BIOGRAPHIES FOR THE RECIPIENTS OF YLS FELLOWSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS SPONSORED BY OTHER INSTITUTIONS

ARTHUR LIMAN PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIPS

Chesa Boudin will spend his fellowship year at the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office (SF PDO) where he will work to improve the legal services offered to non-citizen clients. Chesa’s focus will be on the intersection between criminal defense work and immigration removal defense, and he will develop in-house resources for the SF PDO, provide direct representation to clients facing misdemeanor charges, and support the efforts of immigration removal counsel working with SF PDO clients. A 2011 graduate of Yale Law School, Chesa is currently clerking for the Honorable Margaret McKeown on the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Before law school, Chesa was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, and graduated summa cum laude from Yale College. He is the author of books and scholarly articles on topics ranging from Latin American politics to the rights of children with incarcerated parents.

Forrest Dunbar, who will complete a joint JD/MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School and Yale Law School in 2012, plans to return to his home state to join the Alaskan Office of Public Advocacy, where he will work on drug law reform. Forrest will investigate the impact to the state’s finances and society of felony sentencing for non-violent, non-distributive drug crimes. He will explore the possibilities for legislative reforms and will also represent clients facing low-level, drug-related criminal charges. Forrest graduated summa cum laude from American University in Washington, DC, where he won a Truman Scholarship, and then served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Kazakhstan.

Romy Ganschow will work with tenant organizers and tenant associations to protect low-income tenants’ rights to safe and quality affordable housing at Brooklyn Legal Services. Romy will focus on affirmative lawsuits to enforce housing code standards against private landlords whose buildings become uninhabitable. Her work will be part of broader efforts to preserve affordable housing stock and prevent displacement of low-income residents. Romy is a member of the Yale Law School Class of 2012 and graduated with High Honors from U.C. Berkeley with a B.A. in Anthropology. Prior to law school, Romy worked at the ACLU of Northern California, where she assisted attorneys seeking criminal justice reforms and an end to California’s death penalty.

Edward McCarthy will join the New Haven branch of the Connecticut Office of the Public Defender to help create a program for non-citizen clients. Edward will advise public defenders regarding the immigration consequences of their clients’ plea agreements and assist clients in understanding the choices before them. Edward will also provide training programs to public defenders on the intersections between criminal and immigration law. A member of the Yale Law School class of 2011, Edward received his B.A. in History with Distinction from Yale College. Following his second year of law school, Edward took a leave of absence to work in Mexico with an organization that provides legal assistance to migrant families.

Yaman Salahi will be at the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California where he will work on civil rights and liberties issues raised by the growing role for local law enforcement in national security. Yaman will investigate the nature and scope of police involvement with national enforcement related to security and will work with Middle Eastern and South Asian communities, as well as other groups impacted by those policies. He will also provide direct representation of clients in their exchanges with law enforcement. A member of the Yale Law School class of 2012, Yaman graduated from U.C. Berkeley
in 2009 with a B.A. in Rhetoric. Yaman is also working on ethical investment campaigns with Students for Justice in Palestine.

**Rebecca Scholtz**, a 2011 graduate of Yale Law School, will work with the Legal Aid Society of Minneapolis, where she will focus on immigrant youth in the child welfare system. Rebecca will provide direct legal services, including assistance in obtaining special immigration benefits available to abused, abandoned, and neglected children. In conjunction with other service providers and community groups, Rebecca will help to develop a system-wide procedure for identifying and assisting those in the child welfare system who also have immigration needs. Rebecca graduated summa cum laude from Middlebury College and then served as a Peace Corps volunteer for two years in a Costa Rican border town, where her work focused on at-risk juvenile migrants. Rebecca is currently clerking for the Honorable Diana E. Murphy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit in Minneapolis.

