THE VIEW FROM HERE

Today, Justice graces the lobby of the Truman Wesley Collins Legal Center. A gift of the Marion County Commissioners, she stood atop the Marion County Courthouse between 1906 and 1957.
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A LIFE IN BALANCE
Rising out of an appreciation for the logical reasoning skills that scientific study required and his deep affection for mathematics, Peter Letsou, Isaac Van Winkle Melton Professor of Law, grew a vibrant career as one of the nation’s top professors in business and corporate law.

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This publication is partially supported by contributions to the Law Annual Fund.
DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

This is the first Spring issue of the new Willamette Lawyer which, from now on, will consist of two issues per year. This will enable us to increase both the frequency and the volume of communication with our alumni and friends. As this issue indicates, a lot has happened at the College of Law since the publication of the fall 2002 issue.

Our students have scored a stunning double victory at the national level. A team of three Willamette students, shown on the cover with their coach Professor Susan Smith, competed against teams from 63 other law schools at the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition in New York (see p. 5). Our team won both the Best Brief-Appellee Award and the First Prize for Oral Argument. This is an enormous achievement, which confirms the steady progress of our students and their ability to compete with and prevail over the best students in the nation.

Our faculty continues to excel. The four-page list of “Faculty Activities” (see pp. 6-9) is only a partial testimonial to what is an extremely energetic and productive faculty. It is not simply the high number of publications – which, after all, are part of any scholar’s expected contribution – but also the impressive number of national and international recognitions that our professors have garnered. Here are some examples from this period:

- Three Willamette professors have been elected presidents, and two professors serve as vice presidents, of national scholarly organizations in their respective fields;
- Two professors have received national scholarly prizes;
- Five professors have lectured to international audiences on five continents (Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Netherlands, South Africa); and
- Eleven professors have spoken at scholarly symposia at 16 American universities, including four at the Harvard Law School.

This is an impressive record by any standard, but it is nothing short of astonishing for a small faculty of only 22 tenure-track positions.

And last, but not least, our alumni continue to distinguish themselves and to bring recognition to their alma mater. Examples from this period:

- Lisa Murkowski JD’85 is the first College of Law graduate to become a United States Senator (see p. 23);
- Gregory P.J. Zerzan CLA’93, JD’96 has received a presidential appointment and Senate confirmation as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Treasury (see p. 28);
- Chief Justice Wallace P. Carson, Jr. JD’62 has been recognized as Oregon's Legal Citizen of the Year (see p. 25); and
- Russell J. Speidel JD’74 has received the Goldmark Distinguished Service Award from the Washington Legal Foundation (see p. 26).

We are proud of them. But we are also proud of all those other alumni who, whether they work close to Salem like Susan Hammer JD’76 (see pp. 20-21) and Jim Griggs CLA’71, JD’75 (see pp. 24-25), or as far away as Afghanistan like Jay Thoman JD’00 (see p. 22), continue to exemplify the work ethos of a Willamette graduate and the value of a Willamette legal education.

With my best regards,

Symeon C. Symeonides
Dean & Professor of Law
Karoyn R. Klohe JD’03 and Aaron Young JD’04 led Willamette University College of Law to the championship of the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition in New York on Feb. 22, 2003, defeating Louisiana State University and Drake University in the final round. In a rare accomplishment, Willamette’s team also captured the Best Brief-Appellee Award, which was co-authored by Deborah Dunn JD’03. Professor Susan Smith was the team’s coach. Willamette’s victory takes the National Championship Trophy from Lewis and Clark Law School, the winner of the 2002 competition.

In an email sent to the law school community shortly after being notified of the team’s win, Dean Symeon Symeonides offered the team his hearty congratulations. “We are thrilled with your success,” wrote Symeonides. “Your victory for best brief was already a huge step, and now you have done it again! This is terrific! Congratulations and thanks! We are proud of you.” The dean also recognized Professor Susan Smith for her role in “selecting and guiding the team” and also recognized Marci Ellsworth CLA’93, JD’03 and Matthew Fisher CLA’93, JD’03 for having done “such a great job leading this year’s Moot Court Board.” Fisher is Moot Court Board chair; Ellsworth is vice-chair. Both received their undergraduate degrees from Willamette University. Klohe received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Washington; Young from Texas Wesleyan University; and Dunn from La Sierra University in Southern California.

The 15th Annual National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition was held at Pace University School of Law in White Plains, N.Y. The competition, which began in 1989, today draws more than 200 competitors from a diverse group of law schools. More than 200 attorneys serve as judges for three days of oral arguments, creating a rigorous academic experience for student participants. The Pace-sponsored competition is recognized as the preeminent environmental law moot court competition in the United States. The competition is distinctive in that three adverse teams argue the issues. It mirrors the reality of environmental litigation that often involves multiple parties – the government, a public interest group and a member of the regulated industry.

This year’s problem centered on the Federal Clean Water Act and the discharge of polluted wastewater from a mining operation. Previous legal problems have included vicarious criminal liability of corporate offices for their company’s environmental crimes and commerce clause limits on water pollution regulation. Teams wrote and filed briefs for their respective parties in early December, hoping for a place in the oral phase of the competition in New York. Those with the highest combined scores for both the written brief and oral argument advanced to succeeding rounds. Klohe and Young faced a judging panel comprised of a judge from the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals, a judge from the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals and a judge from the Environmental Appellate Board.

The team was honored at a reception at the College of Law upon their return from New York. Asked about the experience, Klohe said that the competition was “one of the most terrifying, exhausting and fun events in my life.”

In addition to Lewis & Clark, previous winners include the University of California, Berkeley in 2001 and the University of Texas, Austin in 2000.
RECENT FACULTY ACTIVITIES

ROBERT C. ART

Publications:
- Oregon Law and Practice - Partnerships (West Publishing 2002).

Teaching:
- Co-taught a winter term mediation course at Stanford Law School.
- Presented on introductory and advanced techniques in appellate settlement to the First District Court of Appeals mediators in San Francisco and the Second District Court of Appeals settlement personnel in Los Angeles.
- Lectured on Game Theory and Mediation to the Northern California Mediation Association.

Other:
- Briefly held a Visiting Scholar's appointment at the Harvard Law School.

GILBERT P. CARRASCO

Recognition:

Publications:

Service:
- Brief Amici Curiae on behalf of the Hispanic National Bar Association and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities in Grutter v. Bollinger (the affirmative action case), United States Supreme Court, filed February 2003;
- Chair, Amicus Curiae Committee of the Hispanic National Bar Association; WUCL Law and Government Certificate Prog
- Minority Affairs Committee

ROBERT B. CHAPMAN

Publications:

Service:
- Member, State of Oregon Higher Education Technology Transfer Fund Board; Oregon State Bar Computer and Electronic Information Work Group, completing final report on UCITA; Spoke to “Law Pioneers” group, high school students interested in legal careers about law school and legal careers; University Facilities Committee; Admissions Office letter to potential applicants and follow-up discussions with those that responded; Willamette Law on Line, Faculty Advisor.

DAVID S. CLARK

Recognition:
- Elected president, American Society of Comparative Law
- Commerzbank Visiting Professor of Law, Bucerius Law School (Hamburg), November-December 2002.
KATHY T. GRAHAM

Publications:

Presentation:
- “Multijurisdictional Law Practice,” Heritage Club Meeting; (Willamette University College of Law, Salem, OR, April 4, 2003

Service:
- Member, Willamette Board of Trustees Law Committee; Founders Day Committee

RICHARD B. HAGEDORN

Publications:

M.H. SAM JACOBSON

Presentation and Paper:

PETER V. LETSOU

Publications:

Presentations:

Media Quotations:
JAMES A.R. NAHFZIGER
Publications:


Presentations:

- “Legal Exchange Between China and the United States,” Fiftieth Anniversary Commemoration, East China University of Politics and Law (Shanghai, China, Nov. 9, 2002).
- “Protection of Children From Education in Hatred and Violence,” Conference on the Rights of the Child, St. Louis University School of Law (St. Louis, MO, Nov. 1, 2002).
- “Sports in the International Context,” (United States Reporter), XVIIth Quadrennial Congress of the International Academy of Comparative Law (Brisbane, Australia, July 19, 2002).
- “The Grave New World of Terrorism: A Lawyer’s View,” McDougal Lecture, University of Denver College of Law (Denver, CO, March 23, 2002).

