: Conference on Racial and Gender Equity in the Business Settings*

*March 18, 2005*

This symposium addressed the issue of the effect of race and gender on employees in public corporations. It brought together the leading scholars in the areas of corporate governance, critical race theory, employment discrimination and feminist legal theory. Then-UC Berkley Professor Rachel Moran, Columbia Law School Professor Susan Sturm, Emory Law School Professor Martha Fineman, Boston College Law Professor Kent Greenfield were some of the featured speakers. The papers from this symposium were published in 79 *St. John's Law Rev.* (2005).

*D. Rethinking the Discourse on Race: A Symposium on How the Lack of Racial Diversity in the Media Affects Social Justice and Policy*

*April 28/29, 2006*

The Ronald H. Brown Center held a national conference on media diversity funded by the Ford Foundation. The conference was interdisciplinary with nationally recognized academics from the areas of law, communications studies, economics, political science, and journalism. There were two keynote speakers: then-FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein and Columbia Law School Professor Patricia Williams. The conference also delivered a database of interdisciplinary abstracts on the issue of media diversity that are searchable on the St. John's website. The Post-Conference Report was published in 21 *St. John's Journal of Legal Commentary* 577 (2007).

*E. Trade and Legal Aid Conference*

*July 6-8, 2006*

The Ronald H. Brown Center (co-sponsored with the American and Caribbean Law Initiative, NEPOC, and the Eugene Dupuch Law School) sponsored a conference on legal aid and trade in Nassau, Bahamas. The conference speakers included several prominent Caribbean government officials: James Smith, The Bahamian Minister of Finance, Allyson Maynard-Gibson, the Bahamian Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Honorable Burton Hall, the Bahamian Chief Justice of the

Supreme Court, and the Honorable Vashist Kokaram, Justice of the High Court of Trinidad and Tobago.

*F. National Media Reform Conference*

*January 12-14, 2007*

The Ronald H. Brown Center secured a \$10,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to send an interdisciplinary delegation of media diversity experts to the annual National Media Reform Conference in Memphis, Tennessee. Over 3,000 media scholars, policymakers, policy professionals and activists attended the conference. The Ronald H. Brown Center sent a 10-person delegation to the conference, and their reports are posted on the St. John's School of Law website.

*G. Education and the Economy: The Real Lives of People of Color  
(NEPOC Conference, Boston University)*

*September 12-13, 2008*

The Ronald H. Brown Center collaborated with NEPOC and Boston University to host a conference whose theme was "Education and the Economy: The Real Lives of People of Color." Affiliated faculty and Professors Leonard M. Baynes, Elaine Chiu, Rosemary Salomone, and Cheryl Wade were all featured speakers and presenters. Georgetown Professor Sheryll Cashin was the Kellis Parker Speaker. The Conference was also held in conjunction with the Society of Law Teacher's board meeting. At the event, Professor Baynes was awarded with prestigious Haywood Burns/Shanara Gilbert Award, for law professors who use their scholarship and teaching to improve the lives of people of color.

*H. MAKING HISTORY: Race, Gender, Media, and the 2008 Elections*

*September 26-27, 2008*

The Ronald H. Brown Center held a conference that explored race, media and politics in the 2008 elections. The conference was interdisciplinary and had several marquee speakers, including CNN commentator Donna Brazile, then-FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein, FEC Commissioner Ellen Weintraub, Common Cause President Bob Edgar, *New York Daily News* Columnist Errol Lewis, and *New York Times*

columnist Marcus Mabry. Ronald H. Brown trailblazer awards were given posthumously to Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman to run for president, and Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for president. The conference was simulcast on the SJU law website—a first for the law school. Many of the symposium participants published their presentations in a symposium issue at 24 *St. John's Journal of Legal Commentary* 101 (2009).

*I. Thinking Outside the Box: New Challenges and New Approaches to Domestic Violence*

*March 20, 2009*

The Ronald H. Brown Center, working with the *Journal of Legal Commentary*,<sup>58</sup> hosted a conference on domestic violence. Established scholars and activists and new upcoming voices joined together for a discussion of the future of the domestic violence movement. The symposium papers and presentations are published in 24 *St. John's Journal of Legal Commentary* 603 (2010).

