Many Dreams

One Mission
Law School Campaign Heads to Home Stretch with Jaharis Challenge

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CLASS OF 2013!
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As we close the centennial year at DePaul University College of Law, we have a special opportunity to think of the successes of a celebratory year and, of course, to turn to face the challenges of future years. This has been a year of notable achievements for alumni, students and faculty. It has also been a remarkable year of community building, of which we should all be proud.

Our students and graduates have, as usual, excelled. Let me give but a few examples. This spring, the American Society of International Law named alumna Natalie Long (JD ’12) one of 11 Helton Fellows—an award of international significance (see page 29). She is in the company of graduates and students from King’s College London, Harvard, Hebrew University and Australian National University, to name a few. Closer to home, our students reported a record 18,500 hours of pro bono and volunteer service this academic year. And, as if to bookend these successes, we recently learned that two 2012 graduates, Katie Kizer and Amanda Graham, were profiled as an up-and-coming legal duo in Crain’s “20 in Their 20s.”

The faculty’s work has also been terrific. At the beginning of this academic year, I noticed that six of our faculty members have published books with the world’s finest academic publisher, Oxford University Press. This list includes M. Cherif Bassiouini, Patty Gerstenblith, Roberta Kwali, Steven Resnicoff, Jeffrey Shaman and Deborah Tuerkerheim. News traveled fast—I have received compliments from my colleagues throughout the country on our faculty’s work. The range of the work is astonishing, from the definitive account of shaken baby syndrome to tragic choices in Jewish law, the work displays not just imagination and erudition, but also the respect of peers around the globe. And, late in the year, we received more good news. One of our newest senior faculty members, Andrew Gold, will join the Oxford Press group with a book that will be the product of an international conference he will host at DePaul this summer.

The year presented its challenges, of course. We are in the midst of enormous changes in the profession, which have introduced great uncertainty into the world of law schools. I am very pleased to report, however, that the faculty has risen to the challenges. They have begun a rigorous process of review of our operations, from what we need to do to prepare our students in our traditional areas of strength to exploring new avenues to provide opportunities for our students. Their spirit is infectious, and has made the law school an even more exciting place than when I arrived.

In May, we concluded the year with a great celebratory event, one that marks our place in the university and in the profession. Justice Ginsburg, who spoke on law and opera, closed the centennial year. How fitting as a way to both note the 100th anniversary of three schools: law, music and business. How fitting that she involved individuals from the community and our colleges in the event.
Professor Sarnoff takes helm of Center for Intellectual Property Law & Information Technology

Appointed in February by Dean Mark, Professor Joshua Sarnoff is the new faculty director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law and Information Technology (CIPLIT). Professor Sarnoff is a patent attorney, as well as an accomplished academic who has made great contributions to the intellectual property program since joining DePaul three years ago.

Professor Sarnoff takes over CIPLIT for Professor Barbara Bressler, who, after directing CIPLIT for six and a half years, decided to step down in January. As director emeritus, she will continue to be heavily involved with CIPLIT students and programs alike.

Professor Kellman wins distinguished Fulbright award

College of Law Professor Barry Kellman has been named Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Public International Law to Lund University in Sweden. Kellman was selected for one of the most prestigious Fulbright appointments, with only two such positions awarded worldwide. Fulbright is the U.S. government’s premiere international educational exchange program.

Kellman, who also directs the College of Law’s International Weapons Control Center, will teach and lecture in the areas of public international law, international criminal law and weapons control. He also will present three public lectures to the Lund University community during his semester-long appointment that begins January 2014.

“I look forward to the opportunity to present my ideas and interact with students and faculty at Lund University,” said Kellman, who received a Fulbright Lecturer Award to Fudan University in Shanghai China in 1986. “International law was founded four centuries ago to reduce the horror of warfare. Threats of mass violence have changed drastically, yet understanding the legal principles and mechanisms that support global peace and security has never been more imperative.”

Kellman is a known authority on issues of global weapons control and security and has worked closely with entities such as the United Nations, the U.S. government, and the European Union. His scholarship has focused on areas such as weapons of mass destruction proliferation and terrorism, biological terrorism, Middle East arms control and nuclear non-proliferation. He is the author of BIOVIOLENCE—PREVENTING BIOLOGICAL TERROR AND CRIME, which presents a comprehensive strategy for averting intentional infliction of disease. He also has written reports on topics related to biological and chemical threats on behalf of the U.S. and has organized more than 20 major international workshops on biological security policy.

On February 20, Professor Susan Bandes delivered the centennial lecture, “Emotion, Reason and the Progress of Law,” at a Union League Club ceremony. The event honored Bandes’ scholarship and designation as DePaul’s Centennial Distinguished Professor of Law.

Professor Bandes is widely recognized for her work in criminal procedure and federal jurisdiction as well as for her groundbreaking work in the field of law and emotion. Her lecture discussed the role that empathy and emotional engagement play for judges, juries and legislators, and how legal institutions might be reformed to facilitate that role.

“Emotion is deeply implicated in the law,” said Bandes, whose concern for justice motivates her research. “As we learn more about how emotion affects behavior and influences decisions, we can use this knowledge to make our legal institutions more effective and more just.”

In Brief

Center for Public Interest Law Symposium: “Fighting the Stigma: Overcoming the Barriers of a Criminal Record”

The Center for Public Interest Law’s (CPIL) seventh annual symposium filled two days, and combined an academic conference and action day.

On March 13, more than 80 students, local practitioners and community members joined CPIL for the symposium’s keynote address by Marc Mauer, executive director of The Sentencing Project in Washington, D.C. The conference hosted two additional panels, “Battling Collateral Consequences from the Angles of Policy, Law, and Community Organizing” and “Statutory Barriers, Remedies, and the Path Moving Forward,” which featured local attorneys, community and policy advocates, an NPR reporter, and a circuit judge.

On March 15, CPIL piloted the first-ever symposium action day, which featured a criminal records relief legal training and clinic in partnership with Cabrini Green Legal Aid (CGLA). The action day provided attendees the opportunity to work with communities in need, and contributed to the symposium’s goal of not merely identifying issues, but furthering remedies.

Paul Haidle, supervising attorney with CGLA, provided a criminal records relief legal training in the morning, after which volunteer students and attorneys headed to Grace Place to provide direct services for 56 individuals with criminal records. Volunteers worked in teams of two to provide client services, including assistance with health care waivers, certificates of good conduct and relief from disability, and petitions for executive clemency.

Clients left action day with completed or partially completed petitions and detailed information on their next steps. Volunteers gained valuable transferrable legal skills, and made new connections within the community.

IALI hosts international scholar Zhyldyz Tegizbekova

The International Aviation Law Institute (IALI) hosted visiting scholar Dr. Zhyldyz Tegizbekova, dean of the law program at the International University of Central Asia in the Kyrgyz Republic. Dr. Tegizbekova returned to DePaul following her spring 2010 IALI residency, spending a semester at the College of Law as part of a Soros Foundation/Open Society Institute program.

Internationally recognized and renowned for her high level aviation work, Dr. Tegizbekova specializes in research on the development of aviation law in the Kyrgyz Republic, on customary law, and on comparative analysis of U.S. and Kyrgyz law. While in residency, Dr. Tegizbekova wrote an article on the concept of open skies in Kyrgyzstan for IALI’s Issues in Aviation Law and Policy.
DePaul student takes first in cultural heritage law writing competition

In October, the Lawyers’ Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation (LCCHP) awarded DePaul University College of Law student Salome Kiwara-Wilson first place for her paper “Restituting Colonial Plunder: The Case for the Benin Bronzes and Ivories.”

Kiwara-Wilson distinguished herself among 32 students at 22 different law schools. In an official LCCHP statement, Executive Director Tess Davis cited this year’s competition as one of the most competitive on record. Founded in 2004 to further the preservation of cultural heritage both domestically and internationally, LCCHP developed the writing competition to involve current law students in this mission.

Spanning 40 pages, Kiwara-Wilson’s article follows the course of the West African Benin bronzes and ivories seized by British troops during the Punitive Expedition of 1897. Also known as the Benin massacre, the expedition ravaged the Benin kingdom, located in what is now Nigeria, and plundered the royal family’s collection of ceremonial art—including a large number of brass plaques. Britain auctioned off much of the artwork to neighboring states to relieve the cost of the elaborate expedition.

Today, the bronzes and ivories remain under Western control, primarily at the British Museum in London, as well as in collections in Germany and the United States. Since its independence in 1960, Nigeria has purchased back a small portion of the collection and the country repeatedly issues calls for restitution.

“I have always been fascinated with Benin Bronzes and the collection’s history,” explained Kiwara-Wilson. “I have had the opportunity to visit the collection at the British Museum, and every time I have gone, I end up sitting and staring at them for hours. When I heard about the opportunity to submit a paper for the LCCHP competition, I immediately thought I wanted to write about the question of restituting colonial plunder and focus on this magnificent collection.”


Sheriff Tom Dart delivers annual Valentine’s Day Lecture

On February 13, the Schiller DuCanto & Fleck Family Law Center celebrated its 10th anniversary with the annual Valentine’s Day Family Violence Distinguished Lecture. “Dismantling the Exploitative Sex Trade Industry in Cook County: Barriers, Issues and Challenges” covered myths and misinformation as well as how cultural supports, including the media, hamper efforts to end sex trafficking in Cook County.

The guest speaker for the event, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, discussed his experience implementing end demand strategies to eliminate trafficking and exploitation of young women and girls in the sex trade industry. Sheriff Dart’s Human Trafficking Response Team (HTRT) has responded to the exploitation of females in the sex trade in Cook County since 2009.

The 10th anniversary Valentine’s Day lecture coincided with the release of Senior Research Fellow Jody Raphael and Lindsey LaPointe’s recent HTRT study, “The Cook County Sheriff’s Human Trafficking Response Team: A Law Enforcement Model.” The report focuses on how effectively the HTRT initiative is addressing the demand side of prostitution and provides readers with a sense of the guiding principles of the project, statistics about its effects and information that can be used to replicate the model.

SBA revives Cause of Action

On January 15, the Student Bar Association re-launched DePaul’s student-run publication Cause of Action. The original newspaper dates back to the 1970s, and published through the late ’80s and ’90s before slowing production.

SBA President Alexandra Hochhauser and Vice President Pete Chambers revived Cause of Action as part of their campaign platform with the intent to provide relevant journalism, highlight student organizations, and bring light-hearted entertainment to the DePaul student body: “We’ve been encouraged by the response from students and faculty alike,” said Chambers, who serves as editor-in-chief along with student Corey Walker. “We’re hoping it becomes a sustainable project for DePaul law students for years to come.”

