Human Rights Program

HRP: (hu-man rights pro-gram: hyōō men rīts prō grăm'), n. 1. a symbol associated with Harvard Law School Human Rights Program. 2. a university program committed to critical inquiry about a movement whose broad ideals many participants in the program share. 3. a university program whose activities express the belief that reflection and action, academic scholarship and clinical engagement, are mutually enriching paths toward knowledge and understanding. 4. the view that diversity of perspectives and beliefs, together with multidisciplinary work, constitute essential elements of a university program. 5. a conviction that proactive student participation and interaction with faculty and staff will contribute richly to the development of a university program.

hum-ding-er (hūm dīng' er), n. Informal. a person or thing of remarkable excellence or effect.

hum-mid (hūōō mid'), (damping a high amount of) vapor; humid air. —hu-

hum-ming-bird (hūm mīng' bird) n. any of numerous tiny New World birds of family Trochilidae, having long, slender bill for sipping nectar and narrow wings that beat very rapidly, enabling the bird to hover a flower or dart in any direction.

hum-mor (hūōō mar) n. the quality of being amusing or comical; the ability to perceive, enjoy or express what is comical or funny.

hum-ble (hūm' bāl) adj. -bler, -blest. [ME < OFr. < Lat. humilitas < humus, ground.] 1. characterized by modesty.
A Picture of HRP
Founder reflects on program after 20 years
by Henry Steiner

Many participants in HRP's history offer their views in this magazine of the program's character, role, and effects. The occasions for such thoughts — our 20th anniversary celebration followed a year later by the program's first change in leadership — give them a special pertinence. For many of us, these are moments for individual and collegial reflection about what our program is, and what we think it ought to become.

The comments about HRP of former and present students, visiting fellows, staff, and professors amount to quite a bundle of ideas. Some of them could have been mine; others I would not have placed at the core of the program's experience but on reflection they have a claim to belong there. The bundle amounts to more than a random collection of observations. Despite their diversity, these thoughts have connections to each other. They form a picture of HRP.

Let me explore this picture by sorting the commentator's ideas into a few categories, accompanied by my own thoughts.

A reflective, critical, and self-critical program
This primary characterization commands a broad consensus. HRP never meant to be an advocacy or clinical group as such. The center's mission is to advance a concrete agenda. In no sense were we another human rights NGO that happened to be situated in a university. Rather, we took the university as its guide and constraint, and developed fundamentally an academic mission.

No one doubts the idealism, the belief in basic human rights, that characterize the vast majority of the program's insiders, visiting fellows, and engaged students. But this commitment to human rights work underlay rather than determined the character of classroom discussions as well as the program's research and clinical components.

Many were to serve our students and university and the human rights movement (write large) but by examining critically, within an academic environment's relative distance from the fray, human rights norms, norms, institutions, processes, policies, and politics.

Surely the program and its participants have never understood the human rights movement as set in stone by its present norms or in institutions. Both indeed have grown in new directions or evolved so importantly within the movement's brief half-century. Students must understand the larger project as one of building a more effective movement, not simply mastering the inherited corpus and policies to apply them in the world's many circumstances. HRP has become a locus for exploring a changing world and new, not for expanding a settled career.

The stuff of much of our conversation over these decades has addressed the program's movement's broad strengths and failures; mistakes in goals or strategies; clear vision and blind spots; ever-changing institutional architecture and choices between, say, courts and legal processes, or the movement's advantages and disadvantages relative to other non-rights-based approaches toward realizing the same ideals.

Within this spirit, human rights work reached in directions as diverse as historical and conceptual studies, essays of broad reach, focused empirical investigations, doctoral and policy analysis, elaborated criticism, and prescription.

Reflection and engagement, the intersecting academic and clinical components
At the start, HRP offered exclusively academic pursuits. Several articles in this magazine trace the evolution of its clinical work to the point where the academic and the clinical both play vital roles in the program's self-presentation, activities, and allocation of resources. The two elements of this expanded enterprise remain bound within a critical spirit. They constitute closely interrelated, mutually enriching paths toward an understanding of human rights.

Practical experience, in such forms as case studies and clinical studies, inform much academic work; theory, critical self-examination, and debate about advocates' roles and ethics inform much clinical work. Engagement with either approach toward study of human rights has provoked interest in many students in engaging with the other as well. Many students seek both understanding and change: a deeper academic
The Human Rights Program 20th Anniversary Celebration attracted more than 200 alumni to hear discussions about a movement that remains central to their lives and work. They returned as former students, fellows, and staff members. Through scholarship and practice, the speakers and attendees have influenced and advanced human rights throughout the world—goodwill ambassadors of the program they came to celebrate.

20th Anniversary Program

Presentations by Principal Speakers

Secretary General Max Ken of Amnesty International spoke at the banquet on the expectation of the organization's human rights movement. Mahir Nafa introduced the speaker.

Judge Phin Fibby of the International Criminal Court spoke at the opening session on the universal aspects of international criminal law. The commemorations were Pascal Kurshe and Peter E cool. Shyne Sine, introduced by Dean Ellen Kegan, spoke at the banquet about her experience with HRP and related views about the human rights movement.

Panel Discussions

Effects of 9/11 on the UN Charter, Laws of War, and Human Rights Analysis and proposals for change within the broad framework of the humanitarian law. The panelists included experts in military and ethical violence, including relationships between national security concerns and human rights.

Panelists:
- Kenneth Anderson, Eyal Benvenisti, Mosharraf Karim M. Haque (Chair), Kenneth Walker

The UN and Human Rights: Criticism and Proposals

What is right or wrong? What changes—both in the present structure, institutions and practices of the UN itself with respect to human rights? Analysis of the need for a new, more effective, more efficient, and more effective UN system, and the proposals for change, with illustrations drawn down any aspect of the UN.

Panelists: Pauam Aiken (Chair), Jassim Almas, Khash Chiwara, Pablo Escobar

Cleansing in the Human Rights Movement

Analysis and comparisons of basic changes with respect to understandings of human rights in general or particular kinds of rights. Discussion included issues of the UN's role in, for example, economic, social, and cultural, and human rights, with an emphasis on the role of the European Court and the International Criminal Court. The panelists used to long way toward explaining the program's enrichment in the school's educational program.

Panelists: Chris Kudacki (Chair), Milena Delligers, Simon Stobie

What New Human Rights Issues Will Become Significant?

Discussions of some areas that have not yet shown and become prominent during the last half century of the human rights movement. Together with suggestions for the next one. The panelists included experts in this field and the discussion was led by the moderator.

Panelists: Carina Dow (Chair), Rangertson Schmit, Harry Stein, Barry Kitch

Rights Rhetoric and Court-Centric Advocacy Compared with Other Strategies

Comparison of traditional rights-based advocacy with other forms of advocacy strategies— including international, domestic, and international strategies—and as an avenue toward achieving goals. Comparison between court in national and international courts as an avenue toward change, and other approaches including education and public mobilization and processes.

Panelists: Abia Mina, James Golden (Chair), Daniel McCall

What Happens When We War? Problems Confronted by Human Rights Advocates Forming Part of Reform Governments

What happens to states that have experienced essentially peaceful electoral change, which authoritarian states, when authoritarian states, which changes have been achieved human rights in; and other states? What are the advantages of the US and other countries, and the panelists included experts in this field.

Panelists: Adam Bade, Tony Ola, Ron Zuck (Chair)

Roundtable Discussion

Analysis and Evaluation of Low School Human Rights Programs

The roundtable discussion was chaired by Ray Goodman, assistant professor of L.S., and Jim Costello, clinical director of HRP. The interactive roundtable covered, analyzed, and evaluated proposals for change in the school's human rights programs. The discussion covered the program's strengths and weaknesses and some of the aspects of the program included in the discussion. The participants included the panelists and others.

Panelists: Doreen Anoika, Reuben Anoika, Doug Camp, James Callahan, George Edwards, Kevin King, Pamela Ketchum, Kenis Kunit, Rahin Reina, Richard Rabinow, Pamela Rabinow, Richard Rabinow, Jim Sill, and others.

