

The magazine of the first law school in the Pacific Northwest | FALL 2010

# WILLAMETTE LAWYER



Faculty in Transition

# Willamette Lawyer

FALL 2010



## 16 Transitions

Six professors leave their marks on Willamette



## 12 Profiles in Leadership

The College of Law celebrates its outstanding students



## 14 Profiles in Leadership

The College of Law celebrates its outstanding alumni

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## Editor's Note



Autumn is upon us. The air feels crisper, the maples are beginning to turn, students are learning to think like lawyers and faculty members are busy juggling research, writing and teaching.

It's a time of transition, especially for the six professors who are retiring, moving to part-time status or dividing their days between teaching and legal work. In this issue we acknowledge the tremendous contributions they've made to the College of Law. Their scholarship and teaching acumen have helped bolster the school's reputation as one of the best small law schools on the West Coast.

Speaking of transitions...with this issue, *Willamette Lawyer* has a new editor. I joined the College of Law in August after 22 years as a newspaper and magazine reporter. I'm delighted to be here and feel lucky to be able to indulge my interest in the law every day.

Please send me story ideas, comments about the *Lawyer* or thoughts on how to spread the word about the great work that goes on at the College of Law. I can be reached at 503-370-6760 or [llednice@willamette.edu](mailto:llednice@willamette.edu). I relish the conversation.

*Lisa Grace Lednicer*

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College of Law

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## Dear Alumni and Friends,



Dean Symeon C. Symeonides

The individuals who grace the cover of this magazine represent 162 years of teaching and service to Willamette University College of Law. This issue of the *Lawyer* is dedicated with admiration and affection to five Willamette law professors who have spent most of their professional lives teaching the students at the College of Law: Professors Dean Richardson (36 years); Ross Runkel (35 years); Kathy Graham (33 years); Leroy Tornquist (32 years); and Richard Hagedorn (26 years).

Professors Richardson, Graham and Hagedorn have decided to transition to half-time status, effective August 2010. Professor Tornquist will do likewise effective August 2011. Professor Graham, who also has served as associate dean for 23 years, has relinquished that position and is succeeded by Professor Peter Letsou. Professor Runkel retired in 1999 after 30 years of teaching, but in 2005 he returned as a visiting professor and has taught in that capacity for the last five years. In addition, Professor Sam Jacobson has decided to retire after completing 20 years of service in our academic support and legal research and writing program.

The long-serving and the recently-arrived professors provide an optimal combination of experience and new ideas, which produce the outstanding lawyers for which Willamette is known.

These professors represent the best of the Willamette tradition of excellent teaching and mentoring. This tradition will continue because, as the readers of the *Lawyer* know, the faculty talent pool is regularly replenished with new talent and energy. The long-serving and the recently-arrived professors provide an optimal combination of experience and new ideas, which produce the outstanding lawyers for which Willamette is known.

It is this tradition of excellence that attracts to Willamette a stronger group of aspiring lawyers year after year. The Class of 2013 is no exception. It is stronger than the

previous class, which in turn was stronger than the one before it. This continuing improvement, coupled with rigorous training in each classroom every day, is the best assurance that our graduates will continue the outstanding record of success on the Oregon and Washington bar examinations — as well as in their subsequent careers.

But while rigorous training remains characteristic of the Willamette classroom experience, we constantly strive to improve the students' experience outside the classroom. The latest effort is the extensive renovation and reconfiguration of the student lounge and other student organization spaces in the south end of the law school building, which was completed in the summer of 2010.

The new configuration includes a snack bar for limited food and beverage service, a fireplace, plenty of open space and comfortable seating. The snack bar is named "Rick's Café" in honor of the benefactor whose generous gift funded a large percentage of this project — Rick Wollenberg, a 1978 graduate of the College of Law. He and the Wollenberg Foundation previously gave us a major gift for the renovation of the Carnegie Building. We undertook this project in order to provide a pleasant space for our students, to create more opportunities for student-faculty interaction, and to help foster a sense of community.

Please accept my warmest wishes as we begin the 127th year at Willamette University College of Law.

