

Pro Bono Program



UNC
SCHOOL OF LAW

Annual Report 2014–2015

Letter from the Program Director

The Pro Bono Program increases student participation and widens the scope of populations served by our program each year. This year, the Pro Bono Board focused on making sure this service was expanded in a way that intentionally speaks to our dual purposes — addressing unmet legal needs and fostering a lifelong commitment to pro bono work.

First, the board ensured that pro bono at UNC School of Law remained rooted in the goal of addressing unmet legal needs. The Pro Bono Program strives to address the problem of limited access to justice, yet each year, the problem worsens. Statistics show a 60 percent increase in the number of people eligible for legal aid over the last 10 years [1] and an 80 percent eligibility rate for defendants needing a court-appointed attorney [2]. Data make it clear that there are not enough practicing attorneys in the public sector to meet these needs. Pro bono is a critical prong in the delivery of legal services to those with unmet legal needs.

We were especially intentional this year in the way we addressed unmet legal needs. We sought to respond to the needs of the communities we serve and be transparent with the student body about the connection between pro bono projects and the needs addressed. For example, last year, the Pro Bono Program led a trip with Legal Aid of NC to Wilmington, N.C., to host an expunction clinic. During this trip and a follow-up trip in June, student volunteers and Pro Bono Board members witnessed hundreds of people asking for help and being turned away when our appointments were full. The overwhelming scope of this unmet legal need led to the fall launch of the **Expunction Project**, which started with a **Fall Break Trip** where we assisted many of those previously turned-away clients with expunction of their criminal records.

The Pro Bono Program also expanded the reach of unmet legal needs addressed this year with the launch of the **Alumni Opportunities Portal**. This launch was a milestone in the Pro

Bono Program's journey to instill a lifelong commitment to pro bono work. By allowing attorneys to both post and sign up to complete pro bono projects, this portal helps attorneys to address unmet legal needs throughout the entirety of their careers.

As the year progressed, the Pro Bono Board worked to transparently show the connection between students' practical skill development and communities' unmet legal needs. This two-fold goal started with intentionally editing all project postings to clearly highlight the practical skills that students would gain by completing each project. This focus culminated during sign-ups for winter break projects as we worked to edit each project posting and highlight the unmet legal needs addressed by our work. Through the completion of these projects, students gained skills ranging from legal research to community outreach. These projects included, among others, signing consumers up for health care with the **Navigator Project**, compiling domestic violence legal information for prosecutors with **AEquitas**, and researching "Ban the Box" initiatives for attorneys with the **Southern Coalition for Social Justice**.

This intentionality has given the Pro Bono Program the tools to stay grounded in our passion to address the growing needs of our communities and partners in service.



— Kathleen Lockwood 3L, Director, Pro Bono Program

Left: Students answer the prompt "I do pro bono because..." for the 2014 National Pro Bono Week #CelebrateProBono campaign in October 2014.



[1]: Stephanie Carroll Carson, *Free Legal Services in NC Take Budget Hit*, N.C. PUB. NEWS SERV. (Feb. 28, 2012), <http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?content/article/24986-2>

[2]: *The Sad State of Indigent Defense Fifty Years After Gideon v. Wainwright*, ACLU, available at <https://www.aclu.org/sad-state-indigent-defense-fifty-years-after-gideon-v-wainwright>.

ALUMNI PARTICIPATION AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

2014-2015 PRO BONO ATTORNEY AND LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDER PARTNERS

15B Post Separation Support and Alimony Guidelines Committee
AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women
American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina
Bald Head Island Conservancy
Carolina Farm Stewardship Association
Center for Death Penalty Litigation
Charns & Donovan
Chatham County Public Defender's Office
City of Durham
Disability Rights North Carolina
Durham County Government
Durham County Public Defender's Office
Durham Economic Resource Center
Glenn, Mills, Fisher & Mahoney PA
Immigration Equality
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP
Law Office of Bruce T. Cunningham Jr.
Law Office of Mark L. Hayes
Law Offices of Valeria Cesanelli, PLLC
LeeAnne Quattrucci, PA
Legal Aid of N.C., Durham
Legal Aid of N.C., Farmworker Unit
Legal Aid of N.C., Gastonia
Legal Aid of N.C., Morganton
Legal Aid of N.C., Pembroke
Legal Aid of N.C., Pittsboro
Legal Aid of N.C., Raleigh
Legal Aid of N.C., Sylva
Legal Services of North Florida, Inc.
Legal Services of Southern Piedmont
Marine Corps Installations East Legal Assistance
McGuireWoods LLP
Mecklenburg County Bar
Monday Night Law Project
N.C. Administrative Office of the Courts, Guardian ad Litem Services Division
N.C. Attorney General's Office
N.C. Bar Association
N.C. Center on Actual Innocence
N.C. Coalition Against Domestic Violence
N.C. Dept. of Justice--Air and Natural Resources Section
N.C. Division of Aging & Adult Services
N.C. Division of Public Health, Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch
N.C. Equal Access to Justice Commission

N.C. Immigrant Rights Project
N.C. Indigent Defense Services
N.C. Indigent Defense Services, Forensic Resource Counsel
N.C. Justice Center
N.C. Prisoner Legal Services
N.C. WARN
N.C. Veterans Pro Bono Network
National Health Law Program
NCABL Land Loss Prevention Project
North Carolina Advocates for Justice
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Piedmont Law Center
Pisgah Legal Services
Prison Policy Initiative
Robertson Immigration Law Firm
Sierra Club, N.C. Chapter
Southern Coalition for Social Justice
Southern Environmental Law Center
The Law Offices of Patrick Morgan, PLLC
Triangle Art Works
UNC Center for Civil Rights
UNC Center on Poverty, Work & Opportunity
Wake County District Attorney's Office

Be a Part of Tradition!