Film: The Battle of Algiers

This film is an historical documentary on Algeria's fight for independence. It was screened at the anniversary celebration, followed by a discussion with the audience.

Student Talks

Three students spoke briefly at the celebration on their experiences at NSU.

Chi Agelko (J.D. '15), Sage Young (J.D. '15), Hadi Fahim, Visiting Fellow 2004-2005
Scenes from the celebration:

1) Geraldine Uwamweze (LL.M. '05) from Rwanda listens to a presentation.
2) Nimola Chandrahasan (V.F. '87-'88) from India questions Judge Nori Pillay, while Isaac Bantu V.F. '93 from Liberia awaits.
3) Attendees enjoy lunch before hearing from current students at HRP.
4) Chi Agholoko '05, president of Harvard Law Student Advocates for Human Rights, speaks at the lunch.
5) Habib Rahadi V.F. '04-'05 spoke about his human rights activity in his homeland of Afghanistan.
6) Pascal Kam颔e (LL.M. '99) makes a point at the opening plenary session.
7) Henry Steiner, Makau Mutua S.J.D. '87 (professor and director of Human Rights Program at SUNY Buffalo Law School), and Secretary General Irene Khan

1) Foreground: HLS Professor Lucie White and Bipakshi Rajagopal S.J.D. '00 from India; Background: Kerry Ritmof S.J.D. '98 from Canada and Simon Toy LL.M. '94 from Singapore 2) Sun Ying LL.M. '04 from China addresses the lunch attendees.
3) HLS Assistant Professor Ryan Goodman addresses the roundtable that she co-organized.
4) Makau Mutua and Henry Steiner embrace on presentation of a book of tributes from HRP alumni.
5) Raymond Akubpu S.J.D. 2004, associate executive director of the Legal Resources Centre in Ghana, speaks at the roundtable with Gloria Pawan V.F. '95 from Brazil at his side.
6) Luisa Drake V.F. '85 and at right Jacqueline Bhabha, executive director of the Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies 7) Peter Rosenblum, associate clinical professor at Columbia Law School and former associate director of HRP, comments on Judge Pillay's speech.
Judge Highlights Progress of International Courts on Rights Abuse

In the opening session of the Human Rights Program 20th Anniversary Celebration, Judge Navi Pillay S.J.D. '88 outlined the growing pains of the international criminal justice movement, which she said will ultimately ensure peace and stability in the aftermath of conflict. Pillay has been at the center of that movement for the past decade, first as a trial judge and president of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and now as judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC). During that time, she said, the international role of law has seen more growth than at any time since the start of the Nuremberg Tribunal. "Serious crimes have been brought within the reach of international law along with an acceptance of the notion that individual accountability is integral to the maintenance of international peace," said Pillay. Yet she acknowledged criticisms of tribunals such as those for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, which have questioned their cost, length, and small number of cases. She detailed a list of hardships, such as substandard facilities and equipment, that she and other judges had to endure. They were further hindered, she said, by the remoteness of the seat of the court to the crime scenes, which added to the cost of investigations, arrests, and transfers (the ICTR is based in Arusha, Tanzania). Pillay also referred to judges' reports that expressed concern about defendants whose rights may have been violated by being held in custody for long periods. Initially, only six judges sat on the Rwanda tribunal and could not keep up with the backlog of cases, she said. More judges have since been added — an example of the improvement in the tribunal system, she said. Pillay highlighted the ICTR's successes, including the case of Jenn Kambara, prime minister in the Interim Government of Rwanda, who received the world's first conviction and sentence of life imprisonment of a head of government. She praised another conviction against a media official who incited violence during the Rwanda genocide.

Pillay serves as a judge on the International Criminal Court.

Amnesty Head Urges NGOs to ‘Recapture Their Subversive Spirit’

Identifying a "crisis of faith" in the value of human rights, Irene Khan LLM '79, the secretary general of Amnesty International, outlined the challenges facing NGOs — and her hope for their success — in the banquet speech of the Human Rights Program 20th Anniversary Celebration dinner.

Khan, who has served as head of a leading worldwide human rights NGO since August 2001, said the organization that was once seen as subversive has inspired an explosion of human rights NGOs, which have influenced governments to put human rights protections into law. That subversive spirit powers the movement in its drive for change, she said.

"We challenge the absolute power of sovereignty, and we work to make governments accountable to international scrutiny," said Khan. "We believe in a vision of the world in which the powerful and the powerless have equal rights."

Yet a "dark reality of unfinished business" has gripped human rights NGOs, she said. She saw the magnitude of the problem while visiting Darfur in the Sudan, where she met with a group of women in a refugee camp who described attacks on their village that wiped out most of the male population. One woman, who had walked 60 days to get to the camp that she was afraid to leave, spoke again and again about hunger and thirst.

"Amnesty International has spoken out on the genocide in Darfur, with Khan lobbying the United Nations and testifying before a U.S. congressional committee on human rights. Still, she said the effort burdened by an inability to help the women — and those like them — in the refugee camp. "The truth is that as human rights NGOs, we have managed to put human rights on the national and international agenda, but that agenda has not always translated into action," she said. "And we have failed to galvanize public outrage that could bring about that action. There is a dangerous disconnect between the rhetoric and the reality of a gap between our influence and our impact. And if we do not close that gap, our credibility as human rights activists will be undermined." According to Khan, the two greatest challenges the human rights community faces are the fight against terrorism and the fight for economic, social, and cultural rights. On terrorism, Khan said that the human rights community must make a case against torture of alleged terrorists on moral grounds. "Torture corrupts humanity, she said, and will in the end make us less safe. We have failed to deal with the fear of people and show them that the fear can only be met through respect for human rights rather than through its erosion."

In addition, more NGOs should join the battle against poverty and growing inequality. More than one billion of the world's people live on less than $1 a day, with many in danger from preventable diseases. NGOs should not only address individual cases but also seek systemic changes that will help eliminate the root of the problems. "The denial of economic and social rights is at the root of most of the human suffering in the world today. If we turn our backs on that suffering or say that a human rights response has no place in alleviating that suffering, then human rights as well as human rights activists will have no meaning for the vast majority of the world's people."

While often self-critical, Khan said she is optimistic that NGOs will "recapture their subversive spirit" and foster change. The future of human rights NGOs lies in building networks, such as Amnesty International has done in its campaign to curb violence against women. Khan spoke of visiting one young woman in an Afghan jail, who had been imprisoned after she fled an abusive man whom she was forced to marry. Freeing her from prison, Khan
Panel Examines Problems in Human Rights Rhetoric and Litigation

This magazine contains the full program for the celebration as well as the following report on one of the six panels, "Rights Rhetoric and Court-Centric Advocacy Compared with Other Strategies."

The panel addressed themes familiar to human rights advocates and scholars. Does rights rhetoric necessarily best lead to the realization of human rights principles? Is litigation the best path to promote and realize human rights goals?

The three panelists presented illustrations from different national contexts. James Gillard’s examination of racial discrimination in Europe, comparing legislation with litigation as approaches toward ending it. Both methods, he concluded, were necessary and complementary. Alicia Ely Yamin ’91 considered economic and social rights litigation in Latin America. She argued that litigation can be an effective intervention to removing individual violations of the right to health, but the lack of effective national policies and persistent structural inequalities limit the scope of court-based solutions. Litigation, she concluded, is but one part of a larger strategy to promote and protect human rights. Kieran McEvoy ’V. examined the attitude of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) toward the use of British courts as part of its political struggle. The IRA eventually engaged with courts and participated in the democratic political process in the effort to end the conflict. This strategy ultimately brought it legitimacy.

Summaries of the three talks follow:

James Gillard, executive director of the Open Society Justice Initiative, opened the session with the provocative question: "If you want to change the world, why go to court?" The answer depends in part on an assessment of the impact of litigation. Litigation may not be the best route given that it is slow, expensive, and confrontational. In certain settings, moreover, the judiciary and lawyers themselves foster distrust. Litigation can be used as a lever when it connects to a broader movement for social change where lawyers and judges are not the only players.