Symeon C. Symeonides  
Dean and Alex L. Parks Distinguished Professor of Law



## Willamette Jumps to Second Place Among “Best Value” Private Law Schools in the Country



**the National Jurist**

For the second year in a row, Willamette University College of Law was ranked among the nation’s “Best Value Law Schools” by *PreLaw* magazine. This time, the College of Law jumped to second place among the nation’s 107 private law schools.

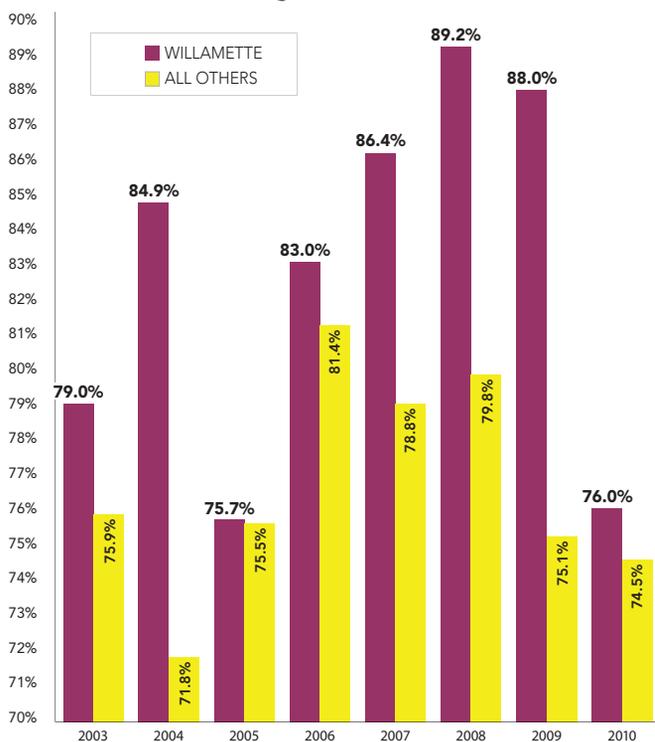
Of the 199 public and private law schools accredited by the ABA, only 59 qualified for this ranking and most of them are public law schools. Of those 59, only one private law school (Brigham Young) ranked ahead of Willamette. Two other private schools received the same grade. All other private law schools in the Pacific Northwest ranked below Willamette.

To qualify for ranking, law schools must have a bar passage rate higher than the state average; average student indebtedness of less than \$100,000; and an employment rate of 85 percent or higher for students nine months after they graduate. Willamette’s bar passage exceeded the state average by a margin that places Willamette within the top 20 law schools on the “Best Value” list. Among the Pacific Northwest law schools, only the University of Washington ranks as well as Willamette.

“This ranking simply confirms what we have always known,” said Dean Symeon Symeonides, “namely, that Willamette provides a first-rate legal education without charging an exorbitant price, and that a law school’s value does not depend on pre-admission credentials but rather on the post-admission work of students and faculty. I am proud of both.”

To read the story about the “Best Value Law Schools” list, visit [www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/cypress/prelaw\\_2010fall/#/22](http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/cypress/prelaw_2010fall/#/22).

**Oregon Bar Exams**



### Bar Passage Continues High

For the eighth consecutive year, Willamette’s bar passage rate was higher than the state average. Willamette graduates who took the Oregon bar exam for the first time in July 2010 passed at a rate of 76 percent. The average for all other first-time takers was 74.5 percent. Although this is the smallest difference in the last five years, it is in keeping with the Willamette tradition of solid performance on the bar exam and beyond.

# What's New @ THE COLLEGE OF LAW

## Former Willamette Employee Establishes New Law Scholarship



Clyde B. Spence, a Korean War veteran who worked at Willamette University for 15 years, recently established a \$100,000 scholarship fund to support the College of Law. The Clyde B. and Constance B. Spence College of Law Veterans Scholarship Fund will provide financial support to first-year law students who are veterans of the U.S. military. Spence also established a separate \$50,000 scholarship for the College of Liberal Arts.

