As the holidays approach, we are mindful of the difficult realities facing many in our community, which make us more dedicated than ever to working to ensure a more just and humane world. I wish you and yours a peaceful season.”

As the end of 2008 approaches, we at Seattle University School of Law are in the middle of another exciting academic year as we continue our upward trajectory as one of the nation’s leading law schools.

I am thrilled to announce the establishment of the Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, which is is quickly becoming reality. We are proud to name the center for Fred, whose long battle for justice after his conviction for fighting the Japanese American Internment should inspire us all. We are grateful to his family for the opportunity to honor him.

With the theme of “Looking Back, Reaching Forward,” the center will host a major launch that joins celebration and scholarship in April. We can embrace that theme now, as we review all the law school has accomplished this year and look forward to all that’s in store for the new year and beyond.

This fall, we looked back to the roots of the Public Interest Law Foundation, celebrating more than 15 years of students committed to public interest law who are really making a difference.

And we look forward to welcoming our new graduates to the legal profession at Winter Commencement.

We recognize the extraordinary service of three longtime professors – Dave Boerner, Shelly Frankel and Bill Oltman – who individually and collectively leave a huge mark on the law school. They helped build Seattle University School of Law into what it is today, and we thank them for their many vital contributions over the years. Watch for announcements of spring celebrations of their distinguished careers.

We have benefited from the considerable expertise of seven new faculty members this year, and we are well on our way to hiring several stellar professors for next year. This is a testament to the law school’s growing national reputation and our commitment to bolstering our faculty ranks.

From the outstanding LatCrit conference and the Influential Voices speaker series coordinated by Associate Dean Tayyab Mahmud to the Future of the Legal Coursebook workshop coordinated by Professor David Skover, the law school drew top scholars and generated national attention during the fall.

The Korematsu Center, directed by Professor Robert Chang and involving many talented scholars from our law school and around the country, is sure to do the same. The center builds on the law school’s commitment to working for equal justice and draws on faculty expertise in the areas of race and gender and the law.

Our alumni programs continue to thrive, and we will devote the weekend of April 24 and 25 to an alumni celebration. Watch for more information about that and the Korematsu Center launch. I hope to see many of you at your law school during 2009 and encourage you to become more involved with projects that most interest you.

As the holidays approach, we are mindful of the difficult realities facing many in our community, which make us more dedicated than ever to working to ensure a more just and humane world. I wish you and yours a peaceful season.

—Kellye Testy
Dean, Seattle University School of Law
Inside this issue

4 Briefcase
Law school news

8 Scholars for Justice
Award winners bring broad experience

10 A fond farewell
Professors Boerner, Frankel and Oltman retire

16 A strong foundation
PILF sowed seeds of public interest

19 Above the Bar
Faculty achievements

22 Alumni News and Events

26 Alumni Profile
Law school unites Frank Edmondson ’82 and Vickie Grahn ’04

28 Class Notes

31 Report of Giving

ON THE COVER:
From left: Professors Bill Oltman, Dave Boerner and Shelly Frankel prepare to retire.

Family and friends await a swearing-in ceremony for new members of the Bar at the Federal Courthouse in Tacoma. The School of Law cosponsored.
Red Mass:
Alumni and faculty talk outside the Chapel of St. Ignatius after the School of Law’s first Red Mass. The law school brought the tradition to Seattle to honor the judiciary and to emphasize the legal profession’s vital role in promoting justice and peace. Red Mass will be held every year on the first Monday in October.

Law school launches Korematsu Center for Law and Equality

A new law school center will study and combat discrimination through research, advocacy and education projects.

The Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality aims to advance social justice by fostering critical thinking about discrimination in U.S. society and through targeted advocacy to foster equality and freedom.

“This new center allows our talented faculty to build on the law school’s strengths in the areas of race and the law to advance our mission for a more just and humane world,” Dean Kellye Testy said.

The center’s work will be divided into three units: research, advocacy and education projects.

Its research unit will focus on understanding the relationship between law and categories of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, disability and religion, especially with regard to their intersections. It will bring together scholars from various disciplines and will support interdisciplinary scholarship.

The advocacy unit will apply this understanding to combat discrimination through targeted advocacy efforts. The education unit will create a focus area in Law and Equality for J.D. students and will help train the next generation of scholar/teacher/activists through post-graduate teaching and advocacy fellowships.

The center is named for Fred Korematsu, who defied an order that required all persons of Japanese ancestry in the area of Oakland, California, to report for detention. He was jailed and then sent for internment. The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed his conviction. Forty years later, the Federal District Court for the Northern District of California vacated that conviction on proof that the government had suppressed, altered and destroyed material evidence that contradicted the government’s claim of military necessity.

Korematsu went on to champion the cause of civil liberties, seeking redress for Japanese Americans who were wrongfully interned and traveling the country speaking about his case and other violations of civil rights, especially after 9/11.

The center is directed by Professor Robert Chang, a noted scholar in the area of race and the law. Legal Writing Professor Lori Bannai,
who was a member of the legal team that worked to reverse Korematsu’s wartime conviction and is writing a biography of Korematsu, is helping to develop the center. It will build on the law school’s strong faculty in the area of law and equality, including Professors Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic, leading authorities in critical race theory, and Donald and Lynda Horowitz Professor for the Pursuit of Justice Margaret Chon, co-author of “Race, Rights and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment.”

Several events are being planned for the spring semester, culminating in a formal launch and celebration in April.

Judge Zulema Hinojos-Fall receives leadership award

Zulema Hinojos-Fall, an administrative judge for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, received the 2008 Reah M. Whitehead Leadership Award.

Hinojos-Fall was the first woman of color to sit on the board of the Washington State Bar Association’s Board of Governors, where she promoted and championed professional development and opportunity for attorneys of color in Washington. Under her leadership, the WSBA elected the first African-American president in its 100 year history, increased the number of women and minorities on its board and elected the first Indian attorney board member. She is an adjunct professor and an externship sponsor at the law school.

She supports and encourages the higher education goals of economically disadvantaged at-risk youth by serving as a mentor to numerous high school students and as a speaker in local stay-in-school programs. She is chair of the WSBA’s Bar leader’s Conference, and on the boards of the WSBA Leadership Institute and Verity Credit Union. She also works on behalf of funding for civil legal aid programs as the chair-elect of the Washington State Office of Civil Legal Aid.

Law school takes part in Rwanda tribunal project

A contingent from the School of Law recently traveled to Rwanda and Tanzania as legal advisors on a project to preserve information about the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. A group of 15 students provided invaluable assistance from Seattle.

The tribunal, based in Arusha, Tanzania, was established by the United Nations to prosecute violations of international law arising from the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Over the past 12 years, the ICTR has established numerous precedents in international criminal law, including the definition of rape as a component of genocide.

Professor Ron Slye, Professor from Practice John McKay and retired judge Donald Horowitz traveled to Arusha and Kigali, Rwanda, to interview judges, clerks, prosecutors, and other tribunal employees. Over about five weeks in October and November, the team conducted and recorded 49 interviews. As the ICTR prepares to wind down its operations, many of these individuals will soon leave Africa and return to their home countries.

“That knowledge can be used to improve the process of accountability as the international legal community addresses other conflicts such as Darfur or Congo.”

To help prepare for the interviews, the students pored over thousands of pages of transcripts and other documentation from the ICTR, summarizing cases, listing the names of court personnel involved, highlighting important jurisprudence and describing any unique procedural aspects of a case. Some of the students prepared dossiers about the judges, while others wrote memoranda on various points of ICTR jurisprudence, sentencing issues, procedural and evidentiary issues, media and academic coverage of the ICTR, and statistics and trial data.

One of the students, Micol Sirkin ’10, is working on a law review note on the ICTR, arguing that ethnic cleansing should, like rape, be encompassed within the definition of genocide. “We need to develop an approach to international human rights that includes prevention as well as punishment,” she said. “We keep hearing the words ‘never again,’ but as lawyers it’s not always clear how we can make a difference.”

The two 1Ls in the group, Holly Brauchli and Beth Litwin, were both interested in international law before starting law school. “I knew this would be really challenging as a first-year student,” said Litwin, “but I couldn’t pass up the opportunity to work on something that had a real-world connection, especially with so much going on in international law right now.”
The briefcase: law school news

The work is part of the Multi-Lifespan Information System Research Initiative, a joint project of the School of Law and the University of Washington Information School. Its goal is to collect and organize information about the ICTR in a way that will be useful to a variety of audiences.

