

# Peggy Browning Fund

*Educating Law Students on the Rights and Needs of Workers*

## Welcome to the 2016 Class of Fellows!

Congratulations and a very warm welcome to the new class of Peggy Browning Fellows! We are very happy to introduce them to you. As of April 19, we have placed 74 law students in 10-week Summer Fellowships with unions, worker centers, non-profit organizations and union-side law firms. Each of them is very eager to learn more about what a career would be like working for workers' rights.

As in previous years, you will notice that many of our fellows hail from union member families. Some of this year's fellows have had personal experiences witnessing workplace abuses; or have heard stories from co-workers who are new to this country or for whom English is a second language; or have organized worker groups to become union members. Others have had little previous experience but have shown a real interest in learning more about unions and representing workers.

While reading through their bios, you will learn where each is attending law school and their anticipated year of graduation. You will also see where they will be working this summer.

Our success in providing bright, passionate and progressive law students to work for workplace justice is due in no small part to your continued generous support! Of our graduated alumni, 62% are working in Workers' Rights Labor Law or Public Interest Law. Together, we are building the next generation of workers' rights lawyers!

Thank you for your much needed continued support!

Sincerely,  


Joseph Lurie, President

## 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Katherine Andrews JD'18**

*The George Washington University  
Law School*  
**Communications Workers of America  
(CWA), Washington, DC**

Katherine's involvement in the labor movement began with her time as a member of the Progressive Student Union in college, where she worked with local unions to address labor issues on campus by organizing rallies, petitions, social media campaigns, and meetings with university officials. After college graduation, Katherine worked at the Amalgamated Transit Union as a paralegal. Among her duties, she drafted a memorandum distributed to all U.S. ATU local unions on proposed changes to regulations regarding drivers with sleep apnea.



**Michael Annerino JD'18**

*University of Wisconsin Law School*  
**Chicago Newspaper Guild, Chicago, IL**

Growing up in a union household, Michael has personally experienced the positive impact that unions can have on a family. His mother, a member of the Illinois Education Association, and his father, a member of IUOE Local 399, instilled a deep appreciation for workplace justice and a passion for advancing the cause of organized labor. Michael hopes to use his professional career to do his part to help ensure that union families enjoy a high quality of life, as he continues to better understand the ways in which organized labor has impacted workers' lives.

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## **Hayley Archer** *JD'18*

*University of Wisconsin Law School*  
**Previant Law Firm, S.C.,  
Milwaukee, WI**

Prior to law school, Hayley spent several years organizing with the Vermont Workers' Center, participating in the Migrant Justice and Universal Healthcare campaigns, meeting with other organizers, workers, and state senators. After moving to North Carolina, she joined the Mountain People's Assembly's voting rights campaign and organized to combat racial discrimination and cuts to social programs. Hayley serves as the law school steward of the Teaching Assistant Association, the graduate student union, working to promote TAA events, build and sustain membership, and explore new ways in which law students can assist the union.



## **Jenifer Bizzotto** *JD'18*

*University of Wisconsin Law School*  
**Equal Justice Center, Austin, TX**

Jen's first-hand experience with the restaurant industry's endemic wage theft, sexual harassment, and poor working conditions fueled her passion for raising vulnerable workers' quality of life. She was exposed to the intersection of employment issues and immigrants' rights during her undergraduate years when she engaged in extensive grassroots activism in Ann Arbor and Detroit. Jen was co-founder of the student organization Migrant and Immigrant Rights Advocacy. There she helped to streamline parallel initiatives such as DACA workshops, DREAM act advocacy, anti-deportation campaigns and Know Your Rights trainings.



## **Christopher Bangs** *JD'19*

*Duquesne University School of Law*  
**United Mine Workers of America  
(UMW), Washington, DC**

While an evening law school student, Christopher works full time as a mobilizing chair and shop steward for SEIU Local 668, Chapter 3. He coordinates 2,300 SEIU members for actions, phone banks, and events while representing his members in grievances and discipline. Christopher has mobilized workers to participate in Fight for Fifteen strikes and recently succeeded in giving 21 new members access to Alternate Work Schedules. Prior to law school, Christopher was an apprentice organizer with SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania, participating in documenting unfair labor practices, testifying before the NLRB, and communicating and building lasting relationships with workers afraid to form their own unions.



## **Kyle Brewster** *JD'18*

*Georgetown University Law Center*  
**American Federation of State, County  
& Municipal Employees (AFSCME),  
Washington, DC**

As the son of a working class family with two union-employed parents, Kyle took his interest in labor to Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations where he focused on understanding the intricacies of union elections and collective bargaining. Prior to law school, he worked with U.S. Senator Tom Harkin in the labor policy office of the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. Kyle drafted memoranda, co-authored a brief, and constructed fact sheets for all fifty states on the potential effects of the Minimum Wage Fairness Act.



## **Melissa Britton** *JD'18*

*City University of New York  
School of Law*  
**Workers Defense League,  
New York, NY**

While pursuing a Master's degree in Labor Studies, Melissa served as a union representative for the New York State Nurses Association, working with nurses, elected officials, and community coalition partners to advance healthcare services and labor conditions. Later, she worked as a research and organizing intern with UNITE HERE! Local 100 in support of national airport organizing campaigns. During her senior year of college, Melissa took an Alternative Winter Break Trip to the Dominican Republic, where she conducted healthcare workshops for families and communities in rural neighborhoods.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Andrea Brown** *JD'17*

*University of Cincinnati College of Law  
Schwarzwald, McNair & Fusco,  
Cleveland, OH*

A second-time Peggy Browning Fellowship recipient, Andrea spent last summer at IUE-CWA in Dayton, OH. Prior to law school, her various positions at Working America, AFL-CIO, including field manager, organizer, and office manager, introduced her to the goals of the labor movement and ignited her passion for workplace justice. Currently, Andrea serves as secretary on the Board of Trustees for the Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center, learning about the rights of non-unionized workers and workers centers' political and cooperative relationship with organized labor. She will be Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review for her final year.



