SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Lawyer

WINTER 2007-08

SCHOOL of LAW

Remembering Our Roots

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF STANDING FOR EXCELLENCE AND REACHING FOR JUSTICE

LEGAL WRITING IN AFRICA

REPORT OF GIVING 2006-07

LAW CLINIC VICTORY
This semester has certainly started our 35th anniversary year off in fine style! From the outstanding scholarship by our faculty to the impressive work of our students in their classrooms and clinics to the exceptional accomplishments of our alumni, I see clear proof daily of the exceptional program of legal education we are providing. It was especially evident in the palpable buzz of energy and enthusiasm during our spectacular anniversary kickoff at the Tacoma Museum of Glass in October.

More than 500 people attended the Tacoma reception, and it was a joy for me to catch up with former students, watch classmates reconnect and honor seven founding faculty members who had such vision when they started what is now Seattle University School of Law.

We have changed a lot in 35 years, but our unwavering goal of academic excellence has provided the polestar to navigate our development as one of the nation’s leading law schools. Our founders and our early graduates carved a pathway to excellence that we have enthusiastically followed, heightening our aspirations, our reach, and our impact along the way. I am continually grateful for the chance to be a part of this law school and to see the difference it makes.

This fall I had the honor of giving the keynote address at a luncheon to support Powerful Voices, a terrific organization supporting adolescent girls in realizing their dreams. I met some extraordinary young women, some who have overcome amazing obstacles and remained determined to succeed. I was inspired by their resilience, and it was a yet another reminder to me why we work so hard to educate lawyers who are leaders for a just and humane world – to continue to find ways to empower people and to promote human flourishing. I fully expect to see some of those young girls in a classroom at Sullivan Hall in the future.

At the law school, as part of my ongoing efforts to strengthen our academic program and the leadership team required to sustain it, I was pleased to promote three deserving people this fall: Annette Clark ’89, was named vice-dean, a new position in recognition of her excellent leadership and service as associate dean for academic affairs; Kristin Cheney ’84 was promoted from library director to associate dean for library and educational technology, and Professor Tayyab Mahmud was named associate dean for research and faculty development. (Read more about them on page 4.)

Associate Dean Mahmud, as co-president of the Society of American Law Teachers, and I hosted a workshop aimed at encouraging academics from underrepresented group to pursue deanships. It was so rewarding to gather with people from law schools around the country and talk about different ways we all are working to increase diversity in our student, faculty and administrative ranks.

I’m also pleased to welcome John McKay as professor from practice and Grace Greenwich as the new director of the Office of Alumni Relations. We are in a busy season of faculty hiring, and I expect to have several exciting announcements about new faculty to share soon.

As we end the year, I’d like to let you know there are a wealth of exciting programs on the agenda for the spring, including scholarly conferences, the annual PILF auction, our Women of the Year reception, and of course, our 35th anniversary gala at Benaroya Hall on April 25. I hope to see many of you at events at the law school and at the gala to toast the future of the law school.

It’s a pleasure and a privilege to serve as dean of this remarkable school, and I look forward to seeing what awaits us as we continue to stand for excellence and reach for justice. I wish you and yours a wonderful holiday and the best for 2008.

—Kellye Testy
Dean, Seattle University School of Law
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Lady Justice stands at the reception to kickoff the 35th anniversary at the Museum of Glass. Photo by Matt Hagen.

On the cover: In the background, the law school’s first home on South Tacoma Way, middle, left to right: Librarian Anita Steele and Professor Jim Beaver, Associate Dean Bruce Meyers and a Board of Visitors member, Dean Fred Tausend, Analee Beatlinger, Sr., Henry Jackson and Professor Mark Beatlinger at the dedication of Analee’s fish artwork, the early faculty, the skybridge in downtown Tacoma.
Promotions bolster academic programs

Dean Kellye Testy announced several key promotions this year as part of her ongoing efforts to build on the strong academic program at the law school.

Associate Professor Annette Clark ’89, was named vice dean, a new position, in recognition of her leadership as associate dean for academic affairs for the past three years. Professor Tayyab Mahmud was named associate dean for research and faculty development, and Kristin Cheney ’84 was promoted from library director to the new position of associate dean for library and educational technology.

Clark’s new title will more clearly signify that Clark is at the helm of the law school’s internal affairs. She leads the school’s strategic planning processes and oversees the academic operations.

“Academics are and must remain our core focus as our law school continues to grow and to become more complex. Annette Clark’s promotion to vice dean will ensure that our academic mission remains at the center of all our efforts,” Testy said.

Clark, who also has an M.D. from the University of Washington, teaches, writes and consults in the areas of medical liability and is a frequent lecturer on bioethics-related topics. She joined the faculty in 1989 and was previously associate dean for academic affairs from 1997-2001. She is a member of the Washington State Society of Healthcare Attorneys and the MultiCare Institutional Review Board.

In his new position, Mahmud will lead steady growth in the scholarly productivity of the faculty.

“Tayyab Mahmud brings not only a strong record of his own scholarly accomplishment to this role, but also a proven track record of mentoring faculty and providing institutional leadership in the area of professional development,” Testy said.

Before joining the law school in 2006, he was a professor and chair of the Global Perspectives Group at John Marshall Law School in Chicago. He practiced complex litigation with the San Francisco-based firm of Pettit & Martin. He is co-president and a member of the Board of Governors of the Society of American Law Teachers.
(SALT), and a member of the Board of Directors of Latina/o Critical Legal Studies (LatCrit). He has published extensively in the areas of comparative constitutional law, human rights, legal history and legal theory. Before going to law school, he taught international relations at various universities in Pakistan and the United States. He holds a Ph.D. in political science.

Recognizing that effective technology is infused throughout the program of legal education, Cheney now supervises the instructional technology department, in addition to continuing to oversee the library. She also chairs the committee overseeing the redesign of the law school’s website.

“Kristin has done a superb job in establishing a first-rate law library that is committed to student learning,” the dean said. “At the same time, she has made sure that the law library is a central component of our faculty’s scholarly achievements.”

After serving as a prosecuting attorney in Pierce and Kitsap counties, Cheney, who has a master’s in library science, was a reference librarian/senior reference librarian and adjunct professor in legal writing at Boston University School of Law. She was assistant director for public and educational services at the University of Texas School of Law and joined the law school as associate library director in 1994. She was appointed executive law librarian in 2001 and law library director in 2005. She has taught various upper-level research courses at the law school since 1995.

Prominent speakers visit law school

Derrick Bell, a leading African American scholar who has written extensively on the quest for racial justice, was one of the outstanding speakers to visit the law school this fall.

Bell, a visiting professor at New York University School of Law and a prolific author, came to talk about the recent Supreme Court decision striking down the Seattle School District’s authority to consider race in school assignments. But before he got to his speech, many people spoke about the impact he has made.

Craig Sims ’97, a senior deputy prosecutor with the King County Prosecutor’s Office served as emcee, and Seattle attorney Ron Ward, who was the first African American president of the Washington State Bar Association, spoke. Professor Hank McGee, who has known Bell for decades, said Bell’s contributions have been significant.

“Derrick is an icon,” McGee said. “When the history of this century is written, his work will be noted.”

Other speakers throughout the semester talked about compelling topics ranging from the decision that legalized slavery to present day problems at Guantanamo Bay. Among them:

- Amanullah Shah, professor of law at Gomal University in Pakistan and Zahid Shariff, professor of political science at The Evergreen State College joined law school faculty Ron Syle, Russell Powell and Tayab Mahmud for a panel discussion, “What’s Going On In Pakistan?”
- Albany Law School Professor Paul Finkelman, recognized as the county’s leading legal historian, presented, “Was Dred Scott Correctly Decided? Reflections on the 150th Anniversary of the Supreme Court’s Worst Decision.”
- Neal Katyal, law professor at Georgetown University Law Center, who argued Hamdan v. Rumsfeld before the U.S. Supreme Court, spoke about his work on the case that overturned the president’s authority to hold military tribunals.
- University of Pittsburgh Professor and former Seattle University School of Law faculty member Douglas Branson, discussed his book, “No Seat at the Table: How Corporate Governance and Law Keep Women Out of the Boardroom.”

Dean honored by state bar, WWL

Dean Kellye Testy received the 2007 President’s Awards from the Washington State Bar Association and Washington Women Lawyers this fall.

The state bar award is given annually in recognition of special accomplishment or service to the WSBA.

“Dean Kellye Testy is a leader with a vision and an absolute conviction – that a world in which justice is available to all can be a reality,” WSBA President Ellen Conderia Dial said. “She inspires us with her strong commitment to social justice and her abundant generosity of spirit.”

Testy is known for her caring involvement not just with students, the law school, and the university, but the legal community and the community at large, Dial said.

Testy and Dial were co-recipients of the President’s Award from Washington Women Lawyers, presented on Sept. 28.

Two students selected by Equal Justice Works

Erin Shea ’07 is one of only 54 Equal Justice Works Fellows in the nation for the Class of 2007 and the first one from Seattle University School of Law in a decade. Sabrina Andrus, 3L, was selected as a member of the National Advisory Committee to Equal Justice Works.

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For her two-year fellowship, Shea is working at Columbia Legal Services in Seattle to establish a system of adequate court representation for Washington’s foster youth. Her goals include publishing and disseminating a foster youth rights handbook and working with stakeholders in the implementation of the Braam settlement – a historic settlement agreement reached in July 2004, creating a blueprint for reform of the child welfare system in Washington State.

During law school, Shea was president of the Public Interest Law Foundation and an article editor for the Seattle Journal for Social Justice. She participated in the Youth Advocacy Clinic, worked with the King County Dependency CASA program, and interned with the Washington State Senate Committee Services. She also served as an extern with the Honorable Mary E. Fairhurst at the Washington State Supreme Court.

Her fellowship is funded by ALM, with additional support of CLS and the School of Law.

Andrus was chosen for her prestigious position because of her achievements and commitment to public interest work. The committee provides advice, support and action to advance the Equal Justice Works mission to mobilize the next generation of public interest attorneys.

She is president of PILF and received a 2007 summer grant to work in the family law unit at the Northwest Justice Project. She is also co-president of Law Students for Reproductive Health.

EJW CEO David Stern visited the law school last month and heard about the exciting social justice work being done.

“I’ve been in my job for 16 years, and I have never seen anything as impressive as this,” he said. “I am blown away. It’s a fabric I have not seen in any other law school.”

**Students learn ways to make a difference**

Former Judge Don Horowitz and Professor from Practice John McKay are encouraging students to find ways to pursue public interest law through a series of presentations.

