Biographies

Hon. Anita Allen

President of the Court of Appeal, Bahamas

Hon. Anita Allen was called to the Bar of England and Wales in July 1973 and to The Bahamas Bar in September of 1973. Thirty of Hon. Allen’s forty years in the legal arena were spent in the public legal service and the Judiciary. She has the distinction of being the first Bahamian Legal Draftsman and the second woman to serve as President of the Court of Appeal. Prior to assuming the Presidency, Justice Allen served as both a Justice and Senior Justice of the Supreme Court. Under her leadership, the Court of Appeal continues to maintain its outstanding performance in efficiently and effectively resolving appeals. Mrs. Justice Allen is passionate about the law and is most appreciative of the opportunity to serve her people in such an important role. She associates herself with the sentiment expressed by Theodore Roosevelt that: “Far away the best prize that life offers is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.” She is married to The Honorable Mr. Algernon Allen, a barrister-at-law, a former Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister who presently serves as the Co-Chair of The Urban Renewal Commission. They are the parents of five children.

Hon. Janet Arterton

U.S. District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut

Hon. Janet Arterton was appointed by President Bill Clinton and has served as a Federal District Judge, sitting in new Haven, Connecticut, since 1995. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College and Northeastern University School of Law. She was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws by Northeastern University in 2005. Before taking the bench, her legal career focused on employment discrimination and employee rights in federal and state courts. She served on the U.S. Judicial Conference, International Judicial Relations Committee and is a frequent speaker and participant in international rule of law programs, including human trafficking, gender based violence, effective judicial administration, and criminal justice. She participated in Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School’s research program on acid violence in Cambodia and regularly hosts visiting international judges. She runs a weekly re-entry Drug Support Court for ex-offenders. In 2011, she was named to a lifetime position on the Committee of the Proprietors of the Common and Undivided Lands in New Haven, which has owned the New Haven Green in trust for the public since the Colonial period.

Kim Azzarelli

President, Women in the World Foundation; Founding Partner, Seneca Point Global; Co-Founder and Chair of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School

Kim K. Azzarelli is a senior business, philanthropic and legal advisor with significant experience in launching and leading corporate and philanthropic initiatives relating to women and girls. Ms. Azzarelli has served as Senior Vice President of the Newsweek Daily Beast Company where she has led strategy, partnerships, and philanthropy for Women in the World. Ms. Azzarelli has also held senior legal and philanthropic roles at organizations including Goldman Sachs, where she led Goldman Sachs Gives. Ms. Azzarelli has also helped launch significant brand development and philanthropic programs for Avon Products Inc., where she served as Vice President, Legal and Public Affairs and Corporate Secretary. Prior to joining Avon, Ms. Azzarelli worked for the law firm of Latham and Watkins, and began her career at JP Morgan. She is a graduate of Cornell Law School, Cornell University and Friends Seminary in NYC. She is the co-founder and Chair of the Avon Global
Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School and serves on the Board of the Avon Foundation for Women. Ms. Azzarelli serves as an adjunct professor at Cornell Law School and is an author on matters relating to women and girls, most recently co-authoring “Sustainable Development, Rule of Law and the Impact of Women Judges” with Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and "At Davos Investing in Women Emerges as a Business Strategy" with Ambassador Verveer.

Sandra L. Babcock

Clinical Professor and Clinical Director, Center for International Human Rights, Northwestern University School of Law

Sandra L. Babcock is a Clinical Professor and Clinical Director of the Center for International Human Rights at Northwestern University School of Law. She teaches both clinical and doctrinal courses in International Human Rights, International Women’s Rights, and International Law and the Death Penalty. In 2004, she was counsel to the Government of Mexico in the case of Avena and other Mexican Nationals (Mexico v. United States), a case brought by Mexico in the International Court of Justice on behalf of 52 Mexican nationals on death row. Professor Babcock lectures widely on the application of international law in death penalty cases, and has been engaged for several years in improving access to justice for prisoners held without access to counsel in Malawi. She received her B.A. in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University in 1986, and her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1991.

Hon. Josselyne Béjar

Penal Judge, Mexico and Secretary of the Mexican Association of Women Judges

Hon. Josselyne Béjar has been a Penal Judge in Mexico since 1997 and is the Secretary of the Mexican Association of Women Judges. She holds a Masters degree in Penal Law from the Universidad de Guadalajara and in Public Law from the Universidad Panamericana, and Doctors of Law from the Universidad de San Pablo-Ceu and Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. Hon. Béjar has also been involved in a number of key law commission projects. She was part of the Drafting Commission of the new Criminal Procedural Code, a member of the National Group on Constitutional Reform 2008, and worked with the Commission for the Implementation of Criminal Reform in the state of Jalisco. In 2007, Hon. Béjar received an award from the legislature of the state of Jalisco for her efforts toward the eradication of violence against women. Hon. Béjar also has substantial experience as a speaker and trainer. She has trained academics, judges, magistrates and litigators on judicial reform and has spoken in New York, Washington and El Salvador on gender-based violence and women’s rights. She is co-author of the text, “La prevencion del Delito” (The Prevention of Crime).

Hon. Desiree Bernard

Justice, Caribbean Court of Justice

Hon. Desiree Bernard is a judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice. Madam Justice Bernard, who holds a Bachelor of Laws degree with honors from the University of London, was appointed the first female Judge of the Supreme Court of Guyana after practicing as a lawyer in the civil jurisdiction of the courts. In 1992 she was appointed the first female Justice of the Court of Appeal and in 1996 the first female Chief Justice of Guyana. In May 2001, she became Chancellor and Head of the Judiciary, and retired in 2005 to join the Caribbean Court of Justice as its sole female Judge. She was recently appointed a Judge of the Inter-American Development Tribunal. Justice Bernard was selected to sit as a member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, and she served as Rapporteur and later Chairperson over twelve years. Justice Bernard has written extensively on the rights of women and children, and is regarded as an expert on gender issues, particularly violence against women. She has presented papers internationally on the impact of human rights treaties on the rights of women and the domestic application of such treaties. In 2005, she was the recipient of the Caribbean Community's Triennial Award for Women for her contribution to women's affairs and the administration of justice. She holds an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago.
Caroline Bettinger-López

*Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Director of the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law*

Caroline Bettinger-López is an Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Director of the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law. Her scholarship, advocacy, and teaching concern international human rights law and advocacy, violence against women, gender and race discrimination, immigrants' rights, and clinical legal education. She focuses on implementation of human rights norms at the domestic level, principally in the United States and Latin America. Professor Bettinger-López regularly litigates and engages in other forms of advocacy before the Inter-American Human Rights system, the United Nations, and federal and state courts and legislative bodies. Her work has appeared in numerous journals, law reviews, and online and traditional media, including Harvard Human Rights Law Journal, Columbia Human Rights Law Review, American Journal of International Law, Clearinghouse Review: Journal of Poverty Law and Policy, New York Times, Miami Herald, National Public Radio, Huffington Post, and Jotwell. Prior to joining Miami Law, Professor Bettinger-López was the Deputy Director of the Human Rights Institute and Lecturer-in-Law and Acting Director of the Human Rights Clinic at Columbia Law School. There, she helped to coordinate the Human Rights in the U.S. Project and Bringing Human Rights Home Lawyers' Network, a network of over 450 lawyers who are actively involved in domestic human rights strategies in the U.S. Before that, Professor Bettinger-López worked as a Skadden Fellow/Staff Attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union, Women's Rights Project, where she focused on employment and housing rights of domestic violence survivors; and as a law clerk for Judge Sterling Johnson, Jr. in the Eastern District of New York. Professor Bettinger-López is a graduate of Columbia Law School and University of Michigan, where she studied cultural anthropology.

