

SEE INSIDE: SPONSOR SPOTLIGHTS, TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C., MILLER FELLOWSHIP REPORTS, AND  
A COMMEMORATION OF JOHN WILLIAM WARD...

# Ward Fellowship

## *Alumni Newsletter*

*Summer 2009*

## LATIN SCHOOL GRAD BECOMES NEW SPONSOR

By: Ada Lin



Five-year old Robert DeLeo clambers on top of a table in front of a boxy television set, enthusiastically pointing his finger and loudly imitating the public officials battling on the screen. Today, more than five decades later, Massachusetts House of Representatives Speaker Robert DeLeo's podium is more dignified and arguably less precarious. As the Representative of the Nineteenth Suffolk district and a chairperson of the House Ways and Means Committee, DeLeo has become a figure highly regarded in the Massachusetts political world.

This year is his first as Speaker of the House and with the economic downturn as well as recent charges against his preceding House Speaker, it has not been an easy one. However the self-professed "workaholic" has met these difficulties with the spirit, determination, and humility that is undoubtedly the result of his six years at the Boston Latin School. During our meeting with Speaker DeLeo, it was evident that he is a staunch advocate of integrity in the public world. He has sought term limitations on the position of Speaker of the House so as to regain the trust of the public. Although he could have easily spent an entire day talking to us about his accomplishments, we spent much of the meeting discussing what we had learned this summer. Speaker DeLeo also asked us about the neighborhoods in which we lived and what we thought about various issues such as national health care reform and the effect of budget cuts on schools. As we spoke about these issues, the Speaker was just as energetic as all of us; his enthusiasm and idealism reminded us of our own involvement in our communities and proved that public service will never grow stagnant with advocates as remarkable as Speaker DeLeo. ■

### THE SUMMER 2009 FELLOWS AND THEIR SPONSORS

**Candace Hensley WF '08** ~ Coordinator, Chief Judge Mark L. Wolf

<b>Samuel Brenner</b>	Robert L. Turner, Commonwealth Compact	<b>Sean Smith</b>	Corporation Counsel William Sinnott
<b>Joseph Callahan III</b>	Mayor Thomas M. Menino	<b>Lisa Wang</b>	Governor Deval Patrick, Constituent Services
<b>Catarina Goncalves</b>	State Rep. Linda Dorcena Forry	<b>Cinique Weekes</b>	District Attorney Daniel Conley
<b>Joyce Imafidon</b>	State Rep. Marie St. Fleur	<b>Rebecca White</b>	Police Commissioner Edward Davis
<b>Sanchay Jain</b>	Governor Deval Patrick, Scheduling Services	<b>Justina Wong</b>	Speaker of the House Robert DeLeo
<b>Bryn Keane-Farrell</b>	Attorney General Martha Coakley	<b>Cheng Zong</b>	Inspector General Gregory W. Sullivan
<b>Ada Lin</b>	The Honorable Judge Patti B. Saris	<b>Annie Wong</b>	<b>MILLER FELLOWS</b>
<b>William Poff-Webster</b>	State Rep. Martin J. Walsh	<b>Simon Fischer</b>	Representative Michael E. Capuano
<b>Olivia Schwob</b>	James Hunt, Chief of Environmental and Energy Services	<b>Ashlyn Garry</b>	Senator John Kerry
			Senator Edward M. Kennedy

NEWSLETTER CREATED BY ADA LIN & CANDACE HENSLEY  
WITH ASSISTANCE FROM LISA WANG

**WILLIAM  
POFF-WEBSTER**



“The mobilization of common people, particularly young people, who throw off their apathy and realize that they can make a difference, is needed to set and keep all of our levels of government on the right track.”

**BRYN KEANE-FARRELL**



"Martha Coakley's challenging of the Defense of Marriage Act showed me that, to be a true public servant, one must courageously go against the tide in order to secure the freedoms and equal rights that all deserve. Coakley serves as a model example of a political figure who is dedicated to public service and not just her own popularity."

**MEETING ATTORNEY GENERAL MARTHA COAKLEY**

By: Olivia Schwob

Attorney General Martha Coakley has a diverse history within the context of the law. Born and raised in New York, she attended Williams College, graduated *cum laude* with a B.A. in 1975, and received her Juris Doctorate in 1979 from Boston University Law School. Upon graduation, she worked for a time within the public sector before moving to work at the Middlesex Attorney General's office. In 1997, Attorney General Coakley ran for District Attorney and in 1998 was elected to the post, which she held for six years. After an acclaimed career as the DA, including a number of awards and a term as President of the Massachusetts District Attorney's Association, she assumed the post of Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

From the moment of introduction, Attorney General Coakley remains composed and collected. Her tone of voice is mellow but commanding, and when she reflects upon the time spent with her school's debate and speech teams, it is clear to see that the experience has paid off. Her resume is impressive and her humility equally so, as she relates her history with consideration for the lessons it can provide her audience. Learn speech skills and learn how to relate to people, she advises; they are talents necessary to the post of Attorney General. As lawyer for the Commonwealth, both the government and the people, much of Attorney General Coakley's job involves using those skills to settle disagreements and bring people to a point of compromise.

The office itself, she tells us, is broken down into five "bureaus," the Executive Bureau, the Business and Labor Bureau, the Criminal Bureau, the Government Bureau, and the Public Protection and Advocacy Bureau. When asked the work of which Bureau she finds most interesting, she replies that the question is like asking her to pick a favorite



child: she is truly fascinated by the opportunities to pursue justice presented by each one. As DA in Middlesex County, Attorney General Coakley advocated legislative reforms to better the criminal justice system and general public safety, and in her capacity of Attorney General has continued that advocacy. She has recently come out against the Defense of Marriage Act, which would seek to invalidate on a Federal level marriage licenses issued to homosexual couples in Massachusetts. Attorney General Coakley's challenging of this legislation, which she calls unconstitutional, is characteristic of her willingness to take stands on volatile issues. In 2007 her office was instrumental in pressuring the Federal Environmental Protection Agency to issue regulations on greenhouse gas emissions, and in 2009 has resumed its efforts to compel the federal government to comply with the 2007 court ruling which established the EPA's regulatory responsibilities.

