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Congratulate John DeWitt Gregory

on his many years of

service to the legal profession.

NEW YORK • LONDON

# Hofstra Law School

Thursday, May 15, 2008 • Jericho Terrace • Mineola, New York

## 35th Anniversary **Celebration of the Clinical Programs**





**HOFSTRA**  
UNIVERSITY®

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SCHOOL OF LAW

*presents the*

*35th Anniversary Celebration of*

# **Hofstra Law School's Clinical Programs**

Honoring

## **John DeWitt Gregory**

*Sidney and Walter Siben Distinguished Professor of Family Law  
Founding Co-Director of Hofstra Law School's Clinic Programs*



**Thursday, May 15, 2008**

**Jericho Terrace  
Mineola, New York**



# PROGRAM

## WELCOME

**Michelle Wu**  
*Interim Senior Vice Dean*

## GREETINGS

**Stuart Rabinowitz**  
*President, Hofstra University*

## MESSAGE FROM DEAN DEMLEITNER

**Michelle Wu**  
*Interim Senior Vice Dean*

## DINNER IS SERVED

## VIDEO PRESENTATION

*“Clinic: Then and Now”*

## TRIBUTES AND PLAQUE PRESENTATION

**Harvey W. Spizz**  
*Spizz & Cooper, LLP*

**Stefan Krieger**  
*Professor of Law and Director of Clinic Programs*

## REMARKS

**John DeWitt Gregory**  
*Sidney and Walter Siben  
Distinguished Professor of Family Law*

## THANK YOU AND CLOSING REMARKS

**Stefan Krieger**  
*Professor of Law and Director of Clinic Programs*



# COMMITTEE & SPONSORS

**THANK YOU** to the *Anniversary Celebration Committee members* for their efforts and support:

Joan Baim '05  
Cheryl Bartow '96  
Kerry Bassett '00  
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Bruna DiBiase '84  
Hon. Barbara Lynaugh '84  
Charles McEvily '73  
Mary Beth Ott '96  
Martin Restituyo '02  
Hon. Stella Schindler '76  
Maria Schwartz '92  
Harvey Spizz

**THANK YOU** to our *Event Sponsors* for their generous support of the *Anniversary Celebration*:

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## HONOREE

**John DeWitt Gregory***Sidney and Walter Siben**Distinguished Professor of Family Law*

Professor John DeWitt Gregory, a former vice dean of the Law School, teaches primarily in the areas of matrimonial and family law. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute, and served as an adviser to the Institute's Principles of the Law of Family Dissolution: Analysis and Recommendations. He is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and the New York Bar Foundation, and a member of the board of editors of the *Family Law Quarterly*. He is the author of *The Law of Equitable*

*Distribution; Understanding Family Law* (with Swisher & Scheible); and *Property Division in Divorce Proceedings: A Fifty State Guide* (with Richards and Wolf); and he has written extensively in the areas of juvenile law, family law and constitutional law. He is a former chair of the Section on Family and Juvenile Law of the Association of American Law Schools and of the Section on Minority Groups.

Following the general practice of law in Harlem and an association with a New York City firm specializing in commercial and labor law, Professor Gregory served as an assistant attorney general in the Litigation Bureau of the New York State Department of Law. Subsequently, he was assistant to the commissioner for departmental legal affairs in the Nassau County Department of Public Welfare and later served as executive director of Nassau Law Services, Inc. Professor Gregory is the former general counsel and executive director of New York City's Community Action for Legal Services, Inc., the largest legal services program in the nation. Following his appointment to the Hofstra faculty in 1971, he was among the initial directors of the Community Legal Assistance Corporation, the school's neighborhood law office and first clinical program, where he worked as an attorney.

Professor Gregory has held appointments as lecturer in Law and Social Welfare at the School of Social Work at Adelphi University and at New York University School of Continuing Education. He is a director and vice chair of the National Center for Law and Economic Justice, and former chair of the Committee on Matrimonial Law of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Professor Gregory received the Law Faculty Distinguished Service Award for 1978-79, and in 1982 received the Outstanding Faculty Award presented by the Law School's chapter of the Black American Law Students' Association for his untiring dedication and service. In 1984 he was selected to deliver the third annual Hofstra University Distinguished Faculty Lecture.

# 35

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



SCHOOL OF LAW  
Office of the Dean

May 15, 2008

Dear Friends,

Thank you all for your strong support of the 35th Anniversary Celebration of our Clinical Programs in honor of Professor John DeWitt Gregory.