Cynthia Grant Bowman

*Dorothea S. Clarke Professor of Law, Cornell Law School*

Cynthia Grant Bowman is the Dorothea S. Clarke Professor of Law at Cornell Law School and a member of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice Steering Committee. She has published widely in diverse areas having to do with law and women, such as women in the legal profession, sexual harassment and legal remedies for adult survivors of childhood sex abuse and is co-author of Feminist Jurisprudence: Taking Women Seriously (3d ed. 2006). Professor Bowman has extensive experience teaching, consulting, and doing research about women and law in Africa and is the co-author, with Akua Kuenyehia, of Women and Law in Sub-Saharan Africa (2003). She has also published and spoken widely about domestic and sexual violence in the African context. Her most recent book, Unmarried Couples, Law, and Public Policy, is about the legal treatment of cohabitation.

Elizabeth Brundige

*Executive Director, Avon Global Center for Women and Justice and Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor of Law, Cornell Law School*

Elizabeth Brundige is the Executive Director of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice and a Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor at Cornell Law School, where she teaches the International Human Rights Clinic. Prior to joining Cornell, Professor Brundige was the Cover-Lowenstein Fellow in International Human Rights and a clinical lecturer of law at Yale Law School. Previously, she was an associate legal officer at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, Africa Program Officer for the International Association of Women Judges and a law clerk to Judge Kermit Lopez of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and Justice Sandile Ngcobo of the Constitutional Court of South Africa. She received a J.D. from Yale Law School, an M.Phil. from Oxford University, and a B.A. from Yale University.

Charlotte Bunch

*Founding Director and Senior Scholar, Center for Women’s Global Leadership, Rutgers University*

Charlotte Bunch has been an activist, writer and organizer in the feminist, LGBT, and human rights movements for over four decades. A Board of Governor's Distinguished Professor in Women's and Gender Studies, Bunch was previously a Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies in DC and a founder of Washington DC Women's Liberation, *The Furies* and of *Quest: A
She has served on the Board of Directors of many organizations, including the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the MS Foundation and the Global Fund for Women Foundation and the Women’s Human Rights Defenders International Coalition. She is currently on the Board of AWID (Association for Women’s Rights in Development), and the Advisory Committee for the Women’s Rights Division of Human Rights Watch, and serves as an advisory to the NGO Due Diligence Project. Bunch’s contributions to women’s human rights have been recognized by many including the National Women’s Hall of Fame, the White House Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Human Rights, being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, and an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Connecticut. She was actively involved in feminist organizing for the Copenhagen, Nairobi, and the Beijing World Conferences on Women as well as serving as a member of the International Advisory Committee for the Secretary General’s report on Violence Against Women. She serves on the Global Civil Society Advisory Group to UN Women. She has written numerous influential essays and authored Passionate Politics: Feminist Theory in Action and Demanding Accountability: The Global Campaign and Vienna Tribunal for Women’s Human Rights.

Corey Calabrese
Women and Justice Fellow, Avon Global Center for Women and Justice

Corey Calabrese is a Women and Justice Fellow at the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School. Before joining the Center, she was a Program Officer working on human trafficking and sexual violence at the international women’s rights organization, Equality Now, in both their New York and Nairobi offices. She was also previously a Program Manager at the Center for Court Innovation. She received her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law in 2010, where she was both a Crowley Scholar for Human Rights and Stein Scholar for Public Interest Law and Ethics, and her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame in 2006.

Hon. Cristina Camiña
Justice, Criminal Court (retired) and Associate Professor, Buenos Aires University, Argentina

Hon. Cristina Camiña is a retired Criminal Court judge and associate professor in Buenos Aires University, where she received a Medal of Honor for teaching. Hon. Camiña is a Founder Member and President of the Association of Women Judges in Argentina. She has attended many international conferences on women’s rights, where she lectured on trafficking for the Association in Legal Careers and at the OAS-sponsored Seminar on Human Trafficking. She also spoke on gender discrimination and trafficking at the Ninth Biennial conference of the International Association of Women Judges in 2008 and acted as a trainer in women’s human rights for workshops organized by the IAWJ in Buenos Aires, San Pablo, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Chile and Paraguay. She is an active member of a number of organizations that work on gender justice issues.

Hon. Swati Chauhan
Judge, Family Court, Mumbai, India

Hon. Swati Chauhan was the first judicial officer to preside over the newly created special court in Mumbai, which was specifically designed to hear cases under Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act, 1956 (ITPA). As Magistrate in the ITPA Court, she played a crucial role in ensuring justice for victims of sex trafficking and accountability for perpetrators. During her tenure, she worked tirelessly to increase victim sensitivity in legal proceedings, break the network of trafficker kingpins, incorporate innovative strategies, and improve the public justice system. At present she is posted as Family Court Judge in Mumbai, India. The U.S. State Department named Judge Chauhan a 2011 TIP (Trafficking in Persons) Hero, for her dedication to combat human trafficking. Judge Chauhan set an example as a leader against sex-trafficking and made the ITPA Court in India a model for others in world to follow. Judge Chauhan was honored by the Rotary club of Bombay West with “Vocational excellence award” for 2012-13.
Hon. Joan Churchill

*Judge, Immigration Court for Washington, D.C. (retired)*

Hon. Joan Churchill served for close to 25 years as an Immigration Judge for the Immigration Court for Washington DC/Arlington, VA. The Immigration Court, housed in the United States Department of Justice, is charged with hearing all types of removal hearings, and asylum/refugee cases make up a large portion of the caseload. Many of the cases involve violence against women and children. Judge Churchill recently completed her term as President of the National Association of Women Judges [NAWJ] and remains on its Board. During Judge Churchill’s term as President, NAWJ issued two position statements endorsing reauthorization of the United States Violence Against Women Act. She was privileged to attend the Presidential signing of the reauthorization Act, after Congress ultimately passed it earlier this year. Judge Churchill’s years on the Immigration Court included five terms as a Temporary Member of the Board of Immigration Appeals. Her prior experience included working on immigration policy with the Interagency Task Force on Immigration Reform and the Select Commission on Immigration Reform, serving on the staff of the Board of Immigration Appeals as a decision writer, and several years as a naturalization examiner. A native of Washington DC, Judge Churchill and her husband Anthony are the parents of 7 grown children and 5 grandchildren.

