

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

# Lawyer

SUMMER 2009

Looking  
back,  
reaching  
forward



CLINIC VICTORIES

ALUMNI WEEKEND

INDIAN LAW

## Dean's perspective



Summer greetings! The law school has enjoyed another truly outstanding academic year. By all measures, its accomplishments and reputation continue to soar. I know that you will enjoy reading about our major activities and successes in this issue of the Lawyer.

Summer is always a time of transition for the law school, and this one is no exception. The Class of 2009 had a lovely May graduation ceremony at Key Arena, and now most of the class is experiencing that “right of passage” of studying for the bar exam. At the same time, we are welcoming our new ARC and summer-start students as they launch their legal studies. The faculty, after being hard at work grading exams, is now actively engaged in a host of summer activities, including their research and scholarship, leading summer study-abroad programs, and teaching summer courses both here and at locations around the nation and world. Sullivan Hall is a vibrant crossroads of intellectual life and community engagement, from which our commitments to academic excellence and education for justice emanate and deepen.

As most of you know, this summer is also one of transition for me. This spring, as I saw a new generation of faculty step up to lead the law school, another successful year of strategic faculty hiring, our rankings continue to soar, key centers and programs thrive – including the new Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality – and internal and external confidence about and engagement with the school reach record levels, I knew the time was right to launch a search for the next dean. As a result, after 17 years with the law school, I will be leaving at the end of June. While I look forward to my next challenge as dean of University of Washington School of Law, it’s no secret that choosing to leave this law school I so love was the hardest decision I have ever made.

As we all make this transition, I send you my deepest thanks for your support of the law school. Being your teacher, mentor, colleague, dean and friend has been an honor and a pleasure. Just as I will do, please stay in touch and remain connected to the law school. The School of Law’s future has never been brighter, and it is poised perfectly to recruit an outstanding new dean to preside over SU Law’s next stage of educational excellence. I use that word “preside” quite intentionally. Your law school is not dependent upon any one leader. Rather, it is now one of the country’s most vibrant urban legal centers, with many leaders both internal and external who are, together, making the whole far more than a sum of its parts. Even so, I am certain that the best is still yet to be.

You are all part of this remarkable record of success, and I hope you all are and remain as proud of yourselves and the school as I am proud of you. When I think of all the school has accomplished in its short history, I’m reduced to a one-syllable exclamation and what I hope by now is a familiar refrain:

Wow!

Now, onward and upward!

*Best regards,  
Kellye Testy*



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SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

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### ON THE COVER

Karen and Kathryn Korematsu hold a photo of Fred Korematsu wearing his cherished Presidential Medal of Freedom. Photo by Steve Shelton.

## U.S. News ranks Legal Writing No. 1; part-time program makes first-ever list



Seattle University School of Law has the best Legal Writing Program and one of the top part-time programs in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report's 2010 edition of America's Best Graduate Schools.

For the first time, U.S. News ranked part-time programs at law schools. Seattle University School of Law was ranked 12th nationwide. The School of Law also continues to make impressive progress in the overall rankings, moving up more than 20 spots in the past three years, and remains one of the most diverse law schools, with the 21st highest diversity ratio in the nation.

The School of Law is on an upward trajectory, drawing nationally known scholars to the faculty, seeing a surge in faculty publications in prestigious journals and increasing the quality of the applicant pool and admitted students. The largest and most diverse law school in the Northwest, Seattle University School of Law is committed to

twin goals of academic excellence and education for justice.

It was one of the first law schools to establish a three-year legal writing curriculum, use the process approach to teaching legal research and writing, and have a full-time writing advisor. Known for their innovative, practice-oriented legal writing curriculum and cutting-edge use of teaching technology, legal writing professors are dedicated teachers and nationally known authors. They also founded the Legal Writing Institute, which has worked to foster the development of legal writing in law schools across the country and in numerous foreign countries. As recognized leaders in their field, faculty members have taught legal writing in Russia, India, Uganda, Kenya and South Africa.

The School of Law has the only part-time program in the state, and has provided this comprehensive program for working students for more than 30 years. It enrolls about 230 students every year.

"The part-time program is a sought-after option for outstanding students who want to earn a law degree while balancing work, family or other obligations," said Assistant Dean for Admission Carol Cochran. "It offers the same quality of instruction and faculty as our full-time program."



Members of the Class of 2009 await the awarding of their degrees at May Commencement at Key Arena. The School of Law graduated 279 this spring.





### Annette Clark assumes role as interim dean

Annette Clark '89, who served as vice dean for several years, was appointed interim dean for the 2009-10 academic year.

"I am confident that as interim dean, Professor Clark will provide stability while continuing to propel the School of Law forward," Provost Isiaah Crawford said.

Clark has served as the chief academic officer for the School of Law, overseeing the academic program, including the curriculum and centers and institutes, as well as the faculty, from 1997-2001 and then again from 2005-2009. After receiving an M.D. with honors from the University of Washington's School of Medicine and her J.D. *summa cum laude* from the Seattle University School of Law, she joined the School of Law faculty in 1989.

"I am both extraordinarily honored and humbled by the opportunity to lead this school that I love for the coming year," Clark said. "I look forward to working with faculty, staff, students and alumni as we build upon our foundation of education for excellence and search for the next outstanding dean for the School of Law."

President Stephen Sundborg, S.J., named Clark the 2008-09 James B. McGoldrick, S.J., Fellow, which is awarded to a faculty member or administrator who best exemplifies commitment to students and to the values of a Jesuit education. She has also received the Seattle Journal for Social Justice Faculty Award in 2005, the Dean's Medal in 2006, and the Outstanding Faculty Award in 2007.

Clark teaches, writes and consults in the areas of medical liability and bioethics and is a frequent national and local lecturer on bioethics-related topics. She has published articles in the *New York University Law Review*, the *Georgetown Law Journal*, and the *Tulane Law Review*, among others.

The university will convene a search committee to conduct a national search to replace Dean Kellye Testy, with the plan of having a new dean at the law school by July 2010.

### Black women faculty get "Scholarly in Seattle"

Aspiring black women law faculty and black women law students considering going into law teaching will gather at the law school for The Lutie A. Lytle conference "Scholarly in Seattle" in late June.

The Lytle conference is an annual workshop named in honor of the life and work of Lutie Lytle, the first black woman to teach in an American law school in 1898. This year's conference is organized by Associate Professor Natasha Martin.

Participants will present papers and get feedback during plenary "rap sessions" and roundtable discussions. The workshop is structured to allow the maximum number of presentations of works-in-progress, as well as time for attendees to participate in networking, storytelling, coalition-building and canvassing resources for future scholarly work.

### Susan McClellan retires after 17 years at law school

Professor Susan McClellan, who has overseen rapid growth in the Externship Program during the past four years as director, retired this spring after 17 years at the law school. Before taking over the Externship Program in 2005, she was a legal writing professor.

She has served on the national Board of Directors for the Legal Writing Institute, has presented sessions at six biennial LWI summer conferences, has served as a writing advisor for a law firm, and taught one semester in the law department at the University College Cork, in Cork, Ireland.

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Professor Susan McClellan shows Jim Rigos '79 the brass compass she received as a retirement gift from the law school at a reception in April. She plans a long sailing trip to kick off her retirement.

## The briefcase: law school news

At a reception honoring McClellan, Legal Writing Director Laurel Oates and Associate Director Anne Enquist used their strictest editing skills to concisely sum up McClellan's contributions and attributes in the allotted time. They said, in part:

"Susan McClellan, externship director: Expanded program. Over 200 placements around the world. Loved by site supervisors. Loves her externs.

Susan McClellan, legal writing professor: Dedicated teacher, caring mentor, inspired scholar, creative thinker, tireless worker, generous colleague, classroom presence, role model. Loved by colleagues, loves her students.

Susan McClellan, Renaissance woman: Gracious perfectionist, elegant professional, class act. Treasured colleague, much-loved friend—thank you for everything!"

### Northwest Justice Project's Gillian Dutton named externship director

With two decades of experience in the battle to ensure access to justice across Washington, Gillian Dutton will join the faculty at Seattle University School of Law as the new director of the Externship Program.

For the last four years, Dutton has served as the senior attorney in the Seattle office of the Northwest Justice Project. She has worked in the office since 1994, when she was named director of the Refugee and Immigrant Advocacy Project, a collaboration between NJP and the University of Washington School of Law. Through the project, Dutton supervised law students assisting immigrants and refugees seeking public benefits, support for victims of human trafficking, and naturalization for elderly and disabled clients. She has also helped coordinate regional planning for legal services in King County as part of Washington State's Access to Justice Network. Throughout her tenure at NJP, Dutton has worked with Seattle University School of Law students serving as externs, volunteers, and summer Public Interest Law Foundation grant winners.

"Jill is a creative and thoughtful teacher and a wonderful role model for our students as a leader for justice," said Professor Paul Holland, director of the Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic. "She will help us maintain the high quality and impressive scope that have characterized the Externship Program in recent years.

The Externship Program provides students with the opportunity to earn academic credit for legal work performed under close and supportive supervision in a variety of practice settings, primarily with courts, government or non-profit agencies. The law school's partnership with the many site supervisors prepares students for practice, engages their developing sense of professionalism and provides direct

encounters with the challenge of achieving justice.

Multilingual herself, with some proficiency in Mandarin, French, German, Spanish, and Russian, Dutton was the co-founder of the Washington State Coalition for Language Access, which seeks to improve services for Limited-English proficient residents of Washington State. She is a recipient of the 1999 Charles A. Goldmark Award for Distinguished Service and the 2005 Northwest Immigrant Rights Project Golden Door Award.

### Legal writing professors take their training to Afghanistan

Professors Laurel Oates and Mimi Samuel usually do what many of other law school professors do in January and attend the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Schools.

This year, they did something very different and traveled to Kabul, Afghanistan, to attend the Afghan equivalent of the AALS meeting: a four-day conference on curriculum development for faculty members from the Sharia and law faculties in Afghanistan.

During the first two days of the conference, Oates and Samuel were observers. Recent graduates of the law programs acted as interpreters for them, not only interpreting the content of the lively discussions over the adoption of proposed national textbooks, but also providing information and valuable insights into how law is currently being taught.

During the next two days, they facilitated a workshop on effective teaching techniques, which provided opportunities for the 40 members of the law and Sharia faculties from seven of Afghanistan's universities who attended to talk about the most effective ways to teach their students. Topics included research on learning and teaching, conducting effective classroom discussions, and using small-group exercises



Professor of Lawyering Skills Mimi Samuel shows her camera to children in Kabul.

and simulations. The workshop ended with the Afghan participants working together in small groups to plan and teach model classes.

“Teachers everywhere share a common bond – the desire to teach well,” Oates said.

Although Samuel and Oates were only in Afghanistan for a short time, they enjoyed having the opportunity to talk with the other professors, including the six female professors who attended their workshop, about their classes, their students, and daily life in Afghanistan.

“Because we were in Afghanistan for only five days, we got only a glimpse into daily life in Kabul,” Samuel said. “However, we hope to return and spend more time with members of the Sharia and law faculties both inside and outside of Kabul. In particular, we are eager to visit some of the clinics they are establishing.”

In the meantime, Professors Oates and Samuel are collaborating with the newly formed Afghanistan Independent Bar Association (AIBA), which has as its mandate to improve legal education and which is working with Afghanistan’s first Independent National Legal Training Center (INLTC) to develop a course on Legal Research and Writing.

## Law firm challenge, class gift help annual fund grow

A new initiative and a competitive class giving campaign are helping to increase the level of private support that Seattle University School of Law enjoys from its alumni. This unrestricted support to the annual fund benefits students, faculty, alumni and programs, and further strengthens the school’s commitment to academic excellence and the pursuit of justice.

The Law Firm Alumni Challenge launched March 1 with six founding firms – Davis Wright Tremaine, Eisenhower & Carlson, Foster Pepper, Gordon Thomas Honeywell, K & L Gates and Perkins Coie – to strengthen the law alumni community, encourage giving at the 100 percent participation level among alumni at each firm, and further build the law school’s partnership with each firm.

The friendly competition exists not only between the firms, to see who will reach 100 percent participation first, but also among the associates and partners as each group works to engage their peers in supporting SU Law. Final results will be made available when the fiscal year closes on June 30.

“Participation is key, and I’m happy to not only offer my support but encourage my fellow alumni to join me in giving back to our alma mater,” said Jennifer Champagne ’06, an associate at Eisenhower & Carlson PLLC in Tacoma.

For the Class of 2009 Giving Campaign, participation is the goal as well. In its fifth year, the class giving campaign provides a unique opportunity for students as they graduate to make their first gift to

the school’s annual fund, to learn about the huge impact that gifts of any size have in advancing the school’s mission and elevating its reputation, and to do so in honor or in memory of someone who has supported their educational goals.

The Class of 2009 has set a new record with 52 percent of the class participating, and gifts are still coming in.

“I have benefited directly from the generosity of alumni and others, and the training and advancement through Moot Court,” said Chiara Reillo McGowan ’09. “I am grateful for the many opportunities afforded me and was happy to lend my leadership to the campaign.”

Other members of the campaign committee included Danielle Cross, Stephanie Doherty, Ty Rogers and Kiersten Weinberger, all of whom worked diligently during the last five weeks of the semester to get the word out and encourage their friends and classmates to participate. Their efforts have set a high bar for future classes, and in the short-term, have helped provide critical support to their student colleagues.