From 1979 to 1994, while working in Willamette's Physical Plant, Spence performed a range of maintenance activities across the university campus, including many projects at the College of Law, where he developed numerous longstanding friendships. His wife, Constance, worked as an assistant to former Willamette University president Jerry E. Hudson and others during the same time period. Constance passed away last year, and Spence sought to honor the couple's love for the school by establishing the new scholarship funds.

"Clyde's dedication to and love for Willamette is touching, as well as inspiring," said College of Law Dean Symeon C. Symeonides. "This most generous gift certainly will make a major difference to future generations of Willamette law students who proudly served in the armed forces."

The first Clyde B. and Constance B. Spence College of Law Veterans scholarships were awarded to James Tierney and Irving Ochoa.



## Honor Roll of Donors

By the time you receive this copy of the magazine, you may have received the law school's Honor Roll of Donors for the 2009-10 fiscal year which ended May 31, 2010. This list highlights by class years all alumni who made a charitable gift of any size or kind to the College of Law last year. These donors and their gifts help make the College of Law a better place.

While we are pleased to call attention to and thank those classmates who provided valuable financial support during the past fiscal year, we need to expand the Honor Roll and add more classmates to the listing. The easiest way to put your name on the Honor Roll for the current 2010-11 fiscal year is to go to the College of Law website ([willamette.edu/wucl](http://willamette.edu/wucl))

and click on the "Donate Now" button. You also can send us a check (c/o Mike Bennett, WU College of Law, 245 Winter St., Salem, OR 97301), or call 503-370-6761.

The College of Law also needs help with summer jobs/externships. Students finishing their first and second years of law school benefit both professionally and financially from opportunities to work in law offices. The practical experience is invaluable to students who have not yet embarked on their legal careers and helps strengthen their skills and focus. Alumni who may be interested in hiring a current 1L or 2L for work in their law office next summer can call the WUCL Career Services office at 503-370-6057.

## WUCL Graduates Class of 2010

On Sunday, May 16, proud parents, families and friends gathered on the Willamette University campus to celebrate the College of Law's 124th Commencement and Hooding Ceremony, honoring the Class of 2010. University President M. Lee Pelton led the conferring of degrees, while Dean Symeon C. Symeonides presented 135 Doctor of Jurisprudence degrees and three Master of Laws degrees.

Graduates were introduced by Professor Keith C. Cunningham-Parmeter and Professor Jeffrey C. Dobbins and were hooded by Professor Leroy J. Tornquist and Professor Michael B. Wise, all of whom were selected by the graduates to participate in the ceremony.

The Class of 2010 was led by Christopher Michael Parker (right), who graduated summa cum laude. Russell Lee Getchell, Spencer Neal Gheen, Daniel Adam Kittle, Amanda Lynn Krismer, Jacey L. Liu, Faith Marie Morse, Nathan G. Orf, Michael V. Owens Jr. and Daniel Brian Peters graduated magna cum laude. Ross Edward Armstrong, Jennifer Donn Betts, Daniel Boyer, Ryan Colvin Connell, Marshall Dunst, Anthony James Halderman, Jennifer L. Hunking, Rebecca Lynn Madden, Jennifer Anne Milliron and Rachel C. O'Connor graduated cum laude.

College of Law alumnus Melvin Henderson-Rubio JD'74 introduced the commencement speaker, Judge Richard A. Paez. A circuit judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals, Paez is a member of the Court's Executive Committee and former chair of the Ninth Circuit's Court-Council Committee on Bankruptcy Appointments.

# 124th



# Welcome to Rick's

## Lounge remodel encourages closer relationships between faculty and students

A remodeled student lounge greeted returning and incoming students this fall. What used to look like a crowded warehouse in the south entrance of the law school building is now a spacious and well-lit area with a snack bar, a fireplace, and plenty of comfortable seating for students.