Hofstra Law School's clinical program has always been an important guiding force in shaping legal education here. Under the enlightened leadership of our founding Dean, Malachy Mahon, and Clinic Co-Founders, David Kadane and John DeWitt Gregory, Hofstra was a pioneer in integrating clinical experience into the law school curriculum. From its humble beginnings 35-years ago, the clinic program has expanded and diversified its offerings, providing legal counsel to hundreds of people who might not otherwise have access to legal representation. It provides the School with a vital link to the community, while offering our students their first opportunity to "practice" law. We acknowledge and thank everyone -- faculty, students, clients and alumni -- who have helped to shape the dynamic program and make it such a great success.

It is not easy to summarize our honoree, Professor John DeWitt Gregory, in the space provided here. He is intelligent, witty, charming, wise, a great legal scholar and a most valued member of our faculty. He shares his perspective at every faculty meeting, without ever mincing words, and challenges us all to think long and hard before a final decision is made. He certainly keeps me on my toes as Dean. As a teacher, he deeply cares about his students -- though he occasionally hides his feelings behind a gruff exterior -- and he challenges them to think critically. Both are the greatest assets of a true educator. Professor Gregory has demonstrated incredible devotion to Hofstra Law School, which has served as his professional home for more than thirty-seven years, and we are extraordinarily grateful for all of his dedication and service. The Law School community and I personally are delighted to be able to recognize him at tonight's celebration.

Your support of this event will help to fund our current clinic programs in Child Advocacy, Community and Economic Development, Criminal Justice, Immigrant Defense, Housing Rights, Mediation, Political Asylum, and Securities Arbitration, as well as the David Kadane Fellowship in Public Interest Law, which is awarded annually to a student working in the clinic during the summer between the second and third year of law school. It is because of you that our clinic programs remain strong and will continue to serve the less fortunate for many years to come. I sincerely thank you for all you do for Hofstra Law and its clinics.

Sincerely,

Nora V. Demleitner  
Dean and Professor of Law

121 Hofstra University | Hempstead, New York 11549-1210

## TRIBUTES



May 15, 2008

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to send greetings to each of you attending the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic.

Since its inception, the Hofstra Law Clinic has been dedicated to the principle of providing legal assistance to indigent residents of the Queens and Long Island communities in order to fulfill the promise of equal justice for all Americans. I applaud the members of the Hofstra Law Clinic for their strong commitment to protecting the basic rights of New Yorkers who otherwise could not afford legal representation. Through its programs, the Hofstra Law Clinic assists the elderly, immigrants, the disabled, domestic violence victims and needy women with children. By offering pro-bono legal assistance, the Law Clinic has given a voice to thousands of area residents who otherwise would not have been heard.

You have my best wishes for a wonderful evening.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hillary Rodham Clinton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Hillary Rodham Clinton  
United States Senator

## TRIBUTES



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**  
 ALBANY 12224

DAVID A. PATERSON  
 GOVERNOR

May 15, 2008

Dear Friends:

I am delighted to send greetings to all gathered to celebrate the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic and to honor one of its founding co-directors, Professor John Gregory.

As an outstanding institution that remains a cornerstone of education in New York State, Hofstra University is a name that is synonymous with achievement and excellence. Throughout many decades, its Law School has become a vital presence among others in the State and Nation, and its reputation continues to grow as one of the very best for programs that address specific social needs.

Today, it is also well-respected by the greater legal community for providing a solid background for individuals planning to enter careers in law or related fields. Adding to its success is a strong association of individuals who are committed to furthering a philosophy based on respect for the law and to ensuring its use for the furtherance of justice and the betterment of all of our society.

This evening, you hail one of the School's most prominent leaders, Professor John Gregory, who has certainly realized a significant achievement in the success of the Clinic Programs. Professor Gregory is recognized for his historic role and lifelong service to Hofstra University, its School of Law, and particularly the Law Clinic, which upholds such an important principle in directing students toward a career that focuses on the public interest or that involves *pro bono* work. Moreover, Professor Gregory embodies the character and integrity that are traits shared by all Hofstra Law students – qualities that have enabled them to succeed in life.

As a proud alumnus of Hofstra Law School, I am pleased to join in honoring Professor Gregory, who has distinguished himself as an academic, a brilliant legal mind, and an exceptional example for his students and colleagues. This honor is a testimony to his intelligence and well-balanced sense of justice, and I would like to offer special congratulations to Professor Gregory as he is duly honored by the Hofstra community for his noteworthy achievements and service.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable evening. Warmest regards to all.

