

## GAJE Newsletter: Volume No. 4 Issue 3 (June 2008)

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#### 1. GAJE events and news

##### **Event: 5<sup>th</sup> GAJE Worldwide Conference-Update**

**Place:** Law School of Ateneo de Manila University, City of Makati (metropolitan Manila), the Philippines.

**Date:** December 7-13, 2008.

**Theme:** The GAJE Steering Committee has approved the following conference themes for the 5<sup>th</sup> Worldwide Conference: New Initiatives in Justice Education; Developing and Mainstreaming Justice Education Curricula; Teaching Social Justice through Experiential Learning; Clinical Legal Education, including Street Law, Legal Awareness and Live-Client Clinics; Justice Education and Professional Responsibility; and Special Areas of Concern, such as Human Rights and Violence against Women and Children. The conference will be hosted by the Ateneo Human Rights Center (AHRC), a university-based institution engaged in the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines, in collaboration with [Bridges Across Borders](#) (BAB), a non-governmental organization working in Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Ireland, the United States, Mexico, Panama and Colombia. The conference program will include opportunities to learn about local justice education activities, such as the AHRC internship program in which law students are introduced to the field of alternative or developmental law practice through exposure to grassroots life and to human rights advocacy in the Philippines; non-government organizations from the coalition of [Alternative Law Groups](#); paralegals based in rural areas serving marginalized sectors such as farmers and fisher folk; and various clinical legal education programs in the Philippines including a mandatory program at the law school at the University of the Philippines. The conference planning committee will send a solicitation for conference proposals in the next few weeks on the GAJE list-serve and website. It will encourage multinational panels and interactive methodology.

**More information:** For further information and updates go to [www.gaje.org](http://www.gaje.org).

#### **News: The Justice Education Initiative: A Plan for Strategic Development, Fundraising and Conference Planning**

The GAJE Steering Committee announces the launching of the Justice Education Initiative (JEI) to support the efforts of legal educators, community workers, students, lawyers, judges and civic leaders around the world to create and sustain legal education programs that promote justice. The JEI is a three year project. Its goal is to develop accessible and practical resources for use in producing lawyers who are both competent and committed to work for justice in every setting where lawyers are found. The central strategy to achieve this goal is to focus on the institutions and processes that prepare persons to be lawyers, judges and legally-trained civic leaders and public officials. Underpinning this strategy is the recognition that law students and lawyers in training can themselves be valuable workers for justice during their time of preparation. In addition, law schools and other programs to prepare students for legal careers can also be resource centers for education of the community, for support of efforts by non-governmental organizations, for development of public policy, for law reform, and for continuing education of lawyers, judges, and public officials. GAJE will particularly encourage legal education institutions to partner with organizations that are based in and serve communities in particular need of justice education.

Year One: July 2008 - June 2009 At the 5th Worldwide GAJE Conference to be held in the Philippines in December 2008, a broadly representative gathering from around the world will:

Write a definition of justice education that can be interpreted for use in the design of academic, professional and community legal training programs.

Examine and document examples of existing practices and/or case studies of legal training programs from around the world that encompass and promote justice education.

Present, expand and "test drive" sample web-based materials that can be used to support justice-focused legal education such as methods for teaching justice education across a law school curriculum, materials for student exercises, legal literacy projects, guidelines for partnership with community-based organizations, procedures for clinical and community service educational programs, sample readings and syllabi for courses, research and scholarship on justice education, multimedia resources, and distance learning methodologies.

Year Two: July 2009 - June 2010

Launch a web site to support justice-focused legal education that includes a data base of: institutions and organizations that support and exemplify justice education; model programs of justice-focused legal education; experienced trainers in justice education methods; and examples of new and innovative curriculum or program development.

Year Three: July 2010 - June 2011

Evaluate and update web site.

Facilitate international collaboration around justice education, such as exchange programs involving staff and students, guest presenters and course and curriculum sharing.

At the 6th Worldwide GAJE Conference to be held in 2010 receive and review report on lawyer preparation or other legal training programs around the world that have, since December 2008, introduced changes to their curriculums specifically to support and promote justice education.

This strategic initiative is based on the work of the Strategic Development Working Group, chaired by Colin James and was approved by the Steering Committee on April 30, 2008.