“This is about using your law degree to make the world a better place,” Horowitz told a packed room at the first session in October.

Both he and McKay told personal stories about how their careers took unexpected turns over the years and gave examples of the cases that made a difference in their lives. Horowitz talked about his early days in practice when he represented a mushroom farm worker who was wrongfully accused of stealing. The worker got a written apology from the store, which was worth more than money.

For McKay, Curly Horton was the client who taught him the value of pro bono work. Curly was a hard-working black man who had left town to attend his brother’s funeral and handle his estate. When he returned 27 days later, he found his landlord had cleaned out his apartment.

McKay fought the illegal eviction and sought reimbursement for what Horton had lost. His belongings were valued at $6,450. “To him it was everything in his life,” McKay said. His firm spent many times that representing him.

“He got every penny back,” McKay said. “That has motivated me in ways I can’t explain.”

The pair continued their series “Making A Difference: Using Your Law Degree to Make the World a Better Place No Matter Where You Go in Your Career – and Life” in November and have sessions set for Jan. 30 and March 11.

**Law Review, SJSJ look at firings, detainees**

The upcoming issue of Seattle University Law Review will include articles by former U.S. Attorneys John McKay of Western Washington (now a professor from practice at the law school) and Paul Charlton of Arizona. Scholars who took part in the law’s school spring conference on the U.S. attorney firings also contribute articles.

Part of the upcoming Seattle Journal for Social Justice is a transcript from the law school forum on presidential powers that included former Lt. Cmdr. Charles Swift ’94. The issue will also include poetry from Guantanamo detainees, as well as an introduction to the poetry written by Professor Marc Falkoff, who edited “Poems From Guantanamo: The Detainees Speak.”

The proceedings of the Center on Corporations, Law & Society’s national conference Corporations & The First Amendment: Examining the Health of Democracy were published in a special symposium issue the Law Review this fall.

For more information, go to www.law.seattleu.edu/lawrev or www.law.seattleu.edu/sjsj.

**Longtime employee Judy McAfee retires**

Judy McAfee, who students and faculty remember from the earliest days of the law school and who has held several positions in the past 35 years, retired at the end of November.

“I’ve worked with every dean and in all three buildings,” McAfee said. “I have loved it. The best thing is the students. I just love the energy of the students, and it’s amazing to see what the do after they graduate.”

McAfee worked at the University of Puget Sound before the law school opened. She started managing the law school bookstore in
1973 and oversaw it as it went from a $5,000 operation to a $600,000 one as the bookstore expanded to selling more than books.

Her job changed when the law school moved to Seattle and the university bookstore absorbed the law school bookstore. She held other positions and settled several years ago into the role of special projects coordinator and ran the Copy Center.

She earned a teaching degree in teaching 1988 and still holds a substitute certificate.

McAfee has remained close to many former students and colleagues – and she intends to stay in touch with those still at the law school. But McAfee, who has three daughters and seven grandchildren ranging in age from 1 to 20, is looking forward to retirement and time to travel with her husband.

Rick Bird, associate dean for finance and administration, said students, faculty and staff will miss McAfee’s friendly face and great service.

“She would do anything for students,” Bird said, “She’s always been so dependable. When anyone asks for something, she always follows through.”

Dean candidates get insight at workshop

The School of Law and the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) sponsored a two-day workshop in late September to encourage and assist members of underrepresented groups to pursue deanships.

Dean Kellye Testy, Vice Dean Annette Clark ’89 and SALT Co-President and Associate Professor Tayab Mahmud put together a program of dynamic speakers from law schools across the country who spoke about how to help non-traditional dean candidates break through the glass ceiling that is keeping these groups underrepresented in decanal ranks. Sessions covered topics such as deciding to become a dean and understanding the dean’s job.

Major conferences to explore scholarly themes

Three major academic conferences are on the schedule for the spring semester, exploring terrorism; globalization and justice; and law and religion.

What is to be Done With ‘Terrorists?’ on Friday, Feb. 29, will feature well-known speakers representing a diversity of opinions on the questions, “How Do We Decide Who Are ’Terrorists,’ What Do We Do With Them While We’re Deciding and How Much ’Process’ Are They ’Due?’

Among the confirmed participants are retired Major General John D. Altenburg Jr., former head of the military commissions; J. Wells Dixon, Center for Constitutional Rights; Sandra Hodgkinson, deputy assistant secretary of defense for detainee affairs; Charles W. Swift ’94, Emory University School of Law and Professor Michael Greenberger, University of Maryland Law School. Several other academics and judges have been invited.

A Globalization and Justice Conference will be Feb. 21-22. It is sponsored by the law school’s Center for Global Justice and the university’s Center for the Study of Justice in Society, directed by law Professor Maggie Chon.

The program will bring together faculty members at Seattle University who have worked in global contexts to encourage in-depth conversations about what it means to do global scholarship.

The law school also will present a conference on Law and Religion on March 7. Organized by Associate Professor Christian Halliburton, it will cover topics such as “Liberation vs. Oppression: The Role of Religious Morality in Shaping Legal Freedoms,” and “Religious Influences on Ethics, Professionalism and the Practice of Law.”

Visit the law school’s web site at www.law.seattleu.edu for updated information on both conferences.

PILF brings annual auction back to campus

Celebrating its 15th year as an integral part of the social justice dialogue at the law school, the Public Interest Law Foundation created a new mission statement and is reaching out to alumni and bringing its annual-fundraising auction back to campus.

PILF entered this milestone year with a new mission statement: “PILF is a dynamic student organization that empowers students to work toward social justice by fostering dialogue and community within the law school and beyond.”

This new mission reflects a commitment by members to provide forums where students can explore what it means to work in the public interest. Among other things, PILF members helped organize Social Justice Week this fall.

The annual PILF auction – the main fundraiser for the Summer Grants program that provides stipends to law students working for public interest organizations – will be March 1, 2008, in the Campion Ballroom on the Seattle University campus.

For the latest auction news and information, check the auction page on the PILF website: www.law.seattleu.edu/pilf.
Seattle woman who had been denied therapy that was her only hope in curing debilitating migraines and vision problems is now getting relief, thanks to the School of Law’s Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic.

The attorneys and students involved in the case fought the state’s refusal to provide the services on grounds that it violated federal and state law and that the state failed to follow its own rule-making process – and the state agreed.

“I’m only halfway through the therapy, and my vision has improved to where I have to get a new prescription,” the 50-year-old client said. “I am so grateful there is such a program as the law clinic. I didn’t know how to navigate the system. They did so much research and prepared so many arguments. I was really impressed. I was amazed with the level of care they had.”

The client, whose name is not being used because she is a domestic violence survivor, sustained a head injury in a car accident three years ago. As a result, she suffered from severe migraines, blurred vision, and difficulty reading and concentrating. After trying numerous medications and therapies, her neurologist prescribed vision therapy, which has been described as “physical therapy for the eyes.” For the first time, she experienced some relief.
Unable to work, she maxed out her credit cards, and soon couldn’t pay for continuing therapy. Her doctor applied for coverage of her therapy through the Medicaid program. She learned that Washington’s Medicaid Program, administered by the Department of Social and Health Services, had issued a new regulation in 2005 eliminating coverage of VT for all Medicaid recipients, regardless of their need for this service.

She sought help at Solid Ground, a Seattle organization dedicated to ending poverty and prejudice, which connected her with the Administrative Law Clinic, taught by Professor Lisa Brodoff. In 2006, an Administrative Law Judge ruled that pursuant to the binding regulation, the woman’s claim for coverage would be denied.

But Brodoff and students Jesse DeNike and Amie Hirsch weren’t about to give up. They enlisted Janet Varon of Northwest Health Advocates to serve as co-counsel and took the case to Thurston County Superior Court. DeNike and Hirsch, both 2007 graduates, believed the state could not legally eliminate physical therapy services for the eyes if it covered other physical therapy services.

“We argued that the regulation was inconsistent with federal and state law,” DeNike said.

Further, the students discovered the state hadn’t followed its own rule-making process in denying the coverage. They had asked for the state’s rule-making file to see if anyone had commented on the service reduction during the process. And they found out no one would’ve ever had that chance because the state never said coverage would be eliminated in the notice to the public.

“They called it a ‘clarification,’” Hirsch said. “They never said they were cutting anything.”

“We looked at it, and we all said, ‘They messed up on this,’” Brodoff said.

The students wrote briefs outlining their arguments, and the clinic team presented them to the court and to the lawyers from the Office of the Attorney General representing DSHS in the case. Coincidentally, the assistant attorney general handling the case was Tim Crandall ’81, who is an adjunct professor at the law school. He was quickly persuaded that the clinic team was right.

“The briefs were well-written and the problem was clearly identified. The rule was not properly promulgated,” said Crandall, who has been with the Attorney General’s Office since 1990 and was deputy director of the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit until 2003. “I can tell a winner from a loser, and this was a loser. I knew it was time to get the client the services she needed and figure out the best way to rectify the problem.”

The state agreed to immediately withdraw the rule that eliminated the vision therapy; notify all providers in the state that VT was still a covered service in Washington; let anyone who was denied services over the last two years apply for retroactive coverage; and cover the clinic client’s VT services. Further, the state paid her attorney’s fees for the pursuit of the appeal.

“It felt really good,” DeNike said. “Our client had serious medical problems and she got the help she needed.”

Crandall credits the students and their supervising attorneys.

“Having been a student at one point and being an adjunct, I think it’s great experience for the students in the law clinic to have a real case and to go up against a seasoned attorney and win,” he said. “We’re growing good lawyers at Seattle University School of Law.”

Word of the students’ work spread, and DeNike and Hirsch were invited to the fall Mountain West Regional Clinical Conference in San Diego to talk about the case.

“At the conference, our clinic was well-received,” Hirsch said. “I think we have a really great program here. A lot of responsibility is given to the students.”

Brodoff said it’s exciting to give students the opportunity to practice law. And just as important is making them see what attorneys committed to the public good can contribute.

“If this client hadn’t been represented in court, she wouldn’t have received the service,” Brodoff said. “Most poor people don’t have that chance. This is a social justice issue.”

The students said they benefited from having the chance to work on an actual case and to learn Washington law.

“This is the only class that taught us how to practice law,” DeNike said.

They have high praise for Brodoff.

“She’s awesome,” DeNike said. “She’s really good at breaking things down.”

Their clinic experience has carried over after law school. Both are now working in administrative law. DeNike is an associate at McCullough Hill, PS, in Seattle working on land use and environmental law. Hirsch works for the state Department of Ecology on rule-making.