It is clear from Attorney General Coakley's responses to the traditional roundtable explanation of which Ward Fellow is working in which offices that she is an extremely well-connected, efficient and confident professional who brings a business-like air and a dedicated attitude to her office. It is no wonder, therefore, that she has been the recipient of a number of awards and honors which highlight her accomplishments in the field of law and public policy, and that the mention of her name has been met more than once by various sponsors with an admiring "great lady". Attorney General Coakley is indeed a great lady, and beyond that, a great lawyer. ■

**FRIEND OF THE FELLOWSHIP:  
LAWRENCE S. DICARA**

By: Will Poff-Webster



*Lawrence S. DiCara, often known as Larry DiCara, is the earthly embodiment of Boston politics. Born in an Italian immigrant family in 1949, DiCara began his political career at Boston Latin School, graduated from Harvard College, and went on to run for the City Council at the age of 22. Astoundingly, DiCara was elected as the youngest at-large candidate for*

*City Council ever and served on the Boston City Council for ten years. He was eventually elected as City Council President in 1978. He currently works as an attorney for the law firm Nixon Peabody LLP and has been an avid supporter of the Ward Fellowship since its inception.*

**INTERVIEW WITH LARRY DICARA**

**Q: WHAT HAS YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE WARD FELLOWSHIP BEEN LIKE?**

**A:** My session with the Ward Fellows is the highlight of my year. My only regret is that it doesn't last longer. I have met some wonderful young people. It's great for students to have the opportunity of hands-on experience. However there are only so many slots; the sponsors often run out of money and space. When I was a City Councillor, some of my interns had to sit on the floor. Aside from that, the Ward Fellowship is so great because it connects students with others at the grassroots, and helps them form personal connections.

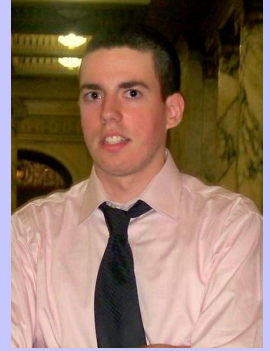
**Q: WHAT PIECE OF ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO THE WARD FELLOWS AS ASPIRING PUBLIC SERVANTS?**

**A:** Read a lot of history. It sounds simplistic, but my fear is that with the pressure to teach more Math and English in order to meet [examination standards] - to win a blue ribbon and all that - two things will suffer. The first is History, and the second is Physical Education. There are more and more people who are out of shape and don't know what happened 3 years ago and that is a problem. My guess is that if you look at the great leaders of our country, they have all read a lot of history. President Barack Obama is a great reader; JFK, Bill Clinton, and Harry Truman were great readers. Understanding history is essential. There is a treasure trove of information out there. Read up on the Vietnam War, study the Cuban Missile Crisis. These are the things you have to read about. If you are looking to help the future, you need to know the past.

**Q: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE "CULTURE OF APATHY" OF TODAY'S GENERATION?**

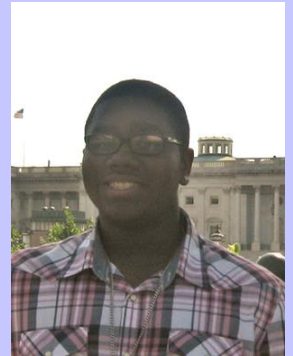
**A:** These days, community service has replaced public service. Walking for hunger has replaced volunteering for a political campaign. If you cut the defense budget by 10%, you could feed the whole world. The saddest thing about the generation of today is that people can sit in a room by themselves all day long, not get bored, and survive. Interpersonal skills are not something you can buy in a store, and people need to get out there. I encourage all young people to step up and put the time in to make a positive impact. School organizations can only thrive with either the aid of faculty advisors or dedicated students. I competed with the debate team at Latin School with Richard Clarke and we ran the entire organization. We did well because of our minds and our ambition. ■

**SEAN SMITH**



"The main reason I am attracted to public service is because I want to make a positive difference in people's lives. I've realized through the Fellowship that the movement for such changes starts by being active and involved in my own community."

**CINIQUE WEEKES**



"The Ward Fellowship has taught me so many lessons, but one lesson that I have always taken away from every meeting is: be what you need to be to make yourself better; that's the only way to make our world a better place. Change begins with yourself."

### A CONVERSATION WITH THE HONORABLE JUDGE PATTI B. SARIS

**Q: What was it like attending Girls' Latin?**

A: Difficult! We had about five hours of homework each day. I felt like I was always doing homework. You must understand what that's like.

**Q: As one of the first women to graduate from an Ivy League Law School, how do you feel about the accomplishments of the "Sotomayor generation"?**

A: Well, we came out of school thinking that we would change the world. Of course we have had many great accomplishments, but we were very idealistic back then and we still have a lot more work to do.

**Q: What is the most important piece of advice you have ever received?**

A: When I was working in Washington for Senator Kennedy, someone told me "Don't ever worry about competing with others. You will earn respect by doing your best and working your hardest". If you focus on learning as much as you can, people will begin to listen to you.



### SANCHAY JAIN



"Devoting time for the betterment of others is a sacrifice, but one that should be made with pride. Public service enriches the community and society as a whole."

### REPRESENTATIVE LINDA DORCENA FORRY

By: Bryn Keane-Farrell

The State House is without question one of the more attractive governmental buildings in Massachusetts, ornately garnished with gold and augustly designed to invoke approval from even the harshest of critics. The inside, while no less impressive, is certainly not as daunting as the outside. Our tour of the State House was brief and we were soon ushered into a fairly large, brightly-lit room where we met Rep. Forry.

