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the
Carolina HLLSA Bulletin

An Independent Newsletter of the University of North Carolina
Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association



Inside this Issue:

Get to Know your HLLSA
Executive Board

HLLSA Welcome Potluck
Recap

HLLSA Spanish Hour

HLLSA Shot Glasses & Thank
You Cards on Sale

NC Bar: Commission on Latino
Affairs Mixer Recap

HLLSA's Pro Bono Projects:

Naturalization Clinic with the
National Association of Latino
Elected and Appointed Officials

&

Interpreting with El Centro
Latino

Upcoming Events

A Message From Our President

Dear fellow HLLSA members,

The Fall 2013 semester has been a busy one for our organization. We welcomed the Class of 2016 into our Carolina family, provided academic support, helped U.S. residents complete their naturalization paperwork, started the Spanish hour, and continued to support our administration in promoting student diversity. HLLSA's primary goal of service to our community and our students is paramount and is not met in one semester. In Spring 2014, we will continue to build on our reputation as one of the strongest student organizations at Carolina Law. Without the commitment of our membership, we cannot succeed. I encourage you to get involved with HLLSA, bring your talents and your passions and build relationships with your colleagues. HLLSA is only as strong as its membership. I know that in 2014 we will be even stronger. I look forward to another semester as your President and working in the name of our great organization.

In the Carolina Spirit,

Leslie Puzo

Get to Know your HLLSA Executive Board

Cassandra Capote: Vice President

Cassandra is a second-year law student originally from Miami, FL. She graduated from Florida International University in 2008 where she double majored in International Business and Marketing with a minor in Hospitality Studies. Cassandra has done work with immigrant women and hopes to continue working with the Hispanic/Latino community in the future.



Catherine Perez: Treasurer

Catherine is a second-year law student from Southern California and notes that In-N-Out is better than Five Guys and Cookout. She received her Bachelors in English Literature from Cal State San Bernardino and plans to pursue a career as a criminal prosecutor in North Carolina. If that doesn't pan out, she has aspirations to open a private practice that specializes in Robot and Conjoined-twin law.



Leah Arnold: Secretary

Leah is a second-year law student from Gainesville, FL. She currently serves as Outreach Coordinator for the Immigration Law Association, Secretary for the Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association, and Co-Coordinator of the Community Legal Project. She is also a Public Interest Peer Mentor. After 1L year, she interned with Legal Aid of North Carolina's Battered Immigrant Project and the Compass Center for Women and Families. Leah completed her bachelor's degree at the University of Florida before moving to Murcia, Spain, where she worked as a public school teacher. She is of Puerto Rican ethnicity, and she spent time living in Peru as a child. She hopes to pursue a career in immigration law and is particularly passionate about issues involving immigrant survivors of violence, trafficking, and abuse.

Andrea Solorzano: Pro Bono Coordinator

Andrea is a second-year law student at UNC Chapel Hill from Huntersville, NC. She graduated from UNC Chapel Hill with a Bachelors degree in Sociology and Highest Honors in Latin American Studies. During her undergraduate years, she studied abroad in Spain, traveled with a research class to Mexico, and delved into independent research for her honors thesis in Peru. Andrea enjoys learning about spirituality and faith, traveling to new places, and listening to other people's stories.



Get to Know your HLLSA Executive Board

Gabrielle Johnson: 1L Outreach



Gabrielle was born in Raleigh, North Carolina on the road as her parents traveled with Ringling Bros. and Barnum and Bailey Circus. She grew up in Phoenix, Arizona, where she graduated from Arizona State University with a B.A. in Religious Studies. Before coming to law school, she taught middle school science at Day-Star School in Juticalpa, Honduras. This past summer she worked as a law clerk at the North Carolina Justice Center for both the Immigrants' and Refugees' Rights Project and the Workers' Rights Project. Her goal is to work in immigration law with a focus on LGBT families and persons. In her free time, Gabrielle enjoys painting squids and octopi, traveling to as many countries as possible, and playing with her dog, Toby.

Emily Rojas: Pro Bono Coordinator

Emily was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee and grew up in Cornelius, North Carolina. She studied Political Science and Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the College of Charleston and the University of Havana. Before coming to law school, she lived, studied, and worked in Cuba, Colombia, and Chile. During her time at UNC, she has worked for the Charlotte Immigration Court, the UNC Clinical Programs Immigration Clinic, and several immigration firms in Raleigh. Emily is interested in practicing immigration and family law in North Carolina after she graduates in May 2014. In her free time, Emily enjoys playing violin with the Charanga Carolina orchestra and traveling with her husband to Latin America.