“I’m glad to know how their careers are being affected,” their client said. “That’s a real joy to me. As long as there are people and students who care like they did, I really think the future is good. They are really making a difference.”

“If this client hadn’t been represented in court, she wouldn’t have received the service. Most poor people don’t have that chance. This is a social justice issue.”

—Professor Lisa Brodoff
Law school celebrates 35 years with a look back

By John Weaver
Professor of Law

On Sept. 5, 1972, at eight in the morning, Tom Holdych stood in front of a group of students, and a new law school began.

The year the law school opened saw the Watergate break-in in June of 1972 and the Black September Massacre at the Munich Olympics. The first “Godfather” movie was released in March; the next year Marlon Brando would reject the Academy Award for his role as Don Vito Corleone. The year began with “American Pie” by Don McLean topping the charts and ended as Helen Reddy’s “I Am Woman” dropped out of the number spot after a long run.

At the law school’s opening day, 427 students and seven full-time faculty members came together to create what became Seattle University School of Law. It has been more than 35 years – which have seen six deans, three locations, more than 150 career and visiting faculty members and almost 9,000 graduates – since that day.

What began at the University of Puget Sound School of Law in a business park on South Tacoma Way was the first new law school in the Pacific Northwest since the 1910s and remains the only evening program available in Washington. The law school arose from a need for legal education in the Seattle-Tacoma area, at that time the largest metropolitan area in the country served by only one law school and without an evening program of legal education.

The University of Puget Sound committed to a new law school with the support of its faculty in December of 1971. Joe Sinclitico, who had been dean at University of San Diego School of Law, was hired on January 10, 1972 to lead the new venture.

Even before his formal appointment, Sinclitico had interviewed faculty candidates and
was in the process of hiring professors. His first hire was James Beaver from the University of
Indiana-Indianapolis Law School, followed by Dick Settle (who had been teaching undergraduates at the University of Puget Sound). Tom Holdych, Chuck Wiggins, Peter Tillers, and I followed in short order and came from
diverse backgrounds of practice, teaching and government service. Anita Steele was hired as
librarian and charged with creating a library from scratch.

The law school’s first office was in the Win-
throp Hotel in Tacoma, where the process
of planning a curriculum and getting a class
admitted began in earnest. These temporary
quarters were less than ideal and even required
Dean Sincillico to use a bathtub in the old hotel
to store papers. One of the first decisions was
to make the Benaroya Business Park in South
Tacoma the first home of the law school.

In his earliest predictions, Dean Sincillico
thought the school would have about 235 day
students and 75 evening students. The class
exceeded those estimates by a wide margin,
with 427 students to be taught in two day
sections and three evening sections. The class
did not feature much diversity. Women made
up just 10 percent of the class, and there was
only one African-American student. As a
new school, it provided an opportunity for
students from Washington who did not want
to relocate to go to law school and for others
from across the country who had not been
admitted elsewhere.

And when admitted, they came. Fortunately
one classroom in the law school was large
enough to accommodate sections that were
about 144 students each.

Though better than the Winthrop Hotel,
the Benaroya Business Park was not without
its challenges. The school was located under
the flight path of McChord Air Force Base,
and from time to time, the roaring, low-fly-
ing planes required a professor to pause for a
moment and wait for quiet. Students some-
times appreciated this because it gave them
time to think of a response to the questions
that were posed to them. This often happened
on Saturday mornings as National Guard
pilots practiced – yes, there were Saturday
classes that first year and there were also Friday
night classes for the first three years.

More noise came from a peacock farm just
over the fence. The plaintive cries sometimes
penetrated the classroom walls.

On the plus side, parking was free.

During the fall of 1972, the school was
inspected by the American Bar Association,
and in March of 1973, it was provisionally
accredited. The report of the committee that
reviewed and recommended accreditation
noted that the school must have set some sort
of record in going from “the drawing board
to the operational phase.”

The first students paid tuition of $950 a
semester for the full-time program and $700
per semester for the evening program. For
comparison, tuition this year is $996 per credit
hour, and the recommend budget for books
is $900 a semester.

At the end of the first year, when grades
were reported, there was dismay among many
students as the failure rate was twenty-five
percent. Combined with voluntary attrition
of 10 percent, this meant that over one-third
of those students who began in September
would not be coming back. There was criticism
from students and their parents as well as from
the local press for this apparently draconian
process. Ironically, even though it had reduced
the number of potential lawyers by one-third,
the school was also criticized for contributing
to the overpopulation of lawyers.

The next year, with a little better sense of how
many students might be expected, the school
continued
enrolled a smaller entering class and brought on board additional new faculty, including George Neff Stevens, who had been dean at the University of Washington, and Clifton Fleming and Butch Covington, all of whom continued on to successful careers elsewhere in legal education. Professor George Nock was also hired and made his first pun in Tacoma that year. No one remembers exactly what it was, though some say it was that “you could not sentence a criminal to do embroidery because it would be crewel and unusual punishment.” Many more puns were to follow, of course.

In August of 1974, the first 18 graduates of the law school went through commencement. They and the additional December graduates were remarkably successful in the first bar exam for the school, with a 91 percent pass rate.

**Academic Year 1974-75**

Academic Year 1974-75 was the first year the school had three classes in the building at the same time. Faculty brought on board included Doug Branson, John La Fond, Shelly Frankel, Bill Oltman, George Priest, Dave Roberts and John Strait. That was also the year that can be said to witness the beginnings of the school’s dual commitment to excellence and justice.

**Professor George Nock made his first pun in Tacoma that year. No one remembers exactly what it was, though some say it was that ‘you could not sentence a criminal to do embroidery because it would be crewel and unusual punishment.’**

The Law Review was inaugurated, at first serving as an in-house forum, then publishing externally in the next year. And the law school began participation in VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance), a program that aided senior citizens and others to prepare their income tax returns. Within a few years, Moot Court and Client Counseling (now Dispute Resolution) teams were competing outside the law school, and students were volunteering to work with the local office of the Puget Sound Legal Assistance Foundation.

The next year, the law school hired its first women on the faculty, Frances Olsen and Barbara Hoffman, though it would be some time before the school would tenure a woman professor. Many women would come and go—most going on to successful academic careers elsewhere before the first female teaching professor was granted tenure. (Anita Steele was tenured as a librarian).

Dean Sinclitico, who had shepherded the law school through its birth and through full accreditation by the ABA and Association of American Law Schools in 1975, announced his retirement. He had managed to get from approval by UPS to full accreditation in less than five years. It’s fair to say that between the students, the accrediting agencies and

**The Museum of Glass was a gorgeous venue for the celebration.**

More than 500 people attended the spectacular 35th anniversary kickoff celebration at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma. It was a wonderful way for the law school to honor its roots, celebrate its achievements and look toward the future. Faculty and alumni had a great night reconnecting, reminiscing and relishing the law school’s commitment to standing for excellence and reaching for justice.

A 35th Anniversary gala celebration will be April 25 at Benaroya Hall, featuring a performance of Aaron Copland’s “Lincoln Portrait,” with a distinguished narrator. Watch your mail or e-mail for more details.

*35th Anniversary Kickoff in Tacoma*

*Photos by Matt Hagen*
the faculty, he was probably worn out and looked forward to some well-deserved rest. He recalled later that at the first faculty meeting, one faculty member proposed that they discuss the revision of the curriculum, a curriculum that had been in place less than a week.

Wallace Rudolph was named the next dean and came to the law school determined to find a new and permanent home for the law school and to raise the standards for the law school for both students and faculty. Dean Rudolph made the switch from part-time to full-time instructors in the Legal Writing Program and laid the foundation for that successful program that would be built upon by successive deans and legal writing faculty. He also began what was then called the booster program—an alternative admissions program.

It was also Dean Rudolph who came up with the idea of shaping the former Rhodes Department Store Building in downtown Tacoma into a law center. Don Cohen, who was his associate dean and then acting dean of the law school, said that when Dean Rudolph proposed the idea he thought it was crazy. The Rhodes Building was abandoned, empty and full of rotting wood.

But Dean Rudolph was persistent. He worked with university, city, state, and federal groups to find funding and then to plan the reconstruction of a department store into a law school. During Rudolph’s time as dean, Don Carmichael, Mark Reitlinger and Mari-
Professor Shelly Frankel, who joined the faculty in 1974, talks with Dean Kellye Testy.

Tacoma’s beautiful Museum of Glass, situated on the Thea Foss Waterway, proved to be an excellent backdrop for the evening’s festivities.

Maureen Berger, among others, joined the faculty. Professor Berger became the first woman to be granted tenure, breaking tough ground for those who followed her.

After seeing the law school through the planning and much of the construction of the new law center, Dean Rudolph resigned in 1979. He and the faculty found it best to part company, or at least to seek a new leader to bring the law school into its new home. The exact terms of the parting are subject, as these things often are, to some varying views. Cohen was appointed interim dean.

**The 1980s**

The law school moved into the $9 million Norton Clapp Law Center in 1980 with gala ceremonies including an address by United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger, who hailed the creation of a true law center. The new law center included not only the law school and its library, but it was also the home of the Washington Court of Appeals, the local public defender offices and some private law firms. It brought the law school into the center of the local legal community.

The sounds of the law school changed from airplanes to escalators, and students moved their social gathering space from the Creekwater Tavern to the Judicial Annex and the Spar. Students loved the convenience of Woolworth’s
across the street, and enjoyed the comfort of sidewalks to get to other downtown stores and restaurants. Students also enjoyed the proximity to jobs with lawyers or public agencies.

On the other hand, parking was no longer free. Students who parked on the street devised various ways to warn one another about the need to go move a car to avoid getting a ticket. The city of Tacoma, reacting to this ploy, decided to disallow “chain parking,” the clever practice of moving a car to a nearby space to avoid a ticket. It’s perhaps too bad that cell phones were not yet in use or the students could probably have driven the meter minds crazy.

In the fall of 1980, the new law school attracted 466 entering students. Higher than expected numbers of admitted students decided to come to the law school, and that combined with some glitches in the Law School Admissions Council processes meant that many more students than expected showed up. Classes were filled to capacity and all of the first-year instructors, especially the legal writing instructors, were taxed to the limits as they graded exams and worked with the students.

Interim Dean Cohen had his hands full dealing with the inevitable problems. He also had a minor firestorm when former Dean Rudolph commented to a student publication about his view of his departure and the students published the story to the world at large. Finally, Dean Cohen had to announce a 10 percent-plus tuition increase for the next year.