I was surprised at how personable Representative Linda Dorcena Forry was. I had been unsure of what to expect, and even had a vague idea of an older woman with an austere glare and a no-nonsense attitude. Representative Dorcena Forry was almost the exact opposite: she was friendly, interested in our projects, and surprisingly young.

Representative Dorcena Forry was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives during a special election held during the winter months. She claims that the key to her success is that she was the only one out of the candidates who



trekked through the cold snow and knocked on every single one of her constituents' doors. She introduced herself, spoke to them, and allowed the people she wanted to represent to actually get to know what she stood for.

To me, that only exhibits a fraction of her passion for her job. She was extremely passionate about what she did and was not afraid to show it. She was also unafraid to reveal that she had indeed come from a modest background, regaling us with tales of her immigrant parents and of her bilingual upbringing. She did not show shame for it; in fact, she seemed to draw strength from it, which in turn instilled hope in me. Representative Dorcena Forry was once a first-generation kid growing up in Dorchester. Now, she's a Representative of Massachusetts, all because of her remarkable belief in herself and others. ■

### LISA WANG



"This summer I learned that you can only truly understand an issue when you see it from opposing sides. It falls upon our elected public officials to take on difficult issues and make difficult decisions for the good of our community."



By: Sean Smith



On July 31st, the Ward and Nelson Fellows set out on a journey to Lowell to spend a day at a camp for at-risk children. The day started early, as we all met at the Courthouse at 9AM and boarded our bus. The ride to Lowell was surprisingly quick and relatively quiet - everyone seemed to keep among those they knew. All this was about to change.

No one was really quite sure what to expect from this camp. Honestly, I didn't expect to have much in common with any of the kids on the bus or at the camp. We all seemed to have different interests, to have grown up in different homes with a variety of circumstances and to have had different values. The first half-hour we spent at the camp led to that sort of thinking. We arrived during a period of free-time. We all came in determined to play with these kids, to do everything we could get our hands on, and to just have a good time, cutting loose from the rigid rules of a courtroom or office. However, most kids were in the middle of their games and it was hard for us to join in. The kids seemed apprehensive and leery of the large group of outsiders that seemed to be taking over their camp.



After free time, we were led to a classroom where we met with the director of the camp and a few counselors who worked there. I was absolutely blown away by the director, who came from such a violent background as a child soldier, and who is now as gentle and kind a human being as you'll ever find. One of the counselors talked about his former life as a member of a gang. They told us how they recruited campers door-to-door in the most notorious gang-infested neighborhoods of Lowell, and explained the different activities that kids have the opportunity to experience at the camp. Soon we were sent back out with the kids, now sorted into large circles by age, and the Fellows split up among the different age groups.

I decided to go with the oldest group of kids. A couple of other Nelson Fellows also joined the group, and we played a couple of "getting to know you" games, and then went back into a classroom. The counselor who spoke to us earlier about his gang life recounted his story to the kids. I was blown away by the familiarity of the classroom. I was sitting at a desk with a couple of fifteen year-old girls who spent their time gossiping or talking about how much homework they

had in school, and what they liked or disliked about the camp. I soon realized: "What made this any different from Boston Latin?" I realized the desks were the same, the kids shared very similar problems to kids from Boston Latin, and they talked about the same things. The only difference is when the counselor asked, "How many of you have a member of your family who is in a gang?," more than half of the hands in the room went up.

I went out of that room with a different perspective than when I came in. The kids are not any different than me, after all. It seemed that everybody had reached this conclusion. The campers welcomed us into the games that they were playing. There is no better way to bond with someone than to be their teammate in a sport, no matter how trivial or how unimportant the game. Everyone is driven to the common goal of victory.

Soon, the Fellows met up for lunch where pizza was graciously provided by the host camp. After lunch, we played a game of dodge ball, and then a game of volleyball, where my team got its tail whipped. Afterwards I got to meet some of the younger kids at the camp. This was even more of an eye-opening experience. One kid sticks out in my mind over all the others. He was a sweet kid with a mushroom haircut who was talking about his video game collection with me. Everyone who talked with him thought he was the sweetest kid they have ever talked to. Many of the smaller kids were already clinging to the Fellows, or chasing them around the gym.

Finally, we played a basketball game, Fellows versus Counselors. Here, passion was high, as the Fellows who were not playing and the Lowell campers were rooting for different sides. However, the love and respect that the kids had for



their Counselors was amazing.

Unfortunately, the Fellows lost, but not from lack of hustle from my team. At the end, I made sure to go to the members

of the opposing team and congratulate them on a game well played. We boarded the bus, more hot and sweaty than we were when we had stepped off. But the Ward and Nelson Fellows now were no longer split and laughed and joked with each other. In the end, we all became a little closer this summer because of the many things we learned together that July 31<sup>st</sup>. ■

ADA LIN



“I’ve learned that in effective public service, self-education and awareness are the first steps in bringing issues from the peripheries of our world into the city, state, and national limelight.”

OLIVIA SCHWOB



“I have learned, both from my own sponsor and from listening to the sponsors of my fellows, that to serve the public is to forsake ego, pride, and ambition. However, a true public servant can find pride and fulfillment enough in service of a greater whole to satisfy and sustain a lifetime.”

By: Ada Lin



It is a truth universally acknowledged...that Boston’s City Hall is not a particularly impressive building. However, a few weeks ago, after a visit to the center of much civic bustle, I finally learned not to judge a building by its somewhat odd-looking edifice.

I think I speak for most of the Ward Fellows when I admit that I was slightly nervous about our first meeting in Boston. After getting lost a few times and then filing into a room with bare concrete walls, I wondered what type of person would be willing to work in this building.

However, when Ward Fellowship Sponsor Bill Sinnott of the Corporation Counsel arrived, he immediately blew us away with his friendliness and open demeanor. He spoke to each of us personally and took the time to find out where we worked and to share some stories about his experience with our sponsors. Rather than lecture us, Sinnott related some of the events growing up in Boston that shaped his interest in public service, specifically in the law field. As an alumnus of the Boston Latin School, he urged us to persevere in not only our academic work, but also in our daily lives with integrity and open-mindedness.