Cause of Action is currently available in newsstands throughout the law school.
In Brief

Cultural heritage law moot court benefits from collaboration

Twenty teams from around the country competed in this year’s National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition at the Everett McKinley Dirksen U.S. Courthouse in Chicago. The competition was co-sponsored by DePaul University College of Law and the Lawyers’ Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation.

Spearheaded by Professor Patty Gerstenblith, director of DePaul’s Center for Art, Museum & Cultural Heritage Law, the competition provides students with the opportunity to advocate in the nuanced landscape of cultural heritage law. It encompasses the protection of archaeological sites; preservation of historic structures and the built environment; preservation of and respect for both the tangible and intangible indigenous cultural heritage; the international market in artworks and antiquities, and recovery of stolen artworks. It is the only competition of its kind in the nation.

“It’s been a great opportunity to involve the students from Moot Court Society and from the Cultural Heritage Law Society,” said Professor Gerstenblith, “and through the Lawyers’ Committee we also have access to many of the top people in the cultural heritage field in the country.”

More than 80 attorneys participated as judges in the event, including many nationally renowned cultural heritage experts and DePaul law faculty. Judges Paul Joseph Kelly of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, Mary Mikva of the Cook County Circuit Court, Senior Judge William Bauer of the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, and retired Arizona State Superior Court Judge Sherry Hutt presided over the final round.

“We’ve got a lot of synergies going on,” said Gerstenblith, “both at the top of the cultural heritage field and the top of the moot court competitions, and opportunities for our students in both networking and learning substantively. It’s been a particularly wonderful opportunity to bring back alumni, those who were either a part of moot court or the art and cultural heritage side as students, and join them with volunteer judges who come from throughout the country, as well as of course the teams and their coaches. I’m just really realizing what a wonderful combination it’s been.”

“Another goal of the competition is to educate people about these areas of cultural heritage law,” Gerstenblith said.

This year’s moot court participants debated the definition of Native American under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) statute, as well as rights of ownership for artifacts that were buried with human remains.

The problem was developed by David Tarler, a national NAGPRA program officer, Gary Nurkin, assistant regional counsel with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, DePaul alumnae Emily Monteith (JD ’10), Lubna El-Gendi (LL.M. ’12) and second-year student Alyssa Newswanger.

“The integrity of every moot court starts with the problem,” underscored Judge Sherry Hutt. “It needs to be sufficiently but not overly complex, fair, present the opportunity for both sides to shine, and draw upon not only substantive knowledge but also their skills as advocates.”

Judge Paul Kelly was familiar with the topic through artifact distribution cases in his district of Santa Fe, New Mexico. “It’s a very interesting area,” he remarked, “and it’s a growing area, as more people become aware of what the law is.” Judge Kelly added, “It’s always a treat to judge the finals of a national competition. I’m just looking to see good, young lawyers making cogent arguments.”

In his closing remarks, Judge Bauer praised the “strength of advocacy, attention to purpose and unflappable professionalism of the [moot court] presenters.”

The South Texas College of Law team of Joseph Bramanti, Joel Glover and Erin Kee were named overall champions, while runner-up and best brief went to University of Michigan Law School team of Stephanie Goldfarb, Kelly Fabian and Austin Anderson.
“This is the best tournament I’ve ever been to,” stated South Texas competitor Kee, following the competition. “The judges were amazing, they knew the record, they had actually read the problem and it made it so much more fun.” Kee, whose team prepared their brief for five weeks, enjoyed the chance to discuss the case with her mother, an anthropologist.

The competition was followed by a reception and awards ceremony at the Standard Club.


Interpreting NAGPRA in indigenous property ownership

By Corinne Smith

In August 2008, severe rains flooded much of Dr. Edward Williamson’s land, leading him to discover a human skull and partial skeleton that were later determined to be a 95 percent complete skeleton (Site I), as well as another complete set of human remains and two fully intact funerary jars (Site II). Because Williamson’s land lies within the exterior boundaries of the Chaco Nation Reservation, after his discovery and removal of the items from their discovery sites, he contacted the president of the Chaco Nation and the police to inform them of his discovery.

The district medical examiner, along with an anthropologist, concluded the human remains from Site II were American Indian and the two jars were linked to burials of the Early Riverine Horizon of Late DePaulian Culture (A.D. 1300-1500). Similar jars have recently sold at auction for $8,000 each. By radiocarbon dating, the human remains from Site I were determined to be 14,000 years old. This skeleton, now commonly referred to as “Harper Man,” attracted attention because some of its physical features—such as the shape of the face and skull—differed from those of modern American Indians, and because it is the oldest human skeleton and the best preserved skeleton older than 8,000 years discovered to date in the Americas. In 2009, the Chaco Nation initiated suit against Williamson after he refused to transfer the remains of Harper Man and the associated funerary objects from Site II to the tribe.

This scenario formed the fact pattern for the fourth annual National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition held in Chicago in February. The competition’s problem focused on questions concerning the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

NAGPRA was enacted in 1990 to provide for the protection of Native American graves and is a means through which federally recognized Native American tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations can seek the return of their cultural items, including human remains and associated and unassociated burial objects.

The problem involved both statutory interpretation and constitutional questions and required the Supreme Court to address the following two issues: (1) whether human remains must bear some relationship to a presently existing tribe, people or culture to be “Native American” and therefore subject to NAGPRA; and (2) whether vesting in association with Native American remains in a burial on private land located within the exterior boundaries of the tribe’s reservation, based solely on the tribe’s past
geographical connection to the land would result in a taking of property within the meaning of the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution. Competition participants representing either the landowner, Williamson, or the Chaco Nation were asked to brief and argue these issues to the Supreme Court, assuming the court had granted certiorari on these two questions on appeal from the 12th Circuit, a fictional federal circuit court.

The 12th Circuit held that the human remains of an individual who, at the time of death, is related to a tribe, people, or culture that is indigenous to the present-day geographical area of the U.S. are “Native American” under NAGPRA, regardless of whether the human remains bear a relationship to a present-day Indian tribe or are culturally unidentifiable. The court also held that NAGPRA’s vesting of right of control of the associated funerary objects removed from Williamson’s land in the Chaco Nation would not result in a taking of property without compensation within the meaning of the Fifth Amendment.

For the first issue, the court was asked to reexamine the meaning of the term “Native American” under NAGPRA to decide whether Harper Man fell within that definition. NAGPRA defines “Native American” as “of, or relating to, a tribe, people or culture that is indigenous to the United States.” In order to deduce congressional intent from the wording of the statute, the court looked to the principles of statutory construction to inform its interpretation of the phrase “is indigenous.”

For the second issue, the court was asked to address whether Williamson has a property interest in the two jars found at Site II that is protected under the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution. Williamson conceded that the human remains and the jars found in Site II were Native American for purposes of NAGPRA. Under section 3 of NAGPRA, priority of control of Native American human remains and associated funerary objects discovered on federal or tribal lands, including all lands within the exterior boundaries of any Indian reservation, after November 16, 1990, vests in the lineal descendants of the deceased Native American. When no lineal descendant can be ascertained, priority of control vests in the Indian tribe on whose tribal land the human remains and funerary objects were discovered. Both sides agreed that no general property interest exists in human remains.

They also agreed that in exercising exclusive authority to enact statutes for the benefit of Indians, such as NAGPRA, Congress cannot exercise that power in such a way as to effect an uncompensated taking of private property. Therefore, the issue turns on whether the property interest in the jars is severable from the human remains found at Site II or, in the alternative, whether there is also no general property interest in associated burial goods.

The issues addressed in the competition are particularly relevant given the current state of Fifth Amendment cases, including two cases recently before the Supreme Court, and given that a California court is currently reexamining the first issue dealing with the definition of “Native American.” The competition’s ties to current decisions aim to educate the competitors, judges and DePaul students not only about cultural heritage law, but also about broader issues confronting the courts and Congress today.

Corinne Smith is a rising 2L student at the College of Law where she serves as a board member of the Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society and is also assisting with research for the 2014 National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition. This is adapted from an article that appeared in the Summer 2013 ABA Section on International Law’s, Art and Cultural Heritage Law Committee Newsletter.
At age 16, Evan Griffith was charged with felony murder predicated on armed robbery for his alleged role in the death of Leroi Shanks. The victim was 49 years old and had been sexually abusing Griffith since age 15.

This fall, DePaul’s Center for Justice in Capital Cases (CJCC) and Director Andrea Lyon invited Griffith to speak to students, faculty and staff at the College of Law. Professor Lyon introduced 43-year-old Griffith as “a remarkable person and a model of why the decision in *Miller vs. Alabama* was the right one.” The 2012 U.S. Supreme Court case ruled against mandatory life without parole for those under the age of 18.

Two months after his release from prison, the Belize-born Griffith presented a deeply moving, highly personal account of his life, from his childhood in Belize to a cycle of sexual and psychological abuse at the hands of his father, siblings and various foster fathers. After his mother sent him to Chicago, he gravitated toward violence and gangs. In May 1985, Griffith, 16 and homeless, broke into the home of Leroi Shanks, who had offered him shelter in exchange for sex. The teenager was trying to crack open Shanks’ safe with a hammer when Shanks came home. Griffith killed him with the hammer and a knife. A year later, Griffith was sentenced to 35 years for the murder.

In prison, he was initially a committed gangbanger, and he was indicted for the 1991 murder of a fellow inmate. A jury found him guilty and he was sentenced to death.

“At prisoners on death row either get 10 times better or 10 times worse,” Griffith told audience members at DePaul. “I truly believe I got 10 times better.”

People noticed, including prison guards, some of whom later testified that Griffith was a changed man. In the meantime, Professor Lyon and attorneys at Jenner & Block fought for him in court, winning him a new trial in the Shanks case because of prosecutorial misconduct and a new sentencing hearing in the prison murder.

At that sentencing hearing, 16 witnesses testified on Griffith’s behalf. “I have no doubt,” the judge said, “based upon the evidence that’s presented to me that, in fact, you have been rehabilitated.”

At the conclusion of the hearing, the judge sentenced Griffith to 20 years, the minimum possible. In July 2012, in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in *Miller vs. Alabama* that life without parole for juveniles was unconstitutional, Lyon and Jenner & Block went back to court. Griffith was the first person in the nation freed as a result of the ruling.

Griffith praised the work of his attorneys, and urged aspiring public defenders to use his case as a model. “Don’t let the system make you jaded,” he advised. “Understand that everyone has a story. Give it your best. Take the time to know your client; once you get to see who he is, try to dedicate the time and resources that you can.”
In Brief

Student organizations: The root of the DePaul law community

By Sami Silverstein

Student organizations do more than help aspiring lawyers network; they establish community ties. Organizations run by and for students, such as Moot Court Society and the Student Bar Association, often provide a first glimpse of the College of Law community. These groups also enable lasting connections for many alumni.