**Sirine Shebaya** will work with the ACLU of Maryland to address racial profiling of Latino youth in police gang prevention activities. During her fellowship year, she will investigate police practices—including “stop-and-frisk” policies and the entry of individuals into gang databases. Sirine will work with community partners on litigation, advocacy, and community education around these issues. Before coming to Yale Law School, from which she will graduate in 2012, Sirine was a postdoctoral fellow at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics and the Georgetown University Kennedy Institute of Ethics. She graduated with high distinction from the American University of Beirut and received a Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University.

**Olivia Sinaiko** will join the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) to work on preserving natural resources for local and native communities. One priority is limiting the contaminating effects of mining in the region. She will also focus on reforming resource management institutions through involving local communities that depend on natural resources such as salmon for their survival. Since Olivia graduated from Yale Law School in 2009, she has been based in Juneau, Alaska, where she clerked for the Honorable Walter L. Carpeneti, Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court, and then worked for SEACC and Earthjustice. Olivia received a B.A. in Philosophy with Highest Graduation Honors from Stanford University.

**Jenny Zhao** will spend her fellowship year at the ACLU of Northern California, where she will provide assistance to immigrants detained in county jails during their deportation proceedings. Jenny’s project will address the problems of detained immigrants, in terms of their access to courts, their rights to fair hearings, and the conditions of their confinement. A member of the Yale Law School class of 2012, Jenny graduated from Stanford University with a B.A. in International Relations and, prior to coming to law school, worked at the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

**GRUBER FELLOWSHIP IN GLOBAL JUSTICE AND WOMEN’S RIGHTS**

**Becca Heller**, Yale Law School Class of 2010, will spend her fellowship year working with the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), specifically by developing legal interventions for Iraqi refugee young women and girls who are being sexually trafficked. With Jonathan Finer ’09, Becca co-founded IRAP as a student organization when she was a YLS student. With enormous support from Yale Law School, IRAP has since become an international law student movement for refugee rights, with chapters at more than 20 law schools in the United States and the Middle East. In addition to the honor of being selected as a Gruber Fellow, Becca has received Skadden and Echoing Green Fellowships in recognition of her work
with IRAP. She is currently a visiting clinical lecturer in law at YLS and was recently named one of the Christian Science Monitor’s “30 Change Agents Under 30.”

**Amanda Gutierrez** will spend her fellowship year working with the Center for Justice and International Law in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in collaboration with domestic organizations to address the exploitation of migrant Bolivian workers in the Argentine textile industry. Amanda will document labor practices in the industry, assess the Argentine government’s response to pervasive exploitation, and develop strategies to leverage the power of international law and domestic organizing to improve the government’s approach on this issue. Amanda, a member of the Yale Law School Class of 2012, graduated with highest honors and highest distinction from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was involved with a number of immigrants’ rights initiatives.

**Stephanie Keene** will work with the International Justice Mission (IJM) in Kampala, Uganda, to provide legal services to women and children who have been victims of illegal property seizure, or “property grabbing.” Stephanie will support IJM lawsuits on behalf of victims of property grabbing; lead and develop legal training for Ugandan justice officials; and develop strategies to reform customary practices that impede women’s property rights in rural communities. Before joining the Yale Law School Class of 2012, Stephanie graduated with high honors from Princeton University and worked for the U.N. World Food Program in Dakar, Senegal.

**HEYMAN FEDERAL PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIPS**

**Barrett Anderson** is a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012. He graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. in political science and a B.A. in economics from the University of Iowa. As a Heyman Fellow, Barrett will work with Senator Charles Grassley and the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee provides oversight to the Department of Justice, related agencies, and the federal courts; examines executive nominees; and considers legislation on a wide variety of legal and policy issues, including constitutional law and amendments, homeland and national security law, and criminal and civil law and procedure. Barrett will assist the Senator and his staff by researching, analyzing, and drafting legislation and amendments, preparing for interviews with witnesses and government officials, and providing support at weekly Committee hearings.

