PART ONE: REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the past academic year, the Human Rights Program (HRP or the Program) continued to serve as the center for critical thought and active engagement in human rights at Harvard Law School (HLS), and remains one of the nation’s leading law school centers on human rights. Its major achievements in 2014–2015 include the following:

- Engaged 93 clinical students on more than 20 clinical projects as part of its International Human Rights Clinic (the Clinic), including supervising 38 students on 21 fact-finding and advocacy trips in different countries. Additional information on these clinical projects appears in Section II.

- Offered four clinical seminars on human rights topics, including Human Rights Advocacy (offered in both Fall 2014 and Spring 2015), Human Rights and the Environment, and Combating the Human Costs of Armed Conflict.

- Oversaw the LLM Concentration in Human Rights, which enrolled six students.

- Hosted seven Visiting Fellows who work on or in China, Ireland, Kenya, the Netherlands, Thailand, and the United States, and coordinated presentations of their research.

- Organized 18 speaking events and two major conferences, and co-sponsored five events with other centers, student organizations, and programs.

- Provided a range of fellowship opportunities for students and alumni to work with nongovernmental and inter-governmental organizations abroad, including seven summer fellowships for students and six post-graduate fellowships for alumni.

- Offered two 1L reading groups: Becoming a Human Rights Advocate and Communities and Human Rights Advocacy.

- Published Reconsidering the Insular Cases: The Past and Future of the American Empire. This collection was edited by Professors Gerald Neuman and Tomiko Brown-Nagin, and includes a preface by Dean Martha Minow.

In addition, HRP staff continued to support the work of the HLS Advocates for Human Rights (HLS Advocates), a student practice organization housed in the HRP suite. HLS Advocates offers students, and particularly 1Ls, an opportunity to begin to develop human rights lawyering and advocacy skills and to reflect critically on their role through student-led initiatives, speakers, and
panels. Student-led initiatives include projects developed as part of “Innovating Human Rights” (formerly known as the “Thinking Big” incubator group).

HRP’s varied activities enhance its expressed goals: to make international human rights an integral part of an HLS education and to ensure that HLS is truly a global law school with dedicated attention to international, comparative, and human rights law.

During the 2014–2015 academic year, HRP teaching staff continued in their same capacities: Professor Gerald Neuman and Clinical Professor Tyler Giannini served as Co-Directors of HRP; Giannini and Assistant Clinical Professor Susan Farbstein served as Co-Directors of the Clinic; Academic Director Mindy Roseman oversaw the academic side of HRP; Bonnie Docherty served as Senior Clinical Instructor and Lecturer on Law; Deborah Popowski and Fernando Delgado served as Clinical Instructors and Lecturers on Law. In terms of new developments, Anna Crowe joined HRP as a Clinical Advocacy Fellow. Susan Farbstein received a promotion and was appointed as a Clinical Professor as of 2015–2016. Professor Neuman, in addition to his obligations as a member of the faculty and Co-Director of HRP, completed his four-year term as an expert member of the UN Human Rights Committee in December 2014.

HRP support staff for the 2014–2015 academic year were: Cara Solomon, who was promoted from Communications Coordination to Communications Manager; Maureen Corrigan remained as Financial Manager; Katherine Talbot joined HRP as Program Associate; and Gabriela Follett joined as Program Assistant.

The remainder of this narrative report is divided into the following sections: (II) research and scholarship; (III) contributions to the HLS teaching program; (IV) participation of HLS students in HRP activities; (V) law reform and advocacy; (VI) connections with the profession; (VII) collaboration with other Harvard schools and departments; and (VIII) other activities. Rather than summarizing last year’s engagement in each of the seven categories and detailing our plans for each of these same categories in a subsequent section of the report, we have merged the retrospective summary with our plans. Thus, each of the categories below begins with a description of our work in the area thus far and is followed by a brief outline of our plans for the 2015–2016 academic year.

II. RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

HRP’s contributions to research and scholarship described below include: (a) its Visiting Fellows program, which brings scholars and activists representing diverse regions, perspectives, and experience to HRP to pursue research and writing; (b) scholarship support for graduates; (c) high-level conferences, speaking events, publications and sponsored research; (d) clinical and academic training sessions; and (e) student-initiated conferences, panels, and practice.

As a caveat, the description of HRP’s contributions to research and scholarship omits scholarly works written by JD and graduate students for seminars or independently, as well as scholarly writing by Visiting Fellows in their individual capacity. It also omits scholarly writing and research undertaken outside of HRP projects by HRP faculty, instructors, and staff. Moreover, the
description covers only research and educational activities at HLS that were undertaken with HRP’s financial support and through its institutional activities. It therefore also omits detailed information about the many courses and seminars offered in 2014–2015 and those to be offered in the 2015–2016 academic year that focus predominantly on human rights issues. Such course offerings are part of the general HLS curriculum, with instructors’ salaries or stipends generally paid by HLS.

A. Visiting Fellows Program

During 2014–2015, HRP hosted seven Visiting Fellows—academics and practitioners in the field of human rights—who spent their time at the Program engaged in their own research and writing projects, assisted at times by HRP staff. Fellows during the 2014–2015 academic year were Teng Biao (China), Fergal Gaynor (Kenya), Mark Gould (United States), Machiko Kanetake (Netherlands), Su-Ming Khoo (Ireland), Nina Jørgensen (China), and Benjamin Zawacki (Thailand). Matthew Bugher, JD ’09 (Myanmar) was appointed as a Global Justice Fellow.