Law school co-hosts National Bar Association’s symposium

Seattle University School of Law co-hosted the National Bar Association’s 20th annual Wiley A. Branton Symposium in October, including a film screening and panel discussion.

As part of Social Justice Week, the law school showed “Soul of Justice: The Thelton Henderson Story,” which documents the life of Thelton Henderson, one of California’s first African-American federal judges who was the first attorney of color hired by the Department of Justice’s Office of Civil Rights.

The filmmaker, Abby Ginzberg, joined Professor Hank McGee and Judge Anita Crawford-Willis ’86, for an analytical discussion of the film. A reception with members of the NBA followed.

Professor Bryan Adamson moderated a panel on the U.S. Supreme Court ruling banning the use of race in school assignments. A reception with a performance by violinist Quinton Morris, director of Chamber and Instrumental Music at Seattle University, followed.

Earlier in the day, Professor Joaquin Avila spoke at the NBA Issues Symposium Town Hall Meeting on Election Protection.

Workshop draws leading scholars and generates extensive press

Fredric C. Tausend Professor David Skover and Dean Kellye Testy, in collaboration with Vanderbilt School of Law Dean Ed Rubin and Ron Collins of the First Amendment Center, co-organized the Workshop on the Future of the Legal Course Book in September.

The event gathered nationally prominent scholars in legal pedagogical reform together with key representatives from the National Conference of Bar Examiners, the print and electronic publishing industries, and significant Internet-based book ventures to explore existing paradigms of legal education and course materials. A huge success, the workshop received press coverage from the Chronicle of Higher Education, the National Law Journal, and other leading publications. The co-organizers are now involved in discussions about transforming aspirations into action.

There is a growing movement in the legal academy that seeks to move away from the traditional teaching method and to reform legal education. The reformers aim to better prepare students for the modern practice of law and to help them develop a broader range of skills than can be acquired solely by studying doctrine from appellate opinions.

Read more about the conference and press coverage at www.law.seattleu.edu/x4348.xml.

Series prepares students for lawyering in a diverse world

The School of Law launched projects this year designed to empower students with skills and practical knowledge to assist diverse clients including those with limited English skills.

Lawyering in a Diverse World is a year-long series of workshops that give students a competitive edge for effective lawyering in our increasingly diverse and complex world. In addition, students are gaining tools to better understand and engage in issues of inclusion, diversity, and cross-cultural competence, which are not only global and business imperatives, but are also justice imperatives. The series includes topics like “Cross-Cultural Lawyering,” “The Disability Perspective” and “Bias in the Courtroom”.

The workshops are facilitated by law school faculty and staff including Ada Shen-Jaffe, senior advisor to the dean, as well as practitioners Stacie Siebrecht from Disability Rights Washington and Jeff Robinson from Schroeter Goldmark & Bender. In addition to these workshops, students have organized Table Talk events that provide dinner conversations about issues such as Race and the Elections.

Another program, the Language Access Project will educate future
lawyers to serve clients with limited English skills. A collaboration of the Access to Justice Institute and the Washington State Coalition for Language Access, the project will help train future lawyers to serve limited-English proficient clients with quality and culturally competent representation and to advocate for better policies to serve diverse clients throughout the legal community. Dean Kellye Testy was the keynote speaker and ATJI Associate Director Monika Batra Kashyap made a presentation, “Building for the Future,” at the fourth annual WASCLA Summit in October.

Immigration Law Clinic and Legal Writing students team up to win asylum case

Students in the Immigration Law Clinic helped secure asylum for two East African women who had been victims of abuse and intimidation. The victory means that the women, who now live in Seattle, will be able to live and work legally in the U.S. and eventually apply for citizenship.

Clinic students Karin Tolgu ’09, Andrew Buffington ’09, Grant ManClark ’09, and Yunji Kim ’09 assisted Adjunct Professor Monika Batra in representing the clients. When the cases were referred to the clinic from the Northwest Immigrants Rights Project last year, they appeared to be fairly straightforward. Soon afterward, though, a ruling by the Board of Immigration Appeals threatened to significantly weaken the basis for the asylum claim.

Batra enlisted the help of Professor Laurel Oates, director of the Legal Writing Program, and Edwin Abuya, who at the time was a visiting legal writing professor from Kenya. Together, they developed a fact pattern based on the clinic cases that was assigned to five first-year legal writing sections in the spring semester. The result was more than 80 memos thoroughly examining the women’s claims from a variety of angles – a massive body of research and analysis the four clinic students would have been unable to produce on their own.

“Knowing their work could affect the outcome of a real case had a positive impact on the quality of the memos students wrote,” Oates said. “It also made them engage with the assignment in a different way.”

The collaboration between the clinic and the Legal Writing Program was so successful that it will continue. In addition, Batra, now an associate director of the Access to Justice Institute, and Oates have identified several other nonprofit legal advocacy organizations in the area with cases that can benefit from this approach. This spring, all of the first year Legal Writing sections will work on memos based on actual needs of these legal advocacy organizations.

The two clients had both been subjected to female genital mutilation as young girls in their home countries. Each later found work as a domestic servant with the same family, where they suffered abuse and intimidation. As domestic staff, the women accompanied the family during their travels, and on one of those trips in 2007, they were able to escape and eventually made their way to Seattle.

Tolgu continues to work with the clients to assist them in acquiring identification documents and applying for benefits to which they are entitled as asylees.

“Seeing what we accomplished here for our clients is truly empowering,” she said. “I came to law school because I wanted to help people, but I never thought I’d be able to have this big an impact before I graduated.”

Law Alumni Board elects new leadership

The Law Alumni Board elected a new president and president-elect to lead the board. Linda Strout ’79 is the new president and Don Black ’95 is president-elect. (Read her president’s letter on page 23.)

Strout is deputy chief executive officer for the Port of Seattle and has served as the port’s representative on several international trade and study missions. She serves on the Board of Trustees for Allied Arts Foundation and has also served on the boards for Artist Trust, King County Bar Foundation, Columbia Legal Services and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. She has held many leadership positions in the King County Bar Association, including serving as president. Strout received the law school’s 2007 Reah M. Whitehead Leadership Award.

Black is managing member of Ogden Murphy Wallace PLLC and a member in the firm’s business and healthcare practice areas. He is a frequent speaker on the topics of fraud and abuse. He also serves on the Board of the Chief Seattle Council, Boy Scouts of America.

The Law Alumni Board serves as the governing body of more than 9,000 alumni worldwide and as advisors to the Office of Alumni Relations.

In addition to Stout and Black, the 2008-2009 Law Alumni Board members are P. Craig Beetham ’89; Sandra L. Brown ’98, Sang I. Chae ’91, M. Lorena Gonzalez ’05, Grace J. Han Stanton ’98, Dale L. Kingman ’76, Kalai Wineland ’99, Michele G. Radosevich ’94, Sharon A. Sakamoto ’84 and Jeffrey M. Sayre ’89.
Patricia Sully hitchhiked from a Botswana village to get to a computer with Internet access in a community two hours away in order to fill out her law school application.

Reyna Ramolete Hayashi got word of her Scholars for Justice Award during a visit to an Internet café while working in Nicaragua.

Both women’s public service, including work in developing countries, earned them the distinction of being this year’s Scholars for Justice, guaranteeing them full-tuition scholarships.

“Reyna and Patricia both embrace the law school’s mission of working for a more just and humane world,” said Carol Cochran, assistant dean for admission. “We’re honored to have them among our students and know they will make important contributions to the law school and society through their work.”

The scholarship allows two of the most promising students who have proven their dedication to the important but traditionally lower-paying field of public interest law to earn their degrees without incurring the debt that is often an obstacle in choosing such a career. Scholars will make a moral commitment to devote much of their careers to public interest law or to donate to the law school’s scholarship fund an amount at least equal to the scholarship should their career paths change.

This is the first year the law school has had Scholars for Justice in every class. The first recipients, Amy Pritchard and Persis Yu, will graduate in May. Celeste Miller and Kevin DeLiban are in their second year.