Service:

- Re-elected President, American Branch, International Law Association, Oct. 25, 2002; Elected Chair, Conflict of Laws Section, Association of American Law Schools, Jan. 3, 2003; New member, Nominating Committee, American Council of Learned Societies; Executive Committee, Conference of Administrative Officers, American Council of Learned Societies (2002); Board of Advisors, National Sports Law Institute (2002); Panel of Scholarly Contributors, Black’s Law Dictionary (2003); Member, Board of Directors, United Nations Association USA.; Treasurer, American Society of Comparative Law.

SUSAN L. SMITH
Publication:

2002 Supplement to Crimes Against the Environment (with Susan Mandiberg).

Presentations:

- “Endangered Species: Recent Legal Developments,” 5th Annual Oregon Endangered Species Conference (June 2002).

Scholarship (in progress)

- “Sustainable Environmental Law: The Evolution Of Natural Resources Law Towards Ecological Sustainability.” (Article)
- Second edition of Crimes Against the Environment (LEXIS), with Susan Mandiberg).
- Revision of Volume II (Clean Air Act) for Gerrard, Environmental Law and Practice Guide (Matthew Bender).

CARLTON J. SNOW
Recognition:

- Elected Vice-President of the National Academy of Arbitrators.

Presentation:


JEFFREY STANDEN
Recognition:

- Willamette University Robert L. Misner Award for Faculty Scholarship (2003)

Publications:


Presentations:

- “Theorizing Class Interests in Professional Regulation,” (Conference on Intersection of Law and Public Policy, Cornell Law School, November 2002)

Service:

- Oregon State Bar CLE Committee; Organized annual faculty-student golf tournament; Lecturer, Willamette Bar Preparation Course; Interviewed by various regional and national media outlets.

SYMEON C. SYMEONIDES
Recognition:

- Received the first Friedrich K. Juenger Prize in Private International Law from the American Society of Comparative Law for his article “Choice of Law in the American Courts in 2000: As the Century Turns,” 49 American Journal of Comparative Law 1-47 (2001).
- Elected Vice President, American Society of Comparative Law, 2002.

Publications:


Presentations:


Speaker, World Congress on Mixed Jurisdictions, Tulane Law School, November 2002.

Service:

Commissioner, Oregon Law Commission; Chair, Codification of Conflicts Law; Member, Board of Editors: Yearbook of Private International Law (Switzerland); Electronic Journal of Comparative Law (Netherlands); American Journal of Comparative Law (United States); Rapporteur and Chair, Revision of Law of Leases, Louisiana State Law Institute; Advisor, Comisión Conjunta Permanente para la Revisión y Reforma del Código Civil de Puerto Rico; Scholarly consultant, Black’s Law Dictionary (2003).

VALERIE J. VOLLMAR

Publications:


Program materials for Oregon State Bar “Planning the Basic Estate,” CLE program, including an update of will and trust forms widely used by Oregon lawyers (December 2002).

Presentations:


Service:

Co-chair of the Uniform Trust Code Study Committee, which is studying the new Uniform Trust Code for possible adoption in Oregon.

NORMAN R. WILLIAMS

Presentations:


Service:

Member, Education Committee, National Association of Administrative Law Judges.

JENNIFER L. WRIGHT

Recognition:


Presentations:

Pro Bono Attorney of the Year, awarded by the Marion County Bar Association, Jan. 30, 2003.

Scholarship:


Presentations:


Keynote speaker, “Guardianship and the Right to Decide,” at the statewide Long Term Care Ombudsman Conference.

Presented written testimony to the Oregon Senate Judiciary Committee on SB 37, amending the Elder Abuse Prevention Act, January 2003.


Pro Bono Honors Program orientation for students, Sept. 6, 2002.


Presentation on the Clinical Law Program to the staff of the Salem Outreach Shelter, Sept. 23, 2002.

Service:

Chair of the Elder Law section of the Oregon State Bar; Member of the pro bono committee, Legislative committee and Policy development committee of the Elder Law section; Statewide interdisciplinary taskforce working to mitigate the effects of cuts to Medicaid long term care benefits; Founding member of Willamette University Professionalism Association (WUPA); Secretary of the Marion County Bar Association’s pro bono committee; Faculty advisor for Law Partners; Faculty advisor for Phi Delta Phi; Together with the Marion County Bar Association’s pro bono committee and the Marion County Court, created the Mentor-Match Program, in which volunteer law students are teamed with pro bono attorneys to represent low-income people; Together with Ellen Jones, created the Pro Bono Honors Program, to assist and encourage students in engaging in pro bono work during law school.

Innovations in teaching:

Redesigned classroom component of the Civil Practice Clinic and the Externship Program with focus on examination of issues of legal ethics and professionalism as they arise in the context of actual law practice.

LA W SCHOOL BRIEFS
Taylor Anderson MBA/JD’03 grew up as the middle child in a sibling group of five and was always considered the “peacemaker.” Therefore, he finds it slightly ironic that this spring, he will graduate from law school.

Anderson, who was born in Boise, Idaho, literally grew up in the Mormon Church. When Anderson was eight years old, his father purchased what had been a Mormon church (built in 1919) in Centerville, Utah, and the family moved into the church and made it their home. The family spent years renovating the space, and his parents live there to this day and operate a pre-school and dance studio in the building.

After graduating from high school, Anderson served a two-year mission in Eastern Canada for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He cites this as one of the greatest experiences in his life. “It was an introspective time for me and it gave me an opportunity to think about life in a different way. It was an opportunity to not only provide service to others but also to experience another culture.”

Anderson returned home from his mission in 1997 and married his wife, Shauna. Having previously begun his undergraduate studies at Weber State and the University of Utah, Anderson transferred to Brigham Young University (BYU) where he earned his Bachelor of Arts in English, graduating cum laude in 1999. “My original plan was to pursue graduate studies and to eventually teach,” says Anderson. However, in his senior year, he began to have doubts about this plan. “I was concerned that earning an advanced degree in English would be a long, hard struggle and that, in the end, doing so wouldn’t provide the satisfaction and job security I wanted.” Anderson began to consider law school as an option. After consulting with family members who were attorneys and several professors, Anderson became convinced that his English degree would be a good foundation for law school.

Serendipity played a role in bringing Anderson to Willamette. His sister-in-law, then a student at BYU law school, was thinking about transferring to Willamette. She happened to have an application and passed it on to Anderson. Anderson applied and was accepted.

Why Willamette? “I felt right away that Willamette was interested in me as a student. During my first
visit to campus, I was made to feel a part of the Willamette community. The administration was very friendly. I also liked the campus and the fact that the business school is right next door.”

Anderson has been earning his MBA at Atkinson while attending law school. He highly recommends the joint-degree option to other students. “I’m very glad I chose to earn a joint-degree. While law school tends to be an independent type of academic study, business school is very team oriented. My business school education has taught me the importance of teamwork and other business philosophies.” Anderson found his business education invaluable this year, both in his role as editor in chief of the Willamette Law Review and as the producer of his first music CD.

An accomplished musician and vocalist, Anderson took time during the summer before his second year of law school to record a CD of Christian contemporary songs, all but three of which are original. Not only did Anderson provide the vocals, but he also played all the instruments for the recordings. Utilizing his business and law school education, Anderson formed his own business to manage and distribute the CD on his own label – Old Church Records. The CD, titled “One Little Miracle,” was released October 2002 and is currently available through Amazon.com.

When he reflects upon his many law school accomplishments, Anderson is particularly proud of the work done by members of the Willamette Law Review this year. “It was definitely a group effort. In addition to publishing more than four issues this year, we also passed major changes to the bylaws that will improve the quality and efficiency of the review.” Anderson credits Professors Snow, Jacobson, Chiappetta and Hagedorn as key influences during his law school career. After graduation, Anderson will join the 14-attorney Salt Lake City law firm of Bennett, Tueller, Johnson & Deere, where he will practice business law.