Carolina Law has a long tradition of supporting and participating in pro bono work in communities across North Carolina. We invite all attorneys to learn how you can help address unmet legal needs and be a part of that tradition.

One major way you can help meet unmet legal needs is by signing up for an attorney pro bono opportunity through our online attorney project portal. Find out more at www.law.unc.edu/probono/alumni. Another way to support this work is to contribute financially — visit www.law.unc.edu/alumni/givenow and designate your gift to the pro bono discretionary fund.

New Alumni Portal Offers Pro Bono Opportunities for Attorneys

UNC School of Law alumni have continued to positively influence the course of Pro Bono representation in the state and across the country through the work of the Pro Bono Alumni Board (PBAB) and the implementation of the Attorney Pro Bono Opportunities Portal.

This year PBAB continues its commitment to helping connect current Carolina Law students and alumni to pro bono work addressing unmet legal needs. Every month, PBAB features an alumnus in the Pro Bono Alumni Monthly Update. In August, PBAB welcomed incoming students at Orientation. In September, PBAB partnered with Legal Aid of North Carolina's Lawyer on the Line program to coordinate a CLE training attorneys to advise and mentor law students with an ultimate goal of providing legal advice to the underserved. Further, PBAB provides mentorship to students committed to doing pro bono work, whether through offering

advice to the Pro Bono Board, participating in projects led by student organizations, or attending an alumni networking lunch with students.

While doing a wonderful job connecting with students and recognizing alumni committed to pro bono work, PBAB also aims to reach a wide network of alumni to facilitate their pro bono involvement. This year, the Pro Bono Program unveiled the **Attorney Pro Bono Opportunities Portal**, where legal service providers and student groups submit pro bono projects in need of attorney volunteers. Attorneys can sign up for the projects through the portal or sign up for e-mail alerts to be notified when projects are posted. Typically, there are more than 10 projects soliciting attorney volunteers. This resource provides an easy way for alumni to locate opportunities in one place.

CLASS OF 2015 PARTICIPATION



Samuel Williams 3L orders from Chirba Chirba at the Spring Food Truck Rodeo supporting Pro Bono Special Trips in February 2015.

Class of 2015 Prepares for Lifetime Commitment to Pro Bono Work

During the final year of law school, most students are preparing to enter the job market by completing upper-level courses, participating in clinics and externships, and getting ready to take the bar exam. At UNC School of Law, students gain even more experience to be practice-ready by completing a substantial amount of pro bono work. Pro Bono does not end at graduation. Many students sign the 3L Pro Bono Pledge to, in the five years after graduation, complete a certain number of hours of pro bono work each year, help supervise students at Carolina Law on pro bono projects, or work with community Legal Aid offices on pro bono cases.

This pledge reflects commitment to continue, as attorneys and stewards in their community, a commitment that begins during their time at UNC School of Law. With the variety of projects available at UNC, third-year students have built upon a number of practical skills that

help develop their abilities as burgeoning attorneys and have taken advantage of opportunities to serve in leadership roles. Pro bono work also helps 3Ls explore legal interests. This allows them to both make connections with attorneys in their own future practice areas as well as to help mentor younger law students as they embark on their legal careers.

Most importantly, the variety of projects completed by 3Ls demonstrates their commitment to addressing unmet legal needs in North Carolina and across the entire country. Current third-year students have participated in a wide range of pro bono activities during their time at UNC, but a lifetime commitment to pro bono is just beginning for this group of soon-to-be graduates.



Gabrielle Johnson
3L

Before becoming involved in [the Volunteer Income Tax Association (VITA)], I hadn't had any tax experience outside of doing my own taxes through online programs. My involvement in VITA, especially in leading it, taught me invaluable lessons about income tax, allowed me to mentor other students, and offered me many rewarding opportunities for client counseling.



Anna Orr
3L

Most criminal law pro bono work is defense centered, so doing pro bono for district attorneys is a great way to gain experience on the prosecution side and network with potential employers.

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3L STATISTICS

79%
PARTICIPATING 3LS

18,852
NUMBER OF 3L PRO BONO
HOURS COMPLETED

CLASS OF 2016 PARTICIPATION



Madison Waller 2L discusses the value of pro bono with alumni at the Attorney Pro Bono Networking Luncheon during Carolina Law Pro Bono Week in January 2015.

