

## **Society of American Law Teachers—SALT What's New?**

February 8, 2010

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### **ABA PRESIDENTIAL DIVERSITY INITIATIVE ISSUES REPORT CITING SALT**

Last week at the ABA's Mid Winter meeting, the ABA issued an important report on the state of diversity, or lack of it, in the legal profession. The report is the result of over a year of conferences and workshops.

The [ABA Report on Diversity in the Legal Profession: the Next Steps](#) reveals two mentions of SALT, including the “[Disturbing Trend in Law School Admissions](#)” website and the efforts by SALT and LatCrit to make diversity in the legal academy and profession an essential issue of their missions. The importance of SALT as an organization was recognized. On page 8, the Report asks: *How can the larger or national bar associations better collaborate with law professor organizations that are dedicated to social justice research and teaching with a focus on diversity in the legal profession, like LatCrit, Inc. or SALT?*

### **CANDIDACY OPENINGS FOR THE SALT BOARD OF GOVERNORS—DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2010**

The Nominations Committee is currently soliciting the names of SALT members who can run for one of several upcoming openings on the Board of Governors. Service on the Board of Governors gives members a close and active opportunity to shape and enforce the policy of SALT designed to fulfill SALT's basic mission – of making the legal profession more inclusive and reflective of the great diversity of this nation; enhancing social justice training and quality legal education with cutting edge teaching methodologies; and advancing the use of the law to serve underserved persons and communities.

Board members whose terms will expire in 2010 are eligible to run for a second and third term according to the SALT By-Laws.

Any SALT member interested in becoming a member of the SALT Board of Governors is eligible to run. Please do not hesitate to contact one of the Nomination Committee Co-Chairs below by e-mail to express your interest. You may submit a personal statement in writing and send by e-mail attachment to [earriola@niu.edu](mailto:earriola@niu.edu).

***Remember, the deadline for submitting your interest in placing your name in nomination is March 1, 2010.***

#### **SALT ISSUES STATEMENT EXPLAINING INTEREST IN OUTCOME MEASURES**

One of SALT's core goals is to diversify the legal academy and the profession. One way of doing that is by broadening the evaluation of student skills and values beyond what is currently tested on the LSAT and state bar exams. [Read the February 2010 statement explaining what SALT is so interested in the current outcome measures debate occurring within the ABA Council.](#)

#### **TAKE ACTION—TELL YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS TO CONDEMN ANTI-HOMOSEXUALITY LEGISLATION IN UGANDA**

Proposed legislation in Uganda would criminalize homosexual identity and behaviors. [The International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Organization](#) is urging people to contact their legislators to condemn this proposed legislation. [Click here to learn more about the legislation and to join in a campaign to pressure the Ugandan legislature to end this legislative course.](#)

#### **ROBERT COVER PUBLIC INTEREST RETREAT—FEBRUARY 26-28, RECRUIT YOUR STUDENTS TO ATTEND, PROGRAM POSTED**

With just weeks to go, there are still openings to attend the Robert Cover Public Interest Retreat at Camp Sargent in Peterborough, NH. It's a magnificent setting, and a real opportunity to enter into a "retreat." This year's program, Turning Point 2015, is being organized by students from Western New England School of Law. Urge your dean to support sending public interest oriented students (and faculty) to this amazing weekend. Program notes posted. [Read More...](#)

#### **TRINA GRILLO PUBLIC INTEREST AND SOCIAL JUSTICE RETREAT—MARCH 6-7, PROGRAM POSTED AND REGISTRATION OPEN**

University of Oregon School of Law is hosting this year's Trina Grillo Retreat. The exciting program has just been posted for "Globalization, Economic Justice, and Climate Change." The opening keynote address will be given by 2009 Time Magazine Environmental Hero Rizwana Hasan and the Ralph Abascal Memorial Keynote by Brent Newell of the Center for Race, Poverty, and the Environment. Registration is open and quite affordable for students and faculty. [Read More...](#)

## SALT-GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW “VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, ECONOMIC REALITIES” REGISTRATION OPEN

On Friday and Saturday, March 19-20, SALT and Golden Gate University School of Law are co-sponsoring the “Vulnerable Populations, Economic Realities: an inter-disciplinary approach to law teaching. Registration is now open. **Registration fees have been waived for conference presenters.**

**Registration is \$130 for the two-day conference.** Here is just a peek at the program. Watch the SALT LAW.org website for the full program to be posted later this week:

- **The conference begins with a Friday morning plenary:** a conversation between [Paul Butler](#), (George Washington University School of Law) author of [Let's Get Free: A Hip Hop Theory of Justice](#), and [Richard Delgado](#), (Seattle University School of Law) on the criminalization of poverty.
- **Friday's lunchtime speaker** is [Lauren Speeth](#), founding CEO of [The Elfenworks Foundation](#), which is underwriting some of the costs of the conference.
- **Friday evening California Newsreel** is sponsoring a wine and beer reception and showing a sneak preview of its documentary-in-progress “Turkey Creek,” about a Mississippi community in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. [Producer Leah Mahan](#) will be there to answer questions about the film.
- **Saturday's morning plenary** features [Senior Judge Thelton Henderson](#), United States District Court, Northern District of California, introducing his life-long friend [John Payton](#), President and Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.
- **Saturday's lunch** includes [Doug Colbert](#), (University of Maryland School of Law) challenging the academy to infuse the entire law school curriculum with the concept of the “public citizen” found in the Preamble to the Canons of Ethics.

[Download a flyer and distribute it to colleagues.](#)

[Register and learn more about affordable hotels close to Golden Gate University...](#)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- [February 26-28](#): Peterborough, NH: **Robert Cover Public Interest Retreat**
- [March 4-6](#): Tucson, AR: **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Asian Pacific American Law Faculty**
- [March 6-7](#): Eugene, OR: **Trina Grillo Social Justice Retreat**
- [March 19](#): Washington, DC: **Lobby Day to Repeal Don't Ask Don't Tell.** Organize your students to participate.
- [April 15-16](#): Denver, CO: **Deconstructing the Ballot Initiative: The Role for Citizens and Scholars.** This is a free conference co-sponsored by SALT and University of Denver Sturm College of Law.

**AND LET'S NOT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR SALT MEMBERSHIP!**

SALT's visibility and influence are rising, but we need your membership to keep our voice strong. [Renew on-line or with the registration form.](#)