This extensive remodeling was made possible by a generous donation from Rick Wollenberg JD'78 and the Wollenberg Foundation. This project was designed by SRG Architects of Portland, which also designed the 1992 expansion of the building. Construction workers knocked out a wall on the east end of the lounge, which housed student organizations such as Moot Court and the Student Bar Association. Those groups now

are located off the lobby area. *Willamette Law Review* now is located in the Carnegie Building.

Undergraduate students from The Bistro, located in the University Center, operate Rick's Café in the law school. It's open from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and serves sandwiches, pastries, snacks, salads, coffee and tea. The idea, said Michael Bennett, director of Development and Alumni Relations, is to encourage closer interaction between students and their professors.



during



after

## 1LS AT A GLANCE

## Welcome Class of 2013

“Resolve to be honest at all events; and if you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer.”

With these words of Abraham Lincoln, Dean Symeon C. Symeonides welcomed the Class of 2013 to campus for a three-day orientation. Students attended a law library presentation as well as workshops on professionalism and legal writing and research.

The incoming class of 161 students ranges in age from 20 to 47, with an average age of 26. Forty-four percent are women and 19 percent are students of color. Students majored in 40 subjects during their undergraduate years and have traveled, lived, worked and studied in 48 countries. The 1Ls speak a total of 14 languages.

Symeonides described the incoming students as one of the strongest-ever classes, with a two-point gain in the LSAT scores and an increase in the percentage of students of color.

In remarks during new student orientation, the Hon. Edwin J. Peterson, jurist in residence, said if the future follows the present, more students from Willamette will be admitted to the bar than any other Oregon law school.

He described law school as “exhilarating, stressful, challenging, depressing, uplifting, frustrating, difficult and memorable” and urged students to be sensitive to classmates with diverse backgrounds.



Incoming students chat with professors and explore campus during new student orientation, Aug. 18–20.

161 students

average age 26

44% women

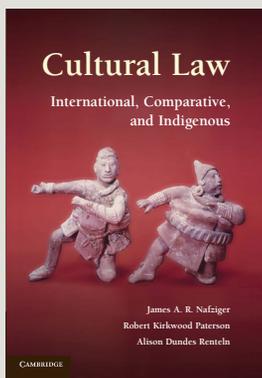
19% students of color

majored in 40 undergrad subjects

traveled, lived, worked  
and studied in 48 countries

speak 14 languages

## Nafziger Publishes Third Book on Cultural Law



College of Law Professor Jim Nafziger has published his third book on cultural law. *Cultural Law: International, Comparative and Indigenous* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), is a collection of commentary on cultural law around the world. Recurring themes include cultural activities, artifacts and status, as well as the fundamental concepts of culture and law.

Nafziger co-wrote the book with Robert Kirkwood Paterson, a law professor at the University of British Columbia, and Alison Dundes Renteln, a professor of political science and anthropology at the University of Southern California. He said the group needed 138 copyright clearances and that they've been working on the project "forever."

"Cultural law is something I've wanted to do for a long time to bring together topics of interest to me that are very underrepresented in the law

school curriculum," he said. "This is an idea I've had, to bring together my disparate interests in law and how law influences culture."

Cultural law says that cultural values and practices are a human right, similar to political, economic and civil rights. One example would be the right of indigenous people to protect their discoveries in the event that, say, a pharmaceutical company wishes to market a medicine based on the discovery of a traditional herb's healing value.

The book's chapters cover case law and scholarly articles and include excerpts from the writings of John Steinbeck and John Updike.

Nafziger said he hopes the book will be used as a casebook for cultural law courses.

## Collin's Moral Obligation



An essay written by Professor Robin Morris Collin, director of the Certificate Program in Sustainability Law, appears in *Moral Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril* (Trinity University Press, 2010). The book, which includes essays by President Obama, Ursula K. LeGuin and the Dalai Lama, poses the question, "Do we have a moral obligation to take action to protect the future of a planet in peril?"

Yes, say the 88 essays — for the survival of humankind, for the sake of the children, for the sake of the Earth, for the sake of all forms of life on the planet.