Class of 2016 Builds Practical Skills through Pro Bono Leadership Roles

In their 2L year, members of the Class of 2016 embraced pro bono work as part of their professional development and responsibility. Pro bono projects have not only helped to alleviate the burden of unmet legal needs present in North Carolina, but they have also helped create a means through which UNC School of Law students can develop leadership and professional skills that will serve them well into their legal careers.

Many 2Ls have taken on leadership positions in pro bono groups this year. In fact, of UNC School of Law's 26 student groups, 17 have pro bono projects managed by 2Ls. Through these experiences, pro bono has become a platform for second-year students to network, build relationships with practicing attorneys in their fields of interest, and learn practical skills that are difficult to hone in the traditional law school classroom.

These pro bono leadership opportunities also allow second-year students to step into mentorship roles for first-year students. Peer mentorship is a vital skill developed by students in defined mentor roles, such as the Winter Break Pro Bono Project Mentors – a group of upper-class students offering advice to 1L project participants about interacting with a supervising attorney and new legal topics. Nevertheless, 2Ls do not need a specific position to encourage the newer class – second-year students attend trips, lead projects, and create new pro bono opportunities alongside 1Ls, sharing their experiences and developing skills with first-year students.

Amidst the busy schedules of second-year law students, they continue to maintain their commitment to carving out time for participating in pro bono work, due in large part to the valuable skills and relevant experience that pro bono provides.



**Kristi
Nickodem**
2L

All students, whether they are headed to large corporate firms or small non-profit organizations, can benefit from [pro bono opportunities to learn] how to counsel different types of clients, incorporate feedback from supervising attorneys, draft effective legal documents, and spot legal issues in real-time.



**Corey
Frost**
2L

As an aspiring civil rights lawyer, I will have clients who are economically and socially vulnerable. Certainly knowing legal doctrine is essential to being an effective advocate for these clients. But the ability to communicate effectively and understand the challenges they face is indispensable as well. I learn these skills through pro bono work, by getting involved in projects that involve interviewing clients and working alongside experienced public interest lawyers.

2L STATISTICS

81%

PARTICIPATING 2LS

12,350

NUMBER OF 2L PRO BONO
HOURS COMPLETED

CLASS OF 2017 PARTICIPATION

Class of 2017 Performs Record Amount of Pro Bono Work for 1Ls

From the moment the Class of 2017 arrived on campus in August, the students have been setting new records, meeting unmet legal needs, connecting with community members and applying the skills they have learned in the classroom to aid the North Carolina community. Each student's passion and dedication to public service has created a collaborative and motivating 1L class culture.

Soon after beginning classes, many 1Ls had their first direct client interaction over the course of the Fall Break Wilmington Expunction Trip, where students served more than 120 clients seeking expunction relief. Many first-years participated in Election Protection, a non-partisan hotline devoted to answering voter concerns and questions. In addition, more than 80 first-year students signed up for a winter break project, where they conducted research, interviewed clients and completed clinical work in areas such as family, criminal, health and environmental law. Also, nine 1Ls traveled to Cherokee, N.C., and Asheville, N.C., to participate in a legal clinic and a pro se divorce clinic.

Midway through the year, students had the opportunity to join the Carolina Amazing Pro

Bono Race. 1L teams competed in pro bono challenges where students increased their number of volunteer hours, shared their stories, and encouraged their peers to complete pro bono work. More than 80 students volunteered to participate in this initiative, helping the class set new records for 1L pro bono participation.

Even as the academic year came to a close and students faced the stresses of interviewing for summer internships and trying out for second-year programs, students remained actively committed to pro bono work. Many students gave up their spring break to head to Boone, N.C., to draft end-of-life documents, or Canton, N.C., to perform expunctions. Other students completed individual projects with supervising attorneys

Over the past nine months, the Class of 2017 has worked tirelessly to provide pro bono services to individuals in need. The Class of 2017 is finishing this year with a clearer vision of what it means to be a member of the UNC School of Law, where service to the North Carolina community remains a priority.



Alexandra Elbeery 1L and Troy Homesley 1L review a client's criminal record on the Fall Break Trip to Wilmington, N.C., in October 2014.

1L STATISTICS

74%

PARTICIPATING 1Ls

4,875

NUMBER OF 1L PRO BONO HOURS COMPLETED



Andrew Pate 1L

[Pro bono is] a great way to learn more about the law, cultivate new social relationships and develop legal experiences, all while working to benefit the community.



Carly Baker 1L

I came to law school thinking I was going to be an attorney in the private sector, but the fall break expunction trip really opened my eyes to the enormous amount of good work attorneys can do in the community. Being able to help people when I only had two months of law school experience was so rewarding.

PRO BONO
IS FOR **EVERYONE**

ACADEMIC BREAK PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES



Miranda Wodarski 1L and Dana Neely 1L work with a client to draft a will and advance directives on the spring break trip to Boone, N.C., in March 2015.