To learn more about both these initiatives and the larger advancement effort at Seattle University School of Law, go to [www.law.seattleu.edu/Giving.xml](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/Giving.xml).

## Sandra Day O’Connor to visit law school in fall



Former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor will visit the law school and speak at a conference on Judicial Independence Sept. 14.

She will meet with students and faculty as well as participate in the conference, State Judicial Independence – A National Concern. Organized by Professor David Skover, it will include many distinguished members of the judiciary and the legal academy.

## Directors’ Academy offers impressive program

A stellar lineup of speakers helped the 2009 Directors Academy focus on how boards can help their organizations succeed, particularly in a challenging economic environment.

How boards deal with this challenge is a function of leadership, core values, vision, strategic planning and focus. A distinguished group of panelists, including several of the region’s most prominent directors and executives, shared their perspectives, provoked thought, and provided practical advice on how boards can add value to their companies and management.

The program was sponsored by the law school’s Center on Corporations, Law and Society, directed by Professor Charles O’Kelley.

# Righting wrongs

Clinic cases give students opportunities to make a real difference

From a 13-year-old girl who deserved a lawyer in a truancy hearing, to a father who didn't want to be separated from his young son, students and faculty from the Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic have made a real difference in their clients' lives this year.

**P**rofessor Won Kidane and the students from the Immigration Law Clinic won three clients the right to stay in this country after successfully arguing against their deportation. Professor Bob Boruchowitz and two students filed a case that led to an appellate court ruling that juveniles are entitled to counsel in truancy hearings.

And this summer, two students from the International Human Rights Clinic and Professor Tom Anktowiak will travel to Costa Rica to argue before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the highest tribunal for human rights matters in the hemisphere.

Professor Paul Holland, director of the clinic, says these are examples of what can happen when students and faculty engage the law through the life of a client.

"These students have seen how by dedicating their professional expertise to a single individual, lawyers can transform institutions and bring about justice," Holland said. "Of course, not every case will result in such a significant impact, but these students and their colleagues now know that it is indeed possible."

The school has run an Immigration Clinic for many years, but Kidane has redirected and enlarged the clinic's activity to include the cases of clients at risk of deportation.

One client, a Cambodian refugee in his mid-'20s who arrived in the United States with his family when he was 2, was awarded cancellation of removal, which entitles him to remain in the country. He should be able to apply to become a naturalized citizen in a few years.

Another client, a Ukrainian refugee who has also lived in the United States for a long time, received a form of relief known as withholding of removal. Unlike the first client, he is not eligible to become a citizen, but he is lawfully entitled to remain in the United States. Kidane reports that this form of relief is perhaps the most difficult for an asylee to obtain.

The clinic helped another Ukrainian refugee who had been placed in removal proceedings because of a minor criminal offense. Students submitted two briefs addressing complex





Professor Won Kidane has changed the Immigration Law Clinic to include representation of clients who face deportation.

legal questions, appeared before four different judges and presented witnesses before they obtained an adjustment of status – the best form of relief that anyone in removal proceedings could obtain. That means the client can become a U.S. citizen in five years.

The court denied the clinic’s request for cancellation of removal in a third case, so that client still faces the prospect of deportation. However, the clinic intends to seek reconsideration and perhaps an appeal of this ruling. The client will be able to remain in the country until the matter is conclusively resolved.

Students found the cases emotionally demanding but highly rewarding.

“Because the potential consequence, deportation, was so severe, this was an extremely challenging and stressful experience,” said Jeffrey Keddie ’09, who represented the client from Cambodia. “We were aware at all times that the quality of our preparation would likely determine the outcome. And without the support of our client’s family and friends, our client may have been deported. We are thankful for their assistance, and excited that our client will be able to help raise his 2-year-old son and support his family.”

In the weeks leading up to the hearings, students spent many hours driving around the region or on telephone calls, preparing the witnesses so they would be able to pres-

ent the most compelling story on behalf of their client.

“Working in this clinic has taught me so much about being an effective lawyer,” said Kati Ortiz ’09. “I appreciate the exposure to this particular population and now see the great need for good immigration attorneys willing to do deportation defense.”

In the first semester of their third year, students Anu Luthra and Jenifer Marks Hillegas, enrolled in the Youth Advocacy Clinic. Working as partners, Anu and Jenifer, both ’08 graduates, were assigned to represent a 13-year-old client who was alleged to be truant and in contempt of court.

The two students worked hard to establish

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the client's trust, uncover the facts of her case, and identify educational options that would meet her individual needs. When the semester ended, the students stayed on the case and received independent study credit as they assisted Professor from Practice Boruchowitz in drafting a brief that would change the law for youth and school districts across the state.

Boruchowitz argued the case before the Washington Court of Appeals, which ruled unanimously in January that all children in truancy cases have a right to counsel. The court found that without counsel, there are no procedural safeguards to protect the child's rights to liberty, privacy, and education. Prior to the court's decision, it had been the practice in many counties for courts either to have short hearings with no counsel, or none at all.

"Working in the Youth Advocacy Clinic opened my eyes to the hardships that many children face when they come in contact with the law," said Hillegas, who practices family law and bankruptcy at Rovang Fong & Associates in Port Orchard. "Being a part of a team that changed one injustice was an experience that I will carry with me throughout my life, as well as my career as an attorney."

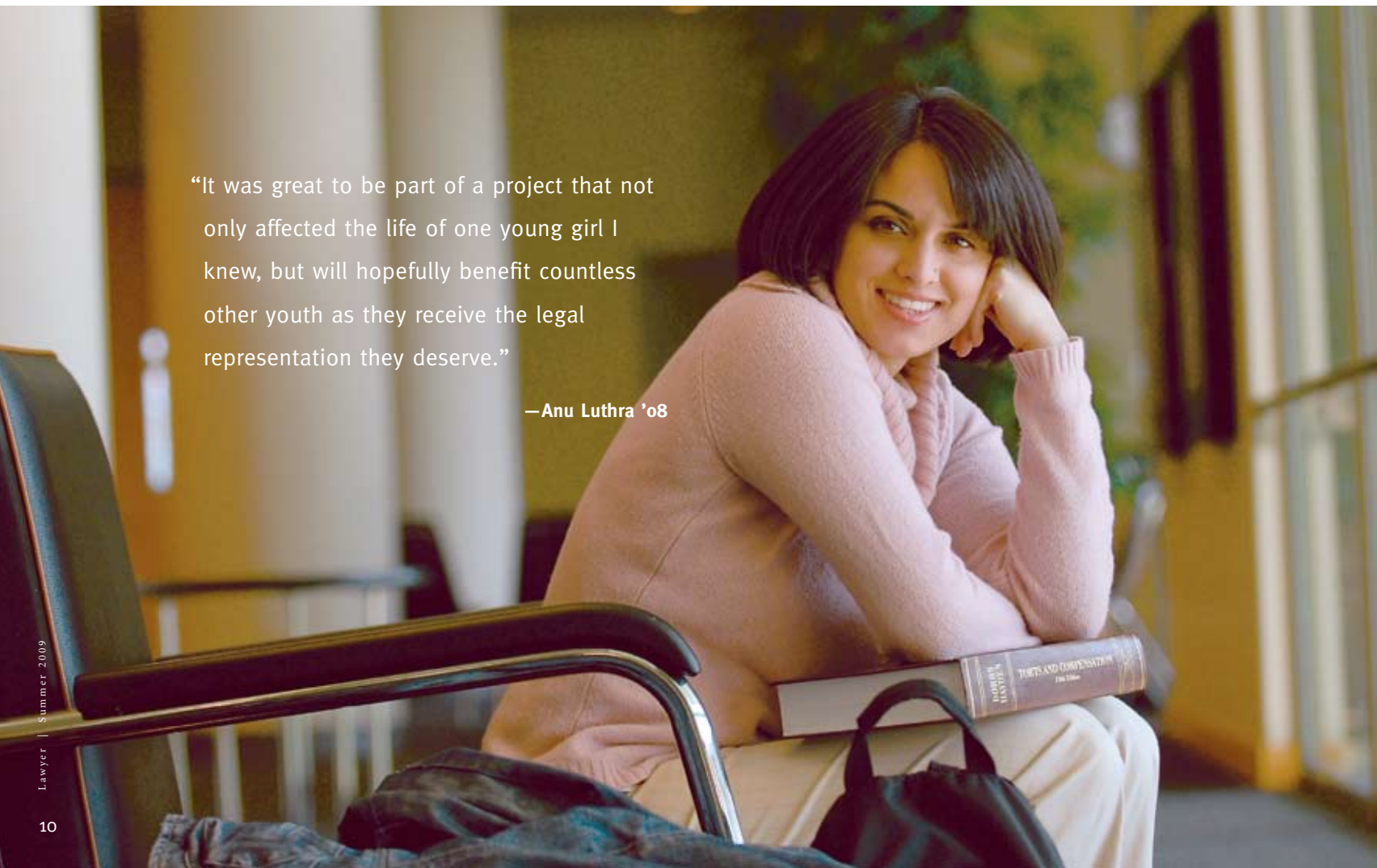
Luthra is now a public defender with the Pierce County Department of Assigned Counsel.

"Working on this case was a great way to combine two of my passions – working with youth and advocating for those who are unable to speak for themselves," she said. "It was great to be part of a project that not only affected the life of one young girl I knew, but will hopefully

benefit countless other youth as they receive the legal representation they deserve."

Two other recent graduates will have a rare opportunity when they go before the Inter-American Court.

Marsha Mavunkel, a May 2009 graduate, and Garrett Oppenheim, who graduated in December 2008, will travel to Costa Rica with Assistant Professor Tom Antkowiak for the July 3 hearing. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights is one of only two active international human rights courts in the world. It has binding jurisdiction over states throughout the Americas. There are no appeals from court judgments and decisions. Cases often take years to reach the high tribunal and advisory opinion proceedings such as the present matter are infrequent.



"It was great to be part of a project that not only affected the life of one young girl I knew, but will hopefully benefit countless other youth as they receive the legal representation they deserve."

—Anu Luthra '08





Professor Tom Antkowiak

**“Working in the Youth Advocacy Clinic opened my eyes to the hardships that many children face when they come in contact with the law.”**

**—Jenifer Marks Hillegas '08**

“The chance to argue before the court is relatively rare, even for an experienced international litigator,” Antkowiak said.

Mavunkel said the clinic provided her with invaluable experience.

“When Professor Antkowiak asked for research assistance on an amicus brief he was writing to the court, I never imagined I would have the chance to travel to Costa Rica and actually speak before the court,” she said. “This will truly be memorable, and I am extremely grateful to Seattle University School of Law for helping to make this possible.”

The invitation was a result of the clinic’s

recent submission of a legal brief on a pending advisory opinion requested by the State of Argentina. Such opinions are only issued by the court every few years – the last one was handed down in 2005 – and deal with significant human rights matters.

“I think it’s great that Professor Antkowiak decided to submit this brief, and it says a lot about the clinic’s commitment not only to human rights but to the further development of their students that they are sending us to Costa Rica,” Oppenheim said. “I’m honored and grateful for the opportunity.

Argentina has requested the Court to decide upon the legality of ad hoc judges

in cases in which individuals file a cause of action against a state. This is an important issue, because for more than 20 years, the Court has allowed ad hoc judges to participate in this kind of case. An ad hoc judge is a judge appointed by the state only for a particular case. However, individual petitioners do not have a similar right to appoint an ad hoc judge.

The clinic’s brief argues in part that the ad hoc judge subverts a petitioner’s right to an independent and impartial tribunal. It concludes that neither legal reasons nor even practical justifications exist in support of the participation of ad hoc judges in state vs. individual petitioner proceedings and recommends that the Inter-American Court discontinue this practice immediately.

The clinic also is lead counsel on a case involving torture and illegal detention in Mexico and will soon file a complaint before the same human rights system.



# Breaking down barriers



Kristi Cruz '08 is the first Leadership for Justice Fellow from the School of Law. A sign language interpreter, she will work to improve access to the courts to those with limited English skills and the deaf and hard of hearing.

## Leadership for Justice Fellow works to improve language access

**K**risti Cruz '08 started learning sign language when she was 5 to communicate with a friend of her family. She didn't know it would become her passion – and her career.

Cruz is the first recipient of the School of Law's Leadership for Justice Fellowship. She will work with Northwest Justice Project to continue work she started as a student with the Washington State Coalition for Language Access. Her project will include training, litigation and creation of policies and procedures to help those with limited English skills or who are deaf or hard of hearing navigate the justice system.

She says language access is a critical issue for agencies and courts.

"Whether it's interpreting for someone who can't hear or someone who can't speak the language, the barriers are the same," Cruz said. "There's so much more to equal access and language access than just calling an agency and getting an interpreter."

She developed a love for the language early on and enrolled in an American Sign Language Class in high school, where she tutored and interpreted for deaf students. She pursued ASL in college, thinking she would work with deaf children. Instead, she became an interpreter, providing services

to deaf clients in situations ranging from doctor's appointments and staff training to the courtroom.

Cruz has been an American Sign Language interpreter for 17 years. In court, she saw the challenges – and sometimes devastating results – that deaf people experienced.