**Elizabeth Kelly** will serve as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Elizabeth will work closely with top officials at HUD, the White House, Congress, and other executive agencies to craft and implement policies to expand economic opportunity and foster fair housing. A member of the Yale Law School class of 2012, Elizabeth graduated summa cum laude from Duke University and received her MSc in Comparative Social Policy from the University of Oxford as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial and Clarendon Scholar. At Yale, Elizabeth further developed her longstanding commitment to social and economic justice as a student director of the YLS Community and Economic Development Clinic and through internships at the White House Domestic Policy Council, the HUD General Counsel’s office, and Southeastern Louisiana Legal Services’ Housing Law Unit.

**Michael Love**, a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012, will serve as a Senior Advisor for International Finance in the U.S. Treasury Department, where he will work closely with Charles Collyns, the Assistant Secretary for International Finance, as well as with Lael Brainard, the Under Secretary for International Affairs. As a Heyman Fellow, Michael will assist with the development of macroeconomic, monetary, and financial policy in response to international developments and will support interactions
with the G-7, G-8, and foreign financial ministries. Prior to attending Yale, Michael worked on the macroeconomics and labor staff of the White House Council of Economic Advisers. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard College in 2008, where he studied economics.

**Tara Rice**, a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012, will work as an advisor to the Under Secretary for Rural Development at the Department of Agriculture. She will help design and implement targeted economic development strategies to alleviate rural poverty and stimulate more robust rural economies. Tara is from rural north-central Montana and graduated magna cum laude from Seattle University in 2007. Prior to law school, she worked in rural China on an English textbook project and in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on a Fulbright-funded economic research project looking at the distribution of resources in the government budget.

**ROBERT L. BERNSTEIN FELLOWSHIPS IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

**Katherine “Katie” Reisner**, a 2011 graduate of Yale Law School, will work with the Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) in New York developing a scalable legal model to increase enforcement of service and benefit provisions provided to newly resettled refugees. Katie is currently a law clerk for the Honorable Michael Daly Hawkins of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. At Yale, Katie worked on IRAP’s policy team and represented Iraqis claiming compensation due to them under the Defense Base Act. Katie earned an A.B., magna cum laude from Brown University in 2007 in International Relations and was editor-in-chief of The Brown Journal of World Affairs. In 2009 she was awarded an MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

**Rupali Sharma**, a member of the J.D. class of 2012, will spend her fellowship year at the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), in New York, where she will use international, regional, and domestic law to help expand access to reproductive healthcare in Central and Eastern Europe. Prior to law school, Rupali provided direct services to immigrant domestic violence survivors and led an emergency contraception campaign at the National Institute for Reproductive Health. At Yale Law School, she served as a student director of the Immigration Legal Services clinic. She graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern University, with a double-major in Political Science and Gender Studies, and a minor in Philosophy.

**ROBINA FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS**

**Leah Bellshaw** graduated from the Law School in 2012. She will spend her fellowship year working for Judge Theodor Meron at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in The Hague, Netherlands. Leah received a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley, where she studied international development. Prior to law school she worked with refugees and forced migrants in Kampala, Uganda. At Yale Leah served as a Managing Editor for the *Yale Journal of International Law* and as a Policy Editor for the *Yale Law & Policy Review*. During her summers Leah interned with the Department of Justice Human Rights and Special Prosecutions Section, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, and the World Bank.

**Colleen Gilg** graduated from the Law School in 2008. She will spend her fellowship year in the Hague working in international criminal law, likely with the International Criminal Court in the Office of the Prosecutor. Colleen graduated summa cum laude from the University of Notre Dame with a B.A. in Government and International Studies. After graduating from law school, Colleen spent two years at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP in New York, where she helped represent the
Government of the Dominican Republic in an international arbitration proceeding and successfully represented several clients seeking asylum. She then worked as an Associate Legal Officer in the Office of the Co-Prosecutors at the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia. Colleen is now a law clerk to Judge John C. Coughenour of the Western District of Washington.

