

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **UC IRVINE LAW STUDENTS AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS PEGGY BROWNING FELLOWSHIPS**

*Philadelphia, PA, April 1, 2014 - The Peggy Browning Fund has awarded 10-week summer fellowships to Alexi Pfeffer-Gillett and to Citlalli Ochoa, both first year students at University of California Irvine School of Law.* The application process is highly competitive, and the awards were based on their outstanding qualifications.

Alexi will spend the fellowship working at United Nurses Associations of California/Union of Health Care Professionals in San Dimas, CA. Citlalli will spend the fellowship working at Employment Justice Center in Washington, DC.

In 2014, the Peggy Browning Fund will support nearly 70 public interest labor law fellowships nationwide. With hundreds of applicants from over 140 participating law schools, securing a Peggy Browning Fellowship is not an easy task. Peggy Browning Fellows are distinguished students who have not only excelled in law school but who have also demonstrated their commitment to workers' rights through their previous educational, work, volunteer and personal experiences. Alexi Pfeffer-Gillett and Citlalli Ochoa are no exception.

Alexi always had an interest in labor issues, fostered by two activist parents, one of whom was a teacher and the other an attorney for the Department of Labor. After graduating from the University of Virginia, he worked for the American Federation of Teachers for three years, researching healthcare and education practices to assist teachers and nurses in organizing campaigns and contract negotiations. He then earned a Masters of Public Policy from Brown University, where he focused on urban education reforms. While earning his Masters, Alexi volunteered as a high school civics teacher, provided research for the ACLU on the effect of police officers in schools, and worked for the Annenberg Institute for School Reform.

Prior to law school, Citlalli worked with the Economic Policy team at the Center for American Progress in Washington DC. Here, she developed an interest in workers' rights and labor law while researching projects regarding right to work laws, breach of labor contracts by corporations and other labor issues. She was an English teacher in Barcelona, Spain while studying abroad as an undergraduate. While in law school she has continued to develop her interests in labor law through pro bono projects and workshops dedicated to helping union workers. She has learned, and hopes to learn more, about the labor movement by working, interacting and developing relationships with members of diverse communities. Currently she is assisting with the Hispanic Legal Rights and Responsibilities Project on behalf of the American Bar Association.

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The Peggy Browning Fund is a not for-profit organization established in memory of Margaret A. Browning, a prominent union-side attorney who was a member of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) from 1994 until 1997. Peggy Browning Fellowships provide law students with unique, diverse and challenging work experiences fighting for social and economic justice. These experiences encourage and inspire students to pursue careers in public interest labor law.

To learn more about the Peggy Browning Fund, contact Mary Anne Moffa, Executive Director, by phone at 267-273-2992, by email [mmoffa@peggybrowningfund.org](mailto:mmoffa@peggybrowningfund.org) or visit [www.peggybrowningfund.org](http://www.peggybrowningfund.org).

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