Honesty and equality have also come to define Sinnott’s work as the chief prosecutor for the City of Boston. He has never allowed personal bias to come in the way of his prosecution. As Corporation Counsel, he comes in contact with many of the serious issues that affect Boston, and also some of the more unusual legal

conundrums. His adherence to fairness is evident in his choice to grant artists permission to film a public service announcement on the Boston Commons “grazing” on our historic lawn completely naked. Although Sinnott, like many other members of city government, was ill inclined to consent to this, he allowed no partiality to prevent the artists from filming under their Constitutional rights.

In addition to his work in law, Bill Sinnott has also served in the Marine Corps for more than three decades. He stressed the importance of integrity to us and shared the life experience that led him to value honesty. As a trainee in the Marine Corps, he once encountered a fellow student who had to score a certain number of points on an exam in order to become an officer. When the student discovered that his test was scored incorrectly, he quietly stepped forward to admit the single error that could have cost his career. After Sinnott finished his story, the room was completely silent. All of us could feel the tremendous weight of the student’s morality on our own shoulders and were reminded that no matter what choices we make in life, maintaining our integrity is vital.

Bill Sinnott not only spoke to us about his life, education, and career, he also relayed to us many important life lessons that have become an integral part of the person he is today. Although I still feel at most ambivalent about the great lump of concrete that is City Hall, I now know that I can only aspire to be the “type of person” who has left an indelible mark in this building and on this city.■



## BONDING WITH THE NELSON FELLOWS

By: Joyce Imafidon



On August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the John William Ward Fellows met up with the Nelson Fellows at the Moakley Courthouse for lunch. The Nelson Fellows are students chosen amongst the several public schools in Boston who are interested in the judicial system and leadership roles in public service. The Nelson Fellows are each given the wonderful opportunity to work with a Judge at the Moakley Courthouse for the summer. They attend trials and meetings with their Judge and on Fridays they tour colleges as well as visit historical sites in Boston.

The Ward Fellows have met the Nelson Fellows twice before; the first time was after a meeting with Judge Patti Sarris and the second time was when the two groups visited a Cambodian Camp in Lowell together.

Although we are not strangers to one another, we have never had the time to actually sit down together and get to know the Nelson Fellows on a personal level.

We bought our lunches from Sebastian's around noon and ate in the cafeteria's jury area for about an hour. Mavrick, the Nelson Fellows coordinator, suggested that

each table should be mixed with both Nelson and Ward Fellows. At my table sat Nelson Fellows Unique Bridges and Gladymir Joseph. Out of our conversations, I learned that Unique Bridges is a rising senior who attends English High School while Gladymir Joseph, also a rising senior, attends Dorchester High School. Besides talking about whom we work for, where we work and what we do at work, we talked

about our culture and interest in foods and places. We learned a lot about each other in that short hour than we ever got to know the last two times we met. All around us sat Ward and Nelson Fellows bonding with each other. It was such a great time that we suggested that both the Nelson and Ward Fellows should plan a trip to Six Flags for an end of the summer party.

As we sat and introduced ourselves, we realized that regardless of which fellowship we came from, we are all the same; we all are interested in the law and/or the public service field. All of us are gifted and talented. Both the Nelson Fellows and the Ward Fellows demonstrate leadership skills and have dreams to do something great with our lives. ■



### FROM THE NELSON FELLOWS

*"By interacting with the Ward Fellows, we were able to understand how complex and diverse the governmental and legal systems can be at different levels." ~Mario Zepeda*

*"I've formed a friendly relationship with Ada, the Ward Fellow in Judge Sarris' chambers where I worked, and we've both learned a lot from each other. We hope to keep in touch as we grow as professionals and as human beings."*

~Karla Bonilla



**JOSEPH CALLAHAN**

“Working at the city level of government has given me the opportunity to witness the balance of power between City, State and Federal government. My work in City Hall has given me a much greater appreciation of how different levels of government cooperate in order to better support the public.”

**SAMUEL BRENNER**

“I have really enjoyed working in public service this summer because not only is there a great sense of reward that stems from the actual work, but there is also a great sense of community to be found in the people around me who are all working towards common goals.”

## OUR TRIP TO THE CAPITOL

By: Lisa Wang

The District of Columbia, commonly known as Washington, D.C. is 68.3 square miles and houses 591,833 residents in the city. The historical value of D.C. is immense as it plays host to the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, Capitol Hill, the White House, the Smithsonian Museums, the Arlington Cemetery, and many other tourist hotspots. But there is so much more to experience from a trip to our nation’s capital than mere numbers and names. Our trip to Washington, D.C. has taken the Ward Fellows far beyond memorizing the basic facts of history and government. During our trip, we learned about the importance and motivation behind the inner workings of government and democracy as well as the importance of going green.

The first meeting we had in D.C. was with the representatives of SmartPower in their office. They gave us an elaborate and striking presentation of the purpose and goals of their company. They showed us a variety of their projects from their online



video contest featuring promotional videos by Obama Girl, to their campaign to give schools \$10,000 as a cash prize for the one school in a district that does the most to lower their energy consumption. They then presented each one of us with a bag filled with SmartPower mugs, T-shirts, magnets, and other memorabilia to remember our

visit. Afterwards we walked to the National Mall and explored the Smithsonian Museum of American History. We were able to experience American History as it relates with the history of man. In one wing of the museum, every American war is exhibited and as we traveled from room to room it became evident that every conflict was somehow connected. America cannot move forward if it does not look back to reflect and not repeat its mistakes. This museum did more than just remind, it educated its audience on the major achievements of each



decade. There were wings with remnants of music and entertainment throughout the ages so that we will never forget what made an era a classic. Clothing from different periods of time was displayed so that we could clearly see the evolution of army uniforms and domestic suits. Visiting the museum in person provided experiences that could speak more than any photograph.