It was probably with a sigh of relief that he turned over the big office in the corner to Dean Fred Tausend and returned to teaching. New Dean Tausend was a practicing lawyer who had been, and would again become, an adjunct professor at law school. Fred has, with the exception Tim Lowenberg, the earliest teaching date of any current adjunct faculty member.

Starting in the 1980s, the law school has been continued >
fortunate to have a large number of lawyers, judges and others provide expertise and guidance to our students as adjunct professors. We have had justices of the Washington State Supreme and Appellate Courts, practicing lawyers from large and small firms and from both public and private agencies. Many of the adjuncts have been our graduates.

The move to the new building brought more new faculty: David Skover, David Boerner, David Engdahl and John Mitchell all came within the first two years, as did legal writing faculty members Laurel Oates, Anne Enquist and Chris Rideout. All continue to serve on the faculty today.

When Fred Tausend started law school at Harvard, the dean there told the students that “there are no glee clubs at the law school.” Fred was not impressed; he thought that while law school must be rigorous and demanding it need not be completely cheerless, so he started the Law Revue – student and faculty skits lampooning and having fun with the foibles of faculty, students and staff alike.

Because the school had moved downtown, it was much easier for students to get jobs with lawyers or to work with public agencies...

The tradition eventually played out, but not before treating the students to the undiscovered talent of George Nock as a lyricist, and the singing talent of David Skover. Attendees at the Oct. 17 kickoff event in Tacoma were treated to a reprise of three of the songs George wrote for David to perform.

In its earliest days, the law school had been a school of opportunity, but as it matured and its reputation grew, the school became more selective in its admissions. Tausend was committed to making sure that while still maintaining high standards for students and faculty the school also would remain

Professor Emeritus Tom Holdych opened the first class at the law school in 1972. He led the program honoring the founding faculty at the kickoff celebration.
The Archives Project

By Robert Menanteaux, Reference Librarian and Archives Project Coordinator

As a part of our 35th Anniversary celebration, Dean Testy asked the library to create an archive of documents and other artifacts reflecting the history of the School of Law. This process has two parts, one of which is the development of a records management system to ensure that appropriate materials in all formats are acquired, described and preserved for the future.

The second part of the project involves you, our alumni. We need to recover the components of our law school’s history in which you participated. Some of you may have been SBA office holders or the leader of a student group on campus. Others may have edited early volumes of the Prolific Reporter or its predecessors. You may have brought a camera with you to school and taken indoor or outdoor snapshots, especially of our South Tacoma or downtown locations. It is these types of artifacts that we seek for the collection that would almost certainly be available from our alumni.

A more extensive list of desiderata and a FAQ for our project can be found on our archives web site at http://www.law.seattleu.edu/library/archiveproject.

Call 398-4160 or e-mail me at arobertm@seattleu.edu if you think you might have some useful artifacts. I’m ready to answer your questions.

...on the other hand, they had to pay to park. Students who parked on the streets devised various ways to warn one another about the need to move a car to avoid getting a ticket.

ultimately became the successful Academic Resource Center.

It is noteworthy that two of the programs that distinguish the law school today – the Legal Writing Program the Academic Resource Center – grew to their present stature under the supervision of graduates of the law school itself – Laurel Oates ’78 and Paula Lustbader ’88, who started working with the program when it began while she was a student.

Dean Tausend decided to return to private practice, and the search for a new dean was begun. Jim Bond was hired in 1986 and came, like both Wallace Rudolph and Fred Tausend, without previous deaning experience. Dean Bond was committed to making the law school an excellent place for legal education and part of his legacy are the people hired: Janet Ainsworth, Lustbader, Melinda Branscomb, Annette Clark ’89, Sid DeLong, Raven Lidman ’77, Ken Wing, Julie Shapiro, and Kellye Testy are those who have remained at the law school, and those are only during his first time as dean. As we will see, his second round as dean had a few successes, too.

Early in his career, Jim had taught legal writing and was committed to the Legal Writing Program and to the clinic, which expanded under his leadership. He was also committed to making the law school smaller without sacrificing the elements that had brought it to its place in the legal community.

But his tenure wasn’t without turmoil either. He faced, among other challenges, a record low pass rate, the need to raise tuition 10 percent due to the smaller class size he desired, and student and faculty concerns that the faculty did not reflect either the student body, or the community that the graduates would serve. Though he negotiated many of these issues, if you look at his pictures between the start of his deanship and the end (of the first round) you will find a graying that is not entirely related to the acquisition of wisdom.

Jim Bond left the deanship in 1993 and turned over the reins to Don Carmichael as acting dean. There’s a lot behind this part of the story as most of you know. But, like Schelzerade, I will now stop and let the story continue in the next edition. Stay tuned.

Then and now…

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The ‘Daughters of Clarity’

Legal Writing professors take their knowledge to Africa

Twenty-five years ago Seattle University School of Law’s faculty founded the Legal Writing Institute. “Founding the institute changed and galvanized the legal writing profession,” said Laurel Currie Oates, director of the School of Law’s acclaimed Legal Writing Program. “I think now we are helping do the same thing in Africa.”

Oates and Legal Writing Professor Mimi Samuel spent the first half of the year in Uganda, Kenya and South Africa, training lawyers, judges and academics in the art of legal writing. They, along with Anne Enquist, associate director of the Legal Writing Program, also spent three weeks in India, making contacts and conducting training sessions for law students, lawyers and magistrates-in-training.

“We are spreading commas throughout the world,” Samuel joked. But, in reality, it was much more than just commas: They helped those who work in the law to develop a framework, get from facts to conclusion – and to be clear and concise. (Hence their self-given nickname, “The Daughters of Clarity.”)

Some ask how U.S. law professors can teach African lawyers and judges, but Oates and Samuel say it makes perfect sense. They worked in countries where English is at least one of the official languages and where the legal systems share a common law heritage. “It’s a very similar structure and process,” Samuel said. “For skill training – legal writing, analysis – there are enough commonalities that it easily transfers.”

Even if the legal system is similar, the conditions under which many lawyers and law professors operate are not. Textbooks are not commonly available, computers are at a premium, and classes are enormous, ranging from a typical class of 150 to 200 to classes of up to 600 students at a time.

“The things we take for granted are not there. For example, PowerPoint requires power,” Oates said, referring to one of many instances where the facilities could not accommodate
Even if the legal system is similar, the conditions under which many lawyers and law professors operate are not. Textbooks are not commonly available, computers are at a premium, and classes are enormous, ranging from a typical class of 150 to 200 to classes of up to 600 students at a time.

Dean of Nairobi University Faculty of Law. In addition, Anita Koyier-Mwamba ’06, a Kenyan graduate of the law school, acted as the Conference Assistant, helping the U.S. participants get to know Nairobi and the Kenyan legal system.

In Uganda, Oates and Samuel worked with magistrates, the judicial officers who handle petty crimes, property and contract disputes and family matters. Because Uganda does not have a jury system, magistrates write judgments for each case and read them aloud to the parties. While many of the judgments are typed, a large portion is hand-written. And many of them are written in a way that the litigants – who may have had limited opportunities for an education and who do not have English as their first language – have trouble understanding. Oates and Samuel guided the magistrates on ways to make their rulings more comprehensible to their primary audience.

Other work included a week-long course on clear and effective writing at the International Law Institute’s African Centre for Legal Excellence in Kampala that drew government lawyers from Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Kenya and training sessions for faculty at the Law Development Center in Kampala.

Toward the middle of the semester, the professors traveled to South Africa, where they gave a series of workshops in Johannesburg, Capetown, and Durban, which were sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in South Africa.

continued >
“We did 13 consecutive days of training,” Oates said. “We trained hundreds of people.”

Finally, they taught a course in Global Advocacy in the law school’s summer abroad program in Johannesburg to a group of 17 U.S. and 15 South African students.

Along with professional and personal relationships formed across the globe, their trip allowed them to bring a Kenyan law professor to Seattle University School of Law.

Professor Edwin Abuya participated in the pedagogy conference, teaching a session with Oates. They stayed in touch, and Oates and Samuel visited his law school, Moi University, to guest lecture. They then persuaded him to spend a year in Seattle, where he is a visiting professor in the Legal Writing Program. He will teach international refugee law next summer.

Abuya completed a doctoral thesis in international human rights and refugee law at The University of Sydney, Australia, and obtained master’s and undergraduate degrees in law from the Universities of Cape Town and Nairobi respectively. He has taught law in Kenya, Australia, and the United Kingdom. His research interests lie in the areas of legal research and writing, international asylum, humanitarian and immigration laws as well as transitional justice.

Though it’s his first time in the United States, Abuya echoes Samuel and Oates when asked what it’s like for a Kenyan law professor to teach American students.

“The skills are standard, but the systems are different,” he said.

Law is an undergraduate degree in Kenya, so his students there are 17, 18 or 19 years old. Students in Seattle have more experience — and higher expectations. “The thing I like is the students bring a different background to class,” he said.

He appreciates the technology easily at hand in the United States. Even when he taught in Australia and the UK, he didn’t see every student carrying a laptop, like at the law school.

“You guys are privileged because you have lots of resources for research,” he said.

Abuya applauds the program that Seattle University has created. He said he’s never before experienced such support for faculty, including a two-week training for new legal writing faculty before the semester began.

“The teamwork is impressive,” He said. “That’s something I will take back home. These exchange programs work both ways — you learn from them and they learn from you.”

Oates and Samuel are grateful for the support they have received from the law school and Dean Kellye Testy. They already look forward to another trip to Africa and are working to keep the momentum going.

They plan to continue their partnerships with organizations and programs in Africa and hope to do more work teaching professors to train their students.

In addition, a new organization grew out of the Conference on the Pedagogy of Legal Writing for Academics in Africa. APPEAL (Academics Promoting the Pedagogy of Effective Advocacy in Law) is dedicated to promoting the exchange of ideas, information, and resources about the teaching of legal writing and effective advocacy among academics in the United States. Samuel is co-president, and the group intends to have a conference in South Africa in 2009.

“Ten years from now, I’d be really happy if they had a legal writing program in Uganda,” Oates said.
Professor Janet Ainsworth presented many papers including “Beyond Status and Contract: Relational Estoppel as a Source of Rights and Obligations in Intimate Relationships” at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association in Berlin, where she also served as a panel chair and discussant. She presented “Framing the Architecture of Coercion: Discursive Context in Police-Citizen Street Interactions” at the Fourth Conference on Discourse, Communication and the Enterprise at the University of Nottingham and made a workshop presentation “Ideology of Language in Legal Doctrine and Practice: Ethnographic, Sociolinguistic, and Discourse Analytic Perspectives” at the University of Colorado. She presented “Sociolinguistic and Pragmatic Issues in the Application of Police Interrogation Rules” at the Symposium about Language and Society at the University of Texas. The paper has been accepted for publication by the Texas Linguistic Forum. She was the keynote speaker at the International Association of Forensic Linguists biennial meeting, delivering a paper titled “Linguistic Ignorance and Linguistic Ideology in the Law: The Future of Forensic Linguistics.”