Visiting Fellows pay no fee to HRP; receive desk space, equipment, and library privileges without charge; and are often able to audit courses at HLS and other schools within the University. Visiting Fellows must stay a minimum of four months; the average stay is ten months. In 2014–2015, HRP provided $20,198 in support to Visiting Fellows. A grant from the Planethood Foundation of $93,000 supported Matthew Bugher, his research, and other expenses related to the fellowship and its administration; his fellowship ended on June 30, 2015.

In 2015–2016, HRP will host six Visiting Fellows: Juan Pablo Calderon-Meza (Cambodia), María Díaz Crego (Spain), Carmen Draghici (United Kingdom), Vanice Lírio do Valle (Brazil), Ian Park (United Kingdom), and Silja Vöneky (Germany). Calderon-Meza will be the Eleanor Roosevelt Fellow. We will also host Sareta Ashraph, LLM ’01 (Trinidad and Tobago) as a joint HRP-Wasserstein Fellow for the Fall 2015 with the Office of Public Interest Advising (OPIA).

HRP holds a bi-monthly Visiting Fellows lunch colloquium, during which the Fellows present their work to a group of invited students, faculty, and HRP staff. Visiting Fellows are expected to present at least once during their appointment. Professor Neuman ordinarily presides over and moderates the discussions.

B. Scholarship Support for Graduates

Each year since 2001, HRP has offered post-graduate Henigson Human Rights Fellowships to graduating JDs or LLMs (or, within stated limits, to JD and LLM graduates who are up to two years out of school). Henigson Fellows spend 12 months working with a nongovernmental organization (NGO) in a developing country. Applicants must evidence a commitment to human rights work and an intention to pursue a career in human rights. Fellows receive up to $29,000 over the course of the fellowship, which covers a living stipend, health insurance, and reimbursement for vaccinations.

The fellowship is named for its funder, Bob Henigson, a longtime supporter and friend of HRP who passed away in January of 2014. A tribute to Henigson was published on the Program’s blog and
can be found at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/staff-reflections/tribute-robert-henigson-jd-55-strong-supporter-of-human-rights-work-at-hls/. The tribute was written by HRP founder Professor Henry Steiner and includes comments by former Henigson Fellows.

Our 2014–2015 Henigson Fellows were Lindsay Henson, JD ’14, who worked in South Africa with Lawyers against Abuse; Maryum Jordan, JD ’14, who worked in Peru with EarthRights International; Anjali Mohan, JD ’14, who worked in Myanmar with Justice Base; and Sarah Wheaton, JD ’14, who worked in Egypt with St. Andrew’s Refugee Legal Aid Project.

For 2015–2016, HRP awarded two Henigson Fellowships, one to Elizabeth Carthy, LLM ’15, who will work in India with Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative. The second recipient accepted the fellowship but later took a paid position with a different international organization, thus foregoing funding support from the fellowship.

Prior Henigson fellows have engaged in human rights defense and promotion with local organizations in Afghanistan, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, India, Mexico, Myanmar, Paraguay, Peru, Rwanda, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The HRP website lists the names and projects of all Henigson Human Rights Fellows for the past decade. These can be found at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/fellowships/post-graduate-fellowships/henigson-human-right-fellowships/henigson-fellows/.

In 2014–2015, HRP also awarded two Satter Human Rights Fellowships. Jason Gelbort, JD ’13, worked with the Public International Law and Policy Group in Myanmar, and James Tager, JD ’13, worked with the International Commission of Jurists in Thailand on Myanmar. The fellowship, named after Muneer Satter, JD ’87, allows post-graduates to spend a year working on the defense of human rights in response to mass atrocities or widespread and severe patterns of rights abuse in countries classified as “unfree” by Freedom House.

For 2015–2016, HRP awarded three Satter Fellowships. Erin Bloom, JD ’15, will work with the Public International Law Policy Group in Turkey; Anjali Mohan, JD ’12, will work with the Women’s Peace Network—Arakan in Myanmar; and Sasha Pippenger, JD ’15, will work with the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue in Kenya. More information on fellows can be found at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/fellowships/post-graduate-fellowships/satter-human-rights-fellowship/satter-fellows/.

The total amount of HRP’s post-graduate fellowship funding in 2014–2015 was $60,510 for Henigson Fellows and $62,045 for Satter Fellows.

C. High-Level Conferences, Speaking Events, and Sponsored Research

HRP continued to support scholarship through high-level conferences, speaking events, and sponsored research.
1. High-Level Conferences

HRP hosted two major conferences in 2014–2015.