**William Campbell** *JD'17*

*Rutgers University Law School  
Sheet Metal Workers Local Union  
No. 19, Philadelphia, PA*

As the grandson of a union sheet metal worker from Camden, NJ, Will was raised in a family that understands and respects working people. He obtained his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Labor and Employment Relations while acting as a teaching assistant at his school for classes such as Development of Labor Movements and Introduction to Labor Studies and Employment. In law school, he is the vice president of the Labor and Employment Law Society which organizes discussion panels for students interested in labor law.



**Sarah Burke** *JD'17*

*Seattle University School of Law  
United Auto Workers International  
Union (UAW), Detroit, MI*

Sarah's passion for worker's rights emerged as she watched her father work as an organizer for IBEW. Following his example, she became an organizer for AFSCME, AFT, and Working Washington. While organizing, Sarah helped graduate research assistants unionize in Oregon and helped fast food workers successfully strike to win a \$15 minimum wage in Seattle. During her 1L summer, Sarah interned with the AFL-CIO Law Student Union Summer program. There she competed in in-house and regional Moot Court competitions, volunteered at the Unemployment Law Project, and served as the director of membership for the Labor and Employment Law Association.



**Barret Claunch** *JD'17*

*Rutgers University Law School  
Mehri & Skalet PLLC, Washington, DC*

Barret was an intern at Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity and Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania. There he focused on removing barriers to employment and experienced how the legal system can help those with criminal convictions move on from their past and assist them in attaining employment. Later, Barret was an intern at Community Legal Services – Employment Unit managing over 40 cases for clients with employment-related matters including wage and hour violations, employment discrimination and harassment, and retaliation for union organizing. Barret currently serves as the president of the National Lawyers Guild for the Rutgers-Camden Chapter and completed an internship at Support Center for Child Advocates in Philadelphia.



**Rebecca Daily** *JD'18*

*Temple University Beasley  
School of Law  
Friends of Farmworkers Inc.,  
Philadelphia, PA*

Prior to law school, Rebecca worked as a Case Manager, Operations Coordinator, and Legal Assistant at Casa Marianella, a community and resource center for immigrants in Austin, TX. She managed residents' cases in an emergency shelter housing fifty recently-arrived immigrants from East and West Africa, Mexico, Central America, and Nepal. Rebecca was able to act as an intermediary between workers and employers to prevent theft and encourage minimum wage and regular pay schedules. At law school, she is an active member of the National Lawyers Guild Worker's Rights Committee, Family Law Society, and Expungement Project.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



## **Maria Dal Santo** *JD'17*

*Pace University School of Law  
Partnership for Working Families,  
Oakland, CA*

To make a living during the recession after graduation, while searching for full-time employment, Maria returned to working in restaurants. Through this experience she met many employees who were unaware of their rights, had experienced discrimination and poor working conditions, and were unable to fight back against the unfair business practices of restaurant owners. As the daughter of two union parents, she saw how much her family has benefitted from belonging to a strong union. Last summer, Maria worked at the New York Environmental Law and Justice Project.



## **Earyn Edwards** *JD'17*

*The George Washington University  
Law School  
American Federation of Teachers  
(AFT), Washington, DC*

A daughter of two educators belonging to labor unions, Earyn understood the union's importance. After college, she participated in the GW-Oxford Program in International Human Rights Law preparing students to contribute to the improvement of human rights conditions around the world. In law school, Earyn interned at the Gulf Coast Center for Law & Policy and clerked at the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland. She also spent a summer interning at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Earyn is a member of the Labor & Employment Law Society and serves on the executive board of the Black Law Student Association.



## **Abigail Downs** *JD'18*

*City University of New York  
School of Law  
Gladstein, Reif & Meginniss LLP,  
New York, NY*

Abigail worked at the Center for Constitutional Rights International Human Rights Docket prior to attending law school. While there, she served as shop steward, bargaining team member, and National Joint Council representative for her unit of the National Organization of Legal Services Workers, UAW Local 2320. Her duties included reviewing CBA agreements, counseling members about their concerns, and working on advocacy to combat the persecution of human rights defenders. At Make the Road New York, she assisted the senior staff attorney for Employment and Immigration Initiatives with demand letters for unpaid wages, and cases involving workers' compensation, harassment, and disability.



## **Katharine Edwards** *JD'17*

*Lewis and Clark Law School  
National Employment Law Project,  
Seattle, WA*

During college, Katharine worked as a maid seeing first-hand the level of abuse and oppression that's faced by low-wage workers. The indignities that she experienced seemed tolerable due to her brief time in the field, but most of her co-workers were trapped in these poor working conditions without a voice. This humbling experience fueled her desire to become an advocate for workers leading her to focus her undergraduate history degree on the history of the labor movement. Her original research was published on her university's website. Last summer, Katharine worked as a law clerk at Northwest Workers' Justice Project assisting low-wage, contingent, and immigrant workers in employment law issues.



## **Kathleen Foley** *JD'18*

*University of California School of Law  
Gilbert & Sackman, Los Angeles, CA*

Prior to entering law school, Kathleen worked as a public bus operator in the San Francisco Bay Area, and was a member of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 192. In that role, she observed the tension between labor and management and the protection the collective bargaining agreement provided union members. As a result of her close relationships with her coworkers and shop steward/mentor, Kathleen developed a passion for the labor movement and workers' rights. She plans to spend her legal career advocating for just outcomes for unions and for the right of workers to organize.