Cindy Dyer

*Vice President, Human Rights, Vital Voices Global Partnership*

Cindy Dyer serves as the Vice President of Human Rights at Vital Voices Global Partnership where she leads the organization’s efforts to address all forms of violence against women. Cindy specializes in working with women leaders to develop effective legal frameworks that address sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking. Prior to joining Vital Voices in 2009, she served as the Director of the United States Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women where she served as the liaison between the Department of Justice and Federal, State, and International governments on crimes involving violence against women. Cindy was nominated to this position by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate. Cindy has extensive international training experience and has worked in more than a dozen countries to improve the criminal justice system’s response to gender-based violence. She was a specialized domestic and sexual violence prosecutor for 13 years and has received numerous awards and recognition for her service to victims. Cindy served for 10 years as a member of the Public Policy Committee of the Texas Council on Family Violence and she was a weekly hotline volunteer for 9 years at a shelter for battered women and their children.

Bahaa Ezzelarab

*Legal Advisor, North African Initiative, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights*

Bahaa Ezzelarab is a Legal Adviser of the North African Litigation Initiative of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights. He is currently involved in strategic human rights litigation before the human rights mechanisms of the African Union. Prior to this, Bahaa worked at Baker & McKenzie in Toronto, focusing on mergers and acquisitions both from the antitrust/competition and the transactional side. Bahaa has also worked as a legal assistant at the Cairo Office of the International Finance Corporation, the World Bank’s private sector arm. Bahaa received his Juris Doctor from the University of Toronto, an LL.M degree from the School of Oriental and African Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from the American University in Cairo. Bahaa received the Arthur C. Helton Fellowship from the American Society of International Law in 2009. He is conversant in German, has completed an Abitur German certificate, and has strong working knowledge in Arabic. Bahaa was called to the Ontario Bar in June 2012.

Hon. Mel Flanagan

*Judge, Wisconsin Circuit Court*

Hon. Mel Flanagan was appointed a Judge in the Milwaukee County Circuit Court in 1993, and has since been elected to four- to six-year terms. She currently is the Chief Judge of the Milwaukee County Domestic Violence Courts and has previously presided over Juvenile, Dependency, Civil, Drug, General Felony, Homicide and Sexual Assault Courts. Judge Flanagan has extensive experience as a judicial educator in the State of Wisconsin and nationally, and teaches for the
Liesl Gernholtz

Executive Director, Women's Rights Division, Human Rights Watch

Liesl Gerntholtz is the executive director of the women's rights division at Human Rights Watch. She is an expert on women's rights in Africa and has worked and written extensively on violence against women and HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa. Her work at Human Rights Watch has included documenting access to safe and legal abortion in Ireland and sexual and gender-based violence in Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake. Before joining Human Rights Watch, Liesl worked for some of the key constitutional institutions promoting human rights and democracy in a post-apartheid South Africa, including the South African Human Rights Commission and the Commission on Gender Equality. A lawyer by training, she was involved in high-profile, strategic human rights litigation to promote women and children's rights, including a case that changed the definition of rape in South Africa.

Hon. Ellen Gesmer

Justice, Supreme Court of the State of New York

Hon. Ellen Gesmer is a New York State Supreme Court Justice and has presided over divorces and other family matters since 2006, first in the Bronx and now in Manhattan. When she first became a judge in 2004, she sat in Civil Court and then in Criminal Court. From 1987 until 2003, Justice Gesmer was a partner in a small law firm, where she specialized in matrimonial and family law cases, and also represented victims of sexual assault. She began her career as a civil legal service lawyer, and then taught in the Child Advocacy Program at the University of Michigan Law School. Justice Gesmer lectures frequently to judges, attorneys and law students about family law, domestic violence and trial practice. In 2009, she chaired a program on domestic violence in Havana in conjunction with the annual conference of the American Association of Jurists. In 2012, she taught family court judges in Ghana in a program sponsored by Lawyers Without Borders. Justice Gesmer was a member of the African Affairs Committee of the City Bar Association and the legal advisory committee of Sanctuary for Families. She graduated from Harvard College summa cum laude and from Yale Law School.

Barbara Holden-Smith

Vice-Dean and Professor of Law, Cornell Law School

Barbara Holden-Smith is Vice Dean, Professor of Law and Director of the 2008 Summer Law Institute in Suzhou, China at Cornell Law School and a member of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice Steering Committee. Dean Holden-Smith, recognized for her groundbreaking work in Supreme Court history and practice, currently teaches conflicts, federal courts, civil procedure, advanced civil procedure and African Americans and the Supreme Court. After her graduation from the University of Chicago Law School, she spent a year in an Illinois law firm and then entered a clerkship with the Hon. Ann C. Williams of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Professor Holden-Smith then joined the Washington, D.C. law firm of Arnold & Porter, where she worked for three years in litigation, antitrust, and food and drug law, before she joined the Cornell Law School Faculty in 1990. Her scholarship has addressed the legal response to lynching and the fugitive-slave cases. Her scholarly interests include global access to justice, and legal and political responses to historical injustices.
Deena Hurwitz

Clinical Professor and Director of the Human Rights Program and International Human Rights Law Clinic, University of Virginia School of Law

Deena Hurwitz is a clinical Professor at the University of Virginia School of Law and director of the Human Rights Program and International Human Rights Law Clinic. She and her Clinic students coordinated a national network of advocates prior to the UN SRVAW's USA mission. The network produced five briefing papers, including VAW in custodial settings, domestic violence, in the military, gun violence, and the due diligence standard as it applies to US government obligations. Her Clinic also supported the SRVAW in her work on re-conceptualizing state responsibility. They contributed to an international criminal tribunal assessment of the legacy of jurisprudence on sexual violence; and analyzed the Iraqi Penal Code for gender provisions (and omissions), highlighting specific issues and recommending changes for compliance with international standards. Professor Hurwitz' interest in Islamic law led her to Musawah, a network of Muslim feminists working to empower women to ensure that laws and practices promote equality and justice in the family. Her students wrote a concept paper, Muslim Women through a Human Rights Lens: A Human Rights-based analysis of the concepts of qiwama and wilayah and drafted another paper on the convergence of human rights and Islamic ethical principles, and practical implications of qiwama and wilaya. Professor Hurwitz is teaching a seminar this spring on State Responsibility and Gender Justice.

Hon. Laura L. Jacobson

Justice, Kings County Supreme Court, Civil Term, State of New York

Hon. Laura L. Jacobson is a life-long resident of Brooklyn, New York. She attended Brooklyn College of the City University and then Brooklyn Law School, where she graduated in the top ten of her class. Justice Jacobson was admitted to the Bar in the State of New York and worked in Albany, New York for the Public Utility Law Project. Thereafter, she became a Law Clerk for the Honorable Elliott Wilk in the Civil Court of the City of New York. While clerking, Justice Jacobson became an adjunct professor at Marymount Manhattan College teaching Business Law. In 1981, she joined with Marilyn Rinsler and formed the Law Firm of Rinsler & Jacobson representing clients in a general civil practice of law. In 1989, she formed and became a partner in Weiss & Jacobson and continued practicing law until she was elected to the Civil Court of the City of New York in 1990. After becoming a Judge, Justice Jacobson joined the National Association of Women Judges where she held various offices, including president of the New York State Chapter. Justice Jacobson continues to be active in the Women in Prison project of NAWJ and is a member of the American Judges Association, the Brooklyn Bar Association, the Brooklyn Women’s Bar Association and the National Lawyers Guild.

