

## Rutgers Journal of Law & Religion Alumni Newsletter

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## RUTGERS JOURNAL of LAW & RELIGION

Welcome to the RJLR Newsletter. This newsletter is designed to keep alumni in touch with current faces and events that make up the RJLR. We would like to introduce you to a few 2012-2013 leaders.

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Charlotte Levins is the Lead Notes Editor on RJLR. In this role, she supervises the research and writing process for the student notes. Her note, "The Rentier State and the Survival of Arab Absolute Monarchies," focuses on how the Middle East is still very far from being 'democratic' in the Western way of being democratic. She focuses on the monarchies that remain intact in the Middle East through constitutions, court systems, tribal support, and the oil economy. The Middle East has always been a topic that interested Charlotte, and she appreciates the opportunity to be able to research and learn about the issues through her note writing process on RJLR.

Jackie Zoller says that her experience on journal has been great, and "it absolutely helped my job search, ultimately leading to a clerkship. Her note, which was also published, focused on an ethics course taught by chaplains in the Air Force, a course which quoted the Bible and had images of saints. The course focused on the Christian just war theory as a means to justify war and to justify the dropping of nuclear bombs. Her note focused on the First Amendment claims against the course, since it was endorsing religion in a government program.

The 2012-2013 school calendar year marked unprecedented growth in the development of the journal specifically with respect to technology as the journal rolled out the RJLR Webdrive. This platform allowed for the labor and paper intensive spading assignments to become completely electronic.

Moreover, the Nuremberg Project continued to make great strides. RJLR Managing Editor, Jeff Mullen, explained that access to the documents in The Donovan Nuremberg Trials Collection is a right our journal possesses that is unique to any other journal out there. In the 2011-2012 year an initiative was developed for journal members to apply for the opportunity to write three Nuremberg articles in lieu of completing a note. We continued with this program in the 2012-2013 year, which has lead to a number of fantastic writings that are being published in our fall and spring editions.

Lastly, but most importantly, the journal continued to publish a number of articles and notes in their Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 editions. Moreover, Editor-in-Chief, Matan Shmuel noted that "every scholar that the journal extended a publication offer to this year accepted" giving us a 100% acceptance rate for publication offers!



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The Alumni Relations Team has organized and hosted several key alumni events during the 2012-2013 school year. Our "kick off" event of the year was the Camden Riversharks baseball game in September and it was a great way to meet and interact with alumni, new members, and current members of the journal. We had a great turnout in the RJLR suite and were able to enjoy the game, unlimited wings, drink specials, and the company of some wonderful people.

We have also hosted some fun happy hours right over the bridge in Philadelphia, including one happy hour at Public House in November and another at Smith's Restaurant in February. These happy hours were not only fun opportunities to enjoy evenings out in the city, but also networking events to meet new people and forge friendships.

The Alumni Relations Team recognizes the importance of networking and maintaining contact with alumni that are already out of law school and working in the field of law. We know that it is also imperative to foster relationships with current members for we will one day be alumni as well. Rutgers is a strong, close-knit university with a rich history and strong ties to our alumni and we should continue to value and uphold this image moving forward with the merger and restructuring.

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*Please remember to RSVP to the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Donald C. Clark Symposium on April 4, 2013.*