Anderson credits his “incredibly supportive” wife, Shauna, and their daughters, Carissa, 3, and Sophie, 1, for helping him maintain his perspective and a sense of balance throughout law school. “My goal in law school was simply to work hard and to do my best.” It is safe to say that Taylor Anderson more than achieved his goal. 

“My goal in law school was simply to work hard and to do my best.”

— TAYLOR ANDERSON MBA/JD’03
SYMPOSIUM EXAMINES JUDICIAL SELECTION
By Kristin Bremer JD’03

The Willamette Law Review, in conjunction with the Willamette Center for Law and Government, hosted its annual spring Symposium entitled “Selection of State Appellate Judges” on Feb. 28. The symposium approached subjects that are currently in debate in Oregon and nationwide: What is the best method to select a qualified and diverse state appellate judiciary? How does a state judiciary, subjected to political campaigns, fundraising, and interest groups, remain neutral and independent? And, ultimately, how do voters experience judicial elections?

Willamette Law Review’s unique approach to its symposia is to invite individuals with diverse professional backgrounds to address this issue, such as legal scholars, political science scholars, judges, lobbyists, campaign coordinators, campaign funders and lawyers. The morning began with the keynote speaker, Dave Frohnmayer, Oregon’s former attorney general and the current president of University of Oregon. Frohnmayer spoke of his misgivings of the current trends to politicize the judiciary as witnessed in recent elections.

Professor Geoffrey C. Hazard Jr., University of Pennsylvania Law School, gave the lunch address. Hazard began with the realistic observation that judges are increasingly exposed to political interests, whether or not the state elects via partisan or nonpartisan elections. To counterbalance these strong influences, Hazard called on lawyers to become more energetic about judicial selection and take more of an active role in supporting those candidates that are qualified and desirable. Likewise, he urged the state bar to become more involved by defining standards both in conduct and quality for its judiciary.

The remainder of the day was divided into four panels that covered various topics. Hon. Paul DeMuniz, Oregon Supreme Court, and Hon. William Baker, Washington Court of Appeals, participated on the first panel, discussing the current trends in Oregon and Washington judicial elections. DeMuniz examined Ballot Measure 20 and 21 from last fall’s election. Baker discussed the seemingly persuasive power a last name, over that of professional credentials, has in the current Washington judicial elections.

The second panel included members with various backgrounds that discussed how voters perceive the judiciary and what it means to influence voters about judicial candidates. Chris Heagarty, a judicial campaign organizer, lobbyist and the executive director of North Carolina Center for Voter Education and Professor James Foster, Oregon State University, Department of Political Science, gave empirically driven analyses of the public’s association to its judiciary. Their research shows that although voters may be skeptical of biased judges who benefit their contributors, voters are not in favor of giving up their right to elect their judges. Charles Tauman an active member of the Oregon’s Plaintiffs Bar and involved in judicial campaign fundraising, spoke of the methods and difficulties in which candidate supporters reach and influence voters.

In the afternoon, Dr. Kyle Cheek, University of Texas at Dallas, Political Science Department, and Luke Bierman, legal scholar and director of the ABA Center for Justice, discussed political party affiliation in partisan and nonpartisan judicial elections.

The symposium concluded with its final panel that proposed reforms to Oregon’s judicial selection process. All presenters at the symposium submitted articles that will be published in 39:4 of Willamette Law Review. To order a copy of this issue on the symposium, please call 503-375-5311.
JAPANESE AMERICAN INTERNMENT SUBJECT OF TWO DAY CONFERENCE


“The topic for the symposium grew out of discussions about Sept. 11," said Marva Fabien, coordinator of professional development and multicultural affairs at the law school. “What we are seeing today, in the reactions of some in the United States to these horrors, are similar to the fears of citizens during World War II.” This fear, says Fabien, eventually led to the creation of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin Roosevelt and the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans into internment camps.

Friday night's program, designed to encourage high school and college students to consider a career in law, highlighted how race and national origin can play a role in the legal system. The Multicultural Law Student Association (MLSA) and the Moot Court Board presented a reenactment of Yasui v. United States. Yasui, a Japanese American graduate of the University of Oregon School of Law from Hood River, Ore., was indicted for violating a Portland wartime curfew for persons of Japanese ancestry.

Saturday's program, featured prominent Japanese American community leaders, faculty members and alumni leading discussions which grew out of the results of a recent public survey which stated that 48 percent of Americans agreed they would have to "give up some rights and liberties" in order to reduce the threat of terrorism. Presenters included Henry Sakamoto, an internee/survivor, Peggy Nagae, lead attorney in Yasui v. U.S., Professor Mike Wise, Hon. Susan Leeson CLA'68, JD'81, and immigration attorney, Nicole Nelson JD '97. The event was co-sponsored by Law Services and the Japanese American Citizens League.

WWII PLIGHT OF WILLAMETTE LAW STUDENT RECOUNTED AT CONFERENCE

In 1942, Taul Watanabe CLA'41 was taken from his law school class at Willamette and sent north under armed guard, as part of Executive Order 9066. For five months, the 22-year-old Salem-born Japanese American, who held a Willamette history degree, lived in a white washed horse stall at the fairgrounds in Puyallup, Wash. While other family members were sent to internment camps, one brother was not. He was in Europe with the US 100th Infantry and eventually earned the Purple Heart.

At the urging of classmate, Otto Skopil CLA'41, JD'46, (who serves on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals), Willamette President Bruce Baxter found Watanabe. Speaking through barbed wire and watched by guards, he promised to win Watanabe's release. With Baxter's help, Watanabe was freed and completed his education at the University of Denver College of Law.

Watanabe served as president of several banks and executive vice president of Burlington Northern. A plaque in the College of Law honors the former Willamette trustee. About internment, Watanabe said, “I thought I was an American. It was a rude awakening.” But a news story about Watanabe noted, “Instead of bitterness, Watanabe's five month internment inspired a life of community service.” And before his death in 1994, a news headline read, “Willamette University benefactor sets an example with forgiveness.”

Based upon opening remarks of Associate Dean David R. Kenagy, from remembrances of Col. Rupert E. Park Jr. JD'47, classmate to Taul Watanabe and for whom the annual Pro Bono Student of the Year Award is named.
According to Willamette Law Online (WLO) lore, it all began when law student Carl D. Crowell JD’98 began thinking about the practice of the Oregon Judicial Department distributing media releases of cases as the Oregon Court of Appeals and the Oregon Supreme Court decided them. Crowell spoke with one of his professors, Ross R. Runkel, about taking those summaries, putting them together in an email format and sending them to attorneys and other legal practitioners in Oregon to notify them of cases that might affect their work. Today, the “brainchild” of the now Salem attorney Crowell and now Emeritus Prof. Runkel that began with one dedicated staff person, serves more than 10,500 subscribers and relies each year on more than 50 student writers to provide succinctly stated and accurate summaries of recently decided cases of the United States Supreme Court, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Oregon Supreme Court, Oregon Court of Appeals and in Intellectual Property. Professor Vincent Chiappetta serves as WLO’s faculty advisor.

Who are among those 10,520 subscribers? Gettman says they don’t have specifics since they just have email addresses from which to glean that information. But some who have corresponded with the staff include justices, judges, clerks and faculty members at Harvard, Yale, Cornell, UCLA and Dartmouth. Subscribers work at Stoel Rives, Nordstrom and John Deere, to name a few. She also points out that WLO has never engaged in any marketing and yet, in four quick years, the service gained more than 4,000 subscribers. Only 200 (3 percent) of WLO’s subscribers are from the Willamette community.

One of those subscribers, an attorney at one of the largest law firms in California, praised WLO saying, “With the pressure of heavy practice, many forget to say thank you. The summaries you provide are of immeasurable value and significantly reduce the time each of us must spend to ‘stay current.’” A law professor in Virginia wrote, “My admiration is sparked by the quality of the reports. The summaries are both correct and precise about the critical issue in the case. This is production of the first order. Well done.”

“My favorite thing about law school has been WLO,” says Gettman, a University of Minnesota graduate who will be returning to Minneapolis as an associate at Mackall Crounse & Moore, PLC. “Being a part of an organization that has such a positive impact on the legal community, our students and the law school’s reputation has been very rewarding to me.”