As the auction chair and former president of the Public Interest Law Association (PILA), I can say that my experience with student organizations has greatly enhanced my law school experience. PILA gave me the opportunity to meet many alumni who remember the organization fondly and are eager to help our cause, whether through facilitating public interest opportunities at DePaul or raising funds for summer public interest stipends.

Recently, I attended a PILA-sponsored mixer in Washington, D.C., following the conference for nonprofit Equal Justice Works. I had the opportunity to meet many PILA-affiliated College of Law alumni who were both eager to spread the word about our enhanced auction efforts and interested in recruiting DePaul graduates to their D.C. employers.

For many students, it’s the community ties that attract them to DePaul. When applying to law schools, I was attracted to DePaul above all other Chicago schools because of its reputation for a strong alumni network and its student organizations, particularly those in public interest law. I believe DePaul is Chicago’s law school because of its work in the city to enhance access to justice, often organized by student organizations and specialty programs, and also because of the numerous alumni who put their legal education to work in Chicago.

For many students, it’s the community ties that attract them to DePaul.

This enthusiasm is not unusual. While looking through old PILA files, I came across a member whose name I recognized and reached out to her to discuss new ideas for the auction. In the process, I discovered we had similar interests in juvenile justice. We’ve since corresponded about our work, and even though she is located out-of-state, this particular alumna was willing to do just about anything to help the auction. Along with many alumni from the conference, she donated monetarily to the auction.

It’s these humble, but important, donations that will grow our proceeds. We’ve tapped students as well, but we still have opportunities to reinvigorate our alumni networks.

Our community is strengthened by student organizations that tie alumni back to the school. As DePaul progresses, the support given to student organizations must also progress: after all, community ties are the root of DePaul Law.

I challenge you to reconnect with the student organizations you were a member of during law school, especially if you haven’t in some time. Simply offering to speak to students over coffee about the work you do now goes a long way. I challenge DePaul law alumni to remember the value of student organizations, and to look for ways to enhance their support.
DePaul commemorates MLK Day with prominent race scholar

DePaul College of Law hosted the 15th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration and Luncheon on January 21, 2013. Students, faculty and community members attended the event, which featured distinguished critical race theorist and UCLA Law Professor Cheryl Harris as the keynote speaker.

This year’s theme, “Theorizing Racial Justice: Reflections on ‘Whiteness as Property,’ 1993-2013,” was a tribute to the 20th anniversary of the publication of Professor Harris’s prominent article on race and property.

The program included a performance by Congo Square Theatre and was followed by an afternoon panel moderated by Professor Cho. Four guest professors served as the afternoon panelists: Kimberly Tallbear, UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources; David Stovall, University of Illinois at Chicago College of Education; Nancy Leong, University of Denver Sturm College of Law; and Devon Carbado, UCLA School of Law.

The theme of racial justice resonated with DePaul students who attended the event. “I cannot think of a better way to celebrate the legacy of Dr. King,” said student Catherine Ryan. “Cheryl Harris, along with the guest panelists, provided amazing insight into the diverse issues surrounding the quest for racial equality in our country.”

The College of Law Diversity Committee has already begun planning the 2014 program, which will mark the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

The Asylum & Immigration Law Clinic is a hybrid—a place where DePaul law students learn the intricacies of real-world cases and a place that gives legal aid to hundreds of immigrants and refugees each year, while providing support and training to 25 community-based organizations.

“Through the clinic, our students serve those without representation—people fleeing persecution, people facing imprisonment or worse if they’re returned to their countries, people fearing deportation and discrimination,” said Sioban Albiol, director.

“A lot of DePaul law students want to work in public interest and in human rights—immigration law is right in the intersection of the two, so we have a large pool of engaged students. Quite a few students start out curious about immigration law and end up committed to improving access to justice for immigrants.”

“The clinic was my best experience in law school because we had actual clients, from the beginning,” said former clinic student Amany Ezeldin (JD ’05), now an immigration law analyst in the Citizenship and Immigration Services Ombudsman’s Office of the Department of Homeland Security. “In every case, we took the long, arduous path to a resolution—yes, the professors had the answers, but learning step-by-step was the best education possible.”

“In my first job, I was the only immigration attorney in a legal services agency. If I hadn’t known—first-hand and in detail—how to help a victim of domestic violence apply for an immigration benefit under VAWA (Violence Against Women Act), I would not have been able to do my job. And once you have 100 clients, you can’t learn as you go.”

Sarah J. Diaz (JD ’05), clinical instructor and attorney, said that the clinic benefits DePaul students and its community partners alike.

“Our students get the kind of experience that prepares them for professional careers. At the same time, our community partners get extraordinary support. Our success rate is high; our students’ intelligence and dedication are remarkable; and our service is second-to-none. We handle more than 400 cases every year.”

“My desire to make a difference—that comes from the clinic,” said Ezeldin.
Mentoring has a natural place in today’s connected culture. Global organizations like IBM are implementing e-mentoring programs for young employees, and emerging online exchanges like PivotPlanet connect career changers to accomplished industry professionals. Increasingly, social networking platforms are used to maintain career connections outside of the office.

As the professional world becomes more socialized—and accessible—the new work force is benefitting from direct interaction with higher-ups. Protégés can easily initiate contact with experts in a field of interest, becoming active learners who direct the mentoring process.
Yet, modern mentorships don’t easily produce results. Mentees might not know what questions to ask. Shared ground also plays a big role, with research showing that the more a mentor and protégé have in common, the more they will invest in the relationship. And the benefit of face-to-face meetings is almost essential in establishing rapport.

Responding to the need for effective mentorships, the College of Law recently integrated a program that takes great measures to ensure time well spent.

In 2012, DePaul’s Institute for Advocacy and Dispute Resolution (IADR) launched the Lawyer-to-Lawyer (L2L) Mentoring Program, which operates under the Illinois Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism. It wrapped up its first year this past January.

Led by IADR Assistant Director Natalie Taylor, DePaul’s L2L program furthers the court’s efforts to change the legal culture in Illinois “one-on-one.” The program works by pairing new attorneys with seasoned professionals through careful recruiting, orientation and training, a highly structured outline and incentive for both parties to complete the program.

“Overall, the response has been very positive,” said Taylor. “This year we have four repeat mentors. Additionally, two of the 2012 mentors have asked me to reach out to them for 2014.” Though mentorship positions aren’t restricted to DePaul alumni, Taylor said all but one of the current mentors is an alumnum.

To participate in the program, mentees must be certified and practicing, or intending to practice law in Illinois. Among many other requirements, attorney mentors must be registered and in good standing, with a spotless record. Taylor also teamed up with Law Career Services (LCS) staff and Assistant Director Bonnie Tunick to invite specific graduates they felt could benefit from the program as mentees. This year, 24 attorneys signed up for L2L.

**Elements of professionalism**

The program outline is divided into five areas of study to reflect the prongs of CLE rule. Each area contains talking points, which allow the pairs to review and structure their meetings ahead of time. Often, participants use these talking points as a springboard to approach additional areas they might not otherwise consider.

“That was nice—it’s as if you have a curriculum,” said 2012 L2L mentor George Pearce (JD ’79). “But, then, when you’ve worked for 33 years as a lawyer you have a lot of stories, so it’s easy to take a concept and apply it to what you’re doing every day.”

Pearce is a partner at Holland & Knight and focuses on estate planning and representing family owned businesses. He said mentoring comes naturally for him. Pearce oversees the hiring of new attorneys at Holland & Knight and ran their summer program for several years. He also serves on the College of Law Dean’s Council. When Tunick reached out to him, he signed up.

Under the professionalism area of the L2L outline, mentors and mentees have the opportunity to cover basics of law office management. For Pearce’s mentee Maryam Fakouri (JD ’10), a librarian at Columbia College who recently graduated from the part-time evening program at the College of Law, this was one of the program highlights.

“It gives you a more grounded view of what their day is like,” she explained, “and who they interact with.”

Once a month, Pearce invited her to meet at his office and address the topic of the day. Fakouri enjoyed the opportunity to experience an office environment and learn more about the day-to-day management of a law firm. “I was interested in routine aspects such as billing, keeping track of time,” she laughed, “and even organizing email.”

Though Fakouri had marked wills and trusts as a practice area of interest, she was also interested in discovering more about the world of legal issues connected with libraries. “George connected me with people who might have knowledge there,” she said. In addition, “the program exposed me to practice areas outside of higher education.”

Ultimately, Pearce put her in touch with five additional contacts, including his spouse Mary Sinclair Pearce (JD ’79) who works at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of General Counsel, and an attorney at Holland & Knight who practices intellectual property law.

Fakouri now counts IP as a focal point of her career pursuit. With its overlap in library issues, it’s a natural fit. “I would absolutely recommend this to other graduates,” she said.
Best practices
One benefit of the L2L program is the opportunity for both mentors and mentees to receive six professional responsibility CLE credits upon completion. In order to meet CLE requirements, the Illinois Supreme Court has structured the outline to focus heavily on education in the context of the mentorship. This means that mentors often have the opportunity to learn along with their protégés.

“The program creates a wonderful dialogue,” said 2012 L2L mentor Mitch Goldberg (BA ’96, JD ’99). “It was educational for me, too. It got me thinking about issues I’d never really thought about before.”

Through L2L, Goldberg even found himself reexamining choices he made earlier in his career. “When you’re in the thick of crisis as a young lawyer, you don’t always take the time to realize—wow, that’s an interesting problem. Working through these situations has improved my own creative problem solving skills.”

Goldberg is a partner at Lawrence Kamin Saunders & Uhlenhop, where he focuses his practice on commercial litigation, concentrating in securities and commodity futures law and alternative dispute resolution. He is also a trained mediator and has been involved with many DePaul programs, such as LCS Career Week.

Goldberg’s mentee, Valerie Magnuson (JD ’10) has a background in financial services, and indicated an interest in financial and securities law and employee benefits law. “It was nice to have these common denominators in our discussions,” said Goldberg. They often structured their conversations around issues arising in each other’s practice. For Magnuson, the program was beneficial in adjusting her outlook.

“It was a fantastic experience,” she said. Though Magnuson knew the importance of networking, she hoped to refine this skill through L2L. An affable out-of-state alumna, her professional circle was limited to former law school classmates and coworkers.

“Mitch helped me with what my perception of networking was,” Magnuson acknowledged. “As a young attorney, one of the most valuable aspects was broadening my horizons as to how to better network.” Goldberg helped her learn to approach it without expectations about the interaction.