Sincerely,

DAVID A. PATERSON

[www.ny.gov](http://www.ny.gov)

## TRIBUTES

The Chief Judge of the State of New York



Judith S. Kaye

April 8, 2008

To the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic:

Bravo! Congratulations!

Thirty-five years of service to the Long Island and New York City communities is an event worthy of great celebration.

From a selfish point of view, I begin with thanks for your assistance to our courts, and litigants, in Nassau County and the Second Department. But I know that your wonderful efforts and achievements extend far beyond, offering a full range of assistance and a full range of opportunity for your student participants.

May your program enjoy this special anniversary celebration, and many ahead.

Sincerely,  
Judith Kaye

## TRIBUTES



A. Gail Prudenti  
Presiding Justice

Appellate Division  
Supreme Court of the State of New York  
Second Judicial Department  
45 Monroe Place  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

(718) 722-6400

April 16, 2008

Professor Stefan H. Krieger  
Director of Clinical Programs  
Hofstra University School of Law  
108 Hofstra University  
Hempstead, NY 11549-1080

Re: Hofstra Law School Clinic

Dear Professor Krieger:

On behalf of the twenty-two (22) Justices on the Appellate Division, Second Judicial Department, I am writing to offer our heartfelt congratulations to the Hofstra Law Clinic as the Clinic celebrates 35 years of service to the Long Island and New York City communities. It is indeed an impressive achievement and is certainly an event worth commemorating.

This court is well aware of the first rate classroom instruction that law students receive at Hofstra University School of Law. Over the course of my sixteen (16) years on the bench, I have personally witnessed the benefits that inure to law students who have had the opportunity to participate in a clinical program as part of their legal training. The practical experience gained by applying the lessons learned in the classroom to the experience of representing a client in the courtroom is of critical importance to the student's development as an advocate. The fact that the Hofstra Law Clinic also fosters the pro bono work ethic has become a valuable benefit and lasting legacy to the community at large. We are pleased that the future of the Hofstra Law Clinic is secure.

We wish you every success as you continue to enhance the reputation of the Hofstra University School of Law. If I may ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Very truly yours,

A. GAIL PRUDENTI  
Presiding Justice

AGP/bw

## TRIBUTES



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Chief Administrative Judge

JAN H. PLUMADORE  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge  
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(516) 571-2684  
FAX (516) 571-3713

HON. ANTHONY MARANO  
Administrative Judge  
Nassau County

April 15, 2008

Dear Dean Demleitner, Director Krieger and all Hofstra Law Clinic Volunteers and Alumni:

Many well-deserved congratulations on the Hofstra Law Clinic's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. As the Administrative Judge of Nassau County, I am well aware of the crucial legal services provided by the Clinic to indigent members of our Long Island communities. Professionally and personally, I applaud the dedicated and tireless efforts of each and every advocate volunteering in the Clinic's numerous programs, representing clients in areas including Child Advocacy, Housing Rights, Community and Economic Development, Criminal Justice and Mediation.

The time and expertise donated through the Hofstra Law Clinic benefits countless recipients, from the law students gaining practical experience under the supervision of veteran attorneys, to the many individuals and community organizations represented. Your honoree, Professor John Dewitt Gregory, a former Vice Dean of Hofstra Law School and one of the founding forces behind the Hofstra Law Clinic, epitomizes this invaluable process. The fact that many of the students mentored continue after graduation to do *pro bono* work and advance to public interest careers, speaks volumes about the positive influence of Hofstra Law community leaders like Professor Gregory and the impact of the Law Clinic itself.

I extend to all of you, my warmest regards as you celebrate 35 years of outstanding service in the Nassau County Courts.

Very truly yours,

Anthony Marano  
Administrative Judge  
Nassau County

## TRIBUTES

Carnell T. Foskey  
Supervising Judge



**FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**  
1200 OLD COUNTRY ROAD  
WESTBURY, NASSAU COUNTY, N Y 11590  
516-571-9022  
FAX (516) 571-9393

April 9, 2008

Stefan H. Krieger  
Director of Clinical Programs  
Hofstra University School of Law  
108 University Drive  
Hempstead, NY 11549-1080

Re: Law Clinic Anniversary

Dear Mr. Krieger:

I am writing to offer my sincerest congratulations on the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic program. In my capacity as Supervising Judge of the Nassau County Family Court, I have seen first hand the benefits of programs such as the Child Advocacy Clinic. Under the supervision of the Clinic's director, Professor Theo Liebman, Hofstra law students have the opportunity to appear in Family Court and represent children involved in child protective proceedings. In my experience, Professor Liebman's students are capable advocates who bring a high level of professionalism to the courtroom. Not only does the Child Advocacy Clinic provide the students with invaluable exposure to the "real world" of Family Court, but it lays the foundation for a career in family and child welfare law.