Any tourist attraction in D.C. has millions of images online, but actually seeing the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument is an entirely different experience. Someone else’s pictures can only represent someone else’s memories. On our trip to D.C., we made our own. Whether on our own or together with the group, we were able to discover parts of D.C. that no pictures can fully represent. Pictures cannot show you the majestic length of the Washington Monument or how ethereal it looks framed by sunlight. They cannot show you the delicate threads of water streaming from the fountain leading up to the memorial, they cannot reflect the complete and utter



beauty of the Lincoln Memorial after a long and difficult walk, and they cannot give any details beyond the main attraction. Video footage cannot fully express the complete experience of seeing the changing of the guard, or the neatly lined memorials in the Arlington National Cemetery. What makes the monuments great is every last detail, from the flags surrounding the National Cathedral. Every last detail makes a difference, just as we learned later on that every last vote makes a difference, and so politicians are committed to every, single voter.

Every single voter has a voice in Congress, a voice that is given to the Representative of each voter's districts. When voters chose a Representative they are affecting the balance of government. The site of many of the workings of our government takes place not in the White House, but the Capitol. The Capitol offers many attractions, but the most exciting would be the Capitol building itself. This year's Miller Fellows, Annie Wong, Ashlyn Garry, and Simon Fischer took time out of their busy internships to give us a tour of the building. Here we learned that the dome of the Capitol can fit the Statue of Liberty with room to spare and that the star embedded in the ceramic plates on the floor is the center of not only the building, but the entirety of Washington, D.C. We passed by Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's office, and statues of past presidents, an incredible contrast of the present and past government leaders. The



Washington Monument to the pillars of the Lincoln Memorial to the stained glass windows framing the



Ward Fellows thoroughly enjoyed sitting in the galleries above the Senate and the House of Representatives. We were also fortunate enough to be able to visit the House of Representatives during their proceedings as they voted for certain bills. The sitting area placed us just above the proceedings and we were able to see our government in action. We were honored to speak with Congressman Mike E. Capuano as he took time to emphasize the vast opportunities available to the Ward Fellows. Congressman Capuano discussed our duty to lead our generation and our country forward. We discovered the truly human aspects of government and were able to put a name and face together to make Representative Mike E. Capuano more than a Congressman, but a person. When we look back, we will remember with great clarity the experiences we shared in Washington, D.C. as some of the highlights of the 2009 Ward Fellowship. ■

### CHENG ZONG



“The Ward Fellowship has sparked my interest in helping others, and I realized that the best way to make a difference and change somebody's life is through working in government.”

### REBECCA WHITE



“I hope to take what I learned through the Ward Fellowship and use it to help Boston Latin School students rally together to achieve more student rights and perhaps educate those who also have an interest in public service.”

## A PORTRAIT OF THE ACTIVIST AS A YOUNG MAN: MEETING NEIL SULLIVAN

By: Samuel Brenner

### JUSTINA WONG



"I believe in the importance of government as well as community involvement in youth activities. The only way to achieve a better future is through education and by providing opportunities to the younger generation."

### CATARINA GONCALVES



"As a legislative intern, I have learned that pursuing a career in public service or law will provide me with an opportunity to be the voice for those who lack the ability to use their own."



Fortunately for the Ward Fellows, Neil Sullivan graciously got pizza and sodas for the group to open our meeting. After the group tore through a few boxes of pizza, Neil Sullivan began the meeting by introducing himself and explaining his relationship with John William Ward.

Coming out of a Jesuit high school in Michigan, Sullivan attended Amherst College where John William Ward was his professor and mentor. During his time at Amherst, Sullivan recalled that Ward was a particularly memorable figure because he was astonishingly brilliant and outspoken. Sullivan mentioned working as a student representative alongside Ward, fighting to make Amherst College Co-ed. Sullivan also talked about Ward's protest of the Vietnam War in which he led the entire student body of Amherst College to Westover Air Force Base. According to Sullivan, Ward challenged everyone around him to think critically about their surroundings and make a positive difference in the world. This was extremely influential to Sullivan throughout the rest of his life.

Sullivan went on to talk about his work at Massachusetts Fair Share in Worcester, Massachusetts. Fair Share was a community organizing effort to organize black and white people to address issues that affected both communities. Sullivan was head of Massachusetts Fair Share in Worcester and throughout his community organizing efforts he learned all different strategies to bring people together under one cause.

After Massachusetts Fair Share, as Sullivan told us, he was given the opportunity to work for Ray Flynn who was then running for Mayor in one of the most highly contested mayoral races in Boston's history. Using much of the same organizational strategies as

he used in Massachusetts Fair Share, Sullivan and others were very successful in recruiting supporters and volunteers to the Flynn campaign. Ray Flynn won the election and Sullivan was given a job working under Mayor Flynn as his Chief Policy Advisor.

Sullivan then elaborated on his responsibilities at the Private Industry Council. The Private Industry Council is an organization working with Boston Public School students to help them find jobs and graduate from high school. Sullivan explained a new approach the PIC is using to get dropouts back into high schools around the city, and deal with the issue that the previous policy ordered, saying that the dropouts needed to be sent back to the same school that they had originally dropped out of. The conversation of dropouts and schools continued into a discussion of charter schools. With the upcoming mayoral election, Sullivan's extensive knowledge of the Boston Public School system and his great presence in Boston's politics interested all of the Ward Fellows on his thoughts of the issues.

Sullivan concluded the meeting by explaining how he felt the different candidates' approaches to education would work out and went into great detail about the current state of the school system. Sullivan explained that while the choice system Boston schools currently use fosters competition and progress, over 20% of the students are not even choosing their schools and are thus placed into whichever schools are available, most commonly those which are least desirable. This means that there are high concentrations of students in the less favorable schools, which puts additional strains on schools that are less capable in the first place.