Legal Writing Professor Lori Bannai conducted a session on designing effective assignments and facilitated a small group discussion on critiquing student papers at the AALS Workshop for New Legal Writing Teachers in Washington, D.C. She also presented on the panel “Korematsu: The Man, The Cases, The Context,” at the meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association at the East-West Center in Honolulu.

Visiting Professor Bob Boruchowitz received the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers’ Champion of Indigent Defense Award in San Francisco. He spoke on a panel on “The Caseload Crisis,” at the NAACL State Legislative Conference in San Francisco and at the West Virginia Public Defender annual conference on Coping with Excessive Caseloads and Inadequate Resources. The Importance of Non-attorney Staff in Defender offices, and “Sexually Violent Predator” Commitment Laws. He also spoke on a panel at the State Bar Criminal Justice Institute on the Report of the Committee on Public Defense and what it means for the Criminal Justice System. He also was on the steering committee for the CJI. He is vice chair of the City of Seattle’s Police Accountability Panel.

Legal Writing Professors Mary Bowman and Janet Dickson ’88 presented “Teaching ‘Generation Me’: Understanding our Students So We Can Teach Them Effectively” at the Northwest Regional Legal Writing Conference at Gonzaga University School of Law.

Associate Professor Melinda Branscomb wrote, and in conjunction with the King County Dispute Resolution Center produced, a CD of a simulated workplace mediation involving an employee with a disability. She used the film in a presentation and demonstration called “Stop Action: What Would You Do?” at the Northwest Dispute Resolution Conference at the University of Washington School of Law.


Professor Maggie Chon made presentations at several international conferences, including the Governance by Marketing and Branding, Law & Society Annual Meeting in Berlin, the Second International Seminar on Intellectual Property and Development in Rio de Janeiro, and Working Within the Boundaries of Intellectual Property, New York University School of Law Conference of the Engelberg Center on Law and Innovation Policy in Florence. She
gave the keynote address at the University of South Carolina conference on the Future of Copyright Law.

Vice Dean Annette Clark ’89 spoke at the Promoting Diversity in Deanships workshop at Seattle University School of Law on the difference between the role of the dean and the associate dean. As a result of that presentation, she was invited to speak at an Associate Deans Workshop in Englewood, Colo., in June on the topic of strategic planning within law schools.

Associate Director of Legal Writing Anne Enquist’s article “Unlocking the Secrets of Highly Successful Legal Writing Students,” will be published in the March issue of St. John’s Law Review. The draft form of the article has been downloaded from the Social Science Research Network more than any other Seattle University author.

Visiting Legal Writing Professor Elizabeth Ford was appointed to the Port of Seattle’s expert advisory panel, which was formed to provide the commission with advice as to how to address the problems within the Port Police.

Professor Sheldon Frankel and Carol Frankel, professor emerita and former dean of education at the University of Puget Sound, continued their research on public school foundations by publishing, “The New Fundraising”, in the American School Board Journal. The article discusses the use of dedicated 501(c)(3) entities to provide supplemental funds to local school districts and the resulting impact on school funding and on related educational and social goals.

Associate Professor Carmen Gonzalez gave a series of presentations to faculty and graduate students at the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town, South Africa. The presentations focused on the ecological and socioeconomic implications on developing countries of the World Trade Organization’s recent decision in the EC-Biotech case. She also was selected as a delegate for the International Association of Law Schools’ conference in China.

Associate Professor Jack Kirkwood presented “Controlling Above-Cost Predation: An Alternative to Brooke Group and Weyerhaeuser” at the American Antitrust Institute’s Invitational Symposium on Buyer Power at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The papers from the symposium will be published in the Antitrust Bulletin. He was named chair of the Buyer Power Committee of the American Antitrust Institute.

Legal Writing Professor Connie Krantz ’89 presented at a CLE in Leavenworth put on by the Washington Office of Public Defense for its contract attorneys who represent indigent clients on appeal.

Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development and Professor Tayyab Mahmud published “Geography and International Law: Towards a Postcolonial Mapping” in the Santa Clara Journal of International Law. He also spoke at the South Asian Legal Studies Workshop at the University of Wisconsin Law School and at the opening plenary “Negotiating Critical Locality,” of the Twelfth Annual LatCrit Conference in Miami.

Associate Professor Natasha Martin presented “The Presumption Superhighway to Nowhere and Back: The Same-Actor Inference as a Subterfuge to Equality In the Contemporary Workplace” at the Annual Colloquium on Current Scholarship in Labor and Employment Law sponsored this year by the University of Denver, Sturm College of Law and the University of Colorado Law School.

Externship Program Director Susan McClellan spoke about “International Externships: Boondoggle or Peak Experience?” at the AALS Workshop on Clinical Legal Education in New Orleans.

Professor Henry McGee published the lead article “Seattle’s Central Area 1990-2006: Integration or Displacement?” in the current issue of The Urban Law Journal, an ABA peer-reviewed journal. He read a version of the article at the International Association of Sociologists’ conference on Urban Justice and Sustain-
ability at the University of British Columbia. He was named Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels’ representative on the Board of the Municipal Development Authority, which funded the expansion of the Seattle Art Museum and its new sculpture park.


Douglas Nash, director of the Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate, testified before the United State Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the backlogs in probate, land title transfers, fractionation, leasing and potential solutions for addressing these federal issues.

Associate Professor Rafael Pardo delivered the keynote address, “Eliminating the Judicial Function in Consumer Bankruptcy,” at the National Bankruptcy Administrators Conference in Asheville, N.C. His paper, “An Empirical Investigation into Appellate Structure and the Perceived Quality of Appellate Review” (co-authored with Jonathan Nash), was selected for presentation at the poster session of the Second Annual Conference of Empirical Legal Studies at New York University School of Law. He presented his empirical research on the discharge of student loans in bankruptcy at the Federal Judicial Center’s Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges II in Austin, Texas. As part of his presentation, Professor Pardo discussed his recent work in this area: “Illness and Inability to Repay: The Role of Debtor Health in the Discharge of Educational Debt,” which has been accepted for publication by Florida State University Law Review; and “Anatomy of An Adversary Proceeding: A Case Study of Undue Hardship Discharge Litigation,” which was selected for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Law & Economics Association at the University of Minnesota Law School.

Associate Professor Gregory Silverman was appointed to the Washington State Digital Products Study Committee.

Associate Professor David Skover and his coauthor, Ron Collins, completed the manuscript for their next book, “Mania: The Lives that Launched a Generation” to be published in 2008. This work is a narrative account of the madcap existence of the Beats from 1949 to 1957 (with a special focus on the interrelationships of William Burroughs, Allen Ginsberg, John Clellon Holmes and Jack Kerouac), which led to the literary revolution that spawned famous obscenity trials for “Howl” and “Naked Lunch.” In addition, he completed two encyclopedia articles: one on Lenny Bruce for the Yale Bibliographical Dictionary of American Law and another on Roth v. U.S. and Alberts v. U.S. for the Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Associate Professor Ron Slye was appointed an expert commentator for the Cambodia Tribunal Monitor, a website established by the former ambassador at large for war crimes issues in the Clinton Administration and now director of the Center for International Human Rights at Northwestern University School of Law. He also was appointed honorary professor of law at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. He served as a panel speaker on “Mechanisms Other Than Tort Law for Dealing with Grave Breaches” at the Brooklyn Law School Symposium on Corporate Liability for Grave Breaches of International Law.
Thinking it through

“To me, scholarship is as much about the process as it is the product. It is thinking things through, considering implications, stripping away the surface to find the underlying assumptions and values.”

Being a parent is an experience that is at once profound and mundane. Parents make sandwiches in the morning, arbitrate sibling disputes in the afternoon and confront all the complexities of homework, video games and instant messaging at night. For many, being a parent is the most important (though frequently not the only) job we have.

Despite the apparent grounding of parenthood in the real world activities of child-rearing, whether one actually is a parent can be a contested and technical legal question. In a world of blended and fractured families, sophisticated reproductive technologies and reliable DNA testing, judges are frequently asked to determine who the parents of a child are. The answers judges give may not correspond to the morning sandwich makers, the afternoon arbiters and the evening managers of the child’s present. But they will likely determine who will have the right to do those things in the future.

Legal parenthood is a massive bundle of rights and obligations, ordinarily awarded in whole to two (and only two) people. Many undoubtedly wish for a simple and universal test for parenthood. Indeed, a simple test that can be readily applied and predictably answered has obvious appeal. The rationale for a universal test for parenthood in all situations is only slightly less obvious. Any test that only applies is some situations will be less predictable and more complicated – because it will require the court to determine whether it is the right test for the particular situation.

But while the desire for a simple and universal test is readily understandable, I cannot help but wonder if the quest for a single test that will award all the rights and obligations of par-
“Despite the apparent grounding of parenthood in the real world activities of child-rearing, whether one actually is a parent can be a contested and technical legal question... In a world of blended and fractured families, sophisticated reproductive technologies and reliable DNA testing, judges are frequently asked to determine who the parents of a child are.”

...
Law school honors Linda Strout ’79 for leadership

Linda Strout ’79, a leader both in her profession and her community, received the Reah Whitehead Public Leadership Award from the School of Law and the Women’s Law Caucus.

Strout was recognized at a breakfast at the Rainier Club in October. The award recognizes women in the legal profession who have provided outstanding leadership and who have contributed significantly to the public good and society, including the Seattle University School of Law community.

Strout is deputy chief executive officer of the Port of Seattle leading the Environmental and Security Strategy Teams. Dean Kelly Testy presented the award, saying, “Your achievements have brought great pride and distinction to the law school. We applaud you for the lasting contributions you have made to our school and the Seattle legal community.”

Strout has served as the port’s representative on several international trade and study missions, including the 2006 Stellar Women to Women Conference in Beijing led by Sen. Maria Cantwell, Gov. Christine Gregoire’s 2005 European Study Mission and a port delegation to Qingdao, China.

She has been an active in the community.

