

**AALS INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION
SURVEY OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES IN U.S. LAW SCHOOLS**

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**Human Rights Institute
Columbia Law School**
<http://www.law.columbia.edu/hri/>

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Questions about your Human Rights Centers, Institutions or Programs (CIP):

1. How many Human Rights Centers, Institutions or Programs do you have and what are they called?

Human Rights Institute at Columbia Law School

2. What is the makeup of the Center/Institute/Program staff? (full-time staff, part-time staff, law professors, law students, other professors or students, and advisory board)

13 law school faculty, 5 adjuncts, 5 staff

3. How are law students involved with the CIP? (i.e. are there journals, newsletters, briefs, or other publications, human rights programs abroad, other international human rights campaigns, etc.)

Human Rights Journal

4. Does the CIP assist students in acquiring internship/externship opportunities with human rights organizations (NGOs, IGOs, etc.)?

Yes, Human Rights Internship Program.

Which organizations?

Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Land Claims Commission in South Africa, the International War Crimes Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the office of the Honorable Martin Lee in Hong Kong and the Committee on the Administration of Justice in Northern Ireland. In the U.S., interns worked at capital defenders offices, Children's Rights Inc., the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, the ACLU, the Employment Law Center, the HIV Law Project, and the National Youth Law Project.

Questions about your human rights clinical work:

5. How many clinics do you have that are handling international human rights litigation or projects (by using international law in domestic fora and/or by taking matters to IGOs)?

Human Rights Clinic

6. What is the makeup of the clinic staff? (full-time staff, part-time staff, permanent/non-tenure track/temporary law professors, law students, other professors or students)

1 full-time clinical professor, 2 supervising attorneys, a board of tenured professors, and approximately 16 students.

7. In what fora do you practice?

The Human Rights Clinic litigates in both international and domestic fora. Approximately half our projects are general advocacy projects. Examples include the Inter-American Human Rights System, U.S. federal courts and the U.N. Human Rights Committee.

8. Who are your case referral agencies?

We have many referral agencies, including other law school clinics, and NGO's such as the Campaign for the Abolition of the Death Penalty.

9. Please list any partner NGOs that assist you in casework or in teaching the clinic.

These include the CEJIL, the National Coalition for Haitian Rights, and International Transitional Center for Justice.

10. If you were planning to start up a human rights clinic, what are the most important substantive books to have on your shelf, the top websites you would bookmark and the most important listservs to join (you do not have to catalogue your library for us, we would just like to let our colleagues know your "top ten list" of items you most strongly recommend for people who are starting out)?

**The Hurst Hannum Guide to Human Rights – mainbook
CIPA human rights compilation
Center for Study of Human Rights
We provide our own volume of materials for the clinic and a course web page
with links to sites such as the OAS, CIDH, and UNHCHR**

**List Serves:
Human Rights Professional
Equipo Nizker
Human Rights Education
ILO**

11. What percentage of the students in this clinic typically travels abroad for their clinic work?

One-quarter to one-third of the clinic students' travel abroad for their clinic work.

12. Do students have the opportunity to meet their clients in person?

Yes.