Overall, it was a very informative meeting with a lot of great insight from a perspective of Boston politics that is not always seen. The Ward Fellows had a great time and learned a lot from the experience. ■

### OSCAR BAEZ

Q: WHAT WAS YOUR FONDEST MEMORY ABOUT THE WARD/MILLER FELLOWSHIPS?

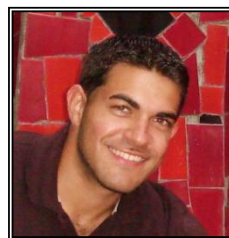
A: My fondest memory was taking the 2004 Ward Fellows and several alumni to meet the Miller Fellows in D.C. It was my first trip to D.C., and a private tour of the Supreme Court and chance to meet personally with several Congressmen was quite the introduction.

Q: WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE THE "YOUNGER GENERATION" ON PURSUING A CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE?

A: That we are accountable to ourselves, and that if we want to make a difference in this increasingly complex world, we need to take an active role in effecting positive change.

Q: WHAT SKILLS DID YOU LEARN THROUGHOUT YOUR WARD/MILLER FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCES THAT HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IN YOUR CAREER?

A: I learned the importance of taking initiative and staying informed about the issues. These fellowships provide a precious exposure and opportunity to work on some of the most pressing issues that impact our communities. However, it is impossible to squander what you can fully gain from it if you don't volunteer to do more than what is asked of you. It is also your prerogative to take the time to learn about the personal motivation and goals that drive the public servants you admire now. I have made so many lasting friends and mentors by simply reaching out—and that is invaluable.



Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY FUTURE PLANS OR GOALS?

A: Following a year of research abroad, where I traveled to five continents to profile government management of multilingualism, and the response from civil society, I am DC bound once again! I will be the sole research intern in the White House Office of Communications this fall. I then hope to complete graduate school and pursue a career in the Foreign Service or in the nonprofit field. I hope to build on my international experience and launch a career with diplomacy and grassroots activism at the heart.

### DAWN SMALLS

Q: WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE WARD FELLOWSHIP?

A: Well, I think I learned the importance of civil service and government and that government is a form of civil service. I learned that there are many ways to serve, many ways to contribute. The Ward Fellowship taught me how important government and civil service are.



Q: WHAT WAS YOUR FONDEST FELLOWSHIP MEMORY?

A: I really think that what I enjoyed most during my Ward Fellowship were the meetings. Honestly, the get-togethers with state representatives, then Governor Weld, Mayor Flynn, and meeting with these people and sitting down and hearing about their jobs and how they contribute to public service was what I valued greatly.

Q: WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ENTAIL AND WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF IT?

A: I work at the Department of Health and Human Services as the Executive Secretary and what my office does is manage correspondents in the department, read and analyze and respond to all the mail, manage the regulation process, pass legislation that needs to be put through the regulation process, manage internal decisions, processes with HSS. It's only been my 4th week working in the department, but so far I'd say my favorite part of my job would be working in this department when health care is at the forefront of the president's agenda.

Q: WHAT IS THE BEST WAY THAT THE COMMUNITY CAN GET INVOLVED IN CIVIL SERVICE?

A: Everyone is different and everyone has their own way of contributing. You can volunteer, take a job in government, help run voter campaigns; everyone should do what's right for them. There are many ways of contributing but each person should do what's right for them.

### JOYCE IMAFIDON



"I have learned so much during my short time in this environment - everything from writing informative papers to passing a new bill. I have met some wonderful people such as Judge Patti Saris,

Commissioner Ed Davis, Attorney General Martha Coakley as well as brilliant State Representatives, Linda Dorcena Forry and Martin Walsh. My experience working in the State House has convinced me that my future career lies in the law and public service field."

### CANDACE HENSLEY (COORDINATOR)



"As a result of meeting so many inspiring and successful public servants over the summer, I realized that each one of them began in our footsteps. They started out as your everyday high schoolers who believed in themselves and in their goals, and they never stopped pushing forward."

## ASHLYN GARRY

My Miller Fellowship internship was the best possible professional experience I could have had this summer. An introduction to the world of political communication could have no better setting than Senator Edward M. Kennedy's Press Office during the introduction and mark-up of the landmark Affordable Health Choices Act. This summer, Senator Kennedy's Press Office was among the busiest press offices on Capitol Hill. Almost every day there was an important meeting or press event in which our office played a leading role. Senator Kennedy's staff, and especially that of his Press Office, was inspiring to watch as they worked to further the senator's causes.

On June 1<sup>st</sup>, my first day in the Press Office, it was decided that the office's hours would be extended to accommodate the increased media inquiries during the Affordable Health Choices Act's writing and subsequent mark-up. From seven o'clock in the morning until at least seven in the evening, the Press Office was abuzz with activity to promote the issues of quality and affordable health care, increased penalties for hate crimes, and non-discrimination of employment on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and disability. I spent the first few hours of every morning contributing to three separate packets of newspaper and magazine articles: one focused on discussions of health reform, one on both health reform and other pertinent news of the day, and one of online articles and blogs about these issues.

***"The discussions we had during our meetings were the perfect complement to our experiences in our individual offices. They framed our internships as not just a single summer's commitment, but as a lifetime commitment."***

The next hours were a flurry of answering ringing phones, recording and transcribing important press availabilities, researching one page information reports, and helping the Communications Director, Press Secretary and Deputy Press Secretary prepare for press conferences. Through these tasks, and through observing everyday interactions between reporters and staff, I have gained valuable skills that will serve me well in a future communications or external affairs career.

Yet the other half of my Miller Fellowship position had just as strong an influence on the overall value of my summer professional experience. Our meetings with Judge William

Webster, Former Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security Randy Beardsworth, Congressman Michael Capuano and Congressman James McGovern illustrated other areas of public service that my own internship was less involved with. Hearing their perspectives on public service and sharing my own was a rare opportunity to learn about the government from those who are at the forefront of it.