Academic Breaks Offer Wide Variety of Pro Bono Opportunities

Students have the opportunity to address unmet legal needs from home and throughout North Carolina during school breaks. During winter break, the Pro Bono Program organized a trip to Cherokee, N.C., working with attorneys from Legal Aid of Sylva to host a general legal clinic on the reservation addressing criminal expunctions, custody battles, divorce cases, and adoptions. In addition to the clinic, students also learned about the Cherokee Court and life on the reservation from Chief Justice Bill Boyum '86 and Judge Kirk Saunooke '05. The group then headed to Asheville, N.C., where, with the help of Pisgah Legal Services and supervising attorney Julie Klipp Nicholson '06, they assisted clients with divorce documents.

Over spring break, students traveled west to Boone and Canton, N.C. In Boone, students worked to develop the program's existing relationship with the Morganton Legal Aid office and to provide assistance in drafting wills, health care powers of attorney and other end of life documents to clients from Watauga and Avery Counties. In Canton, students worked with Legal Aid of North Carolina's Second Chance Employment and Housing Project to conduct eligibility screenings and interviews for expunctions.

For students who preferred to address unmet legal needs from home over winter and spring breaks, the Pro Bono Program also worked with practicing attorneys to offer remote projects. Student feedback from these opportunities indicated a sophisticated understanding about addressing limited access to legal services and other resources.



**Joseph
Kim 2L**

This year's winter break trip has reinforced my interest in doing pro bono and reason for coming to law school. During a trip like this, you see how the law affects people in the real world, beyond the casebooks and outside the walls of our law school.



**Vinita
Tandon 1L**

[Researching domestic violence law during my winter break project] clarified for me how inaccessible legal information can be for people who are in need of it in order to not only understand their rights, but also to acquire the resources necessary to seek help.

By the Numbers

Winter Break Trip (Cherokee & Asheville)

15 STUDENTS

30 CLIENTS

Spring Break Trip (Canton)

12 STUDENTS

37 CLIENTS

28 ELIGIBLE FOR RELIEF

Spring Break Trip (Boone)

14 STUDENTS

47 CLIENTS

143 DOCUMENTS

Winter Break Projects

118 STUDENTS

34 PEER MENTORS

60 UNIQUE PROJECTS

Spring Break Projects

22 STUDENTS

14 UNIQUE PROJECTS

PRO BONO
IS FOR **EVERYONE**

STUDENT GROUP PRO BONO OPPORTUNITIES

Student Groups Create and Facilitate Sustained Community Partnerships

During the 2014-2015 academic year, UNC School of Law's student organizations have shown great passion and dedication to pro bono by working on more than 20 new and ongoing projects. Student groups work with faculty, attorneys, community partners and other students to identify and address critical unmet legal needs and then engage students of all class years by providing unique opportunities addressing legal areas of common interest.

Throughout the year, student groups worked

on a variety of issues, including providing support to victims of domestic violence when obtaining ex parte domestic violence protective orders, conducting research on burgeoning issues in environmental law, and presenting legal information on consumer and commercial law to vulnerable communities.

One particularly impactful group this year was the Hispanic Latino Law Students' Association (HLLSA). HLLSA worked with the organizations Ya Es Hora and the National Association of

Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) to allow students to work directly with legal permanent residents engaged in the naturalization process. During each four-hour shift, students assisted clients with completing N-400 citizenship applications. Additionally, volunteers gave a summary of the naturalization process and provided study materials to clients. HLLSA provides a wonderful example of the invaluable contribution of student groups to the Carolina Law community and North Carolina as a whole.



Caroline Hall 3L, Kandace Watkins 2L, Stacy Kelly 1L, Bethany Boring 1L, Kayla Rudisel 1L, AC Locklear 2L, and community organizers at a Black Law Students Association wills clinic in Rocky Mount, N.C., in March 2015.



**Claire
O'Brien 2L**

[The UNC Law Consumer and Commercial Law Society's Fraud Fighters Project] helps seniors protect themselves from identity theft and fraud. Giving back to our local community by raising awareness about common tricks and new scams has been one of the most rewarding parts of my time at Carolina Law.

2014-2015 STUDENT GROUP PROJECTS

American Constitution Society:
Constitution in the Classroom

Black Law Students Association:
Advance Directive Clinics

Broun National Trial Team and Carolina
Health Law Organization: Medical Malpractice
Mock Trial

Carolina Intellectual Property Law Association:
N.C. LEAP Inventor Assistance Program

Child Action: Guardian Ad Litem
Training Project

Child Action: A Child's Day in Court Mock Trial

Christian Legal Society:
Deferred Action Renewal Clinic

Community Legal Project

Consumer and Commercial Law Society:
Fraud Fighters Project

Death Penalty Project: Center for Death
Penalty Litigation Research Project

Domestic Violence Action Project:
Ex Parte Project

Domestic Violence Action Project:
Subpoena Defense Project

Education Law and Policy Society:
Stand with Students

Environmental Law Project: Southern
Environmental Law Center Project

Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association:
Naturalization Clinic

Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association:
El Centro Hispano Housing Legal Clinic

Lambda Law Students Association:
Stanback Middle School Project

Lambda Law Students Association:
Health Care Power of Attorney Clinic

National Lawyers Guild: Triad and Triangle
Legal Observations

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund:
Humane Society of N.C. Research Project

Student Animal Legal Defense Fund:
Animal Legal Defense Fund Research Project

Veteran Advocacy Law Organization:
Wills Clinic

Tax & Corporate Law Association:
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Women in Law: Girl Scout Mock Trial

Lawyer on the Line and Cancer Pro Bono Projects Continue to Make Impact

Along with the many individual and experiential opportunities the Pro Bono Program offers, it also manages two sustained, student-run partnerships: the Lawyer on the Line Pro Bono Project and the UNC Cancer Pro Bono Project, both with Legal Aid of North Carolina.