Hon. Marcy L. Kahn

Justice, Supreme Court of the State of New York

Hon. Marcy L. Kahn is a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York and has served as a trial judge in New York for the past 25 years. Previously, she was a litigation partner and associate with major NYC law firms. Prior to that, she was a Special Assistant Attorney General in the Office of the NY State Special Prosecutor handling corruption prosecutions. Since its inception ten years ago, Justice Kahn has co-chaired the New York Tribal Courts Committee, which launched the New York Federal-State-Tribal Courts and Indian Nations Justice Forum. In 2006, Justice Kahn chaired The First New York Listening Conference, and has since served on the faculty of the National Tribal Judicial College and as a speaker for the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Affairs on State-Tribal cooperation. Justice Kahn was an invited participant at the Global Forum for Women and Justice conferences convened by the U.S. Department of State and the International Association of Women Judges and was a delegate to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women in 2009 on behalf of the IAWJ. Justice Kahn received her B.A. from Stanford University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law.

Sital Kalantry

Clinical Professor and Director of the International Human Rights Law Clinic, University of Chicago Law School

Sital Kalantry is a Clinical Professor at the University of Chicago Law School where she founded and is director of the International Human Rights Clinic. She has extensive experience working on and supervising projects that utilize litigation
and non-litigation strategies to promote international human rights, particularly women's rights and economic, social, and cultural rights. She has testified before the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights, submitted party and amicus briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court and U.S. Federal Appellate Courts, European Court of Human Rights, Indian High Courts, and the Colombian Constitutional Court, has lead fact-finding teams on several trips to India, Colombia, and Argentina to conduct research in connection with the publication of human rights reports, and has worked with non-governmental organizations to produce training manuals, including a manual for judges on fair trial rights. She received a Fulbright-Nehru Senior Research Scholar grant to conduct research in India on the use and impact of public interest litigation. Her works have been published in, among other places, the Human Rights Quarterly, the National Law Journal, and the Stanford Journal of International Law.

Hon. Ayşe Işıl Karakaş
Judge, European Court of Human Rights

Hon. Ayşe Işıl Karakaş has been a Judge at the European Court of Human Rights since May 2008. She has been Vice-President of Section II of the ECHR as of November 2013. Hon. Karakas has been a Visiting Professor at Aix-Marseille III, Reims, Montpellier II, and Strasbourg Robert Schuman and was Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Law at Galatasaray University between 2004 and 2008. Previously, she was Head of the Public International Law department and Director of the Research and Documentation Center on Europe at Galatasaray University. Hon. Karakas holds a Master’s in Public Law from Istanbul University, a Master’s in European Law from Nancy II University, and a doctorate in Public Law from Istanbul University.

Hon. Virginia Kendall
U.S. District Court Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Hon. Virginia Kendall was appointed to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois in January, 2006. She currently serves on the Judicial Conference of the United States Codes of Conduct Committee, and has sat by designation with the Seventh, Ninth, and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal. At the time of her appointment, she was serving as a Deputy Chief of the United States Attorney’s Office in Chicago, where she had been working as a prosecutor for more than ten years. Judge Kendall is the co-author of *Child Exploitation and Trafficking: Examining the Global Challenges and the U.S. Responses*. She teaches law at University of Chicago School of Law, Northwestern University Law School, and Loyola University School of Law. Judge Kendall is the author of several law journal articles on a variety of topics, including child molestation statutes, human trafficking, and community reform projects. She currently lectures extensively in the areas of human trafficking, child exploitation, ethics, and victims’ rights. Judge Kendall has traveled through the State Department and Lawyers Without Borders to Kenya, Zambia, Liberia, and Cyprus to teach judges about public corruption, crimes against women and human trafficking. She received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Northwestern University and her J.D. from Loyola University School of Law.

Hon. Meera Khadka
Judge, Appellate Court, Butwal, Nepal

Hon. Meera Khadka is a judge of the Appellate Court in Butwal, Nepal, and the Chairperson of the Foreign Employment Tribunal. Married with two children, she is one of the most senior women Judges in the country. After she completed her Masters degree in 1981, she practiced law and worked as an assistant lecturer for a few years before entering the judicial service as a bench assistant in the Supreme Court of Nepal until 1990. Hon. Khadka was then appointed as district judge and worked in various district courts in Nepal until 2006. Since 2006, she has worked as a Judge in one of the 16 Appellate courts in Nepal. As a number of Nepalese citizens go abroad for employment, the government has set up a separate tribunal court to address cases related to foreign employment. In 2011, she was also appointed as the chairperson of this tribunal. Hon. Khanda was a member of the International Association of Women Judges and participated in its various conferences held in London, Hague and New Delhi. She also participated in various conferences and training programs held by different institutions in Philippines, Spain, Australia and Korea.
Hon. Judy Harris Kluger

Chief of Policy and Planning for New York State’s Unified Court System

Hon. Judy Harris Kluger is Chief of Policy and Planning for New York State’s Unified Court System. Since her appointment as Chief in March 2009, she has been responsible for working with judges throughout the state to study and develop policies and strategies to improve the delivery of justice in New York. Judge Kluger also oversees Grants and Problem-Solving Courts around the state. These Courts include Integrated Domestic Violence Courts, Domestic Violence Courts and Sex Offense Courts. From 2003 to 2009, Judge Kluger served as Deputy Chief Administrative Judge for Court Operations and Planning (DCAJ). As DCAJ, Judge Kluger initially oversaw statewide implementation of Integrated Domestic Violence Courts (IDV). Previously, Judge Kluger was the Administrative Judge of the New York City Criminal Court, where she developed specialized approaches for domestic violence and drug cases and brought a problem-solving and innovative approach to court operations and administration. Prior to that, she was a key member of the development team at the Midtown Community Court, the nation’s first community court. Judge Kluger is an active member of numerous professional associations, committees and advisory boards and is a frequent speaker and panelist. In 1999, Judge Kluger received an award from the Mayor of the City of New York for outstanding leadership in breaking the cycle of domestic violence. In March of 2004, she was honored by the Lawyers Committee Against Domestic Violence with the In the Trenches Award. In October 2004, she received the Abely Award for Leading Women and Children to Safety.