Gillard illustrated this point by contrasting current legislative and judicial actions in Europe related to racial in- equality. He noted that throughout Europe, millions of Roma continue to be treated as second-class citizens. Legislative measures to prevent and address discrimination are of recent vintage. In 2000, for example, the European Commission passed a legislative directive that prohibited direct and indirect discrimination in housing, education, and provision of social services. The "Race Directive" was a major leap forward and began a process of legislative reform in all 25 European countries.

Similarly, it is only in the last 10 years that the European Court of Human Rights has been used as a forum to promote racial equality. Its decisions now require governments to refrain from affirmative harm and to investigate all credible allegations of abuse. In Europe, unlike the United States, there is no single leading case like Brown v. Board of Education that has had far-reaching political reverberations to reorder the way that people think and talk about race relations. It may be that the very humancentric nature of the EU, with its overbearing attention to detail in legislative amendments, will favor a legislative remedy for race-based discrimination.

Alicia Ely Yamin, instructor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health, discussed the challenges that economic and social rights present for court-based human rights strategies.

Yamin cited her involvement with the work of the U.S.-based NGO Mental Dis- ability Rights International (MDRI) in Paraguay as a particularly good example of both the utility and limitations of human rights litigation. The only national, non-psychiatric hospital was the site of much abuse and neglect of patients. Yamin helped MDRI document the cases of two teenage boys who were held in isolation cells for six years and experienced such ill treatment that they had lost their capacity for speech. In conjunction with the international NGO the Center for Justice and International Law, MDRI brought a successful petition for precautionary measures to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights on behalf of the patients. Subsequently, the president of Paraguay visited the hospital, was appalled by the conditions, and promptly fired the director and called for sweeping reforms.

Yamin acknowledged that some reforms have since been instituted, but follow-up missions by MDRI found egregious problems. This, Yamin said, was due to the fact that the government of Paraguay doesn’t know how to reform its system. Litigation might improve conditions and facilitate the transition from institutional to community care. But litigation cannot address a wide array of issues related to the delivery of health care. Acknowledging the limits of court-centric advocacy does not undermine its importance or the centrality of seeking accountability for economic and social rights abuse. However, the courts are now only a tool in a broader effort to promote human rights and redistribute economic and political power both within and among societies.

Kieran McEvoy, professor of law and transitional justice and head of research at the School of Law, Queens University Belfast, examined the use of courts from the perspective of the national liberation movement of the Irish Republican Army and the Republican movement in Northern Ireland. What interested him was how the evolution of the stance toward British courts of the IRA, and its political party Sinn Fein, has transformed the Republican movement.

Six panels addressed major current themes. Clockwise from upper left: Jose Alvarez ’81 criticizes the UN as part of a panel exploring the UN and human rights, Michael Skinn ’88, V. ’84-’85, on asylum disability issues on a panel discussing new human rights topics, and Jennifer Moore ’87 questions a parallel.
Dean Kagan: HRP Exemplifies Best of Law School

Speaking to more than 200 HRP alumni and guests at the celebration's banquet, Dean Elena Kagan praised the Human Rights Program's contributions to the Law School and to the world over the past 20 years. "It exemplifies the best of Harvard Law School," she said, "the commitment to use our expertise in legal matters to advance human welfare across the globe, the determination to uphold and advance the rule of law, the devotion to research and teaching that makes a difference in the world."

The Dean noted that it's rare that a program "can arrange a conference of this richness and depth that draws its two principal speakers, 18 panels, and 20 remarkable participants almost exclusively from its own alumni." Dean Kagan detailed what she believed to be the enduring and distinctive aspects of HRP, particularly its insistence on combining theory and practice, critical reflection and engagement, and especially academics and activists. "Practice makes theory better, but more than practice is the single best reason for theory," she stated.

The Dean also noted HRP's partnership from the start between students and faculty. A group of law students, she recalled, was advocating heightened attention to human rights at the time of HRP's premiere, others founded the Harvard Human Rights Journal in 1988. More recently, students created the Harvard Law Undergraduate Human Rights Advocates, which "has become a vital partner to HRP in the expansion of the school's clinical work," she said. The partnership, she suggested, provided the background that helped HRP's alumni make extraordinary contributions to the human rights movement. Kagan also commended the support of the leading donors foundations but principally alumni that enabled HRP to remain dynamic and innovative.

In inviting the audience to rise to its feet, Dean Kagan paid tribute to Henry Steiner. "Even with the help and support given HRP by all such people - including superb staff members, many faculty colleagues, and the indispensable, generous donors - it is still true to say that this great program is primarily the work of one great man. The program's goals and principles and essential character are due to him."

Dean Kagan then invited Professor Malcolm Murias, a former student of Steiner's and a former associate director of HRP and now director of the Human Rights Center at the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Law, to present him with a momento of appreciation from HRP alumni. "I think I speak for many of us who have been fortunate to know the Henry's students, that we indeed are his nearest, even those of us who are skeptical about human rights," Murias said. "He is a man with a complex duality. On the one hand, he believes in the project of human rights. Yet on the other hand, Henry is a real teacher. He questions, explores, critiques, and doubts, but never abandons the project."

Murias then revealed that more than 100 HRP alumni and a few colleagues decided to contribute comments about Steiner, spelling out in a book given to him what he has meant to them and their career. "It is from our hearts to your heart."

HLS to Offer Concentration in Human Rights for LL.M. Students

This year, at the request of the Graduate Program, HRP agreed to develop a concentration in human rights for students pursuing the master's degree in law (LL.M.). HLS will offer the concentration for the first time in the academic year 2006-07. It will enable LL.M. candidates to focus their study on human rights and earn their degree with a certificate of completion. Human rights will expand the fields of concentration now available to LL.M. students: taxation, corporate law and governance, and international finance.

I am delighted that the Law School will offer a concentration in human rights," said Professor Richard A. Alison of the Human Rights Program and International Legal Studies. "This reflects the enormous importance of the field, the quality of teaching that our specialists and other faculty in the human rights area provide, and the burgeoning of student interest."

The proposed guidelines developed by HRP would require LL.M. candidates to be supervised by a faculty member with particular knowledge in the field of international human rights. The supervisor will be responsible for approving the student's plan of study. Students seeking the concentration will be required to write a 75-page research paper on an academic article or substantial equivalent writing in a clinical context. No petition will be required, other than a special seminar that will bring together the LL.M. human rights concentrators in periodic meetings.

Dean Elena Kagan pays tribute to Henry Steiner's tenure at HRP.
natorial law, with human rights only a part of his scholarly field. Soon after Ferguson's untimely death in December 1983, Steiner concluded that the time was ripe for planning and starting a formal human rights program. He so advised Vorenberg, indicating that he sought involvement in such a program.

Several events led to his view of the timeliness of such venture. In the 1970s, members of the House of Representatives had fought the human rights wars arising out of U.S. engagement in Latin America to newspaper headlines. After the Carter Administration took office, human rights rhetoric, speeches, and policies were issued from the White House and State Department as well. The two major human rights covenants became effective in 1976, enabling the fledgling movement to assume a more "egal" character. At the same time, international, national, and nongovernmental human rights organizations were on the rise, achieving popular recognition. "It is true, I think, that we have been a tough struggle to start HRP's decade earlier," Steiner says. "The topic was in the air in the 1970s in a way that simply was not true for most of the 1970s. Influenced by all these trends, more students entered HLS with a curiosity in international human rights and a desire to learn." When Dean Vorenberg encouraged

Steiner to propose his proposal and introduced him to the group of engaged students, HRP was underway. Vorenberg created a faculty coordinating committee early in 1984, including Professor Abram Chayes and Vice Dean David Smith as well as Steiner. Later that year he appointed Steiner as director. To some students, Steiner was a surprise entrant into the field, given the general character of his international law interests and his lack of international human rights experience. As Hilary Charlesworth, now professor of International and Human Rights at the Australian National University, said, "I wondered initially if he had not taken on too keen a quiet life, and I couldn't have been more wrong. I am particularly happy at how seriously HRP has taken the non-Western world, and I can say that I've been amazed at the way it developed."