Our meeting with Congressman McGovern particularly stands out in my mind. The Congressman, who represents Massachusetts' Third Congressional District, has had a memorable twelve years in Congress thus far. He is a co-chair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus and has been arrested several times during his protests related to the Sudanese genocide. But another issue of primary importance to him is the prevalence of hunger for American families who cannot make ends meet, as is evidenced by his position of co-chair on the Congressional Hunger Caucus. During our meeting, we discussed the unique trials of these economic times and what both this generation of public servants and the next can do to make real change.

Receiving advice from Congressman McGovern about establishing meaningful careers in the public sector was extremely helpful as Simon, Annie and I prepare to finish college and explore different paths. The discussions we had during our meetings were the perfect complement to our experiences in our individual offices. They framed our internships as not just a single summer's commitment, but as a lifetime commitment.

Once again, the Miller Fellowship has expanded my awareness of possibilities of a life in public service, and recommitted me to my goal of pursuing a career in it. ■



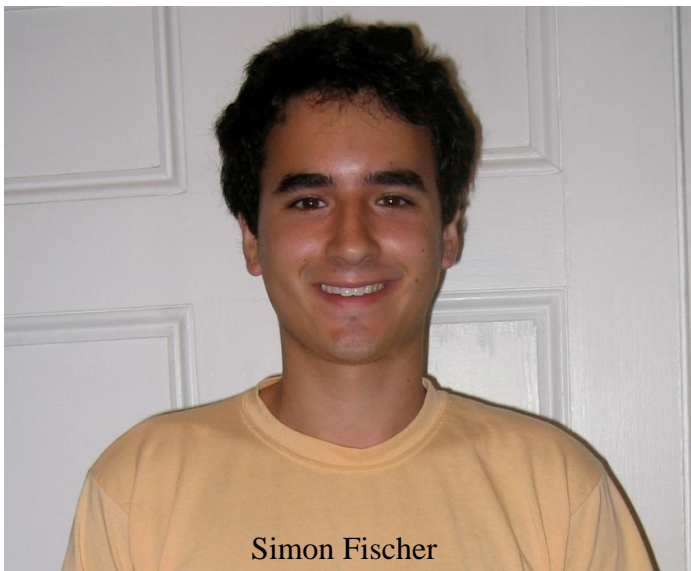
ASHLYN GARRY OUTSIDE HER  
CAPITOL HILL OFFICE

## SIMON FISCHER

As I arrived to the Russell Senate Building in the sweltering heat of Washington DC, I was overwhelmed by the size and scope of both the Capitol and the surrounding architecture. I would be working in this impressive setting for the next twelve weeks. Navigating around the twisting corridors, I found Senator Kerry's office and began my first day as an intern.

I have had the opportunity to intern in many different capacities for Local and State government, but have never had the privilege of working at the Federal level. Each area of government is different and poses diverse challenges. For example, the sheer size of a senator's constituency is an obstacle I was presented with immediately. In writing constituent letters or in handling constituent requests, it is difficult to provide a tailored individual response to each constituent. The magnitude of constituent requests and complaints, which I had to categorize, is a daunting task and something I became better at with practice. I worked on these small but essential tasks most days of my internship.

**“As I was specifically assigned to the legislative aides managing health care, I was able to work on the most fundamental levels of the health care reform making its way through Congress.”**



Simon Fischer



As my internship continued I was presented with increasingly difficult tasks. Attending briefings and committee meetings for Legislative Assistants and Legislative Correspondents, researching legislative bills, and compiling policy requests all became part of my daily routine. As I was specifically assigned to the legislative aides managing health care, I was able to work on the most fundamental levels of the health care reform making its way through Congress. One of my most exciting experiences of the summer was helping draft an amendment to the Affordable Health Choices Act, and helping testify in a subcommittee hearing about that amendment.

My internship with Senator Kerry's office was extremely rewarding but only one component of my time as a Miller Fellow. Having the opportunity to meet with officials who had dedicated their lives to public service was particularly inspiring, and I found Mr. Randy Beardsworth to exemplify this quality. Mr. Beardsworth, a former Coast Guard Captain and Assistant Secretary to Homeland Security, has been a public servant for the vast majority of his life. He has served as Director for Defense Policy on the National Security Council for three presidents and is currently a principle partner in Catalyst, a consulting firm based in the DC area.

Mr. Beardsworth was the first meeting I attended as a Miller Fellow and his knowledge of beltway politics and Washington was informative. Furthermore, Mr. Beardsworth's career advice has helped me transition from my undergraduate studies at the University of Vermont to a young professional in the DC area. He provided all of the Miller Fellows with valuable contacts and connections that will help us professionally for years to come. Our meeting with Mr. Beardsworth, coupled with my own experiences working for Senator Kerry, has provided me with professional direction and has helped solidify my commitment to becoming a public servant. ◼

## Remarks from Chief Judge Wolf



*The John William Ward Public Service Fellowship for Boston Latin School students was established in 1986 to encourage the development of the engaged citizens and honorable public servants that Bill Ward advocated as essential to improving a state government for which the Ward Commission found, in the 1970's, "corruption was a way of life." As this newsletter reflects, many fine public officials have provided the Fellows with exceptional opportunities and wonderful role models. As the Fellows' comments demonstrate, they have been inspired to participate in the public life of our Commonwealth and, through the Washington, D. C. Stanley Miller Fellowship for former Ward Fellows, of our country. Hundreds of them are now energetically engaged citizens. Some, like Dawn Smalls, (WF 92), the Executive Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, and Jim Hunt (WF 90), Boston's Chief of Environmental and Energy Services, are emerging as admirable public officials themselves.*

*The Ward and Miller Fellows have refreshed the idealism of their elders, and provided Bill Ward and Stan Miller with vibrant living legacies. We are grateful to them and to all who contribute to making the Fellowships possible.*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark L. Wolf".