Hon. Martha Koome

Judge, Court of Appeal, Kenya

Hon. Martha Koome was appointed Judge of the Court of Appeal in January 2012. Prior to her appointment to the Court of Appeal, she served as Puine Judge for over eight years and practiced law for fifteen years. Judge Koome has a total of twenty six years’ experience both as a legal practitioner and a Judge of the High Court an as Judge of Appeal. She began her legal career in private practice in 1988, where she succeeded in running one of the most successful women law firms at the time. Her clientele included Public Sector Companies, Non-Governmental Organizations, Insurance firms and Commercial Banks. While in private practice, Judge Koome distinguished herself as a defender of Human Rights concentrating specifically on Gender Rights. She represented political detainees and persons charged with politically instigated offences during the volatile period of one party rule. She was one of the lawyers who actively participated in the clamor for the repeal of section 2A of the Constitution and for the Independence of the judiciary. She is a member of the Hague Network on International Family Law and has participated in the Senior Round Table Conference of Senior Women in the Judiciaries from inception. She is married and is a mother of 3 adult children. She holds an LL.B. from the University of Nairobi and an LL.M in Public International Law from the University of London.

Carol Kurzig

President, The Avon Foundation for Women

Carol Kurzig is President of The Avon Foundation for Women, which was created in 1955 to improve the lives of women. It is now the leading corporate-affiliated philanthropy concentrating on women’s causes, having donated almost $1 billion globally to women’s programs. She is responsible for the development and implementation of the Foundation’s strategic mission, its fund-raising and grant-making programs. These include the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade, as well as Avon’s women’s empowerment programs, with an emphasis on preventing domestic violence and assisting victims and their families through its Speak Out Against Domestic Violence initiative. Avon raises funds and awareness for its causes in over 50 countries. More than 6 million Avon global representatives have raised and donated more than $370 million from the sale of Avon fund raising products alone. Prior to joining Avon, Carol served as President of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society’s New York City Chapter and Director of Public Services and Assistant to the President at The Foundation Center, a center for information on foundations, nonprofits and grants. She was a Director and Board Chairman of the Support Center for Nonprofit Management, and currently serves on the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee Board of Directors.
Lenora Lapidus

Director, Women’s Rights Project, American Civil Liberties Union

Lenora Lapidus is the Director of the Women’s Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union. She litigates gender discrimination cases in federal and state courts throughout the country, engages in public policy advocacy, participates in international human rights mechanisms, and speaks on gender equity issues in the media and to the public. She won a unanimous ruling from the Supreme Court in AMP v. Myriad Genetics, and won a landmark victory from the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, in Jessica Lenahan (formerly Gonzales) v. U.S., resulting in recommendations for policy changes to prevent and remedy violence against women. In addition, Ms. Lapidus is currently spearheading the launch of a national state- and federal-based Campaign to ensure women’s equal pay. Ms. Lapidus has taught as an adjunct professor at Seton Hall Law School, Rutgers Law School, and Rutgers University. She is the lead author of *The Rights of Women* and has written book chapters and law review articles on a range of topics. Ms. Lapidus previously held positions at the ACLU of New Jersey, the John J. Gibbons Fellowship in Public Interest and Constitutional Law at Gibbons Law Firm, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and clerked for the Honorable Richard Owen in the U.S. District Court for the SDNY. Ms. Lapidus serves on the Advisory Committee of the Women’s Rights Division of Human Rights Watch, the Association for Women in Development (AWID), and the Grants Advisory Committee of the New York Women's Foundation. She has received several fellowships and awards, including the Wasserstein Fellowship from Harvard Law School for outstanding public interest lawyers. She graduated *cum laude* from Harvard Law School (1990) and *summa cum laude* from Cornell University (1985).

Hon. Lucie LaVigne

Justice, Court of Queen’s Bench of New Brunswick, Canada

Hon. Lucie LaVigne was born in Bathurst, New Brunswick, Canada. She practiced law from 1980 to 2001. In 2001, she was appointed to the New Brunswick’s Court of Queen’s Bench, where she presides over criminal and civil matters. Justice LaVigne was elected President of the Canadian Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges and elected International Director representing North America on the IAWJ Board. She attended a number of IAWJ Biennial International Conferences, most recently *Keeping Safe, Keeping Well* in London, England in 2012. She has been on the organising committee of National Biennial Conferences held in Canada organised jointly by the CClAIWJ and the National Judicial Institute such as: 2007 in Toronto Ont. *Emerging Issues Conference: Why Gender Still matters*; 2009 in Ottawa Ont. *Women, Girls and the Justice System: Convergence, Divergence and Intersection*; 2011 in Vancouver, B.C. *Judging Women: Aging, Mental health and Culture*; 2013 in Montreal, PQ. *Living at the Margins*. In 2008 she attended the NJI’s program for judges interested in international opportunities. In 2011 she attended the Seventh Sir Richard May Seminar on International Law and International Courts held in The Hague Netherlands. Married to Paul Albert, she has two children.

Hon. Liling Lee

Judge, Family Division, Taipei District Court, Taiwan

Hon. Liling Lee was appointed to the bench of the Taipei District Court (TDC) in 1996. In 2001, she was a visiting researcher at Columbia Law School. She was appointed as the Section Chief at the Civil Department of the Judicial Yuan in 2003, promoted as a supervisor primarily responsible for civil law research and bill-drafting. In 2006, she was appointed as a judge in the Family Division of TDC. In 2009, she received a full stipend to study in the Domestic Violence Batterer’s Intervention Program at Berkeley Law School where she completed her LL.M. She resumed her career as a judge in the Family Division in 2010, and she has been invited to give lectures on family issues to law students and prospective attorneys by National Taipei University and Taiwan Bar Association. In 2012, while still a judge in the Family Division, she became a member of the Draft-Making Committee on Family Law of the Ministry of Justice, whose goal is to revise the family portion of the Civil Code. She is a member of the JSD program at Berkeley Law School, where her studies focus on family law.
Hon. Avril Lovelace-Johnson

*Judge, Court of Appeal, Ghana*

Hon. Avril Lovelace-Johnson is currently a Court of Appeal Judge, having started as a Grade II Magistrate. She studied for Bachelor of Laws (BL) in Ghana School of Law, LLB (Hons) in the University of Ghana, Legon and was called to the Ghana Bar in 1987. As a Court of Appeal Judge since October 2012, Hon. Lovelace-Johnson has the jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals against a judgment or order of the High Court and jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals against a judgment or order from the lower courts. From December 2002 to September, 2012, she was a High Court Judge, and was on assignment for the Commonwealth Secretariat as a High Court Judge of the Gambia for four years. She worked previously as an Assistant State Attorney. Hon. Lovelace-Johnson has a special interest in Sexual and Reproductive Rights of Women and has delivered several papers on the subject. She has served in various capacities in the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana (PPAG), the Association of Judges and Magistrates, Ghana and the International Association of Women Judges. She has two children, aged 19 and 16.

Hon. James Aaron Makau

*Justice, High Court of Kenya at Meru*

Hon. James Aaron Makau, an accomplished career lawyer, was admitted to the Roll of Advocates in 1978 and began his practice in the firm of Kivuitu & Company Advocates, a general practice law firm. He then left and established a partnership under the name and style of Kioko & Makau Advocates. Upon dissolution of the partnership he established the firm of J.A Makau & Company Advocates, managing the practice for 29 years. In August 2011 he was appointed to the bench as a Judge of the High Court of Kenya and was posted to the High Court at Meru. He handled the well-known case *High Court Petition No. 8 of 2012*, which related to the State’s negligence with regard to violence against women. Hon. Justice Makau is member of various professional organizations which include: The Law Society of Kenya, The East African Law Society, International Commission of Jurists and the Kituo Cha Sheria. He was previously the Chairman of the Law Society of Kenya Council, Machakos and Kitui Branch. Hon. Justice Makau is also undertaking a Master’s Degree program at the University of Nairobi in Project Planning and Management (M.A.P.P.M) and is scheduled to graduate in the course of next year.

