

TEXAS LAW

Equal Justice Works Selects Two Graduates for Prestigious Fellowships

June 1, 2015 — Equal Justice Works, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization, awarded two graduates of The University of Texas School of Law with prestigious two-year fellowships. Andrea Meza, '15, and Tovah Pentelovitch, '15, were among nearly 60 fellows selected nationwide for the Equal Justice Works Fellowship Class of 2015.

The organization is dedicated to creating a just society by mobilizing the next generation of lawyers committed to equal justice, according to its website. Each year [Equal Justice Works](#) awards fellowships to new attorneys passionate about developing new and innovative legal projects that can impact lives and serve communities in need of legal assistance.

“The law school is very pleased that Equal Justice Works has selected two of our outstanding graduates to receive these prestigious fellowships,” said Eden Harrington, director of the [William Wayne Justice Center for Public Interest Law](#). “We are proud of their accomplishments and look forward to their continuing efforts to increase access to justice.”

Andrea Meza, '15, will coordinate and expand needed pro bono assistance to underserved vulnerable refugee families detained at the Karnes County Residential Center, a civil immigration detention center. The Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services in San Antonio, Texas is her host organization. Meza graduated summa cum laude from Arizona State University with a B.A. in Anthropology and a minor in Spanish. While at Texas Law, she coordinated a variety of pro bono projects for law students and represented clients in the Immigration Clinic. She has seen immigration issues from the perspective of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through her summer work at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services San Antonio Field Office. Her fellowship is sponsored by Akin Gump Strauss Hauer and Feld LLP.

Tovah Pentelovitch, '15, will work with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid to help curb the problematic use of Disciplinary Alternative Education Programs in Austin and underserved regions through outreach and representation of the most at-risk students in school disciplinary proceedings. Pentelovitch graduated magna cum laude with a degree in English from George Washington University. In addition to her law degree, she also received a Masters of Science in Social Work (M.S.S.W.) from The University of Texas School of Social Work. While pursuing her dual M.S.S.W and J.D., she served as Co-President of Texas Law Fellowships, was a member of the Public Interest Law Association, worked as a legislative aide to Texas Senator Kirk Watson, and worked in the Travis County District Attorney's Office, and the Travis County Juvenile Public Defender's Office. Her fellowship is sponsored by Greenberg Traurig, LLP and the Texas Access to Justice Foundation.

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To learn more about the [Career Services Office](#)'s public service programs, contact Nicole Simmons at 512-232-1160 or nsimmons@law.utexas.edu.

Meza photo available at <http://www.equaljusticeworks.org/node/89691>

Pentelovitch photo available at <https://www.linkedin.com/pub/ovah-pentelovitch/b/860/387>