I sincerely believe that the Child Advocacy Clinic is a unique and remarkable educational experience, and I am sure that the other clinics in your program are equally successful. Congratulations on the anniversary of this excellent program, and best wishes for your continued success.

Very truly yours,

Carnell T. Foskey

## TRIBUTES

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



SENATOR  
CHARLES J. FUSCHILLO, JR.  
8TH DISTRICT

May 15, 2008

Dear Friends,

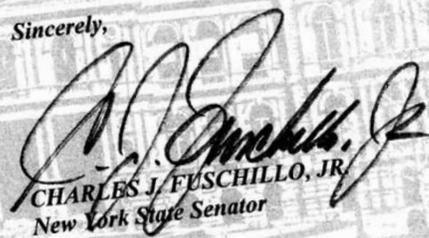
*It is my pleasure to extend warmest greetings to everyone gathered here tonight to celebrate the 35 years of service to the Long Island and New York City communities provided by the Hofstra Law School Clinic.*

*The Hofstra Law School Clinic's mission is to provide legal representation to indigent clients on Long Island and Queens. For over three decades, Hofstra Law School Clinic has managed to accomplish these goals while simultaneously allowing law student interns to gain valuable law practicing experience. The efforts of this clinic have helped many individuals, a feat of which we can all be proud and thankful.*

*I join with everyone here this evening in congratulating the individuals associated with the Hofstra Law School Clinic for their dedication to servicing those who are less fortunate. I would also like to personally extend best wishes to each and every one of you for continued success in your future endeavors.*

*Again, congratulation and enjoy tonight's festivities.*

Sincerely,



CHARLES J. FUSCHILLO, JR.  
New York State Senator

FUSCHILL@SENATE.STATE.NY.US

## TRIBUTES

SENATOR DEAN G. SKELOS  
DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER  
FOR LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS



THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY 12247

ROOM 503 CAPITOL  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
(518) 455-3171  
FAX (518) 426-6950  
55 FRONT STREET  
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11570  
(516) 766-8383  
FAX (516) 766-8011  
INTERNET: SKELOS@SENATE.STATE.NY.US

May 15, 2008

Hofstra University School of Law  
108 Hofstra University  
Hempstead, New York 11549

Dear Friends:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most heartfelt greetings to all in attendance at Hofstra University Law School Law Clinic's 35th Anniversary.

I also want to congratulate this event's honoree, John DeWitt Gregory. Professor Gregory has a long and prestigious career at Hofstra University, where he served as Vice Dean of the Law School.

Hofstra Law School has a student body of more than 1,200 students, with an alumni base of nearly 9,000 members. The students benefit from an atmosphere of intellectual excitement, personal support, and cooperative learning. Since its inception 35 years ago, Hofstra's Law Clinic has provided an education that is rich not only in theory, but also in teaching the skills needed to groom effective lawyers.

As the Deputy Majority Leader of the New York State Senate, I am pleased to join the people of the State of New York in applauding Hofstra University Law School Law Clinic for their 35 years of remarkable service to the community. With my best regards to all, I remain

Sincerely yours,

DEAN G. SKELOS  
Senator - 9th District

## TRIBUTES

SENATOR KEMP HANNON  
CHAIRMAN  
HEALTH COMMITTEE  
E-MAIL:  
HANNON@SENATE.STATE.NY.US  
INTERNET:  
WWW.KEMPHANNON.COM



THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY 12247

ROOM 501 CAPITOL  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
(518) 455-2200  
224 SEVENTH STREET  
SUITE 200  
GARDEN CITY, NY 11530  
(516) 739-1700  
FAX (516) 747-7430

May 15, 2008

*Hofstra University School of Law  
Hofstra Law Clinic  
108 Hofstra University  
Hempstead, NY 11549-1080*

*Dear Friends:*

*I just wanted to take a moment to express my sincere congratulations and heartfelt best wishes to the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic as you celebrate 35 years of service to the Long Island and Metropolitan community.*