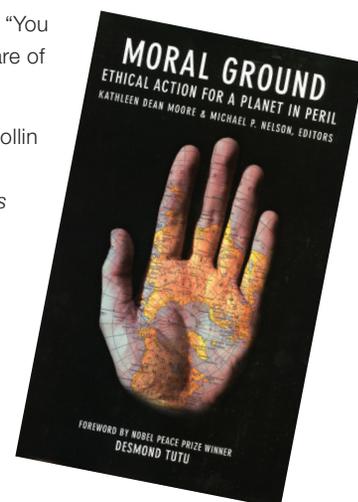
Morris Collin's essay is "Restoration and Redemption." She writes it in the form of a letter to "my kith and kin, my tribe and clan; to the living beings with whom we share this planet, and its living systems with whom we are joined." She mourns the pollution and waste humans have inflicted on the environment and says the only way forward is to make amends.

"My hope is that people will take the time in their days to feel the dirt beneath their feet," Morris Collin said. "You can go for a walk, get a plant, it doesn't have to be a heroic gesture. All we have to do is find a little square of earth and observe it."

The book's editor, Oregon State University philosophy professor Kathleen Dean Moore, asked Morris Collin to write the essay. They've known each other for years. Morris Collin, who co-wrote the three-volume *Encyclopedia of Sustainability: Environment and Ecology, Business and Economics, Equity and Fairness* (2009), had a 30-day deadline.

Morris Collin was reading a book of essays at the time and wanted to deliver a piece with an intimate, non-preachy tone. But her first draft was so sad that she tore it up and started over. This time, she laid out an argument for why humanity should redeem itself after abusing the planet. She aimed the essay at her young nephew and nieces.

"Look at what we are handing them; it's so much worse than what we were handed," she said. "In the debate about sustainability and environmentalism, people talk about science and the economy but the moral and ethical ground is not often addressed. We have spent all of our money and resources on war and we need to restore the environment."



## Law Student Wins Chicago Triathlon

Third-year law student Mark A. Fretta cemented his reputation as one of the best triathletes in the world by winning the Chicago Triathlon in August. The race is one of the biggest triathlons in North America and puts Fretta on track to qualifying for the 2012 Olympics in London.

“I knew if I could keep up a decent pace, I could win the race,” he said. “A good portion of the race is mental. If I wasn’t winning, I don’t think I could have finished it.”

The race day was one of the hottest on record, with temperatures climbing into the high 90s. About 20 people were taken to local hospitals. Fretta, 33, finished the 1,500 m swim, 25 mile bike ride and 6.5 mile run in just under two hours.

Every triathlon is different; Fretta noted that his time for the same event in 2009 was 10 minutes faster but he ended up in fifth place. That may have been because the temperature was 15 degrees cooler, he said. He tends to do well in searing heat.

The win was especially sweet because in 2006, while cycling, Fretta suffered a devastating collarbone injury that almost ended his career. He enrolled in law school and recovered through intensive rehabilitation.

Now he starts training in earnest for the Olympics while finishing up his final year at Willamette. With 10 credits left, he estimates he’ll be done in December. The last few years have been a blur — he spends part of his time at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado, flies to cities around the world to compete, then returns to Willamette and the grind of eating, sleeping, studying and training.

By necessity, Fretta’s schedule is fluid. He may take the bar in February; it depends how his training is going. More likely is that he’ll put off his bar review courses and exam until he’s finished with the Olympics — assuming he lands a spot on the U.S. team. Eventually he hopes to be a sports agent.

Even if he doesn’t win a medal this time, he knows that the 2012 Olympics will be his last.

“I’ve been doing this for a long time,” he said. “I’ve achieved almost everything I’ve wanted and I don’t think anything will postpone me having a life.”

Follow Fretta on Twitter: [twitter.com/markfretta](https://twitter.com/markfretta)



Photo credit: Paul Phillips / Competitive Image

“I’ve achieved almost everything I’ve wanted and I don’t think anything will postpone me having a life.”



## Class of 1960 Reunion

The College of Law honored members of the 50-year reunion class this spring with a special Class of 1960 dinner and commemorative medal presentation at commencement. Representing their class in the commencement march were Theodore C. Carlstrom JD'60; Gary E. Lockwood BA'57, JD'60; and Lewis B. Hampton BA'55, JD'60.