"Feeling voiceless as an interpreter, I decided to go to law school," Cruz said. "I am absolutely honored to have been selected as the Seattle University Leadership for Justice

Fellow, and I'm excited to begin working on this project that allows me to combine my experience and commitment to language access with my law degree."

Seattle University School of Law is the only law school in the state to offer a post-graduate fellowship. It provides a salary of \$40,000 for one year to a Seattle University School of Law graduate to work with a host organization on a specific social justice project.

**"Whether it's interpreting for someone who can't hear or someone who can't speak the language, the barriers are the same."**

tion Advice and Referral Line's domestic violence unit and volunteered with the ATJI's Language Resource Project.

"Kristi has a breadth of knowledge and experience working with leaders in the language access community in Washington," said Monika Batra Kashyap, associate director of the Access to Justice Institute that oversees the fellowship program. "Both before and during law school, Kristi has been involved in language access work, and it is

clear that she has the leadership skills to thrive in this arena as an attorney."

The selection committee reviewed several outstanding applications. Committee members, including those who have been involved in the equal justice community in Washington for many years, agreed there has always been a great need for language access needs to be addressed by the courts and state agencies.

"Especially in these troubled economic times, it is imperative that we do all we can to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are met," Kashyap said.

In addition to her work with WSCLA, Cruz externed for the Coordinated Legal Educa-

## Graduates win prestigious fellowships

*Two other 2009 graduates committed to equal justice have secured coveted post-graduate fellowships. Their success is a testament to the law school's commitment to educating lawyers who are committed to justice. ATJI, the Center for Professional Development, the faculty and others committed to equal justice have helped prepare students for the grueling fellowship application process.*



**Persis Yu**, one of the law school's first Scholars for Justice, received the two-year Hanna S. Cohn Equal Justice Fellowship, awarded to a talented, committed law school graduate at the beginning of her or his career in the area of poverty law. She will begin working at the Empire Justice Center in Rochester, N.Y., in September.

The goal of the fellowship is to increase legal advocacy for Greater Rochester's poor people in high priority areas that are currently underserved. Yu, who has been interested in credit reporting and authored a note as a staffer for the Seattle Journal for Social Justice on the issue, proposed a project to pursue litigation and advocacy work to address inaccuracies, misuse and bias in the credit reporting system. She will work on consumer protection cases, develop a clinic to address fair credit reporting issues and pursue impact litigation and legislation.

Yu is thrilled that she received a fellowship doing exactly the type of work she wanted to do. She says credit reporting is biased against those with low incomes and hurts people who are applying for jobs or seeking insurance as more and more companies use credit reports in making decisions. Having a mortgage boosts your score, for instance, while paying your rent on time doesn't get reported. Student loans are considered "good debt" while other loans can lower a score. Many times, those with the most problems on their reports have limited help in getting inaccuracies corrected.

"The original idea was to determine if people qualify for mortgages and credit cards, but it's gone so far beyond that," Yu said. "It wasn't supposed to be used to determine whether someone is going to get sick or get in an accident."

Yu came to law school after being a social worker and earning a master's in social work. She worked to create legislation on children's issues including child care, foster care and Children and Family Services. She has done direct service work for Child Care Resources, working with families to find child care, specifically homeless fami-

lies and those who were trying to get off public assistance.

In law school she has been active in the Asian Pacific Islander and the LGBT communities, SJSJ and the Social Justice Coalition. She was a law clerk at the Washington State Attorney General's Office.

She received one of the first Scholars for Justice awards, a full-tuition scholarship given to a student committed to social justice. With many public agencies facing hiring freezes or cutbacks in the difficult economy, Yu is grateful for the opportunity the fellowship provides.

"I take my moral commitment to do public interest work very seriously," she said. "But beyond that, law school is a hard experience, and I wanted to leave and do what I came here to do."



**Riddhi Mukhopadhyay** received a one-year fellowship from the Berkeley Law Foundation for work to be done at Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. She will work with detainees at the Northwest Detention

Center, specifically representing detainees with psychiatric and mental disabilities and working toward policy reform at a national level on how detainees with mental illness are treated within the detention centers.

The Berkeley Law Foundation only awarded one fellowship this year because of lack of funding. "I feel very fortunate," Mukhopadhyay said.

She was one of the students who interviewed detainees for the Voices from Detention Report that was put together by the law school's International Human Rights Clinic and OneAmerica detailing human rights violations at the Northwest Detention Center.

"This fellowship is especially exciting because it lets me continue with the work many of us started in last year's International Human Rights Clinic," she said.



Professor Lori Bannai, associate director of the Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, gives a presentation about Korematsu's legacy. At right: The pair during Korematsu's 1996 visit to the law school.

By Katherine Hedland Hansen





# Looking back, reaching forward

## New Korematsu Center works for law and equality

In the days leading up to the formal launch of the ground-breaking Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality, staff members in offices throughout Sullivan Hall taught themselves the Japanese art of origami, folding multi-colored papers into delicate cranes that symbolize good luck and good fortune.

By the day of the event, more than 1,000 cranes decorated tables.

The communal effort reflected how the law school has embraced the center, as well as the spirit of collaboration and optimism the new institute has encouraged. Nearly half the faculty have become fellows of the center, and many important projects are already underway. The launch celebration, “Looking Back, Reaching Forward,” demonstrated the important work the center will do to combat discrimination through education, advocacy and research. An inspiring program included a moving tribute to the man for whom the center is named and thought-provoking discussions with distinguished panelists.

But it was just the beginning.

“I firmly believe we are in the middle of an event that will have ripple effects for years to come,” said Professor Joaquin Avila, director of the National Voting Rights Advocacy Initiative housed in the Korematsu Center. “We will look back and see that that it was a pivotal moment for people of color and the underprivileged. This is why this is so important.”

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

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

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Professor Robert Chang, director of the Korematsu Center, is a recognized expert in critical race theory.

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

It is named for Fred Korematsu, a quiet, hard-working, law-abiding man who was ordered to report for internment because he was of Japanese ancestry. He refused, was jailed and then sent for internment. The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed his conviction. Forty years later, the Federal District Court for the Northern District of California vacated that conviction on proof that the government had suppressed, altered and destroyed material evidence that contradicted the government's claim of military necessity. He went on to champion the cause of civil liberties, seeking redress for Japanese Americans who were wrongfully interned and traveling the country speaking about his case and other violations of civil rights, especially after 9/11.

"It's so inspiring for the center to be named for my father," said Korematsu's daughter,

"What drew me to Seattle University School of Law was its commitment to social justice and this amazing opportunity I had to start a center – something I've wanted to do for a long time."

—Professor Robert Chang

Karen, who attended the celebration with her mother, Fred's widow, Kathryn. "Education was very important to my father. The issues this center will study, the education and the advocacy work, those were all very important to my father and to my family."

While the launch was timed to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the decision vacating Korematsu's conviction, the center's work is much broader. It will build on the law school's strong faculty in the area of law and equality, including Director Robert Chang, Associate Director Lori Bannai, as well as Professors Richard Delgado and Jean Stefancic, leading authorities in critical race theory; and Margaret Chon, the Donald and Lynda Horowitz Professor

for the Pursuit of Justice, co-author of "Race, Rights and Reparation: Law and the Japanese American Internment," and many other faculty members.

Current projects include Avila's voting rights initiative, which will study ways to combat minority vote dilution; the Defender Initiative, run by Professor from Practice Bob Boruchowitz, aimed at improving public defense, and the Civil Right to Counsel Initiative, under the leadership of Clinical Professors Lisa Brodoff and Raven Lidman. The center is also developing a Civil Rights Amicus Clinic, working on several book projects and developing a two-year teaching fellowship to train an aspiring law teacher to become a teacher, scholar, and activist



Dean Kellye Testy and Karen Korematsu unveil a photograph of Fred Korematsu and Rosa Parks.



State Supreme Court Justice Charles Johnson '76 peruses the library exhibit on the Japanese American Internment.

consistent with the vision of the Korematsu Center. (Read more about these projects on pages 20-21.)

“Improving diversity, giving opportunities – those are things this center will do,” Chang said.

Chang gave up an offer for a prestigious chair at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles to come to Seattle University School of Law and start a center that builds on his life’s work. He relished the opportunity to not only teach and do his own scholarly work, but also to involve others, create a think tank, provide opportunities for junior scholars and post-graduate fellowships and effect change.

“What drew me to Seattle University School of Law was its commitment to social justice and this amazing opportunity I had to start a center – something I’ve wanted to do for a long time,” Chang said.

Chang, whose family moved to the United States from Korea when he was 3, learned some painful lessons about the realities of racism growing up in a small town in Ohio. His father was a librarian at Denison University in Granville, a town of 3,500 that was home to very few Asian Americans, African Americans or Latinos. He remembers being left out and called names, including the “N word” when he was in seventh grade. As hurtful as those incidents were, they helped foster Chang’s commitment to fighting discrimination of all kinds.

“I don’t know that I really thought about it then on a conscious level, but those formative experiences with race had an impact on me that has allowed me to make connections to other groups,” he said.

He has become one of the nation’s most respected legal scholars in the area of critical

race theory. He received the Clyde Ferguson Award from the Minority Groups Section of the Association of American Law Schools. The honor, named for one of the first African-American tenured professors at Harvard Law School, is granted to “an outstanding law teacher who in the course of his or her career has achieved excellence in the areas of public service, teaching and scholarship.”

Chang is the author of “Disoriented: Asian Americans, Law and the Nation-State” and more than 40 articles, essays, and chapters published in leading law reviews and books on Critical Race Theory, LatCrit Theory, and Asian American Legal Studies. He is working on an anthology on Asian Americans and the Law.

“It’s been remarkable working with everyone to develop the center,” Chang said. “We are really starting something special.”

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Chon, who also serves as associate dean for research and centers, said the center's focus on equality rather than inequality is an important distinction, shifting the focus to how to work together to create and empower lasting movements in the service of social justice.

"What will it take to reach equality in today's increasingly unequal, global and pluralistic world? People, politics and passion for justice remain relevant for this center as it engages in advocacy, education and research in pursuit of equality," Chon said in her keynote address. "The center provides an institutional space for re-affirming that law is not only a weapon for injustice, but also a vehicle making justice conform more closely with law."

## Fred Korematsu's legacy

In 1996, Fred Korematsu wrote an inscription to Lori Bannai's 4-year-old son, Eliot, in the children's book that tells his life story, "When Justice Failed: The Fred Korematsu Story."

*Dear Eliot,  
When you are old enough to read this book, ask your mother about her being one of my attorneys in 1983. She is a very special person to me and good friend."*

Years later, Bannai is the associate director of the center named for him. Her affiliation is intensely personal because of her relationship with Korematsu and her own family history.

Bannai's parents, grandparents and other family members were incarcerated at the Manzanar Internment Camp in California, but they seldom discussed it when she was growing up. When Bannai was a law student, she read about the original Korematsu case in which the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of the internment.

"It was really outrageous, because these



Peter Irons, author of "Justice at War," talks about unearthing the documents that led to the groundbreaking Korematsu ruling.

"I wish Fred was here to see this, because he would have loved it. He said he wanted to keep telling his story, so people don't forget we can make a difference."

—Kathryn Korematsu

were my parents, my family, they were talking about," Bannai recalled.

She began talking to her family about their experiences at a time when the Japanese American community as a whole was opening up and talking about redress for the first time.

Her father left camp and enlisted in the service. He went on to volunteer for the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, the most highly decorated military unit in history. He was asked to join the military intelligence service, went to Japanese language school and spent the war years in the South Pacific. It was on a visit to relatives that he met the woman who would become his wife at a camp dance.

Just two years out of law school, Bannai was one of the idealistic young lawyers who represented Korematsu in reopening his case. Approached by Professor Peter Irons, who had uncovered evidence that the government



Professor Kimberly West-Faulcon of Loyola Law School, Los Angeles speaks, as panelists Jenny Pizer, senior counsel for Lambda Legal, Los Angeles, and Professor Greg Robinson of Université du Québec À Montréal listen.

“I firmly believe we are in the middle of an event that will have ripple effects for years to come. We will look back and see that it was a pivotal moment for people of color and the underprivileged. This is why this is so important.”

—Professor Joaquin Avila

suppressed evidence and wanted to reverse Korematsu’s conviction, she was eager to be involved.

“We knew we were right,” she said. “I can’t remember ever thinking we were going to lose. It was one of the most well-known cases in U.S. history, but it was also very much about my parents and my community. Reopening the case and the whole issue of the incarceration started a process of community healing, a chance for the Nisei (second generation) to begin to tell their stories. My mother said she always felt guilty that she had done something wrong.”

Bannai said Fred and Kathryn Korematsu looked out for the young lawyers, making sure they were eating well and taking care of themselves.

“We became like family when we were working on the case, and remain so,” Bannai said.

Korematsu spoke at the law school twice in the past, and Bannai visited them in California over the years. He died in 2005.

“It was both overwhelming and thrilling to bring together members of the law school community, people from the community, former internees, advocacy groups and Fred’s family,” she said. “The launch of the center was extraordinary, and in many ways made me feel like I had come full circle. I never thought that my connection with Fred and his case would lead to my present work in furthering his legacy through the center.”

For Korematsu, his case was simple.

“He wanted to be treated like an American,” said Don Tamaki, one of the members of his legal team who paid tribute to Korematsu. “He loved his country.”