She served as president of the King County Bar Association from 1998 to 1999 and served on the Association’s Board of Trustees from 1991 to 1998. She currently serves on several outside boards, including Artist Trust Board of Trustees, Columbia Legal Services Board of Trustees and Seattle University School of Law Alumni Board. Strout has also served as a member of the board for the Fred Hutchison Cancer Research Center.

Strout encouraged the 100 alumni, students, faculty in the room to be active in their communities. She also spoke of the importance of praising and supporting good work, such as the work going on at the law school.

“Your achievements have brought great pride and distinction to the law school. We applaud you for the lasting contributions you have made to our school and the Seattle legal community.”

—Dean Kellye Testy

2006 Honoree Sharon Sakamoto ’84, congratulates Strout.

Honoree Linda Strout ’79, (front center) celebrates with, front, from left, Dean Testy, WLC co-presidents Helen Williams, and Samantha Noonan, both 31s, right, and other past and present WLC members. Photo by Matt Hagen.
New alumni relations director joins law school

Grace Greenwich, a seasoned alumni relations professional, was named the new director of alumni relations for the School of Law in August.

Greenwich has headed offices at both NYU and Columbia, working in the School of Continuing and Professional Studies at NYU and Teachers College at Columbia University. She has developed alumni and advisory boards, organized fundraisers and increased annual giving among board members and excels at reaching out to alumni. She encourages alumni to get in touch and to think of her and her office as a resource for them.

“I am truly honored to be here at the law school,” she said. “While I knew I would be working with a distinguished body of alumni, discovering the breadth of expertise and commitment to the mission of the law school has been truly inspiring.”

Greenwich is active in several professional organizations, serving as membership chair of the Association of Black Faculty, Administrators and Staff and program and development director of the Harvard University Tuskegee Airmen Youth Leadership Program, among others. She has won many awards for her service, including both the Cambridge City Council Award for Volunteerism and the Harvard University Certificate of Merit for Volunteerism in spring, 2005.

She earned a degree in history from New York University and has completed coursework and is currently writing her thesis for a master’s degree in history from Harvard University. This fall she is also scheduled to receive a graduate certificate from the legislative studies program at Georgetown University.

“Grace’s prior experience, outstanding skills and excellent fit with our mission and goals will be vital as we increasingly engage our alumni in the life of the law school,” Dean Kellye Testy said.

Eva Mitchell, who has been alumni relations director, is now alumni and community liaison to the dean, overseeing the 35th anniversary celebrations.

Stay involved with your law school

This is an exciting time in the life of Seattle University School of Law, as the law school celebrates its 35th anniversary and looks forward to the future. The Office of Alumni Relations wants you to become more involved with the law school and hopes you will join us as we further develop and celebrate our community.

There are many ways for you to become engaged in the life of your law school, whether as a mentor to students, as a member of an alumni committee or a volunteer, or as a participant in the varied alumni and law school programs.

The Office of Alumni Relations is working with alumni to form a committee focused on providing programs in the area of public interest. The Public Interest Law Alumni Committee will support public interest programs on campus, including the annual PILF auction that raises money for summer grants awarded to students who intern in the field of public interest.

For those of you who can’t make it back to campus, Seattle University School of Law is coming to you. The Office of Alumni Relations is pleased to offer exciting programs, distinguished speakers, social gatherings and events, to keep you connected to alumni in your area and your alma mater. Watch for e-mails about upcoming events in your area.

To find out more about events, alumni benefits or ask about ways to be more involved with your law school, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 206-398-4600 or lawalumni@seattleu.edu.

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Jan. 3
Alumni and Friends Reception in New York

Saturday, March 1
Public Interest Law Alumni Reception
Public Interest Law Foundation Auction

Thursday, March 13
Women of the Year Strawberries and Champagne Reception

Thursday, March 27
Black Law Student Association Alumni Reception

Friday, April 25
35th Anniversary Gala Celebration

Saturday, May 17
Graduation
ARC program celebrates 20 years of realizing dreams

By Paula Lustbader ’88
Associate Professor of Law
Director, Academic Resource Center

The Academic Resource Center celebrated its 20th anniversary in June with a rousing reception and dinner. The theme was “Celebrating Twenty Years of Realizing Dreams.” More than 200 people attended, including former Deans James Bond and Fred Tausend, and alumni from as far away as Hawaii, Florida, Arkansas, North Carolina, Texas, Michigan and California.

Professor Dave Boerner and I were overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and positive energy that filled the room. In his remarks, Dave said that of all the things he has done in his professional life (which we all know is a long and distinguished list), he is most proud of founding and teaching in the ARC program. I wholeheartedly agree.

That event provided us the opportunity to celebrate our students and the positive difference they have made and continue to make in the law school and the legal profession.

Although ARC students comprise about 10 percent of the entire student body, eight of the last 20 Student Bar Association Presidents were ARC students, as were four faculty scholars, three of the most recent graduation speakers, and many of the leadership positions in student organizations such as Moot Court, Law Review, and the Seattle Journal for Social Justice.

Alumni have become state and federal court clerks; partners and associates in big, medium, and small firms; solo practitioners; prosecutors and defense attorneys; U.S. and state assistant attorney generals; public interest lawyers; educators (one is president of a community college); working in large corporations such as Boeing and Microsoft; and judges. They work to provide access to justice through their work in public interest law or through their pro bono efforts.

ARC alums are leaders in their Bar Associations: the current presidents of Washington Women Lawyers, the Loren Miller Bar Association, and Latina/o Bar Association are all ARC alums. They have received numerous Bar Association and professional awards.

From left, Ciarelle Jimenez Valdez ’05, Irene Ishii ’05, Carla Lee ’05, Dean Kelly Testy, Paul Maltseff ’05, Professor Paula Lustbader ’88, Sony Shin ’05, Professor Dave Boerner, Lorena Gonzalez ’05, Tina Davis Shozen ’05, Saad Qadri ’05.

From left, Ganya Som 2L, Sunshine Eversull 2L, James Chung 2L, Carolyn Harris 1L, Michael Cherry 2L, Ismael Montes 2L, Nate Harris 2L, Associate Director/ARC Legal Writing Professor Chach Duarte White ’00, Michael Johnson 2L, Fernanda Parra 2L, Damisi Velasquez 2L, Hye Ran Lee 2L.
including the US Attorney Award for Excellence in Public Service, the Outstanding Young Lawyer of the Year, and Excellence in Pro-bono Service.

Although their work and professional recognition is marvelous, it is what makes them proud to be a lawyer that demonstrates the degree of difference they are making for their clients and the profession. Here are a few of their responses:

“I am proud of being part of our land use and environmental practice team and doing projects like the Port of Seattle Third Runway, the Qwest Field and Exhibition Center. On a more personal level, pro bono projects really stick with you.”

“There are no words to explain how great it feels when you witness a victim of domestic violence turn the corner from ‘victim’ to ‘survivor.’”

“My client walked up to me after a hearing and said, ‘Thank you for giving me my child.’ I know I made a direct difference in that child’s life.”

“When I worked for the State’s Medicaid agency, I got a call from a member of the public thanking me for being the sole reason why she was receiving effective medical care. She wept while she thanked me; it brought tears to my eyes.”

“I write contracts for the Army, generally for humanitarian assistance projects and disaster relief in Central America. Recently, I was reviewing potential sites for the Army to drill water wells for the local people. I remember thinking that helping people this way was an absolutely wonderful way to make a living and make a difference in people’s lives. I really feel great about that. God bless you for helping me be able to do that.”

Or simply:

“Gotta go with the helping people thing... love it... and I make a great living.”

These remarks demonstrate the caliber of our students, both in terms of their professional acumen and their compassion. I am grateful for how they have enriched my life. I am so very proud of them and of the service they are providing. Dave and I are deeply honored to have played a small part in helping them realize their dreams.

The Intiman Theatre plays host to the Dean’s Club

Charter members of the Seattle University School of Law Dean’s Club shared a memorable evening of celebration and camaraderie at Seattle’s Intiman Theatre in early October. Dean Kellye Testy thanked this growing group of alumni, friends, faculty and staff who provide critical financial support and advocacy for the law school.

The reception was followed by a poignant performance of Harper Lee’s “To Kill a Mockingbird.” A plaque honoring the 2006-07 Dean’s Club members was mounted at the west entrance of Sullivan Hall, outside the Justice Fred H. Dore Courtroom. Bryant Reber ’74 and Tony Ravani ’07, representing the book-end classes of the law school’s 35-year history, were joined by alumni from many graduation years at the unveiling of the plaque.

For information about the Dean’s Club, please contact Satcha Dearborn Graham at dearborn@seattleu.edu.


1975

Bradley W. Matthiesen was appointed a municipal court judge in Menomonee Falls, Wis. He is a senior partner with the Hartford law firm of Matthiesen, Wickert & Lehrer, where he has been an insurance defense trial attorney for 12 years.

1976

Lyle M. Clark Jr. has a small firm in Bellevue, Wash. He has been in private practice in Bellevue since 1977 and now focuses primarily on Social Security disability claims. Lyle’s other areas of practice include Worker’s Compensation, wills, trusts, estate planning and probate and non-probate settlement of estates.

1977

Harold Booker received the Distinguished Alumni Award at the University of Washington Multicultural Alumni Partnership Bridging the Gap Breakfast. A Seattle-area attorney and chemical engineer, he spearheaded efforts to eliminate the segregated housing patterns in Federal Way by organizing the Federal Way Committee for Human Rights and working with the Urban League’s Operation Equality Housing Program. He also was a leader in the efforts to eliminate bias in membership selection by such social clubs as the Elks. He served almost 20 years as a commissioner on the King County Housing Authority. Besides his pro bono family law cases low-income client cases, Harold gets pro bono client referrals from Volunteer Attorneys For People With AIDS of the King County Bar Association. His bro bono work also has been recognized by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, the King County Bar Association and Seattle University School of Law’s Black Law Student Association.

Jacline (Vicklund) Evered is working at McCormick, Kidman & Behrens, LLP in Southern California in the field of estate planning, trusts and probate. After 12 years as a law professor, she left academia, but remains a faculty member of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy, teaching trial and deposition skills courses held at Loyola Law School and Chapman University Law School.

1978

Cassandra Marshall lives in Indianapolis and practices law in a solo firm. Her areas of specialization are family law and estate planning.

1979

Richard D. Reed re-opened his practice, Office of Richard Reed, PLLC in Seattle and Vashon Island, focusing on employment law consultations and advocacy, litigation and workplace investigations. He started his solo practice in 1980, but after 12 years saw an opportunity to gain a mentor in the employment law field, and joined the Law Offices of Judith A. Lonnquist. Although he planned to stay five years, he ended up staying 15 years.

