



2010 ACS National Convention Awards Wrap-up

ACS Honors Moot Court Winners, Authors, Video Contest Winners, Top Chapters, Public Interest Lawyers

Winner Announced for \$10,000 ACS David Carliner Public Interest Award

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy (ACS) presented its David Carliner Public Interest Award, a \$10,000 cash prize, to **Cathleen D. Caron**, founder of Global Workers Justice Alliance, for her tireless work to advance the rights of immigrant workers. The Carliner Award was the culmination of a full slate of award winners that included ACS scholars, practitioners and students.

The list of award winners:

The *ACS David Carliner Public Interest Award*: Honoring the memory of David Carliner (1918 – 2007), one of the great public interest lawyers of the 20th Century. **Caron**, the award recipient, founded the Global Workers Justice Alliance in 2005 to “combat migrant worker exploitation by promoting portable justice for transnational migrants through a cross-border network of worker advocates and resources.”

The *ACS Constitutional Video Contest* for best short video highlighting the critical roles of judges and courts in shaping America’s laws. The first place winner receives \$1,500 and the second-place winner receives \$250.

- The winning video is by **Stephen Boyd** of Muncie, Ind., a junior at Ball State University. His video is [available here](#). Boyd’s video is a catchy rap about the importance of the Constitution and an independent judiciary.
- The second-place winner is **Timothy Cone** of Washington, D.C., an assistant federal public defender. His video is [available here](#).

The *Richard D. Cudahy Writing Competition*: Rewarding the top lawyer and student papers that best reflect Seventh Circuit Judge Richard Cudahy’s deep insight into the institutional forces that

determine how doctrine is implemented, and appreciation of the public impact of doctrinal and institutional choices. Each winner received \$1,500. The winning papers are [available here](#).

- The winning Lawyer Category is “Privatization’s Pretensions,” by **Jon D. Michaels**, acting professor of law at the UCLA School of Law.
- The winning Student Category is “University Research Under Siege: How the War on Terror Has Placed Academic Freedom Under Fire,” by **James S. Lessard-Templin** of the John Marshall Law School.

The *National Student Writing Competition*: Honoring the top contributors of papers promoting a progressive vision of the Constitution, law and public policy. The winner receives \$3,000 and two runner-ups receive \$1,000.

- The winning paper is “From the Shores of Tripoli to the Deserts of Iraq: Congress and the President in Offensive and Defensive Wars,” by **Alex Whitman** of Emory University School of Law.
- Runners-up in this year’s competition were “But a Truism: why ‘the People’ Have Standing Rights Under the Tenth Amendment and How Tennessee Electric Power Co. v. Tennessee Electric Authority Led To Nearly Seventy-Five Years of Confusion,” by **Kristin Oickle** of the New England School of Law, and “America: the Country of Czars?” by **Keena Patel** of the Georgia State University College of Law.

The *Constance Baker Motley National Moot Court Competition in Constitutional Law* focused on whether the Authorization for the Use of Military Force allows for indefinite detention of persons lawfully residing in the United States. Four teams emerged from more than 130 student members of ACS and the final round was conducted on the opening day of the 2010 ACS National Convention. The winners of the moot court competition are **Joshua Pickler** and **Adam Shpeen** of Columbia Law School. The runners up are **Sylvia Duran** and **Thomas Sprankling** of Columbia Law School.

Lawyer Chapter Awards: Three of ACS’s lawyer chapters were recognized for their outstanding efforts over the past year:

- Lawyer Chapter of the Year: The Columbus Lawyer Chapter showed the greatest overall strength in meeting ACS’s mission and goals among ACS’s 30-plus chapters.
- Commitment to Diversity Award: The Georgia Lawyer Chapter, which has worked diligently to build relationships with ally organizations and minority bar associations and regularly hosts programs that appeal to diverse audiences.
- Network Building Award: The San Diego Lawyer Chapter for the highest percentage increase in membership over the past year. The chapter has seen a 300 percent growth in memberships since last year’s Convention.

Student Chapter Awards: Recognizing the best of ACS’s more than 170 student chapters.

- Chapter of the Year: Yale Law School and Santa Clara School of Law.

- Network Building Award for Continuing Commitment to Diversity: Duke University School of Law, University of Pennsylvania Law School, and Yale Law School.
- Network Building Award for Largest Membership: Stanford Law School.
- Network Building for Special Recognition for Membership: University of Chicago.
- Network Building for Special Recognition of Programming: Columbia Law School, Georgetown University Law Center, Harvard Law School, Stanford Law School, Santa Clara School of Law, University of Michigan Law School, UCLA School of Law, University of Chicago Law School, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Washington and Lee University School of Law, and Yale Law School.

The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, founded in 2001, is one of the nation's leading progressive legal organizations, comprised of a rapidly growing network of lawyers, judges, students and policy makers committed to promoting the vitality of the Constitution and the fundamental values it expresses: individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, access to justice, democracy and the rule of law. ACS is a non-partisan, non-profit educational organization. Views of authors and speakers are their own and should not be attributed to ACS. For more information about ACS, visit www.ACSLaw.org.

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