Through L2L, Goldberg and Magnuson attended various professional events. “They were very social, but always tied it into current events and law,” Magnuson said. “It was an educational experience, as well as an opportunity to meet other lawyers and judges.”

Continued on next page
Good citizens, good people

Goldberg emphasized that he doesn’t participate in the program for the credit, citing numerous opportunities to earn CLE. “It’s really neat to see how a young lawyer thinks,” he explained. “When you see young attorneys faced with difficult decisions, and you see them make the right decisions—particularly in economically difficult times, when it’s easy to make the wrong decision—you have a sense of pride.”

Goldberg wasn’t surprised when the law school announced it was participating in the program. “DePaul is a fairly unique environment focused on developing good citizens and good people,” said the Double Demon. “Law school isn’t necessarily touchy-feely, but the professors and administration really care about the development of aspiring attorneys into good people.”

He added, “Natalie Taylor is emotionally invested in the success of all the various programs she works in. She’s developed enormous networks for our students, and in this case recent alumni.”

Taylor said she wants to see a high success rate for the program’s second annual year. She plans to be in monthly contact with participants, and in conjunction with LCS, plans to hold a midpoint meeting for all participants, as well as issue monthly emails about mentoring. Taylor looks forward to expanding DePaul’s capacity to deliver resources and assistance to alumni.

Still, her work with the program relies on the participation of dedicated alumni like George Pearce and Mitch Goldberg. Both are currently serving as mentors in the 2013 L2L program.

Pearce, who met his wife at the College of Law, said they reconnected with DePaul following a law alumni reunion. “That just kind of brought us back,” he said. “I think the reunion connected us with some of the staff here, and people started reaching out to me more and I was receptive.”

On January 28, at the 2013 L2L program orientation, Goldberg, Magnuson, Pearce and Fakouri gathered to speak to new program participants about their yearlong experience.

While Goldberg and Pearce met their new mentees for the first time, the evening also gave Magnuson and Fakouri, who were both part-time evening students, a chance to reconnect following hectic post-graduation schedules. “It was great to see Maryam,” said Magnuson, “We’re actually having lunch next week.”

“The program creates a wonderful dialogue, it was educational for me, too. It got me thinking about issues I’d never really thought about before.”
Following up on their historic commitment, they have posed a challenge to the law community: the Jaharis Family Foundation will match any contribution for law scholarships, doubling the impact of gifts that provide financial assistance for deserving students. The scholarships are already providing critical financial support for some of the College of Law’s most promising students. Now, the Jaharis Challenge will encourage committed alumni to make a gift to support law student scholarships. Donors that give to any scholarship fund in the College of Law will see their contribution matched dollar-for-dollar. The Jaharis Family Foundation will match each gift with an equal contribution to the Jaharis Endowed Scholarship, which provides financial assistance to students who work to support themselves and/or families during their studies.

"As part of the Many Dreams, One Mission Campaign the College of Law is committed to raising $15 million for scholarship support," said Dean Gregory Mark. "Today, we are $3 million shy of achieving our goal. The Jaharises believe in our students and in our ability to meet their challenge and they have provided funds to match all law scholarship gifts made toward completing the campaign goal."

One hundred years after its founding, the College of Law continues to serve as a beacon of opportunity for a diverse range of talented, hard-working students. Continuing this legacy would not be possible without the commitment of the DePaul community.

It is appropriate that this challenge comes from Michael Jaharis and his family. A quick glance at Jaharis’ background sheds light on the importance of education and fortitude. A night school student who served in the Korean War, Jaharis completed his degree while working as a sales representative for a pharmaceutical company during the day. After receiving his law degree, he rose in the company, eventually investing in and taking over a small pharmaceutical company that was on the verge of bankruptcy. He helped develop new products and marketing approaches that would eventually turn the company around. He went on to acquire, build and sell several more successful companies, and the family’s philanthropy includes universities, art museums, and the Greek Orthodox Church and Hellenic cultural organizations.

While the Jaharis Endowed Scholarship was established to assist like-minded students working their way through school, chances are very good that the Jaharis Challenge will support the same demographic. The work ethic Jaharis demonstrated 50 years ago still prevails at the College of Law, with approximately 67 percent of students receiving scholarships, 95 percent receiving loans each year and most upper-level students holding down jobs.

Michael Jaharis said, “It is particularly important to Mary and me to give back to institutions which have truly inspired us and which may help open doors for young people and communities. We feel it is critically important for all of us to support those institutions that help to promote enlightenment, education and culture for future generations.”

Read about Jaharis Scholars Jeffrey Boucher, Kelli Fennell and Zach Garmisa on the following pages.
Jaharis Scholar Jeffrey Boucher recalls a moment when the importance of carefully applying the law really hit home. Fresh from law school study-abroad experiences in Europe and China, he took a position in the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office in the felony courts at 26th and California. Witnessing, firsthand, the ability to affect another’s fate put things in perspective.

“You realize how important it is to conduct the legal process with integrity and consistency and while faithfully applying rules of evidence,” Boucher said. “Someone’s freedom is at stake.”

A graduate of Vernon Hills High School in suburban Chicago and Wittenberg University in Ohio, Boucher says he came to DePaul because its law school has a “great academic reputation, and because it balances a global perspective with a strong presence in the Chicago legal community.”

Entering law school, he was interested in the way law and business were evolving to become more global in nature, and he notes that the law school provided opportunities for him to study abroad in China, Spain and Belgium.

“These experiences helped me to see that the law is constantly evolving and subject to new circumstances and situations,” he said. “They also helped me gain confidence in dealing with communication and cultural barriers—the law is really, above anything, about clear and credible communication between human beings.”

For Boucher, receiving the Jaharis Scholarship has made it possible to focus on his studies and clinical and internship opportunities without having to worry excessively about financing his legal studies. “DePaul offers a rigorous legal education, and so many avenues for gaining practical application and exposure to the law,” he said. “I’ve been able to have wide-ranging experiences that I might not have been able to pursue without the scholarship.”

Boucher says he has found a sense of community that he thinks will last throughout his career and beyond. He has been involved with the Student Bar Association (SBA), served as a Dean’s Advisory Council representative, and is currently SBA secretary.

“The people here make DePaul a great law school. The students and faculty are down to earth. They are competitive but not cutthroat. We push each other to be better.”

Boucher recalls another formative moment at DePaul. “On my first day of orientation, the leader asked us to look at the people on our right and left. I thought he was going to say ‘next year, they might not be here,’” he laughed. “But what he said was, ‘These people will very likely become lifelong friends.’ Three years later, I have no doubt about that.”
What makes DePaul special for Kelli Fennell is the powerful experience she has gained. As part of classes through the College of Law’s Asylum & Immigration Law Clinic, she represented a client in a complicated immigration case and presented arguments before the Executive Office for Immigration Review.

“There aren’t too many people coming out of law school who can say they had a chance to argue a full case before they even graduated,” Fennell said.

She acquired an early interest in different cultures and in issues of community, and asylum and immigration. Fennell, who is fluent in Spanish, was raised by a family that moved often, and grew up in locales ranging from Mexico City to the Quad Cities. As an undergraduate at Butler University, she had an opportunity to work with refugees and people seeking asylum. “That made a big impression on me,” she said. “DePaul’s location in Chicago and its active involvement in matters of human rights and immigration law is part of what drew me to the law school.”

DePaul’s extensive clinical opportunities were especially appealing to Fennell. “I knew it was an excellent law school with a great tradition of opening up the field, and that it has many alumni who are leaders in Chicago’s legal community,” she said. “The opportunities to apply what I am learning in real cases did not seem nearly as extensive at other law schools.”

As a DePaul student, Fennell spent a summer in Chiapas, Mexico, as part of the Chiapas Human Rights Practicum, in which students travel to Chiapas to meet with major human rights and indigenous organizations in the community. Students are based in San Cristobal, where local human rights lawyers, activists and community leaders teach students about the local legal and political situation. As a Spanish-speaking student, Fennell received a stipend to work the entire summer in a human rights office.

Fennell says that the Jaharis Scholarship “felt like a vote of confidence in my abilities and it has really been a help, allowing me to take full advantage of clinical opportunities.” And, as someone who moved around a lot as a child, she found a home at DePaul.

“The College of Law is a wonderful community. We are competitive, but we use that competitive impulse to excel individually and be supportive of each other. I have had some great mentors among the faculty, and the alumni network is terrific—very strong and active. The alumni are very faithful to the school and younger alumni. The community is constant.”
Jaharis Scholar Zach Garmisa majored in psychology at the University of Illinois because he wanted to help people. He is becoming a lawyer for the same reason.

“I can’t think of a better law school for me, because of its mission of service, and balance between theory and practice,” Garmisa said.

“The school is very supportive and collegial—they push you toward achievement and support you on the road in so many ways,” he says.

Garmisa says that his most memorable DePaul experience was the camaraderie he felt at orientation, when all first-year students take an oath to uphold proper ethics from that day in law school into their careers.

“I found the experience powerful and inspiring. Every student in law school said it with me as we prepared to embark on the law school experience.”

The law school’s balance between theory and practice has provided Garmisa with a number of opportunities to work with and assist others. He works part time for a civil litigation law firm and a criminal defense law firm. He has worked as a team leader with the Just the Beginning Foundation, an organization seeking to encourage diverse students to enter law school.

He has been a member of DePaul’s Decalogue Society for Jewish lawyers, worked with the Office of Admissions in recruitment-related activities ranging from tours to events, and served as a representative on the Dean’s Advisory Council and Student Bar Association.

He also values the personal guidance he’s received through the legal writing program. “These are the faculty members that really spend a lot of time with you, week in and week out, to make sure you are the best legal writer you can be. It’s very important, because the law really is about clear communication.”

All of his involvement and range of experience might not have been possible if not for financial aid such as the Jaharis Scholarship. “I’m extremely appreciative and grateful for the opportunity that the Jaharis family has given me. I aspire to use the opportunity as a springboard to develop my skills, continue my legal education, and be able to work in areas that directly impact the lives and well-being of others. That is why I went to law school in the first place.

“The Jaharis Scholarship inspires me to one day give back to DePaul and provide individuals with the same opportunities given to me.”
For the past five years, Elizabeth Vastine and Peter Newman have invited College of Law students to sit in a circle and talk. Vastine and Newman teach a course at the College of Law in restorative practices, a process that has been gaining ground in the legal community as an effective alternative dispute resolution possibility. It’s a process that encourages both communicating and listening in a safe, responsible and effective manner. The process works whether the participants are merely discussing ideas or options, or are resolving conflicts.

“Restorative practices are about helping to create safe space for whatever the dialogue might be,” said Vastine.

