



## 2015 STUDENT WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

First place winner Jorgio Castro (CENTER) is congratulated by Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye (CENTER LEFT), Associate Justice Kathryn Mickle Werdegar (RIGHT), Society President Jennifer King (LEFT), and board member Selma Moidel Smith (CENTER RIGHT) — at the California Supreme Court in the Chief Justice’s chambers, November 12, 2015.

PHOTO: WILLIAM A. PORTER

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THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY is pleased to announce the winners of its 2015 CSCHS Selma Moidel Smith Law Student Writing Competition in California Legal History.

First place was won by Jorgio Castro of UC Hastings College of the Law for “Laura’s Law: Concerns, Effectiveness, and Implementation.” He receives a prize of \$2,500 and publication in the 2015 volume of *California Legal History*, the Society’s annual scholarly journal.

Second place was awarded to David Ligtenberg of the UC Davis School of Law for “Inverse Condemnation: California’s Widening Loophole.” He receives a prize of \$500.

The third-place winner is Kelsey Hollander of UC Davis School of Law for “The Death Penalty Debate: Comparing the United States Supreme Court’s Interpretation of the Eighth Amendment to that of the California Supreme Court’s and a Prediction of the Supreme Court’s Ruling in *Glossip v. Gross*.” She receives a prize of \$250.

The high quality of the winning entries has resulted in the editorial decision to publish all three in the 2015 journal.

The three distinguished judges, all of whom are professors of law, were: Michal Belknap, California



Second-place winner  
David Ligtenberg



Third-place winner  
Kelsey Hollander

Western School of Law; Edmund Ursin, University of San Diego School of Law; and, in a special “first” for the competition, Mirit Eyal-Cohen, University of Alabama School of Law, who was the first-place winner of the first CSCHS writing competition in 2007.

Student papers may address any aspect of California legal history, ranging from the justices and decisions of the Supreme Court itself to local events of legal and historical importance, at any time from 1846 to the present. The winning papers will also be available on the Society’s website, [www.cschs.org](http://www.cschs.org) (at “Writing Competition”). ★