

File: Georgetown / Women

Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program

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May 16, 2000

By Telefax

Ms. Shirley Sagawa
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. Sagawa:

Melanne -
You are mtg w/
this group, +
they know
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unavailable's

Melanne -
I think this
won't go to happen -
do you agree? Perhaps

we can
include
them in an
event?
ADA?
Shirley

Board of Directors
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Marcia D. Greenberger
Judith L. Lichtman
Wendy Webster Williams
Mary Hartnett

Alumnae Directors
Karen Guss
Margaret Johnson

I am writing once again to see if it might be possible to arrange a brief meeting between this year's Women's Law Fellows and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton. Last year's Fellows were delighted to have the chance to meet the First Lady and attend the Social Security Briefing at the White House, and we are very appreciative of your assistance.

As you know, our Program, which was founded over 15 years ago, recruits talented and committed law graduates and brings them to Washington for a year to work for organizations involved in legal and policy issues affecting women. This year we have 9 spectacular women's rights advocates, including three attorneys from Uganda, and they are working on issues which include domestic violence, civil rights, sex discrimination and harassment in the workplace, and the problems of women in prison, women in poverty, and women with disabilities. We were delighted that one of our past Women's Law Fellows, Karen Guss, was placed in the Office of the First Lady during the 1994-95 fellowship year.

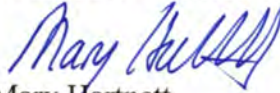
One of the key components of the Fellowship Program is exposing these talented advocates to experts and policy-makers in the world arena of women's rights, helping them to proceed in public interest careers or to bring a public-interest perspective to their private careers, thus creating an exponential impact on changing policy and providing legal assistance to our society's most needy victims. We would therefore be absolutely thrilled if the First Lady could meet with this year's Fellows.

We understand that the demands on the First Lady's time are even greater than usual, and would be grateful for any opportunity to meet with her, perhaps in conjunction with another activity.

I can assure you that if Mrs. Clinton is able to fit us into her busy schedule, it will be the absolute highlight of the Fellowship year. We would be able to schedule a meeting at virtually any time between now and August 18, 2000.

I attach some brief materials about our Program, and look forward to hearing from you. My phone number is 202-662-9644, and my e-mail address is "hartnetm@law.georgetown.edu".

With sincere thanks,



Mary Hartnett
Executive Director

cc: Ms. Marcia Greenberger
Co-President, National Women's Law Center
WLPPFP Board Member

Enclosures

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♀UTREACH

The Newsletter of the Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program

November 1999

Luncheon Honors Fellows, Announces New Fellowship

September 8, 1999 will be a day this year's Women's Law Advocates will not soon forget. Starting at 9:30 a.m., the Advocates met each other and the WLPPFP staff for the first time and began a day of orientation and introductions. The highlight of the fellowship orientation was the Annual Luncheon where the Advocates met their placement supervisors and other friends and supporters of the Fellowship Program.

Executive Director **Mary Hartnett** began the luncheon by introducing Georgetown University Law Center Dean **Judith Areen**, reminiscing about Dean Areen's kindness to Mary when Mary was a law student of then Professor Areen over 15 years ago, and commenting on how GULC is now a public interest leader locally, nationally and internationally. Dean Areen, a passionate and accomplished advocate of women's rights, then welcomed the Advocates and guests. The 1999-2000 Advocates were introduced by Board Member **Judith Lichtman**, President, National Partnership for Women and Families.

Board Member **Marcia Greenberger**, Co-President of the National Women's Law Center, introduced the keynote speaker, Board Chair Congresswoman **Eleanor Holmes Norton**. Regarding the new Fellows, Congresswoman Norton stated "This is bound to be the experience of a lifetime ... I cannot imagine a better experience for those entering law." She invited the Fellows to come to the Capitol to attend hearings and encouraged them to think of any legislation they might want introduced. "I know you will have glorious opportunities to think about the rights of women and girls in ways that you will carry with you throughout your professional careers."