The first major conference, in celebration of HRP’s 30th anniversary, was a half-day conference on September 19, 2014, dedicated to human rights advocacy and UN treaty bodies. It brought together alumni with diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise. The keynote speech was delivered by Harold Hongju Koh, JD ’80, former Legal Adviser of the U.S. Department of State. The keynote was followed by two panels: Panel I: Human Rights Advocacy Across the Generations, and Panel II: The Next Stage for UN Treaty Bodies. Panel I included the following panelists: Rangita de Silva de Alwis, SJD ’97, Director, Global Women’s Leadership Initiative, Women in Public Service Project, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars; Clara Long, JD ’12, Researcher, U.S. Program, Human Rights Watch; Raymond Akongburo Atuguba, LL.M ’00, SJD ’04, Executive Secretary to the President of the Republic of Ghana; and James Goldston, JD ’87, Executive Director, Open Society Justice Initiative. Professors Farbstein and Giannini moderated this panel. Panel II included: Philip Alston, John Norton Pomeroy Professor of Law, New York University School of Law; Michael Ashley Stein, JD ’88, Executive Director, Harvard Law School Project on Disability, and Visiting Professor of Law, Harvard Law School; and Professor Gerald Neuman, J. Sinclair Armstrong Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law, Harvard Law School. Professor Neuman also moderated this panel. A publication commemorating 30 years of HRP’s work will be released in the fall of 2015. More information can be found at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/academic/opportunities-for-scholarship/conferences/30th-anniversary-of-the-human-rights-program/ and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JG-QGcX-2B4.

The second major conference, held on November 7–8, 2014, was a Symposium on Sexual and Reproductive Rights Litigation hosted with our partners at Pluricourts, a multidisciplinary research program based at the University of Oslo Faculty of Law, Norway and the Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. It brought together over 60 lawyers, public health professionals, academics, and students from all over the world, to present their work and discuss the dynamics as well as the normative and empirical impacts of using international, regional, and domestic courts, tribunals and fora to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights. The research and papers presented at this conference will be published as an edited volume, to be published by Cambridge University Press. The program can be accessed at http://www.jus.uio.no/pluricourts/english/news-and-events/events/2014/srrlawfareprogramme-public.pdf.

2. Speaking Events

This past year, HRP hosted and co-hosted 18 events—including talks, workshops, roundtables, and film screenings—addressing a range of human rights topics, such as the human rights situation in Gaza; advocacy and strategic litigation around the right to basic education in South Africa; awarding Benjamin Ferencz, HLS ’43, the HLS Medal of Freedom for his work on issues of international criminal justice and world peace; the contributions and challenges of the Inter-
American Human Rights System with former Inter-American Court of Human Rights President Dinah Shelton; and advancing women’s leadership as part of the 2015 global agenda for integration, development, and social change.

Several of HRP’s most well-attended talks were organized in response to current events, such as “Ties to the Top: The Role of Government Officials in Human Rights Abuses in Myanmar,” a discussion about accountability and its place in Myanmar’s reform efforts. This event included panelists Roger Normand and Yee Htun, of Justice Trust, and Matthew Smith, of Fortify Rights, as well as U Teikka Nyana (by tele-conference), a Buddhist monk who was severely injured two years ago when riot police used white phosphorus weapons to attack peaceful protesters. Professor Giannini moderated the discussion. In response to police killings in Ferguson, Missouri, Staten Island, New York and elsewhere, the Program welcomed a number of speakers for an event on “Globalizing Ferguson: Radicalized Policing and International Resistance,” including Patrisse Marie Cullors, co-founder of #blacklivesmatter; Justin Hansford, St. Louis University School of Law; Meena Jaganaath, Community Justice Project; Sherika Shaw, Dream Defenders; Balakrishna Rajagopal, MIT Program on Human Rights and Justice; and Asha Ransby-Sporn, We Charge Genocide. Lecturer on Law Delgado also served as a panelist for this event, which was co-moderated and co-organized by Lecturer on Law Popowski. Participants spoke about the role of international human rights frameworks on transnational solidarity in fighting oppression within the United States, and debated whether or not international human rights bodies can provide avenues of resistance and accountability. The panelists drew from their experiences in taking these struggles to the UN and the Inter-American system, as well as from their involvement in solidarity delegations in Palestine and criminal justice in Brazil.

Timed to coincide with the UN Commission on the Status of Women meetings in March 2015, HRP hosted a round table discussion entitled “The Role of African Women in the Post-2015 Development Agenda & Beijing +20.” HRP, Urgent Action Fund—Africa, and the Ford Foundation—East Africa Office supported this two-day round table. The event brought together approximately 50 African women leaders as well as their U.S.-based counterparts from various professional backgrounds: women’s rights advocates, femocrats, academics, UN representatives, and corporate and media professionals. Together, they shared success stories, challenges, innovations, knowledge, and history to advance and cement women’s leadership as part of the 2015 global agenda for integration, development, and social change. The event included public as well as closed-door sessions. Panels covered the following topics: Democracy, Peace & Security; Women’s Political Participation; Women in Politics; Economic Justice; and Media & Strategic Communications. Coverage of the event can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dlITy3pb_4.