*This fine institution has been providing legal representation to the indigent on Long Island and Queens for three and a half decades, providing law student interns with the opportunity to garner invaluable experience in the field, under the tutelage of senior attorneys. This allows the students to foster their skills and to apply the knowledge gleaned in school to real life situations. Many of these students continue this spirit of public service in their future careers. Those who have provided the Clinic with their valuable time and teaching skills are also to be commended for their excellence. Keep up the great work!*

*Once again, my sincere congratulations and heartfelt best wishes to all.*

*Sincerely,*

*Kemp Hannon*  
KEMP HANNON  
Sixth Senatorial District

KH:hph

©

## TRIBUTES



CHARLES D. LAVINE  
Assemblymember 13<sup>th</sup> District

Room 325  
Legislative Office Building  
Albany, New York 12248  
(518) 455-5456

70 Glen Street, Suite 100  
Glen Cove, New York 11542  
(516) 676-0050

THE ASSEMBLY  
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ALBANY

COMMITTEES  
Alcoholism & Drug Abuse  
Codes  
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Local Governments  
Social Services

May 15, 2008

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to recognize the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic on the occasion of its 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

We live in a time of unprecedented challenge. For us to succeed, we desperately need citizens who are willing to give of themselves for the benefit of our community. Students along with experienced attorneys from Hofstra Law School Law Clinic pride themselves in helping disadvantaged residents who are in need of legal representation. Their diligence deserves special recognition.

Best wishes and keep up the superb work.

Very truly yours,

Charles D. Lavine  
Member of Assembly

## TRIBUTES



Office of the County Executive  
1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York 11501

May 15, 2008

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to join all of you who have gathered to celebrate the success of the Hofstra Law School Law Clinic on the occasion of thirty five years of service to the Long Island and New York City communities.

Hofstra Law School Law Clinic has established a distinguished record of excellence, working diligently on behalf of causes and ideals, which uphold the principles of human decency and compassion.

Through its dedicated efforts Hofstra Law School Law Clinic, has effectively worked toward providing legal representation to indigent clients, valuable work related experience to law student interns and a full range of programs to meet the needs of our diverse communities.

I wish to extend hearty congratulations to this evening's honored guest, Professor John Gregory and to all of you who work toward forwarding the goals of this fine institution throughout the year.

It is with your help and example that we will make Nassau the "Best County in the Country."

Best wishes for continued success in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom".

Thomas R. Suozzi  
County Executive

# HISTORY

## A Short History of the Hofstra Law Clinic

Hofstra Law Clinics have been called the “fiery furnaces” of Hofstra Law School for their pioneering tradition of trial-by-fire that began 35 years ago in a second-floor walk-up above a fish store on Hempstead’s Main Street. Today, the law office in Joan Axinn Hall is modern, the curriculum standardized and the program evolved. Alumni from those heady founding years will recognize something that has not changed: the burning intensity of determined students who represent real people with real problems for the first time.

*Professor Kadane donated his \$25,000 LILCO consulting fee to help establish the clinic.*

Today, law students who represent clients in court are accepted within the legal landscape. But this idea was revolutionary 35 years ago, when founding Dean Malachy Mahon set about building a new kind of law school. “My concept from the beginning was to have our own in-house clinic,” says Mahon, who explained the inspiration as simple: “I was a product of my time.”

Dean Mahon assembled Hofstra’s founding faculty in 1969. It was Richard M. Nixon’s first year as president, student anti-Vietnam protests roiled the nation, and hopeful tunes such as “Let the Sun Shine In” and “Aquarius” topped the music charts. While national attention focused on expanding civil rights beyond the vote, President Johnson’s war on poverty funded community law offices, which gave the poor access to free or low-cost legal representation in civil matters for the first time. In that spirit, Dean Mahon hired former Peace Corps volunteer David Kadane, then General Counsel of the Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO), to plan and open a neighborhood law office “to serve the poor.”



**Clinic Co-founder  
Professor David Kadane**

Known for his assistance in the liberation of Tanzania’s diamond mines, Professor Kadane donated his \$25,000 LILCO consulting fee to help establish the clinic. The idea that a well-known corporate lawyer would leave such a prominent position to serve the poor inspired generations of Hofstra law students, especially the charter class of 1973. “He brought Peace Corps idealism back home,” says Charles McEvily ’73, who went on to direct the clinic from 1976 to 1981. “No one was interested in a new law school back in 1970. Law wasn’t popular like it is today. The clinic put Hofstra on the map.”