Ramolete Hayashi grew up in Hawaii and graduated from The University of British Columbia with degrees in political science.
and international relations. She was a residential social worker for the Salvation Army in Vancouver’s downtown eastside, working to transition people out of homelessness. In working to help people overcome obstacles and direct them to services, she learned how deeply those on the streets care for each other.

“Working with that group of people was amazing,” Ramolete Hayashi said. “I never felt community like that anywhere else in Vancouver. I feel like often we don’t nurture community on a regular basis in our own lives.”

She realized that many of the programs and services meant to serve the homeless were based on faulty assumptions.

“Social work is a powerful vehicle to affect change one person at a time” she said. “But many of the injustices my clients encountered could not be addressed through client counseling or marshalling resources. These inequities were the product of flawed social and economic policies and need to be addressed on a larger scale.”

Ramolete Hayashi was also a research associate for the Centre for Rural Health Research at the University of British Columbia, focusing on providing maternity services for rural women.

She spent the summer volunteering with two programs in Central America. At Casas de la Esperanza, or Houses of Hope, she worked in impoverished areas of Nicaragua to provide micro credits – small loans to help the poor build homes – and with children and women. She also conducted fieldwork in Guatemala with Engineers Without Borders to help improve access to water in rural, indigenous communities.

She said she has been passionate about social justice issues all her life, especially hearing from her mother the challenges she faced as an 18-year-old immigrant from the Philippines. Her mother, Mayette Ramolete Ching, is a graduate of Seattle University.

Patricia Sully grew up in Pittsburgh and graduated from Calvin College in Michigan with a degree in Ancient Greek.

She was a community organizer for Americorps*Vista, working on low-income health care issues and with inner-city youth in Pittsburgh and spent 27 months with the Peace Corps in Botswana, working to keep HIV-positive mothers from transmitting the virus to their children.

In a country where one in three people is HIV-positive, she worked to educate women about the importance of seeking medication for themselves and their infants that can prevent transmission. The government provides clinics for such treatment. She helped women get baby formula so they didn’t infect their infants through breastfeeding and taught them how to make beads they could sell to earn money.

One of her biggest projects in the village was working with the Rothschild Family Foundation and the village leadership to build a library with computers, Internet, and a playground. Construction was nearly complete when she left. The project fit in well with Botswana’s multi-sectoral approach to HIV/AIDS prevention by creating a place where literacy, HIV/AIDS education and recreation could all be facilitated.

“This was something the community really wanted, and it was really amazing to get to be a part of making it happen,” she said. “In most villages the only place for the youth to go is to the bar.”

Sully, who also studied in Uganda while in college, loved working with the Botswana villagers, as well as her job as community organizer But she felt the need to do more and decided on law school. She took the LSAT in Botswana.

“You confront so many issues,” she said. “At some point, I wanted to have a greater impact on policy.”

Both are grateful for their Scholars for Justice Awards and are taking advantage of all the opportunities the law school offers to work for justice.

“I feel so privileged to come here and to be able to focus on being an agent of change,” Reyna Ramolete Hayashi ’11 said. “The work I’ve done has anchored and focused me. I’m ready to be here. I feel like it’s a really good match.”

Sully agreed, saying, “The law school offers a lot of activities to keep you focused on why you came here. The focus on justice reminds me of who I am.”

“This scholarship is really a gift that makes me hopeful that we can continue to do the work we are so passionate about.”
Shelly Frankel and Bill Oltman remember the earliest days of Seattle University School of Law – teaching at a South Tacoma business park and attending contentious faculty meetings marked by founding Dean Joe Sinclitico storming out and threatening to quit.

Both joined the law school in 1974, just the second year of the school’s operation. Just seven years later Dave Boerner joined the law school, then located in downtown Tacoma and well on its way to success.

“I didn’t think of it as a young law school,” Boerner said. “I had the sense when I came here it was a pretty good school.”

All three have seen the law school through several transformations, as it grew in size and stature and moved to Seattle. The trio – with nearly 100 years of teaching among them – retire at the end of this academic year.

“These three talented professors have had an enormous impact on the development of our educational program as one that values academic excellence,” Dean Kellye Testy said. “It has been an honor to have worked with them for many years. I admire their dedication to teaching, to their students and to helping create a first-class law school. They have left an indelible mark on the law school and in the lives of the thousands of students who were privileged to have them as teachers.”

Professor Susan McClellan, under whose guidance the Externship Program has flourished, also will retire later this year. (Read more about her in a future issue.)
During a chat over coffee, Boerner, Frankel and Oltman traded stories about how the law school, teaching and students have changed – and how much has stayed the same. As they rattled off the names of former students who are now successful graduates, the subject turned to their favorite parts of teaching.

“You’re hearing it,” Frankel said. “We’re talking about the students and their success.”

All three said the most rewarding part of their careers is working with students and seeing how well they have done and what they have become.

During the years there have been changes. Students now attend classes in a beautiful, high-tech facility. There are institutes, programs and clinics. The faculty and the student body are the most diverse in the state. In the classroom, students all type on laptops, looking at computer screens rather than at the teacher. Still, those undeniable moments when the professors realize they have grabbed the attention of the class – when the typing stops as ears perk up – are magical.

Frankel, who practiced law in Boston and was an associate professor at Ohio Northern University College of Law before joining the law school, specializes in taxation. He has served as tax editor of Trial magazine; is a member of the Estate Planning Council of Seattle; and participates in CLE and CPA programs in tax, business, charitable organizations and family law. An active member of the Section on Taxation of the Washington State Bar Association, he was the editor of its newsletter and a member of the State Bar’s Tax Council. He is the annual reviser for Martindale Hubbell’s Digest of Washington Law and author of the chapter

continued >
on state and local taxation in the Washington Practitioner’s Handbook. He has taught business entities, charitable organizations, and federal taxation.

He is most proud of the number of his students who have been accepted for graduate tax programs. “Our students get into very competitive programs at top schools, including as NYU, Florida, and Columbia. It is a source of pleasure for me.”

One of those success stories is Judd Marten ’77, who practices at Lesourd and Patten in Seattle and credits Frankel with inspiring his interest in tax law.

“When I started law school, the last thing on my mind was the tax law. I had no financial or accounting background, and I did not emphasize math or science as an undergraduate — I was an English major. But there was something about Professor Frankel, and his demeanor, that intrigued me,” Marten said.

“He would come into the classroom and we would start discussing some aspect of the tax law, and he would stand totally silent at the podium, leafing through those tissue-thin pages of the Internal Revenue Code. Everything would slow down, and we wondered ‘what is he doing, and what is he thinking?’ But it all started to make sense. I perceived that ‘there really is an answer in there somewhere,’ which was such a relief, compared to other classes in the law school curriculum that resembled a debating club, to me. So, Professor Frankel drew me in, as he did many others.”

Marten took every tax course that was offered in law school and went on to get an LL.M. in taxation from Boston University with the help of Frankel’s recommendation.

“During law school, and even after graduation, Professor Frankel always seemed available, and supportive,” he said.

Dean Kellye Testy said that Frankel, in addition to being a recognized expert in tax, is also an extremely creative thinker. “He always has a million ideas to advance the School of Law.” He is also an accomplished musician. It is not unusual to see him playing his bass fiddle with his band in coffee shops and pubs, and at festivals and jam sessions, on Vashon, Tacoma and Seattle. He has even played at Fiddlefest and Bumbershoot.

After a few years in the classroom, Frankel began to realize that he didn’t always have to have the answer to every question a student may have. “I found the phrase, ‘that’s an inter-

“These three talented professors have had an enormous impact on the development of our educational program as one that values academic excellence.”

—DEAN KELLYE TESTY
interesting question, I hadn’t thought of that’ to be invaluable,” he chuckles.

His colleagues agree they learned a lot about teaching from their students.

Students in those early classes were scared. “We were flunking out about 35 percent of the class,” remarked Oltman. “There was a lot of pressure to ease up, but we knew we had a responsibility to the legal community to have tough standards. I was proud of the faculty for sticking by the standards.”

“In my first class I was scared to death,” admitted Oltman. “Then I realized that the students were scared, too. I learned over time that people are threatened under pressure by being asked to talk. No matter how you do it they are sweating. It has allowed me to be a lot more loose than I was in the early days. I like it better,” said Oltman. “Still, I enjoy bringing up something debatable and engaging the student in socratic discussion.”