Tim Blake is chair of Paradise Valley Unified School District Citizens Curriculum Advisory Council in Phoenix, Ariz. He previously served a term on the Governing Board for the school district. He also serves on the Library Advisory Board for the City of Phoenix, and has chaired LAB twice.

1980

Sharon M. (Anderson) Brown has moved to Oregon after practicing in Washington for more than 25 years. She is a supervising attorney for Legal Aid Services of Oregon in Hillsboro, serving the civil legal needs for low-income Oregonians in the five northwestern Oregon counties. She is also a volunteer with CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocate) for abused and neglected children in the Washington and Multnomah juvenile courts.

Steve Fisher was elected to the Board of Directors of Bulivant House Bailey PC, a 160-lawyer West Coast law firm. Steve works in the Seattle office and handles business transactions with an emphasis on technology protection and transfers.

1982

Joel Gilman completed his LLM in 2005, and married Jennifer Harris, a native of Perth, Australia. He works as the legal officer for the Heritage Council of Western Australia, a state agency that administers the Heritage of Western Australia Act – 1990 legislation to identify and preserve structures and places that are significant to the state’s cultural heritage. He has two teen-aged stepsons.

Michael Jaria received the 2007 President’s Award from the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He was recognized for his “fearlessness” in the courtroom and his highly regarded death penalty and white-collar defense work. He is an active member and former board member of WACDL, former co-chair of WACDL’s Death Penalty Committee and a frequent lecturer at seminars. He is also a consulting attorney for the Mexican Capital Legal Assistance Program. Since his 1981 internship with the Seattle-King County Public Defender Association, Michael has defended clients accused of serious crimes. In 1983, after a one-year clerkship with the criminal division of the New Jersey Superior Court, he became a staff attorney at the New Jersey Office of the Public Defender. He next became a staff attorney in the felony division of the Seattle-King County Public Defender Association. In 1987, he started a private criminal defense practice in Seattle.

Paula Selis will return to the law school as an adjunct professor teaching consumer law in summer 2008. She has been practicing consumer protection law with the Washington State Attorney General’s Office for more than 20 years.

1983

Frank Van Dusen was awarded the 2007 Joseph M. Gaffney award as the King County Bar Association Legal Clinic attorney of the year at a Pro Bono award ceremony at the Seattle Center in October.

1984

Michael D. Bohannon opened his own law firm, Michael D. Bohannon, PLLC, in Poulisbo, Wash. He practices in the area of commercial law and creditor-debtor matters.

Peter J. Butch III moved his practice from Synnestsvedt & Lechner to the 400-lawyer firm of Fox Rothschild. He practices in the intellectual property area, and is a partner in the Princeton, N.J., office.

Tom O’Grady will celebrate his 20th anniversary at Alaska Airlines, where he is staff vice president and deputy general counsel. He is also the corporate compliance officer for the Alaska Air Group companies: Alaska Air Group; Alaska Airlines; and, Horizon Air Industries. Tom is married and lives on Mercer Island with his wife, Molly. He also flies back to New England as often as he can to visit his family, particularly his 2-year-old granddaughter. He spends much of his leisure time on the golf course.

1986

Stuart Kastner became an associate broker with the Ballard office of Windermere Real Estate/Northwest, Inc. He was formerly a partner with Montgomery, Purdue in Seattle. He lives in the North Beach community with his wife, Marci, and 12-year-old daughter Stephanie.
Leila Mills, a Kitsap County Superior Court Judge, was presented with the 2007 Judge William Nevins Award by the Washington Judges Foundation for her contribution to youth education and public understanding of the law.

Shirley Ort is completing her 10th year as associate provost and director of scholarships and student aid at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She was elected to a second four-year term as a trustee of the College Board.

Albert Thurmond is the director of gift planning for the University of Washington, where he has been employed for the last nine years. He lives with his wife and 11-year-old daughter in the Magnolia neighborhood of Seattle.

1987

Patrick Dwyer has a new office in Seattle. He has been practicing patent law since 1986 and has been a solo practitioner since 1991. His other activities include writing, dancing, triathlons, and coaching actual and would-be performers in singing, acting and dance performance. He lives on South Whidbey Island with his partner, Betty Jo Costanzo, in a retreat compound on six acres of cedars. He has two grown children, Lauryn and Sara.

1988

Mark Calkins is an assistant attorney general in the Agriculture & Health Division of the state of Washington.

Kim Harlington is an associate broker at ERA Integrity Realty in Sumner.

Dana Mumey joined the Adams County Attorney’s Office in Brighton, Colo., as a senior litigator. She represents the county in employment law and civil rights cases.

1992

Jennifer Barrett Farmer and her husband, Robert Farmer, welcomed son Austin Shane Farmer Oct. 9, 2007. He was born at Fort Hood, Texas, and weighed in at 10.25 pounds.

Bill Spearfoole and his wife, Kimberly, welcomed son Connor Thomas April 4, 2007. He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and joined older brother Will. Bill has been practicing law in Denver for the last seven years at Montgomery Little Soran & Murray, P.C., and was elected a full shareholder and director on January 1. Prior to life in the Rockies, Bill spent more than four years at the District Attorney’s Office in Philadelphia (where he was born and raised), during which time he met Kimberly, also a lawyer, in a courtroom.

1993

Dale Barr is a patent attorney in Seattle and serves as president of the Washington State Patent Law Association. Dale and his wife, Candee, have three sons.

Casey Fitch is a clerk for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Richard Tallman in Seattle. He returned to Seattle after clerking for two years to U.S. District Court Judge David M. Lawson, then Judge Thomas L. Ludington, in Michigan’s Eastern District.

Brian Hansen was named corporate counsel for Kia Motors Manufacturing Georgia, Inc., Kia’s first U.S. automobile manufacturing plant, scheduled to be fully constructed and producing cars by the third quarter of 2009.

Evelyn Rick serves on the Arizona Supreme Court Committee on Character and Fitness, which is in charge of recommending applicants to the practice of law in Arizona. She wrote a book that is being published by the Arizona Bar Association regarding time limits for civil appeals. She practices at Munger Chadwick in Tucson.

Former Lt. Cmdr. Charles Swift, counsel to an enemy combatant whose legal case made history when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the president could not hold military tribunals, has been named acting director of the newly established International Humanitarian Law Clinic at Emory University School of Law in Atlanta.

1995

Wendell Dyck has shifted away from law and has opened his own massage therapy practice, Massage for Seattle Inc. He has a home studio in the Columbia City area.

Mark Smith has been a solo practitioner in Guam for six years. He previously was an associate and partner at a law firm and clerked for two Guam superior court judges. He won a jury verdict for $1.06 million in a personal injury case – one of Guam’s largest verdicts for a personal injury. Judgment was obtained and he eventually settled the case. Mark practices primarily in probate and personal injury law and handles some worker’s compensation and criminal cases.

1996

Juliet Jones is vice president of Career Key, Inc., an online resource for helping people choose the best career. More than 5,000 people visit the website daily, and more than 1,500 schools, nonprofits and libraries link to it. She also welcomed son Nicholas Lawrence Vlasceanu on April 8, 2007. He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces.

Kathryn Salensky was appointed principal court attorney to New York State Supreme Court Justice John N. Byrne after more than seven years as a Bronx assistant district attorney. She also was appointed to serve on the Women in the Courts Task Force of the New York City Bar Association. The Task Force focuses on court reforms such as improving access to court interpreters in New York State and providing more access and protections to elder citizens.

Elizabeth (Beth) Van Moppes has been a solo practitioner for a year and a half. Her focus remains management-side employment law, but she has had more opportunities to provide workplace advice and to conduct independent workplace investigations. Her office is on the canal in the Fremont neighborhood of Seattle.

1997

Anne-Marie Sargent is a partner in her own firm, Connor & Sargent PLLC. The firm primarily handles wage and hour class actions, employment cases, and consults with small to mid-sized businesses about employment issues (including contracts, policies, discipline and terminations) to help them avoid litigation.

L. Ross Van Houten established Freedom Cove Wealth Advisors LLC, a registered investment advisor in the Seattle area. He works with individuals to meet their long-term financial goals.

Continued >
1998

Kris Haworth joined FTI Consulting as a managing director leading the San Francisco practice in forensics and litigation consulting. She recently bought a home in Tiburon, Calif.

Patricia Paul spoke at the Reuniao Equatorial de Antropologia and X Reuniao de Antropologista Norde de Brasil. She presented a lecture on the founding principles of Federal Indian Law and about her experience as a pro tem judge in the Pacific Northwest and of her law practice in Federal Indian Law. It was her second trip to Brazil to work with Brazilian anthropologists and their work with the indigenous peoples of Brazil. She has a private practice in La Conner, Wash., and was appointed by The Board of Governors of the Washington State Bar Association to a committee position as a member with full voting rights for 2007-2008.

1999

Curt Cutting received a “CLAY” award – California Lawyer Attorney of the Year – from California Lawyer magazine for handling a successful appeal on behalf of the City of San Diego. He was the lead attorney in that appeal, which resulted in a published opinion that reversed a $122.5 million judgment against the city in an inverse condemnation case.

Wilberforce Agyeukum was appointed by Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels to the city’s Human Rights Commission. He is a board member for King County Chapter of Washington Conservation Voters and a member of the WSBA’s Civil Rights Committee and Committee for Diversity.

1999

Tobin Dale is a shareholder at the Seattle law firm of Stafford Frey Cooper and a captain in the U.S. Army (Reserve) JAG Corps. This fall Tobin was called to active duty in the Army for a one-year deployment at Ft. Hood, Texas. Tobin deployed with other soldiers from his unit, the 6th JAG Det. (LSO) based at Ft. Lawton, Wash. At Ft. Hood, they will be serving as the trial counsel handling court-martials, as well as operating the Legal Assistance office and the Administrative Law department. Tobin’s civilian practice focuses on police misconduct defense and construction litigation.

Mellani McAleenan left her position as the governmental affairs director for the Association of Washington Business and is now the executive director for policy and planning for the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Hector Steele Rojas is on the Washington State Bar Examiners Committee, responsible for the administration of the Bar Exam. He is also a member of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington.

2000

Brian Brunkow was elected to the Board of Directors for the American Museum of Radio & Electricity, which houses one of the largest collections of its kind in North America. Brunkow, a Washington and California attorney, relocated his law practice from San Diego to Bellingham, Wash. His office will work primarily with small businesses and start-ups on regulatory compliance and contractual matters.