HRP faculty participated widely in events both at the law school and elsewhere on Harvard’s campus. In Spring 2015, Professor Neuman presented his reflections on the state of international human rights doctrine as regards trans identities, intersexuality, and asexuality, as an interventien on a panel that he and the Petrie-Flom Center organized together, entitled “Gender (re) assignment: legal, ethical, and conceptual issues.” Lecturer on Law Roseman, also in Spring 2015, moderated a panel as part of the Petrie-Flom Center’s annual conference, “Law, Religion, and Health in America.”
HRP also collaborated with other programs to organize events, including a visit to HLS by John Dramani Mahama, President of Ghana. His visit was coordinated with the University’s Center for African Studies, the Hutchings Center for African & African-American Research, and the Kennedy School. HRP co-hosted a lunch where the president addressed challenges facing Ghana in the areas of development and human rights. The president’s Executive Secretary, Raymond Akongburo Atuguba, LL.M ’00, SJD ’04, was also in attendance. With the Harvard Kennedy School Office of the Dean, Lecturer on Law Roseman moderated a Spring 2015 discussion with the former President of Finland, Tarja Halonen, on such topics as gender equality, development, and human rights. Our additional work supporting student events and conferences is detailed later in this report.

HRP keeps an archive of all media coverage of its events at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/in-depth/ (under “events”). A complete list of events from 2014–2015 may be found at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/events/?past-events=2015 and a list of all past events may be found at http://hrp.law.harvard.edu/events/?past_events=2013.

Events already planned for Fall 2015 include a talk by Judge Yudkiyska, European Court of Human Rights; a screening of “The Look of Silence,” a companion film to the Academy Award winning film “The Act of Killing,” about the Indonesia genocide, and discussion with the director Joshua Oppenheimer; a talk by UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein; and a panel and photo exhibit about the conflict in Syria featuring Stephen J. Rapp, U.S. Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues.

### 3. Ongoing Sponsored Research

During 2014-2015, HRP did not receive any new sponsored research support but continued to work towards delivering the agreed-upon outputs.

HRP continued its sponsored research in the area of accountability of U.S. health and medical professionals involved in torture. Now at the end of its two-year, $100,000 grant from the Skirball Foundation, HRP has emerged as a leader in the accountability movement, advancing efforts on the legal and academic fronts. In 2014–2015, HRP worked with Kate Nicholson, JD ’08, a former Skirball fellow, to create and disseminate a tool-kit for state-level anti-torture legislation; work is expected to continue into 2015–2016, especially in light of the American Psychological Association’s sponsored “Hoffman” report, revealing collusion of psychologists in torture, and the Association’s subsequent resolution prohibiting psychologists from assisting in national security interrogations.

In addition, HRP had previously received a multi-year grant of $120,000 from an anonymous donor to support research on the global trend of using criminal law to regulate gender, sexuality, and reproduction. HRP is still at work preparing an edited manuscript featuring essays and case studies tailored to support advocates, policy makers, and legislators in their efforts to promote and protect sexual and reproductive rights in the face of increased criminalization. It will be submitted for publication in 2015–2016.
HRP faculty and clinicians are in the process of evaluating sponsored research opportunities for the coming academic years.

4. Publications

HRP, as part of its Human Rights Program Series (distributed by Harvard University Press), published *Reconsidering the Insular Cases: The Past and Future of the American Empire*. This collection was edited by Professors Neuman and Brown-Nagin, and includes a preface by Dean Martha Minow. This edited volume was an outgrowth of the conference held at HLS in February 2014. In this collection, leading legal authorities examine the history and legacy of the cases, both as to the remaining U.S. territories in general, and with a special focus on the most populous example, Puerto Rico. They explore possible solutions for the dilemmas the cases created. This volume is particularly timely in light of the recent worsening of the economic crisis in Puerto Rico, amid widespread dissatisfaction over its current form of governance. More information is available at [http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780979639579](http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780979639579).

D. Clinical and Academic Training Sessions

Throughout the academic year, the Clinic advised HLS Advocates. In September 2014, the Clinic collaborated with HLS Advocates to organize its kick-off event on human rights for students, including some from other Harvard schools. Clinicians were featured speakers at this event and at skills-building sessions and lunches hosted throughout the year. These events also provided an opportunity for HRP faculty to connect personally with first-year students.

Much of the Clinic’s support this year was focused on developing and strengthening the HLS Advocates’ externship program. The Clinic faculty liaison and other clinicians worked with Advocates board members to identify suitable host organizations and to prepare project leaders for their coordinating roles. These externships enabled students to revise human rights education materials for high school students in South Africa, research state trafficking laws and best practices by child protective services regarding commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and juvenile justice, and contribute to a toolkit for advocates seeking to reform health professional codes to strengthen prohibitions against participation in torture and cruel treatment. Host organizations and supervising attorneys included the Helen Suzman Foundation in South Africa, Boston attorney consultant Kate Nicholson, JD ’08, and the Harvard FXB Center on Health and Human Rights.

Advocates’ incubator group “Thinking Big” (piloted last year) was renamed “Innovating Human Rights” and was run more independently this year by a student who participated in the previous year. It met with significant interest and participation, resulting in a student-organized group that researched advocacy interventions to address homelessness in the United States.

In 2015–2016, the Clinic will continue to support HLS Advocates as it develops new externships and plans community programing, including the annual orientation in the Fall. See Section IV.E. for
more on HRP’s involvement with HLS Advocates.

E. Student-Initiated Conferences, Panels, and Practice

Each year, the Program provides support to student groups and journals as they organize events and conferences.