*J. America's New Class Warfare*

*Hosted by SUNY Buffalo School of Law*

*October 23-24, 2009*

Along with NEPOC, the Ronald H. Brown Center co-sponsored this conference at SUNY Buffalo School of Law. “America’s New Class Warfare” symposium broadly encompassed many topics and perspectives. For instance, the Right has long rallied against the inappropriate scrutiny of the wealthy. Indeed, the wealthy and in particular, the people commanding the heights of corporate America, are under more scrutiny today than usual, thanks to the financial meltdown of 2008. The symposium examined the following questions: (1) whether this scrutiny constitutes class warfare?; (2) was the invisibility of the wealthy ever warranted, given the economic and social power they command, including the power to shape law?; and

<sup>58</sup> In June 2009, the *Journal of Legal Commentary* was renamed as the *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development* to better reflect the fact the *Journal* is the official publication of the Ronald H. Brown Center.

(3) although the poor too have been under extreme levels of scrutiny over the last several decades, does their scrutiny also constitute class warfare?

St. John's professors and Center affiliated faculty, Leonard M. Baynes, Elaine Chiu, and Melinda Molina had important speaking roles at the symposium.

*K. Symposia Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Ronald H. Brown's Graduation from the School of Law*

*November 13–14, 2009*

The first day of the symposium featured scholarly presentations by approximately twenty-five St. John's law faculty on modern adaptations of issues of racial, social, economic justice. It was impressive to see so many faculty members participating in the Symposium and analyzing their scholarly interests through the prism of racial, social and economic justice. The second day of the symposium featured national experts such as Columbia Law Professor Conrad Johnson, Thomas M. Cooley School of Law Associate Dean and Professor of Law John Nussbaumer, and Legal Outreach CEO and founder James O'Neal, and CUNY Law Professor and Director of the Center of Latinos/as and the Law Jenny Rivera who explored ways to increase diversity in the legal profession. In addition, the symposium featured testimonials by students who completed the Center's signature pipeline programs—the Ronald Brown Prep Program for College Students and the Legal Outreach program for high school students. At the end of the second day, the Prep Program students interviewed with fourteen law school admissions officials from across the country.

*L. The Fall of the Economy: How New York Can Rise to the Challenge.*

*March 5, 2010*

The *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development*, held its annual symposium, which fostered a discussion about business social responsibility, government bailouts of big business and the mortgage foreclosure crisis. As a backdrop, the panels explored the economic inequities in the United States, and in New York City, that predated the recent economic crisis and have been exacerbated by the biggest economic collapse since the Great Depression. The Symposium taught lessons about

what caused the market collapse and suggested recommendations on how to repair the breaches in our economic system. The symposium featured a speech by Bob Edgar, the President and CEO of Common Cause who discussed the connection between corporate campaign contributions to political candidates and the economic collapse. The symposium also featured a colloquy facilitated by Professor Cheryl Wade between New York City Council Majority Leader Leroy Comrie and New York State Senator Brian Foley.<sup>59</sup>

*M. Legal, Secular, and Religious Perspectives on Marriage  
Equality/Marriage Protection/Same-Sex Marriage Symposium*

*November 12-13, 2010*

The *Journal of Civil Rights and Economic Development*, will hold a symposium entitled, “Legal, Secular, and Religious Perspectives on Marriage Equality/Marriage Protection/Same-Sex Marriage”

The day-long symposium will consist of vibrant discussion on issues related to the topic of same-sex marriage, featuring prominent scholars, elected officials and activists in the field to provide a forum for an important dialogue on this complex and contentious issue in American society. There will be panels on a variety topics carrying forth the theme of the symposium as well as three featured speakers:

Fr. Robert Araujo - The John Courtney Murray, S.J. University Professor at Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Fr. Araujo has written on Catholic teachings on same-sex marriage

Professor Ian Ayres - The William K. Townsend Professor of Law at Yale Law School, Professor Ayres authored the book “Straightforward: How to Mobilize Heterosexual Support for Gay Right”

Former U.S. Congressman Bob Barr - The 2008 Libertarian Party presidential candidate, Mr. Barr penned the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and now advocates its repeal.

<sup>59</sup> The papers from the Fall of the Economy symposium will be published in 25 J.CIV. RTS & ECON. DEV. \_\_\_ (2010).