The School of Law established a professorship in Oltman’s name to honor excellence in teaching. The professorship recognizes that the strength of the faculty depends on both scholarship and on classroom teaching. The first William C. Oltman Professor of Teaching Excellence is Professor Mark Chinen, an outstanding teacher in contracts and international law.

“Professor Oltman has an unwavering commitment to excellence that has been a driving force in making this law school the success it is today,” Testy said. “He expects the best of himself, of each of us individually, and all of us collectively in our teaching. Generations of our students admire him for inspiring them to learn more than they might have thought possible.”

Before joining the law school, Oltman taught at Indianapolis Law School in the areas of legal writing, advocacy, corporations, property, and criminal law. Later, he taught contracts and legal systems at Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. On his return to the U.S., he practiced law with Ashley, Foster, Pepper & Riviera, Seattle. He has taught community property, trusts and estates and community property. He is co-author, with Professor Emeritus Mark Reutlinger, of the leading treatise on wills and trusts under Washington law.

“One of the greatest compliments I have heard from a student is ‘I worked harder in your class than any class in my life,” Oltman said.

He truly did inspire students to do their best, said Caroline R. Suissa Edmiston ’00, now in private practice in Seattle.

“Professor Oltman taught me to think like a lawyer. He taught us to continue to research until we completely understood the issues, the ramifications and the possible pitfalls. He insistence on precision is a terrific benchmark I use for all my work,” she said. “But most of all he taught me to love the law – not just the job of lawyer, not just the role of advocate, but to love the law for what it was, a breathing, moldable, thinking thing.”

Professor Boerner’s relationship with students instilled a constant desire to teach better. “Students are always challenging me on the best way to reach them. We are responsible for showing them how to become members of the profession. It is a socialization process in some ways,” Boerner noted. “My favorite part of it all is graduation. I enjoy watching confident, competent students being recognized for their hard work.”

“Look what we became. We became a really good multifaceted law school with a clinic, renowned legal writing program, institutes, a highly credentialed faculty and a student body with highly competitive admissions criteria.”
Boerner practiced law for 18 years and was chief of the King County Prosecutor’s Office before joining the law school.

“I first got to know the school during hiring of graduates for the prosecutor’s office.” He remembers seeing amazing applicants from those first classes. “We interviewed a lot of the first grads in the prosecutors office back then, and they were all great,” he said.

“I found the academic life to be very different from that of a prosecutor,” he said. “As a prosecutor there were very strict rules about how I had to write. As a professor, I could write whatever I wanted about a legal topic.”

Dean Fred Tausend brought him in to help manage the business side of the law school and Boerner admired Tausend’s commitment to quality. Boerner jump started a program to admit students with academic promise that has become the successful Access Admission Program and Academic Resource Center.

At ARC’s 20th anniversary celebration last year, graduate after graduate remarked about the impact Boerner had on their lives and careers. Pierce County Superior Court Judge Frank Cuthbertson said Boerner’s practical experience made him an excellent professor.

“Through Professor Boerner you can get a feel for the Bar here in Washington, what it means to be a lawyer in Washington – he epitomizes that,” Cuthbertson said. “When I was sworn in, he was one of the people I asked to speak because he was such a big influence.”

Boerner remains very active in the state bar. He currently serves as chair of the Board for Court Education, chair of the Washington Supreme Court’s Time for Trial Task Force, as well as serving as a member of the Washington Supreme Court’s Jury Instruction Committee. He has also chaired the Rules of Professional Conduct Committee of the Washington State Bar Association. In addition, he lectures frequently for groups such as the Washington Criminal Justice Institute, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, and the Federal Bar Association. He has taught administrative law, criminal law and professional responsibility.

He will continue to teach the summer criminal law class after retirement to maintain his commitment to the Access Admission Program.

“Dave is a legend in the legal community,” Testy said. “His dedication to improving the bar, to ethics and professionalism, and to promoting access to the profession and diversity within it stand out.”

All three admit they won’t miss faculty.

“Our students get into very competitive programs at top schools, including as NYU, Florida, and Columbia. It is a source of pleasure for me.”

—Shelly Frankel
meetings and the administrative parts of their jobs, but they will miss the intellectual atmosphere and their colleagues.

“You’re dealing with very bright students and very bright people,” Oltman said.

During the course of the conversation with the three professors, there was much laughter about shared moments and continued hearty discussion about teaching styles and people they have worked with over the years. They are all proud of the law school they helped build.

“Look what we became,” offered Professor Oltman. “We became a really good multifaceted law school with a clinic, renowned legal writing program, institutes, a highly credentialed faculty and a student body with highly competitive admissions criteria. From scratch, we created a small company that was so successful, Seattle University wanted to buy us. We worked hard, and it was not always easy. I am proud of what we built and excited about the future of the school.”

While all that is true, Boerner says there is also a simpler reason he stayed at the law school so long.

“Teaching was just plain fun,” he said.

“It’s a great gig,” echoed Frankel.

The professors downplayed the effect of their absences on the law school they leave to the next generation of law professors.

“Institutions evolve,” Boerner said. “Twenty years from now it will be a different institution.”

---

Eva Mitchell joined the School of Law in 1980. She was registrar for 16 years and director of Alumni Relations before taking over coordination of the 35th anniversary events. Though no longer employed full-time, she continues to work on special projects for the law school.

“They have left an indelible mark on the law school and in the lives of the thousands of students who were privileged to have them as teachers.”

—Dean Kellye Testy
When Clinical Professor Lisa Brodoff first joined the School of Law 10 years ago, she was on a committee to review applications for the summer grants from the Public Interest Law Foundation.

“I think we interviewed three people for two positions,” said Brodoff, a faculty advisor to PILF.

Last summer PILF awarded 19 grants to students to work at agencies ranging from TeamChild to the United Nations Inter-Agency on Human Trafficking in Bangkok, Thailand.

The summer grants – PILF’s main initiative – have grown enormously, as has the work PILF and the law school have done to embrace education for justice. The summer grants work on three levels: they allow students the opportunity to work in public interest law, they provide community organizations with a full-time law student intern for the summer, and they serve the community.

“The program benefits the students in that we’re sending them all over the state, the country and the world to get experience with agencies who do social justice work,” Brodoff said. “It benefits the organi-
“The fact that the law school has embraced and internalized so much of PILF’s mission to promote public interest law and social justice is quite a statement about the importance and success of PILF’s work and inspiration over the past 15 years.”

—Dana Gold ’94

izations who get all that student energy and knowledge, and it benefits the law school because we’re sending our best and brightest out into the legal field.”

This fall, the law school celebrated 15 years of PILF. Formed by Dana Gold ’94 and now Dean Kellye Testy, it was at the time the only student organization dedicated to public interest.

“Those students and faculty involved in the early days of PILF are the very people who worked to build the Access to Justice Institute, the Seattle Journal for Social Justice and the Loan Repayment Assistance Program,” Dean Kellye Testy said. “PILF laid the foundation for the law school to become a leader in education for justice.”

Gold, who was the founding director of the law school’s Center on Corporations, Law and Society before moving to Maine earlier this year, is gratified by how far PILF has come.

“When PILF started, there was no other game in town advocating for public interest law in its many forms,” she said. “The fact that the law school has embraced and internalized so much of PILF’s mission to promote public interest law and social justice is quite a statement about the importance and success of PILF’s work and inspiration over the past 15 years.”

Current and past grant winners and PILF members filled the second floor gallery for the celebration.

“There was a lot of energy,” said current President Amy Pritchard ’09. “We really want to reach out to alumni, not just as prospective employers, but also as mentors and to advise us on the work we do.”

Statistics show that students who do social justice work have a much higher rate of choosing it as a career. Indeed, many PILF alumni have gone on to careers in public interest, including public defenders, lawyers for nonprofit agencies and others. Just a few examples are Davida Finger ’02, the Katrina Clinic Staff Attorney at the Law Clinic at Loyola Law School New Orleans; Twyla Carter ’07, an attorney for the Defender Association and Erin Shea ’07, an Equal Justice Works Fellow at Columbia Legal Services.