Steiner developed the necessary plans, and the program was officially launched by Vorenberg in March 1984. It received its first grant in 1985 from the Ford Foundation. HRP was one of the first human rights programs to be housed at an American law school, and the first such program by many years at Harvard University. Today, programs and centers on human rights in universities in the U.S. and abroad are legion. Most are based in law faculties. "It was really exciting to be a part of the process of shaping a program," says Jack Tobin, the first administrative director of HRP. "Certainly the visibility of human rights issues, abuses, and problems was much greater at the school, and the average law student had far more exposure to human rights issues than would have been the case in the absence of the program."

Tobin points to initial skepticism from faculty members who wondered whether the new program would mask a political enterprise. Yet Steiner set out to ensure that the program itself didn't resemble an NGO or advocacy group but served as a critical, reflective enterprise — with an active advocacy component that later developed. "I think the program struggled at the beginning to find the correct balance between teaching human rights as a theoretical subject and preparing students to become actors in the human rights movement," says Makau Mutua, who participated in the program as a graduate student and served as an associate director of HRP from 1991 to 1996. "The feeling at the time was that it was not sufficient merely to equip students with a doctrinal and theoretical understanding of human rights, which is primary and essential. The program needed to go beyond the pure classroom teaching of human rights. That was why we strengthened the practical aspects to extend its theoretical reach into practice. We sent students abroad and within the United States to work with organizations to get hands-on experience to give them a more solid understanding of human rights."

Fostering opportunities for such hands-on experience, the program has in the past several years expanded its clinical offerings, which are now overseen by Clinical Director James Cavallaro. The recent expansion builds on the engagement in clinical work of HRP's staff and students from its early years. Jennie Green '71, now an attorney with the Center for Constitutional Rights, developed clinical litigation projects during her tenure as administrative director. The broader institutional commitment and more diverse projects began under Peter Rosenblum (currently associate professor in human rights law at Columbia Law School), who served as associate director from 1996 to 2002. Rosenblum brought to HRP his practitioner's perspective, gained by working in three international NGOs in the previous ten years. He emphasizes that "the clinical component gives students more than experience in the field. The program melded its own version of clinical legal education that drew on its early years on academic inquiry. "Our human rights clinic was a critical engagement in human rights in a place where the students were and are still today involved in projects, but they spent a lot of time in seminaries such as examining the human rights movement and thinking about it from a broader academic point of view," Rosenblum says. "From the beginning, the clinic kept

"What has made the program attractive is its duality: teaching human rights while at the same time asking the hard questions about the human rights corpus without regard to a soft-headed political correctness." — Makau Mutua

Where HRP fellows have come from:
where HRP summer interns have gone.

Harvard Law School 14
the critical viewpoint and academic thinking. These ingredients of academic and clinical study were never divorced, so they never had to be brought back together."

Moreover, Rosenblum first developed clinical projects that went far beyond engagement with the judiciary or other types of tribunals. He sought to involve students with national and international organizations ranging from human rights NGOs to international financial institutions and brought students into some of the contentious issues within the human rights community, such as differences of approaches to problems of trafficking in women and prostitution. Since Rosenblum’s departure, Cavallaro has continued to develop clinical projects with both traditional, court-centric approaches and non-lawyer approaches, planning and overseeing a significant expansion in the size of clinical staff and numbers of students involved.

Peter Rosenblum, a former associate director of HRP, broadened the scope of clinical work and introduced the seminar in human rights advocacy.

Current HRP staff members (clockwise from top left): Brielle Novotny, lecturer on law; Mindy Jane Rosenman, academic director; James Cavallaro, clinical director; Tyler Giannini, associate clinical director; Anne Dwigus, program administrator.

Goodman Chairs Committee to Direct HRP

B orn in South Africa, Ryan Goodman immigrated to the United States when he was nine years old. Upon entering law school, he expected to return to his native country to join the struggle against apartheid. Apartheid ended while Goodman was a student at Yale Law School, but his passion for human rights did not. "I always knew that I wanted to work on human rights issues — the only question was from what vantage point," he says. "At that stage, I thought I would want to work either in the legal academy as an advocate in the field."

In fact, Goodman has done both, culminating in his appointment in 2002 as the J. Sinclair Armstrong Assistant Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law at Harvard Law School. Since July 1, 2005, he has served as chair of the Faculty Executive Committee for the Human Rights Program, which directs HRP since Henry Steiner became professor emeritus.

"Ryan brings fresh ideas and great energy to the program," Steiner says. "You can't help but be impressed by his scholarship and his ability to mentor the students. In his short time here, he's already become an integral part of the human rights work at HLS. Very clearly, he's gaining high respect from his students and faculty colleagues. I have no doubt this will also be true in the international community as Ryan becomes better known worldwide."

Previously, Goodman served as the United Nations representative and legal consultant to the South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre in New Delhi, India, and as a Bigelow Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, where he also earned a Ph.D. in sociology at Yale. Goodman says HRP's mix of clinical and academic work in the human rights corpus without regard to a soft-headed political correctness.
HRP's publications, which do not include independent writing of its directors, its staff members, and its visiting fellows, have stressed their distinctive interdisciplinary roundtable described below.

Book of Proceedings

Roundtables

A Coursebook and HRP: Fruitful Relationship
From the publication of its first edition in 1996, the coursebook styled Henry Steiner and Philip Alston, International Human Rights in Context: Law, Politics, Morals (Oxford University Press) became linked to HRP. The program bought some 600 books from Oxford University Press at a reduced price and distributed those books with change to advocates, academics, and institutions in the developing world that were engaged in human rights work. It did so on the belief that the book would give valuable assistance to such work, but that its price in its primary markets in developed countries would preclude its use elsewhere. HRP followed the same policy with the second edition in 2000 and will do so again when the third edition is published in 2006. Indeed, that edition will further connect book and program, given the addition of a third author-editor who has become the central figure in the program’s new leadership.

The third edition (cover at left) was styled Henry Steiner, Philip Alston, and Ryan Goodman, International Human Rights in Context: Law, Politics, Morals. (2006)

The University Committee on Human Rights Studies (Henry Steiner, chair), which produced errata and revised the book through HRP staff, organized a symposium held at Harvard University on March 11, 1995. Topics include “International Human Rights and the Universities,” “United States and Global Human Rights,” “Populist Politics and Human Rights,” “Discretion and Decision-Making: Comparisons Among Gender, Race, and Sexual Orientation.”

The Harvard Human Rights Journal: A Student and HRP Partnership
Now in its 19th year, the independent, student-directed Harvard Human Rights Journal (HRJ) remains a cornerstone of student involvement in human rights at HLS. Students organize themes for issues, check citations and facts, edit articles submitted to them, write, and produce annually an issue of about 300 pages. As HRJ is located within HRP’s offices, students who work on it frequently consult with HRP staff and visiting fellows.

The HRJ grew out of students’ initiative and stands among the widely respected human rights journals in the world. Usually, an issue contains a mix of articles, by scholars, activists, and students, on reform or trends in the field.

Path-breaking articles published in the HRJ include Philip Alston’s “Making Space for New Human Rights: The Case of the Right to Development” (1988) and Celeste Romany’s “Women as Allies: A Feminist Critique of the Public/Private Distinction in International Human Rights Law” (1993). Other articles brought challenges and criticisms to the field, for example Abdurrahman Ahm-Nurani’s “Human Rights in the Muslim World: Socio-Political Conditions and Structural Imperatives” (1996) and Makau Mwanzia’s “Hope and Despair for a New South Africa: The Limits of Rights Discourse” (1997). World leaders such as Jimmy Carter, Kofi A. Annan, and Mary Robinson have been among the authors. Recently, the HRJ has taken a thematic approach in its publication: 2004 was largely devoted to articles addressing “U.S. and Foreign Policy” and 2005 to “Gender and Human Rights.” The 2006 edition (volume 19) is planned to focus on “UN Reform and Human Rights.”