As one of the nation’s pioneers in integrating clinical education into its curriculum, Hofstra faced skepticism from the Nassau County Bar Association. “We had to be involved in public relations,” recalls Harvey Spizz, clinic director from 1971 to 1976. “We had to assure them that we weren’t looking for fees.” The local bar ultimately agreed to the plan, persuaded that impoverished clinic clients couldn’t afford lawyers anyway (a few years later, however, the Suffolk

# HISTORY

County Bar Association opposed Hofstra's application to expand into that area, which delayed plans for more than a year.)

*When the first formal clinic seminar began its second year, 30 percent of the class signed up and plunged into family, consumer fraud, landlord-tenant, paternity, and various minor criminal cases.*

For office space, Kadane rented a second-floor walk-up above the famed fish store at 73 Main Street. "It was called a neighborhood law office for a reason," recalls Professor John DeWitt Gregory, who joined the faculty in 1971 and co-founded the Clinic with Professor Kadane. "It was a deliberate decision to put it on Main Street across from the bus stop." Local volunteers helped paint, wire and clean the office. The shingle went up a few weeks before the first class arrived, and the clinic was initially staffed by young pro bono attorneys and a staff lawyer who was paid \$10 a week.

Though eager to help, the 60 students in Hofstra's first class had to wait to finish their first year. By that summer, they had learned enough to participate in projects, including an investigation of the bail system and preparation of a practical manual for uncontested divorces. When the first formal clinic seminar began its second year, 30 percent of the class signed up and plunged into family, consumer fraud, landlord-tenant, paternity, and various minor criminal cases. Students helped draft a federal case that tested the constitutionality of exclusionary suburban zoning and a class action to overturn welfare law changes that denied benefits to poor and disabled clients. "We represented underdogs," says Susan Kluewer '74, who taught in the clinic from 1976 to 1981, and currently sits as a Nassau County District Court Judge. "We felt like we were doing important things."

As pioneers with few precedents for teaching law in a clinical setting, Kadane, Gregory and Spizz learned through trial and error, and concluded that the best weekly seminars arose from student concerns about their cases. As Kadane summed up in a 1972 report to the Council on Legal Education for Professional Responsibility, a Ford Foundation-funded nonprofit: "In those real contexts, we were best able to sharpen questions as to professional ethics, the functions of the lawyer in relation to the client and courts, the effects of poverty on the client's variance from middle-class behavior, the delicate balance between under- and over-identification with the client." Thirty-five years later, those same issues remain central to the clinic's teaching philosophy.



Students preparing to represent clients



The "Neighborhood Law Office"

The stage was finally set in the fall of 1972 for third-year students to represent clients in court; the clinic was incor-

# HISTORY

porated as the Community Legal Assistance Corporation, and the New York Supreme Court Appellate Division approved a student practice order after a difficult battle. Nevertheless, some judges refused to allow students before them. Others hazed the neophytes, particularly young women students in those early days of the feminist movement. Now a judge herself, Kluewer never forgot the justice who ordered her to “shut up” in mid-argument, and threatened to add 15 additional days to her client’s 30-day sentence for violation of a marital support order. A court officer then shouted out at her, “Women’s Libber!” The lesson that day cannot be found in books. “Judges aren’t always just,” said Kluewer of that experience, which continues to influence her today. “I don’t think people remember how difficult it is to stand up in a courtroom for the first time.”



The trailer that housed the clinic in the 1980's

By the late 1970s the Hofstra clinic was one of the largest in the country. Since then, generations of students have been winning and losing, risky cases that challenge official policies. Such policies range from involuntary commitment procedures at state hospitals to an after-the-fact job exam that demoted an experienced African-American hospital employee behind younger, white employees. One notorious 1979 case stemmed from backward domestic violence laws: Hofstra students scoured legal loopholes to keep a battered woman’s deranged ex-husband in jail. The students were successful for many months until he stabbed her to death during a weekend furlough. This unfortunate act unleashed a public maelstrom. The Hofstra clinic played a role in Adam Berwid’s widely publicized murder trial, and students later helped push through legislative reform allowing wives and ex-wives to obtain orders of protection against husbands and ex-husbands. “Men were killing women all over the country,” says McEvily. “What was unique was that we had 40 students writing to state legislators and politicians demanding legal reform – getting it.”