Rashida Manjoo

*UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences*

Rashida Manjoo is the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and holds a part-time post as a Professor in the Department of Public Law of the University of Cape Town and. She is the former Parliamentary commissioner of the Commission on Gender Equality (CGE), a constitutional body mandated to oversee the promotion and protection of gender equality. Prior to being appointed to the CGE she was involved in social context training for judges and lawyers, where she has designed both content and methodology during her time at the Law, Race, and Gender Research Unit, University of Cape Town and at the University of Natal, Durban. She has held numerous visiting professorships including most recently at the University of Virginia, United States. She served as the Des Lee Distinguished Visiting Professor at Webster University, U.S.A., where she taught courses in human rights, with a particular focus on women's human rights and transitional justice. She was the Eleanor Roosevelt Fellow with the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School (2006-07) and also a clinical instructor in the program in 2005-6.

Hon. La Tia W. Martin

*Supervising Judge-Matrimonials, New York State Supreme Court, Bronx County*

Hon. La Tia W. Martin graduated from Boston University School of Management with a Bachelor of Science Degree and graduated from the Rutgers University School of Law with her Juris Doctor degree. Upon graduation from law school, Judge Martin was appointed as an Assistant District Attorney with the Bronx County District Attorney’s Office. She prosecuted criminal cases in both the criminal and supreme courts. In 1990, Judge Martin was appointed General Counsel for the New York City Office of the Sheriff. Judge Martin was appointed to the Criminal Court bench in 1995, where she presided over all
criminal matters. In 1996, Judge Martin was assigned to the Bronx County Criminal Court Domestic Violence Part. This specialized court provided counseling services and enhanced resources to both the victims and defendants. As a result of the success of the Domestic Violence Court and the proactive role of the judiciary in the State of New York, it was designated as the domestic violence model for the entire City of New York. In 2003, Judge Martin was elected to the Bronx County Supreme Court. Justice Martin initially presided over the sole matrimonial part in the Bronx County Supreme Court deciding issues relating to domestic violence, support, equitable distribution of property, custody and visitation. In 2009, Justice Martin was appointed to the position of Supervising Judge of the Matrimonial Division of Bronx County. Judge Martin is the 29th President of the National Association of Women Judges. In addition, since 2009 she has served as an adjunct faculty member of the Pace University School of Law. Judge Martin established the Summer Justice Academy for Young Women which introduced promising under-served female students to the study of law in 2009.

Hon. Sauda Mjasiri

Justice, Court of Appeal, Tanzania

Hon. Sauda Mjasiri was appointed to the Court of Appeal, the highest court in Tanzania, in February 2008. Prior to serving on the Court of Appeal, she served on the High Court for four years, both in the Main Registry and the Commercial Division. From 1998-2004, she served in various capacities at the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank, including as Executive Assistant to the President and Senior Legal Officer. She established and directed a Compliance Unit at the Bank from 2002-04. Before that, Justice Mjasiri worked as an attorney for twenty years for the Tanzania Legal Corporation, with years of experience in trial and appellate litigation, including providing voluntary legal services to women. She is a member of the Constitutional Study Group of the Judiciary.

Muna Ndulo

Professor of Law and Director of the Institute for African Development, Cornell Law School

Muna Ndulo is a Professor of Law at Cornell Law School, Director of the Cornell University’s Institute for African Development and a member of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice Steering Committee. He is Honorary Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town and Extraordinary Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, Free State University. He was formerly Professor of Law and Dean of the School of Law, University of Zambia. He served as Legal Officer in the International Trade Law Brach of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) from 1986 to 1995. He also served as Political and Legal Adviser with the United Nations Mission Observer Mission in South Africa (UNOMSA) and to the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General to South Africa 1992-1994; Legal Adviser to the United Nations Assistance Mission to EAST Timor (UNAMET)-1999, Legal Expert, United Nations Mission to Kosovo (UNAMI) (2000) and Legal Expert to the United Nations Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA) (2003). He has acted as consultant to the African Development Bank (ADB), World Bank, ECA, UNDP, ND GIF and IDLO. He has acted as consultant to the Kenya 2010 Constitutional Process, Zimbabwe Constitutional Process, Somalia and Sudan. He is founder of the Southern African Institute for Public Policy and Research (SAIPAR). He is a member of the Advisory Committee, Human Rights Watch, (Africa) and Chairperson of Gender Links, a South African NGO. He has published 14 books and over 80 articles in academic journals.

Robin Phillips

Executive Director, The Advocates for Human Rights

Robin Phillips is the Executive Director of The Advocates for Human Rights. She formerly served as the Director of the Women’s Human Rights Program and the Deputy Director of the organization. She has written extensively about human rights, including trafficking in women, employment discrimination, sexual harassment and domestic violence. She has taught courses on human rights at the University of Minnesota Law School and University of St. Thomas Law School. Robin has organized international conferences and trainings on human rights and NGO development issues. She has conducted fact-finding missions to document human rights violations throughout Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, as well as Nepal and Mexico. She also led delegations to Ghana and Liberia as part of The Advocates’ work with
Liberia’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Prior to Minnesota Advocates, Robin practiced law with the firm of Briggs and Morgan in St. Paul, Minnesota. She received her law degree from Northwestern University School of Law and her B.A., magna cum laude, from Pepperdine University.

**Hon. Kantharuby Pillay**  
*Judge, High Court of South Africa*

Hon. Kantharuby (Kate) Pillay has been a High Court Judge in South Africa since 2004. She was the President of the South African chapter of the International Association of Women Judges from 2008 to 2010. She holds an LL.B. from the University of Kwazulu-Natal, Durban-Westville, a diploma in Constitutional Litigation and Human Rights Law from Lund University, and a certificate in Social Context Facilitation from the University of Cape Town. She is the Assistant Secretary for the National Association of Democratic Lawyers, and acts as a Mentor in the Aspirant Women Judges Programme. Hon. Pillay has extensive training experience and is a National trainer for the Law, Race & Gender Unit at UCT, and in Social Context Education. She also lectures at the School for Legal Practise and the Law Society of South Africa’s Aspirant Judges Programme. Hon. Pillay is a Member of the KwaZulu-Natal Selection Committee for Appointment of Magistrates and Judges, and a Member of the Canada Justice Linkage Project on Continuing Judicial Education. She also acts as an External Examiner for the LL.M. program at the University of Kwazulu-Natal.