Some of the student leaders have come back to the law school. Diana Singleton ’98 is director of the Access to Justice Institute, and Lisa Young ’97, is director of the Bar Studies Program. Both were PILF presidents during law school.

Many alumni say PILF provided invaluable experience.

“As a student, I simply would not have been able to afford to work on a series of innovative community renewal projects with the City of Seattle’s Office of Economic Development if I had not received the support of a PILF grant,” said Brendan Donckers ’06, now an associate with Gendler and Mann in Seattle. “I was able to leverage my experience that summer into a year-long consulting contract with OED, helping small and immigrant businesses understand and comply with local and state regulations.”

Carmen Butler ’06, said her PILF grant literally changed the direction of her career.

She was awarded a grant in 2004 to work with Columbia Legal Services in Olympia, where she helped develop CLS’s legislative agenda with respect to utility billing.

“In the course of that internship, I grew interested in energy use and efficiency, and I was surrounded by visionaries who encouraged me to apply my interests for the good of the community at large.”

continued >
A large part of PILF’s work has become raising the money to fund a growing number of summer grants. PILF’s main fund-raiser is its annual auction. Last year’s auction raised more than $40,000 to provide grants for students working for the benefit of the community, and organizers hope to exceed that this year. PILF also raised $8,000 through a fall fund drive.

The 16th Annual PILF Auction will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2009, in Campion Ballroom on the Seattle University campus. A champagne preview starts at 5:30 p.m., with general admission check-in starting at 6 p.m.

PILF is accepting item donations for the live and silent auctions. If you would like to contribute, contact Dana Diederich at su.pilf.auction@gmail.com. For more information about table purchases and ticket sales, visit http://students.seattleu.edu/lawclubs/pilf.

Sabrina Andrus ’08, a former president, also benefited from her PILF experience. “Being involved in PILF really helped in my career because now I’m working at the organization where I was mentored,” she said.

She had a summer grant to work at Northwest Justice Project and is now project coordinator for NJP’s Committee for Indigent Representation and Civil Legal Equality and a staff attorney for Coordinated Legal Education Advice Referral (CLEAR.) Andrus also was appointed to the Board of Directors for Equal Justice Works.

Agencies benefit as well. “Working with law students is more than a pleasure. It provides us with a valuable resource of energy, dedication and enthusiasm,” said Gillian Dutton of the Refugee and Immigrant Advocacy Project at Northwest Justice Project. “Students have helped us increase our ability to respond to individual cases where there is constantly an overwhelming need for legal help. They have also helped us push forward critical impact projects and systemic advocacy. It is always rewarding to work with students in law school and to work with them again when they are lawyers and colleagues in the cause of justice.”

Gold is proud of the difference PILF has made. “It is so important that the law school encourages all of its graduates to use their talents and privilege to help promote social, economic and environmental justice that are critical to ensuring a thriving world,” she said. “Being a lawyer gives us tremendous power to contribute to making the world a more just place, and it is both a privilege and a responsibility of this profession to do just that, in both small and large ways.”
Seattle University School of Law is proud of its distinguished faculty and grateful for our professors’ many scholarly pursuits and contributions to the legal and greater community. Here is a sampling of the numerous accomplishments of our faculty members this academic year.


Assistant Professor Tom Antkowiak delivered a presentation at a conference on The Transcendence of the Judgments of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights at the Catholic University of Argentina in Buenos Aires.

Visiting Clinical Professor Bob Boruchowitz argued a case in the Court of Appeals advocating for a right to counsel for children in truancy fact finding hearings. He also spoke on “Misdemeanor Public Defense 36 Years after Argersinger” at the Washington State Bar Criminal Justice Institute and on providing counsel at arraignments to the Washington State Association of Municipal Attorneys. He also spoke to the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association on achieving and maintaining high lawyer performance and satisfaction. He was appointed to the American Bar Association’s advisory group for the implementation of the Criminal Justice Solutions Project.

Legal Writing Professor Deirdre Bowen presented her paper, “The Parent Trap: Differential Power in Intact Same-Sex Families Based on Legal and Cultural Understandings of Parentage” at the Law and Society Conference in Montreal. She presented her paper “Calling Your Bluff: How Prosecutors and Defense Attorneys Adapt Plea Bargaining Strategies to Increased Formalization” at the AALS Dispute Resolution Section Conference at Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law in Tempe, Ariz.

Legal Writing Professors Mary Bowman (top) and Janet Dickson presented “Communicating with the Millennials: Teaching and Preparing the Next Generation of Lawyers,” at the Legal Writing Institute’s Biennial Conference in Indianapolis. They have since granted permission for several faculty members from other schools to use their materials for full-faculty trainings and retreats at their home schools. Dickson acted as host for seven African members of APPEAL (Academics Promoting the Pedagogy of Effective Advocacy in Law), who traveled to Indianapolis for the Legal Writing Institute’s Biennial Conference.

Clinical Professor Lisa Brodoff’s article, “Lifting Burdens: Proof, Social Justice, and Public Assistance Administrative Hearings” was published by the New York University Review of Law & Social Change. She has made several presentations including a CLE for the Washington State Senate staff on State Administrative Law issues and a CLE for the Washington State House of Representatives Legislative Staff on Administrative Agency Creation and Rulemaking. She was a speaker at the Statewide Elder Law Conference and gave an update on legislative changes to the Domestic Partnership Registry Act and its impact on the elderly.

Professor Robert Chang delivered introductory remarks at the installation of Professor Adrienne Davis as the William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law at the Washington University School of Law, where he did a faculty

Donald and Lynda Horowitz Professor for the Pursuit of Justice Margaret Chon was a panelist at the Third Access to Knowledge Global Conference in Geneva, sponsored by IQsensato and the Yale Information Society Project. She presented her project on “Marks of Rectitude: Fair Trade, Brand-based Regulation and New Global Governance” at the Eighth Annual Intellectual Property Scholars Conference, held at Stanford Law School. She was also invited to participate in a panel on “Knowledge Creation Systems on the International Stage,” held at Fordham University Law School. She presented her draft article “Just Trust Us: Certification Marks, Standard-Setting and Global Governance.”


Professor David Engdahl did a CLE presentation for the Washington State Senate staff on federal preemption issues in the context of Congress spending and so-called “commerce clause” powers.

Associate Director of Legal Writing Anne Enquist spoke at the national meeting for the National Association of Appellate Court Attorneys in Portland. Her topic was “Building your Writer’s ‘REP’ (revising, editing, and proofreading skills).”

Distinguished Academic in Residence Thom Fischer’s latest book “What’s Wrong with Globalization!” will be published by Carolina Academic Press. The fourth edition of the “Sum & Substance of Conflict of Laws” is in press.

Associate Professor Jack Kirkwood spoke on “The Future of Private Antitrust Actions” at The 25th Annual Antitrust and Consumer Protection Seminar sponsored by the Washington State Bar Association that will look at APR 9 (Rule 9).

Clinical Professor Raven Lidman was a member of a panel on pro bono at a conference in Lima, Peru, on a proposed new ethics code for Peru. The conference was sponsored by a Peruvian NGO, Ciudadano al Dia, and the Vance Center of the New York City Bar. She spoke on the topic of how law schools can encourage an ethos of pro bono. An article on the same topic was published in the December 2007 issue of the law review, IUS, of Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru.

Vice Dean Annette Clark made a presentation to the undergraduate Pre-Health Club on Initiative 1000, the Death with Dignity initiative. She also spoke at the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ) annual conference in Portland, Ore. Her presentation was titled “Genetic Information and Privacy: the Increasing Tension between the Need to Keep Private and the Need to Know.” She was also a commenter at the University program entitled “Physician-Assisted Suicide: A Catholic Perspective.”

Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development Tayyab Mahmud delivered the keynote address, “Lawyers & the Rule of Law: Lessons of Pakistan’s Constitutional Crisis,” at the Washington State Attorney General’s Annual Conference at the Convention Center in Tacoma. He was co-conductor of a workshop for the candidates at the AALS Faculty Recruitment Conference held in Washington D.C. He also led a workshop and a Q &A session for minority candidates. He also delivered the keynote address, “Rule of Law: Challenges and Responsibilities of Lawyers,” at the students’ orientation of University of Wyoming College of Law. He was the lead organizer for the Thirteenth Annual LatCrit Conference held at Seattle University School of Law in October.
Associate Professor Natasha Martin presented “Debunking the Myth of Discriminatory Animus under Title VII” at the Third Annual Colloquium on Current Scholarship in Labor and Employment Law in San Diego.