Lawyer on the Line offers students the chance to work with practicing attorneys on housing and employment law cases through interviewing, research, and legal analysis. This project provides students and lawyers with effective space for learning. This year, the project worked with Legal Aid and the Pro Bono Alumni Board to hold a CLE for attorneys at UNC Law on housing and employment claims. This presentation preceded a networking lunch where student and attorney project participants could get to know one another.

The Cancer Pro Bono Project has continued its evolution this year, seeking to grow with the ever changing and increasing demand for cancer patients seeking legal aid. This year, the Project had the opportunity to formally partner with Legal Aid of North Carolina's Medical-Legal

Partnership to further the goals of the project. This partnership allowed the project to further its goal of reaching the greatest number of cancer patients at UNC Hospital. This year also marked

record numbers of student and attorney volunteers working to provide living wills, powers of attorney, and health care powers of attorney documents to clients.



*Kristi Nickodem 2L interviews a client as part of the UNC Cancer Pro Bono Project.
Photo by Dan Sears.*



Bob Hall, executive director of Democracy North Carolina, and Maria Moore 2L assist a caller to the Election Protection Hotline in November.

Pro Bono Program Addresses Expunction, Election and Health Care Legal Needs

The Pro Bono Program expanded its commitment to new projects this year, helping to meet unmet legal needs across North Carolina. After beginning a relationship with Legal Aid of North Carolina and the NC Justice Center last year, the Pro Bono Program strengthened its pledge to help perform expunctions for individuals with criminal records around the state. Over fall break, 30 students traveled to Wilmington, helping more than 200 individuals determine their potential eligibility for expunctions. This work continued throughout the year as students performed other expunction screenings with Legal Aid, the Justice Center and Disability Rights North Carolina.

In addition, the Pro Bono Program worked with the UNC Center for Civil Rights to staff an Election Protection hotline in November. The non-partisan hotline was set up in the Career Development Office at the law school, receiving nearly 1,000 calls from North Carolina residents hoping to cast their vote. Volunteers helped direct voters to their polling station, cleared up confusion about new voting laws, and helped field complaints for the national Election Protection hotline.

Finally, the Pro Bono Program once again became an integral part of the Health Care Navigator program in North Carolina. Over the course of three months, students volunteered at consumer clinics every week in Wake County, helping hundreds of North Carolinians sign up for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act. All three of these projects have continued Carolina Law's commitment to pro bono by helping students develop a variety of legal skills, meet a diverse range of clients, and gain important pro bono experience.

UNC SCHOOL OF LAW 2014-2015 PRO BONO PUBLICO AWARDS

SYLVIA K. NOVINSKY AWARD

Recognizing exceptional commitment to pro bono by a member of the graduating class

Anna Orr



Anna Orr is this year's recipient of the Sylvia K. Novinsky Award, having demonstrated a sustained passion for pro bono and serving unmet legal needs. Upon graduation, Orr will have logged over 400 hours during her three years at UNC. She has worked with 15 different organizations on 27 separate projects. The organizations she has worked with include Aquitas: The Prosecutors Resource, the N.C. Center on Actual Innocence, Disability Rights N.C., and the UNC Lambda Law Association. Beyond simply performing pro bono, Anna has consistently encouraged others to get involved and has been an exceptional representative for the school.

3L STUDENT OF THE YEAR

Sawyer Lucy



While the 3L Student of the Year recognizes a student who has shown a demonstrated commitment to Pro Bono during their final year at UNC Law, the Pro Bono Program would be remiss not to discuss Sawyer Lucy's commitment to pro bono throughout his law school career. Lucy has worked with Legal Aid, the Driver's License Restoration Project, the Federal Public Defender, and many more organizations for more than 300 hours throughout law school. However, this year alone, Lucy has volunteered more than 100 hours with the Orange and Wake County Public Defender's Offices, committing himself to indigent defense. Lucy has served as a model pro bono participant, inspiring others to get involved as well.

2L STUDENT OF THE YEAR



Alison Melvin

Alison Melvin has logged almost 100 hours of pro bono work during her second year. She has worked on the Microscopic Hair Comparison Research Project to assist North Carolina State Lab in criminal justice cases. She also volunteered with the Estate Planning for Equity Wills Clinic through the North Carolina Bar Association to help LGBT individuals draft wills and advanced directives. But most impressively, she has taken on three leadership roles in the Cancer Project, including co-president. Melvin has devoted many hours to overseeing, coordinating and participating in clinics that prepare end of life documents for cancer patients.