**Mónica Roa**  
*Programs Director, Women’s Link Worldwide*

Mónica Roa studied law at University of Los Andes in Bogotá Colombia, and holds an LL.M from NYU. She started researching the role of judges to promote women’s rights in 2000 when she worked as a Fellow attorney at the Center for Reproductive Rights. She then co-edited Bodies on Trial: Reproductive Rights in Latin American Courts. In 2003 she started the Gender Justice Project with the support of NYU as a Global Public Service Fellow, researching strategies to work with judges in one country per region of the world, including Spain, Poland, South Africa, Thailand, Australia and Colombia. All her findings were used to design the programmatic work at Women’s Link Worldwide, an international organization with offices in Bogotá and Madrid, where she currently acts as Programs Director. From Women’s Link Ms. Roa has developed her ideas regarding the judiciary as a pivotal branch in democratic societies and has worked to foster greater dialogue between civil society and the courts on how to interpret rights from a gender perspective. She is about to publish an article on Courts as a site for social change, the case of gender equality. Her contributions to the field have awarded her accolades including ‘person of the year’ in 2006. In 2011 she was awarded as one of the ten best leaders of Colombia and in 2013 she received the first Global Fund for Women’s Women Human Rights Award.

**Hon. Barbara Rothstein**  
*United States District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington*

Hon. Barbara Rothstein most recently served as Director of the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C. from 2003-2011. She was previously Chief Judge of the Western District of Washington. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Cornell University and attended Harvard Law School where she was the winning oralist in the Ames Moot Court competition. After law school she practiced law with a private firm in Boston and with the Consumer Protection and Antitrust Division of the State of Washington’s Attorney General’s office. Judge Rothstein taught trial practice at the University of Washington Law School and mediation at Duke Law School. Before her appointment to the federal bench in 1980, she served as a King County Superior Court judge for the State of Washington. Judge Rothstein has trained judges and lawyers in many countries helping to improve the rule of law and the role of an independent judiciary. She has served on a variety of committees including the Federal-State Relations Committee of the United States Judicial Conference and the Ninth Circuit Standing Committee on Gender, Race, Religious and Ethnic Fairness. Judge Rothstein is a frequent lecturer and is a member of the American Law Institute. She serves on the Judicial Advisory Board of American Society of International Law (ASIL), the Board of the Rule of Law Initiative (ROLI) of the ABA, the Judicial Advisory Board of the Sedona Conference®; the Board of the Institute of Judicial Administration (IJA) at NYU Law School and the Board of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School.
Hon. John C. Rowley
Judge, Tompkins County and Family Court

Hon. John C. Rowley is a graduate of Cornell University and the S.U.N.Y Buffalo School of Law. He was first elected to his current position, Tompkins County Judge, Family Court Judge and Surrogate, in 2000, and re-elected in 2010. He was appointed an Acting Supreme Court Justice in 2003. In addition to his criminal court and family court caseload, he presides in four specialty courts: the Family Treatment Court, the Felony Drug Court, the Sex Offense Compliance Court, and the Integrated Domestic Violence Court Part of Supreme Court. Judge Rowley lectures widely on issues of domestic violence, vicarious trauma and other legal topics. He is the co-chair of the NYSBA Judicial Wellness Committee and the co-chair of the ABA Judicial Assistance Committee. His most recent presentations have included: Featured presenter at the 2011 Annual Conference of Chief Judges and Court; plenary presenter at the 2011 Gender Violence in South Asia conference held in New Delhi, India; panel member for a presentation at the American Judges Association 2012 Conference on Multi-Jurisdictional Judging held in New Orleans, Louisiana; and featured presenter at the 2012 Council of Chief Judges of the State Courts of Appeal Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas on the topic of Judicial Assistance.

Dr. Joseph Salim
President and Co-Founder, Virtue Foundation

Dr. Salim is Founder and Executive Director of Virtue Foundation working tirelessly to raise awareness of prevalent humanitarian issues and to motivate people of all ages and backgrounds to become actively involved in charitable activities and programs in their local communities. He practices cosmetic and general dentistry as President of Sutton Place Dental Associates. He completed a postgraduate program in biogenetics and cancer research at the University of Nice in Southern France, received a Doctorate in Dental Medicine from Temple University, and completed post-doctorate training at the Lutheran Medical Center in New York. Dr. Salim sits on the board of several multinational companies and charitable organizations, including The Nour Foundation and the French Institute Alliance Francaise, and also serves on various committees of several other nonprofit organizations, including the Asia Society and Witness. He also lectures on ethical issues in dentistry and healthcare. He has been instrumental in inspiring both children and high school students to develop their civic leadership skills and to participate in various volunteer and externship programs at the United Nations, including the rehabilitation of child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Stewart J. Schwab
Allan R. Tessler Dean and Professor of Law, Cornell Law School

Stewart J. Schwab was appointed the Allan R. Tessler Dean of Cornell Law School on January 1, 2004. He has been a member of the Cornell Law School faculty since 1983. A native of North Carolina, he obtained his J.D. as well as a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Michigan. Before joining the Cornell faculty, Dean Schwab clerked for Judge J. Dickson Phillips, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and then for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor of the United States Supreme Court. Dean Schwab is a leading scholar in economic analysis of law and in employment law. He is currently a Reporter for the American Law Institute’s Restatement of Employment Law, and in 2008 was named by Human Resource Executive as one of the 50 most powerful employment attorneys in America. He is a Board member of the Society of American Law Deans, and a member of the Society of Empirical Legal Studies and the American Law and Economics Association. Dean Schwab is a popular teacher, having taught many courses in the curriculum, including Torts, Contracts, Corporations, Employment Law, Labor Law, and Empirical Legal Studies, among others.

Hon. Joanna Seybert
U.S. District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York

Judge Joanna Seybert was appointed as a federal judge on January 12, 1994, after nominations by Presidents George H.W. Bush and William J. Clinton. She sits in the Eastern District of New York and prior to her federal service, served as a Nassau County District Court Judge from 1987 to 1991 and as a Nassau County Court Judge from January 1992 through December of 1993. Prior to becoming a judge, Judge Seybert worked as a trial attorney at the Nassau County Attorney's Office, at the Federal Defender Services, and at the New York City Legal Aid Society. She is a graduate of St. John's
University School of Law and a lifetime director of the Alumni Association. She has served as an officer in the Federal Judge's Association and the International Association of Judges and presently serves as the International Association of Judges' representative to the United Nations of New York. Currently, Judge Seybert is a member of the U.S. Judicial Conference's International Judicial Relations Committee, having been appointed by Chief Justice John G. Roberts. She is also on the Steering Committee for the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School.