In the 1980s, the Clinic moved to a trailer behind Gittleson Hall. The faculty, in the words of former Managing Attorney, Doug Colbert, “focused on the many injustices in the criminal justice and legal community and tried to teach and inspire students to use the skills learned in the Clinic on behalf of those with little voice or power.” Some cases touched Long Island’s society, including the 1980 federal civil rights suit that forced East Hampton to issue shellfish licenses to nonresidents. In 1990, The *New York Times* and other media reported how six clinic students defended a homeless man arrested for sleeping in an abandoned

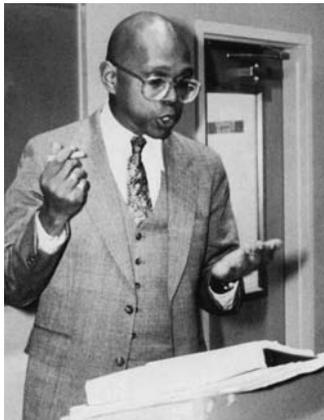


Joan F. Axinn Hall current home of the Hofstra Law Clinic and Office of Career Services

# HISTORY

Long Beach building with a unique “justification defense.” Students argued that the city’s failure to provide shelter left the man no choice on a bitter winter night.

More recently, the Housing Rights Clinic successfully obtained a consent decree in class action against a large local management company for the unfair targeting of immigrant tenants with illegal overcrowding proceedings. And the Child Advocacy and Political Asylum Clinics have begun to work together to advocate for immigrant



Clinic Co-founder  
Professor John DeWitt  
Gregory

youth who have been abused and abandoned by their families. In a recent case - the first of its kind to be brought in Nassau County - students from the clinics were able to persuade a Judge through a written motion and the live testimony of their 17 year-old client to enter an order necessary to prevent the client's deportation back to a physically abusive home in China. The Clinic is like a laboratory in a medical school,” says Professor Stefan Krieger. “We can take cases others can’t because it is an academic setting and we can put in the time.”

With legal specializations on the rise over the last three decades, Hofstra Law clinics have also changed by expanding into programs such as the Tax Clinic (1974-1988), Advocacy for the Aging (1980-1986), Federal Litigation (1981-1990), Constitutional Law (1990-1992) and Disability Rights (1992-1996). Today, 65 students enroll each semester in one of our eight programs: the Child Advocacy Clinic run by Professor Theo Liebmann; the Community and Economic Development Clinic run by Professor Serge Martinez; the Criminal Justice Clinic run by Professor Babe

Howell; the Immigrant Defense Clinic run by Professor Peter Markowitz; the Housing Rights Clinic run by Professor Stefan Krieger; the Mediation Clinic run by Professor Rob Thaler; the Political Asylum Clinic run by Professor Lauris Wren; and the Securities Arbitration Clinic run by Professor Curtis Pew.

*“It was called a neighborhood law office for a reason,” recalls Professor John DeWitt Gregory, “It was a deliberate decision to put it on Main Street across from the bus stop.”*

From the fish store to the trailer to Joan Axinn Hall; from the “Neighborhood Law Office” to the “Hofstra Law Clinic”; and from a faculty of two to a teaching staff of eight full-time professors, Hofstra’s clinical program has always had the same mission: to provide top-notch legal representation to the disadvantaged in our community and to train students to become reflective practitioners. Whether in trial or appellate courts, arbitrations, mediations or community advocacy, Clinic students today are fortunate to have the same kind of front-line experiences as their predecessors 35 years ago. The Law School looks forward to many more generations of Clinic alums trained under fire in the trenches.

*Adapted from Jessica Siegel, Hofstra Clinics Turn 30, 12 HOFSTRA L. REP.5 (Winter 2003).*

Maria Schwartz  
Class of 1992

## HOFSTRA LAW CLINIC STORY

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Once a student has participated in a Clinical Program at the Hofstra University School of Law they become a part of over three decades of excellence in legal education and practice. Ten years after I had completed a semester with Stefan Krieger in the Housing Rights Clinic I was teaching a class at Hofstra aimed at teaching future attorneys “essential lawyering skills.” During one of our classroom discussions one of my students began to draw on her experiences as a legal intern in the Housing Rights Clinic. As I sat back and watched the other students in awe of her tales of bringing down “slum lords” and participating in cases that were geared at “ending discrimination in housing,” I could not help but reminisce about my own experiences.

During the spring of 1995, I would spend fifty to sixty hours a week in the trailer that housed the Clinic which was composed of cubicles that were tailored to hold our huge monitors from our outdated computers. Although our cosmetic appearance was still in its transitional phase, the work that we were expected to produce could never fall short of perfection. The reward came at the end of hours upon hours of meetings, drafting, corrections, and assembling of motions, where we would sit back and watch as the work that our clinic produced from those tiny cubicles in our trailer would give landlords with large resources and huge law firms a serious run for their money.