Meet This Year's Fellows

This year, the Women's Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program is sponsoring a total of nine Fellows: six Women's Law Fellows, and three Leadership and Advocacy for Women in Africa Fellows. We introduce you to each of our new Fellows below and describe the work that they will be doing this year. All of our new Fellows will be working with alums of the Fellowship Program. Now that the Program is in its 17th year, it seems nearly inevitable that our alums are in leadership positions at the key organizations working on women's rights issues!

Women's Law Fellows

Jennifer Goldberg comes to us from a federal judicial clerkship in Boston. She received her bachelor's degree *summa cum laude* from Harvard-Radcliffe in 1994, and is a 1998 *magna cum laude* graduate of Harvard Law School, where she was the Court Director for the Battered Women's Advocacy Project and an Executive Editor for the Harvard Women's Law Journal. Jennifer's placement is in the Georgetown Domestic Violence Clinic, working with students to help local victims of domestic violence obtain protection from their batterers, along with alums Professor Deborah Epstein and Laurie Kohn.



1999-2000 Women's Law Advocates and program staff at their September 8 orientation (see story, opposite).

"Luncheon," continued on page 4

"2000-2001 Fellows," continued on page 2

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April 2000

Update on the Work of our Advocates

In her work at the Georgetown Domestic Violence Clinic, **Jennifer Goldberg** represents victims of family abuse in the District of Columbia. Her work includes conducting intake interviews at the Domestic Violence Intake Center, supervising second and third year law students in the Clinic, and co-teaching the Clinic seminar. With her students, Jennifer has successfully negotiated and litigated civil protection orders for victims of domestic violence in D.C. Superior Court. She was also a guest speaker on domestic violence at Eastern High School through the Georgetown Street Law Clinic. Jennifer is also actively involved in legislative advocacy for victims of family violence, participating in the D.C. Domestic Violence Coordinating Council Legislative Subcommittee.

Cristine Nardi has been involved in a variety of reproductive rights issues as well as a wide range of advocacy efforts. In the fall of 1999, Cris focused primarily on the NARAL Foundation's signature publication, *Who Decides? A State-By-State Review of Abortion and Reproductive Rights*, a book designed to assist activists and legislators in advocating

for reproductive freedom and choice. She has also continued to work to promote contraceptive availability and access on several fronts by: writing a statement for submission to the FDA advocating a streamlined approval process for barrier contraceptives, preparing written testimony in support of D.C.'s contraceptive coverage bill, and writing a letter to a state insurance commissioner requesting a survey of private health insurance plans marketed in the state to determine the level of health insurance coverage for contraceptives. Cris has also concentrated on several other issue areas, including fetal tissue research and crisis pregnancy centers.

During her placement in the Women's Rights Division of Human Rights Watch, **Cynthia Totten** has focused on the state response to violence against women in several countries. She interviewed Russian activists and NGOs in order to learn about the obstacles that confront Russian women who seek medical care and forensic evaluations after experiencing domestic violence or sexual assault. Her primary focus has been looking at the response of the state of California to sexual misconduct against women in its state prisons. That work included preparing for and conducting a research mission to California, during which she and a colleague interviewed prisoners, activists and state officials. Cynthia is now preparing a report summarizing these findings as well as recommendations to the California Legislature and the California Department of Corrections. This work will be released in advance of the upcoming Beijing Plus Five conference.

Elana Tyrangiel works at the National Partnership for Women & Families. Since September she has focused primarily on work and family issues and has worked on the National Partnership's Family Leave Income Campaign. Recently, she had the opportunity to testify before the Maryland House Committee on Economic Matters and the Maryland Senate Finance Committee, urging them to adopt legislation to provide unemployment insurance benefits to



Fellows attend a thought-provoking seminar. From left to right are: Jennifer Goldberg, Lisa Bornstein, Elana Tyrangiel, Cris Nardi and Sarah Lubega.

See "Advocates," page 2