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Boston College Law School

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LRAP Funds Awarded to a Record 104 Graduates

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Newton, MA--Boston College Law School is pleased to announce that the School’s Francis X. Bellotti Loan Repayment and Forgiveness Program (LRAP) awarded $373,000 this year to 104 graduates, the School’s second highest amount ever distributed. Although this year’s dollar number was lower than last year’s all-time high of $471,000, it was significantly more than 2010’s $333,840, and was distributed to a record number of graduates who are currently practicing in the public sector.

Funding for LRAP is up over 300% during the past decade. In 2001, the program awarded a total of $81,000 to 22 recipients.

"As always, the Scholarship Committee is so grateful to the many supporters of the Bellotti Loan Repayment and Forgiveness Program," said Committee Chair and Assistant Dean for Career Services Maris Abbene. "Although we were not able to match our record 2011 award during this difficult economic period, we were still able to award LRAP funds to every single qualified applicant. Our primary mission continues to be helping our graduates who serve the greater good, and we will do everything in our power to grow the program and assist as many people as possible."

The Law School's second largest gift in the School's history was announced last year, a $3 million donation spearheaded by Arbella Insurance in honor of Arbella founder Francis Bellotti. The gift, the majority of which established an endowed fund, brings stability to LRAP and provides a steady annual income to bolster annual giving support. Boston College Law School’s recent graduating classes have made LRAP assistance a priority and have pledged their Class Gifts to support their peers. Over the last decade, these pledges have totaled over $1 million. Despite these challenging economic times, the Class of 2011 pledged $105,635 and reached 71% participation.

True to its Jesuit ideal of service to others, during the last ten years the Law School has never turned away a qualified recipient for LRAP. The Program was started by William F. Willier in 1989, a former BC Law professor who was instrumental in establishing an endowed fund for this purpose. Today, annual giving from alumni and friends to the Law School Fund, along with income from other endowed funds, provide funding for LRAP.

Graduates often point to LRAP as the reason they are able to go into public interest work. LRAP recipients work as assistant district attorneys, legal service attorneys, public defenders, government mediators, immigration lawyers, health law advocates, victims’ rights advocates and juvenile law advocates.

Participants are eligible to remain in the program until their income in public sector employment exceeds $65,000. Awards this year ranged from $500-7,000, and over twenty current recipients have been in the program for five years or more.

For more information on supporting LRAP, please visit

/content/bc/schools/law/services/career/students/public/lra/Donations.html

or contact Lindsay Allen at lindsay.allen.2@bc.edu.