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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Latino Lawyers to Honor Prof. Fernando Chang-Muy, Esq. for His Community Service

On Thursday, March 1, 2006, at 5:30 p.m., the Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania will recognize Professor Fernando Chang-Muy for his dedication to the Latino community by awarding him the sixth annual *La Justicia* award. The ceremony will take place at the law offices of Morgan Lewis, 1701 Market Street, in Philadelphia.

The Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania (HBA) is a professional organization that is committed to the social, economic, professional and educational advancement of Hispanic attorneys and the Hispanic community. The HBA also joins forces with other minority bar associations to ensure that its mission of education and the promotion of justice is attained throughout all minority communities. The HBA established the "La Justicia Award" in 2001 to recognize individuals who have demonstrated a longstanding commitment to the advancement of the Latino community and who exemplify those qualities of the human spirit to which we should all aspire.

The list of organizations that have benefitted from Prof. Chang-Muy's involvement is long and impressive. He currently directs the Philadelphia site of the Funders' Collaborative for Strong Latino Communities, an association of foundations that seeks to strengthen the organizational capacity and leadership of Latino organizations. Through these efforts, grant monies have been directed to a legion of community service organizations, both in Philadelphia and elsewhere. He is also a former Program Officer at The Philadelphia Foundation, and past coordinator of the Emma Lazarus Collaborative, a partnership of foundations supporting non-profit organizations that serve immigrant populations.

Prof. Chang-Muy has also served in a leadership role with such other prominent service organizations as the Southeast Asian Mutual Assistance Coalition, the National Advisory Board of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Local Funding Initiative Partners, Delaware Valley Grantmakers, The Allen Hilles Fund, the PA Department of Public Welfare's Refugee Advisory Committee, the United Way of SE Pennsylvania's Community Impact Committee, and Bryn Mawr's Nonprofit Executive Leadership Institute (NELI). He frequently consults with a host of other philanthropic groups as well.

As Thomas A. O'Boyle lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Prof. Chang-Muy teaches immigration and refugee law, social welfare and the law, and AIDS and public policy. He also teaches non-profit management at Penn's Graduate School of Social Policy and Practice Work. He frequently speaks on immigration rights, and has written various articles dealing with immigration and refugees, human rights, and public health. The HBA particularly commends Prof. Chang-Muy for his dedication to underserved populations in light of the current invective facing undocumented workers and immigrants.

Prof. Chang-Muy received his law degree from Antioch University, a Master's from Georgetown University in literary theory and semiotics, and his undergraduate degree from Loyola University. His career path has been as inspiring and varied as his current pursuits. In 2000, he served as founding director of the Liberty Center for Survivors of Torture, a federally funded project of Lutheran Children and Family Service which continues to provide mental health evaluations, counseling, and Case Management. In 1993 he served as Assistant Dean, founding Director of the Intercultural Center, and Equal Opportunity Officer at Swarthmore College. From 1988 to 1993, he served as Legal Officer with two United Nations agencies: the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the World Health Organization (WHO), serving as the human rights officer for its Global Program on AIDS. Before joining the UN, he was a staff attorney at Community Legal Services in Philadelphia where he served as Director of the Southeast Asian Refugee Project.

The *La Justicia* award will augment Prof. Chang-Muy's already extensive list of accolades. He is the recipient of a 1982-83 Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship (Reggie), awarded by Congress through Howard University to law school graduates committed to civil rights; a 1990 21st Century Trust Fellowship from the United Kingdom; the 2001 Prof. Martin Luther King, Jr. Social Justice Award from the Rutgers University School of Law; and the 2002 Michael Greenberg GALLOP award for leadership, activism and legal advocacy.

For more information about the sixth annual *La Justicia* award ceremony, please contact HBA President Maria Gonzalez Calvet at 215-963-1450. You may also visit the HBA website at: www.hbapa.com.