In addition, the second date of the symposium will feature panel discussions of experts on law school admissions and pipeline issues into the profession. In the afternoon, there will be the second annual Ronald H. Brown admissions fair with representatives of several law schools from across the country.

**Exhibit C**  
**List of past Ronald H. Brown Dinner Honorees since 2004**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner  
April 5, 2002

At the Fourth Annual Ronald H. Brown Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian American Law Students Association**

The Honorable Judge Oymin Chin  
New York Civil Court Housing Part

**Black Law Students Association**

The Honorable Judge Phillip Roache  
Retired St. John's Law Professor

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Adriano Espaillat  
Member New York State Assembly

**Keynote Speaker:**

Robert Johnson  
Bronx County District Attorney

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner  
April 11, 2003

At the Fifth Annual Ronald H. Brown Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian American Law Students Association**

Lai Sun Yee  
Law Offices of Lai Sun Yee

**Black Law Students Association**

Hon. Laura D. Blackburne '79L  
New York State Supreme Court

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Hon. Albert Lorenzo '90L

New York Court of Claims/Acting Supreme Court Justice

**Keynote Speaker:**

Honorable Luis Gonzales

Supreme Court of The State of New York

Appellate Division, First Department

**The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner**

March 26, 2004

At the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

Honorable Doris Ling-Cohan

New York State Supreme Court

**Black Law Students Association**

Edward R. Hammock, Esq., '66L

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Donald Leo, Esq.

Donald Leo & Associates, P.C.

**Keynote Speaker:**

Carol Robles-Roman, Esq.

Deputy Mayor for Legal Affairs and Counsel

New York City Mayor

Michael R. Bloomberg

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner**

April 4, 2005

At the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

Jaykumar Menon, Esq.

on behalf of the David Wong Legal Defense Team  
Rex Chen, Esq.  
on behalf of the David Wong Support Committee

**Black Law Students Association**

The Honorable Richard B. Lowe III, '67L  
*Supreme Court Justice*  
*Commercial Division, New York County Supreme Court*

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Nelson A. Castillo, '98L  
*National President-Elect of the*  
*Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA)*  
*Principal of the Castillo Law Firm*

**Keynote Speaker:**

*Anthony Paul Farley*  
*Professor Boston College Law School*

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Dinner and The Inaugural Alumni of Color Reunion Weekend

February 11-12, 2006

The Center held the first law alumni of color reunion. It was a two-day event that consisted of one-day of CLE panels comprised exclusively of alumni of color who addressed what opportunities and challenges of being a judge, a community leader, and a junior and senior level attorney. On the second day of the event, the Center hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Ronald H. Brown Dinner where Congressman Charles B. Rangel was presented with a special dean's award, and extraordinary service awards were presented to the four retired law professors of color: Cynthia Straker Pierce, Hon. Philip Roache, '54, Kenneth Wang '57, and Howard A. White '54. The Center also named an award after the School of Law's first African American graduate, William Tucker Garvin and presented the award to all the alumni of color who graduated before 1960. In doing research for this event, we discovered that St. John's graduated Thomas H. Lee, the first Asian American lawyer licensed in the state of New York in 1936.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner

March 30, 2007

At the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

Fong Chan

Director

The Office of Intergovernmental Relations of the Comptroller

The City of New York

**Black Law Students Association**

Thomas R. Jones (posthumously)

Judge and former Assemblyman

David R. Jones (son)

Accepting the award for his father

President and Chief Executive Officer

Community Service Society of New York

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Maximino Gonzalez Sr. (posthumously)

One of St. John's first Latino law school graduates

Maximino Gonzalez Jr. (son)

Accepting the award for his father

Attorney Advisor, National Guard Bureau

Office of Chief Counsel

**South Asian Law Students Association**

Amardeep Singh

Executive Director and Co-Founder

The Sikh Coalition.