To subscribe to Willamette Law Online, visit www.willamette.edu/wucl/wlo.
STANDEN RECEIVES FIRST MISNER AWARD

On Founders’ Day, Feb. 3, 2003, the Willamette University community celebrated its 161st year. At a gathering in Hudson Hall of the Rogers Music Center, President Pelton delivered his State of the University address and students presented readings and musical performances. As part of the celebration, awards were presented for faculty achievement in scholarship, research and teaching. This year, for the first time, the Robert L. Misner Award for Faculty Scholarship at the College of Law was bestowed. Professor Jeffrey A. Standen was honored as the first recipient of the Misner Award.

The Robert L. Misner Award for Faculty Scholarship was established in 2002 in memory of the former College of Law dean and professor in recognition of his innumerable contributions to the College of Law and his commitment to faculty excellence. The award is underwritten by the Robert L. Misner Memorial Fund, which was established in 2002 with contributions from Willamette University and many of Misner’s friends.

Misner’s spouse, Kathi, attended the presentation and reception along with his sister, Marilyn, and brother, Glen. Dean Symeon Symeonides, in recommending Standen for the first Misner Award, noted that it was during Misner’s deanship in 1990 that Standen joined the faculty.

Since that time, Standen has produced numerous articles and other publications in the legal literature. He has also lectured widely and is a much sought after expert on sentencing guidelines. Standen’s teaching experience includes Remedies, Criminal Procedure, Jurisprudence, Professional Responsibility and Law and Economics. He also teaches the first year course in Law and Financial Perspectives in which students considering the College of Law’s new Certificate of Business Law Concentration may begin their specialized course of study during law school.

Standen is also the author of a memorial piece, “In Memory of Robert L. Misner,” appearing in 37 Willamette Law Review No. 1 (winter 2001). Prof. Standen is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law and Georgetown University.

WRIGHT RECEIVES PRO BONO AWARD

Professor Jennifer Wright was one of two recipients of the Marion County Bar Association Pro Bono Award on Jan. 30. Wright says the award “surprised her and warmed her heart.” In her acceptance speech, Wright acknowledged the many other Oregon lawyers who volunteer to serve the state’s citizens. She also indicated that she could not have done it alone, that the entire pro bono committee of the Marion County Bar should be sharing the podium with her. A few minutes into her acceptance speech, Wright was back on the job trying to recruit bar members to represent the more than 9,000 Medicare recipients who were about to lose their state benefits.

Wright, who joined the law school faculty in 1998, established the faculty pro bono program at the College of Law and expanded the Clinical Law Program to include domestic relations, guardian and conservatorship cases. She spends as much time as she can with her husband and two teenage daughters, because as she stated, “Family is what it’s all about.”
Peter Letsou comes from a science family. His father’s a doctor, his brother’s a surgeon, his sister’s a molecular biologist, and he’s … a law professor. Letsou is the latest addition to the College of Law, arriving from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, where he was both a professor and director of the school’s prestigious Center for Corporate Law. As the Isaac Van Winkle Melton Endowed Professor, Letsou is responsible for directing the future success of Willamette’s newly established Certificate of Business Law Concentration.

Despite his apparent status as the black sheep of his family, Letsou actually received his undergraduate degree in physics from Harvard University. But when it came time to make a career decision he says, “I really didn’t see myself living the life of the laboratory scientist.” Law was an appealing option for Letsou because it emphasized many of the same logical reasoning skills he learned in the sciences, and business law was particularly attractive because it incorporated his interest in mathematics.

Letsou graduated in 1986 from the University of Chicago Law School as one of the top students in his class. Chance would soon bring him his one brush with geopolitical intrigue, when shortly after graduation, he was given the opportunity to work with the U.S. Senate Select Committee investigating the Iran-Contra scandal. At the time, Letsou was clerking for the Hon. Walter R. Mansfield, a federal appellate judge in New York City who sat on a special court responsible for appointing independent councils. But after appointing the lead council for the investigation, Mansfield passed away while vacationing in New Zealand, leaving Letsou with no judge and no job. “When you’re a law clerk and your judge dies, there’s really nothing else for you to do.”
While considering his next move, Letsou received a call from Arthur Lyman, one of the nation’s leading lawyers and chief counsel to the Senate Iran-Contra Committee, asking him if he would be interested in serving as an associate counsel. Letsou took the assignment, but despite the national importance of the case – and the novelty of his newly acquired top secret clearance – the work held little interest for him. “A lot of the work involved factual investigations and assembling lengthy chronologies. It didn’t really mesh well with what I ultimately wanted to do.”

After two months in Washington, D.C., Letsou and his wife moved back to New York City so he could practice business law. He began with the firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore, a large, full service law firm that allowed Letsou to work on cutting edge business matters. But while the work was stimulating, the lifestyle, which included long, unpredictable hours, was not. Letsou moved to a smaller firm but he encountered the opposite dilemma: the office culture was great but the work, while interesting, didn’t measure up.

Letsou says he went through an almost absurd amount of mental gymnastics trying to figure out a career path that would fit him best. “I thought, ‘Well maybe I can get the best of both worlds. Ok, so I won’t work for a big New York firm, but maybe if I take a job with a big firm from say, Chicago, that has a branch office in New York with 50 lawyers. I’ll still get to work on big deals but I’ll have the atmosphere of a smaller firm.’”

He was searching for the right combination when an old law school friend, who had become a law professor, suggested that Letsou try teaching. He convinced Letsou that teaching the law would provide him with a career that was the best of all worlds. “It appealed to me because you can, in a sense, be your own boss, and even though you’re not making new law, you can research and follow the latest trends.”

Letsou’s first teaching position was at George Mason Law School, an experience he credits with largely shaping how he approaches and teaches the law. At the time of Letsou’s hiring, the law school was relatively young, but it was looking to make a name for itself. Under the leadership of its new dean, Henry Manne, a leading figure in law and economics, the school developed a plan that was twofold: one, economics would be infused throughout the entire curriculum; and two, instead of a general law education, there would be specialty tracts and specialty programs.

“The idea was that the nature of law practice had changed,” says Letsou. “Lawyers weren’t
generalists anymore. Law had become so complicated that the only way to practice effectively was to specialize.

To prepare for this innovative curriculum, Letsou and his colleagues received extensive economic training. During this time, he made the transition from a business law practitioner, to a full-fledged corporate specialist, focusing on business organizations, securities, and mergers and acquisitions. “At George Mason, we decided that we would have a little less philosophical breadth as a faculty; instead, everyone would approach law from an economic perspective.”

The program was a success, and for seven years, Letsou stayed on until he heard about an opening at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Cincinnati’s law school had no specialty programs, but Letsou was interested in the position because, in addition to serving as a tenured professor, he would direct the school’s Center for Corporate Law. It was a change of pace for Letsou, requiring him to teach less and focus more on administering the center. While lacking the economic emphasis of George Mason, the center enabled Letsou to interact with some of the foremost corporate scholars, judges and practitioners from around the world.

“What I learned from administering that program is that there are very few people in the world who you can’t meet if you offer them an airline ticket and a good dinner,” jokes Letsou.

If there was a downside to the University of Cincinnati for Letsou, it was that the program was almost too successful. The school’s advantageous location and its connections with major corporations and law firms, made it an ideal prospect for talented students looking to stay close to home. Recruitment was easy, but it also meant that the school wasn’t being pushed to innovate. “At George Mason we were always trying to do something new. Cincinnati really didn’t have that. We weren’t in a market where we had to compete. You didn’t have a sense of a group trying to pull together and make something happen.”

From a lifestyle perspective, Letsou certainly felt Cincinnati was a wonderful city in which to raise his family, but the area offered a very limited selection of outdoor recreational opportunities. As a Massachusetts native used to having the mountains or the beach less than an hour’s drive away, Letsou says the Midwest offered a slightly different brand of fun. “I saw every place that Lincoln ever slept in the state of Kentucky.”