HRP supported student groups—including HLS Advocates, the Law and International Development Society (LIDS), Law Students for Reproductive Justice, Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left, and the Women’s Law Association—in the organization of several events during the 2014–2015 academic year. For example, Professor Farbstein advised student organizers and moderated a panel for the Harvard Human Rights Journal’s annual symposium on International Criminal Courts and Tribunals. The keynote address was delivered by Serge Brammertz, Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, and two panels examined the laws of war as well as accountability for the violations of international criminal law in Syria. The program can be found at http://harvardhrj.com/2015/03/hhrj-annual-symposium-international-criminal-courts-and-tribunals-successes-and-challenges/. With LIDS, HRP hosted “Mediation, Human Rights and the Rule of Law: The Challenges Facing the UN’s Mediation Support Unit,” an informal talk with Mark Muller Stuart QC, who works with the Mediation Support Unit of the UN Development Program. HRP will continue to work with students on proposals for other student-initiated conferences to ensure their intellectual quality and breadth of participation.

III. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HLS TEACHING PROGRAM

A. Clinical Opportunities

Through the years, HRP has fostered a major expansion not only in courses offered to and research undertaken by students but also in clinical opportunities in international human rights. Last year, the Clinic undertook more than 20 projects focusing on litigation, on-site investigations, legal and policy analysis, report drafting for international oversight bodies, treaty negotiation, and the development of advocacy strategies in partnership with survivors of rights abuses and organizations around the world. Through supervised work on these clinical projects, students learn the strategies, skills, and law essential to becoming successful human rights attorneys.

In 2014–2015, students participated in 22 clinical projects, some spanning multiple terms. Highlights of clinical work from this past year include the following:

- The Clinic produced several significant publications in the field of humanitarian disarmament, all in partnership with Human Rights Watch. The Clinic continued its groundbreaking work on fully autonomous weapons, which are weapons systems that could select and fire on targets without meaningful human control. In a report entitled “Mind the Gap: The Lack of Accountability for Killer Robots,” it provided a detailed analysis of the obstacles to holding individuals legally responsible for harm caused by these weapons. The Clinic also published a comprehensive report, “Staying Strong,” that lays out and provides precedent for elements of ideal legislation to implement the Convention on Cluster Munitions; the report was hailed by
major diplomatic players as a touchstone for countries looking to adopt such laws. In addition, the Clinic bolstered its case for stronger international law on incendiary weapons with a briefing paper on recent use of and growing opposition to the weapons. Finally, the Clinic released a paper examining options for a political commitment—such as a political declaration from states—to curb the use of explosive weapons in populated areas. In conjunction with these projects, the Clinic took students to international disarmament meetings at the UN in Geneva and New York.

- The Clinic continued its significant work on Alien Tort Statute cases. First, the Clinic participated in briefing and oral argument on an appeal before the Eleventh Circuit in *Mamani v. Sánchez de Lozada*, a case against the former Bolivian president and minister of defense for a civilian massacre committed in 2003. The defendants are appealing after the Clinic and its partners prevailed at the motion to dismiss phase. The Clinic also participated in taking the deposition of one of the defendants, the former president of Bolivia. Second, the Clinic filed appellate briefs in the Second Circuit in *In re South African Apartheid Litigation*, a case that brings claims against Ford and IBM for the substantial assistance that these companies provided to the apartheid state to commit human rights violations. The Clinic also helped prepare lead counsel to present oral argument in that appeal.

- The Clinic continued its multi-year prison reform project in Brazil, which involves research, litigation, and advocacy focused on national-level policies and on notoriously abusive detention centers in several states. In one case in which the Clinic is co-counsel, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights issued its first legally binding resolution in May 2014 ordering the state of Brazil to take immediate measures to protect the life, personal integrity, and health of all persons at Aníbal Bruno Prison. The order also mandates a reduction of overcrowding and an end to the practice of strip-searching family visitors to the pre-trial detention center. Earlier this year, the Clinic and its partners published [arquivoanibal.weebly.com](http://arquivoanibal.weebly.com), a case website containing the international legal filings, which generated significant media attention. In late 2014, the Pernambuco government issued a statewide ban on the strip-searching of family visitors of prisoners.

- The Clinic continued its three-year collaboration with Equal Education Law Centre (EELC) in South Africa, this year with a focus on the issue of scholar transport. Access to quality education in South Africa remains deeply problematic more than twenty years after the end of apartheid, and the lack of safe, affordable, and reliable transport is a critical challenge. A clinical team spent January term with EELC in South Africa interviewing principals and students in rural areas, and engaging with government stakeholders. Based on information gained through this field research, the Clinic and EELC then launched an advocacy campaign in South Africa to ensure that the government implements and complies with relevant scholar transport policies. The Clinic is also supporting EELC to prepare to file suit, if necessary, to advance these goals. The team has undertaken a wide variety of work including drafting affidavits for potential litigation, preparing briefing papers to be used in community-based trainings and to be submitted to government officials, and authoring blogs and editorials to raise awareness about the transport obstacles confronting students.
After conducting a multi-year investigation into the conduct of Myanmar army units during a 2005–2008 counterinsurgency offensive in eastern Myanmar, the Clinic released its findings in November 2014 in a legal memorandum. The memorandum implicates senior Myanmar officials, including the current Home Affairs Minister, in war crimes and crimes against humanity. The investigation was first of its kind in the country to evaluate whether individual military officers could be implicated in international crimes. During 11 field missions to the region, the Clinic compiled more than 1,000 pages of witness statements from survivors of military attacks and former soldiers, among others. The memorandum concluded that there was sufficient evidence to meet the Rome Statute’s standard for issuing an arrest warrant against commanders of the 2005–2008 offensive. The findings were released at a press conference in Yangon, and highlighted the need for the Myanmar government and military to investigate the allegations and for the people of Myanmar to decide how to address the legacy of military abuse. In the wake of the release of the memorandum, the Clinic also worked with local organizations to focus more attention on local accountability efforts, including the case of Mr. Brang Shawng, a resident of Kachin State in northern Myanmar. Brang Shawng stood accused of making “false charges” in a complaint to the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission about the alleged killing of his 14-year-old daughter, Ja Seng Ing, by Myanmar Army soldiers. The Clinic and its partners called for an independent investigation into her death and for charges against Brang Shawng to be dropped.