**The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner**

April 4, 2008

At the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

Yasuhiro Saito '92

Counsel, Leader of the Japan-related litigation Practice Group

Hughes Hubbard and Reed LLP

**Black Law Students Association**

Pierre Georges Bonnefil '88

Partner

Epstein Becker & Green, P.C

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Jose Perez '85

General Counsel

Latino Justice/Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund

**South Asian Law Students Association**

Manvin Mayell

Partner

Kaye Scholer, LLP.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner

April 3, 2009

At the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner, the following individuals were honored:

**Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

John A. Rogers, Jr. '96

Partner

Herrick Feinstein, LLP

**Black Law Students Association**

Fred Thompson, '58

1988 U.S. Olympic Track Coach, Seoul, Korea

Colgate Women's Games Founder and Meet Director

**Latin American Law Students Association**

Ricardo Cata '75

Managing Partner

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman and Dicker LLP

**South Asian Law Students Association**

Assad Siddiq '01

Associate

Walder, Hayden & Brogan P.A.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner  
April 9, 2010

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Ronald H. Brown Alumni Dinner celebrated the year-long theme of celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Brown's graduation from St. John's; the dinner honored four individuals who shared a connection to Brown's professional work life.

The award recipients were:

**Asian Pacific American Law Students Association**

Vida Benavides

Principal, Dewey Square Group

**Black Law Students Association**

Rodney E. Slater

Partner, Patton Boggs LLP

**Latin American Law Students Association**

William A. Ramos

Director of Intergovernmental Affairs

U.S. Department of Commerce

**South Asian Law Students Association**

Anurag Varma

Of Counsel, Patton Boggs LLP

For the first time at the 2010 dinner, the Center also presented Trailblazer Awards to a corporate law firm and an in-house legal department, for their contributions in developing and creating a mentorship program for the Prep Program students studying for the LSAT.

The recipients of the Trailblazer awards are:

**Ronald H. Brown Trailblazer Award**

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

AXA Equitable Legal Department

**Exhibit D****List of Faculty who have participated in the Prep Program**

1. John Q. Barrett  
Professor of Law
2. Leonard M. Baynes  
Professor of Law and Director  
The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic  
Development
3. Christopher J. Borgen  
Associate Dean for International Studies and Professor of Law
4. Robin A. Boyle  
Assistant Dean for Academic Success and Professor of Legal  
Writing
5. Victoria L. Brown-Douglas  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Education
6. Gina M. Calabrese  
Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Associate Director  
The Elder Law Clinic
7. Lisa A. Catalano  
Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Director  
The Securities Arbitration Clinic
8. Elaine M. Chiu  
Professor of Law
9. Vincent DiLorenzo  
Professor of Law
10. Ann L. Goldweber  
Professor of Clinical Legal Education  
Director of Elder Law Clinic  
Director of Clinical Legal Education

11. Keri K. Gould  
Professor of Clinical Legal Education  
And Assistant Dean Professional Skills
12. Patricia Grande Montana  
Professor of Legal Writing
13. Elayne E. Greenberg  
Director Hugh L. Carey Center for Dispute Resolution
14. Anita S. Krishnakumar  
Associate Professor of Law
15. Christine Lazaro  
Supervising Attorney  
Security Arbitration Clinic
16. Melinda S. Molina<sup>60</sup>  
Research Professor of Law and Senior Fellow  
The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic  
Development
17. Janai S. Nelson  
Associate Professor of Law and Assistant Director  
The Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic  
Development
18. Elyse Pepper  
Professor of Legal Writing
19. Robert E. Parella  
George F. Keenan Professor of Law
20. Robert A. Ruescher  
Professor of Legal Writing and Coordinator Legal Writing Program
21. Jane E. Scott  
Associate Professor of Legal Writing

<sup>60</sup> Professor Molina joined the faculty of Capital Law School in Ohio in September 2010.

22. Andrew J. Simons  
Vice Dean Emeritus
23. Michael A. Simons  
Dean and John V. Brennan Professor of Law and Ethics
24. Jeff Sovern  
Professor of Law
25. Brian Z. Tamanaha<sup>61</sup>  
Chief Judge Benjamin Cardozo Professor of Law
26. Jacob Todres  
Professor of Law
27. Janice D. Villiers  
Associate Professor of Law
28. Cheryl L. Wade  
Harold F. McNiece Professor of Law
29. Ettie Ward  
Professor of Law

<sup>61</sup> Professor Tamanaha joined the Washington University in St. Louis faculty in January 2010.