The philosophy has roots in many ancient and indigenous cultures. The process first gained currency in Illinois in connection with criminal and juvenile matters, and is often spoken of in terms of victims and offenders and, occasionally, forgiveness. Yet, as Vastine and Newman contend, the process is much, much more. Participants sit in a circle and pass around a talking piece, speaking when they have it and listening when they do not. A circle keeper helps to ensure the integrity of the process, but the results are the work of the participants. Being a restorative practitioner and shepherding the process while having no decision-making role is extremely difficult, albeit rewarding. In addition to making the process work, some of the rewards are seeing what parties are able to accomplish and how they do it, as well as how they learn to honor their relationships and acknowledge each other’s needs.

Over the past year restorative justice has received coverage in the New York Times, on the “The Today Show” and internationally. Yet Vastine and Newman, both lawyers, have been working with restorative practices for many years. Vastine is principal at the Stone Vastine Group, and Newman is the program administrator for the Juvenile Justice and Child Protection Resource Section of the Cook County Circuit Court.

In 2008, Vastine and Newman worked with Judge Martha Mills, also a longtime restorative practitioner, to utilize the restorative process in select cases at the Parentage and Child Support Court of the Cook County Circuit Court. The results were extremely successful. With the goal of offering exposure to restorative practices to a greater audience as well as providing future restorative practitioners for the Parentage Court, Vastine and Newman joined Barbara Hausman, executive director of the Schiller DuCanto & Fleck Family Law Center, to formulate a law school course.

They worked to create a program that would prepare students to lead circles, a restorative practice. The resulting course at DePaul was the first of its kind in the nation. Vastine and Newman said class readings span from historical, to indigenous text, to critiques of restorative justice and challenges, and often work within the framework of current events. The course is anchored by guest speakers—an eclectic mix by design—giving students an opportunity to explore different topics while sitting in circle. Students sit in circle with judges, former gang leaders, individuals who have benefitted from the process and those who have supported the restorative movement.

“Some of our speakers have had experiences that the rest of us have only read about,” said Vastine. “We’ll pass the talking piece around, Peter and I will ask certain questions and it kind of evolves, because circle is organic. As the dialogue evolves, so do the questions and so does the sharing. Students recognize this is an opportunity to be exposed to issues in a really personalized and humanized way.”

Vastine and Newman feel aspiring lawyers can benefit from a deeper understanding of the human side of law and the ability to effectively communicate. “What a client cares about is not merely ‘what can you do for me,’ but also ‘do you know my story? Can you recognize me as an individual with all my humanness and needs and desires?’” said Newman. “A knowledge of restorative justice and exposure to its practice is a great aid—and skill set—with clients, and also with other attorneys or persons involved in any legal matter.”

Continued on next page

**Restorative Justice**

A path to resolution through rounded discussion
“It’s been cultivated by different groups and different constituencies for a process of conflict resolution and brainstorming.”

“It was interesting because as a law student you’re not often asked for your personal opinion,” said third-year student Latiana Carter, who took the course last semester. Carter recalled her peers’ surprise when Vastine and Newman asked them to put their laptops away on the first day of class. By mid-semester, she said, students looked forward to it every week.

“This was a space in law school where they felt they could connect,” said Newman. “At the end of the day, law school is about your own life’s journey that academics are a part of.” Though the course is pass/fail, attendance was always strong. Newman and Vastine said past students valued the course for practical and skills-based learning but also developed a sense of community that is unique to the law school class experience.

Judge Mills, for one, is delighted to see the seed of her idea flourish within the classroom structure. “It’s very good for the Parentage Court,” she added. “It provides people who can do a real service in that court.” Her gratification is, however, for more than the court. “The course gives students a skill set in communication, in working together and in active listening, that will serve them no matter what area of law they decide to go into,” she said. “Plus, it gives them a participatory course that’s very different from the more common text-based, Socratic Method ones.” Mills said she’s seen students reevaluate their perception of the practice of law as more rewarding than they thought—and that is a very happy result.

Mills, Vastine and Newman see 2013 as a vital year for restorative justice in Chicago, attributing the recent media buzz to many years of momentum and persistence by many people. “It’s now been recognized by different groups, not just in the criminal and semi-criminal arena, as a great process for conflict resolution and just for brainstorming,” explained Newman.

With restorative justice proponents now in leadership positions in Cook County courts, many programs are considering restorative practices to assist the parties and issues before them. Many more judges are willing to take a chance. Many more attorneys are open to the process. Vastine and Newman’s course and the students who have benefitted from it are in the vanguard.

Vastine and Newman are currently working with DePaul’s Center for Public Interest Law in facilitating a skill series on the circle process.
Clifford Symposium

The 19th annual Clifford Symposium on Tort Law and Social Policy examined issues of financing litigation. Twenty-two scholars including legal academics, social scientists and economists from the U.S. and Canada presented on topics ranging from the financial challenge of class relief to ethical issues in litigation finance. “A Brave New World: The Changing Face of Litigation and Law Firm Finance” was held at DePaul on April 18 and 19 and was organized by Professor Stephan Landsman, the Robert A. Clifford Chair in Tort Law & Social Policy. Above, from left: Erwin Chemerinsky, founding dean of UC Irvine School of Law, Professor Susan Bandes and Dean Gregory Mark.

Tri-College Centennial Event


Enlund Lecture

Enlund Scholar-in-Residence Hiroshi Motomura (pictured), the Susan Westerberg Prager Professor of Law at UCLA, led the discussion with his lecture “Can State and Local Governments Regulate Immigration? A Substantive View of Immigration Federalism.”

DePaul Law Auction

More than 350 alumni, students, faculty and staff attended the 17th annual DePaul Law Auction at the Chicago Cultural Center on January 24, 2013. Through silent auctions and live bidding, the event raised $28,000—matched by an anonymous donor for a total of $56,000—for summer public interest law internship stipends.

Centennial Lecture

Centennial Distinguished Professor of Law Susan Bandes delivered the College of Law’s centennial lecture, “Emotion, Reason and the Progress of Law,” to an audience of alumni, students, faculty and staff at the Union League Club on February 20, 2013. Professor Bandes discussed the role empathy and emotional engagement ought to play for judges, juries and legislators, and how legal institutions might be reformed to facilitate that role. Above, from left: Erwin Chemerinsky, founding dean of UC Irvine School of Law, Professor Susan Bandes and Dean Gregory Mark.

Tri-College Centennial Event


Enlund Lecture

The centennial year Enlund Lecture was held at DePaul on October 25, 2012, and focused on the role of state and local governments in addressing immigration and citizenship. Enlund Scholar-in-Residence Hiroshi Motomura (pictured), the Susan Westerberg Prager Professor of Law at UCLA, led the discussion with his lecture “Can State and Local Governments Regulate Immigration? A Substantive View of Immigration Federalism.”
Q: About 20 years ago you funded the first Clifford Symposium. It’s been going strong for two decades, and I think it’s fair to say there’s nothing quite like it in the world for professional or academic reputation in the sphere of tort law and civil justice. What do you see for the next two decades?

Bob Clifford: I suspect that there will still be solid issues to analyze at the symposium; that the debates about the area of tort law and civil justice and jury performance and the Seventh Amendment are still going to be in the forefront of issues in the profession. There seems to be no shortage of that now.

The symposium began with my profound belief that the efficacy and propriety of citizens exercising their rights in the justice system and civil justice system were being unfairly attacked and skewed. What I saw in the actual operational litigation in the courthouse did not square up with the hyperbolic fear mongering that goes on in advertising. And I recall vividly that in the mid-’70s, I had to go to the library to research the meaning of tort reform because I didn’t know what it was—an absolutely true story. Here we are in 2013, and I literally deal professionally with tort reform every day. There seems to be an endless source of mischief for people who benefit by taking away other people’s rights. And if they’re hard to catch, they’re hard to bring to justice, and they’re going to keep on doing it.
For example, there is a trial in Texas against a drug manufacturer and a hospital. The drug manufacturer posted a separate website that jurors clearly have access to; claiming that the lawsuit itself is only about lawyer greed, contesting research that claims the drug is defective, and challenging the defendant’s position about the quality of the product. The question that first comes to mind is, well, is that improper jury tampering? Is that free speech protected by the First Amendment?

I had a few discussions with ethicists who said it’s a clear violation of the Model Code 3.6 on Trial Publicity and also that it trumps the First Amendment from the perspective that you can’t yell, ‘Fire!’ in a crowded theater. That’s free speech, too, but you can’t do it. Then it struck me as a possible symposium topic, down the line.

We’ve actually started something new with DePaul that goes hand-in-hand with the symposium, and that’s the Clifford Seminar on Ethics. Our last event was a roaring success. We had 3,000 people. We had people at the school, another 2,800 on the web and, knock on wood, glowing reviews.

So I would love to believe that the symposia and the ethics seminars are going to continue for 20 to 40 years to come. Of course, the sad truth behind this is that it means the skullduggery I’m trying to expose will still be taking place.

Q. I think it’s fair to say that since you first had to look up the meaning of “tort reform” the profession in general, but especially for trial lawyers, has come under increasing attack. Do you think that trend is going to continue, especially with the legislative manifestations that take the form of so-called tort reform?

The direct answer to your question is yes, but the effectiveness has diminished dramatically. Nowadays people recognize that maybe tort reform isn’t such a good thing, and one developing dynamic is that people realize they’re not the ones who benefit from these reforms.

One impetus for me pushing for the symposium was that I wanted a fair debate on issues like this. And I’m anti-cap, for example, on noneconomic damages. I’d be willing to [defend this] if you told me that the benefit of the reduction in rights was going to get to the people that it’s intended to help. But not only will they not guarantee that, if you go to the seminars that are put on by the insurance industry, they specifically tell you that if you pass caps tomorrow, they won’t lower premiums.

So the value of the symposium, including the DePaul Law Review component that publishes symposia papers nationally and has distribution into the public domain, is that we’re showing you can have an intellectually honest discussion and debate where somebody is wrong and somebody is right. And I’m not afraid of the answers. I want people to discuss these ideas with some rigor and to challenge one another.

Q. You and a number of others transformed the field of tort law a number of years ago. That is, not only through the symposium, but also through your actions, you raised the level of discourse that surrounds what tort law means in this country. Where do you see your part of the profession going over the coming years?

I think that there will be an endless supply of participation in the communities’ affairs by the trial bar. Currently I’m in the middle of some new litigation against the food industry. It’s a hot button in America for our obesity epidemic and for diabetes, and the list goes on. Yet the industry’s defense thus far is not that “we’re not doing it,” but more like, “well, they would have bought it anyway.” No harm, no foul.