These are just a handful of the clinical projects undertaken by the Clinic in 2014–2015.

**B. Courses Offered**

This past year, the Clinic offered four clinical seminars for classroom credit: Human Rights and the Environment (Docherty, Fall 2014); Human Rights Advocacy (Popowski and Giannini, Fall 2014); Human Rights Advocacy (Delgado and Farbstein, Spring 2015); and Combating the Human Costs of Armed Conflict (Docherty, Spring 2015).

In addition, HRP faculty and staff taught two reading groups, Becoming a Human Rights Advocate (Farbstein, Fall 2014), and Communities and Human Rights Advocacy (Giannini, Fall 2014). Additionally, HRP faculty and staff taught one seminar, Reproductive Rights and Justice (Halley and Roseman, Spring 2014). Beyond the law school, HRP faculty also taught a freshman seminar at Harvard College, Human Rights Law and Advocacy (Farbstein, Fall 2014).

Moreover, HRP has been supporting the LLM Concentration in Human Rights. During 2014–2015, Professor Neuman and Mindy Roseman led the year-long LLM capstone seminar for the concentration, which focused on the conceptual foundations and practice of UN treaty bodies. Professor Neuman also taught a lecture course on International Human Rights.

In the coming academic year, Program faculty and instructors will lead five clinical seminars and four academic courses for HLS students. Professor Neuman will teach International Human Rights (Fall 2015), Immigration Law (Spring 2016), Migration and Human Rights (Fall 2015), and the

The clinical seminars are Advanced Skills Training for Human Rights Advocacy (Farbstein and Giannini, Fall 2015), Human Rights Advocacy (Giannini and Popowski, Fall 2015), Promises and Challenges of Disarmament (Docherty, Fall 2015). Human Rights Advocacy (Farbstein, Spring 2016), and Human Rights and Criminal Justice (Delgado, Spring 2016).

HRP faculty will also offer several reading groups. Fall 2015 1L reading groups will include Communities and Human Rights Advocacy (Giannini), and Becoming a Human Rights Advocate (Farbstein). Additionally, Docherty will teach a Spring 2016 reading group, Armed Conflict and World Heritage.

Through these courses and others at HLS, the Program and Clinic expect to engage several hundred new students in human rights during the year. HRP faculty and clinicians supervise JD and LLM students in independent research (within their areas of expertise) and advise JD candidates and graduate students on human rights issues and research related to academic papers.

IV. PARTICIPATION OF HLS STUDENTS IN PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

HLS students are involved in most aspects of HRP. Major student participation comes through: (a) clinical projects, (b) summer internships, (c) individual research projects and student-initiated conferences, (d) participation in the Harvard Human Rights Journal, (e) participation in HLS Advocates and other student practice organizations, and (f) a range of social events designed to bring together students (JDS, LLMs, and SJDs), faculty and staff, and Visiting Fellows.

A. Clinical Work

In addition to their classroom teaching responsibilities (see Sections II and III), during 2014–2015, HRP’s clinicians supervised 93 students for credit, as well as additional volunteers, on more than 20 clinical projects. In Section II, we provided a sample of the projects undertaken through the Clinic. A detailed description of clinical projects, along with their final work products (such as briefs and published reports), is available on HRP’s website. A number of projects also involved confidential work product that cannot be published.

Through these clinical projects, students merge theory with practice and develop the core skills necessary to become effective and thoughtful human rights advocates. Students work in small teams on a variety of pressing and timely human rights issues, in collaboration with leading international and local human rights organizations. Clinical students have the opportunity to explore a range of approaches to advancing the interests of clients and affected communities. For example, students may interview survivors and document abuse; undertake legal, factual, and strategic analysis; litigate cases in U.S. courts and before regional and international bodies; participate in treaty negotiations; and interact with media to build advocacy campaigns—all under the close supervision of the Clinic’s human rights practitioners. When appropriate, students travel to investigate
violations, pursue advocacy strategies, participate in sessions before intergovernmental bodies and court hearings, and formulate policies to promote respect for human rights principles.

In any given term, the Clinic delves into a wide range of projects, including those related to extrajudicial executions, torture, and criminal justice; international humanitarian law and the unlawful use of weapons; Alien Tort Statute litigation; civilian protection in armed conflict; human rights and the United States; human rights and the environment; business and human rights; the role of health professionals in torture; sexual and reproductive rights; transitional justice; civil and political rights; and economic, social, and cultural rights.