The fight, and the victory, were life-changing.



Professor Margaret Chon, associate dean for research and centers, gave the keynote address.

“It transformed him. It transformed his family, and it definitely transformed us as lawyers,” Tamaki said.

His family is gratified the center will continue his legacy. Karen Korematsu and her mother, Kathryn, presented two photographs: one of Korematsu with the Presidential Medal of Freedom he received from President Clinton and another of Korematsu with Rosa Parks. The family also loaned the law school some of Korematsu’s personal belongings for an exhibit at the Law Library.

“We knew it was a landmark case, but I don’t think anyone knew 25 years ago the significance it would have, especially after 9-11,” Karen Korematsu said. “He was thoroughly disgusted when they referred to rounding up Arabs.”

“I wish Fred was here to see this, because he would have loved it,” Kathryn said. “He said he wanted to keep telling his story, so people don’t forget we can make a difference.”

[See related story, next page >](#)



Members of the coram nobis legal teams: Back row, from left; Rich Ralston, Dale Minami, Eric Yamamoto, Karen Narasaki. Front row: Don Tamaki, Nettie Alvarez, Lorraine Bannai, Leigh-Ann Miyasato, Peggy Nagae, and Sharon Sakamoto '84.

# Korematsu Center projects

## National Voting Rights Advocacy Initiative



Joaquin Avila

The School of Law is poised to become the national leader in combating electoral discrimination with the founding of the National Voting Rights Advocacy Initiative, led by Distinguished Practitioner in Residence Joaquin Avila, one of the country's foremost authorities on voting rights issues.

It will serve as a national resource center for voting rights practitioners and advocates who are involved in litigation, legislative

and advocacy efforts to eliminate methods of election that have a discriminatory effect on minority voting strength.

"Seattle University School of Law is the only law school in the country that has established this innovative project in anticipation of the upcoming 2011 redistricting of election districts for members of Congress, city councils, school boards and the governing boards of other political entities," Korematsu Center Director Robert Chang said.

A website will provide access to administrative determinations by the United States Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act, to legislative hearings surrounding the passage, amendments and reauthorization of the federal Voting Rights Act, to litigation manuals and pleadings focusing on legal challenges to redistricting plans and at-large methods of election, and to selected analysis of both federal and state voting rights cases. Law students will work on proposed legislation affecting the right to vote at the federal and state levels. The law school also will initiate a process for the documentation of voting rights abuses and problems that can be utilized in congressional oversight hearings

Avila will work with minority bar associations, national civil rights organizations and voting rights attorneys throughout the country. The data, expert reports and legal memoranda that will be generated and collected will provide scholars with research that will be useful in preparing articles and filing cases. He will continue to teach a voting rights course for the law school.

Avila is a nationally recognized expert on Latina/o voting rights and former president and general counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund. He was involved in the efforts to both amend and reauthorize the Voting Rights Act in 1982 and was instrumental in the dismantling of many discriminatory methods of election throughout California and parts of the Southwest. During

this time period he also successfully argued two appeals in the United States Supreme Court involving enforcement of the special provisions of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965.

He also spearheaded various legislative efforts in California to make the electoral process more accessible to Latinas/os. His most significant accomplishment in the legislative arena was the passage of the 2001 California State Voting Rights Act, the only state voting rights act in the nation. He has received numerous awards in recognition of his work in the voting rights area and a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation "Genius Grant."

## The Defender Initiative



Robert C. Boruchowitz

The Defender Initiative, led by Professor from Practice Robert C. Boruchowitz, aims to improve public defense representation for thousands of people in Washington and to provide models for application in other states. The first project of the initiative was a joint effort with the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers to conduct a comprehensive investigation

of misdemeanor public defense in the United States and resulted in the publication of a report, "Minor Crimes, Massive Waste: The Terrible Toll of America's Broken Misdemeanor Courts," which found alarming problems that waste taxpayer money and compromise the reliability of the criminal justice system and public confidence in courts.

The report said misdemeanor courts across the country are wasting money and eroding the rights of the accused and recommends that states divert non-violent misdemeanor cases that do not threaten public safety to programs that are less costly to taxpayers and repay society through community service or civil fines.

"There are staggering problems, including depriving people of the right to counsel, pressuring defendants to plead guilty without ever talking to a lawyer and wasting time and money on minor offenses instead of focusing on crimes that endanger public safety," said Boruchowitz, the lead researcher on the project and the former longtime director of The Defender Association.

Misdemeanors – crimes such as curfew violations, driving with a suspended license, loitering, possession of marijuana and open container laws – lead to expensive prosecutions on the taxpayers' dime.



# point the way to the future

The volume of cases is staggering. A median state misdemeanor rate of 3,544 cases per 100,000 citizens indicates that taxpayers are burdened with paying the costs of more than 10 million prosecutions nationally per year, the report said. There are more than 300,000 cases per year in Washington.

Courts are clogged, and many public defenders are handling hundreds more cases than they can ethically manage, spending just minutes preparing for each case. And some defendants are completely deprived of their constitutional right to counsel, putting states at risk for expensive lawsuits on top of the heavy financial burden of unnecessary incarceration costs.

“It is stunning how many people go without lawyers,” Boruchowitz said. “And it is almost unbelievable how many cases some public defenders have. In four major cities – Atlanta, Chicago, Miami, and New Orleans – defenders have more than 2,000 cases per lawyer per year. In New Orleans it is more than 18,000, which means that the lawyer has five minutes per client.”

He noted that by imposing fines and community service rather than jail time for the most minor offenses, Washington, and states everywhere, can immediately save millions of dollars on costly prosecutions.

The Initiative is working on a project to implement the right to counsel in misdemeanor cases, funded by the Foundation for Open Society. Boruchowitz joined the faculty in January 2007 after 33 years as a public defender, the final 28 of which he was Director of The Defender Association in Seattle. He has appeared at every level of state and federal courts and has spoken and written widely on issues relating to right to counsel, management of defender offices, racial disparity in the criminal justice system, defense of death penalty cases, and defense of clients in civil commitment cases.

## Civil Right to Counsel Initiative

The Korematsu Center and the Committee for Indigent Representation and Civil Legal Equality (CIRCLE) at the Northwest Justice Project will present a Civil Right to Counsel Symposium at the law school in February 2010. Led by Clinical Professors Lisa Brodoff and Raven Lidman, the symposium will bring together a variety of civil right to counsel stakeholders including academics, legal aid practitioners, judges, bar leadership, and legislators to engage in a discussion about the civil right to counsel landscape nationally and in Washington State. The substance of the symposium will focus specifically on the

civil right to counsel for low income individuals as part of the much broader access to justice framework. The symposium will serve as an education vehicle for lawyers and students and as a workshop for interested parties.

## Civil Rights Amicus Clinic

In cooperation with the Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic, the center is developing a two-semester civil rights amicus clinic to start in fall 2010. The broader vision of the civil rights amicus clinic is an effort to democratize the courts. It will have a classroom component in the fall focusing on civil rights litigation strategy, followed by an amicus clinic where students will be supervised by faculty members and will work in coordination with lawyers to draft amicus briefs in litigation matters that further the Korematsu Center’s mission. Students will be responsible for developing a public education strategy that will include reaching out to organizations and their constituencies to educate, empower, and enfranchise communities to promote broader civic engagement.

## Korematsu Teaching Fellow

Designed to address the lack of diversity in the legal academy, this two-year teaching fellowship will train an aspiring law teacher to become a teacher, scholar, and activist consistent with the vision of the Korematsu Center. Teaching fellows will be selected based on their likely production of cutting edge scholarship in the area of law and inequality and their likely contribution to enhancing and promoting diversity in the profession. They will receive extensive mentoring in the area of scholarship and teaching. The search starts this summer, aiming to have the first fellow in residence in fall 2010.

## Book Projects

Professors Chang, Delgado and Stefancic are convening a group of scholars from different disciplines to engage for a three-year period the topic “After Race” through a set of interrelated questions that will lead ultimately to an edited anthology and a conference.

Chang and a guest editor, Greg Robinson, a historian based in Canada, will look at group cooperation and conflict, historical perspectives and contemporary issues in the center’s second book project.



From left: Eric Eberhard, Doug Nash, Cecelia Burke '05 and Stephanie Nichols '06 are working together to offer more opportunities and a broader curriculum in Indian law.

# Indian Law program expands to offer more opportunities

**S**eattle University School of Law will significantly expand its curriculum and programming in Indian law and welcomes expert Eric Eberhard as a distinguished practitioner in residence in a revamped Center for Indian Law and Policy. Eberhard is working closely with Douglas Nash, who has served as director of the Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate since 2005, and Deputy Director Cecelia Burke '05.

The School of Law is committed to educating and training both Native and non-Native students, attorneys and community leaders in areas of federal Indian law and other legal, cultural and policy issues that impact tribes and Native people. In addition to the Institute – the only one of its kind in the country – the law school has faculty focused on Native American issues, a strong curriculum and an attorney for Native American Projects who oversees various opportunities for students.

“We will draw on all of the law school’s strengths to build an even stronger program, which will benefit our students, tribes and the community,” Dean Kellye Testy said. “I am proud of the work we have done and look forward to an even broader approach to this important and meaningful area of law.”

The Institute had worked to develop projects to provide estate planning services to tribal members at no cost, provides training on the American Indian Probate Reform Act, consults with tribes regarding tribal probate code development and serves as a clearing house for information.

The Institute has held five national symposia at the law school. Through its projects, the Institute has provided community education to more than 14,000 Indian land owners, served more than 3,300 clients, executed approximately 1,400 wills and 1,100 other estate planning documents and successfully reduced fractionation of trust land interests in approximately 87 percent of the estate plans.

While continuing that work, the expanded center has grown to provide services to the Muckleshoot and Nez Perce tribes under contract. Attorneys within the Institute will be available to work with tribes on traditional areas of Indian law such as treaty rights, water rights, sovereignty and jurisdictional issues and will also expand into newer areas of tribal interest such as gaming and business.

“We will focus on the role tribes play when acting as entrepreneurs, as tribes are diversifying,” Eberhard said.

Tribes are increasingly creating business opportunities, including but not limited to gaming. Hotels, spas, shopping, tourism and other businesses are serving both tribes and non-Indian communities, but some deals fall through because there is not enough legal or business knowledge on both sides to make them happen, Eberhard said.

“These are opportunities that were unheard of 10 years ago,” Eberhard said.

Curriculum changes will mirror these themes. When tribes act in their capacity as the owners of natural resources and businesses, they encounter areas of the law that are not necessarily implicated when they act in their capacity as governments. Eberhard said that he is very pleased that the School of Law has recognized the need for greater focus on this area of the law and has made a real commitment to addressing it.

The School of Law faculty includes Professor Gregory Silverman, a member of the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut. Across all legal disciplines the faculty integrates Indian law cases and issues impacting tribes and tribal communities into its curriculum and scholarship. The School of Law offers several

**continued >**





**Eric Eberhard**

courses in addition to the basic course federal Indian Law including Indian Law and Natural Resources, an Indian Trusts and Estates Clinic and Contemporary Issues in Indian Law, which examines the impact of recent judicial opinions and legislative actions on the fundamental principles of Indian law.

Professor Catherine O'Neill focuses her scholarship issues of justice in environmental law and policy. In particular, her work considers the effects of contamination and depletion of fish and other resources relied upon by tribes and their members, communities of color and low-income communities. She has worked with various tribes on issues of contaminated fish and waters and has served as a pro bono consultant to the attorneys for the National Congress of American Indians and other tribes in litigation challenging mercury regulations.

In addition, Silverman, Nash and Professor Lisa Brodoff regularly serve as Tribal Court Judges

“We will focus on the role tribes play when acting as entrepreneurs, as tribes are diversifying. These are opportunities that were unheard of 10 years ago.”

—Eric Eberhard

and Judicial Advisors. Nash serves as a judge for the Tulalip Tribal Court of Appeals, and he is also a Judicial Advisor to the Warm Springs Tribal Court of Appeals in Oregon.

Experiential learning is also a focus of the law school. Stephanie Nichols '06, the attorney for Native American Projects, oversees projects in which law students work under the direction of attorneys to provide will drafting and other estate planning services for tribal communities. A graduate of the law school who completed a summer internship in the Institute's Indian Estate Planning Project, she also runs the law school's Study Law in Alaska Program and teaches an Alaska Native Law class for that program. Before assuming her position at the law school, she worked with several tribes and clerked for the Northwest Intertribal Court System.

Eberhard brings considerable experience to the law school. He has been engaged in the practice of Indian law since 1973, including employment in legal services on the Navajo, Hopi and White Mountain Apache reservations; as Deputy Attorney General of the Navajo Nation and Executive Director of the Navajo Nation Washington Office, Staff Direc-

tor and General Counsel to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and Legislative Counsel to Senator McCain. From 1995 to 2009 he was a partner in the Indian Law Practice Group in the Seattle office of Dorsey and Whitney LLP.

His practice has involved the representation of Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and entities doing business with Indian tribes in federal, state and tribal judicial, legislative and administrative forums in regard to fee-to-trust transfers, water rights, leasing of natural resources, federal contracting, gaming, federal recognition, the formation of tribal corporations, environmental law, administrative law, jurisdiction, the development of tribal law, self-governance, cultural resource protection and the federal trust responsibility.