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## **Molly Friedman** *JD'18*

*University of Maryland School of Law  
Sugar Law Center, Detroit, MI*

After graduating from college, Molly completed an AmeriCorps year of service in Chicago at The Women's Treatment Center, a substance abuse rehabilitation facility for low-income women. She volunteered as a student advocate at LIFT-DC for most of her undergraduate career. There, she assisted unemployed and underemployed DC residents apply for housing, employment and outside resources. In those positions, and through her work as a Medicaid caseworker managing 45 elderly and disabled participants, Molly was inspired. This year, Molly will serve as the president of the Maryland Carey Law Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild and outreach co-chair of the Maryland Public Interest Law Project.



## **Chelsea Gaddis** *JD'17*

*DePaul University College of Law  
United Auto Workers International  
Union (UAW), Detroit, MI*

Chelsea is a second-time Peggy Browning Fellow, having worked with the Chicago Newspaper Guild last year. This experience allowed her to learn more about the labor and employment field, while being able to enhance and expand her legal skills. Chelsea initially discovered her passion for organized labor during an internship with the UAW – Global Organizing Institute. Inspired by that experience, Chelsea founded the Howard University Student Justice Alliance to unite students with custodial workers and keep students informed of issues surrounding workers' rights. Most recently, Chelsea worked as the Ethics and Legal Policy Extern of the Chicago Public School District.



## **Gregory Fries** *JD'17*

*City University of New York  
School of Law, New York, NY  
Levy Ratner PC, New York, NY*

In Wisconsin, Gregory worked on three successful petition drives to recall senators who had voted to strip the collective bargaining rights from public employees. He helped build UnitedNY, a partnership of community and labor organizations advocating for a more progressive tax code, for legislation to win a minimum wage increase, and supported low wage workers seeking to organize. In law school, he has been active on the Labor Coalition and a 2015 delegate to the Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights. Last summer Gregory assisted at the Labor Bureau of the New York Attorney General and recently completed an internship at Region 2 of the NLRB.



## **Mindy Garland** *JD'17*

*Case Western Reserve University  
School of Law  
UNITE HERE Local 2,  
San Francisco, CA*

After seeing how the recession impacted working families' lives, Mindy began to work for SEIU as a community organizer. Over four years, she worked in various positions in California, DC, New York, Washington, and Wisconsin. Her work comprised of researching labor policy, organizing labor campaigns, and training community groups on health care reform and employment policies. While in law school, Mindy was an extern at the Department of Labor, Office of the Solicitor where she worked with wage and hour and pension issues, and ERISA claims. Mindy serves as president for the Black Law Student Association.



## **Sophiko Geguchadze** *JD'17*

*University of Pittsburgh School of Law  
Community Justice Project,  
Pittsburgh, PA*

Sophie saw first-hand what a difference legal counsel can make for those who have nowhere to turn for help. Her family immigrated to the United States when she was 8 years old. Sophie's passion for assisting disenfranchised members of the community motivated her to attend law school. She began her study of labor law last summer as a Peggy Browning Fellow with the United Steelworkers in Pittsburgh. While there, she attended collective bargaining sessions and conducted research for grievance arbitrations. Sophie served as a teaching assistant for 1L Civil Procedure, is a Pitt Law Ambassador, Moot Court Board member and a BARBRI representative.

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## **Maggie Gribben** *JD'17*

*City University of New York  
School of Law  
Greater Boston Legal Services,  
Boston, MA*

Maggie's parents worked at a hospital where they were leaders in a long, hard organizing campaign that resulted in unionization. As lead organizer with SEIU USWW in California, Maggie spearheaded an effort to amend an airport minimum wage and benefits policy to expand healthcare benefits to thousands of workers. As a strategic researcher with SEIU 32BJ in New York City, she organized airport workers along the east coast. Maggie interned with the New York Regional Solicitor's Office at the U.S. Department of Labor. At her school's Economic Justice Project, she works with public benefits recipients and supports wage and hour litigation. Maggie is a staff member of the Law Review and co-chair of the Labor Coalition for Economic Justice.



## **Michael Gsovski** *JD'17*

*New York University School of Law  
Levy Ratner PC, New York, NY*

Before law school, Michael worked as a political organizer with the Working Families Party and as a researcher with China Labor Watch where he analyzed reports from Chinese factories and identified violations of Chinese employment law. Michael was also an investigator for the Civilian Complaint Review Board. There he collected evidence regarding allegations of police misconduct and produced reports in compliance with the police unions' agreements with the city. In law school, he worked with the Urban Justice Center and Unemployment Action Center, and spent last summer as an intern to an acting New York State Supreme Court Justice.



## **Nathan Gusdorf** *JD'18*

*New York University School of Law  
New York State United Teachers  
(NYSUT), New York, NY*

In college, Nathan joined Students Stand with Staff, an organization founded to protect the healthcare benefits of college employees. He and his fellow organizers then ran a divestment campaign against a predatory private equity fund, founded a chapter of United Students Against Sweatshops and successfully campaigned for their school to affiliate with the Workers' Rights Consortium. In law school, Nathan interned for the ACLU and Legal Services of Eastern Missouri assisting with the creation of the Community Economic Development Program which provides transactional legal support for non-profits and low-income businesses.



## **Justin Hamano** *JD'18*

*University of Pennsylvania  
School of Law  
Service Employees International Union  
(SEIU), Washington, DC*

Following high school, Justin started working as an AmeriCorps volunteer in the South Bronx. The poverty and lack of opportunity he witnessed there galvanized him to radically change his educational plan. Prior to law school, he completed the Union Semester program at the CUNY Murphy Institute. While completing his Master's certificate in Labor Studies, Justin interned for 1199SEIU's research department and organized for the Retail Action Project, a New York workers' center devoted to empowering workers and raising standards in the retail industry. He was the 1L Representative and the Deputy Voting Rights Director of the Democracy Law Project.