Josiah Pertz is a member of the class of 2012. He will spend his Robina Fellowship year in Strasbourg, France working at the European Court of Human Rights. Devoting a substantial portion of his coursework to international law, Josiah received a Coca-Cola World Fund Fellowship to research Costa Rica’s historic referendum on the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement. He is currently at work on a book about that election, recounting how a Nobel Laureate, an astronaut, a crocodile wrestler and two U.S. presidents came together to promote the agreement. Prior to law school, Josiah was chief English speechwriter for Nobel Peace Laureate and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, then chief speechwriter for United States Senator Robert Menendez. He received his B.A. from Harvard.

SAN FRANCISCO AFFIRMATIVE LITIGATION PROJECT FELLOWSHIP

Adam Grogg is a member of the Yale Law School Class of 2010. He received his B.A. from Williams College in 2004 and his M.Phil. from Oxford University, where he was a Marshall Scholar, in 2006. At Yale, Adam was Vice President for Publicity and Outreach of the American Constitution Society, an Editor of the Yale Journal of Law and the Humanities, and a member of the Arthur Liman Public Interest Program Student Board.

YLS INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE INTERNSHIP / CLERKSHIP

Shashank Kumar, a member of the LL.M. class of 2011, will be a law clerk at the International Court of Justice in The Hague. Prior to joining the ICJ, he worked at the World Trade Organization’s Appellate Body in Geneva. At Yale Law School, Shashank focused his study and research on international investment and trade laws, as well as international arbitration. He also served as an editor for the Yale Journal of International Law. Before matriculating at Yale, Shashank completed his LL.B. with honors from National Law University, Jodhpur (India), and was awarded the Vice-Chancellor’s Gold Medal for his graduating class. At NLU, he was the founding editor-in-chief of the journal Trade, Law and Development. Shashank received an honorable mention for the Frederic Eisemann award at the 15th Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna and represented India at the 21st Jean Pictet Competition on international humanitarian law in Evian. Shashank also serves as a visiting lecturer of international law at National Law University, Jodhpur.

YLS PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIPS

Talia Kraemer will spend her fellowship year at Legal Services for Children in San Francisco, CA. For her project, Talia will develop an interdisciplinary, trauma-informed model for representing children in civil legal matters that proactively addresses clients’ legal and social service needs to help prevent future court involvement. Talia received her B.A. in physics from Harvard College and is a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012. Before law school, she worked for two years at Children’s Rights, a national child welfare watchdog organization.
Kristen Lang, a member of the class of 2012, will work as an attorney for the L. David Shear Children’s Law Center of Bay Area Legal Services in Tampa, Florida. During her fellowship year, she will develop and implement a strategy to increase the placement of 3-5 year old foster youth in high quality preschools while representing these children in court. Prior to law school, Kristen worked as a sixth grade English teacher in the South Bronx. She is a proud alumna of Teach for America’s New York City corps and of the University of Florida.

Kristin Macleod-Ball will work with the Legal Action Center of the American Immigration Council in Washington, DC to help increase access to counsel in immigration hearings. Her work will support LAC’s advocacy for the right to appointed counsel for indigent immigrants in removal proceedings, as well as the organization’s efforts to improve regulation of ineffective assistance of counsel and the denial of the statutory right to counsel in immigration court. Kristin received her undergraduate degree in political studies and human rights from Bard College and is a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012.

Sasha Post will be Special Adviser to the president of the Center for American Progress in Washington, DC. During law school, Sasha interned for the White House Counsel’s Office, the Justice Department’s Office of Legal Policy, and the OMB General Counsel’s office. Before law school, he was a program officer at the Open Society Institute. Sasha is a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012.

Edward Ramos will work with immigration expert Ira Kurzban on a project challenging the abuse of immigration "detainers" in southern Florida. Graduating in the Yale Law School class of 2012, Edward served as a student director of the Immigration Legal Services Clinic and the Non-Profit Organizations Clinic. He received a bachelor’s degree in History from Amherst College in 2008.