He is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall Foundation. He serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Native American Concerns Subcommittee of the American Bar Association's Committee on Individual Rights and Responsibilities and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

Eberhard also will help with recruiting Native American law students. He has close ties to

many tribes and knows there are worthy students who can serve their tribes as attorneys. Native Americans have one of the smallest bars in the country. To further address this, the law school established a full-tuition scholarship for an enrolled tribal member.

He joins Nash, who is a nationally recognized expert in Indian law and estate planning. A member of the Nez Perce Tribe, he has practiced Indian law for more than 34 years in numerous capacities, including 14 years in private practice in a solo practice and as head of the Indian Law Practice Group with the Holland & Hart law firm. He was Chief Counsel for the Nez Perce Tribe for 10 years and was a professor of law at the University of Idaho College of Law.

Burke is a graduate of the law school who teaches an Indian Estate Planning Clinical Course, the first established nation wide, and is the author of Indian will and estate planning articles, documents, templates and charts illustrating intestate and testate succession. She provides estate planning training to Legal Services attorneys, the private bar nationwide as well as tribal and federal officials and Indian land owners.

## Five new faculty members join law school for fall 2009

FIVE NEW FACULTY MEMBERS WILL BRING A BREADTH OF EXPERIENCE AND TALENT TO THE LAW SCHOOL. FROM A RECENT U.S. SUPREME COURT CLERK TO A VETERAN LAW PROFESSOR, THESE INCOMING FACULTY MEMBERS ARE OUTSTANDING TEACHERS AND SCHOLARS WHO WILL ENRICH STUDENTS' ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE AND THE INTELLECTUAL LIFE OF THE LAW SCHOOL. THEY ARE:

### **Assistant Professor Heidi Sacha Bond**

Professor Bond was a law clerk to United States Supreme Court Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and seconded to the chambers of Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy. She also served as a clerk to Judge Alex Kozinski of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Pasadena, Calif.

She is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, where she received the law school's highest honor, the Henry M. Bates Memorial Scholarship Award, and was executive articles editor of the Michigan Law Review. She received certificates of merit for best exams in numerous courses and the Cunningham Memorial Property Prize for her performance in property and first year courses.

### **Assistant Professor Brooke Coleman**

Professor Coleman has been a Stanford Law Fellow and instructor since 2006. Her research focuses on civil procedure and the federal civil rulemaking process. At Stanford, she participated in faculty and fellow workshops and designed and taught a Legal Research and Writing course. She received excellent teaching evaluations from students and faculty supervisors.

Before Stanford, she served as standing committee clerk and law clerk to Judge David F. Levi, former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California and Chairman of the Standing Committee on the Federal Rules of Practice and Procedure.

She also worked at Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian and

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati in Silicon Valley. Her practice focused on transactional work with public and private corporations and venture capital firms.

She graduated from Harvard Law School, where she was articles editor for the Harvard Journal on Legislation.

### **Assistant Professor of Lawyering Skills Gillian Dutton**

Jill Dutton joins the faculty as director of the externship program. Read more about her on page 6.

### **Professor Joe Knight**

Professor Knight has been a visiting professor at Seattle University School of Law for the past year and is involved with the law school's Korematsu Center on Law and Equality and Center on Corporations, Law and Society.

Former dean of the University of Washington School of Law, he also was a professor at the University of Iowa College of Law and vice provost at the University of Iowa.

An expert in commercial law, Knight has authored three books on the subject and taught courses in banking, contracts and commercial transactions. He has also taught seminars on international banking and critical race theory. Prior to becoming a faculty member, Knight worked in New York City as a labor lawyer and in Connecticut with a bank holding company.

He is an active member in several organizations, including the American Law Institute; the Law School Admissions Council; the Society of American Law Teachers; and both the American and National Bar Associations. He

is serving a three-year term as a member of the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools.

He is a graduate of Columbia University School of Law.

### **Assistant Professor Jane Stoever**

Professor Stoever has been a practitioner in residence and director of the Domestic Violence Clinic at the Washington College of Law at American University since 2006. She oversaw all aspects of the clinic and significantly expanded the its immigration practice, community education and student enrollment.

Prior to joining WCL, she taught classes on family law and trial advocacy at Georgetown University Law Center's Domestic Violence Clinic. Her responsibilities at Georgetown Law included supervising students in all stages of litigating civil protection order cases and representing clients in domestic violence and criminal contempt cases.

She served as a judicial clerk for Missouri Supreme Court Justice Michael Wolff. She previously worked at Legal Aid of Western Missouri and Life Span Center for Legal Services and Advocacy in Chicago.

She is a graduate of Harvard Law School, where she received the Equal Justice America Fellowship and the Irving R. Kaufman Post-graduate Public Interest Fellowship. She was a student attorney at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, where she represented women who had been abused in domestic, housing, and benefits cases. She also was primary editor of the Women's Law Journal and on the staff of the Human Rights Journal.

## Above the bar: faculty achievements

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW IS PROUD OF ITS DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AND GRATEFUL FOR OUR PROFESSORS' MANY SCHOLARLY PURSUITS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEGAL AND GREATER COMMUNITY. HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THE NUMEROUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR FACULTY MEMBERS THIS YEAR.



Associate Professor **Bryan Adamson's** article "Critical Error" was accepted for publication by the Yale Law & Policy Review.

**Janet Ainsworth** spoke at a panel held at the Linguistics Society of America's annual meeting in San Francisco. Her paper, "The Lawyer's Perspective: Ethical, Technical, and Practical Considerations Lawyers Face in Using Linguistic Experts," will be published later this year. She made a presentation at "Making the Impossible Possible or Making Impossibility Palatable and How to Know the Difference," colloquium at the University of Tennessee College of Law. She also facilitated a workshop for Tennessee judges on adapting pattern jury instructions to be better understood by jurors, in which judges crafted instructions for mock jury trials and then debriefed the mock jurors about their understanding of the law applied. She has also signed on to two amicus briefs on cases pending before the U.S. Supreme Court.



Annual Conference in Portland, Ore., and "Demonstrating Procedural Fairness When Ruling From the Bench and When Communicating with the Public" at the American Judges Association Annual Conference in Maui. His article "Judicial Elections – A Personal View," was accepted for publication in *AportesDPLF*, a Spanish language publication of the Due Process of Law Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Professor from Practice **Bob Boruchowitz** spoke at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Washington Defender Association. He was the founding president of WDA and served as president for 20 years. He also spoke at Temple Beth Am in Seattle on Law and the Holocaust and the Denial of Fundamental Rights and presented "The Implications of *Bellevue v. E.S.*" in a Washington Defender Association CLE webinar on The Right to Counsel in Truancy Cases.



Associate Professor of Lawyering Skills **Deirdre Bowen** wrote "The Parent Trap: Differential Familial Power in Same-Sex Families," published in the *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*, and "Gender, Crime and Criminal Justice," published in the *Encyclopedia of Gender and Society*. Her article, "Calling Your Bluff: How Prosecutors and Defense Attorneys Adapt Plea Bargaining Strategies to Increased Formalization," was the lead article in *Jus-*

*tice Quarterly*. She has accepted an offer of publication from the Indiana Law School for her article, "Brilliant Disguise: An Empirical Analysis of a Social Experiment Banning Affirmative Action." The journal plans to solicit comments on the article from other scholars, with a minimum of two pieces to be published with the article and a goal of devoting an entire issue to Professor Bowen's article and accompanying commentary. She also participated in UCLA Law School's Third Annual Critical Race Symposium, where she presented her study testing the claims of the anti-affirmative action camp regarding stigma and hostility. As a result of the symposium, she will be collaborating with the other presenters to develop a book. She also was a panelist at Columbia University School of Law's 15th Annual Paul Robeson Conference.



Associate Professor of Lawyering Skills **Mary Bowman** gave a presentation "Making a Difference by Making it Real: Collaborating with Legal

Services Organizations in Developing Legal Writing Problems," at the Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference. Based on that presentation, she was invited to participate in the Central States Legal Writing Conference next fall, which is focused around new ways of energizing the legal writing curriculum and legal writing faculty.

Clinical Professor **Lisa Brodoff** presented a CLE to the King County Bar Association's Guardianship and Elder Law Section on



Distinguished Jurist in Residence **Bob Alsdorf** gave several presentations, including "Campaign Conduct and Political Activity" at the American Judicature Society's 21st National College on Judicial Conduct and Ethics in Chicago, "Effective Communication with the Media" at the National Association of Women Judges



“The Washington State Domestic Partner Registry Act: What you and your elder clients in committed relationships should know!” Her article, “Planning for Alzheimer’s Disease with Mental Health Advance Directives,” was accepted for publication in the Fall 2009 issue of the *Elder Law Journal* of the University of Illinois School of Law.



Distinguished Scholar in Residence **Patrick Brown’s** article, “Ethics as Self-Transcendence: Legal Education, Faith, and an Ethos of Justice,” was published in the Winter 2009 issue of the *Seattle University Law Review*.



Associate Dean for Library and Educational Technology **Kristin Cheney** was appointed as a mentor in the American Association of Law Library’s newly created Leadership Academy. Fellows who participate in the year-long program are matched with mentors who are experienced law librarians known for their leadership skills.

Professor **Robert Chang** had several publication successes: “Making Up Is Hard to Do: Race/Gender/Sexual Orientation in the Law School Classroom”



(co-author) will be published by *Harvard Journal of Law and Gender*; “Richard Delgado and the Politics of Citation” will be published by *Berkeley Journal of African-American Law and Policy*; “Half-Full, Half-Empty? Asian American Electoral ‘Presence’ in 2008” (co-author) will be published by

*Denver University Law Review*; “Asian Americans and the Road to the White House: Musings on Being Invisible,” the keynote address at the 15th Anniversary Celebration of *Asian American Law Journal*, will be published by that journal; and “Democratizing the Courts: How an Amicus Brief Helped Organize the Asian American Community to Support Marriage Equality” (co-author) will be published by *Asian Pacific American Law Journal*. In addition, an amicus brief for the Supreme Court of California filed by a coalition of Bar Associations in the “In Re Marriage Cases,” which Bob helped to draft, will be published by *Asian Pacific American Law Journal*.



Reference Librarian **Tina Ching** spoke at Find it Free and Fast on the Net: Strategies for Legal Research on the Web, sponsored by the National Business Institute. She guided attendees through ways to locate deep web sources and old web pages and discussed how to utilize online government resources.

Associate Dean for Research and Centers **Margaret Chon**, the Donald and Lynda Horowitz Professor for the Pursuit of Justice, had several publishing successes: “Marks of Rectitude” was accepted for publication by *Fordham Law Review*; “Copyright and Capability for Education: An Approach from Below” will be published as a book chapter by Cambridge University Press; and “Global Intellectual Property Pluralism and the Domains of Development” will be published as a book chapter by Oxford University Press.



University Professor **Richard Delgado** has several forthcoming articles, including “The Law



of the Noose: A History of Latino Lynching,” *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*; “Four Observations about Hate Speech” (co-authored with Research Professor Jean Stefancic), *Wake Forest Law Review*; “Liberal McCarthyism and Critical Race Theory’s Stories of Origin,” *Iowa Law Review*; “Watching the Opera in Silence: Disgust, Autonomy, and the Search for Universal Human Rights,” *Pittsburgh Law Review*; “Rodrigo’s Homily: Storytelling, Elite Self-Interest, and Legal Change,” *Oregon Law Review*; “Crossover” (co-authored with Jean Stefancic), *American Indian Law Review*; “The Sincerest Form of Flattery,” *University of San Francisco Law Review*; “Creating and Documenting a New Field of Legal Study,” (co-authored with Jean Stefancic); *Harvard Latino Law Review*; and “The New Nativism: Proposition 187 and the Debate over Immigration,” *Aztlan: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. He also contributed forewords to several books by other scholars, describing the books and their contribution, outlining some of their themes, and situating them in current discourse.

Professor **David Engdahl’s** article, “The Classic Rule of ‘Full Faith and Credit,’” was published in the *Yale Law Journal*.

Professor of Lawyering Skills **Anne Enquist**, Associate Director of Legal Writing, was a panelist for the AALS Section for Legal Research, Analysis and Writing. As part of her presentation on “Appropriate vs. Inappropriate Collaboration: Where is the Line?” she wrote, produced, and directed a short video that “starred” several legal writing professors and students.



continued >

## Above the bar: faculty achievements



Clinic Director **Paul Holland**'s article "The Distinctive Rhythms of Bench Trials" will be published by the Clinical Law Review. He was a presenter at a web seminar on "Challenging Confessions in Juvenile Delinquency Cases."



Associate Dean for Faculty Development **Lily Kahng** presented a paper, "One Is the Loneliest Number: The Single Taxpayer in a Joint Return World," at the Critical Tax Conference, held at Indiana-Bloomington Law School. This article will be published in the Hastings Law Journal.

Associate Dean for Faculty Development **Jack Kirkwood** was named a senior fellow of the American Antitrust Institute. His article, "The Fundamental Goal of Antitrust: Protecting Consumers, Not Increasing Efficiency," was published in the Notre Dame Law Review. "The Path to Profitability: Reinvigorating the Neglected Phase of Merger Analysis" will be published by George Mason Law Review.