That is why when Letsou came to Oregon to interview at Willamette for his current position, he felt in some sense that all his prayers had been serendipitously answered. Here was a law school that was being innovative, establishing specialty programs in international law, law and government and business law. It had a dean whose leadership and vision was not only bringing its faculty closer together, it was also attract-
When he’s not teaching, handling student requests or working on the law and business program, Letsou is a prolific writer in the areas of business associations and mergers and acquisitions. He has published more than 20 books, articles and essays, and he is currently working on the fourth edition of his Business Associations textbook and a forthcoming casebook for Aspen Law and Business that focuses on corporate mergers and acquisitions. He also writes occasional op-ed pieces for the Daily Deal, a New York City newspaper aimed at investment bankers and corporate lawyers in the United States and Europe.

On top of this busy schedule, Letsou has suddenly found himself to be a very popular man in the news media with the recent fall out in corporate America. He has been interviewed and quoted by media outlets including Newsday, the Houston Chronicle and “National Public Radio.” Letsou knows the interest in him may be fleeting, but he can’t help take some pleasure out of the fact his academic specialty has taken on a certain media sex appeal. “My area’s turning out to be a happening one.”

Pleased with his work at Willamette and pleased with Northwest living, Letsou appears to have found a life in perfect balance with his dreams. Though, an unseasonable moderate winter has perhaps unduly skewed his perspective of the weather around here. “Everybody tells us it rains, but for the five months we’ve been here it’s been beautiful. I think it’s just a ploy to keep people out of the state.” Sorry Peter, the rains will come.
RESOLUTELY SOLVING DISPUTES

Thirty stories up in a downtown Portland law firm, no one seems to notice the spectacular views of the West Hills. Several of the people seated at the long conference table exchange nervous glances; some stare down at the table. The light pouring in on the sun-drenched morning does nothing to ease the four years of pain, distrust and accusations this group has experienced.

Nine people are gathered, including five plaintiffs who've sued their former employer for age discrimination plus the legal teams for both sides. Already this group has been through two failed settlement conferences that left all parties feeling slighted and bruised. Still, everyone realizes that emotional and financial toll will only escalate if this case goes to trial – a process that could drag on seven years or more. So they've come to try an alternative: dispute resolution.

They're pinning their hopes on mediator Susan Hammer JD'76, 53, a former partner at Stoel Rives who spent 20 years at the firm before leaving in 1998 to pursue mediation full time. She's pored over summary judgments and met with the lawyers and plaintiffs. Her goal: to have a settlement by day's end.

If the tension is getting to Hammer, she's not letting on. In a crisp shirt and navy slacks, she looks relaxed and confident. She leans forward, smiles and tells the group they didn't have to sit on separate sides of the table. A ripple of laughter warms things up, but the thaw is brief.

What today is about, Hammer says, is determining the interests and risks of both parties. She explains that at some point each side will feel she's working for the opposition, pointing out what's weakest about their argument, highlighting details that are unfavorable to their case, details a jury would likely hear in court.

"Mediation is a combination law, procedure, psychology and negotiation theory," says Hammer. "There's a concept called 'reactive devaluation.' If you and I are adversaries and you propose a solution, maybe I can't even think straight about whether it's good for me. I think if it's good for you, it can't be good for me."

But the mediator, who has established a basic level of trust with each side by talking honestly about the pros and cons of their case, can sometimes propose the same idea and make it fly. The most satisfying outcome for Hammer, though, is not proposing a solution that she's devised, but rather seeing two sides that previously couldn't find a way out of legal conflict, that have spent years locked in bitter battle, find their own common ground.

"It's wonderful when they start getting collaborative, when there's actual brainstorming going on – 'If we do this, maybe you could do this.' You've broken through 'I'm right, you're wrong,' to 'How can we solve this together?'" says Hammer. "If people come up with their own solution, they're generally much happier with it. For me to be the Energizer Bunny who's just popping out solutions and having them rejected is not productive."

Most legal disputes never make it to court. More than 90 percent either settle or are dismissed. Of those that are settled, the negotiations are nearly always handled by the plaintiff's and the defendant's lawyers.

Sometimes, though, the attorneys just can't make it work, and every hour they spend trying increases the financial and emotional toll on their clients.

"If people come up with their own solution, they're generally much happier with it."

– SUSAN HAMMER JD’76
In Hammer’s view, there are times when a mediator can achieve what the lawyers cannot, such as when clients have unrealistic expectations about litigation and need to hear that from a third party, or when the attorneys simply aren’t communicating effectively.

Dispute resolution is a voluntary process in which the parties agree on a mediator, whose fee is typically split by those involved. A lawsuit doesn’t have to precede mediation. In fact, in about 25 percent of Hammer’s cases, no lawsuit has been filed, though usually the parties have legal representation.

The process is amazingly successful. Since 1989, about 75 percent of the community disputes reported to the Oregon Dispute Resolution Commission – everything from small business and consumer conflicts to family and landlord/tenant disagreements – have been resolved.

“People invest emotionally and economically in conflict, and it’s very hard for them to get out of that investment,” says commission executive director Mike Niemeyer. “Mediation can give a face-saving way to get out of it.”

Hammer came early to dispute resolution and has devoted much of the past 15 years to expanding its use in Oregon. As an officer of the Multnomah County Bar, she was instrumental in creating a dispute resolution section – before even the Oregon State Bar had one – and under her direction in 1987 as its first female president, the bar began offering continuing education programs in mediation. In addition to having her own practice, she mentors law students and speaks to attorney and business groups. She’s a fellow in the International Academy of Mediators and a trustee for Willamette University, which includes the College of Law’s Center for Dispute Resolution.

“Susan did an enormous amount of work to raise awareness at Stoel Rives,” say former colleague Bill McAllister JD’62. “She prepared a manual [on dispute resolution] and had an all-hands meeting to go through it. The amount of work she put in was monumental and none of it was compensated. In today’s world, that’s quite a labor of love.” …

“In the same way Henry Kissinger probably got more out of peace negotiations than he did out of sword rattling, Susan gets more satisfaction out of resolving conflict than putting people through the grueling experience of the courtroom,” says friend and Multnomah County Judge Kristen LaMar.

Negotiating a peaceful settlement, though, isn’t always possible. “The right solution at the wrong time is the wrong solution,” Hammer says. “… At the end of the day, in order for me to sleep well, I have to know I did everything that I possibly could to help the clients find common ground,” she says. “If I’ve done that, I’m pretty comfortable walking away.”

Excerpts of this article have been printed with permission of Oregon Business Magazine. The full article may be found in the November 2002 issue of Oregon Business.
ALUMNI BRIEFS

THE “DEVILS’” ADVOCATE

The sign over the door reads “Legal Office” but it’s not the usual law office with plush carpeting and a mahogany desk. Here there are folding chairs, a few laptop computers sitting on a counter made of scrap plywood and a dusty cot partially covered by a rolled-up sleeping bag.

This is no corner office law firm in New York, but the terminal of an old war-scarred airport in Kandahar, Afghanistan. It’s the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment “Devils” legal office of the 82nd Airborne Division.

The Task Force Devils legal office provides support to soldiers serving as part of the anti-terrorist coalition task force currently hunting down remnants of Al Qaeda and Taliban forces in Afghanistan.

Capt. Jay Thoman JD’00 is among the Judge Advocate Corps (JAG) officers in desert camouflage uniforms serving the needs of soldiers. “My current position is trial counsel,” said Thoman. “I advise the commander, primarily, on criminal issues.”

As a JAG officer in a combat zone, Thoman, known as the Devils’ Advocate around the regiment, also performs other duties not usually performed by trial counsel. “I will also advise the commander on rules of engagement,” said Thoman. “We base it on the International Law of War and the Hague Convention.” Thoman said the JAG office also briefs the troops on the rules of engagement before they deploy into the theater of engagement.

Thoman added there aren’t many things he deals with as a JAG lawyer that his civilian counterpart attorney wouldn’t run across in a normal practice. “The same problems that civilians have, soldiers have,” said Thoman. Although administrative law, family law and wills seem to be some of the bigger areas, he added.

Thoman strongly recommends that a law student looking to enter the JAG Corps take classes in family law, wills, consumer law, criminal law and alternative dispute resolution. He said an alternative dispute resolution class is very helpful when dealing with the everyday problems soldiers face. “When a soldier would have a problem with the garage downtown, I could call up and hopefully negotiate a settlement that made everyone happy,” said Thoman.