Our clinicians have expertise in numerous regions and countries, including Latin America, Southeast Asia, Southern Africa, and the United States. The wide range of skills practiced in the Clinic, combined with clinicians’ thematic and geographic expertise, exposes students to a variety of strategies and innovative techniques for promoting and protecting human rights.

The Clinic will retain all clinical professors and clinical instructors for 2015–2016, including Clinical Advocacy Fellow Anna Crowe, who will be in the second year of her appointment.

**B. Summer Fellowships for Human Rights Work**

HRP offers fellowship grants to JD and LLM students for summer fellowships with NGOs and intergovernmental human rights organizations around the world. HRP maintains up-to-date information on organizations where students have interned in the past and holds orientation meetings throughout the year in which previous interns meet new students. HRP staff met individually with students to help identify placement locations and to discuss ways of incorporating experience abroad into other law school opportunities (typically, third-year research and writing or clinical work). Host organizations in developing countries have increasingly sought to maintain working relationships with students and the Clinic. Thus, a growing number of students have built directly on their internship experience by continuing research and writing during their remaining years at HLS. After completion of the summer fellowship, students are required to submit a report to HRP and attend a debriefing meeting.

For 2014-2015, HRP awarded fellowship grants to seven students: Hannah Belitz, JD ’17, Brent Drummond, JD ’16, Irene Mbah, JD ’17, Valentina Montoya Robledo, SJD, Evelyn Smith, JD ’16, Leora Smith, JD ’17, and Peter Stavros, JD ’16. They will be working in the following organizations: ACRI (Israel), St. Andrew’s Refugee Services – Refugee Legal Aid Project (Egypt), Center for Reproductive Rights Office (Switzerland), UNICEF (Jordan), Klippenstein’s Public Interest Law Firm (Canada), Legal Resources Centre (South Africa), and the Documentation Center of Cambodia/Sleuk Rith Institute (Cambodia). Students typically take placements in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. The character of the internships ranges from legal research and writing with international criminal tribunals, to placement with developing country NGOs, to work with new organizations engaged in grassroots tasks such as the mobilization of poor communities.

HRP supplements HLS funding provided for summer public interest internships, and in 2014–2015
contributed $9,475 in total to support the seven fellows. HRP also works closely with the International Office. Grant amounts are coordinated with the Chayes Fellowships program to ensure funding parity for qualifying students. In 2015–2016, HRP will continue to advise students interested in summer placements in human rights organizations around the world. We expect to fund up to 15 students.

C. Student Research Projects and Conferences

As detailed throughout this annual report, students are extensively involved in HRP activities, programming, and teaching. Students regularly come to the Program and the Clinic for support on student advocacy projects, training opportunities, JD and LLM research papers, and student-organized conferences and events.

D. Harvard Human Rights Journal

HRP maintains a close association with the student-edited Harvard Human Rights Journal. Staff works regularly with the editors and writers and advises the journal on possible topics, conference ideas, and research methods. For example, as noted earlier, Professor Farbstein helped organize the journal’s 2015 symposium, “International Criminal Courts and Tribunals: Successes and Challenges.” The journal is in the planning stages of its 2016 colloquium, and HRP will likely play an advisory role in that process.

E. Harvard Law Student Advocates for Human Rights

Founded in 2003, HLS Advocates is a vibrant student organization that seeks to provide and enhance opportunities for students to engage in human rights work. While considered a student practice organization insofar as it provides students with practical experience, the organization also offers the opportunity to engage in human rights academically. The organization relies on clinicians in the Clinic to oversee its operations.

In addition to supervision, HRP provides office space and financial support to HLS Advocates. Since 2004, HRP staff has worked closely with this student organization on human rights issues in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, and the United States. From 2004 through 2015, more than 500 students have participated in HLS Advocates. For the 2014–2015 year, HRP continued to engage with student members of HLS Advocates as it has in previous years. More on HLS Advocates can be found at Section II.D.2.

F. Other Events and Activities

HRP is active in advising students about careers in human rights and about fellowships that may be available to them after graduation (including HRP’s own Henigson and Satter Fellowships, as well as other fellowships at HLS or the University). HRP’s faculty, instructors, and fellows have extensive experience in the field of human rights and are able to put students in touch with key actors and organizations. The same is true of HRP’s Visiting Fellows, who generally make
themselves available to meet with students and advise them on research projects and career possibilities, and one of the motivations behind inviting Sareta Ashraph, jointly with OPIA as a visiting HRP-Wasserstein fellow. HRP also draws JD and LLM students into a number of social events designed to foster greater interaction within the community of people at HLS who are interested in human rights.

V. LAW REFORM AND ADVOCACY

HRP has not engaged in projects oriented toward specific law reform, nor has it taken positions on particular issues within the human rights law reform movement. However, a great deal of HRP’s advocacy work often involves reform-related issues. Many students and Visiting Fellows, as well as other HLS faculty, engage in the promotion of law reform on issues related to privacy, the death penalty, and health care, among others; the reform of government policies on human rights; and reforms that seek greater accountability for violations of international human rights norms by governments.

In 2015–2016, our Clinic will continue to focus on projects that involve legal reform and advocacy, though this work will be directed primarily outside of the United States.