**More information:** [www/gaje.org/JEI/](http://www/gaje.org/JEI/)

**News: Report of the Joint Meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) International Clinical Committee and GAJE North America members held on May 6, 2008 in Tucson Arizona at the annual AALS Clinical Conference.** 25 clinicians involved or interested in international legal and justice education attended a joint meeting of the AALS Clinical International Committee and GAJE. Catherine Klein, GAJE Steering Committee member, reported on plans for the GAJE Conference to be held in Manila, December 7-13 2008. 20 people at the meeting indicated they would probably attend the conference and there was discussion about how to support delegates from developing countries. Another issue discussed was the need to find a new home for the data base on work done by American clinicians in other countries, developed by Roy Stuckey at the University of South Carolina. Now that Roy has retired, he would like someone else to take over and continue this work. Another idea for increasing communication was to start an International Clinicians Blog. Minna Kotkin has started a clinical blog at: [http://kotplow.typepad.com/clinicians\\_with\\_not\\_enough/](http://kotplow.typepad.com/clinicians_with_not_enough/) and offered to set up a blog on international work. Until the international blog is set up members should send Minna a brief report on their international activities at [Minna.Kotkin@brooklaw.edu](mailto:Minna.Kotkin@brooklaw.edu). It was suggested that the AALS Clinical International Section should connect to the **new International Association of Law Schools (IALS)**. Peggy Maisel and Minna Kotkin will contact Carl Monk, the acting executive director of IALS, about this possibility. A new Steering Committee for the International Committee was set up. Peggy Maisel and Arturo Carillo are current co-chairs. Other Steering Committee members are Michelle Pistone, Mary Hanna, Alan Lerner, Raven Lidman and Angela McCaffrey. Meetali Jain, Sarah Paoletti, Tim Casey and Jennifer Zawid offered to take on future leadership.

**News: 2008 Outstanding Advocate for Clinical Teachers by the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) to long time GAJE member Karen Tokarz at the AALS Clinical Legal Education Conference in Tucson in early May.** Karen Tokarz, the Charles Nagel Professor of Public Interest Law & Public Service and the Director of Clinical Education and Dispute Resolution Programs at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, was honored for her many years of outstanding leadership in the AALS, CLEA, the American Bar Association (ABA), and the Global Alliance for Justice Education (GAJE). Tokarz is past chair of the AALS Clinical Education Section; past president of CLEA; past member of the ABA Accreditation, Standards Review, and Clinical & Skills Committees; an honorary member of the American Board of Trial Advocacy, and regional project director at large for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA). Tokarz was an early member of GAJE; served on the faculty for the Inaugural GAJE World Conference of GAJE Trivandrum, India in December 1999; served on the planning committee for the

GAJE Second World Conference in Durban, South Africa in December 2001; and presented at the Fourth GAJE World Conference in Cordoba, Argentina in December 2006.

**News:** Articles by many GAJE members in “New Directions in Clinical Education” the dedicated Summer 2008 volume of the Journal of Law & Policy of the Clinical Education Program of the Washington University in St. Louis. Nine articles from the Washington University in St. Louis Clinical Education Program scholarship roundtable will be published this summer. The authors include: Frank Bloch; Catherine Klein, Marty Geer, Ved Kumari and Margaret Barry; Bill Ong Hing; Emily Hughes; Ann Jurgens and Angela McCaffrey; Antoinette Lopez; Michael Perlin; Spencer Rand; and Brenda Blum, Susan Brooks, Nancy Cook and Karen Tokarz. Building on the success of the inaugural project, the Clinical Education Program will host another scholarship roundtable on “New Directions in Clinical Education” in fall 2009 with subsequent publication of articles in the Journal.

## 2. Other news, events and courses

### **News: New Prisoners’ Rights Project by the Akungba Law Clinic at Adekunle Ajasin University Akungba-Akoko, one of the pilot law clinics in Nigeria**

The clinic mission is to train the law students of Adekunle Ajasin University Akungba- Akoko, Ondo State, Nigeria in lawyering skills in the area of Access to Justice for prisoners, 80% of who are awaiting trial. The clinic welcomes collaborators, training, materials, suggestions and partners.

**More information:** For more information contact Olugbenga Oke-Samuel at [lawville@yahoo.com](mailto:lawville@yahoo.com).

### **News: 2008 International Symposium: Public Interest & Human Rights Law in Korean Law Schools—Challenges & Perspectives on May 17, 2008 sponsored by the Korean Public Interest Lawyers Group (GONGGAM)**

In Korea, the first ever (American style) graduate law schools are due to open in 2009. Public interest & human rights law experiences in the US, the UK and Canada were presented by speakers from each country. A survey on the plans for public interest & human rights law programs in 25 newly established law schools in Korea was presented by a GONGGAM lawyer.

**More information:** For more information on this conference check the GONGGAM website at [www.kpil.org](http://www.kpil.org) or email Korean Public Interest Lawyers Group GONGGAM at [gonggam@gmail.com](mailto:gonggam@gmail.com).