Professor **Tayyab Mahmud** presented a paper, "(Geo)graphies of Empire: Sea of Poppies and The White Tiger," at the States of Violence: Representations of Conflict in Film, Fiction, and Media of South Asia Conference hosted by The Clowes Center for Conflict and Dialogue and Comparative History of Ideas Program of the University of Washington. He also made a presentation on "Activist Lawyering, Law Teaching

and Law Learning" at the Roots and Reality: Grassroots Organizing, Law and Public Policy Workshop at American University College of Law. He was selected to be a Justice Faculty Fellow of the Center for the Study of Justice in Society of Seattle University and to participate in the seminar Race, Class and the Earth Crisis: Where Sustainability and Social Justice Meet. He also delivered the keynote address at the Annual Meeting of the South Asian Bar Association of New England.



Associate Professor **Natasha Martin** was selected as a 2009 Justice Faculty Fellow for Seattle University's Center for the Study of Justice in Society. She will participate in the seminar Having a Say and Leading the Way: Narratives of Distress and Visions for Success from Faculty of Color in the Academy.

Professor **Hank McGee** was presented with a Commemorative Plaque at the Inaugural Global African Studies Lecture Series that bears his name. He was a pioneering director of the UCLA Afro-American Studies Center in the early '70s, and has written widely on the situation of peoples of African descent.



**Douglas R. Nash**, director of the Center for Indian Law and Policy, testified before the United States House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies on the need to appropriate funds authorized for Indian estate planning work within the American Indian Probate Reform Act.



Associate Professor **Catherine O'Neill**'s article, "The False Promise of Risk Avoidance" was published in the King County Bar Bulletin. She authored a chapter, "The Mathematics of Mercury," in the new book "Reforming Regulatory Impact Analysis." The book release provided an occasion for a symposium on regulatory impact analysis in the new administration, held in Washington, D.C.

Associate **Professor Rafael Pardo** had three articles published: "The Real Student-Loan Scandal: Undue Hardship Discharge Litigation" and "Failing to Answer Whether Bankruptcy Reform Failed: A Critique of the First Report from the 2007 Consumer Bankruptcy Project" in different issues of the American Bankruptcy Law Journal and "The Utility of Opacity in Judicial Selection," in the NYU Annual Survey of American Law. His most recent article, "An Empirical Examination of Access to Chapter 7 Relief by Pro Se Debtors," was accepted for publication in the Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal. The article was also selected for presentation at the Harvard-Texas Joint Conference on Commercial Law Realities, which was hosted by the University of Texas School of Law. He also was chosen to serve as secretary and treasurer of the AALS Section on Creditors' and Debtors' Rights.



Associate Professor **Russell Powell** was named the chair of the Committee on Islamic Law for the International Law Association. His article "Zakat: Drawing Insights for Legal Theory and Economic Policy from Islamic Jurisprudence" was

accepted for publication by the Pittsburgh Tax Review.

Associate Professor Law-  
yering Skills **Norman  
Printer** was appointed vice  
co-chair of the American  
Society of International  
Law Teaching Interna-  
tional Law Interest Group.



Professor **Julie Shapiro**  
published an essay on the  
future prospects for access  
to marriage for same-sex  
couples in the King County  
Bar Bulletin. Her blog,  
Related Topics (<http://julieshapiro.wordpress.com/>)  
has been viewed more than 25,000  
times.



Professor **David Skover**  
set the stage for and mod-  
erated a televised debate  
between Justice Richard  
Sanders and former Jus-  
tice Phil Talmadge, spon-  
sored by the City Club Forum and held at  
the University of Puget Sound. The debate  
focused on the erosion of civil liberties in  
the wake of the USA Patriot Act. He and his  
coauthor, Ron Collins, have accepted an invi-  
tation to publish the lead article for a special  
issue of *NeoHelicon*, an international and  
interdisciplinary peer-reviewed journal.



Associate Professor **Ron  
Slye** was appointed to the  
Advisory Council of the Bill  
T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance  
Company, a dance company  
based in New York City  
that explores a variety of social justice issues  
through dance and other performance art. He  
submitted an expert's affidavit in the consoli-



dated appeal of *Lungisile Ntsebeza v. Daimler, AG et al.*, and *Khulamani v. Barclay's National Bank et al.* The appeals, being heard in the 2nd Circuit, involve claims of complicity in the crime of Apartheid in South Africa by a number of multinational corporations. His affidavit concerned Apartheid as a crime against humanity and the legitimacy of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission process.

Assistant Professor **Dean  
Spade** accepted the pres-  
tigious Haywood Burns  
Chair for spring 2010 at  
CUNY Law School. His  
article "Documenting  
Gender," in the *Hastings Law Journal* received  
a Dukeminier Award from the Williams Insti-  
tute at UCLA Law as one of the best articles  
on sexual orientation and gender law. He  
presented "Trans Politics on a Neoliberal  
Landscape" at Northeastern Law School and  
"Trans Awareness in Law Schools and Trans  
Issues in Law Classes" at the AALS confer-  
ence in San Diego. He spoke at the Rethink-  
ing Sex: Gender and Sexuality Studies State  
of the Field Conference at the University of  
Pennsylvania and presented "Discrimination,  
Recognition and the Politics of Impossibil-  
ity" at Hofstra Law School. He also was the  
keynote speaker at the Queer Art/Queer  
Action (Politics of Possibility) Conference at  
the University of North Carolina, Asheville,  
and the Columbia Journal of Gender and the  
Law Symposium held at Columbia University  
School of Law, where he presented "Gender  
at the Margins." He was the plenary speaker  
for the Gender Futures: Law, Critique and the  
Struggle for Something More Conference at  
the Westminster University Center for Law,  
Gender and Sexuality, in London.



**Several faculty members have assumed  
new leadership roles within the law  
school for the coming academic year:**



Vice Dean **Annette  
Clark** was appointed  
interim dean. Her  
experience ensures that  
the law school will con-  
tinue its momentum

during its search for a permanent dean.  
(Read more on page 5.)

**Margaret Chon**, the Donald and Lynda  
Horowitz Professor for the Pursuit of  
Justice, will serve as Associate Dean for  
Research and Centers. She will be respon-  
sible for advancing faculty scholarship and  
the law school's centers and institutes.

Associate Professors **Lily Kahng** and **Jack  
Kirkwood** were appointed associate deans  
for faculty development. They will be  
responsible for advancing and support-  
ing the professional development of each  
faculty member in teaching, scholarship  
and service.

Professor **Tayyab Mahmud**, who com-  
pleted his two-year term as associate dean  
for research and faculty development, will  
be the director of the Center for Global  
Justice.

### **Tenure and promotions:**

**Julie Shapiro** and **Ron Slye** were pro-  
moted to the rank of professor of law.  
**Bryan Adamson**, **Natasha Martin**, **Rafael  
Pardo** and **Andrew Siegel** were granted  
tenure. **Kent Milunovich** and **Barbara  
Swatt-Engstrom** were promoted to asso-  
ciate librarian.

The university conferred the title of pro-  
fessor emeritus on **Dave Boerner**, **Shelly  
Frankel** and **William Oltman**.





Yen Bahn '06, Fe Lopez '06 and Lorena Gonzalez '05 share a laugh during Alumni Weekend 2009.

# Alumni Weekend 2009

## Graduates reminisce and reconnect

Alumni filled Sullivan Hall for two days of special activities aimed at informing, building and celebrating the vibrant alumni community.

The memorable weekend gave alumni the chance to reconnect with each other and with the law school. Events included a Distinguished Speakers Program led by Professor Joe Knight on the current economic challenges facing the nation. It brought local and national scholars together to talk about the crisis and range of solutions, including efforts by the Washington State Bar Association to galvanize its membership in a new pro bono clinic.

Champagne receptions gave alumni a chance to catch up and learn more about the work of their classmates. The School of Law also honored three retiring professors, Dave Boerner, Shelly Frankel and Susan McClellan, and thanked them for their years of service to students.

The Law Alumni Association held an all-alumni meeting. Plans are already underway for next year's Alumni Weekend!

Photos by Marcus Donner and Jennifer Richard



John Worden '89, Pete Lukevich '89 and King County District Court Judge Judith Jasprica '89, reconnect at the champagne reception.





Former Dean Fred Tausend and Professor Emeritus David Boerner catch up with Shakespear Feyissa '02 at a reception honoring retiring faculty.



Dean's Medal recipient Marlys Palumbo '82, Dean Kellye Testy, Distinguished Alumna Sharon Sakamoto '84, and Law Alumni Board President Linda Strout '79.



Photos, left to right: 1) State Rep. Pat Lantz '80 makes a point at the Distinguished Speaker panel on the economy. 2) Professor Joe Knight speaks to the group. 3) Alumni Relations Director Grace Greenwich, left, and Alumni Weekend Chair Lorena Gonzalez '05, address the Alumni Association. 4) Stephanie Nichols '06, left, catches up with friend Anita Koyier-Mwamba '06.



Tina Marie Mares '08 and Kasia Benson '07, a Law Alumni Board member, talk after the Law Alumni Association meeting.



Judge Anita Crawford-Willis '86, a member of the Seattle University Board of Regents and the Law Alumni Board, left, and Katharine Wilcox '78, tour the Ronald A. Peterson Law Clinic.

## Law Alumni Board: your alumni governing body



**Dear Fellow Alumni,**

It was wonderful to see Sullivan Hall come alive with close to 400 alumni, students, faculty and friends to celebrate Seattle University School of Law's Alumni Weekend Celebration, April 24-25. The weekend was filled with champagne reunion receptions for the 10-, 20- and 30- year classes, exhibits, tours, a distinguished speaker series and a very special alumni awards luncheon. Lorena Gonzalez '05, chair of the LAB's Program Committee and Alumni Weekend Programs, did an extraordinary job of coordinating the weekend programs, galvanizing support among our alumni community and firmly establishing the weekend as a new tradition and one of the Law Alumni Association's signature annual programs.

I am delighted to welcome 10 exceptional new leaders to the board, most of whom were introduced at the Law Alumni Association meeting during alumni weekend. Thank you for sharing your voice by forwarding nominations of alumni colleagues. Each year, board members will roll off, leaving vacant positions to be filled. The Law Alumni Board looks forward to your continued engagement as we invite new leaders to serve on the board.

On behalf of the Law Alumni Association and the entire alumni community, I would like to bid fond farewell to our dean, Kellye Y. Testy. A tribute to her leadership is the strength of the school's mission, the number of leaders among the faculty and staff who will continue to build upon the school's national reputation, and the centers and institutes that set our law school apart. SU Law's mission reflects the commitment that many of us in the alumni community share in our work for justice. In celebrating Dean Testy's many contributions to our school, let us also recognize the role each of us can play in creating SU Law's future.

As we come together to position Seattle University School of Law to attract and welcome our next exceptional leader, I hope you will remain steadfast in your engagement with the law school.

Have a wonderful summer!

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

## Welcome Grads!

The Law Alumni Board welcomes the Class of 2009 to the Law Alumni Association!

As alumni of the law school, you are its strongest advocates and supporters. LAB members are grateful for the support of others who preceded us, and now it is our responsibility to contribute to the future success of the school and the generations of students yet to come. We urge you to make a commitment as graduates of this law school and to be active and involved members of the Law Alumni Association.

### *Your leaders in the Law Alumni Association:*

#### **Law Alumni Board**

##### **Executive Committee**

Linda Strout '79; President

Don Black '95; Vice President, Chair, Board Development Committee

Craig Beetham '89; Chair, Development Committee

Lorena Gonzalez '05; Chair, Program Committee

##### **Members**

John Bender '85

Kasia Benson '07

Sandy Brown '98

The Honorable

Anita Crawford-Willis '86

Willie Gregory '89

Grace Han Stanton '98

Dale Kingman '76

Leslie Meserole '02

Mark O'Halloran '02

Joanna Plichta Boisen '06

Michele Radosevich '94

Sharon Sakamoto '84

Jeffrey Sayre '89

Jennifer Shaw '87

Craig Sims '97

Mary Wechsler '79

Kalai Wineland '99

## Group reaches out to recent alumni

A Recent Alumni Steering Committee (RASC) was formed during the 2009-09 academic year to identify programs and meet the needs of graduates from the last 15 years.

Thanks to the leadership of Wilberforce Ageykum '99, RASC developed a comprehensive proposal, which includes the development of a leadership institute, a mentoring program for alumni and career and financial planning programs.

The Recent Alumni Group welcomed new leadership to spearhead the many initiatives outlined in the proposal: Brian Considine '07, chair of the Recent Alumni Group; Melissa Chin '08, co-chair of Career/Financial Development; Mark Saku '06, co-chair of Mentoring Programs; Adam Jussel '08, co-chair of Leadership Programs; Erin Shea '07, co-chair of Social Justice Initiatives.

For more information, contact Considine at [bconsidine@gmail.com](mailto:bconsidine@gmail.com) or the Office of Alumni Relations at [lawalumni@seattleu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@seattleu.edu).



# 2009

## ALUMNI AWARD WINNERS

The law school is proud of and grateful for the contributions of our many alumni and looks forward to this annual opportunity to recognize outstanding members of the alumni community. Nominations can be made through the Alumni Office and forms are available online through [www.law.seattleu.edu/Alumni.xml](http://www.law.seattleu.edu/Alumni.xml) or by contacting the office of Alumni Relations at 206-398-4600 or [lawalumni@seattleu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@seattleu.edu).