**“The Class of 1960 is a wonderful example of the caliber of attorneys the College of Law produces.”**

“The Class of 1960 is a wonderful example of the caliber of attorneys the College of Law produces,” said College of Law Dean Symeon C. Symeonides, who presented a special 50-year commemorative medal to the class representatives. “We are proud of what these men and women have accomplished throughout their long and distinguished legal careers.”



Front row, left to right: Ronald B. Lansing JD'60; Rodney C. Adams LLB'60; and Dean Symeon C. Symeonides

Back row, left to right: M. Chapin Milbank LLB'60; Lewis B. Hampton BA'55, JD'60; Gary E. Lockwood BA'57, JD'60; and Theodore C. Carlstrom JD'60

The night before commencement, Carlstrom, Lockwood and Hampton were joined by several other members of the Class of 1960 and their spouses at a dinner celebrating their 50-year reunion. Held at Illahe Hills Country Club in Salem, the dinner provided a great opportunity for the classmates to reconnect with old friends.

The College of Law plans to include members of each 50-year reunion class in future commencement ceremonies and events. Next May, members of the Class of 1961 will be invited to return to their alma mater for a special reunion event.

“Carlstrom came up with the idea of including the 50-year reunion class in commencement as a way of connecting the classes through the years and celebrating the common ties between the most recent graduating class and those who made their way before them,” Symeonides said. “We thought it a fitting tribute to both our esteemed 50-year members and a nod to the bright future that lies ahead for our graduating students.”

*For more information on next year's 50-year reunion, please contact Cathy McCann Gaskin JD'02, associate director of alumni relations, at 503-370-6492 or [cmccann@willamette.edu](mailto:cmccann@willamette.edu).*

## Mentor Program Reception

The College of Law held a reception in early April to honor those dedicated attorneys and judges who volunteer their time as mentors to Willamette's law students. The popular Mentor Program is administered by the college's office of Career Services, which hosted the annual awards reception at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art on the Willamette campus.

College of Law alumni Shenoa Payne JD'08 and Kristen Williams JD'03 received the 2009–2010 Judge Edward H. Howell Mentor of the Year awards, named in honor of the late Judge Howell, an enthusiastic mentor to Willamette law students for many years. This is the first year both Shenoa and Kristen were part of the mentor program. It does not take longevity in the program to provide outstanding support to a law student.

Several other WUCL mentors were honored during this year's reception, receiving Outstanding Mentor of the Year award nominations. Those attorneys include:

- Hon. Claudia Burton, Marion County Circuit Court judge, nominated by Lena Forrester
- Tom Elden, Assistant Attorney General, Oregon Department of Justice Civil Enforcement/Financial Fraud, nominated by Megan Banks and Sarah Hagarty
- Michael Elliott JD'07, Crowell & Ing LLP, nominated by Anthony Geltosky
- Hon. Dennis Graves JD'73, Marion County Circuit Court judge, nominated by Russell Getchell
- Hon. Mary Mertens James, Marion County Circuit Court judge, nominated by Haley Bury
- D. Erik Larson JD'76, Oregon Employment Appeals Board, nominated by Martin Jones
- Steve McCarthy, Churchill Leonard, nominated by Kristy Huffman
- Kurt Miller JD'08, Marion County District Attorney's Office, Juvenile Division, nominated by Errol LaRue
- Lisa Norris-Lampe JD'95, Oregon Supreme Court, staff attorney, nominated by Ariel Vee
- Shenoa Payne JD'08, Oregon Supreme Court, judicial law clerk, nominated by Chelsie Adams, Kristen Bramble and Jessica Wilcox
- Liani Reeves JD'01, Assistant Attorney General, Oregon Department of Justice Trial Division, nominated by Emi Torres and Emma Lor
- Kim Sugawa-Fujinaga JD'05, Greene & Markley, P.C., nominated by Elliot M.S. Yi
- Douglas Tookey, Oregon Office of Legislative Counsel, nominated by Meghan Dutton