Thoman said the biggest benefit to a young lawyer joining the JAG Corps is the opportunity the military offers of getting into the courtroom right away to argue cases. “Often times with a firm you won’t see the inside of a court room for years,” said Thoman. “It will give you the opportunity to learn how to think under pressure.”

Thoman said he loves the fact that as a JAG officer in an airborne unit he has no billable hours and gets to jump out of airplanes. But, with all the experience that he has gained, he thinks that the best part about being in the Army JAG Corps is the unity he feels with the people he works with.

“It’s more of a support atmosphere rather than a competitive atmosphere,” said Thoman. “We’re a team.”

Capt. Jay Thoman JD’00 at the “office” in Kandahar, Afghanistan.
WILLAMETTE LAW ALUMNA NAMED TO U.S. SENATE

Lisa Murkowski JD’85 was appointed to the U.S. Senate Dec. 20 by her father, Sen. Frank Murkowski of Alaska, who left the Senate after 22 years to be sworn in as governor earlier in December. Lisa Murkowski, 45, was a Republican state representative who was re-elected last month to a third term. The elder Murkowski said it was time for the next generation of Alaskans to start building seniority in Congress.

As reported by the Associated Press, the elder Murkowski wanted to choose someone with legislative experience who could get things done in Washington, D.C., and establish their own identity in the U.S. Senate.

Following her father’s announcement, Lisa Murkowski called her appointment an incredible and awesome responsibility. “We have a great deal in common besides sharing a name,” she said of her father. “We share the same vision for the state. We share the same values.”

Willamette trustee and Alaska lawyer Mary Hughes JD’74 thought Lisa Murkowski’s experience prepared her for the appointment: “Lisa has had contact with public life since her father was elected to the U.S. Senate 22 years ago. While practicing law, she was always involved in volunteer work including serving on many boards and commissions. … She served in the Alaska State Legislature for four years, commuting from Anchorage to Juneau and back to Anchorage for weekends with Verne and their boys. Her legislative service exemplified Lisa’s talents: she was known for consensus building. Always the listener, Lisa tackled the most serious of concerns to Alaska, the fiscal gap, with a dedication admired by all. … Her commitment to Alaska is unwavering. She was born in Alaska and loves the state and its people.”

Former Alaska Attorney General Bruce Botelho CLA’71, JD’76 echoes Hughes sentiments: “Lisa combines grace, intelligence, perseverance and a refined moral compass in her role as a legislator.

During the last legislative session (2001-2002), she took on the leadership of her party caucus when it appeared that the leadership intended to ignore the state’s daunting fiscal gap. Her initiative on this issue caused a reversal of the leadership’s position and the first major discussion of tax policy within the Alaska legislature in years. Similarly, she pushed through the first increase in taxation on alcoholic beverages in nearly 40 years. She did not hesitate to speak out about taxation, even though many suggested that it was political suicide to do so. In fact, she nearly lost in the primary election.”

Kerry Tymchuk CLA’81, JD’84, state director for Oregon U.S. Senator Gordon Smith, says “My colleagues and I have been very impressed with how Lisa has hit the ground running. Her knowledge of Alaska, her experience with the legislative process, and her understanding of the Senate – which is a difficult place to understand at times – have combined to make her respected and effective from day one.”

Murkowski is the third Willamette graduate to serve in the U.S. Senate. She joins Sens. Mark Hatfield CLA ’43 (R-Ore.) and Bob Packwood CLA’54 (R-Ore.).
im Griggs CLA ’71, JD’75, a partner at Saalfeld Griggs Gorsuch Alexander and Emerick PC in Salem, Ore., majored in economics as an undergraduate at Willamette and, following law school, went on to earn his L.L.M. in taxation from New York University. He practices business and corporate law and has served as faculty at Willamette College of Law. He was recently interviewed by David Kenagy, associate dean of the College of Law and executive director of the Oregon Law Commission. Excerpts of the interview are printed below.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE SALEM FOR YOUR PRACTICE?

“As I started interviewing for jobs while I was back at NYU getting my tax degree, I decided that I liked the lifestyle in the Pacific Northwest. … Ultimately I decided to take an offer from Dan Ritter JD’65 to return to Salem and join him, along with Roy Harland JD’32 and Bob Saalfeld JD’74. When I returned to Salem, I knew that I would start making less than I could with offers I had from larger firms in Portland or Seattle, but for me it was, and continues to be, more important who I practice with rather than where I practice. When we returned to Salem, I knew that I would have the chance to practice with people who I admired and from whom I could learn a great deal. Salem has been a very good community for my family and our firm. You can make a difference civically and professionally in a community of this size.”

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT OUR LOCAL LEGAL COMMUNITY?

“When I moved back to Salem, it had a fairly small legal community. I enjoyed the ability to become acquainted with many of my fellow practitioners and many of the judges. It was easy to learn which of your fellow attorneys would do exactly what they promised, and which attorneys would not. It was a tremendous benefit for me to have instant credibility, not because of anything that I had done, but because of the fine reputation of those I joined. These early experiences very quickly demonstrated how important our integrity as professionals is to our success as counselors and advocates for our clients.”

WHAT SORT OF COMMUNITY OR VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN MEANINGFUL TO YOU AND WHY?

“The most meaningful aspect of my volunteer work (nonbar related) has been my work with the Boys and Girls Club. When you spend time with many of our Club members, it is easy to be inspired by what they have overcome. It is also abundantly clear that the services we provide make a genuine difference in their quality of life.”

DID YOU HAVE AN EARLY PRACTICE “MENTOR”?

“I would have to say that Roy Harland JD’32 is the person who I would call a mentor, although we certainly didn’t call him that. He was more like a gentle, wise father who would provide a knowing nudge in the right direction whenever I would ask. He was a Willamette law graduate and ultimately served on the board of trustees at Willamette. I have always taken pleasure in the fact that he signed my law school diploma. I would also like to credit another WUCL graduate, Dan Ritter JD’65, for his encouraging innovation in helping clients to accomplish their goals.”

WHAT MADE YOUR WILLAMETTE EXPERIENCE SPECIAL?

“The friendly atmosphere that I found as a first year student. The professors, with few exceptions, made it very easy to talk with them. They were encouraging and helpful, without getting lost in philosophical
debates that mattered so little in view of how much we needed to learn.”

**DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE LAW SCHOOL MEMORY?**

“Property class with John Paulus or tax classes with Jack Mylan. Professor Mylan had a wonderful way of weaving humor into the complexity of tax lectures. Sometimes, I felt that there were really two conversations going on at once. One conversation was designed to teach and the other was designed to entertain and keep us coming back.”

**WHAT IS YOUR PHILOSOPHY ABOUT THE PRACTICE OF LAW?**

“My basic philosophy is embodied in our firm’s mission statement, ‘Innovative and practical solutions to clients’ needs.’ I work hard to maintain the level of excellence in client service that has been set by my partners through the years. While we always work very hard for the success of our clients, we strive to be objective and not to create unrealistic expectations.

Learning to listen before making recommendations for action is very important. I believe that we, as professionals, owe a duty of trust and service to not only our clients, but also to our community and to our fellow professionals. I enjoy being a team player. As business lawyers, it is important for us to be willing to concede that many times both our client and his or her other advisors, e.g., CPA, financial advisor, etc., know more about our client’s business and total picture than we do. We need to accept the fact that both we and our clients will make mistakes, regardless of our best intentions and plans. When that happens, we need to be a constructive force in moving forward in a positive manner to achieve the best results from the facts with which we are dealing. …

“It has always been my good fortune to work with partners who are willing to lead by example from the front of the pack, partners whose integrity, commitment to excellence, and willingness to try new approaches to provide better client service have made my practice an enjoyable lifetime pursuit. I still look forward to coming to work in the mornings.”

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**JUSTICE WALLACE P. CARSON JR. JD’62 HONORED**

The Classroom Law Project (CLP) named Hon. Wallace P. Carson Jr. JD ’62 as its 2003 Jonathan U. Newman Legal Citizen of the Year. Carson, chief justice of the Oregon Supreme Court since 1991, was honored for “his achievements and leadership in encouraging and instilling respect for civic participation.” He is widely respected for his efforts to eliminate racial, ethnic, age and economic discrimination from the state judicial system.