So it’s almost like the early stages of the tobacco litigation. They had these problems trying to sort out the damage model. But where the rubber meets the road is when the federal government steps in, because if you look at the Medicare and Medicaid expenditures throughout America, many of them are tied to these companies. The government will start stepping in and saying, “This is our money now, we, the people.” And, frankly, that’s kind of what I’m hoping for.

One of the companies we’re investigating advertises a big foundation with a high level of philanthropy that our investigators have been looking into—all they’re doing is buying themselves BMWs. This behavior goes on, and there’s a role for lawyers to be [investigating] that.

I must say, though, anecdotally, if you look at the tort litigation business across America, it’s down. There are a lot of phenomena associated with that. When I started as a lawyer, there were a lot of cases involving anesthesia. And at one point, the American College of Anesthesiologists sat down, grabbed the detail on every single case in America against an anesthesiologist, and they determined the commonalities. They figured out these errors are all identical, and they started training around those things. And the number of anesthesia cases precipitously dropped. The same is true in OB/GYN.

So the point is that tort law has certainly been the instrument that has led to greater changes in safety and consumer protection, but it’s also putting itself out of business.

And that’s okay. I tell my lawyers there’s always going to be a place for good lawyers who bring scholarship and determination to their work. If anything, the lawyers who were trail blazers in our business raised the bar on preparation and scholarship.

In this office, for example, we deal with some of the most sophisticated legal issues being debated in the courthouses today, and I’m very proud of that. There is a lot of really great writing going on here.

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You were known, and are still known, as a tort lawyer who deals with individuals largely. But this is a move to a class action environment. How did you make that choice?

I have deliberately built my career to be fairly multifaceted. I’ve tried cases involving medical malpractice, involving grain elevator explosions, airplane crashes, good old-fashioned car crashes, some product liability work. I did all of those things because I really don’t want to do just one thing. So to me, one of the extensions of that mentality is to get involved in other areas such as qui tam or whistleblowing. I have gotten involved in those cases because I think that’s a burgeoning area of business.

The misbranding book of business is a different cat as well—where they’re saying that the FDA has exclusive regulatory power over whether we do or we do not properly label a product. But there are ways of having state law claims that are not in contradiction to the FDA regulations, and so that’s how that litigation is allowed to occur.

A month or so ago, I was in Washington meeting with the head Medicare fraud representative at the Justice Department, trying to persuade him to intervene in a case that we have filed under seal. Now, what they’d rather do is allow private lawyers to litigate those cases and then once you’re almost ready for trial, they say, “Okay, we’ll step in now.”

You get paid for that ultimately, and that’s okay, but there’s no question that there’s a conflict. You’ve heard it for years and you’re going to continue to hear about it, especially in this Obama administration Congress conflict: the business community feels that they’re overregulated, and the consumers and the purchasers feel that they are not overregulated. And that’s a democracy at work.

But there’s a void in there somewhere that lawyers can fill, and I’m trying to step into those little gaps.

Is that one of the issues that troubles you most in the juridical world that we’re in right now, or are there other things that are more at the top of your concerns?

I’ll tell you what’s troubling me more than anything just from a systemic perspective is the vanishing trial. I think that’s a problem for us as a society. Everything gets settled, and I’m not persuaded that that’s a good thing. In the absence of a transparent jury trial system where there are known outcomes, there’s no comparative ability for people to have for subsequent cases. There’s no known ceiling.

Who does know those things? The payors and the insurers. So the minute you have secret settlements and you take the courts out of the equation, then you shift knowledge into the hands of the companies, and they use that against the consumers.

I can’t tell you how many times, for example, I’ll go to a mediation, and I’ll make a settlement demand. The claims guy on the other side will say, “Well, we can’t find one case out there that has that kind of money being paid on it.”

And I say, ‘No, you can’t, because you keep them all secret.’ But we happen to know about them.

That is a very troubling aspect. How do you think that we as a legal community ought to approach that?

We ought to ban confidentiality. Once you file an action, you cannot make it confidential. You take advantage of our courthouse. Those are our people’s resources. It’s the community resource. The minute you invoke the people’s resources, all bets are off. Everything is transparent.

There is another aspect to what you’re saying, which is the topic of this year’s symposium. The financing of litigation has become, I think it’s reasonable to say, far more complicated over the past few decades. What are your thoughts on litigation finance?

Well, as a practical matter, I am strongly opposed to litigation finance. I’m certainly not opposed to a law firm borrowing money from a bank to finance their operations. That’s not what I’m referring to. What I’m referring to is the fairly new phenomenon of companies in business trying to partner with law firms on the financing of their cases and taking a cut of the settlement. That’s one category.

And the other is the cottage industry that started some time ago, where companies seek out individuals with a lawsuit or a structured settlement, offer to lend money against recovery and charge usurious rates. That is outright wrong and we do our best here to discourage that. There is a bill in Springfield to limit the interest rates on this type of loan. As you know, the Code of Professional Responsibility does not allow lawyers to loan money to clients.
But there are banks that will meet with a client. They’ll take a look at their cases. They’ll take a look at what the client really needs, and they will give them nonrecourse loans at commercially reasonable, sensible rates. There aren’t a lot of banks out there, but they are out there, and that’s certainly something that we encourage.

People who are going to come into money are going to need an established banking relationship, and that’s one of the things we’re trying to foster.

**Q.** You and I have talked about what law students ought to do to prepare for their future. Specifically, I remember you suggesting that Evidence ought to be required. But in the environment that we’re in right now, what kinds of innovative things should potential lawyers, our students, be doing to prepare for the future?

Well, I certainly still believe in that evidence component, because without it, you don’t know how to guide yourself through what is or what is not relevant. Lawyers, in exercising judgment, need to evaluate relevance, and certainly mastering the Rules of Evidence helps you do that, and it’s a skill that’s transferable to many components of the decision-making process.

The second thing, of course, is that to the extent that we can inject some business components into the curriculum, I know there’s a trend to do that in some schools, and I certainly endorse that. We see now that the job market for practicing lawyers is weak, and yet I’m a firm believer, as I think you are, that a law degree is an incredible asset no matter where you get to use it. It would help for those people who are going to be looking to nontraditional legal work to have some business background that is useful to them.

Even the notion of the psychological component of the practice is very valuable. Whether you’re in business making judgmental decisions or you’re in a courtroom, you’re oftentimes dealing with people who are looking to you because their own minds are not anchored or stable; they’re into the emotional moment. They need somebody who is anchored and who is strong and can help them get through something. So understanding the psychology of decision-making is a valuable asset.

**Q.** Chicago Lawyer recently named you Person of the Year. What I found particularly heartwarming in that issue was the letter you wrote to your daughter, who is a graduate of our law school. I enjoyed this not only at the personal level because we share daughters of roughly the same age, but also at the professional level because of your endorsement of the profession under fire without self-aggrandizing it.

What do you say to those who predict that our field will splinter apart, that huge amounts of work will disappear into electronic databases and abroad, and what’s left will become increasingly stratified? It’s not a pretty picture for a profession that’s been the architect of what’s good about this country for 200 years.

What you say is so true. If you look at the founders of our great nation, the signatories to the Bill of Rights, for example, so many of them were lawyers.

So certainly there are changes taking place in the profession, and I am stunned by exponential change in the litigation arena and the impact and import of technology in such a short period of time. Yesterday I dealt with a law firm that doesn’t have legal assistants. Every lawyer types at least 80 words per minute, if not more. They do all of their own documents. They do all of their own electronic filings. And that’s where the business component comes in, because this technology is changing the world.

But there will always be a need for the legal mind, and there is in fact a value to that legal mind. The students that are going to survive are the ones that are led by sharp folks, like you and Father Holt Schneider, who are going to have a way of figuring out how to make it work because it’s a challenge.

I don’t claim to have the answers, so I’m just doing my little part with the symposium. And I’m very pleased with the product. There is an endless flow of topics to discuss. We’re not going anywhere.
DePaul Law Black Alumni Foundation awards scholarship, honors legacy

By Kelsey Rotwein

The College of Law was pleased to honor Forrest Sumlar and Tejonne Vinson with the second annual DePaul Law Black Alumni Foundation Endowed Scholarship. This prestigious scholarship, named for prominent African American law alumni, recognizes law students who show potential as future role models and leaders in the legal community.

The DePaul Law Black Alumni Foundation (DLBAF) endowed the scholarship in 2011 with a $100,000 gift to the College of Law, which the university then matched. “Essentially, we’ve spent the last 10 years raising funds,” said Francine Soliunas (CSH ’70, JD ’73), DLBAF’s president. “We had a specific and urgent desire to provide scholarships to our young students.”

While the endowment formalizes DLBAF’s relationship with DePaul, the foundation has been a strong presence at the College of Law for more than a decade. The group was conceived in 2000 by alumnu Ed Williams (JD ’67), who wanted to establish a lasting legacy for past, present and future DePaul law students of color. Initially, Williams appointed several students to gather stories and memories from renowned law alumni. The students interviewed a select group of 10 African American graduates, videotaping and recording their conversations for archival purposes. These interviews are now housed at the Rinn Law Library, and the interview subjects joined DLBAF as life members.

With the group in place, DLBAF began actively soliciting donations and spreading the word about the foundation. For Soliunas, who is dean for strategic and community alliances at the College of Law, her role as president of the foundation represents “a continuation of the more than 40-year love affair I’ve had with this institution.” Soliunas emphasizes that both her undergraduate and graduate experiences at DePaul helped shape her commitment to giving back. “My life has been informed very much by Vincentian ethics and values,” she noted. In creating the endowed scholarship, DLBAF joins a long line of generous alumni supporters who affirm DePaul’s Vincentian mission.

“It’s encouraging to know that there are people out there who are willing to support my aspirations without knowing me on a personal level,” said 2013 scholar Sumlar. While he doesn’t yet know exactly where his degree will lead him, his experiences at the College of Law have already been formative. “The legal profession is so much more than I ever envisioned it to be,” he said. “I spent last summer working in the public sector at the Cook County Public Defender’s office in Maywood, and I plan to spend next summer at a law firm.”

In addition to his studies, Sumlar also participates on the DePaul Black Law Student Association’s mock trial team and volunteers regularly with the Chicago Debate Commission. Sumlar’s dedication and leadership underscore the foundation’s mandate that each award “goes to a deserving student who we sense would carry forth the legacy of the foundation and be a wonderful role model in terms of what DLBAF stands for,” said Soliunas. Knowing that those who came before him support his ambitions and dreams, Sumlar is determined to excel. “I promise not to let the donors down,” he vowed. Someday, Sumlar and his fellow scholarship recipients may even join the ranks of DLBAF.

In the meantime, the foundation will continue to support exceptional students, foster relationships across generations and perpetuate a legacy of success.