Left to right: Kristen Bramble (student), Shenoa Payne (Mentor of the Year), Jessica Wilcox, Chelsie Adams (students)



A "3 generation picture" of Ariel Vee, mentee of Lisa Norris-Lampe (staff attorney, Oregon Supreme Court) who was a mentee of Elizabeth Harchenko (director, Oregon Department of Revenue)



Stephanie Lind (student), Kristen Williams (Mentor of the Year), Erik Moeller (student)



Left to right: Doug Tookey, Erik Larson, Liani Reeves, Judge Claudia Burton, Michael Elliott, Judge Susan Tripp, Lisa Norris-Lampe, Kurt Miller, Steve McCarthy, Judge Mary Mertens James, Judge Dennis Graves, Tom Elden, Dean Symeon C. Symeonides

# Public Interest Powerhouse

As a kid growing up near a primarily African-American section of Atlanta, Aaron Jeffers experienced prejudice from an unexpected source — law enforcement. “I regularly played basketball in the city parks league and was the only white kid in the league,” said Jeffers, a member of the Class of 2011. “The local cops used to harass me for hanging out with my black friends. They assumed I was only in the neighborhood to buy drugs.”



The experience gave Jeffers special insight into race relations in America and solidified, at an early age, his interest in civil rights law. “My parents were politically progressive,” said Jeffers, who grew up discussing race relations and other social issues at the dinner table.

Jeffers studied history at Georgia State University and held a series of full-time sales jobs to pay his way through school. When he graduated

in 2004, the presidential election was in full swing. “I was keenly interested in politics, so I spent the summer working as hard as I could for the Democratic Party,” he said. “All my business and sales skills translated well to grassroots canvassing.”

After the election, Jeffers went to work for Telefund, a fundraising organization that supports progressive causes and candidates. As director of the organization’s Austin, Texas, office, Jeffers helped raise more than \$2.3 million for national and international nonprofit organizations. “It was a good stepping stone for working at larger nonprofits and political organizations,” Jeffers noted.

Indeed. Before long, he received a job offer from the iconic Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) in Montgomery, Ala. “I had wanted to work for the Southern Poverty Law Center since I was a kid,” Jeffers said of the organization, which is dedicated to fighting bigotry and seeking justice for the most vulnerable members of society. “When I was young, they successfully sued the Ku Klux Klan; I thought that was the coolest thing in the world.”

Jeffers served as outreach manager for the SPLC from spring 2006 to summer 2008, during which time he led more than 30 national outreach campaigns for the organization. “It never felt like just a job,” he said.

While working at the SPLC, Jeffers became interested in defense work and applied to several West Coast law schools. “I chose

Willamette University because it is right across the street from the Oregon Capitol and Supreme Court,” he said. “The degree of access it provides to every branch of government is unique.”

Jeffers enrolled at Willamette University College of Law in the fall of 2008 and immediately started working for Willamette University Public Interest Law Project (WUPIP), which helps support students interested in nonprofit legal law. Throughout his three years at Willamette, he has served as fundraising chair, auction co-chair and president, respectively. “Working in the public interest field has been the coming together of all my ideals — ethos in action,” he said.

Since coming to Willamette, Jeffers has become a courtroom junkie. “I love trial work,” said Jeffers, who made it to the finals in three student trial competitions. “It allows you to think about a problem, work out a plan of attack and use your communication skills to sell it. It is the perfect combination of my skill set. It also brings out the salesman in me.”

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“Working in the public interest field has been the coming together of all my ideals — ethos in action.”

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Jeffers’ interest in trial work and civil rights led to a summer clerkship with the Marion County Public Defender’s office after his first year of law school. An externship placement allowed him to continue his work there as a 2L. Last spring, he was hired full time, and he hopes to land a permanent position with the office after graduation. “I don’t want to go anywhere,” he said. “It is exactly the kind of work I came to law school to do — vindicate people and protect their rights.”