Nicole Scott Ewing was promoted to county attorney for Berkeley County, S.C. She lives in the Charleston area.

2001

Heidi Eckel Alessi is an associate in the ERISA/Employee Benefits department of K&L Gates.

Alisa Brodkowitz opened her own firm, Brodkowitz Law, in Seattle. She focuses on representing plaintiffs in aviation accidents and incidents.

Megan Lawrence was named managing director of government and community relations for Alaska Air Group. She had served as the company’s Washington, D.C.-based director of government affairs since 2005. In her new role, she leads local, state and federal government affairs activities from the Seattle office. Prior to joining Alaska, Megan was responsible for air transportation and homeland security issues for the congressional staff of U.S. Rep. George Nethercutt. She also worked in the Seattle office of Winterbauer & Diamond, PLLC, and served on the staff of former Sen. Slade Gorton.

Michele O’Loane opened her own law office, the Law Office of Michele M. O’Loane, Inc., P.S., where she practices family law.

Sarah E. Trimble returned from Dallas, Texas, in February and is practicing juvenile defense law for the Whatcom County Public Defender’s Office.

Shannon M. Whittemore joined AXIOS Law Group, a local boutique IP firm, where she focuses on IP litigation and transactional matters for a variety of creative business clients.

2002

Julia Bahner has joined LandAmerica Financial Group, Inc. as associate claims counsel.

Gregg Hirakawa is the new deputy executive director for external relations for the Washington State Bar Association. He will handle public outreach and communication activities and oversee several WSBA departments and initiatives, including Continuing Legal Education, Justice and Diversity Initiatives, Lawyer Services, and Member and Community Relations departments, and the Loan Repayment Assistance Program. He was the communications director for the Seattle Department of Transportation since 2006 and worked as bureau chief/ correspondent for “The MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour” in Seattle from 1991-1996. Previous experience also includes working as an attorney in private practice and in the King County Prosecutor’s Office. He served as commissioner of the City of Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission from 2004-2006, and serves as commissioner of the King County Charter Review Commission.

Jonathan Rand is at Disability Rights Washington in Seattle, where she focuses on issues impacting people with disabilities. She does pro bono work for KCBA Volunteer Attorneys For People With AIDS. For the past year, Emily has been an instructor at the Center of Legal Studies and taught a paralegal certificate course at Seattle Central Community College. She was also appointed to the WSBA Committee for Diversity. She has lobbied for access to health care in Washington D.C., and focused on Social Security Administration benefits at a private firm in Tacoma.
Jonathan Dichter is happily married and living in Lynnwood, and has worked for two years at the Law Offices of Heidi Hunt.

Daniel Jung was hired as a litigation associate at Wilson Smith Cochran Dickerson after his clerkship with Washington State Court of Appeals. He and his partner, Richard Newman, were married in May 2007.

April (Win) Miklautsch and her husband, Dietrich, welcomed a son, Landon, on Feb. 8, 2007. Before Landon was born, April was an associate at Aoki Sakamoto Grant LLP.


Alexander Ransom is an associate at Lustig Law Firm in Bellingham, Wash. He practices criminal defense and is an experienced jury trial litigator. He is a member of the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association and the Whatcom County Bar Association. He is a martial arts enthusiast and an avid chess player.

Carl Turk works for Merchant & Gould through the Atlanta office. He worked in the Seattle office until he moved to Gainesville, Fla., where his wife is on the faculty of the University of Florida College of Dentistry.

2004

The firm of Spencer Anderson Buhr, with partners Shane Anderson ’04, James Spencer JD ’05, and Cynthia Buhr ’05, was nominated for the 2006 Greater Seattle Business Association’s New Business of the Year. Stanley Myers ’05, is an associate at the firm.

Maegan Hall Both and her husband, Rick Both, welcomed their first child, Bridget Laraine Both, in April.

Kyle C. Olive and his wife, Anna, welcomed son Jamie on April 14. Kyle started his own personal injury law firm, the Law Office of Kyle C. Olive, in Bellevue, Wash.

Susan Prentice-Sao has her own law office in Plainwell, Mich., and is a court-appointed attorney for Kalamazoo and Barry counties for felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile criminal cases. She does pro bono work for Sylvia’s Place, a domestic violence shelter and received the Mary Martin award for her work with domestic violence victims and their children. She also teaches American government and business law at Kalamazoo Valley Community College.

Jesse Valdez was appointed to the board of directors of the Latina/o Bar Association of Washington. He is a partner at Ruthford & Valdez, PLLC, where his practice focuses on business law, corporate bankruptcy, wealth preservation and various litigation matters. Jesse has been active in the LBAB as liaison to the Hispanic National Bar Association and as a member of the banquet committee.

2005

Eric Gutierrez wrote an article, “White Latino Leaders: A Foregone Conclusion or A Mischaracterization of Latino Society?” published in The Modern American, a publication dedicated to diversity and the law. His article appeared in the Summer 2007 issue commemorating the 10th annual Hispanic Law Conference. Eric is an attorney with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund in Washington, D.C.

Carla Lee ’05 received the State Board Member of the Year Award at the Washington Women Lawyers Annual Awards Dinner Sept. 28. The award was presented by Joan Tierney ’01, associate director of the Center for Professional Development and president of Washington Women Lawyers. During the 06-07 term, Carla served as WWL vice president of professional development. She is also the treasurer of the Loren Miller Bar Association.

Sara Lingafelter formed her own general practice, First Ascent Law PS, in Kitsap County, Wash. Her practice emphasizes dispute prevention and problem solving in the areas of estate planning, probate, business and employment law, and civil litigation. Outside of work, Sara still rock climbs as often as possible with her husband, Chris, and is a frequent volunteer and member of the Board of Directors of Kitsap Legal Services.

Pete Meyers practices in the construction defect litigation group at Smith Freed & Eberhard, P.C., in Portland, Ore. He is the editor of the firm’s Construction Reporter, which includes updates and information for clients.

Polly Asify Peshtaz is a prosecutor in Tacoma. She and her extended family from Afghanistan were featured in The News Tribune recently. More than 25 years ago, Polly’s parents left Afghanistan during the Soviet Invasion and have called Puylup, Wash., their home ever since. They were unable to say goodbye to brothers, sisters and other family. Finally last year, Polly’s parents were reunited with their sisters, brothers and nieces and nephews they had never met. Polly’s father has been a hero in the community and has brought more than 33 members of their family away from poverty, violence and the injustice. Polly has become a role model and mentor to her younger cousins and works with them to become adjusted to life in America.

James D. Pirtle started Del Norte Gourmet to sell his homemade salsa. Salsa Del Norte is available online and at specialty grocery stores. Pirtle continues to do litigation and criminal defense work through his Seattle firm, the Law Office of James D. Pirtle.

Tracy Sarich was named an associate of Tousley Brain Stephen PLLC in Seattle. The firm concentrates on commercial and class action litigation, real estate and business matters. She previously clerked at the Washington State Court of Appeals, Division I, for the Honorable Susan R. Agid.

Aaron Schutzer is a patent attorney at ZyMOGenetics, Inc.

Erica Wolf is in her second year of her solo practice and has relocated to downtown Seattle. Her general practice includes business and estate planning, and representing bicyclists and motorcyclists in accident cases.

2006

Pamela Casey is an assistant attorney general for the state of Alabama assigned to the Capital Litigation Division, where she focuses on habeas corpus litigation. She is in her second year as a professor of legal writing and trial procedures at Birmingham School of Law. She also serves as the mock trial coach to the school’s AAL team.

L. Kathleen (Hammer) Casper left her position as the policy and public affairs officer for the Tacoma Housing Authority and is an associate with the continued >
Law Offices of G. Parker Reich in Gig Harbor, Wash., practicing family law, property law and probate.

**Cameron Collins** and **Mark Saku** started Saku Collins Entertainment and Media Law Group, PLLC, in Seattle. They focus on providing legal services to artists, musicians and athletes.

**David Ko** is clerking for the Honorable Ricardo S. Martinez at the United States District Court in the Western District of Washington. David received his masters of laws in taxation from the University of Washington School of Law.

**Sara Longley** is a solo attorney practicing estate planning and probate in Seattle.

**Eric Norman** joined Scruggs Law Offices in Mercer Island, Wash., as an associate. His practice includes real estate, contracts and general civil litigation. Prior to joining Scruggs Law Offices, Eric served as a deputy prosecuting attorney for the Pierce County Prosecutor’s Office. Michael Scruggs graduated from Seattle University School of Law in 1989.

**Kurt Sherwood** is an associate in the Hong Kong office of Allen & Overy, the second largest firm in the world. He is in the U.S. practice group of the International Capital Markets Practice Group. He earned an LLM in corporate and financial law from the University of Hong Kong. His job takes him all over Asia to meet with company executives and government officials to help them comply with U.S. securities law.

**Quita St. John** is a public defender with the Associated Counsel for the Accused. She volunteers with QLaw’s At-Risk Youth Committee and serves on the executive board of the William L. Dwyer Inn of Court. She still plays rugby for the Seattle Breakers and when she has time, she loves to head out into the mountains to hike.

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**2007**

**Kim Anderson** is enrolled in the LL.M. program at New York University and has accepted an offer to clerk for U.S. Tax Court Judge Juan Vasquez.

**Kari Brotherton** works at Ryan Swanson & Cleveland PLLC in Seattle in the estate planning, business, and tax groups.

**Twyla Carter** is a public defender at The Defender Association.

**Ethan Sattelberg** and **Charity Atchison** were married Oct. 20, 2007. In attendance was **R. Bert Wilkins**, also ’07.

**Peter Trahms-Neudorfer** has joined the national intellectual property law firm Woodcock Washburn LLP as an associate in the Seattle office.

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**In Memoriam**

**Laurie Halbert ’85** died Aug. 23, 2007 week in Amherst, Mass., after a brief illness. Laurie was a criminal defense appellate attorney, handling many complex superior court issues.

**John Johnson ’85** died July 11, 2007, at age 46, after a long struggle with cancer. A partner at Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP, he was a talented patent lawyer who specialized in prosecuting patents in the chemical, biotechnical, computer and mechanical areas. John’s scientific studies were wide-ranging, with a degree in chemistry, minor undergraduate concentrations in computer science and mathematics, and graduate studies in genetics, microbiology and immunology. He was proud of the many patents he obtained for client Marvel Characters Inc., such as a utility patent on a Spiderman toy action figure that automatically swings from building to building, and a design patent for the Hulk Hands toy, large green foam gloves that resemble the fists of Marvel’s Hulk action hero.

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