## **Evelyn Haro** *JD'19*

*American University Washington  
College of Law  
Service Employees International Union  
(SEIU), Washington, DC*

Growing up in an immigrant household, Evelyn became attuned to power disparities between employers and low-wage workers. Her interest in labor and public policy began as an undergraduate when she helped lead an organizing campaign on behalf of the maintenance and service workers union. The success of the campaign, and her experience in a Women and Public Policy Program, motivated her to work at a union-side labor and employment firm in DC. As a lead legal assistant, Evelyn conducts initial interviews in Spanish, translates court filings, and serves as primary client contact during mediation. She recently served as an integral member of a wage-and-hour collective action from inception to settlement.

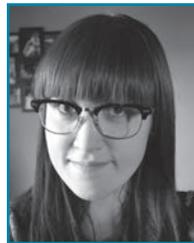
# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



## **Miriam Hasbún** JD'17

*University of Connecticut School of Law  
SEIU Local 2015, Los Angeles, CA*

Miriam's father was a member of the Ironworkers Union. While receiving her Master's in Higher Education and Student Affairs, Miriam advocated for the rights of marginalized and underrepresented students as a Diversity Education Specialist. Last summer, she interned for the Connecticut Education Association, where she became familiar with lobbying, conference planning, litigating, negotiating and fundraising. She is currently a Justice in Our Community Fellow for Greater Hartford Legal Aid, is a member of the *Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal*, and externs at the NLRB sub-region 34 office.



## **Jessica Hoyer** JD'17

*Wayne State University Law School  
United Auto Workers International  
Union (UAW), Detroit, MI*

Jessica grew up in a blue-collar union family. Her undergraduate experience as a Sociology major allowed her to explore the intersections between class and economic standing, eventually leading her to workers' rights and labor law. Jessica worked on the Sexual Assault Kit Task Force at the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, and helped prosecutors organize and develop cases stemming from more than 11,000 untested sexual assault kits discovered in a storage warehouse. She has become a note and comment editor and voting member of the Editorial Board of the *Wayne Law Review*.



## **A. Wayne Hood II** JD'17

*Catholic University of America  
Columbus School of Law  
American Federation of Government  
Employees (AFGE), Washington, DC*

With a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Master's in Public Administration, Wayne decided to go to law school. Attending the Peggy Browning Workers' Rights conference last fall, Wayne was energized and more motivated than ever to help lead the labor movement. As a long time employee at Costco wholesale, he has experienced many of the issues that workers are currently facing. In law school, Wayne is the fundraising chair of the Black Law Students Association, a member of Students for Public Interest Law, and a law clerk at the Service Employees International Union



## **Stephanie Johnson** JD'17

*Howard University School of Law  
American Federation of Government  
Employees (AFGE), Washington, DC*

Encouraged by her grandmother who was born into poverty in the segregated South, Stephanie decided to pursue a law degree to combat the inequalities that exist within our society. Last summer, Stephanie served as a law clerk at Empire Justice Center in Rochester, New York. While there, her interest in workers' rights was peaked after she provided legal assistance and research in the Labor and Employment division. In law school, Stephanie was a judicial intern at the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and is currently an editor on the *Human & Civil Rights Law Review*.



## **Ena Kaur** JD'17

*University of Notre Dame Law School  
International Brotherhood of  
Teamsters (IBT), Washington, DC*

As a first generation immigrant and the first in her family to graduate from college, Ena spent a year as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Boston, teaching and mentoring at-risk high school youth. Having been exposed to the plight of workers through her labor law courses, she is now devoted to using her knowledge and training to represent workers. Influenced by the prospect of improving working conditions through government enforcement, Ena spent last semester at an externship with the National Labor Relations Board in Chicago.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Alex Kirven** *JD'18*

*University of Colorado School of Law  
International Union of Electronic,  
Electrical, Salaried, Machine &  
Furniture Workers - Communications  
Workers of America (IUE-CWA),  
Dayton, OH*

Alex greatly admired the perseverance of his grandfather, who grew up in a family of Polish-speaking farmers during the Great Depression and was a union member in the meatpacking industry in Omaha, Nebraska. Inspired by his grandfather's story, Alex received a Master's in Russian history, specializing in the social and cultural histories of Russian rural life and industrialization. His experience as a graduate student and teacher strengthened his conviction that labor unions are an indispensable part of society. In law school, Alex is a member of the United Government of Graduate Students and a representative for the Society of Work, Employment, and Labor Law.



**Thomas Kokolas** *JD'17*

*William & Mary Law School  
Sherman, Dunn, Cohen,  
Liefer & Yellig PC, Washington, DC*

Thomas became interested in workers' rights during several internship experiences in college, including one with Calibre CPA Group. Calibre has many clients who advocate for social justice in the workplace, including unions. At Calibre, Thomas was able to spend a week at the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union peaking his interest in issues involving social justice and rights for workers. Last summer, Thomas volunteered with Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), where he helped to conduct research and draft appellate briefs to assist veterans in need of medical benefits.



**Julian Krol** *JD'17*

*Rutgers University Law School  
District Lodge 15 IAMAW,  
New York, NY*

Julian received his Bachelor's in Labor Studies and Employment Relations from the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University. After graduating, he went straight into law school to pursue a career as a Labor and Employment Law attorney. Julian interned with the New York State United Teachers, Office of General Counsel where he assisted in representing teachers who were disciplined, terminated, and wrongfully accused of misconduct. Julian is currently an intern at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission where he worked on, researched, and wrote extensively to support employment discrimination cases.



**Marie Madril** *JD'19*

*Southern University Law Center  
North Carolina Justice Center,  
Raleigh, NC*

After spending 17 years teaching Middle and Elementary school in Tucson, AZ, Marie enrolled in law school to further her education and expand her advocacy in the labor community. As an active union member, Marie has supported colleagues while acting as a liaison to the local union office. She enhanced her skills at an annual AEA Leadership Conference and was a delegate for the AEA Representative Assembly. Marie holds a Masters and Certification in public school administration. More recently, she joined the American Federation of Teachers and volunteers as a Spanish interpreter for Park Forest Elementary School in Baton Rouge, LA.