### Dean's Medal

#### MARLYS PALUMBO '82

Marlys Palumbo, a respected attorney who is committed to advancing the law school, received the first-ever Dean's Medal awarded to a member of the alumni community for her consistently outstanding work, exemplary public service, unwavering support for her alma mater and her dedication to the law school's twin goals of

academic excellence and education for justice.

"For your entire life, you have worked tirelessly to make a positive difference in this world," Dean Kellye Testy said when presenting the award.

Palumbo, a member at VanNess Feldman, is one of the most respected and sought-after attorneys representing major companies in complex litigation related to state and federal environmental statutes. Her work involves counseling clients on assessing, managing and mitigating environmental liabilities and compliance obligations. Companies regularly seek her counsel on environmental compliance issues and the development and execution of strategies in complex environmental cases. The breadth and scope of her expertise developed over more than 20 years working with local, state and federal regulators throughout the country.

An accomplished flutist, she has made enormous contributions to the arts in Seattle as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Seattle Symphony and leader in the fundraising efforts for Benaroya Hall. She serves on the committee to identify candidates for the symphony's next music director and serves on the boards of the Seattle Youth Symphony and the Washington Music Educators and has been a trustee of several nationally renowned music festivals and ensembles, including the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival and the Philadelphia String Quartet.

She, with her husband, Ralph, co-chaired the planning committee for

the law school's spectacular 35th anniversary gala at Benaroya Hall in 2008, helping make it a successful and memorable event celebrating the law school's success. She has served on the executive committee of the school's Board of Visitors and later its Board of Governors. A founding member of the Dean's Club, she has hosted receptions at her home.



### Distinguished Law Graduate Award

#### SHARON SAKAMOTO '84

Sharon Sakamoto, a partner at Aoki Sakamoto Grant who is devoted to working for justice, received the Distinguished Law Graduate Award, established to honor someone whose career achievements embody the mis-

sion, principles, and goals of Seattle University School of Law.

"Sharon Sakamoto, you are among Washington State's most beloved attorneys. As a third generation Japanese American born in the Minidoka internment camp in Idaho, you have risen above tumultuous times to devote your life to justice and equality," said LAB President Linda Strout '79. "Thank you for the ongoing impact you make in the life of the law school and those you inspire in the community daily."

Sakamoto was a cofounder of the Asian Bar Association of Washington and was one of the attorneys who took Gordon Hirabayashi's fight over the Japanese American internment to the Supreme Court. The ABAW created a scholarship in her name last year in recognition of her service.

Her community service includes serving on the boards of the Center for Human Services, the Chief Sealth Council, the King County Bar Association and the Law Alumni Board at the law school. She was an appointed commissioner on the City of Seattle Civil Service Commission for nine years and was an arbitrator on call for the New York

continued on page 38 >

# Escaping abuse

Law school helped domestic violence survivor start new life

Alexandra McCabe arrived in Seattle with a new name, a young daughter and \$40.

Running from a violent and predatory ex-husband, McCabe had changed her name and Social Security number and found shelter at a domestic violence safe house in Washington.

“We were women from all different professional and ethnic backgrounds, but we had so much in common,” she said. “We all felt displaced. I was kind of like a refugee in my own country. I could not use my real name or Social Security Number. But I was getting free from domestic violence.”

In Seattle, she began volunteering with victims of domestic violence through the police departments and prosecutor’s office, and was eventually hired as a victim advocate in the King County Prosecutor’s Office. One day, the late Norm Maleng, the longtime county prosecutor, called her into his office and complimented her work. He asked if there was anything he could do for her.

“I told him I wanted to go to law school,” she said. “He made the initial call to Seattle University School of Law and helped me navigate the process to apply.”

She had previously been accepted to a law school in California, but she gave up her spot to go into hiding from her abusive ex-husband and spent a year-and-a-half living in the obscurity of safe houses. But Maleng’s call led her toward her goal and she was accepted through the Alternative Admission Program. Paula Lustbader, director of the Academic Resource Center, became a strong support.

“If it weren’t for her and other support-

ive professors, like Professor Dave Boerner and Professor Tom Holdych, I don’t think I would have made it through the first year,” said McCabe, who graduated in 2004. She is the executive director of Animal Friends Rescue Project in Pacific Grove, Calif., which is dedicated to finding permanent homes for animals and preventing pet overpopulation through spay and neuter programs.

McCabe said she was always interested in law school and hoped to use her degree to work for a nonprofit organization.

“The law degree opened doors for wonderful opportunities like my current position at AFRP,” she said.

But it was a long road to get to law school. McCabe said New Beginnings, a nonprofit agency dedicated to ending domestic violence and providing support to survivors, helped her, as did many people at the law school.

“It took a lot of people, a lot of support to get through law school and I made some great friends in the process,” she said.

A decade after her horrible descent into domestic violence, McCabe is speaking out. McCabe, an educated and articulate woman who served on the staffs of then-Sen. Joe Biden and Leon Panetta, recently wrote a poignant and intensely personal account of her experience as a victim of domestic violence – and her transition into survivor. (Read it at [http://thewip.net/contributors/2009/02/defying\\_the\\_rule\\_of\\_thumb\\_a\\_do.html](http://thewip.net/contributors/2009/02/defying_the_rule_of_thumb_a_do.html))

She said she feels safe now that so much time has passed and because her daughter is



Alexandra McCabe

older. She is compelled to share her story, to dispel stereotypes about domestic violence and to empower women.

“It was a big step for me to be public like that,” she said, “but I have had very good feedback.”

During law school, McCabe volunteered with the Unemployment Law Project and the State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and testified before the state Legislature.

Today, she speaks to college students and testifies in criminal cases as an expert witness about domestic violence. She is not paid for that, but feels it’s important to help juries understand the dynamics behind abuse and why some people stay with batterers.

“All my education and training have really helped me,” she said. “These are ways I try to help others.”

## 1976

**Rufus Yerxa** received an alumni award for professional achievement from Seattle University. A deputy director general with the World Trade Organization, which deals with rules regarding trade issues among nations, Yerxa holds the second-ranking position in the organization. He is a key policy adviser to the director general, assists governments in various negotiations and oversees the 800-person WTO Secretariat's daily operations. Since joining the WTO he's had a hand in other areas surrounding legal affairs, dispute settlement, trade remedies and tariff negotiations. His current focus is industrial tariff negotiations and intellectual property matters. He has also served as a senior trade official in both Republican and Democratic administrations. He was honored at a ceremony in May and featured in the recent Seattle University magazine.

## 1977

**Harold Booker** was featured in The Seattle Medium under the heading "Community Volunteer / Many Firsts." The feature recognized Harold's many accomplishments, including being one of the first African Americans to graduate from Seattle University School of Law, the first African American to receive an advanced degree in organic chemistry from University of Washington and the first African American to occupy leadership roles of various foundations within the area.

## 1978

**Susan Krumholz**, director of Crime and Justice Studies at UMass Dartmouth, received the 2008 President's Public Service Award at the University of Massachusetts. She was recognized for bringing the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program to the university, allowing students to take college courses from inside the prison, alongside inmates.

## 1979

**Laird Pisto** received the 2009 Alumni Service Award during Alumni Weekend for his service to the community and practice of law. (Read more on page 38).

**Susan Taylor Wall** was named one of South Carolina's 2009 Super Lawyers in the area of professional liability defense. She is a partner in the litigation department at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein's Charleston office.

## 1981

**Jeffrey Jahns**, a deputy prosecutor for nearly 13 years, has been tapped by the Kitsap County commissioners to replace retiring Judge W. Daniel Phillips on the four-person district court bench, which handles misdemeanors.

## 1982

**Charles Bryant** was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge based in the Olympia office.

**Marlys Palumbo** received the 2009 Dean's Medal from Seattle University School of Law, awarded during Alumni Weekend. Palumbo was given the award for her exemplary public service, unwavering support for her alma mater, and dedication to the mission of the law school. (Read more on page 33.)

## 1983

**Dennis V. Ferguson** is lead Indiana Counsel for Reisenfeld & Associates LPA, LLC, a Cincinnati, Ohio-based foreclosure and bankruptcy law firm. He is admitted to practice in Indiana, the U.S. District Court, Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana; U.S. Court of Military Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Joseph McFaul** has become special counsel in the Orange County office of Sedgwick, Detert, Moran & Arnold. He focuses on real estate, admiralty,

complex business litigation and environmental matters. He was previously with The Williams Lindberg Law Firm.

## 1984

**Sharon Sakamoto** received the 2009 Distinguished Law Graduate Award from Seattle University School of Law during Alumni Weekend. She was also honored by the Asian Bar Association of Washington with the creation of a scholarship in her name, the Sharon A. Sakamoto President's Scholarship. She is a founder and past president of the organization. (Read more on page 33.)

## 1985

**Roy Umlauf** received the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Association's P. Scholfield Outstanding Achievement Award in recognition of his loyalty, leadership and commitment to the civil defense trial bar. He is a shareholder with Forsberg & Umlauf, P.S. His broad litigation defense practice includes catastrophic damages, construction claims, products and personal injury defense, premises liability, bad faith, legal malpractice and underinsured motorist claims, investigation and preservation of evidence advice.

## 1986

**Susan McNally Jones** has joined the Tacoma law firm of Vandenberg Johnson & Gandara, LLP.

**Scott D. Winship** became a shareholder of the Tacoma law firm Vandenberg Johnson & Gandara, LLP. He joined the firm in 2004.

## 1987

**R. Miller Adams** was appointed general counsel at Integral Systems, Inc., a company specializing in complete satellite ground based solutions based in Lanham, Md.

He previously founded Sheppard Global Ltd. and was director and vice president of global research and development strategies at Boeing Phantom Works.

## 1988

**David Acheson** was voted to the Provo, Utah, City Council in early January. His top priority is to make sure that Provo has sufficient housing available for families with kids and teens.

## 1989

**Joslyn Donlin** was appointed Administrative Law Judge based in the Seattle office.

## 1990

**David Snell** was confirmed as the 101st president of the Tacoma/Pierce County Bar Association at the Lincoln Day Banquet in February.

## 1991

**Robert Cumbow** was the first recipient of the law school's new Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award, presented to him on August 19, 2008. Cumbow has taught Trademark Law for 10 years and Advertising Law for seven years in the law school's intellectual property program.

## 1992

**Larry Leggett** is of counsel at Williams Kastner's Seattle office. He will focus his practice on real estate, and land and title insurance matters. Previously with LandAmerica Financial Group, he has substantial experience representing title insurance companies, their insureds, escrow agents and officers and real estate agents.

## 1993

**Joanne Dantonio** was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge with the Social Security Administration in the Seattle Hearing Office.



## Class notes

**Tracy Staab** was named a Spokane Municipal Court Judge.

### 1994



**Dana Gold** edited "Law & Economics: Toward Social Justice," a collection of papers presented at a symposium hosted by the Center on Corporations, Law and Society when she was director, and continues her work as an employee advocacy member of the Hanford Concerns Council. She and her husband, Robert, are settled in Portland, Maine, with their daughter, Aziza, who turned 1 in May.



**Leta Gorman** was appointed to a three-year term on the International Association of Defense Counsel Foundation Board. The IADC is an invitation-only organization dedicated to serving and benefiting its members, the legal profession and the civil justice system by enhancing the development of skills, professionalism and camaraderie in the practice of law. The IADC Foundation is dedicated to educating the public and global legal community on issues impacting the civil justice system. The Foundation provides a forum for discussions and promotes projects to advance the legal system by creating partnerships that support the education of the global defense bar, the judiciary and the business community.

### 1995

**Sam Meyer** was elected Thurston County District Court Judge.

### 1996

**Jason Grover** was appointed as an Administrative Law Judge based in the Olympia office.



**Bruce Strothers** and his wife, Adrienne, attended the inauguration of President Obama and celebrated at the Western Ball.

**Robert J. Weber**, of counsel, joined Carney Badley Spellman in 2008. He practices in the areas of real estate, business and corporation transactions.



### 1997

**Yemi Jackson** has accepted a corporate counsel position with T-Mobile. He will primarily negotiate contracts with T-Mobile's Fortune 500 clients.

### 1998

**Kris Haworth** was named managing director of Electronic Discovery Services at Evolver, Inc, an international professional services provider specializing in large scale electronic discovery, computer forensics, database analysis and expert testimony. In addition to being an attorney, Haworth has more than 17 years of professional experience in the technology industry. She will be leading the corporation's San Francisco office.

**Patricia Paul** was selected as the parliamentarian for the Annual Shareholders meeting of the Alaska Native Corporation, Doyon, Ltd. of Fairbanks, Alaska.

### 2000

**Jason Burnett** has joined the Seattle law firm of Reed, Longyear, Malnati, & Ahrens as an Associate. His practice will continue to focus on real estate and commercial transactions and litigation.

### 2001

**Michael Dewitt** was presented with the Washington State Bar Association's Local Hero Award. He was recognized for his significant pro bono activities, his mentoring of other attorneys, and his frequent presenting at no-cost continuing legal education seminars. The award is presented to lawyers who have made noteworthy contributions to their communities.