1L STUDENT OF THE YEAR

William Norrell



Will Norrell has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to pro bono. Norrell's dedication is evidenced by the more than 160 hours of pro bono service that he has completed with a wide range of organizations and projects, including the Center for Death Penalty Litigation, NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the UNC Cancer Pro Bono Project, and Legal Aid of North Carolina. Not only has Norrell volunteered an incredible amount of his time, but he has also encouraged his 1L peers to get involved with pro bono. As one of his Amazing Race teammates said, "Will has been an inspirational leader, challenging us to give back...He is a well-organized, well-respected leader amongst the 1L class, and he truly enjoys doing [pro bono] work."

ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

Margaret Ann Anderson '81



Ann Anderson has shown her dedication to pro bono by taking over and transforming Lawyer on the Line, a joint program of both the North Carolina Bar Association and Legal Aid of North Carolina. The statewide program provides advice and limited civil legal services to underserved and disadvantaged populations. Anderson served as a member, then chair, of the North Carolina Bar's Lawyer on the Line Committee. Over the past four years, she has devoted about 300 volunteer hours to expand recruitment and raise funds for the program, which has provided more than 12,000 clients with more than \$3 million worth of free legal services.

Landon S. Eustache '08



Landon S. Eustache, a seventh-year associate in the private sector, is passionate about serving his community and consistently devotes about 85 hours to pro bono work per year with the Council for Children's Rights and Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont. He has worked on a wide variety of challenging and high-conflict custody cases for the Council for Children's Rights. He also volunteers for difficult and time-intensive Medicaid appeals cases for Legal Services of the Southern Piedmont. Additionally, he serves as a member of the Mecklenburg County Bar's Lawyers as Volunteers Advisory Board.

FACULTY MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Dean John Charles "Jack" Boger '74



Jack Boger, dean and Wade Edwards Distinguished Professor of Law, has been a tireless advocate for the importance of pro bono service, regardless of a student and graduate's career choice. He began his pro bono work as an associate at Paul Weiss, which he says led him to focus on race and death penalty issues in addition to education law. He is completing his ninth year as dean of UNC School of Law, after serving as assistant counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc. from 1978-90, where he defended death row inmates and worked on poverty issues, and after teaching law at UNC from 1990-2006.

During his tenure as dean, the Pro Bono Program has experienced increased financial support, including the appointment of a dedicated professional who concentrates on Pro Bono Program coordination; the support of pro bono service as a factor in law professor tenure; and a focus in countless Orientation, Commencement and other speeches, in which he emphasizes pro bono as a lawyer's professional responsibility.

His pro bono work while at Carolina Law is bountiful and includes serving as counsel of record and author of amicus curiae briefs in cases such as *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin*, *Gutter vs. Bollinger*, *Leandro vs. State of NC* and many more.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR

Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association (HLLSA)

The Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association (HLLSA) works with the purpose of promoting unity within the Latino student population at Carolina Law. The members of HLLSA strive to create a strong sense of community, along with educational, social and political programs that enhance the education of the Carolina community. This year, HLLSA is the recipient of the Student Group of the Year Award for its passionate commitment to providing free and quality representation for unmet legal needs. HLLSA worked with the organizations Ya Es Hora and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials to host a naturalization clinic in Raleigh, N.C., and provided a host of translation and interpretation opportunities for the surrounding community.

2014-2015 PRO BONO PROGRAM PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