Carson joined the Court in 1982 after serving as Marion County Circuit Court Judge for five years. Before becoming a judge, he was in private practice. Carson also served as a leader in both the State Senate and House of Representatives. Carson, who has been a Trustee of Willamette University since 1970, completed his undergraduate degree at Stanford University. He is a Salem native.

Classroom Law Project is a non-profit organization of educators, lawyers and civic leaders. A Portland-based non-profit organization, CLP provides creative and innovative links between the legal community and educators.
1950s

**Ross B. Fortner JD’58** is working for Cascadia Behavioral Health Care in Portland, Ore., as an on-call qualified mental health associate. His work involves supervising and serving as a peer counselor to recovering mentally ill clients striving to re-connect and re-integrate into roles and responsibilities in regular society.

1970s

The Legal Foundation of Washington named **Russell J. Speidel JD’74** and the Chelan-Douglas County Bar Association as joint recipients of the 2003 Goldmark Distinguished Service Award for their “crucial and time-consuming role in reshaping the volunteer attorney program in Chelan and Douglas counties into a vital and important service.” Charles A. Goldmark was a prominent Seattle attorney whose work led to the creation of the interest on lawyer’s trust account (IOLTA) program. The award honors efforts to ensure equal access to justice, particularly those that have a recognizable, positive impact on low-income residents of Washington State. Speidel, in private practice in Wenatchee, Wash., is the immediate past president of the Chelan-Douglas County Bar Association and the current president of the Chelan-Douglas County Volunteer Attorney Services program. Speidel holds an LL.M. in Taxation from Boston University and an A.B. from Stanford University.

1980s

**Cindy J. Winters JD’83** is a bureau chief in the juvenile division of the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office in Phoenix, Ariz.

**Julie R. Vacura JD’84** has been elected as the Multnomah Bar Association secretary for the 2002-2003 year. She is a partner with the law firm Larkins Vacura in Portland, Ore. In practice since 1986, she started her own firm in 1994, which focuses on litigation in business, banking and real estate. Vacura previously chaired the Multnomah Bar Association Professionalism Committee, served on the Oregon State Bar Region 5 Disciplinary Board for nine years, chairing it in 2000, and served on and chaired the Board of Bar Examiners which writes, gives and grades the Oregon State Bar exam. Additionally, she is an officer of the Oregon State Bar Business Litigation Section. She has volunteered for five years as a basketball coach with the Catholic Youth Organization for girls at elementary and middle school age.

**Jill M. Johanson JD’85** of Longview, Wash., was elected Cowlitz County Superior Court Judge in September 2002.

**Lisa A. Murkowski JD’85** of Anchorage, Alaska, has been appointed to the U.S. Senate, holding the seat formerly held by her father, Frank Murkowski, who has become Governor of Alaska. She is a member of the Alaska Bar Association, served as an Anchorage District Court attorney and was in private practice with a commercial law firm for eight years before establishing a solo civil practice. She was elected to the Alaska State Legislature in 1998 and most recently served as the house majority leader.

**Robert K. Henderson JD’88** of Klamath Falls, Ore., has been on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001, as a lieutenant colonel assigned to McChord Air Force Base in Washington. He is attached to the Western Air Defense Sector as a mission crew commander. The Western Air Defense Sector is responsible for “guarding the skies” of 63 percent of the United States. He is also teaching Business Law and Political Science at a local community college where he is putting to “good use” the great wealth of contract knowledge he received from Professor Carlton Snow. Later this year he will be attending the Air War College at
Robert E. Bluth JD’90 has been promoted to senior vice president/general counsel for Bear Creek Corporation in Medford, Ore. He is responsible for providing legal counsel on corporate issues and legal services in support of the corporation’s business initiatives. Bluth joined the corporation in April 2000 as vice president/assistant general counsel. Prior to that he practiced private law in Medford, Ore., for 10 years.

Joseph L. Rockne JD’91 is now with The Lawless Partnership firm in Seattle, Wash., where his practice focuses on real estate and commercial transactions and litigation. He was recently named a Rising Star of Washington Law by Washington Law and Politics magazine.


Timothy M. Parks CLA’89, JD’93 is a partner with the Portland, Ore., firm of Ball Janik LLP. He and his wife, Kristin (Wingo) Parks CLA’89, live in Beaverton, Ore., with their children Ryan, 9, and Adrienne, 5.

J. Christopher Naftzger JD’94 was promoted to partner at Dye Ellis & Joseph in Washington, D.C., where he practices corporate, transactional and maritime law.

Randall P. Ruaro JD’94 of Juneau, Alaska, has been promoted to the State of Alaska House Finance Committee as of December 2002. He will be handling all legislation referred to the House Finance Committee.

Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama to obtain a master’s degree. He has also been actively involved in training, campaigning and breeding labrador retrievers for field trials and hunt tests. This year he was the co-chairman of the special committee for the National Amateur Retriever Club Championship held in Klamath Falls, Ore., and the auction chairman for the Master National Retriever Club Hunt Test in Bend, Ore. He has two sons and two daughters.

Lori E. (Pleshko) Deveny JD’89 has been elected a director for the Multnomah Bar Association. She is a sole practitioner in Portland, Ore., with expertise in civil litigation, personal injury, including workers’ compensation, motor vehicle accidents and medical malpractice. She started her own practice in 1997. Deveny served as president of the Oregon Women Lawyers and Portland chapter Queen’s Bench, has chaired the Oregon Trial Lawyers Association Women’s Caucus and Education Committee, Multnomah Bar Association’s Professionalism and Multnomah Bar Association’s Young Lawyer Section Community Law Week committees.

LAW ALUMNI RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to the following alumni who have been recognized for their many talents.

Seattle Magazine in their January/February 2003 issue listed the city’s top lawyers. Among those listed are the following alums from Willamette University’s College of Law:

Charles S. Burdell Jr. JD’70 – alternative dispute resolution
Sheena R. Aebig JD’76 – bankruptcy law
Jeffrey R. Johnson JD’80 – personal injury
Bruce A. Kaser JD’83 – intellectual property

The Marion County Bar Association at its 2002 annual awards and pro bono awards dinner recognized the following Willamette University College of Law alumni/faculty:

ANNUAL AWARDS
The Carson Award for Service to Bar
The Carson Award for Service to Community

PRO BONO AWARDS
Law Firm of the Year
Emeritus Lawyer of the Year
Lawyers of the Year

Michael C. McClinton JD’72
Chris J. Sielicky JD’90

Paul Saucy, P.C. JD’79
Jean W. Christensen JD’63
Dirk L. Pierson JD’93
Jennifer L. Wright, assistant professor of law and director, Clinical Law Program
Karen E. Webb JD'96 of Bellingham, Wash., is a partner in the firm Maxwell & Webb. Workers’ Compensation litigation is the primary focus.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury appointed Gregory P.J. Zerzan CLA’93, JD’96 deputy assistant secretary for Financial Institutions Policy, responsible for legislative and policy matters related to the financial services sector. Zerzan manages treasury policy regarding Government Sponsored Enterprises and the agencies that regulate and insure these entities. He also oversees the treasury’s Terrorism Risk Insurance Program. Zerzan was most recently the senior counsel for legislation for the House Financial Services Committee. He also worked previously on the House Banking Committee and served as Counsel and chief counsel for the House Agricultural Committee. Zerzan began his legal career as an associate at Kell, Alterman & Runsetin, LLP in Portland, Ore.

Michael A. Kristof JD’97 and Michelle M. Hull CLA’94, JD’98 have relocated to Las Vegas, Nev. Michael is an associate with Schreck Brignone practicing ERISA litigation and Michelle is a judicial clerk for the Las Vegas Justice Court.

Dina M. (Flores) Brewer JD’99 is a staff attorney for Co-Ad, Inc., in Boise, Idaho. This is a non-profit advocacy group for people with disabilities.

Micheline N. (Nadeau) Fairbank JD’99 of Reno, Nev., has accepted an associate attorney position with the Theirman law firm.

Bryan T. Pocock MM/JD’99 and his family have moved back to Highland, Utah, after working for two years in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in the telecom industry. He is now developing plans to establish a U.S. market for Mission Critical Gear, a line of high-end backpacks manufactured by a Brazilian Company.