For many on HRJ’s staff, the publication serves to anchor their law school experience, grounding them both in the university and in the human rights movement. Keshav Shatroo ’06, a current HRJ editor, notes that involvement in this work “allows us to help shape the way the field develops.”

Other Publications

Human Rights at Harvard: Interdisciplinary Faculty Perspectives on the Human Rights Movement (1999)

“Human Rights at Harvard: Interdisciplinary Faculty Perspectives on the Human Rights Movement” (1999)

“The University Committee on Human Rights Studies (Henry Steiner, chair), which produced the publication through HRP staff, organized a symposium held at Harvard University on April 5, 1997. Topics include “Universality and Cultural Relativism: Perspectives on the Human Rights Debate,” and “Remembering and Forgetting: Cross Violations of Human Rights.”

Magazine
Visiting Professors Teaching Human Rights at HLS

From the start, HRP described itself as a program intent on achieving diversity in its participants and viewpoints. It has realized some of that diversity through international students, visiting fellows, and guest speakers. HRP’s diversity is further exemplified by the professors who have visited HLS since its founding and the variety of courses offered.


• Eyad Berenson (1998-1999, 2004): Professor of law at Tel Aviv University; former president of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel; expert on laws of war and international water rights; director, The Gush Center for Interdisciplinary Research of the Law, Tel Aviv University (2002-present).

• Hilary Charlesworth (2001–2002): Feminist international legal scholar; director, Centre for International Governance and Justice, Australian National University; professor of international human rights law in the Faculty of Law, Australian National University.

• Dennis Davis (2003-2004): Judge of the High Court, Cape Town, South Africa; honorary professor at the University of Cape Town.


• Hugo Fukuda (1989-1990): Board member of Atras Global Alliance; director of the Center for Public Safety in Santiago, Chile; professor at the University of Chile Institute of Public Affairs.

• Richard Goldstone (2005): Former justice, Constitutional Court of South Africa; former prosecutor, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda.

• Philip Alston

• Richard Goldstone

• Yash Ghai (1997): Professor of public law at the University of Hong Kong, exploring the issues of ethnic differences and human rights; scholar and advocate on constitutionalism in East Africa.

• Cecilia Medina Quispe (1998): Member of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; member of the faculty at the University of Chile for the International Commission of Jurists; professor of international human rights law in Law Faculty, University of Chile.


• Theo van Boven (1986–1987): Professor of international law at the University of Maastricht in the Netherlands; Special Rapporteur of the UN Commission on Human Rights on the Question of Torture; and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, until 2004, director of the United Nations Division of Human Rights.

• Jose Zalazquet (2000): President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the OAS; commissioner on Chile for the International Commission of Jurists; professor of international law at the University of Chile; former member of the National Commission on Truth and Reconciliation in Chile; professor of human rights at the University of Chile in Santiago, codirector, Human Rights Centre at the University of Chile.

Human Rights Courses, 2001-2005

2001-2002

• Comparative Constitutionalism: South Africa and the U.S. (Machtens)
• Comparative Law: Human Rights 1776 to 1948 (Glendon)
• Democracy and International Law (Charlesworth)
• Human Rights and International Law (Steiner)
• Human Rights Advocacy Seminar (McKay)

2002-2003

• Comparative Constitutionalism: South Africa and the U.S. (Machtens)
• Comparative Law: Human Rights 1776 to 1948 (Glendon)
• Democracy and International Law (Charlesworth)
• Human Rights and International Law (Steiner)
• Human Rights Advocacy Seminar (Rosemberg)
• Human Rights Research Seminar (Steiner)

2003-2004

• China and International Law Seminar (Alford, Howson)
• Community Action for Social and Economic Rights (White)
• Comparative Constitutionalism: South Africa and the U.S. — Equality and Rights (Machtens, Davids)
• Human Rights Advocacy Seminar (Casalino, Nouryse)
• International Human Rights Law Seminar (Goldstein)
• International Human Rights (Goodman)
• International Human Rights Law and Oversight Mechanisms: Reading Group (Casalino)
• International Women’s Rights: Theory versus Practice: Seminar (Nouryse)
• Law & Gender Issues in Iran & Turkey Seminar (Halper)
• Legal Aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (Remennik)
• Torture, Law & Lawyers: Reading Group (Levinson)

2004-2005

• Citizenship, Multiculturalism, Identity & Human Rights Research Group (Steiner)
• Human Rights Advocacy: Clinical Seminar (Casalino, Nouryse)
• Human Rights Clinical Workshop (Casalino, Casalino)
• Human Rights Research Seminar (Steiner)
• Human Rights, State Sovereignty and Peace: Issues of Forced Migration and Refugee Protection (Bluhm)
• International Human Rights Law: Seminar (Goldstein)
• International Human Rights Law Seminar (Goodman)
• International Human Rights Law and Oversight Mechanisms: Reading Group (Casalino)
• International Women’s Rights: Theory versus Practice: Seminar (Nouryse)
Learning in the Field

HRP clinical program adapts and grows

by Jim Cavallaro, Clinical Director, HRP

Over the past several years, clinical work in human rights has expanded significantly. More students have enrolled in clinical classes, HRP's clinical staff has grown, the volume and range of projects have increased, and a vibrant, student-run organization dedicated to promoting engagement in clinical work in human rights, the Harvard Law Student Advocates for Human Rights (Advocates), has taken root. Since I joined HRP in 2002, I have been able to see and contribute to this exciting growth.

This recent surge in clinical work represents the culmination of policies and trends that have informed HRP since its inception. While its emphasis has been on critical thinking about human rights, the program has always defined itself as a center for critical thought and active engagement in human rights. And the program has been marked by its ability to adapt to the changing demands of the field of human rights and of the students at HLS. The development of our clinical work in recent years has followed these broad outlines.


From the top clockwise: Raquel Ferreiro Dodge, Brazilian visiting fellow 2005-2006 (left) and Mónica Fernández LLM, '06 (seated, center) with a group of rural laborers and rights activist, Minas Gerias, Brazil, October 2004. Fernández interviews a rural laborer during a factfinding mission to Minas Gerias, Brazil, October 2005. Jim Cavallaro with a group of rural laborers examining alleged abuses in connection with the development of a hydroelectric project, Minas Gerias, Brazil, October 2005. Skills: Training, for example, involved workshops with rights activists from around the world, role plays with victims and witnesses, mock interview sessions with media, and meetings with officials.

Defining Clinical Work in Human Rights

In states of the developing world, human rights violations tend to be grave and systematic while institutions designed to ensure accountability tend to be unstable and poorly resourced. Thus, many of HRP’s clinical projects emphasize non-litigation approaches, interaction with other institutions, and the development of broader students to a range of rights issues, including economic, social, and cultural rights. In addition, he sought to engage students in advocacy work targeting non-state actors, including international financial institutions (IFIs) and transnational corporations (TNCs). Rosenblum’s insights into clinical practice and classroom teaching established the framework that continues to guide much of our clinical program today.
and practitioners from the Inter-American, European, and United Nations systems for the protection of human rights. Projects vary widely. Litigation has involved direct representation of victims as well as submission of amicus curiae briefs to international bodies and domestic courts. Other projects have involved legal and policy analysis, leading to the drafting of reports for international oversight bodies. In addition, our clinical work has involved less traditional, non-litigation forms of rights promotion, such as the development of advocacy strategies involving states and non-state targets such as NGOs and IFIs.

This past year, we have expanded our on-site research and advocacy work, engaging nearly 20 students in supervised travel during the academic year for clinical credit. These intensive projects ordinarily stretch over the entire academic year and contain three elements: 1) significant research and preparation; 2) a research mission; and 3) follow-up analysis, writing, and advocacy. Since 2004, these supervised on-site trips have focused on: persecution of the Ahmadiyya religious minority in Bangladesh (jointly with Human Rights Watch); violations and complicity of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (jointly with the Global Justice Center); forced labor in Burma (jointly with EarthRights Interna-
Law School Advocates

Student group prepares next generation of human rights activists

Founded two years ago, Harvard Law Student Advocates for Human Rights (Advocates) serves as an umbrella organization that coordinates five groups covering different parts of the world: Latin America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the United States. The organization collaborates with Human Rights Program staff, fellows, and faculty, who oversee projects and evaluate written work for academic credit.