DePaul alumna receives prestigious Sun-Times Fellowship

Alumna Sarah Baum (JD ’08) was selected as one of five attorneys to receive the 2012 Chicago Bar Foundation (CBF) Sun-Times Fellowship. Each year, CBF receives about 25 applications for the fellowship, which was established in 2007 after receiving a generous $2 million cy pres award from a case involving the Chicago Sun-Times.

Baum is a staff attorney at Legal Assistance Foundation (LAF) in the Immigrants and Workers’ Rights Practice Group. Because of Baum’s dedication to helping people in need, she will receive $50,000 in loan repayment assistance over the next five years to help her continue this important work.

“I enjoy being able to help people seek justice in their individual cases,” said Baum. “In addition, we hope to deter employers from violating the law in the future and educate them about their obligations to their employees under the law. This work has been incredibly rewarding, and this fellowship will help me to continue to do this work.”

At the College of Law, Baum participated in several service immersion trips, worked in the Death Penalty Clinic, and was involved in public service groups, including the Center for Public Interest Law and LRAP Committees. Baum began interning at LAF as a law student, creating and directing LAF’s first expungement program.
ALUMNI PROFILE:

Crystal E. Ashby

Law alumna Crystal E. Ashby (JD ’86) was named one of Houston’s 50 most influential women of 2012 by Houston Woman magazine.

Ashby serves as executive vice president for government and public affairs at BP America, where she manages a team of 70 government, regulatory and public affairs experts. The team supports BP’s business activities by working with state and local stakeholders, including government officials and business and community leaders.

“Ashby has a long and distinguished career with BP and its heritage company, Amoco,” said Houston Woman, which also praised her ability to create “a culture of courageous leadership founded upon ethical behavior and inclusion.”

“I moved to Chicago to go to law school and I stayed. DePaul opened up a world of opportunities for me.”

Ashby’s time in Chicago is one that she remembers fondly now that she resides in Houston. “I moved to Chicago to go to law school and I stayed. DePaul opened up a world of opportunities for me. It expected me to be ‘more.’ My law school education and training is still being used daily in my role at BP. The value of a legal education, beyond practicing law, should never be underestimated.”

After receiving her JD from DePaul, Ashby served as a law clerk to Judge Odas Nicholson in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. She also worked as an attorney with Hinshaw & Culbertson and Jones Ware & Grenard, both in Chicago.

Ashby considers herself lucky to have had Judge Odas Nicholson as a mentor. “I clerked for her right out of law school, when she was a motion court judge. She was a trailblazer and it was incredible to basically sit at her knee every day and listen to her discuss the pleadings that had been filed, the firms and the oral arguments that we had heard—to simply learn from her! For those of us who had that privilege, she is remembered fondly and missed.”

Her 20-year tenure with BP began as attorney in its commercial legal team based in Chicago. She subsequently migrated back to the litigation group. From 2004 to 2005, Ashby worked in London as the senior advisor to the group compliance and ethics officer. Following this appointment, she held several positions in the legal function, including managing attorney for U.S. retail operations and head of change management.

Ashby is the executive sponsor for the BP Houston Women’s Network and for BPAAN, BP’s African American Business Resource Group. In addition, she is the executive sponsor for BP to her alma mater, the University of Michigan. She also serves as trustee for the National Urban League and is a member of the Chicago United’s CEO Council, Greater Houston Partnership’s Executive Women’s Partnership Committee, and the Executive Leadership Council.

DePaul alumna Natalie Long receives ASIL international law fellowship

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) recently announced the winners of its 2013 Helton Fellowships for projects in international law. Selected from more than 70 student and young professional applicants from throughout the world, DePaul alumna Natalie Long (JD ’12) is one of the 11 recipients. She will receive a micro-grant of $2,000 to provide legal services through Servicios de Apoyo Intercultural, A.C., to three indigenous Mayan communities located in the Lacandon Jungle in the state of Chiapas, Mexico.


Helton Fellows undertake fieldwork and research in association with established educational institutions, international organizations or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). They pursue fieldwork in or research on issues involving human rights, international criminal law, humanitarian affairs and other international law areas. The 2013 Helton Fellows include students and professionals from King’s College London, Harvard Law School, University of Ottawa, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Australian National University, among others.

The Helton Fellowship Program is administered by ASIL through its Career Development Program, and is funded by a grant from the Planethood Foundation and generous contributions from ASIL members.
The College of Law celebrated its 19th annual alumni awards dinner at the Sofitel Chicago Water Tower in March, honoring five outstanding alumni who have given back to DePaul as well as to the community. More than 225 alumni and friends attended the event, which raised approximately $65,000 in proceeds to benefits DePaul’s Center for Public Interest Law.

2013 Alumni Honorees

**Distinguished Alumnus**
Donald C. Schiller  
(JD ’66)

**Outstanding Service to the Profession**
Michele M. Jochner  
(JD ’90, LL.M. ’92)

**Outstanding Service to the Profession**
Robert P. Steele  
(JD ’77)

**Outstanding Service to DePaul University**
Norman B. Berger  
(JD ’81)

**Outstanding Young Alumna**
Karyn L. Bass Ehler  
(JD ’05)
1960
Richard S. Wisner was named special counsel in the surety and fidelity group at Jennings Strous & Salmon PLC in Phoenix, Ariz.

1965
Thomas K. McBride retired as chief IP counsel of UOP LLC.

1967
John B. Simon was appointed to the Illinois Appellate Court, 1st District. He is a DePaul University trustee.

1972
John P. Curielli was elected vice chairman of Phi Alpha Delta International Endowment Fund.

1973
Joseph G. Bisceglia was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2013 and in 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers. He is a litigation partner at Jenner & Block LLP and a member of the DePaul law dean’s council. He also serves as co-chair of Chicago’s largest fundraising event for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

1976
Robert A. Clifford, senior partner at Clifford Law Offices, received Chicago Lawyer’s 2012 Person of the Year Award. Clifford was also selected for inclusion in the list of Top 10 Illinois Super Lawyers 2013. He also recently participated in the American Bar Association’s optimal jury trial at Northwestern Law School in Chicago.

Marguerite E. McDermed was elected to the board of commissioners for Will County. The board serves as the legislative and budgeting body for the county, as well as the board for the Will County Forest Preserve. McDermed will serve a four-year term representing District 12, which includes Mokena and New Lenox.

1977
Margaret Hallagan McCormick was named Immigration Lawyer of the Year for 2013 by Best Lawyers.

1978
Thomas M. Durkin will fill a vacant judgeship on the U.S. District Court in the Northern District of Illinois. He was nominated by President Obama to fill the position in May 2012 and was recently confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Prior to this appointment, Durkin was a partner at Mayer Brown LLP in Chicago.

Charles A. Hornewer founded Hornewer Law Firm in Chicago to handle medical malpractice, product liability and personal injury cases. His peers have recognized him as an Illinois Super Lawyer, as Top 1% Trial Counsel by MedicalMalpracticeLawyers.org, and as an Illinois Leading Lawyer in nursing home negligence and general personal injury law.

Rita M. Novak is the 41st president of the Illinois Judges Association, effective June 1. She is an associate judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

1979

Judge M. Carol Pope received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Illinois Judges Association. Pope is an appellate judge with the 4th District in Springfield, Ill.

1980
Paulette J. Delk received the Marion Griffin-Frances Loring Award for outstanding achievement in the legal profession at the 33rd annual Association for Women Attorneys’ banquet and silent auction in January. She is currently a U.S. bankruptcy judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

Alan M. Kaplan spoke on the “Impact of the 2012 U.S. Elections on American Employment Law” at a program presented by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce of Japan in December 2012. He is an equity principal and chair of the employment, labor and benefits practice group at Masuda Funai Eifert and Mitchell Ltd. in Schaumburg, Ill.

Charles H. Lichtman was listed in Best Lawyers 2013 in four categories: bet-the-company litigation, securities fraud litigation, commercial litigation
and bankruptcy litigation. Lichtman was also named to Florida Trend magazine’s Legal Elite and Super Lawyers in the area of complex commercial litigation in 2013.

**Dr. Michael Vold**, DDS, founded Northbrook Court Dental Associates, one of only a few offices in the Chicago area that provides AvaDent Digital Dentures, the world’s first computer-designed and milled digital CAD/CAM denture.

### 1981

**Gabrielle M. Buckley** took over as chair of the international law section of the American Bar Association in 2013 and has been appointed to the board of the American Bar Association’s Rule of Law Initiative. Buckley is a shareholder at Vedder Price PC.

**Joseph A. Drazek** was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2013. He is a partner at Quarles & Brady LLP.

**Ira N. Helfgot** was reappointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to the Lawyer’s Assistance Program board of directors through September 2014. He was also elected secretary of the program.

**William L. Schaller** received the Sapientia Award from the DePaul Law Review in April. A partner at Baker & McKenzie, he focuses his practice on unfair competition and regularly lectures and writes on this subject.

### 1982

**Peter N. Silvestri’s** final term as village president of Elmwood Park ends in May. First elected in 1989, he served as village president for 24 years. He will continue as Cook County commissioner for the 9th District, where he has served since November 1994.
1983
Vanita M. Banks was awarded the Outstanding Corporate Counsel Award during the National Bar Association’s (NBA) 87th annual convention in Las Vegas. She serves as corporate counsel in the public policy development practice group at Allstate Insurance Company. She is also a past president of NBA and serves on its executive committee.

1985
Scott A. Bremer was selected for inclusion in the 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers magazine. He is a partner at Quarles & Brady LLP.

Deborah J. Fabritz is the director of professional registration and compliance for the division of securities at the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions.

Mark A. Flessner joined Holland & Knight as a partner in the firm’s litigation practice group.

James V. Inendino was named partner at Roetzel & Andress in Chicago, where he will be part of the firm’s real estate and financial institutions groups.

Steve Pearson was recently profiled in Leading Lawyers magazine.

Richard Yarmel has joined the firm of Harter Secrest & Emery LLP as a partner in its health care practice.

1988
Joseph L. Kish was selected for inclusion in the 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers magazine. He is a partner at Synergy Law Group in Chicago, and is licensed in state and federal trial and appellate courts in Illinois, California and the district of Colorado. He is a faculty member at the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, as well as editor and author of the chapter on “Expert Witnesses” in the handbook, Business and Commercial Litigation 2012 (IICLE).

Elisabeth S. Maurer was appointed to the board of directors of Civics First, a joint venture of the judiciary and state bar that offers mock trial, debate and civics programs to middle school and high school students in Connecticut.

1989
Anne R. Pramaggiore received the Women of Vision award from the Women’s Bar Association of Illinois. She was also elected to the board of directors for Motorola Solutions Inc.