**Greg Maleska** *JD'18*

*Valparaiso University Law School,  
Valparaiso, IN  
United Steelworkers (USW),  
Pittsburgh, PA*

As the son of a miner and former Local 6860 United Steelworker's president, Greg has grown up with unions and has seen the effectiveness that they have at providing workers with a fair wage and peace of mind. Working at an iron ore mine during his four summers of college, further cemented his goal of advocating for workers' rights. USW has played an important role in shaping Greg's life. He is the first in his family to pursue any post-secondary education and honored to begin his work protecting unions and their families.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



## **Stephanie Medina** JD'17

*University of California  
Davis School of Law  
CLEAN Carwash Campaign,  
Los Angeles, CA*

Stephanie organized with the Student Labor Alliance at Brown University and spent her summers interning at UNITE HERE! Local 11, UCLA Downtown Labor Center and AFSCME. As a leader in United Students Against Sweatshops, Stephanie participated in multiple worker-led campaigns including the divestment of a labor abusive hotel management company, the implementation of labor policy at her school and bringing support for multiple union contract fights. Currently, she is the director of the Workers Rights' Clinic at her school and a clinical student at the Immigration Clinic.



## **Richard Montgomery II** JD'17

*Southern University Law Center  
New Orleans Black Workers' Center for  
Racial Justice, New Orleans, LA*

Having ten years of experience in the theatre and film industries and working every job from stagehand to technical director for off-Broadway theatre, Richard's passion for organized labor was ignited by necessity. After facing unfair treatment at work, Richard and his co-workers successfully brought his theatre under the jurisdiction of IATSE Local 340. Through tough campaigning and negotiation, improved benefits and compensation were secured for the entire venue. Richard is an active member of SULC's African Law Student Association and is a common fixture at panel discussions and town hall meetings in Baton Rouge and New Orleans, LA.



## **Jessica Mendoza Uriol** JD'17

*University of Maryland School of Law  
United Food & Commercial Workers  
(UFCW), Washington, DC*

Jessica was born in Peru, grew up in Argentina, and moved to the United States at fifteen years old. Involved at an early age in advocating for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) population, Jessica began to use her voice to speak up for other like students. Her advocacy expanded to include workers' rights while competing in the ABA Labor and Employment Law Trial Advocacy Competition. Last year, Jessica worked as a law clerk for Civil Justice, a non-profit that increases the delivery of legal services to clients of low and moderate income.



## **Alaina Moore** JD'17

*Loyola Law School  
Communications Workers of America  
(CWA), Washington, DC*

Half of Alaina's family members were professionals and half were blue-collar workers, but nearly all were union workers due to Saint Louis' history as a strong labor union town. Alaina's first union job was at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Newspaper where she served on the mobilization and communications committees for the United Media Guild-CWA Local 36047. She became interested in employment law, specifically ERISA law, after working for the third party administrator that manages the pension trust fund for the Southern California Laborers Union. Alaina co-founded Loyola's Labor and Employment Society and currently serves as its outreach chair.



## **Edward Nasser** JD'18

*Harvard Law School  
New York State United Teachers  
(NYSUT), New York, NY*

Edward was introduced to Labor Law while participating in a reading group on the subject during his first semester of law school. His academic interest became personal when he learned of the adverse working conditions faced by his brother, a public school teacher in a state hostile to public unions. Growing up in a working class neighborhood in Queens, NY has given Edward insight into the lives of working people. In law school, Edward serves as a junior editor on the *Harvard Law and Policy Review* and member of the Labor & Employment Lab, which publishes articles on Harvard's labor blog, OnLabor.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Jonah Nelson** *JD'18*

*City University of New York  
School of Law  
Kennedy, Jennik & Murray P.C.,  
New York, NY*

Working as a janitor for a commercial gym while in college introduced Jonah to the many issues that workers face in the workplace. He worked for several unions in New York City prior to law school, primarily focusing on organizing drives at low wage retailers. Jonah knew that he wanted to become more involved in the representation and collective bargaining process. He was employed last summer with the Worker's Defense League as a Peggy Browning Fellow, representing clients in unemployment insurance hearings. He is currently an intern at the NLRB, Region 29 in Brooklyn, NY.



**Junou Odige** *JD'17*

*Catholic University of America Columbus  
School of Law  
Service Employees International Union  
(SEIU), Washington, DC*

Junou's mother has been an SEIU member for 15 years and inspired Junou's interest in worker's rights. Before and during law school, she worked as a client coordinator and law clerk for the Good Samaritan Advocates, a local Christian organization that provides pro-bono legal advice and advocacy to low-income residents in the Greater Washington Area. Last summer, Junou interned at the New Orleans Public Defender's Office and is currently representing a client in the Immigration Litigation Clinic. She is also a member of Students for Public Interest Law and continues to volunteer with Good Samaritan at their legal aid clinics.



**Sally Ness** *JD'17*

*Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law  
Major League Baseball Players  
Association (MLBPA), New York, NY*

Raised in a pro-union family in San Francisco, Sally's commitment to organized labor is part of her family legacy. As a result, she became determined to defend employee rights and equalize bargaining power. As an intern in the New York Attorney General's Labor Bureau, she was exposed to various aspects of New York Labor Law and had the chance to advocate on the behalf of working New Yorkers. An avid sports fan, she is thrilled to be combining her love of sports with her passion for labor at MLBPA. Sally is a staff editor of *Cardozo Law Review*.



**Glory-Imah Okon** *JD'17*

*University of Illinois College of Law  
Laborers' International Union of North  
America (LIUNA), Washington, DC*

Before law school, Glory worked as an AmeriCorps VISTA in the Seattle area. There, she established a literacy program and drafted grant applications to secure funding for further programming. The opportunity fueled her passion to serve as an advocate, and she enrolled in law school. Motivated by her experience assisting the working-class population during her time in AmeriCorps, Glory interned at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. While there, she assisted trial attorneys with their investigation and handling of cases, gaining insight into the practice of employment law. Glory is the vice president of the Public Interest Law Foundation, and serves on the board of the Latino Law Student Association and Student Legal Relief.