Rebecca Hamilton, an Australian joint degree student at HLS and the Kennedy School of Government and a Knox Fellow, serves as managing editor of the Harvard Human Rights Journal and as the Africa cochair for HLS Advocates for Human Rights.

In her first year at HLS, she took cases for Harvard Defenders, and worked on the HLS Advocates trafficking and asylum project and on the Harvard International Law Journal. Last year, she spent her summer in Sudan with people displaced during the North-South conflict and later cofounded the Darfur Action Group at Harvard.

She also recently clerked for the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. A week after the death of Vice President John Garang, she returned to Sudan in order to conduct follow-up interviews with the displaced people she had worked with previously. Currently, she is launching an NGO to build a permanent anti-genocide constituency in the United States.

Rebecca Hamilton worked with internally displaced Dinkas in Sudan, summer 2005. This Dinka community was beginning a three-month walk to return to their home community in Bahr.

Dan Schlanger '04 began organizing students to work on human rights in El Salvador in the spring term of his first year in 2002. By the fall, with Schlanger's impetus, the group working on El Salvador broadened its scope to become the Student Working Group on Human Rights in Latin America. Within a few months, other students had demonstrated interest in projects outside Latin America. By the following spring, with the support and guidance of HRP, students had formed working groups on Russia and the former Soviet Union, on Africa, and on the rights of Roma peoples.

By May 2004, some 70 students had participated in human rights projects through the constituent groups of HLS Advocates, which had researched, written, and submitted petitions and amicus briefs to national and international bodies, researched parts of reports for major international NGOs, and organized several events attended by scores of students.

Chi Mphako '05, a founder and the recent president of HLS Advocates, says the group unites students interested in human rights and improves the work they do. The daughter of Nigerian immigrants, Mphako traveled widely in Africa prior to...
"Advocates offers work that's very real and immediate. And it exercises real quality control." —Zina Miller

law school, teaching a class on African women's history and human rights in Ghana and working with an orphanage in Nigeria. In her 11th year, she organized within Advocates the group focused on Africa, and soon developed projects with Human Rights Watch on Angola and the Special Court for Sierra Leone. "We just would not have been able to achieve what we've achieved without the Human Rights Program being willing to supervise projects, to back up and try to meet student needs."

Zina Miller '06, who coordinates the U.S. group, has worked closely with Tyler Ciurana, a clinical fellow within HRP and the director and founder of EarthRights Media Interna
tional. She spent much of the first semester doing research for EarthRights on an alien torts claim case against a multinational corporation, charg

ing human rights abuses in Nigeria. "Advocates offers work that's very real and immediate," Miller says. "And it en
ciscies real quality control. Board members and HRP supervising attorneys look over everything that goes out under our name. There has been more supervision and more learning in a writing sense than anything else in law school."

Experienced students also take supervi
sory roles in the Advocates. Stephanie Sonnenberg '06, who helped found the group and is finishing a joint degree program at HLS and Tufts Fletcher School, organized training sessions for new students this year, with some 120 people participating. Fluent in Russian, she came to HLS with an interest in Eastern Europe after traveling to Volgograd, Russia, on a Fullbright scholarship to study the ability of NGOs to provide development and humanis

tration aid. He has worked on more than a dozen projects since he's been at HLS, supporting and mentoring entering first

year students.

Chi Ngibako summed up what Advoca
tes has meant to her and many others at HLS: "I knew that I wanted to go into this area because of my international back

ground, but it was when I came to Harvard that I was able to become an advocate. With Advocates and HRP, I don't have to wait till I graduate to become a human rights advocate. I am one now!" ♦

Zina Miller (at left, coordinator for the U.S. group for the Advocates, traveled to Israel on an HRP summer fellowship, working with the Association for Civil Rights. At left, Jaffa Street in Jerusalem, below, a former Syrian military installation (in back-lit occupied times) in the Golden Nighting; bottom left, poster in Jerusalem protest for Gaza disengagement.

The record of HRP's alumni in human rights and related public-interest work is among the program's greatest satisfactions. Their contributions to the public interest — often specifically to human rights advoca
ty, democracy, and scholarship — have been extraordinary. The biographical sketches below vividly illu

srate this point.

Each year, HRP adds about 35 names to its alumni database. They come from graduating students who, during their years at HLS and HRP, committed serious time and energy to human rights work. They also include the year's visiting fellows. The total number is now about 700 former students and visiting fellows.

The list below grew out of responses to HRP's alumni questionnaire, asking about human rights or other public interest work in which alumni are now or were recently engaged. It's likely that names of at least 100 more alumni would appear if we had been able to reach everyone, and if all those doing such work had supplied the list. The list includes only those who participated in human rights work at HLS or go on after 1984, the year of HRP's birth.

Kara Miriam Abramson '03 lives in Paris, where she is a UNESCO-Fullbright Fellow to UNESCO's Division of Cultural Heritage. Abramson spent the 2007-2008 academic year as a Fullbright Fellow in Cherniuk, Sicilian province, where she researched Chinese legal education and taught a graduate finance course in U.S. civil proce

dures. She planned to move to Washington, D.C., in summer 2005 to pursue a career in human rights law. Her publica

tions include articles on the United Nations trafficking protocol and China's Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region.

Loeunor (Lauree) Ackerman V.E. '94 is emeritus justice of the South African Constitutional Court (retired 2004) and the former South African secretary of the Rhodes Trust. She is an honorary professor at the Law Schools of Stellenbosch Universi

ity, with a special interest in the human rights curriculum; has honorary research associate at the University of Cape Town; and a member of the Board of Patrons of the Institute of Global Law, University College, London. He is the founder (2004) and first chairman of the South African Institute for Advan
ced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law. His recent publications in

ßigkeit in Nationalen und Internationalen Menschenrechtsnormen Vol 165 in the series Rätische Gerechtigkeits- und Völkerver

achricht (Springer Verlag, 2003).

Payam Akhavan LLM '00, S.J.D. '03 is a recent fellow at Yale Law School and at the Yale University Genocide Studies Program, where he works on is

sues of international criminal law, human rights policies, and international justice. He was the first legal advisor to the prosecu

tor's office of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and has served as spe

cial advisor on international jus
tice in Cambodia, East Timor, Guatemala, Peru, and Rwanda.

He has appeared before various in

ternational courts and trib

unals and is co-counsel to Uganda in the Land's Resistance Army case, the first state referral before the International Criminal Court. He is also the coauthor of the Iranian Human Rights Documentation Centre and is counsellor to the family of the slain journalist Zaberdaran Kaemi and other victims of human rights abuses in Iran. Akhavan has been a visiting professor of law at the University of Toronto and has taught at Leiden University and Yale Law School.

Sarah Ahschuhbier '02 is cur

rently an associate at Foley Hoag in Washington, D.C., practicing public international law and assisting with the development of the firm's corporate social responsibility practice area. She spent the year after graduation in a Fullbright Scholar in Bangladesh, studying the impact changes in international trade law on the country's garments producers and workers.

Kenneth Anderson '86 is professor of law at Washington College of Law American University, where he has taught international law, business law, and nonprofit law since 1986. He formerly directed the Ames Division of Human Rights Watch and served as general counsel to the Open Society Institute's Human Rights Watch. He has appeared before the World Trade Organization, the International Criminal Court, and the European Court of Human Rights. He is the author of the 1995 book Nonprofit Law: A Practical Guide for Nonprofits, and a contributing editor to the Nonprofit Law Reporter. His most recent work includes a book on international law. He has served as a member of the American Bar Association's Human Rights Commission and a member of the editorial advisory board of the Journal of Human Rights.

Deborah A. Anker LLM '84 has been teaching, practicing, and writing about international law, international business transactions, and international environmental law.