Jeremy Beal MBA/JD’01, C’01 is a senior associate in the managed futures department of Morgan Stanley in New York, N.Y.

Gena A. Stone JD’02 has joined the law firm of Miller Nash LLP as an associate attorney. Her practice focuses on employee-benefits matters.

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2000s

Shannon M. Donivan MBA/JD’00 is the paralegal program director for Pioneer Pacific College in Wilsonville, Ore.

Patrick S. Egan JD’00, C’00 who served as Governor Kitzhaber’s economic and transportation policy director and legislative affairs director has been appointed Governor Kulongoski’s legislative director. Egan will serve as the primary legislative liaison for the governor and will also be involved in some policy initiatives including transportation and economic development.

Matthew W. Grimshaw JD’00 has joined the law firm of Rutan & Tucker LLP in Costa Mesa, Calif. After graduating, he clerked for two years, most recently for the Honorable John E. Ryan, chief judge of the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel, then entered private practice. Matt and his wife, Aleta, and two sons, live in Vista, Calif.

Adrian J. Malatesta MBA/JD’00 has joined Hollywood Entertainment in Wilsonville, Ore., as the employee relations manager.

Colin S. Ray MBA/JD’00, C’00 signed a two-year contract to continue his work in securitization with the law firm Atsumi & Usui in Tokyo, Japan.

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MARRIAGES

Lisette F. Carter JD’93, C’93 married Timothy M. Durkin on Oct. 26, 2002, in Great Falls, Mont. Lisette is a partner with Evans, Craven & Lackie, P.S., in Spokane, Wash., and Timothy is a senior deputy prosecuting attorney in Spokane County’s torts and civil rights civil division.

FAMILY ADDITIONS

To Joseph L. Rockne JD’91 and wife Kathy Smith of Seattle, Wash., an adopted daughter from Hefei, China, Zhu Yi Ze Smith-Rockne. She joins big sister Katelin Hu Zichang.


To J. Christopher Naftzger JD’94 and wife Emily of Alexandria, Va., a daughter, Dorothy “Dory” Scott, born Feb. 13, 2002.


To Steven L. Williams JD’96 and wife Sara of Portland, Ore., a son, Zachary Justin, born Dec. 16, 2002. He joins big brother Matthew.


OBITUARIES

Hal A. Bolinger JD’34 died June 18, 2000, in Belgrade, Mont., at age 90. He is survived by his son.

Hal R. Gross JD’39 died Oct. 13, 2002, in Wilsonville, Ore., at age 88. He is survived by his wife, Evelyn, one daughter, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Louis M. Giovanini JD’53 died Feb. 5, 2002, in Vancouver, Wash., at age 78. He is survived by two sons and three daughters.

David G. Frost CLA’57, JD’60 died Oct. 29, 2002, in Hillsboro, Ore., at age 67. He is survived by his wife, Barbara (Mitchell) Frost CLA’58, two sons, including Griffith D. Frost CLA’79 and his wife, Noriko (Nomura) Frost CLA’80, daughters Kristin B. (Frost) Albrecht CLA’79 and Katherine (Frost) Kamakahi CLA’84 and her husband Jeffrey J. Kamakahi CLA’81, two brothers, including Allan R. Frost CLA’64, a sister and 12 grandchildren.


Harry C. Coolidge CLA’62, JD’65 died Sept. 27, 2002, in Santa Cruz, Calif., at age 62. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, and three sons.

David G. Cromwell JD’65 died Oct. 11, 2002, in Salem, at age 74. He is survived by his daughter.

Gary F. Marks JD’65 died Aug. 30, 2002, in Joseph, Ore., at age 63. He is survived by his wife, Linda Farris.

Ronald D. Gregory JD’66 died July 19, 2002, in Seattle, Wash., at age 60. He is survived by his wife, Christine, and two daughters.


Rebecca J. Bloom JD’77 died Jan. 21, 2003, in Weston, Ore., at age 51. She is survived by her husband, Stephen M. Bloom JD’77, two sons and a daughter.

Ann Farmer Kelley JD’82 died Sept. 13, 2002, in Rickreall, Ore., at age 58. She is survived by her life partner, Ron McBurnett, one son, one step-son, two brothers and a grandson.

John E. “Rick” Wilkes JD’91, C’91 died Aug. 26, 2002, in Salem, at age 57. He is survived by his wife, Mariela, two sons, two granddaughters and a sister.

The publication reserves the right to edit or omit any information submitted. It is the practice of Willamette to print pregnancy or engagement announcements, nor candidacies for political offices due to the lag time between receiving such information and the publication dates. Willamette reserves the right to edit or omit any information submitted.

GUIDELINES

If you have information you would like to submit for Class Action, please send it to:

Willamette University College of Law
Office of Alumni Relations
245 Winter Street SE, Salem, OR 97301
or email wu-lawyer@willamette.edu

Please print or type all submissions in the interest of accuracy. If something has been written about you in a newspaper or other publication and you would like it to be included in the Lawyer Class Action as well, please submit a copy with a note giving your permission.

It is the practice of Class Action not to print pregnancy or engagement announcements, nor candidacies for political offices due to the lag time between receiving such information and the publication dates. The Lawyer reserves the right to edit or omit any information submitted.

We welcome photographs for possible use, depending on space and photograph quality. Black and white photos are preferred. Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you would like your photo returned.

It is the practice of the Lawyer to list a surviving spouse in all obituaries when the name is available. Other survivors who are alumni or otherwise connected with Willamette will also be listed when we receive that information.

KEY

JD = Doctor of Jurisprudence or LLB
MBA = Master of Business Administration
MM = Master of Management
MBA/JD or MM/JD = Joint Degree, law and management
H = Honorary Degree
C = Certificate in Dispute Resolution
CLA = College of Liberal Arts
The American Bar Association Standards for Approval of Law Schools require that we maintain a law library “that is an active and responsive force in the educational life of the law school.” This directive, coupled with the diverse research needs of our students and faculty, is the primary reason that we have been diligent in providing not only books, but a wireless library environment; a shared online catalog with the State of Oregon Law Library, the Oregon State Library and the Mark O. Hatfield Library; access to a significant number of electronic databases; and a sophisticated library homepage with custom designed research and practice aids as well as links to sources of law throughout the world.

It is our belief that we also should be an active and responsive force in the professional transformation of our law students to licensed attorneys. To this end we ask for your help.

Experience indicates that in order to communicate the ideals, comradery and ethical expectations of the legal profession to our students, the library must present itself as more than a space stocked with books, computers and study carrels. We must project an aura of professionalism built upon visible connections, past and present, to the Bench and Bar.

And who better to help us convey a sense of professional noblesse oblige than our alumni?

In an effort to raise the visibility of the practicing bar and add a personal touch to our library, we have invited our alumni and friends, as well as organizations within the profession, to donate $200 each for the purchase of a chair with their name embossed on an attached brass nameplate.

Chairs donated by individuals have been placed at carrels and chairs donated by organizations have been placed at study tables, which are identified with distinctive red and brass plaque centerpieces to designate a particular aspect of the legal profession.

We currently have study tables designated for the Oregon Bench and Bar, Corporate Law Practice, Dispute Resolution, Federal Courts, Inns of Court and Specialized Practice. Contributors include the Oregon State Bar, the United States District Court for the District of Oregon, the Honourable Society of Lincoln’s Inn (London), the Judge and Magistrates of the Oregon Tax Court, the Oregon Association of Defense Counsel, the Marion County Bar Association, the Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, the Boise Cascade, Nike and Weyerhaeuser Legal Departments and over fifty attorneys, faculty and friends.

This is your opportunity to lend your name to a law school library unlike any other - one that is technologically advanced, operates on an honor system, is available to students 24/7 and actively promotes professional esprit de corps.

For more information on how you and your organization can join your colleagues and contribute your professional presence to this library, visit our website at www.willamette.edu/law/longlib and click on “Chairs” in the left margin.
Today, Justice graces the lobby of the Truman Wesley Collins Legal Center. A gift of the Marion County Commissioners, she stood atop the Marion County Courthouse between 1906 and 1957.