1990
Michael J. Dickman was recently appointed to the board of governors for the Catholic Lawyers Guild.

Michele M. Jochner joined the firm of Schiller DuCanto & Fleck LLP as a partner.

Jeffrey L. Olin joined the firm Alvarez & Marsal Taxand LLC as the managing director for the Chicago office. Previously, he was vice president for Fortune Brands.

Latashe R. Thomas was named of counsel at the Reyes Kurson law firm in Chicago. She practices business transactional law and conflict litigation.

1992
James F. Botana was selected for inclusion in Illinois Super Lawyers 2012 in the area of labor and employment management. He is a partner with the Chicago office of Jackson Lewis LLP.

Loren S. Cohen was promoted to partner at Wilson Elser. Cohen represents corporations, nonprofit organizations and individuals in defense of premises, construction, products, employment, professional and various other general liability matters.

Miriam S. Fleming, a partner at the law firm of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP, has been elected chair of Jewish Family Services for the 2012-2014 term. Jewish Family Services provides comprehensive social services to the Milwaukee community.

John M. Green was honored with a 2012 Trial Lawyer Excellence Award for Outstanding Defense Verdict in a dental malpractice case by the Jury Verdict Reporter. Green is a noted expert in dental malpractice defense litigation, and one of the few practicing defense attorneys in the U.S. who is also a practicing dentist.

David M. Lewin joined Querrey & Harrow Ltd. as a counsel in the firm’s Chicago office. Lewin focuses his practice on insurance coverage, condominium law and construction law.

1993
Thomas F. Gibbons was admitted into the National Academy of Arbitrators. He is dean of the Northwestern University School of Continuing Studies, a senior lecturer with Northwestern School of Law and president of the University Professional & Continuing Education Association in Washington, D.C. Gibbons maintains an active labor
arbitration and employment mediation practice in Chicago.

John L. Nisivaco has been elected secretary of the Illinois State Bar Association. He is a partner with Chicago firm Boudreau & Nisivaco where he represents victims in personal injury and wrongful death cases.

1994

Brendan C. Curran was recalled to active duty in the U.S. Navy and will deploy to Afghanistan as part of the Department of Defense’s Criminal Investigations Task Force.

1995

Lisa J. Acevedo was selected for inclusion in Illinois Super Lawyers 2013. She is a partner at Quarles & Brady LLP.

Edwin A. Anderson was appointed to the Phi Alpha Delta alumni advisory council. He also serves as the justice of the Knoxville alumni chapter of Phi Alpha Delta. He is in private practice in Knoxville, Tenn.

Lisa Jacobs was appointed to the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission.

Annemarie E. Kill was selected for inclusion in the list of Top 50 Women Illinois Super Lawyers 2012 for a second year.

Susan M. Lewers was named assistant dean for institutional advancement at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law.

James B. Zouras was selected for inclusion in the 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers magazine. He is a founding partner of Stephan Zouras LLP, a Chicago-based law firm that concentrates on individual and class action litigation in all areas of employment litigation, unpaid wages, consumer protection, catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death.

John M. Geiringer, partner at Barack Ferrazzano Financial Institutions Group, spoke at the Knowledge Congress’ live webcast “Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism Financing in Banking and Finance.”

1996

Lesley E. Cohen was appointed to the Nevada Assembly representing District 29.

1997

Vincent M. Auricchio was selected for inclusion in the 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers for personal injury.

Coreen M. Dicus-Johnson accepted an invitation for membership in the Fellows of the Wisconsin Law Foundation. Coreen is senior vice president of physician and revenue operations for Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare in Milwaukee.

Eric J. Fuglsang was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2013. He is a partner at Quarles & Brady LLP.

Amy C. Ziegler was named a shareholder at Greer Burns & Crain Ltd. Ziegler focuses her practice on intellectual property, Internet and technology law.

1998

Richard E. Biosca was promoted to vice president of operations for Metalmaster Roofmaster Inc. in McHenry, Ill. In this new role, Biosca will be involved in the management of operations for the company, as well as representing Metalmaster Roofmaster in all legal matters as general counsel.

Michael T. Del Galdo was selected for inclusion in the 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition, for the fourth consecutive year. He is the founding attorney and managing member of Del Galdo Law Group LLC in Berwyn, Ill.

Keith J. Herman accepted the position of shareholder at Nyhan Bambrick Kinzie & Lowry P.C. Herman also was appointed to executive secretary of the Illinois Self-Insurers Association.

Marlo J. Roebuck was certified by IAPP as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP).


1999

Mark D. Belongia was named partner at the Roetzel & Andress. Overseeing the firm’s new Chicago office, Belongia focuses his practice in banking and commercial law.

Robert J. Richards was appointed to serve a three-year term on the editorial board of the Florida Bar Journal.

Anthony P. Steinike was selected for inclusion in 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition. Steinike is a partner at Quarles & Brady, LLP.

2000

Christopher W. Goode was selected for inclusion in 2012 Kentucky Super Lawyers for and has been recognized as AV Pre-eminent by Martindale-Hubbell peer review ratings. Goode is a partner at Bubalo Goode Sales & Bliss PLC in Lexington, Ky.

Rebecca A. Nieman joined Thomas Jefferson School of Law in San Diego, Ca., as its law clinic attorney. She supervises the Small Business Law Center and the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic.
Class Notes

Frank A. Sommario was selected for inclusion in Law Bulletin Publishing Company’s 40 Illinois Attorneys Under 40 to Watch for 2012. He is an attorney with the personal injury firm of Romanucci & Blandin LLC.

James Vasselli was selected for inclusion in 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers—Rising Star Edition, for the second year. He is chair of the real estate and public finance practice group at Del Galdo Law Group LLC in Berwyn, Ill.

2001
Elizabeth Berrones-Rotchford received the Women of Distinction Award from Kane County magazine in October 2012 for her pro bono work and her commitment to the community.

Kevin M. Nelson joined the Chicago office of Duane Morris as partner in its intellectual property practice.

Frank T. Tebbe accepted a position as staff attorney with the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Maria Z. Vathis joined the firm of Bryan Cave LLP as of counsel. Vathis will practice with the commercial litigation client service group.

2002
Juan C. Linares was appointed by Mayor Rahm Emanuel to serve on the board of commissioners for the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.

2003
Bibek Das, an attorney at the law firm of Tribler Orpett & Meyer P.C., was selected for inclusion in 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition.

Ryan P. Theriault was named partner at Meyers & Flowers LLC in January 2013. He continues to focus his practice on personal injury matters, work injury claims, and pharmaceutical and medical device litigation.

2004
Anthony E. Derwinski was elected shareholder at the law firm of Johnson & Bell Ltd. He was also recently selected for inclusion in Chicago Magazine and Illinois Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition for litigation.

2005
Paul W. Daugherity was named partner at Clausen Miller in Chicago where he concentrates his practice in insurance coverage, employment, products liability and general casualty liability defense.

Todd M. Glassman was selected for inclusion in the 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers—Rising Stars Edition. He is a partner at the family law firm of Ladden & Allen in Chicago.

2006
Benjamin A. Netzky was appointed as an attorney-advisor for the U.S. Department of the Army in Warren, Mich.

2007
Brion W. Doherty was appointed to the board of Chicago Volunteer Legal Services. He is also the president-elect of the Chicago Bar Foundation’s Young Professional’s board, is on the Chicago Bar Association’s YLS executive council, and is a vice-chair of the American Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division’s litigation committee. Doherty was selected for inclusion in 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers magazine, Rising Stars edition.

Suheily Natal was selected for inclusion in 2013 Illinois Super Lawyers magazine, Rising Stars edition.

2008
Sarah Baum was selected as a recipient of The Chicago Bar Foundation’s Sun-Times Public Interest Fellowship. The fellowship provides loan repayment assistance to help recipients continue their careers in legal aid. Baum is a staff attorney at Legal Assistance Foundation working in the Immigrants and Worker’s Rights Practice Group.

Megan J. Claucherty joined the law firm of Vedder Price. She will be working in the firm’s Chicago office as part of the investment service practice group.

James R. Drysdale, an appellate attorney with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington D.C., was admitted to the bar of the U.S. Supreme Court in October 2012.

Lindsey Wills joined Faegre Baker Daniels LLP as an associate in the labor and employment group. She will practice from the law firm’s Chicago office.
2009
Adam J. Sedia argued before the Indiana Supreme Court in Kosarko v. Padula. In December 2012, the court issued a unanimous opinion authored by the chief justice setting forth the standard for prejudgment interest in tort cases. The opinion adopts the standard advocated by Sedia and overturns prior precedent of the Indiana Court of Appeals.

Nisha Verma joined the law firm of Allen Matkins in Irvine, Calif., as a litigation associate, specializing in eminent domain, real estate and business litigation.

2012
Kelly M. Cronin joined The Capps Law Firm as an associate, where she will focus her practice primarily on family and matrimonial law in addition to general civil litigation.

Emily Czerniejewski was sworn in as a newly appointed Cook County assistant state’s attorney.

Charles S. Christian Klehm joined the banking and finance group at Husch Blackwell in St. Louis.

Swathi Sridhara joined Stellato & Schwartz Ltd. as an associate in the firm’s Chicago office. She will focus her practice on civil litigation.

John A. Tillo is an associate at Pasley and Singer Law Firm LLP in Ames, Iowa.

Amanda Graham and Katie Kizer were profiled in Crain’s Chicago Business “20 in their 20s.”

Jennifer A. Lev was sworn in as a newly appointed Cook County assistant state’s attorney.

Joanne Moon joined the Hunt Law Group LLC as an associate. She will focus on commercial litigation, construction litigation, transportation liability and premises liability.

Justin K. Whitesides joined the law firm Farleigh Wada Witt in Portland, Ore. He will provide advice and compliance oversight to credit unions, banks and other financial service providers, with particular focus on the new regulations of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Nisha Verma joined the law firm of Allen Matkins in Irvine, Calif., as a litigation associate, specializing in eminent domain, real estate and business litigation.

2011
Danielle Shindler was front of house staff for The Chicago Reader Best of Chicago 2012 list’s best established theatre company and the runner-up for the best off-Loop theatre company, Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

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SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013

HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL, CHICAGO

Celebrate your College of Law reunion.
Volunteer for your class reunion committee.
Reconnect with classmates and professors.

Honoring the classes of

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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>2008</td>
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Law Reunion 2013 is hosted in conjunction with DePaul University’s Reunion Weekend, October 18-20.

For more information about College of Law and university-wide reunion activities, please visit law.depaul.edu/reunion or call (312) 362-5129.