Antony Angbic S.J.D. '95 has been a professor of law at S.J. Quinney College of Law, Universi
ty of Utah, since 1994. Angbic completed an internship with the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C., in 1994. His research interests include public international law, international commercial transac

tions, and jurisprudence and human rights. Angbic is a barini

er and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia and practiced for several years in Australia in

employment law, administrative law, and international law. He teaches contracts, international law, international business transactions, and international environmental law.

Sarah Ahschuhbier '02 is cur

rently an associate at Foley Hoag in Washington, D.C., practicing public international law and assisting with the development of the firm's corporate social responsibility practice area. She spent the year after graduation in a Fullbright Scholar in Bangladesh, studying the impact changes in international trade law on the country's garments producers and workers.

Kenneth Anderson '86 is professor of law at Washington College of Law American University, where he has taught international law, business law, and nonprofit law since 1986. He formerly directed the Ames Division of Human Rights Watch and served as general counsel to the Open Society Institute's Human Rights Watch. He has appeared before the World Trade Organization, the International Criminal Court, and the European Court of Human Rights. He is the author of the 1995 book Nonprofit Law: A Practical Guide for Nonprofits, and a contributing editor to the Nonprofit Law Reporter. His most recent work includes a book on international law. He has served as a member of the American Bar Association's Human Rights Commission and a member of the editorial advisory board of the Journal of Human Rights.

Deborah A. Anker LLM '84 has been teaching, practicing, and writing about international law, international business transactions, and international environmental law.

Antony Angbic S.J.D. '95 has been a professor of law at S.J. Quinney College of Law, Universi
ty of Utah, since 1994. Angbic completed an internship with the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C., in 1994. His research interests include public international law, international commercial transac

tions, and jurisprudence and human rights. Angbic is a barini

er and solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia and practiced for several years in Australia in

employment law, administrative law, and international law. He teaches contracts, international law, international business transactions, and international environmental law.
For Hilary Charlesworth S.J.D. ’86, the term “human rights law” has traditionally been too narrowly conceived and in this sense inaccurate. The laws have given priority to dangers in the public realm like torture, but too often they have ignored serious human rights abuses literally closer to home.

“Torture in the United States is on the rise, and it is occurring in a systematic way,” Charlesworth says. “And it is occurring in a way that is increasingly dangerous to the United States.”

A professor of international law at the Australian National University, Charlesworth has written extensively about the relationship between human rights and the law. She has also written about the relationship between human rights and the law in the United Nations and the International Court of Justice.

Charlesworth was appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Human Rights Council in 2010. She is also a member of the International Human Rights Commission and the International Human Rights and Migration Commission.

Charlesworth has also worked on a number of other human rights issues, including the right to freedom of expression, the right to education, and the right to a fair trial. She has been active in both national and international efforts to promote human rights.

“I am a human rights lawyer, and I believe that the law has a role to play in the protection of human rights,” Charlesworth said. “But the law is not enough on its own. We need to work with other groups and individuals to create a world where human rights are respected and protected.”

Charlesworth is also a member of the World Bank’s Human Rights Advisory Group and the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

“I believe that the United Nations Human Rights Council should be a body that is truly representative of all peoples, not just those who are already powerful,” Charlesworth said. “We need to work towards a world where human rights are respected and protected for everyone.”

Charlesworth is currently working on a number of other human rights projects, including a study of the impact of political repression on human rights, and a report on the impact of global economic policies on human rights.

“I believe that the law has a role to play in the protection of human rights,” Charlesworth said. “But the law is not enough on its own. We need to work with other groups and individuals to create a world where human rights are respected and protected.”

Charlesworth is also a member of the World Bank’s Human Rights Advisory Group and the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

“I believe that the United Nations Human Rights Council should be a body that is truly representative of all peoples, not just those who are already powerful,” Charlesworth said. “We need to work towards a world where human rights are respected and protected for everyone.”

Charlesworth is currently working on a number of other human rights projects, including a study of the impact of political repression on human rights, and a report on the impact of global economic policies on human rights.

“I believe that the law has a role to play in the protection of human rights,” Charlesworth said. “But the law is not enough on its own. We need to work with other groups and individuals to create a world where human rights are respected and protected.”

Charlesworth is also a member of the World Bank’s Human Rights Advisory Group and the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

“I believe that the United Nations Human Rights Council should be a body that is truly representative of all peoples, not just those who are already powerful,” Charlesworth said. “We need to work towards a world where human rights are respected and protected for everyone.”

Charlesworth is currently working on a number of other human rights projects, including a study of the impact of political repression on human rights, and a report on the impact of global economic policies on human rights.

“I believe that the law has a role to play in the protection of human rights,” Charlesworth said. “But the law is not enough on its own. We need to work with other groups and individuals to create a world where human rights are respected and protected.”

Charlesworth is also a member of the World Bank’s Human Rights Advisory Group and the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

“I believe that the United Nations Human Rights Council should be a body that is truly representative of all peoples, not just those who are already powerful,” Charlesworth said. “We need to work towards a world where human rights are respected and protected for everyone.”

Charlesworth is currently working on a number of other human rights projects, including a study of the impact of political repression on human rights, and a report on the impact of global economic policies on human rights.

“I believe that the law has a role to play in the protection of human rights,” Charlesworth said. “But the law is not enough on its own. We need to work with other groups and individuals to create a world where human rights are respected and protected.”

Charlesworth is also a member of the World Bank’s Human Rights Advisory Group and the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

“I believe that the United Nations Human Rights Council should be a body that is truly representative of all peoples, not just those who are already powerful,” Charlesworth said. “We need to work towards a world where human rights are respected and protected for everyone.”

Charlesworth is currently working on a number of other human rights projects, including a study of the impact of political repression on human rights, and a report on the impact of global economic policies on human rights.

“I believe that the law has a role to play in the protection of human rights,” Charlesworth said. “But the law is not enough on its own. We need to work with other groups and individuals to create a world where human rights are respected and protected.”

Charlesworth is also a member of the World Bank’s Human Rights Advisory Group and the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

“I believe that the United Nations Human Rights Council should be a body that is truly representative of all peoples, not just those who are already powerful,” Charlesworth said. “We need to work towards a world where human rights are respected and protected for everyone.”

Charlesworth is currently working on a number of other human rights projects, including a study of the impact of political repression on human rights, and a report on the impact of global economic policies on human rights.
of his work with the Department of Justice and McGovern. Kendall has traveled to Russia, Georgia, Romania, Kyrgyzstan, and Pakistan to educate governments on legal and human rights reform. In 1994, Kendall served as a law clerk for the human rights law firm in Safrica. Before graduating law school, he worked as a foreign corre- spondent in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

Anja M. Khan '04 is a law clerk at the International Criminal Court. In her role as a law clerk, she uses her experience and academic knowledge to contribute to the work of the Court. Khan brings a unique perspective to her position, having studied international law and human rights at the University of Oxford. She is currently working on projects related to the International Criminal Court's work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where she has been assigned to handle cases related to war crimes.

Rugemeza Nshala ’97 understood the challenge of his work when his organization held a seminar and discussed health problems caused by the lack of food. People who attended, including members of parliament, were shocked, he says. His home country of Tanzania later imported unleaded gasoline, one sign of progress that the organization, Lawyers' Environmental Action Team, has been promoting to improve environmental health and human rights. His organization, the Tanzania Environmental Rights Action (TERA), has been working hard since Nshala co- founded it in 1994. He says he saw the need for a public interest organization that championed the cause of environmental protection in a country rich in natural resources and heavily dependent on its people. He led the organization in September 2003 to complete a master's in environmen- tal management at Yale University and to un- dertake his J.D. at Harvard Law School. Afterwards, he plans to return to Tanzania to teach and eventually pursue a political career.