Legal Writing Program Director Laurel Oates (top) conducted a workshop for the Hearing Examiners Association of Washington at its annual conference. She and Legal Writing Professor Mimi Samuel participated in a workshop panel at the Crossroads Conference held at the University of Washington School of Law. The panel focused on First-Year Reforms Supplementing the Cognitive, Skills and Professional Formation Apprenticeships. They discussed the law school’s Legal Writing pilot program in a presentation.

Associate Professor Rafael Pardo participated in the Annual Fall Symposium of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel, where he and co-author Jonathan Nash presented their research on appellate structure in the federal bankruptcy system. He presented his most recent empirical research on the discharge of student loans in bankruptcy, entitled “The Real Student-Loan Scandal: Undue Hardship Discharge Litigation,” at the poster session of the Third Annual Conference on Empirical Legal Studies at Cornell Law School and at the Washington Bankruptcy Judges Conference. He also presented “An Empirical Examination of Access to Chapter 7 Relief by Pro Se Debtors” at the Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Law and Economics Association at Northwestern University School of Law.

Frederic C. Tausend Professor David Skover completed the manuscript of his most recent book (co-authored with Ronald Collins) over the summer months, “Mania: The Story of the Outrageous and Outraged Lives that Launched a Generation,” is a narrative portrayal of the lives of the major Beat figures during their most creative period from 1949-1957. Focusing on the individuals and experiences that were depicted in Allen Ginsberg’s famous poem, “Howl,” the book culminates with the famous San Francisco obscenity trial, State v. Ferlinghetti, the first and last American prosecution for poetic vulgarity.

Associate Professor Catherine O’Neill delivered a presentation called “Risk Assessment in the Tribal Context” to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s National Risk Assessors Meeting. She also delivered a presentation to the University of Washington’s School of Public Health called “Risk and Rights: Issues for Risk Assessment in the Tribal Context.” She also joined several member scholars of the Center for Progressive Reform in publishing the report “Protecting Public Health and the Environment by the Stroke of a Presidential Pen,” which was delivered to President-elect Obama’s transition team.

Assistant Professor Dean Spade attended Euro-pride in Stockholm and gave a lecture on “The Politics of Impossibility” and a presentation of the film “Toilet Training: Law and Order in the Bathroom.” He presented “Empirically Queer?” on a panel about “New Directions in Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law Scholarship” at the Lavender Law Conference in San Francisco and at the Annual American Studies Association Conference in Albuquerque, N.M. He was the keynote speaker for Columbia School of Public Health’s conference about health of marginalized populations and the keynote speaker for a symposium on transgender law at Temple School of Law.

Dean Kellye Testy was listed as a member of the Honorary Advisory Committee for the National Pro Bono Celebration. She delivered the keynote address at the Washington State Coalition for Language Access (WASCLA) Conference in Wenatchee.

Associate Professor Ron Slye was appointed to the selection committee of the 2009 Rothko Chapel Oscar Romero Award, which awards $20,000 every other year to an organization or individual that “stands for truth and freedom, that demonstrates the courage to attack the roots of oppression and that displays commitment to the fight for human rights and justice.” He was also appointed to the advisory board of the ICTR project of the Multi-Lifespan Information System Research Initiative, which will work with the ICTR (the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda) to organize and make accessible the tribunal’s materials for future generations.
Alumni programs provided aspiring lawyers with information and expertise from law school graduates working in a variety of careers. More than 100 alumni and students gathered in the second floor gallery of Sullivan Hall for the annual 1L mentor/mentee reception in late September. The reception provided first-year students with the opportunity to talk to alumni about their experiences and get tips about how to be successful in law school and prepare for their careers. The Office of Alumni Relations also joined the Center for Professional Development to host an Alumni Speed Networking Event with students. Alumni listened thoughtfully to students as they practiced their interview skills. Students traded seats every seven minutes and talked to another graduate.

Alumni share experiences and career tips

Fall programs help inform,
Celebrating our newest alumni: Justice Gerry Alexander leads new bar members in the oath at the ceremony at the Federal Courthouse in Tacoma. Seattle University School of Law partnered with the Tacoma-Pierce County Young Lawyer’s Division to host a special Federal and State Swearing-In Ceremony for recent graduates and others who passed the Washington State Bar. The Federal Courthouse was bustling with excitement as family, friends, colleagues and prominent members of the legal community watched their loved ones raise their right hand and take their oath. The entire Seattle University School of Law community is proud to welcome recent graduates to the practice of law.

Red Mass: Joan Tierney ’01 talks with University President Steve Sundborg, S.J., after he presided at the law school’s first Red Mass. She was just one of many alumni who attended the traditional mass in honor of the legal community and its work for justice.

Branton Symposium: Craig Sims ’97, talks with members of the National Bar Association at a reception hosted by the law school to end the 20th annual Wiley A. Branton Symposium. (Read more on page 6.)

build and celebrate the alumni community
Dear Fellow Alumni,

Can you believe that we now have more than 9,000 alumni worldwide? It was with great pleasure that I recently accepted the position as president of the Law Alumni Board (LAB). It has been an honor to serve with my colleagues on the board, all of whom are distinguished members of both the law school and Seattle's legal community. Initiating this column is just one way in which we look forward to connecting with each of you, and to keeping you informed of LAB activity.

With Dean Testy's support of our recommendation to strengthen the board, the LAB hopes to expand its scope and engagement with the law school community. As we create a robust LAB, I am delighted to see so many of you share your voice by forwarding nominations of alumni colleagues for service on the board. Your leadership and engagement with the board on this effort will ensure that we are able to forge stronger connections with the community.

The 35th Anniversary Gala celebration continues to inspire many of us. It has encouraged the board to consider establishing traditions that will inform, build and celebrate our alumni community. We are currently working on the Law Alumni Board's New Year's Reception in January and Alumni Weekend in April, signature programs we hope many of you will help with and attend.

I am proud to be an alumna of this law school and excited by the mission and direction under Dean Testy's leadership. As I take on this new role, I ask you to join me in participating and supporting our school's increasingly rich legacy and the next generation of scholars at Seattle University School of Law. Attend our events, engage in an alumni program, volunteer to serve on a committee, and give back to our alma mater!

On behalf of the entire Law Alumni Board, best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season.

Linda Strout '79
President, Law Alumni Board
Founding Dean’s Club Member

Board announcements expected in early spring

The Law Alumni Board was pleased by the number of alumni nominations received for appointment to the board. The nominations committee received close to 40 stellar nominations to fill eight seats to the board.

The board is in the process of reviewing the nominees, and candidates will be contacted in early spring. Appointments will be announced at the annual alumni association meeting, which will take place during Alumni Weekend, April 24–25.

Law school provides benefits for alumni

The Office of Alumni Relations is pleased to offer a wide variety of benefits and services for the alumni community.

Our law graduates may audit up to a total of six credit hours of law school classes free of charge. Course enrollment is on a space-available basis and subject to instructor’s approval. In some cases the Washington State Bar Association grants CLE credits for such enrollment.

Alumni are encouraged to take advantage of the many benefits available to our graduates. For detailed information, please visit our website at http://www.law.seattleu.edu/Alumni.xml.

Upcoming Events

**Thursday, December 11**
Regional Alumni Reception
Maui

**Tuesday, December 16**
Regional Alumni Reception
Honolulu

**Friday, January 1**
Redhawks basketball,
Key Arena

**Wednesday, January 7**
Regional Alumni Reception
San Diego

**Wednesday, January 28**
Law Alumni Board Meeting and New Year’s Reception

**Thursday, February 12**
Black Law Student Association Alumni Awards Reception

**Thursday, February 26**
Minority Student/Alumni Reception in conjunction with Diversity Week

**Friday/Saturday, April 24–25**
Alumni Weekend
Recent alumni steering committee formed

A Recent Alumni Steering Committee has been formed to develop and facilitate programming for recent alumni. The Recent Alumni Program was created to provide alumni who graduated within the past 15 years the opportunity to build upon the networks they created while in law school. The program serves to maintain connections with alumni colleagues and faculty, while facilitating an exchange of ideas and career networking opportunities.