**Militza Pagan** *JD'17*

*Chicago-Kent College of Law  
Raise the Floor Alliance, Chicago, IL*

The daughter of a proud Chicago Teacher's Union member, Militza saw how good-paying union jobs help communities rise out of poverty. After college, Militza worked in the non-profit sector on immigrant rights, education policy and community development issues. Pursuing a Public Interest Law certificate, Militza has clerked at a number of non-profit organizations including Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. At CLC, along with her supervising attorney, Militza successfully negotiated the rehire and full payment of overtime wages owed to her client. She is currently clerking at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



## Alexander Patten JD'17

*Georgetown University Law School*  
Farmworker Justice, Washington, DC

Inspired by his parents who spent their lives serving as soldiers and teachers, Alex first became interested in Employment Law while interning at the Department of Homeland Security as an Equal Employment Opportunity analyst. In law school, he volunteers with Christian Legal Aid of DC and the Employment Justice Center conducting client intakes on behalf of needy individuals on a wide variety of employment issues. Currently, he is also a staff editor at the *Journal of National Security Law and Policy* and a judicial intern at the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals.



## Benjamin Peachey JD'18

*The George Washington University Law School*  
Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA), Washington, DC

In college, Benjamin worked with the Central South Carolina Alliance to stimulate economic development and facilitate job creation throughout the state. In this capacity, he collaborated with workplace superiors as well as political and business leaders on a successful marketing trip to Western Europe to promote foreign direct investment in South Carolina. Benjamin, now a GW Presidential Merit Scholar, is the son of a public school educator and member of the National Education Association. Contract negotiations, pension concerns, and potential labor strikes were common conversation topics in his home. Benjamin is a member of the GW Labor and Employment Law Society.



## Cassie Peabody JD'18

*University of San Francisco School of Law*  
Neyhart, Anderson, Flynn & Grosboll,  
San Francisco, CA

Supporting her mom as a UAW factory line worker at a car plant south of Flint, Michigan, Cassie found her voice as the first community organizer for the Household Worker Rights Project. After college, Cassie worked with immigrant workers in San Jose, CA and Chicago, IL, pushing for better working conditions and an increase of the minimum wage. Most recently, she supported the creation of a women's sewing cooperative increasing the financial stability of the families involved, while working as a volunteer organizer at Centro de Trabajadores Unidos in Chicago. She was the 1L representative for the Labor and Employment Law Society and the Immigration Law Society.



## Mason Pesek JD'18

*New York University School of Law*  
United Steelworkers (USW),  
Pittsburgh, PA

Mason's experience as a teacher at a non-unionized charter school in Cleveland helped him understand the importance of collective action and union representation. He helped spearhead efforts to organize a union at his school and worked with his colleagues and the National Labor Relations Board to fight back against the leadership's unfair labor practices. He felt empowered as he and his fellow teachers worked together to fight for their rights. In law school, Mason volunteers with the Unemployment Action Center, where he represents clients who have been denied unemployment insurance benefits.



## Eriberto Ramirez JD'18

*California Western School of Law*  
Wage Justice Center, Los Angeles, CA

At the variety of jobs he held throughout his undergraduate education, Eriberto witnessed that union members had rights and securities while his non-union family members in construction, landscaping, and labor did not. Eriberto credits his scholastic opportunity to his migrant mother and decided to be the first in his family to pursue law school. Coming from a background without any union protections, he recognizes everyone has a responsibility to strive for social justice at work. Eriberto has engaged in community outreach programs in the U.S. and Mexico through his involvement in the Gamma Zeta Alpha Fraternity.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Andres Ramos** *JD'18*

*University of California Hastings  
School of Law  
American Federation of State, County  
& Municipal Employees (AFSCME),  
Washington, DC*

As a first generation college graduate, Andres recognizes that access to high quality public education plays an important role in opening the door of opportunity to disadvantaged communities. His experience working as a special education assistant alongside teachers and other public employees exposed him to the challenges that workers face. Andres has channeled his passion into political and civic activism, working on Democratic Party campaigns and on various community projects. Prior to entering law school, Andres interned for the California State Assembly, for which he received an official resolution of the Legislature in recognition of exemplary work.



**Anarose Reardon-Helford** *JD'17*

*University of Washington School of Law  
National Domestic Workers Alliance,  
Oakland, CA*

Last summer, Anarose was the Laurel Rubin Farm Worker Justice Fellow with Columbia Legal Services. There she researched a variety of topics affecting undocumented agricultural workers and H-2A contracted workers and traveled around Washington State to various agricultural industries to engage in farm worker outreach. She interned with the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Solicitor in Seattle preparing documents to certify a human trafficking and forced labor U Visa. She also conducted legal research on issues ranging from coverage under OSHA whistleblower status to retaliation causation standards. Anarose is on the board of her school's Public Interest Law Association.



**Max Roesch** *JD'18*

*University of Pittsburgh School of Law  
United Electrical, Radio and Machine  
Workers of America (UE),  
Pittsburgh, PA*

Before law school, Max spent nearly a decade as a union organizer. His first job in labor was working for SEIU International and Colorado WINS, organizing Colorado State employees in the Departments of Higher Education, Corrections, and Human Services, to build an effective union organization in rural Colorado. He then organized pre-school teachers, maintenance workers, and registered nurses with several local unions and served as chief unit steward of CWA Local 37074. Max plans to further his commitment and service to the labor movement as he embarks on his legal career.



