

## **SPANISH-SPEAKING SU LAW STUDENTS SUMMER 2009 OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOCIAL JUSTICE IN NICARAGUA**

Since 2001, Seattle University has been creating ties to the Universidad CentroAmericana (UCA), the Jesuit university in Managua. The UCA law school houses the pre-eminent law clinic in Central America. In the summer of 2003 we started a “pilot project,” in which two SU law students, Eric Gutierrez and Karen Green, worked alongside Nicaraguan law students in the UCA law clinic on criminal, civil, labor and/or human rights cases. The pilot was a success and we have been sending students since. Last summer, Caleb Oken-Berg (2L) and Evan Bariault (2L) visited a rural Nicaragua locale where UCA’s microlender and associated lawyers serve rural people in preserving and titling their lands. If you have any questions you can contact them as well as Raven Lidman.

This summer we are offering that same opportunity to 2 SU law students for 6-7 weeks. If you are fluent in Spanish, not committed this summer, and are POSSIBLY interested in applying, please read on.

This is a great opportunity to work towards social justice in Nicaragua, to learn about another legal system, to reflect on our own, to enhance SU’s developing relationship with the UCA Law School, and to have a unique summer experience with good “resume value.” Check out the UCA clinic site: [http://www.uca.edu.ni/facultades/ciencias\\_juridicas/bufete.htm](http://www.uca.edu.ni/facultades/ciencias_juridicas/bufete.htm)

**Dates:** The expectation is that the students will work at the clinic from @ June 15-August 1. These dates are flexible at the front end, depending on the schedule of the 2 students.

**Living Arrangements:** SU students will live in a boarding-type home near campus sometimes sharing space with other UCA or visiting Spanish students.

**Costs:** Transportation (\$700-800), health and evacuation insurance (\$50), exit fees (\$30), and room and meals (@\$10-12/day).

**Funding:** Since the summer of 2006 this program is being supported by the Dean and The Center for Global Justice through PILF-level grants of approximately \$440 per week.

**Law School Credit:** Credit is not available for this project. (There is some chance that independent study might be warranted, but this would need to be worked out separately.)

**Requirements:** Must have good Spanish skills and must be able to adapt to 3<sup>rd</sup> world conditions.

**Application:** (1) Letter with relevant background and interest (2) attached resume, and (3) SU transcript to Professor Raven Lidman at [rlidman@seattleu.edu](mailto:rlidman@seattleu.edu), or drop off at Ronald A Peterson Law Clinic. If you have any questions, contact Professor Lidman at the above email.

**Timeline:** Submit applications by **Friday February 13**. Interviews will be held the following week.