Steering committee members include:

Wilberforce Agyekum ‘99, Chair
Rita Amer ‘07
Joanna Plichta Boisen ’06
Matt Boisen ‘06

Twyla Carter ’07
Melissa Chin’08
Cynthia Jones ’06
Carla Lee ’05

If you would like additional information and/or would like to participate in committee programming, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at lawalumni@seattleu.edu and/or by phone at (206) 398-4600

Regional Alumni Program grows

Our regional programs continue to be one of our more popular alumni programs. In October, New York alumni joined Bryan Adamson, Associate Professor of Law, for a CLE and dinner at the Torch Club in New York City. The program and roundtable discussion tackled issues surrounding how rumors and peer groups framed race and gender issues in the 2008 presidential campaign.

Upcoming regional programs include receptions in Hawaii in December, San Diego in January and Washington, D.C. in February.

SAVE THE DATE • APRIL 24-25, 2009

ALUMNI WEEKEND

Informing, Building and Celebrating Our Alumni Community

We are looking for Class Chairs. Sign up for your Reunion Committee today: lawalumni@seattleu.edu

Frank Edmondson '82 and Vickie Grahn '04, pictured at a Dean’s Club reception, met at the law school’s 35th anniversary gala and married six months later.
Seattle University School of Law has provided plenty of opportunities for Frank Edmondson ’82 and Vickie Grahn ’04, so both were eager to help celebrate the school’s 35th anniversary in April. Neither predicted it would lead to new anniversaries of their own.

Cuddling over lunch, the two were like teenagers telling the story of their quick courtship and marriage.

Frank, retired after a prestigious career with the state, as a staff attorney for agencies including the state lottery, the state Centennial Commission and finally the Office of the Administrator for the Courts, and Vickie, associate claims counsel for LandAmerica, both attended an ethics CLE the afternoon of the 35th Anniversary Gala.

Frank first spotted Vickie as he grabbed his box lunch before the CLE. They sat near each other and started talking.

“I noticed him kind of lingering at the lunch table, and he saved me a seat at the CLE, like a schoolboy,” she said.

They said they’d see each other at the gala – and Frank made it clear he was going alone.

He checked the nametag table at the entrance several times to see if Vickie had picked hers up. When it was finally taken from the table, it took a while to find her in the sea of people at Benaroya Hall. But he persisted – and when they connected she made sure they exchanged cards.

“The next night I was sitting down to type an email to her and the phone rang,” Frank said. “I usually don’t answer a call if I don’t know the number, but something told me to answer it and it was her.”

She mentioned that the next day was her birthday. She had lunch plans, but her dinner plans had fallen through.

“What are you going to do?” he asked with a broad smile. “You take her out to dinner for her birthday. It didn’t take long to know I wanted to spend the rest of my life with her.”

Three weeks later they were engaged. They were married October 25 at the Sorrento Hotel in a wedding with a 1920s theme. Guests included law school classmates, alumni and Professors Marilyn Berger, Connie Krantz, and Mark Reutlinger and Associate Dean for Advancement Susan Ahearn.

“There wasn’t any reason to wait,” said Vickie, now Vickie Edmondson. “It felt right. The more I know him the more I know my initial impression was right. He’s even more wonderful than I thought.”

Her daughter and Frank’s three daughters were all at the wedding, happy their parents found each other after both had been single for many years. Frank, now retired, sold his Olympia house and moved to Seattle to share Vickie’s home.

He retired from the Air Force after a distinguished 21-year career as a pilot and accident investigator before entering law school. (He flew with Steve Enquist, husband of Legal Writing Professor Anne Enquist.) Vickie worked for 20 years in the insurance industry before going to law school. Though they graduated more than 20 years apart, both found the law school welcoming to older students looking for a change.

“We’re both very privileged to be able to have second careers,” she said. Both have been active in the law school. Frank was featured on the cover of the 1990-91 law school catalog – a photo Vickie laminated and now carries it in her wallet.

Frank is a Dean’s Club member and has helped recruit alumni to be involved in the law school. Vickie, who was on the Dispute Resolution Board in law school, volunteers as a judge and is a mentor through the Center for Professional Development.

“I wanted to go to law school since I was a teenager,” Frank said. “I always give back to the law school because it did a lot for me. The law school gave me the opportunity to get an education second to none and the chance to do what I always wanted to do.”

And he now has great things to say about the school’s Continuing Legal Education Program as well.

“You can get more than an education at a CLE,” Frank said, beaming at his new bride. “Every day that goes by, I know how good a decision it was.”
1980

Randy Aliment was appointed as one of four delegates to the Council of the UIA International Association of Lawyers by the American Bar Association. The ABA selects delegates with demonstrated international experience to attend the Paris-based organization’s annual Congress. His term began in November.

Bill Hedrick was promoted to the position of managing director for Marsh USA, Inc. After spending the majority of his career as a litigator and risk manager, Bill joined Marsh in 2001. He leads the Northwest claim consulting operations for the company.

Mark Lester was recognized by Goldline Research in the June 30, 2008 issue of Forbes Magazine as one of the “10 Most Dependable Lawyers (Trusts & Estates)” in California. Mark is a named partner with Jones & Lester, LLP, and emphasizes his practice in trusts, estates and contested conservatorship litigation matters. He and his wife, Leigh Meissner, celebrated their second anniversary in August. They have five children between them: Kaitlin Lester, a student at the UCLA Graduate School of Education; Kyle Meissner, 16; Brett Meissner, 13; and Carson & Cameron Lester, 11. Mark, an Eagle Scout, spends what free time he has involved with his three youngest in Boy Scouts as an Assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 485 in Westlake Village, Calif.

1981

Alden Garrett exclusively provides guardian ad litem services and mediation in Seattle, after 11 years as a sole practitioner in family law. He provides mediation services part-time, but mostly focuses on his 15-year-old and community volunteer work. He has participated on several non-profit boards, including Facing the Future, Family Law CASA and KUOW.

1985

Timothy Jenkins was appointed Sumner Municipal Court judge. He has been Sumner’s public defender for four years. Maintaining his private practice in Federal Way, Timothy will serve as Sumner’s judge one day per week.

1986

Stuart Kastner joined Schiffin Olson Schlemein & Hopkins, PLLC, in Seattle as of counsel. His practice will continue to emphasize general business and real estate, transactions, litigation, construction, commercial collections, foreclosures and bankruptcy.

1988

Tim Bradshaw has been elected King County Superior Court judge.

Stephen Shelton is the first full-time judge for Puyallup Municipal Court. Judge Shelton has served as a part-time judge for Puyallup since January 1994, and previously served as a part-time judge for the city of Sumner and the town of Ruston and as a pro tem commissioner for Pierce County Superior and District courts. Prior to his appointment as judge, he was Auburn city attorney, a Pierce County deputy prosecutor in both criminal and civil divisions and a councilmember and mayor of the city of Fircrest. He has also served as the president of the Washington State District and Municipal Court Judge’s Association — only the third municipal court judge to serve as president in the past 30 years. He held other leadership positions on the board and has played an active role in promoting the integrity of municipal courts and preserving the independence of the judiciary.

1989

Nancy Rees Austin has been appointed development manager for Bremerton Housing Authority, a new position charged with leading the redevelopment of Westpark and other development opportunities for BHA. She will also serve as the grant manager for BHA’s $20 million HOPE VI grant, recently awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

1993

Cameron Fleury recently closed his private office after 10 years and went to work at McGavick Graves, P.S. in Tacoma, expanding its family law department. He and his wife enjoyed a vacation in Buenos Aires.

Laura King is an Administrative Law Judge with the Washington State Office of Administrative Hearing and was elected to the board of governors of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary (NAALJ) in October. She is one of only two from the western United States.

1994

Catherine M. McDonald has opened a law practice in Seattle with Charles D. Swift ’94. The new law practice of Swift & McDonald PS will focus on state, federal and military criminal defense as well as professional licensing and dependency proceedings. A public defender since graduating from law school, Catherine practiced for three years at the Department of Assigned Counsel in Tacoma in both misdemeanor and dependency practice. She then transferred to Seattle, where for the past 10 years she served as a staff attorney with Society of Counsel (SCRAP). At SCRAP, in addition to work in the misdemeanor and dependency units, for five years she served in the felony unit, where she achieved an extraordinary record of advocacy, including one of the few acquittals under the “Three Strikes” legislation. Catherine is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys, the Washington Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys and Washington Women Lawyers.