VI. CONNECTIONS WITH THE PROFESSION

The Visiting Fellows program and speakers program represent two of the major vehicles for linking human rights professionals with HLS and HRP. About half of the Visiting Fellows each year are scholars or practitioners from the human rights movement. Through the Visiting Fellows lunch colloquia, as well as meetings with staff and faculty, HRP provides these professionals with an environment for study and reflection. And through the Program’s events series, HRP brings human rights practitioners and scholars to the school to meet with students.

One of the key tasks of HRP staff is to advise students about professional opportunities in the world of human rights and to put students in touch with relevant people in that world. In this regard, the Program’s faculty and staff have counseled scores of students and have worked closely with the Bernard Koteen Office of Public Interest Advising, where Professor Farbstein is a part-time advisor, as well as the HLS Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs, to train and instruct student liaison counselors and to plan events that address career opportunities in human rights. Professor Giannini also does extensive student and alumni advising in his role as a special advisor to the HLS Public Service Venture Fund’s Seed Grant.

The Clinic also maintains important ties to the profession through its clinical projects, which increasingly involve the collaboration of HRP alumni who work in the field of human rights.

This year, HRP staff will continue to counsel students on opportunities in international human rights law. We expect to continue our close cooperation with the Bernard Koteen Office of Public Interest Advising and the Office of Clinical and Pro Bono Programs. We have on-going relationships with other programs at HLS, such as the Petrie-Flom Center, the Program on Negotiation, the Berkman
Center for Internet and Society, the Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinic, and the Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic. We also have initiated new collaborations, such as a joint clinical project in Spring 2015 with the HLS Food Law & Policy Clinic regarding school nutrition in South Africa. This project will continue during 2015–2016.

VII. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENTS AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY

HRP has supported the joint efforts of the three human rights centers at Harvard (HRP at HLS, the FXB Center at the School of Public Health, and the Carr Center at the Kennedy School). In the past, these three centers came together under the umbrella of the University Committee on Human Rights Studies. Henry Steiner, HRP’s Founding Director, served as chair or co-chair of the committee from its creation in 1994 until June 2002. Currently, representatives from these centers continue to meet regularly, and Professor Neuman takes part in these meetings as part of HRP’s commitment to cooperate with human rights efforts and activities across the University. He is also a member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Standing Committee on Ethnicity, Migration, Rights.

Much human rights work has an inherently interdisciplinary character. HRP’s work on conferences frequently involves discussions with scholars in other schools and departments. For example, as previously mentioned, in November 2014, HRP co-sponsored with the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights symposium, “International Sexual and Reproductive Rights Lawfare”. Other partners in recent years have included academics from a number of departments, including the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice, the Centre on Law and Social Transformation, the International Global Law and Policy Institute, and the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics. Roundtable participants often include scholars from other Harvard faculties.

HRP values its relationships with other HLS research and clinical programs and will continue to reach out to other programs, including the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights and the Berkman Center for Internet and Society, to enrich our programming and research. Plans are underway for collaboration with the new Criminal Justice Program of Study, Research and Advocacy, the Legal History Workshop, and Islamic Legal Studies.

VIII. OTHER ACTIVITIES: FACULTY INVOLVEMENT

Apart from the courses taught by HRP faculty and staff noted above, human rights and international law classes and seminars over the years have been offered by a number of HLS faculty members, including William Alford, Deborah Anker, Jacqueline Bhabha, Gabriela Blum, Jody Freeman, Janet Halley, Wendy Jacobs, David Kennedy, Duncan Kennedy, Martha Minow, Sam Moyn, Lucie White, Alex Whiting, and Mark Wu, as well as a substantial number of visiting professors.

HRP organizes periodic faculty talks on human rights and invites faculty interested in human rights to many of its luncheon discussions and special events. Faculty members have also been among the participants in a number of roundtables.

HRP has made it a priority to reach out to faculty across the law school in an effort to build a community and strengthen scholarly exchanges. We have plans to continue the “Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Salon” undertaken in close cooperation with Professors Duncan Kennedy and Janet Halley. HRP will continue its outreach efforts during 2015–2016 and is already planning a workshop for September 2015 with the Center on the Legal Profession on the intersection of international human rights and administrative law, which will bring faculty and practitioners from HLS and elsewhere together.

HRP has often shared fellows and scholarships with the East Asian Legal Studies program, the Petrie-Flom Center, and the Islamic Studies Program. HRP also frequently works in collaboration with the Graduate Program on scholarships for foreign human rights students from developing countries. The Graduate Program administers the admission of foreign graduate students, who are a vital component of the human rights community at HLS. In addition, HRP cooperates with the Scholars at Risk program at Harvard University.

**IX. PLANS FOR THE 2015–2016 ACADEMIC YEAR**

Plans for the 2015–2016 academic year have been interwoven with the above description in this report.

Each year, the Program continues to evolve as it helps students make human rights an integral part of their law school education and fosters an expanding global alumni and partner network. HRP is poised to take further significant steps in academic and clinical education, and will continue to look for avenues to integrate its academic and clinical work dynamically, expand and deepen its direct presence in countries with alumni, foster interdisciplinary scholarship and practice, and embrace more multi-year academic and clinical commitments focused on specific themes and involving sustained relationships with NGOs and legal practitioners worldwide.