Lynn Hecht Schafran

Director, National Judicial Education Program to Promote Equality for Women and Men in the Courts, Legal Momentum

Lynn Hecht Schafran, Esq. is an internationally recognized attorney specializing in gender discrimination law and Director since 1981 of the National Judicial Education Program to Promote Equality for Women and Men in the Courts (NJEP), a project of Legal Momentum in cooperation with the National Association of Women Judges. She has designed several model judicial education curricula and presented courses for national, state and federal judicial colleges. Much of Lynn’s work focuses on adult victim sexual assault. She is co-author of a two-day judicial education curriculum, Understanding Sexual Violence: The Judicial Response to Stranger and Nonstranger Rape and Sexual Assault, presented across the country. She is co-author of an interactive web course on the intersection of domestic violence and sexual assault, Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse: Adjudicating This Hidden Dimension of Domestic Violence Case. She is co-author of Judges Tell: What I Wish I Had Known Before I Presided in an Adult Victim Sexual Assault Case. Her work to eliminate bias in the courts has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Distinguished Service Award of the National Association of Women Judges, the American Law Institute-American Bar Association Award for Outstanding Achievement in Post-Admission Legal Education, and the American Bar Association Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award.

Naureen Shameem

Women and Justice Fellow, Avon Global Center for Women and Justice

Naureen Shameem is a Women and Justice Fellow at the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School. Naureen received an LL.M. from Harvard Law School, where she participated in the International Human Rights clinic and served as an articles editor for the Harvard International Law Journal, and an LL.B. from University College London. She was previously the Harvard Law Public Service Fellow at the international women’s rights organization Women Living Under Muslim Laws, where she coordinated the global Stop Stoning Women campaign, and a legal researcher for the International Labor Organization. Naureen worked with INTERIGHTS on women’s human rights and with the Human Dignity Trust on strategic litigation. She has interned at Human Rights Watch’s Legal and Policy division and was a refugee caseworker with the Women in Crisis unit at the British Red Cross.

Leigh Swigart

Director of Programs in International Justice and Society, International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life, Brandeis University

Leigh Swigart oversees the Brandeis Institute for International Judges and the Brandeis Judicial Colloquia, as well as other programs for members of the judicial and human rights communities worldwide. She is the co-author of ‘The International Judge: An Introduction to the Men and Women Who Decide the World’s Cases’. Her academic work and publications have focused on international judges, language use in post-colonial Africa and recent African immigration and refugee resettlement in the U.S. She has wide experience in international education, including a tenure as director of the West African Research Center in Dakar, Senegal, and she has worked in the field of international literacy and indigenous language promotion. Holding a PhD in sociocultural anthropology from the University of Washington, Swigart is a two-time Fulbright Scholar and recipient of the Wenner-Gren Foundation Fellowship for Anthropological Research. In late October 2013, Leigh organized, in collaboration with Physicians for Human Rights, a judicial colloquium for international and Congolese judges focused on adjudicating cases of sexual violence.
Hon. Barbara Naadja Tetteh-Charway

Judge, High Court, Ghana

Hon. Barbara Tetteh-Charway has been a member of the Ghanaian judiciary since August 2009, first as a Circuit Court judge and, since August 2013, as a High Court judge. She is currently studying for an LL.M. degree in International Law and Justice at Fordham Law School in New York City, USA. Judge Tetteh-Charway coordinated the first ever meeting of stakeholders in the criminal justice system in the Eastern Region of Ghana and has contributed towards the development of sentencing guidelines for the Ghanaian judiciary. She participated in a Virtue Foundation jurist-in-residence program in New York and a Global Leadership of Women program in The Hague. Before joining the bench, she served as a state prosecutor for seven years. She was admitted to the Bar of Ghana in May 2002.

Hon. Ann Claire Williams

U.S. Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Hon. Ann Claire Williams was the first judge of color appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. She was previously appointed at the age of 35 to the United States District Court in Chicago where she became the youngest woman of color to serve on the federal bench. Williams was the first judge of color to serve as Court Administration and Case Management Committee Chair for the U.S. Judicial Conference and as president of the Federal Judges Association. She co-founded the Just The Beginning Foundation (JTBF), the Black Women Lawyers’ Association of Chicago, and Minority Legal Education Resources Inc. She also created the post-graduate legal fellowship program for Equal Justice Works and she has trained judges and lawyers throughout the U.S. and Africa. Williams was named one of 150 Fearless Women in the World by Newsweek Daily Beast in 2012, and received the 2009 American Judicature Society’s Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award. Williams serves on the Advisory Committee of JTBF and the boards of the Carnegie Foundation, the Museum of Science and Industry, the University of Notre Dame and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy. She received her master's degree from the University of Michigan and law degree from the University of Notre Dame. Before joining the federal bench, she was an Assistant United States Attorney in Chicago. She was also a law clerk to Seventh Circuit Judge Robert A. Sprecher.

Joan D. Winship

Executive Director, International Association of Women Judges

Joan D. Winship has been Executive Director of the International Association of Women Judges since June 2002. Under her leadership the IAWJ has been recognized for its judicial education programs and its work advancing human rights and equal justice for all, with programming throughout the world. Ms. Winship has many years of experience working on international issues, including international organizations, human rights, gender, and global higher education. Previously she was Advisor for Strategic Alliances for Vital Voices Global Partnership, Vice President at the Stanley Foundation, Director of Women Waging Peace, and a college administrator and professor. She has served as a consultant for rule of law and human rights programs in such diverse places as Afghanistan, Jordan, Bangladesh, Russia, and the Philippines. She is an active speaker on international human rights, gender and equal justice. She served on UN Women’s Expert Advisory Group for its biennial Progress of the World’s Women 2011-12: In the Pursuit of Justice Report. Ms. Winship is on the Executive Council for the International Legal Assistance Consortium and a former Trustee of the American University of Rome. Ms. Winship received higher education degrees from Western Maryland (McDaniel) College and the University of Pennsylvania. She has received a number of honors for her international work, including the “Judicial Medal of Merit of José de Mesquito” by the Judiciary of MatoGrosso State, Brazil, for “contributions to the judiciary and to justice for all.”

Hon. Claire Wu

Judge, Taipei District Court, Taiwan

Hon. Claire Wu (Chia-hua Wu) passed the Bar Exam and Judicial Exam in Taiwan, and served as a Taiwan Koahsiung District Court judge since 2008. She currently served as a Taipei District Court judge, and is a Ph.D. candidate in National Taiwan University as well. She was assigned by the Judicial Yuan of Taiwan to conduct research regarding “Judicial conduct

Stephen Wu
Prosecutor, New Taipei District Prosecutors Office

Stephen Wu (Meng-Chu, Wu) served as a prosecutor at Taoyuan District Prosecutors Office in Taiwan since 2008, and then served as a prosecutor at New Taipei District Prosecutors Office since 2010. During his career, Mr. Wu joined women and child protection team, and handled lots of sexual violence and sexual assault cases. Recently, Mr. Wu was assigned by Ministry of Justice of Taiwan to conduct research regarding “new type electronic surveillance in U.S.” at Cornell Law School from 2013 to 2014. Mr. Wu received his B.L. degree from National Taiwan University and passed the Judicial Exam in 2005. Later, he studied at National Taipei University to achieve his LL.M degree. His research interests include electronic surveillance and medical malpractice. Mr. Wu’s recent publication is “Doctor or Fortune Teller? Comment on Taiwan Taichung District Court (94) Yi Su Tzu No. 1 Judgment” (2011), he was also a speaker in Medical Law Seminar, School of Law of Soochow University from 2012 to 2013.