Michele Radoshevich received the Washington Appleseed 2008 Award for Pro Bono Service. She is also an active member of Seattle University School of Law’s Law Alumni Board.

Charles D. Swift opened a law practice in Seattle with Catherine M. McDonald ’94. The new law practice of Swift & McDonald PS will focus on state, federal and military criminal defense, as well as professional licensing and dependency proceedings. He served...
for 13 years in the Judge Advocate General corps (JAG) of the U.S. Navy, principally as a criminal defense attorney. Last year he was a visiting professor and head of the Humanitarian Law Clinic at Emory University School of Law. His career is most noteworthy for his quest for justice at Guantanamo Bay, epitomized in the Supreme Court’s landmark decision in Hamdan v. Rumsfeld. He has received numerous awards for his advocacy, including recognition as a Distinguished Alumnus at Seattle University School of Law. He has been a regular contributor on the topics of military law and terrorism for national news programs including MSNBC, CNBC, CNN and Fox News. In 2006 he was named one of the 100 most Influential Lawyers by the National Law Journal.

Tracey Thompson was sworn in as the new secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 117 in October. In the oath taken during the ceremony, Thompson vowed to uphold the Teamsters’ code of ethics and bylaws and pledged to serve and represent the members of the union with honesty and integrity. Thompson joined the Teamsters in 2003 and will now preside over the third largest local union in the organization, with more than 17,000 members.

1996

Peter Schalestock was named general counsel for the U.S. Small Business Administration. He joined the SBA as deputy general counsel in March 2008 and has been acting general counsel since then. Prior to SBA, he coordinated multi-state election programs and major election litigation, and was deputy counsel to a presidential campaign. Previously, he practiced law in Seattle, serving public and private companies in corporate transactions and intellectual property and trade matters. Peter was also counsel to a member of Congress and played a key role in negotiating provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. He is the author of three law review articles on intellectual property and election law issues and has taught legislation and the legal process as an adjunct professor of law

1997

Craig Sims and Kara Kirk were married at Court in the Square in Seattle on August 31.

Lisa Young was named director of the new Bar Studies Program at Seattle University School of Law. As a student, she was president of PILF and an active Moot Court Board member. She worked as a lecturer, staff attorney and tutor specializing in essay writing and bar preparation study skills for a national bar review company in both Washington state and Oregon. Her focus is on helping students gain the necessary skills and mindset needed for successful bar passage.

1999

Sharon Cates has moved to an in-house counsel position with Microsoft after practicing in the Litigation Group at Foster Pepper for several years. She has been managing civil piracy litigation in the U.S. for Microsoft’s Worldwide Anti-Piracy Enforcement Group since March 2007.

Andrew Nguyen opened his own law practice in Seattle in May. His practice specializes in criminal and traffic ticket defense.

2001

Jennifer Mackay continues to work at Amicus Law Group, PG, in Seattle practicing estate planning and transactional work for closely held businesses. Last year, Jennifer was named director of Estate Planning Services within the practice. She is happily married to her husband, Chad Mackay, with whom she has two boys, Eliot and Owen. Jennifer works three days a week and spends the rest of her time with her sons.

Jennifer Mora has relocated to Portland, Ore., to join Littler Mendelson, where she will primarily represent employers in traditional labor matters. She was recently appointed to the Membership Committee of the Multnomah County Bar Association.

2002

Wendy Ferrell currently shares her practice in Bremerton, Ferrell & Ferrell, PLLC, with her husband, John.

Allison Williams joined Microsoft’s Legal and Corporate Affairs recruiting team in September, after three years of law firm practice and more than two years of legal recruiting in Seattle. She works with Microsoft’s in-house legal group to find them top legal talent across the nation and the world. If you have a legal background and are interested in contacting her about positions, she can be reached at alliwil@microsoft.com.

2003

Tara Eubanks was the recipient of the 2008 Ready to Soar Award from the Washington State Trial Lawyers Association. The award is presented annually to an outstanding WSTLA member in practice for less than five years. Her

continued
peers nominated her for her dedication to WSTLA, the legal profession and the community.

Beth Gordie works with Latham and Watkins in Los Angeles, practicing exclusively in land use. Her husband, Michael ’03, is working with pharmaceutical, medical device and biotech companies. He has mostly been focused in global regulatory affairs projects with some private equity work. They live in Los Angeles.

Ari Magedoff and his wife, Laura, were married at the Greenville Country Club in Wilmington, Del., on Nov. 1. They live in Hoboken, N.J.

Carl Turk joined the IP division of Adorno & Yoss law firm as a partner. His office and staff are in Atlanta, and he lives and commutes from Gainesville, Fla. He continues to work on patent and trademark prosecution and licensing matters. His wife is a professor at University of Florida’s College of Dentistry.

Jennifer Wyatt was appointed to the Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle (MAMAS) board of directors. MAMAS was founded in 2006 in an effort to empower mother attorneys and encourage them to succeed while celebrating their dual roles. In addition to her new position on the MAMAS board, Wyatt sits on the American Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division Diversity Committee and Women in the Profession Committee. She is also an active member of the Washington State Bar Rules of Professional Conduct Committee. Wyatt focuses her practice at Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt in the areas of commercial litigation with an emphasis on employment litigation.

2004

Melody Crick is a deputy in the Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office. She is engaged to Scott Peters.

David Silver became an associate at the downtown Seattle office of Baker Martin, P.S., a mid-sized law firm with offices in Seattle, Portland, Bellingham, Bend, and Maui. Barker Martin offers general counsel and comprehensive construction defect representation for condominium and homeowner associations. David’s practice focuses on providing general counsel to the firm’s community association clients. He spent two years with McFerran, Burns & Stovall, P.S. in Tacoma, representing clients in a wide range of real estate transactions and litigation. David and his wife, Marnie Silver, live in the Sand Point neighborhood in Seattle.

2005

Jason Keyes left Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati to start a two-person firm, Keyes & Fox, LLP, in Seattle. The firm focuses on distributed generation law, working primarily for the Interstate Renewable Energy Council on state net metering and interconnection procedures for solar and wind facilities.


2006

Elizabeth Alvarado recently married Carlos Garcia ’08.

David Cohen was appointed general counsel of DCMI, an alternative investment firm in Dallas, Texas. His primary area of practice is international maritime law. DCMI owns 13 vessels, and he is involved in the transactions surrounding the vessels. The position has taken David all over the world to meet with co-investors, ship managers/operators, ship repair companies and ship insurance brokers. Last summer and fall, David worked extensively on the Isle of Man, in New York City and in London. In addition, David is also involved in the oil and gas, real estate and corporate affairs areas. He does pro bono work for collegiate basketball coaches and professional basketball players in the contract law realm and created a public foundation, Students for the Education and Development of Space.

Sophia Palmer has joined Tuell, Couture, Tuell & Young, P.S. in Tacoma. The practice includes family law, estate planning, trusts and probate, real estate, guardianships, business, personal injury and criminal law.

Kathryn Pineda married Lemeul Navarro, a current law student, on May 17, 2008, at the Chapel of St. Ignatius at Seattle University. The couple was married by Fr. Mike Bayard. After the wedding, Kathryn and Lemeul enjoyed a European honeymoon, visiting London, Paris and Rome.

2007

Erin Shea married Michael McCann in May. The two were married in Cannon Beach, Ore., as part of a small celebration with only 34 people.

2008

Sabrina Andrus was named to the Equal Justice Works Board of Directors in Washington, D.C. Sabrina is project coordinator for the Committee for Indigent Representation and Civil Legal Equality at Northwest Justice Project. She also sits on the Washington State Access to Justice Project. She also sits on the Washington State Access to Justice Law School Relations Committee.

Leanne Foster accepted a position with the prosecutor’s office in Yakima, Wash.

Carlos Garcia married Elizabeth Alvarado ’06. He works near McAllen, Texas, and Reynosa, Mexico, with his father and two brothers.