CLASS OF 2015

600+ Samuel Williams	Brian Ziegler Kevin Westerman Courtney Ross	Andrea Solorzano	Amelia Serrat Dillon Redding Asia Hester	75+ Britton Lewis Chigozie Ogwuegbu-Stephens Chris Hodgson Christina Nasuti Julia Hurley Brian Phillips Michael Rose Jeffrey Favitta Samantha Scheller Katherine Lamberth Xuan Li Rory Fleming	Christopher Dwight Benjamin Szany Daniel Parisi Charles Loeser Ray Echevarria Caroline Hall Mac Forbes Will Alley Taylor Johnson Eric Kotecki Zach Ainsztein Joseph Stusek Nicholas Turza	Derek Carr Emily Peña Brighton Haslett Melissa Mitchell John Harris Neal Inman Jamey Anderson Annalise Farris Kristen Kenley Heidi Rickes Daniel Cole Justin Allen Harrison Freedland Cydney Russell Ikee Gardner Dana Messinger Ellis Martin Kim Perez Jacquelin Uhlik Samera Beshir Christian Landreth Chris Ellis Kelsey Hendrickson Lucy Ireland Patrick Kirby
500+ Kathleen Lockwood	Tony Lucas Whitley Carpenter Laura Kastner	100+ Brandon Elliott Natalia Deyneka Kyle Evans Hailey Bunce Jeremy McCamic Katherine Gardzalla Cody White Logan Thore Irving Figueroa Brett Currier Angela Alcala Eissabeth Dizon Elizabeth Zimmerman Charlie Hagerman Heather Hillaker Cassandra Capote Brittany Cartner David Fitzgerald Nicole Wilkes Tucker Kass Dylan Castellino Kelsey Penrose Jennifer Damm	Caroline Veltri Tiffany Owen Alison Templeton Carmen Melvin Lucy Andrzejewski Kelly Morris Ryan Niland Mark Alexandre LaRouche Will Blackton Hannah Choe Shang-Yun Lin Kira Lumsden Valerie Hughes Caitlin McCartney James Chapman Taylor Payne Matthew Viva Ashley Anderson Emily Doll Erin Gibbs Amanda Harris William Sain Katie Varner			
400+ Anna Orr	Catherine Perez Glenn Kern Leah Arnold					
350+ Gabriel Kussin Sawyer Lucy	150+ Kerry Boehm James Jordan IV Logan Walters Joseph Marshall Julia Welch Alicia Palmer Nicole Ladner Caitlin Kannan Veronika Sykороva Ana Spitzley Dianna Houenou Nicole Daniels Tate Holland Pete Webb Dan Hemme					
300+ Amanda Colley Evan Benz Gabrielle Johnson Stella Kreilkamp				50+ Jennelle Peterson Jennifer Nusbaum Lauren Shor Casey Steen Kevin Delaney Kateri Tremblay Ben McManus Keta Desai Ian Biggs Laura Burkett	25+ Ashley Berger William Ellis Katie McConnell Nathan Gudeman Rabee El-Jaouhari Jason Jones Lauren Talboom Brian Blood Nick Byrne Stephen Perry Elizabeth Schoeman	
250+ Caitlin Bernstein Alissa Ellis						
200+ Leslie Puzo Matthew Henry						

CLASS OF 2016

400+ Ken Strickland	Aaron Jones Kandace Watkins Maria Lopez Delgado Mary Scruggs Mary Slagle Carmela Mastrianni Molly Gross Shana Moore Jacob Oakes Laura Campbell Christina Anderson Josh Windham Nate Creger Patricia Heyen Haley Phillips Kathryn Kushner Rebecca Plett Sarah Walker Tyler Lohse Rachel Brunswig AC Locklear Prescott Martin Jamie Rudd	Maria Moore Robert Sparks Laura Kessler Manny Davis Chelsea Weiermiller Stephanie Krasnov Kristi Nickodem Brian Kettmer Eric Hinderliter Madison Waller Joseph Kim	Andrea Smith Charlotte Davis George Schinkel Alexander Covington Susanna Wagar Kellie Corbett	50+ Alexander Selig Caroline Keen Claire O'Brien Rachel Morgan Molly Harris Wilson Fong Phillip Waters Brian Liebman Billy Piontek Carly Couch Kelly Mathews Nishma Patel Lindsey Brown Maiysa Mesbah David Grant	Nihad Mansour Ma'idah Lashani Sam Walker Carolyn Detmer Erin Ball Meghan Boyd Julie Chen Jessica Craddock Lauren Tonon Skye David Isaac Vargas Racheal Hammond Kinnari Bhojani Benjamin Cross Preston Dole Kevin Barnett Mary Sanders Daniel Burke Delsie Bailey Joshua Chowdhury	Kristin Shields Thomas Layton Travis Hinman Gabriel Odeh Caitlin Counts Amanda Hawkins Carmen Haithcock Kate Ortbahn Maddi Pfefferle Tyler O'Hara Richard Pepper Robert Pickren Mary Ellen Goode Clinton Hannah Troy Heisman Joseph Shuford Preetha Suresh Andrea Shofstall Luke Pettyjohn Christopher Byrd Chanda Marlowe Shayan Ahmed Adam Maas	Robert Glowacki Sheldon Stokes Catherine Corser Danielle Kimelstein Micael Cohen Kylie Spangler William Hartzell Jason Green Benjamin Gurlitz Tim Palmer Eric Anderson Caroline Barrineau Catherine Brown Kyle Cunnion Brett Fox Annie Kouba Lorne McManigle
300+ Corey Frost							
250+ Hillary Dawe Jared Smith							
200+ Patricia Robinson							
150+ Alison Melvin Taylor Goodnight Alexandria Weller Chris Bagley Danielle Bernard							
100+ Ward Collins Catherine Caycedo							