**Brittany Rubino** *JD'17*

*Brooklyn Law School  
Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein P.C.,  
New York, NY*

Brittany's passion for the labor movement grew from her experience as a theatrical performer, as well as her work in human resources at Universal Orlando Resort. Her years of exposure to the issues facing actors and laborers motivated her to attend law school. Last summer, Brittany interned for the General Counsel of the Actors' Equity Association where she assisted with drafting contracts for the Theatre for Young Audiences, attended arbitration hearings, and researched and wrote several memoranda about contract and collective bargaining issues. Brittany is a Moot Court Honor Society member and public relations chair of the Labor & Employment Law Association.



**Johanna Schmidt** *JD'17*

*Georgetown University Law Center  
Murphy Anderson PLLC,  
Washington, DC*

In rural Minnesota, Johanna served as a College Access Counselor through AmeriCorps working with low-income, minority, and first generation college-bound children in the ninth through twelfth grades. As a counselor, she spent a great amount of time communicating with her students' parents who were often not in union jobs and thus unprotected at their workplace. This experience led her to the labor movement to help workers gain more of a powerful role for themselves within society. Johanna is currently on the Georgetown Journal of Poverty Law and Policy, where she writes about economic justice related issues.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Samuel Schwartz** JD'17

*Northeastern University School of Law*  
**United Food and Commercial Workers  
International Union (UFCW),  
Washington, DC**

Between college and law school Sam worked in low wage jobs at both ends of the food chain; on an organic farm in northern California, and at a restaurant in Philadelphia. While in Philadelphia, he actively participated in Occupy Philadelphia and became connected to other social justice causes helping on the campaign for paid sick days for university security workers and the campaign to unionize the dining hall workers. In law school, Sam worked as a law clerk in the Employment Law Unit at Greater Boston Legal Services and in the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office in the Fair Labor Division.



**Patrick Tierney** JD'17

*The George Washington University  
School of Law*  
**International Brotherhood of  
Teamsters (IBT), Washington, DC**

Patrick worked his summer and winter breaks at the same job he had since he was 16. In 2013, a new general manager was hired who was focused on cutting costs including his refusal to compensate for overtime pay. When Patrick saw how difficult it was to recover his unpaid wages, he realized this could be his career path. Before law school, Patrick held a position with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. Patrick has since held positions with the American Federation of Government Employees and the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.



**Yevhenii Shatskyi** JD'16

*University of Pittsburgh School of Law*  
**International Labor Rights Forum,  
Washington, DC**

Born in eastern Ukraine, Yevhenii learned about the dangers and inadequate compensation of working in the coal mines from his father. He attended Stakhanov Industrial-Economic Technical College to learn about the Ukrainian legal system and completed an internship assisting legal counsel at a coal mining factory in Zorinsk. In 2013, Yevhenii received a grant to study at Utica College, where he became interested in international human rights law. He volunteered at the Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees and worked as an assistant to the director of the Human Rights Program. On his return to the Ukraine in 2014, Yevhenii volunteered for the Kharkov Human Rights Protection Group.



**Daniel Treiman** JD'17

*New York University School of Law*  
**Levy Ratner, PC, New York, NY**

Prior to law school, Daniel worked for 15 years as a journalist, as managing editor at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and as the opinion-page editor at the Forward, a more than century-old national Jewish newspaper with a long history of solidarity with the labor movement. Daniel helped organize and later chaired the Newspaper Guild of New York's editorial unit. He represented the interests of his colleagues and participated in negotiating their collective bargaining agreement. Daniel is especially proud to have greatly improved the Forward's parental leave policy. In law school, he has interned at Region 29 of the NLRB.



**Natalie Tupta** JD'18

*Duquesne University School of Law*  
**Friends of Farmworkers, Inc.,  
Philadelphia, PA**

Natalie lived in Texas' Rio Grande Valley, where she received a Master's degree in English as a Second Language. During that time, she was challenged as a native of Appalachia by Mexican Americans who see our country much differently. Her thesis research centered on using service learning to address language-based discrimination which affects primarily immigrants and racial and ethnic minorities. She also taught ESL courses at the public library and English Composition at her university. Natalie is a member of the Public Interest Law Association and Women's Law Association, and she is a contributor to the *Juris Magazine* blog.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Katelyn Walker** JD'17

*The George Washington University School of Law*  
American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), Washington, DC

Katelyn's father was a member of the Utility Workers United of America. She remembers him returning from union meetings scrutinizing the terms of negotiations and contracts related to overtime, healthcare and retirement. Last year, while working for Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge on workforce issues, Katelyn became familiar with the ways in which legislation and DOL rulemaking impact workers. She researched issues related to irregular scheduling, worker misclassification, and the updated DOL overtime rule. This spring, Katelyn worked for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce on labor issues.



**Maria Walker** JD'18

*New York University School of Law*  
Make The Road New York  
New York, NY

After college, Maria worked as an English teaching assistant at Lycée Les Trois Sources and Lycée Camille Vernet in Valence, France. She worked closely with the other professors and experienced the difficulty of finding your voice in both a foreign language and an employment system. On her return to the U.S., Maria worked at a Spanish immersion program in Minnesota providing language training to warehouse managers. Through her students, Maria learned about the challenges facing employees and employers in an increasingly multicultural and multilingual workforce. In law school, Maria has worked as a volunteer with the Immigrant Rights Project.



**Ken Wang** JD'18

*University of California Davis School of Law*  
Legal Aid Society - Employment Law Center, San Francisco, CA

Immigrating to North America from China, where they were college professors, Ken's parents could only find work as manual laborers. Prior to law school, Ken spent five years as an organizer with the Tenant Worker Center at the Chinese Progressive Association where he organized low-income immigrant workers in Chinatown, San Francisco. Ken was inspired to join the movement during his undergraduate years in Canada where he organized students of color against budget cuts. Most recently he's supported the Black Lives Matter movement and #Asians4BlackLives in the Bay Area. In law school, he volunteers with the Worker Rights Clinic and is a class representative for the National Lawyers Guild.