Leslie Puzo: President

Leslie was born in Queens, New York and her parents are from Dominican Republic and Haiti. Leslie's childhood years were spent in Dominican Republic, she moved to Miami, Florida at the age of 10 and has resided in the U.S. ever since. Leslie graduated Magna Cum Laude from Florida Gulf Coast University with bachelors in Political Science and minors in Global Studies and Latin American Studies. She is a current second-year law student at UNC, focusing her law classes to international and immigration law. Leslie has traveled to Brazil, France, Madrid, Bolivia, Haiti, Dominican Republic and the Bahamas. Leslie enjoys reading, traveling, and negotiating.



HLLSA Welcome Potluck

As HLLSA aims to start traditions at UNC, this year we kicked off the 2013-2014 academic year with a potluck at Dean Novinsky's house. This was a fun night full of great people and amazing food. We plan to have this event again in January 2014.



HLLSA Weekly Spanish Hour

Spanish Hour

Every Wednesday @ NOON

Location: 4004

Interested in learning Spanish? Want to practice your Spanish? Come and enjoy the company of other law school students at HLLSA's Coffee Hour!

Support HLLSA: Buy Shot Glasses & Thank You Cards

Dues are now \$15: get access to our outline database, support HLLSA programming, have pizza at general body meetings & free appetizers at social events, etc.
-Pay chapter dues to Catherine Perez: perec302@gmail.com

**Paying either set of dues is not mandatory. Choosing not to pay dues does not prevent you from participating in HLLSA. We are an organization that strives to support all students in our law school. In order to be a functioning organization, however, we need due-paying members. Please contact a member on the executive board if you have any questions.



NC Bar: Commission on Latino Affairs Mixer



Thank you to everyone who participated! This event was on September 26, 2013 from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog, LLP in Raleigh, NC.

HLLSA Pro Bono Corner:



1. **Compass Center, Client Interviews, and Memo Writing (2L's & 3L's)**
 Help underprivileged clients with a broad range of issues and get further experience writing legal memos.
 Contact: larnold@live.unc.edu
2. **Interpret with El Centro in Durham**
 Get experience on a wide range of legal issues while simultaneously helping Spanish-speaking people of the Durham area.
 Contact: emily.r.rojas@gmail.com
3. **Naturalization Clinic sponsored by NALEO and NCAJ**
 Next clinic will be in January. More information to come in December.
 Contact: asolorza@email.unc.edu

4. **Lawyers 4 Literacy (L4L):** L4L consists of Judges, attorneys, paralegals and law students who will spend 30 minutes a week for a minimum of 4 weeks with 1-4 students who have been selected by their teacher for additional help to improve their reading skills. Volunteers will share their time, love of reading and knowledge of Civics, U.S. History, and biographies of American heroes. Volunteers will listen to children read interesting non-fiction books and help as needed. UNC HLLSA will soon be adopting a Chapel Hill elementary school to start this program. The training for this program will be mid-January 2014.



Upcoming Events:

November

Minority Business & Law Student Networking Mixer

Thursday November 7th

7 – 9:30 pm

Bailey's Pub & Grille

1722 Fordham Blvd., Chapel Hill (Rams Plaza)

FREE Food & Drinks

Attire: Dressy Casual

Event Co-sponsors: BLSA, HLLSA & the Association of Minority Business Students

Law School-High School Mixer: UNC Law Professor Kennedy will be bringing 12th grade AP English Students from Southern High School. Southern High School is located in Durham has a predominantly minority (75% African American and 20% Latino) student body.

Please come share your experience with these minority students on **November 14th at 6pm!**

Food will be provided.

December

Exams

January

Lawyers 4 Literacy

Naturalization Clinic

Latino/a Career Panel

HLLSA Food Sale: Empanadas

HLLSA-BLSA Salsa Night

February

Lawyers 4 Literacy

Law for Us Sessions

Lunchtime Salsa Lesson

March

Lawyers 4 Literacy

HNBA Moot Court Competition: Orlando, FL

April

Noche de Gala- Banquet

May

Exams