Gabriela Rivera will work with the ACLU of San Diego to address racial profiling and other abuses of local police partnerships with Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Border Patrol. Gabriela will investigate the nature and scope of local involvement in Secure Communities and the Criminal Alien Program. Gabriela’s project seeks to remedy not only the front-end immigration enforcement issues in San Diego County, but will also address two specific consequences of local policing of civil immigration law: the proliferation of coerced and misinformed administrative voluntary departures and the inhumane conditions in short-term immigration detention. A member of the Yale Law School class of 2011, Gabriela received her B.A. in History from the University of California, Los Angeles.

EARL WARREN SOLICITOR GENERAL FELLOWSHIP

Craig Konnoth, a 2010 graduate of the law school, will be the 2012-2014 inaugural Earl Warren Solicitor General Fellow at the California Department of Justice. In this capacity, he will work on appellate cases addressing constitutional questions and major public-policy concerns in diverse areas of civil and criminal law. Additionally, the Warren Fellow will advise the Attorney General on participation as an amicus curiae in high-profile cases. Craig is currently clerking with the Hon. M. Margaret McKeown of the United States Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit. Prior to this, he was the Scott Hitt Law and Policy Fellow at the Williams Institute of Sexual Orientation Law & Policy at UCLA Law School. He is also a graduate of the University of Cambridge and Fordham University. Craig has published several reports and articles on LGBT rights, started the first national LGBT law student organization, and has worked and litigated on behalf of several domestic and international LGBT rights organizations.

EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS FELLOWSHIP
Laura Huizar, from the Class of 2012 will join LatinoJustice PRLDEF where she will represent low-wage immigrant workers whose rights have been violated by unscrupulous employment agencies in the New York City area. Her project also aims to expose the problem of employment agency abuse, support litigation, and reduce abuse through community-based advocacy. Laura graduated from Yale College and, prior to law school, worked at Junta for Progressive Action where she focused on economic development and low-wage immigrant worker advocacy in the New Haven, CT area.

Zach Strassburger is a member of the Yale Law School class of 2012. Zach graduated with honors from Wesleyan University in 2006, and worked as a paralegal at the Urban Justice Center’s Mental Health Project and the Legal Aid Society’s Health Law Project before attending law school. As an Equal Justice Works fellow at KidsVoice in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Zach will provide holistic legal services to mentally ill youth in the foster care and juvenile justice systems. Zach’s legal work will range from special education litigation to health insurance appeals to representation in juvenile and family court, where Zach will work to implement new Pennsylvania court rules addressing a child’s health, education, and disability needs.

**SKADDEN FELLOWSHIP**

Estella Cisneros is a member of the Yale Law School Class of 2012. She graduated in 2007 with honors from Stanford University, majoring in Political Science and Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity. Before law school, Estella worked for California State Senator Fran Pavley as a Senate Fellow and for the Catholic Community at Stanford as a full-time student minister. As a Skadden Foundation Fellow, Estella will work for California Rural Legal Assistance, providing direct representation and helping improve the health and safety of immigrant, low-wage dairy workers in the Central Valley of California through litigation, community legal education and administrative advocacy.

Dror Ladin received a Skadden fellowship to support his work at the Immigrants’ Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in New York. Dror will work on direct representation, impact litigation, community education, and policy advocacy to protect the right of low-wage, immigrant workers to work. Dror’s project focuses on E-Verify, a flawed federal identification database. Dror graduated from Yale Law School in 2010. After graduation, Dror worked as a fellow at the ACLU’s National Security Project and at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton. He is currently clerking for the Honorable Kim McLane Wardlaw on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Dror graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Vassar College, and worked at the African American Policy Forum on affirmative action issues before coming to Yale.

The Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellowship
Shari Inniss-Grant ‘12 – National Women’s Law Center, Washington, DC