**Mallory Whitelaw** JD'17

*Loyola Law School*  
National Day Laborers Organizing Network (NDLON), Los Angeles, CA

Prior to law school, Mallory worked in interaction design, which included building educational software to teach high school students about civil rights history. During law school, she has pursued her interest in social justice by spending two semesters working for the Housing Rights Center in Los Angeles, and spending a semester working for fair employment at an employee-side law firm in Pasadena. She also spent two semesters working in her school's Center for Conflict Resolution. Mallory is an editor on the *Loyola International and Comparative Law Review*.



**Claudia Williams** JD'17

*Howard University School of Law*  
Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Washington, DC

After college, Claudia pursued a Master's degree in Arts and Sociology examining the strategies utilized by minority women to sustain employment when state law did not protect them from discrimination. This shaped her perspective on the need for representation in the workplace as well as advocacy in the labor movement. In law school, Claudia worked as a legal intern for the Education Law Project of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and as a law clerk for SEIU. Claudia is currently an editor of the *Howard Human and Civil Rights Law Review* and a member of the Family Law Society.



**Jennifer Willis** JD'17

*Delaware Law School Widener University*  
Community Legal Services, Inc., Philadelphia, PA

Jennifer worked as a Table Games Dealer at a casino during her undergraduate years. She became an active member of the Steelworkers Union where she worked together with fellow union members to develop plans to achieve their goals. Jennifer also worked as an intern at the West Virginia Legislature and the Human Rights Commission. She is currently serving as an intern at Legal Aid of Southeastern PA, working with an indigent population to remove barriers to accessing employment and housing. In her free time, she focuses specifically on community service projects and pro bono work.

# 2016 Peggy Browning Summer Fellows



**Tate Wines** *JD'18*

*The University of Chicago Law School  
National Employment Lawyers'  
Association, Washington, DC*

Tate knew he wanted to pursue a career in labor and employment law after completing his undergraduate career at Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations. While there, he became especially interested in research projects involving employment discrimination and had several opportunities to travel internationally to assist low wage workers in a variety of employment related disputes. Tate spent a semester in Dublin, Ireland and traveled to Brussels to explore current issues regarding the rights of workers in the European Union. In law school, he is active in the Labor and Employment Law Society, OutLaw, and community service.



**Isabel Zubillaga** *JD'17*

*Loyola University Chicago  
School of Law  
Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy  
Project, Chicago, IL*

Isabel came to the United States from South America with her parents as a teenager. Having witnessed human rights violations in her home country, she set out to find a vocation that would help immigrants adapt to a new culture. In law school, she volunteered at the U-Visa Clinic at Heartland Alliance Immigrant Justice Center and as a family liaison for the Refugee Welcoming Committee. She has volunteered for the Teen Court Program in Texas and clerked for a plaintiff personal injury firm. This fall, Isabel will represent small business owners through her school's Business Law Clinic.



**Audrey Winn** *JD'18*

*New York University School of Law  
United Steelworkers (USW),  
Pittsburgh, PA*

Before law school, Audrey had many different roles within the labor movement. As the lead organizer for the ACLU of Pennsylvania's Limited English Proficiency Project, she helped protect Limited-English proficient workers in the Pennsylvania Court System. She has coordinated with grassroots organizations to organize migrant laborers in China, worked with Amsterdam prostitutes to evaluate changes in Europe's sex-work policies, and contributed to research on issues like corporate espionage, outsourcing's impact on low-income communities, and organizing in app-based industries. In law school, Audrey is a board member of Law Students for Economic Justice and a student advocate for the Unemployment Action Center.



**Blake Zucker** *JD'17*

*Villanova University School of Law  
Pond Lehocky Stern Giordano,  
Philadelphia, PA*

Blake first learned about unions when, at the age of ten, the teachers in his school district went on strike. From that experience, he knew that he wanted to learn more about unions and how they help their members. In law school, Blake spent his first summer working as a legal intern for the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. There he assisted in trial preparations and attended several trials communicating with witnesses and opposing counsel. Blake continues to learn more about working for workers' rights this summer through his Summer Fellowship with the Peggy Browning Fund.



**Miguel Zavala** *JD'18*

*University of California Berkeley  
School of Law  
Employment Justice Center,  
Washington, DC*

Born in Moroleón, Guanajuato, Mexico, Miguel and his family moved to the United States where his parents picked strawberries. During those years, he realized how much his parents benefited from the work of advocates for workers' rights and that drove Miguel to seek a career representing workers. Prior to law school, Miguel was an intern at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. He honed his writing skills by joining the *La Raza Law Journal*. In law school, Miguel has joined the *Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law* and is active in the Legal Aid Society-Employment Law Center's Workers' Rights Clinic.



**Sara Dankowski** *JD'17*

*DePaul University College of Law  
Chicago Newspaper Guild, 2015-16,  
Chicago, IL*

As the daughter of a former union president, Sara was fully committed to the labor movement from a young age. Prior to law school, she became a member of AFSCME Local 1028 and held several leadership positions within the union, including steward, trustee, and executive board member. These positions required her to advocate on behalf of members by negotiating contracts and protecting the rights of her union's workers. Sara brought this passion for working people to law school where she is a member of the Women's Bar Association of Illinois.

## 2016 Peggy Browning School Year Fellow

# Peggy Browning Fund

*Educating Law Students on the Rights and Needs of Workers*

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## Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars

Join us as the Peggy Browning Award is presented to:



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**Elizabeth Bunn**  
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**Wednesday, June 8, 2016**

**AFL-CIO Lobby & Gompers Room  
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## SAVE THE DATES!

### 2016 National Law Students Workers' Rights Conference

**October 14 & 15**

The Conference Center at the Maritime Institute  
Linthicum Heights, MD

Watch our website for details  
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For more information, contact  
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