Mark L. Wolf

## THE LIFE OF JOHN WILLIAM WARD

It has been twenty-four years since the passing of John William Ward. A native of Brighton and Dorchester, John William Ward graduated from the Boston Latin School and Harvard University. He left Harvard at the end of his freshman year to join the Marines in World War II, landing with them on the beaches of Normandy. After the war, Ward returned to Harvard and later became a professor of American Studies at Amherst College where he was appointed President in 1971. Well known for his civil disobedience and peaceful protest of the Vietnam War during his Amherst Presidency, Ward encouraged the entire student body to join him in a civil disobedience protest at the Westover Air Force Base. At this time, college presidents were more of "sitting ducks" than voices of freedom, and Bill Ward was one of very few presidents to participate in direct activism to the growing conflict in Southeast Asia, and the only president to be arrested for doing so.

In 1979 he resigned as Amherst President to serve for two years, without pay, as Chairman of the Commission Concerning State and County Buildings in Massachusetts. The Ward Commission, as it came to be known, was established after two Massachusetts State Senators were convicted for taking bribes in connection with a legislative study of public contracting. The Commission was formed to investigate corruption in public housing contracts. After two years of investigation, the Ward Commission concluded that in public contracting, corruption was a way of life in Massachusetts, and that political influence, rather than professional performance, was the prime criterion in the granting of public contracts. This situation had serious consequences for the people of the Commonwealth.

Corruption makes government very costly. The Ward Commission found that between 1968 and 1980, Massachusetts spent almost \$8 billion on construction projects with severe defects. This cost each Massachusetts taxpayer more than \$3,000. Corruption also has real victims. Anytime that influence is for sale, it is the poor and the powerless who are disadvantaged. The Ward Commission documented repeated instances in which corruption caused the construction of unusable libraries and other facilities at state and community colleges. In this way, corruption cheated many of those who have looked to public higher education as their best chance for improvement.

The Ward Commission made a major contribution to combating corruption in our community. As a result of its efforts, some officials were prosecuted, public contracting procedures were improved, and new offices were established to prevent abuses, such as the Office of the Inspector General and the State Ethics Commission.

But Bill Ward recognized that the Commission's work was only the beginning. He concluded that what was needed most in Massachusetts is the confidence that we have the intelligence and will to create good government. Bill Ward said that it would take more than ten years to see if his Commission made a meaningful contribution to creating confidence in government. He did not live to make this judgment himself.

As the Commission's work concluded, Bill Ward was highly acclaimed, but also controversial. He was Boston Latin School Man of the Year, but also accused by powerful people of conducting an unfair investigation, a witch hunt. This community never created the special job necessary to accommodate the special man Bill Ward was, and in 1985, he took his own life.



# The Legacy of John William Ward

EDITED BY: CANDACE HENSLEY

"I went to Amherst College, where I learned more about John William Ward the man. I read about his influential (and at times controversial) presidency at Amherst College. Discussions with alumni and faculty all confirmed what a man of integrity Ward was, and how he would risk his own reputation to stand up for his beliefs or stand up against injustice. All Ward Fellows should be honored to be associated with his legacy".

"To me, John William Ward was a Boston Latin School graduate who was an inspiration to all of us. He set the highest ethical standard for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and I am ever grateful to him for that".

~ Mass. Speaker of the House, Robert DeLeo



Amherst College Archives and Special Collections

"John William Ward was one of the most exemplary citizens of Massachusetts in the last half of the 20th Century. Few scholars of his rank hear the call to citizen action as Ward did, and fewer still act on it. But when Bill Ward's towering integrity crossed paths with public policies that he knew were misguided, or corrupt, action was not a choice but a duty. So when the Vietnam War was raging, Ward, then president of Amherst College, joined a group that committed civil disobedience, blocking access to Westover Air Base in Chicopee. At a time when many college presidents kept a low public profile so as not to offend alumni or donors, Ward got himself arrested for a cause. In 1979 and 1980, a state commission he chaired uncovered patterns of corruption in state building contracts that left the state with crumbling structures and outlandish costs. The hearings conducted by his commission were more effective at rooting out systemic corruption in state government than any similar effort in decades. Having covered those hearings and their aftermath for The Boston Globe, I would say that Ward shook the Beacon Hill power structure so dramatically that he never received the personal recognition he deserved. Still, the Ward Commission Reforms, passed into law after the commission's report was filed in 1980, are an enduring legacy. And the Ward Fellowship at Boston Latin School, his alma mater, -- and particularly the fellows themselves -- are also a legacy, a living monument to the youthful enthusiasm he exhibited throughout his life, along with courage and unshakable resolve".

~ Robert Turner, Commonwealth Compact

~ Ward Fellow '03, Oscar Baez

"John William Ward was the leader of the Commission in every way. He insisted that everything the Commission did would be of the highest quality, and he made sure we treated everyone in the process with scrupulous fairness - no leaks were tolerated - and he made sure that the Commission contributed to a lasting change in the Commonwealth. Of course we relied on his extraordinary abilities as a writer from the beginning of the investigation till the end and his ability to bring the findings of the investigation to life in his essays, and the final report contributed immeasurably to the impact that the Commission had".

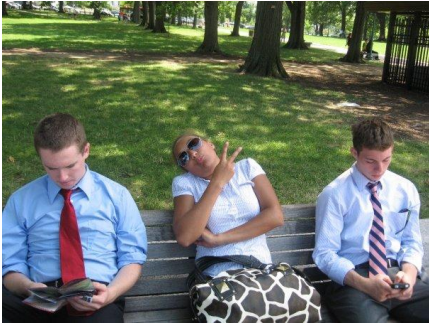
~ Nick Littlefield of Foley and Hoag, LLP

"Some people take their BLS diploma and work hard to forget where they came from, I even know people who have changed their names. John William Ward wasn't one of those folks, he could have not worried about the rest of the world and remained in his protected academic cocoon, but instead he said, 'I've had enough of this', and he moved on".

~ Lawrence DiCara of Nixon Peabody, LLP







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