2014-2015 PRO BONO PROGRAM PARTICIPATING STUDENTS

CLASS OF 2017

150+	Alexandra Elbeery	Daniel Horwitz	Brenna Sheffield
Hannah Smoot	Ryan Sheffield	Brittnay Morgan	Christopher Stevens
William Norrell	Jordan Hodge	Kasi Wahlers	Christopher Babadjanian
	Matthew Tomsic	Leah Neal	Jamey Lowdermilk
100+	Ivy Johnson	Ariel Smallwood	Chidi Madu
Samantha Heggum	Brooklyn Hildebrandt	David Pasley	Catherine Smith
Kirstin Gardner	Andrew Eichen	Cory McKenna	Quisha Mallette
Olivia Taylor	Kathryn Hesman	Kristin Athens	Molly O'Neil
Bethany Boring	Joshua Martinkovic	Matthew Burke	Eli McCrain
		Rachel Jennings	Caleb Johnson
75+	25+	Zachary Ernst	Chelsea Parish
Hillary Li	Kayla Rudisel	Samuel Hipps	Hannah Abernethy
Miranda Wodarski	Breegan O'Connor	John Holt	Troy Homesley
Lindsie Trego	Ben DeCelle	Alex French	Carly Baker
Dana Neely	Sara Matecun	Joelle Portzer	John Sorenson
Mia Ragent	Rebecca Gittelson	Rex Young	Tiffany Yates
Sarah Doty	Cordon Smart	Isaac Rank	Rebekah Morrison
Jenica Hughes	Kari Loomer	James King	Dexter Hobbs
Rachael Warden	Laura Biber	Caroline Poma	Kyrstin Wallach
	Ballard Yelton	Max Swindle	
50+	Angelica Mitchell	Chelsea Banister	
Vinita Tandon	Elizabeth Windham	Brittany Brattain	
Joshua Bennett	Christopher Brown	Annemarie Ernst	

35,954
PRO BONO HOURS LOGGED
BY CAROLINA LAW STUDENTS

78%
OF CAROLINA LAW STUDENTS
HAVE DONE PRO BONO

\$771,932
VALUE OF PRO BONO
SERVICES PROVIDED

Using the 2014 North Carolina Volunteer Hourly Rate provided by the Independent Sector, available at www.independentsector.org/volunteer_time.



Winners at the 2014-2015 Pro Bono Publico Awards ceremony, from left: Sawyer Lucy 3L, Dean Jack Boger '74, Alison Melvin 2L, Alissa Ellis 3L (Public Interest Peer Mentor of the Year Award), Kristi Nickodem 2L, Landon Eustache '08, William Norrell 1L, Andrea Smith 2L, Anna Orr 3L, M. Ann Anderson '81.



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*enhancing legal education through
commitment to community*

2014–2015 Pro Bono Board

Director: Kathleen Lockwood 3L

Attorney Projects Coordinator: Samuel Williams 3L

Alumni Outreach Coordinator: Amanda Colley 3L

Group Projects Coordinator: Nicole Daniels 3L

New Projects Coordinator: Gabriel Kussin 3L

Public Relations Coordinator: Jared Smith 2L

Special Trips Coordinators:

Jamie Rudd 2L & Madison Waller 2L

Winter Break/Spring Break Projects

Coordinator: Hillary Dawe 2L

3L Class Coordinator:

Caitlin Bernstein 3L/Gabriel Kussin 3L

2L Class Coordinator: Molly Gross 2L

1L Class Coordinator: Hannah Smoot 1L

Advisor: Sylvia Novinsky, J.D., *Assistant Dean
for Public Service Programs*

2015–2016 Pro Bono Board

Director: Hillary Dawe 2L

Attorney Projects Coordinator: Molly Gross 2L

Alumni Outreach Coordinator: Jared Smith 2L

Group Projects Coordinator: Alexandria Weller 2L

New Projects Coordinator: Madison Waller 2L

Public Relations Coordinator: Laura Kessler 2L

Special Trips Coordinators:

William Norrell 1L & Vinita Tandon 1L

Winter Break/Spring Break Projects

Coordinator: Hillary Li 1L

3L Class Coordinator: Jamie Rudd 2L

2L Class Coordinator: Olivia Taylor 1L

Advisor: Sylvia Novinsky, J.D., *Assistant Dean
for Public Service Programs*

About the UNC School of Law Pro Bono Program

The mission of the UNC School of Law Pro Bono Program is to increase the provision of high quality, low-cost legal services to North Carolina residents in need. The Pro Bono Program carries out this mission by empowering lawyers to accept more pro bono cases and encouraging Carolina Law students to make a life-long commitment to Pro Bono work.

The Pro Bono Program was established in the fall of 1997 as a division of the Office of Public Service Programs. It has since connected law students with hundreds of pro bono projects under the supervision of practicing attorneys in both public interest and private practice. A 12-student board and the assistant dean for public service programs the Pro Bono Program administer and work with community partners, legal aid officers, law school student groups, professors, alumni and private attorneys to facilitate pro bono projects, special clinics and group trips for students.

The Pro Bono Program operates primarily from August to April, with special projects occurring during the fall, winter and spring breaks. The program is the central point for all pro bono activities at the law school and maintains a database to keep track of student pro bono work. Students performing more than 75 hours of pro bono service receive a certificate of recognition acknowledging their service. At graduation, the law school recognizes students who have performed more than 100 hours of pro bono service. Furthermore, all students with more than 50 hours of pro bono service earn a notation on their transcript. For more information, please contact Sylvia Novinsky, assistant dean for public service programs.



Front row: Hillary Dawe 2L, Kathleen Lockwood 3L, Amanda Colley 3L, Molly Gross 2L, Madison Waller 2L, Dean Sylvia Novinsky. Back: Jared Smith 2L, Hannah Smoot 1L, Jamie Rudd 2L, Gabriel Kussin 3L, Samuel Williams 3L, Nicole Daniels 3L.