The “clinic student in my class,” Irene Angelakis, is now my Associate Attorney. From the first moment I met Irene and observed her work ethic and work product I could tell that she had been a student of the Clinic. On more than one occasion Irene and I have compared our experiences. I always appreciate watching Irene shake her head in disbelief as I tell her what the clinic used to look like as she explains what a spacious, brand-new and hi-tech environment the Clinic building has now become. Although there was a stark contrast in the office conditions that we experienced, the education and the concepts that were instilled in our minds were very much the same. In fact, it has been very easy for us to work together because we shared the exact same “first job” under the same mentor, Stefan Krieger, who taught us the importance of preparation, detail, perseverance, professionalism, diligence, hard work and most importantly, passion for the profession.

***“...the work that we were expected to produce could never fall short of perfection.”***



Happy 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
to the Hofstra Law School Clinical Program

THANK YOU  
for serving the community so well for so long

and

Congratulations Professor Gregory

THANK YOU  
for recognizing and appreciating the  
importance of Clinical Education

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We are proud to join Hofstra University School of Law  
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***Professor John DeWitt Gregory***

for his substantial contribution to Hofstra's Clinical Education  
Program as its Founding Co-Director

and

in honoring the memory of our late friend and colleague  
and the  
Founding Father of Hofstra's Clinical Education Program

***Professor David K. Kadane***

These pioneers of clinical legal education have served as an  
inspiration to the entire Hofstra Law School Community

***- Eric Lane and Alan Resnick***

*With affection and appreciation  
for the generations of  
students and clients who  
have inspired us  
for 35 years.*



Prof. K. Babe Howell  
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35

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We join in celebrating the past successes of the Clinical Program and we hope that they continue long into the future.

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*From what we get, we can make a living;  
what we give, however, makes a life.*  
Arthur Ashe

**Congratulations to Professor  
Gregory and to the Hofstra Law  
School Clinic on its  
35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.**

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**Congratulations**

to our

**vibrant clinics**

and to

**Professor John DeWitt Gregory,**  
a trailblazer and maverick!

With our deepest respect,

love,

and admiration,

•

Nora, Mike, Cordell & Venetia



Congratulations to  
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TO JOHN GREGORY  
ON 35 YEARS OF DEDICATION  
TO CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION**

**- PROFESSOR ROY SIMON**

---

**Mazel tov  
to  
Professor John  
DeWitt Gregory**



*Practitioner, Scholar, and  
Teacher of the Law  
in the Grand Manner*

*Stef and Mary Krieger*

**Congratulations  
on 35 years of  
service!**



*- J. Herbie DiFonzo*

*(Criminal Justice Clinic Director 1995-2003)*



CONGRATULATIONS  
TO

**JOHN GREGORY**

ON A  
WELL-DESERVED HONOR



- MONROE FREEDMAN

***Agradecimiento al  
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AND THE CLINICAL PROGRAMS

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WITH WARMEST ESTEEM,

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*For his outstanding contributions  
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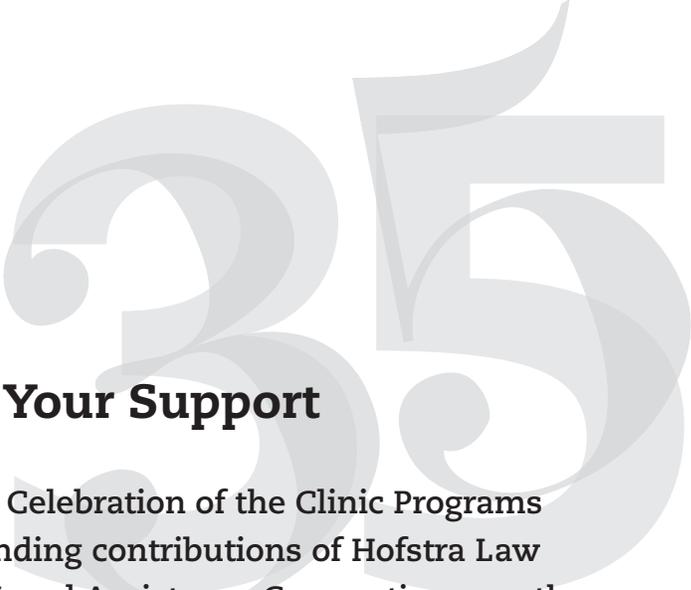
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