**Michael Evans** was appointed to Cowlitz County District Court Judge.



**Lisa Watson Gafken** and her husband, Phil, announce the birth of their son, Henry

Aaron Gafken on Feb. 7, 2008. Lisa recently formed the law practice Ridgway and Gafken, P.S., with her law partner, Shelia C. Ridgway. They specialize in trust and estates litigation under TEDRA, vulnerable adults litigation, guardianship and probate.

**Theresa Griffin** has been working as a public defender since graduation. On March 1, 2009, she will be starting her own practice with her son, Phillip J. Griffin '07.

**Robert Pearson** is a partner with Millar & Smith PLLC, in New York City. He continues working on projects within the entertainment industry, as well as focusing heavily on immigration law.

**Joan Tierney** has been appointed as an Administrative Law Judge based in the Seattle office.

### 2002

**Billie Grissom** is a family law attorney at the Law Offices of Susan Millican O'Brien and Associates, P.S., a boutique firm in Redmond, Wash. She has become very interested and involved in the collaborative law movement

and is a member of many collaborative law organizations, including the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals; Collaborative Professionals of Washington; King County Collaborative Law; and King County Collaborative Law - Family Law Practice Group, of which she is also past chair. Billie is currently active in smaller groups, where collaborative professionals meet on a regular basis to learn and grow in their mutual understanding and practice of collaborative law.

### 2003

**Joni Derifield** recently formed her own law firm, Derifield Law Office, P.S., with offices in Seattle and Kitsap County. She is a former attorney for the Social Security Administration and will be practicing exclusively within the area of Social Security disability law.

**Jennifer Keough** was promoted to executive vice president for The Garden City Group, Inc., a recognized leader in legal administration services, including class action settlement administration, legal notification programs and Chapter 11 business reorganization. She joined The Garden City Group in 2003 and formerly served as senior vice president and managing director of west coast operations.



**Farjam Majd** has joined Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt's intellectual property group in the Seattle office. He was formerly part of the patent prosecution team at international IP firm Darby & Darby. He specializes in prosecuting patents in the fields of computer science, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and biomedical devices. In addition to patent litigation support, he has extensive experience in patent prosecution, as well as in the areas of non-infringement, invalidity and litigation claims analysis.

## 2004

**Katrina Anderson** is a human rights attorney in the U.S. Legal Program of the Center for Reproductive Rights, the only global legal organization dedicated to advancing women's reproductive health, self-determination and dignity as basic human rights. She works to incorporate international human rights law and strategies into domestic legal advocacy. She joined the Center in 2006 after earning her LL.M. degree in international law, with a specialization in the protection of international human rights, from Washington College of Law. Her commitment to women's rights began while living on the Thai-Burma border, where she documented human rights violations perpetrated against ethnic minority groups from Burma. She brings a background in international human rights and criminal law from working for several years with NGOs in Thailand and Cambodia, and from serving as a fellow with the War Crimes Research Office.

**Laurie Ummel** became a shareholder at Anderson Hunter Law Firm in Everett.

## 2005



**Lorena Gonzalez** was recognized by the Hispanic National Bar Association as one of seven accomplished HNBA members under 40 who has distinguished herself in the upper echelon of the legal profession nationally. The award honors lawyers who have demonstrated professional excellence, integrity, leadership and commitment to the Latino community.

**Mary Henderson** opened her own law practice in Renton focusing on family law, wills, trusts, estate planning, small business formation and consumer protection.

**Pete Meyers** has a new business, Willamette Valley Writing Company, which combines his legal and marketing skills. The company provides marketing materials, web copy, brochures, letters and anything else that helps lawyers promote their services.

**Kelly Pointer** recently joined Sayfarth Shaw's team of employee benefits & executive compensation attorneys in New York. She assists clients with drafting tax-qualified retirement programs and welfare benefit plans; analyzing tax, accounting, securities and other federal or state law issues involved in implementing these arrangements; as well as advising and assisting clients with respect to ERISA reporting and disclosure requirements, due diligence, and correcting defects in tax-qualified retirement plans

**Angela Rye** was featured in BET's "The 14 Hottest Blacks Working on Capitol Hill." She is senior advisor and counsel to the House Committee on Homeland Security, where Rep. Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), is chair. While the nation is trying to rebound from the recession, she's working hard to ensure that African Americans and small business owners get a piece of the pie.

**Tracy Sarich** is the executive director of the Children's Trust Foundation, the only private, non-profit organization in the State of Washington focused on funding programs in family support centers statewide that work to create healthy, happy homes for parents and children.



**Ciarelle T. Jimenez Valdez and Jesse Valdez '04** announce the birth of their son, Caleb.

## 2006

**Elaine Conway** joined the Houston, Texas, branch of the Jackson Walker law firm, focusing on employment litigation and counseling. She represents

employers in labor and employment law matters before administrative agencies and in state and federal courts. Her experience includes employment discrimination claims; trade secret and noncompete issues; ERISA litigation; wrongful discharge cases; employment law torts; workers' compensation retaliation cases; and federal wage and hour claims. She also advises employers regarding compliance with federal and state employment laws and regularly drafts employment handbooks and personnel policies and separation and release agreements. In addition, she handles commercial litigation cases involving trade secret and non-compete issues, contract disputes and tortious interference claims.

**Jennifer Harnish** has earned her L.L.M. degree in taxation from the University of Washington and opened a solo practice for estate planning in Bellevue.



**Aleks Letts** announce the birth of their son, Sebastain Aleksander Letts, who was born on December 18, 2008.

## 2007

**Jeff Farrah** wrote a response to an op-ed piece titled "China's Evolved Economy" that was published in the Washington Street Journal Asia.

**David Ranz** opened his own firm in Seattle focusing on personal injury and traffic citations. The personal injury realm of his practice includes auto, semi-truck, motorcycle, pedestrian/vehicle and bicycle/vehicle accidents, plus claims related to insurance bad faith, personal injury protection and underinsured or uninsured motorists. His other practice area includes traffic citations related to speeding, driving too fast for conditions, HOV violations, stop sign violations and negligent driving.



**Tony Ravani** had the opportunity to meet and be photographed with President Obama during a campaign stop in Seattle.



**Kathryn Naegeli** has accepted an offer with the Department of Justice Environmental Torts section through its Honors Program. She will be moving to Washington, D.C., this summer.

## 2008

**Joshua Anderson** opened his own law practice in Bonney Lake, Wash., focusing on personal injury matters.

**Kim Dean** joined the Everett firm of O'Loane Nunn Law Group, where she will help the firm incorporate collaborative dispute resolution techniques to its practice of matrimonial and family law.

**Hagen Ganem** works for the Division of Corporation Finance at the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C.

**Andrew Miller** completed a master of Arts degree in Homeland Security Studies at the Naval Postgraduate School Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Captain Miller is the full-time operations officer for the Washington National Guard Joint Forces Headquarters Counterdrug Task Force and an intelligence plans and programs officer within the 194th Regional Support Wing at Camp Murray, Wash.



**Brendon Taga** is assistant director of the Academic Resource Center at the law school. He is also pursuing a master's degree in education.

## In Memoriam

2001

**Michael B. Ash** died at home in Olympia Jan. 9, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Chris Zipperer, and countless friends and family around the country. Mike operated his own law practice in Olympia and was engaged in volunteer work with the Capitol Land Trust.

1999

**Joseph "Jay" F. DePeter Jr.** died suddenly April 21, 2009, at his home in Biddeford, Maine. He is survived by his parents, Sally and Joseph DePeter, his significant other, Nancy Mathieu, his brother, Thomas R. DePeter, and two nieces and several aunts and uncles.

**John Alexander Livingstone II** died Dec. 29, 2008, after a long battle with cancer. In 2008, he joined Stanford University's Teacher Education Program, following a distinguished career in the litigation and trademark departments at Genesis, then Sjerven, Morrill, MacPherson then Dorsey and Whitney, and later Intel. John's passions included music, history, family, friends and costume parties. A commanding presence at 6 foot 8 inches tall with a great sense of humor, he was frequently known to dress up as a Carmen Miranda or even a leprechaun. John and his wife, Robie, became wonderful benefactors to the School of Law. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his children, Jackson and Poppy.



## Share YOUR NEWS!

We want to hear from you!

Do you have a new job? A new address?  
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Send an e-mail with any updates for Class Notes to [lawalumni@seattleu.edu](mailto:lawalumni@seattleu.edu). Feel free to include a photo in jpeg format, and please understand we may need to edit your submission in order to include all the great news about our alumni.

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Stock Exchange. She is on numerous bar committees on diversity and professionalism in the profession. She was a public school teacher for 16 years before law school.

Sakamoto helped with the planning for the Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality at the law school, has been a mentor to students and is a founding member of the Dean's Club.



## Alumni Service Award

LAIRD PISTO '79

Laird Pisto received the Alumni Service Award, established to honor a respected and distinguished graduate of the law school, who has demonstrated exemplary service and a continuing commitment to the law school while also embodying the school's

dedication to academic excellence and education for justice.

Pisto is associate general counsel for MultiCare Health System, a Washington non-profit healthcare delivery system with 5,000 employees. He has served as in-house counsel for health care entities since 1993.

Previously, he was a principal in the law firm of Hollowell, Pisto, Kalenius & Rhodes, where he practiced civil litigation involving health care, employment law and general business matters in state and federal courts. He served on the Board of Directors of the Washington Chapter of the American Corporate Counsel Association and the Washington State Society of Healthcare Attorneys and has been a presenter at CLEs at the law school.

"Our respect and admiration for your expertise is shared by many in the legal community," Strout said. "We are particularly grateful for the numerous ways in which you have served your law school."

He is a past president of the Washington State Society of Healthcare Attorneys; chapter president of the American Corporate Counsel Association; a board member of the Washington Health Care Risk Management Society; a member of the American Health Information Management Association and American Health Lawyers Association; and presently co-chair of the HIT Workgroup for the Washington State Bar Association.

Pisto has been an invaluable mentor to health law students, an externship supervisor, an adjunct professor and a presenter at CLEs. He is a founding member of the Dean's Club.

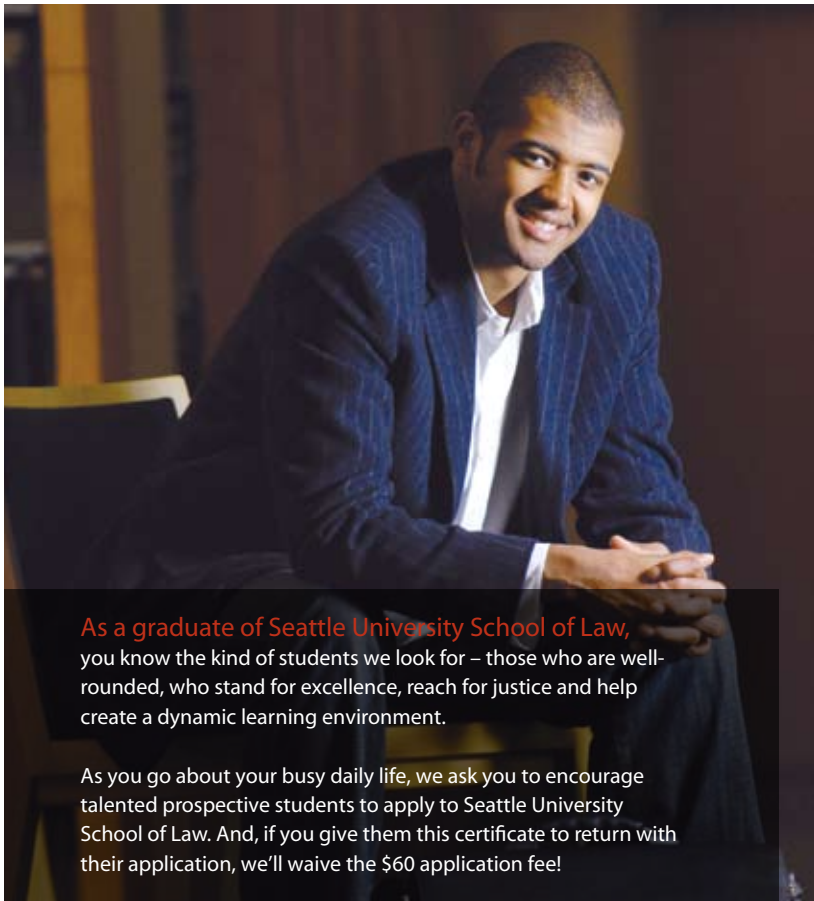


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## The docket calendar of events

All events are at Sullivan Hall unless otherwise noted.  
Visit [www.law.seattleu.edu](http://www.law.seattleu.edu) for more information.

### June 25–28

Lutie A. Lytle Black Women  
Faculty Writing Workshop

### July 7–10

8th Annual IDEA Academy for  
Administrative Law Judges  
& Hearings Officers

### September 11–12

Are We There Yet?  
30th Anniversary Domestic  
Violence Symposium

### September 14

Judicial Independence Conference,  
featuring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

### September 17

Constitution Day

### September 22

Bond Moot Court Competition

### September 25–26

Promoting Diversity in Law  
School Leadership Workshop

### September 29

Alumni Mentor/Mentee Reception

### October 7

Red Mass

### October 23

Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition

### October 30

Dispute Resolution  
Negotiation Competition

### November 20

Future of the Law Institute

### December 18

Baccalaureate Mass and Reception

### December 19

Winter Commencement

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