### **News: Community Legal Education Office opened on April 25, 2008 at the National University of Laos Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLP) supported by Bridges Across Borders,**

**Details:** In furtherance of its mission to assist in the support and expansion of clinical legal education (CLE) internationally, Bridges Across Borders (BAB) began working in 2007 with the National University of Laos FLP and the Sida supported "Strengthening Legal Education at the FLP" project to develop and implement a CLE program. Since that time students from the Faculty have taught regularly at the Laos Somsagna Drug Rehabilitation Center and have recently begun teaching in the Laos high schools. The new three room office, including a large training/workshop space, now functions as a place where students can prepare their teaching and new staff members and students may be trained in order to further expand their CLE program. The opening celebration was attended by an assortment of national and international persons including representatives from the FLP, BAB, the Swedish Embassy, the Laos Bar Association, United Nations Development Program, the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime and GTZ.

**More information:** For more information on this event and on other CLE work by BAB, please visit its website at [www.babsea.org](http://www.babsea.org) or email Mr. Bruce A. Lasky at [blasky@babsea.org](mailto:blasky@babsea.org) or Ms. Wendy Morrish at [wmorrish@babsea.org](mailto:wmorrish@babsea.org).

### **Event: International Journal of Clinical Legal Education Conference, Cork, Republic of Ireland**

**Date:** 14-15 July 2008

**Theme:** Lighting the Fire: the Many Roles of Clinical Legal Education is the theme for the 6th International Journal of Clinical Legal Education (IJCLE) Conference, Cork, Republic of Ireland. This year's IJCLE conference is held in conjunction with the Clinical Legal Education Organisation at University College in the beautiful city of Cork. There are speakers from all over the world and a full social diary.

**More information:** You can get more information on this conference from the Conference website [www.ijcle.com](http://www.ijcle.com) or from [Philip.plowden@unn.ac.uk](mailto:Philip.plowden@unn.ac.uk) or [Kevin.kerrigan@unn.ac.uk](mailto:Kevin.kerrigan@unn.ac.uk). A copy of the IJCLE conference announcement (in pdf format) will be posted with this newsletter on the GAJE web site.

**Event: Conference on Climate Law in Developing Countries Post-2012: North-South Perspectives, Ottawa, Canada**

**Date:** 26 – 28 September 2008

**Themes:** The conference will examine the legal tools to address such issues as human rights affected by climate change, liability for victims of climate change in developing countries (e.g., drought and rising sea level), protection of carbon sinks (with a particular focus on forests), energy poverty alleviation, and the role of developing countries in negotiating and participating in a post-Kyoto Protocol. Key themes include Climate Justice; Instrument Choice; Energy and Climate Change; the Clean Development Mechanism; Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change; Adaptation Mechanisms under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol; Protection of Biological and Social Systems; and Post-2012 Challenges and Strategies. The objectives are to foster a deeper understanding of the role of environmental sustainability in climate policy and to generate practical legal tools and governance strategies to address climate change.

**More information:** Please visit IUCN Academy website at [www.iucnael.org](http://www.iucnael.org) or contact [Carolyn.Farquhar@uottawa.ca](mailto:Carolyn.Farquhar@uottawa.ca).

**Event: Conference, “Reconciling Human Existence with Ecological Integrity”, organized by the Global Ecological Integrity Group (GEIG) and hosted by Humboldt University in Berlin, Germany.**

**Date:** July 16-20, 2008

**Theme:** This is the 15th Anniversary Meeting of the GEIG; that group meets in conjunction with the IUCN-CEL Ethics Specialist Group and the Specialist Group Indigenous Peoples of which organizer Laura Westra is co-chair. The group and presenters include lawyers, academics philosophers, economists and scientists.

**More information:** More information is available from Laura Westra, at [lwestra@interlog.com](mailto:lwestra@interlog.com), or the GEIG website at [www.globalecointegrity.net](http://www.globalecointegrity.net).

**Courses:** Last call for applications for 2008 distance learning courses by Human Rights Education Associates (HREA)

**Date:** Deadline for applications is 15 June.

The courses include: "Human Rights Monitoring" (3 September-25 November 2008); "Introduction to the European System of Human Rights Protection and Promotion" (3 September-25 November 2008); "Research & Evaluation in the NGO Sector" (8 September-14 December 2008); "Genocide: What Role for International Law?" (10 September-25 November 2008); "Einführung in die Menschenrechtsbildung" (15. September-7. Dezember 2008); "Armed Conflict, Human Rights and Humanitarian Law" (17 September-16 December 2008); "Le Monitoring des droits de l'homme" (17 septembre-16 décembre 2008); "Project Development and Management in the NGO Sector" (22 September-14 December 2008).

**More information:** For more information and an application go to <http://www.hrea.org/courses/>

### 3. Disclaimer

The material in this newsletter is simply a collation of material submitted for distribution to GAJE members. The inclusion of any material in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement of it by GAJE ([www.gaje.org](http://www.gaje.org)).