During his tenure as LEAP's executive direc- tor, his work has been recognized, as he led the orga- nization to a position of strength in the community in Bangladesh, the findings of which were published by Human Rights Watch in June 2005. His future plans include further academic and legal research related to human rights and minority Muslim commu- nities. While at HLS, he was also the Harvard-chaired and -funded Human Rights Journal. Ali Khshab V.E. ’92 is a founder and director of the Arab American and Immigrant Law Center (AAILC). The center is dedicated to promoting the legal protection of Arab Americans and immigrants. Khshab is also a board member of the Arab American Institute and a member of the board of directors of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). He is a frequent speaker on issues related to Arab American rights and is known for his advocacy work on behalf of Arab Americans.

Jae-Won Kim V.E. ’92 is a professor of law at Dong-A University College of Law in South Korea. He teaches law and society, comparative law, and international law at the school. He specializes in Korean legal history, and he has written extensively on the history of Korean law and society. Kim is also a member of the Korea Law and Society Association and the Korean Law and Society Association. He has published several articles on Korean law and society, and his research has been cited in a number of academic journals.

Ruggemeza Nshala ’97

He is currently working on projects related to the International Criminal Court's work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where he has been assigned to handle cases related to war crimes.
Flavia Piovesan V.E.'95 says she has three heads. No need to call medical specialists. She's referring to her bio-inspired approach to human rights work, which takes her from academia to NGOs to governmental service.

"I believe in the importance of spreading the human rights perspective all over," that is particularly important, she says, in Brazil, a country that emerged from dictatorship within the last 20 years. The professor of constitutional law and human rights at the Catholic University of São Paulo says her students "think of human rights as a given and not really a fight for dignity." Yet she knows much work needs to be done in a country she calls the fourth most unequal and fourth most violent in the world: "We have law on the books, but we live in a reality with laws. We have to move from the rule of law to the rule of rights. A fight for human rights is not a battle that can be won." Piovesan coordinated the human rights working group of the attorney general for São Paulo and serves on the Latin America and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights and the Justice and Peace Commission. She has taken unpopular stands on reproductive and gender rights but keeps fighting because she "wants to achieve the equality that everyone's rights require."

"I'm very proud of the women's movement because if you consider the history, there is no other social movement that moved so quickly... to short a time, we are half the people and we deserve half of the sky!"

Chi Mgboko '05 began a Habitat Fellowship with the International Crime Group in Senegal, researching situations of conflict in West Africa. While at HLS, Mgboko contributed to the Harvard Human Rights Journal and served as president of the Harvard Law Student Advocates for Human Rights.

Nakoe T. Miyaji V.E.'92 is an associate professor at the Hosei University in Japan, where she is also director of the Research Institute for Comparative Politics. Nakoe also serves on the Board of Directors of the Japan National Committee for Human Rights and the Japan National Committee for the Red Cross.

Jennifer Moore '97 has served on the faculty of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where she is a law professor and the director of the Center for Law and National Security. She is also a regular contributor to the Harvard Law Review and the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy.

Masato Murao and Robert D. Reville, '89, are both attorneys at Murphy & Murphy, a Washington, D.C., law firm that specializes in U.S. and international refugee law, published by Columbia Academic Press. Their work has been highlighted in the journal "International Human Rights Law Review."
Most people don’t associate human rights with military might. That’s something Colonel Kenneth Watkin V.F. ’02-’03 acknowledges, although he struggles both worlds. But in over two decades in the military, he has seen the development of a closer connection between the two: law and the fight for international human rights.

‘There’s been an increasing recognition over the years of the interrelation of human rights and international humanitarian law,’ Watkin says. ‘The communities have to a large extent kept separate. That has to change.

Watkin, who serves as the deputy judge advocate general/operations for the Canadian Forces, has been at the forefront of change. He was part of a joint civilian/military board of inquiry that went to Somalia to examine the Canadian force of operation after the deaths of Somalis in military custody. The inquiry led to new guidelines for the treatment of prisoners and revamped training systems to incorporate international human rights law. He also served as counsel for the government of Canada for inquiries into the following the deaths of Somalis in military custody. The inquiry led to new guidelines for the treatment of prisoners and revamped training systems to incorporate international human rights law. He also served as counsel for the government of Canada for inquiries into the following the deaths of Somalis in military custody.

Watkin has contributed articles to many publications, including the Journal of Democracy, the Boston Globe, and Harvard Law Review. He is also a researcher for the book “Terror: Human Rights and the Rule of Law,” published in 1998 by the Interdisciplinary Centre for the Study of Justice. In 2003, he authored the book on human rights in the Tibetan language. He has also written a weekly program on Radio Free Asia since 1997. The program, which discusses human rights, rule of law, and democracy, is broadcast and widely listened to by Tibetans in India, Nepal, and Tibet. Saniyagpa organized and participated in the 1994 CEPAC conference in Rome, and in 1995 he was a co-founder of the Harvard Law School Students for Human Rights. He has been a professor of law at the Faculty of Law at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and is currently a professor at the University of Pennsylvania in 2006.

Hani Sayed J.S.D. ’04 began teaching at the American University in Cairo in 2005. Previously, he had been a researcher at the Harvard Human Rights Project on the Middle East, and was a visiting professor at Ben Gurion University. His research interests are in international law and international human rights law and comparative law.
Zhong Yong V.E. ’96 is a partner in the law firm of DiHeng in Beijing. Previously he worked for the China Law Office, the sole mainland China law firm authorized by the Ministry of Justice of the People’s Republic of China to practice Chinese law in Hong Kong. Yong directs the provision of legal services regarding Chinese law to low-income residents of Hong Kong. He is the author of “Access to Justice: Legal Aid in the People’s Republic of China” in Human Rights Positive Policies in Asia and the Pacific Rim (1998).

Carlos J. Zelada LL.M. ’94 is an attorney at the Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C., where he monitors a project that intends to increase the awareness among various sectors of society regarding the importance of the inter-American system for the protection of human rights and the international standards governing freedom of expression. He spent the summer after graduation as a fellow at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C., doing research about media concentration and its impact on freedom of expression. After that, he returned to Peru and restarted his teaching activities at the law faculty of Pontificia Universidad Catolica in Lima, where he taught human rights and public international law.

Katia Zoglin ’85 is currently serving on the executive committee of Human Rights Watch, California Committee North. In 2002, she taught an international human rights course for undergraduate students at University of California, Berkeley. Zoglin spent 2002–2003 working in Belgrade with the American Bar Association’s Central and East European Law Initiative on gender issues in Serbia and Macedonia, including compliance with Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, domestic violence, trafficking of women, and discrimination in the workplace. Zoglin was a lecturer at Stanford Law School and taught the class International Human Rights Practice for approximately eight years. She recently published an article titled “The Future of War Crimes Prosecutions in the Former Yugoslav Republic: Accountability of Jink Justities” in Human Rights Quarterly (February 2005), as well as a report on human rights in Paraguay based on research she conducted there as a Fulbright Scholar.

Raul Zeval (J.S.D. candidate) graduated from Hebrew University and soon became active in the public sphere, initiating with others some of the major NGOs within the Palestinian community in Israel. For example, he was on the board of directors and chairpersons of Ashkol Center and Adalah. His articles examine citizenship and identity and other issues related to the situation of Israeli-Palestinians that have been frequently published in the Arabic and Hebrew media.

Henry Steinert offered the Human Rights Research Seminar, held in his office, for 19 of his 21 years with HRF. The ten participants, principally LL.M. candidates, invariably came from different parts of the world. Three opening sessions involved autobiographical presentations about why and how each participant developed a strong concern for human rights. Six sessions then engaged in interactive discussion of a selected human rights topic. The seminar concluded with discussions of each student’s outline for the required 75-page paper. Over the years, a good number of papers were revised and published, and a good number of students entered the S.J.D. program. Many participants became figures of growing prominence, as activists and academics, in the human rights movement.

Jim Cavallaro and Binsfer Novosejle lead a course on human rights advocacy, which HLS has offered each fall since 1999. They also supervise clinical workshops in the spring and fall, and Cavallaro will teach a clinical seminar on international human rights litigation in spring 2006. The clinical seminars and workshops have focused on advocacy skills and critical assessment of the human rights movement.