“It’s been an amazing experience,” he said of the opportunity to advocate for defendants. “Most of my clients are not bad people. A lot of factors go into it — mental health issues, poverty. Things outside a person’s choice play a large part in their circumstances.

“No matter who they are, they deserve to have their rights protected.”

— Anne Marie Becka

# Family Focused

“There’s something voyeuristic about family law,” said Katie L. Archer, a member of the Class of 2011. “As a lawyer, you’re entrusted with people’s personal information. If they trust you with that, then you need to use it to your advantage — to help them as best you can.”

Archer learned about the responsibilities that come with representing clients while working in the law school’s Family and Child Advocacy Clinic. “Understanding clients’ personal circumstances makes me work harder to find solutions for them,” she said.

Archer said she was drawn to family law by an interest in family dynamics. In addition to two biological siblings, she was raised alongside several foster siblings. “I’m the middle child, the peacekeeper,” she explained. “Over the years, I learned it is OK to have disputes as long as they’re productive.”

A native of Vancouver, Wash., Archer learned from her family the importance of hard work. “My family is working class, so I have a strong work ethic and great appreciation for things I’ve earned,” said Archer, who paid her way through junior college by working numerous odd jobs, including a yearlong stint as a nanny in Hawaii and France.

“The money and travel opportunities that came with the job were things



in the fall of 2008 and immediately became interested in family law practice. She enrolled in the Family and Child Advocacy Clinic both semesters of her second year. During that time,

she represented real clients in a range of family law cases, including a complicated modification of child support case. “It was highly complex due to the case history,” she explained. “It involved criminal and administrative law, jurisdiction issues and family law. It ran the gamut of all the courses I had taken so far.”

She credits Professor Warren H. Binford, director of the Clinical Law Program, with teaching her best practices of family law. “I knew I needed to develop a certain skill set, so I asked Professor Binford to push me — and I’m better for it. I learned a lot about case management.”

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“I know that in years ahead when I return for class reunions, I will be shaking the hands of many civic and bar leaders.”

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I had never experienced before,” she said. “I realized that if I worked hard enough, I could bridge the gap between those two worlds.”

When she returned home, Archer enrolled in a full-time prelaw-oriented program at Washington State University. She also landed internships with the Clark County Board of Commissioners and the Clark County Civil Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, where she tackled a number of issues related to residential zoning restrictions and water quality standards. In May 2005, she graduated with a B.A. in public affairs administration and management.

Following college, Archer worked as an office manager to earn money for law school. After applying to a number of West Coast schools, she selected Willamette University College of Law. “I came to Willamette for a spring orientation, and everything just clicked,” she said. “It just felt like the right place for me.”

Archer entered WUCL

In addition to working in the clinic, Archer has been active in a number of student activities. In the spring of 2010, she was elected Student Bar Association president, the official representative and spokesperson for Willamette law students before the faculty, administration, and external legal and civic communities. “I thrive on being involved in leadership positions,” she said. “It is not a strategy for building my resume; it’s just who I am.”

Giving back is important to the 3L. “It’s our responsibility to serve the greater community in some respect,” said Archer, who said that belief is shared by many others in her class. “My law class is really special,” she said. “We truly care about people and the community. We want to make the world a better place.

“I know that in years ahead when I return for class reunions, I will be shaking the hands of many civic and bar leaders.”

— Anne Marie Becka

# Inner-City Coach Seeks Moral Victories

“Boys, you can only stand in the key for three seconds.”

“What’s the key?”

“Boys, you can’t get five fouls in a game.”

“What’s a foul?”

These are actual early-season exchanges between coach David P. O’Brien JD’93 and some of the 10 sixth graders on his St. Andrew Nativity School CYO basketball team.

St. Andrew is not the typical Catholic grade school. Set in inner-city Portland, the Jesuit-sponsored project welcomes promising sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders who cannot afford private school. The 60 students come from families struggling to make ends meet and many live in neighborhoods where they must navigate regularly past crime and drugs.

Several players on the Nativity team know basketball well, but most are new to it. Somehow, the lanky, bearded O’Brien binds the 11- and 12-year-olds together and teaches them the sport he loves.

O’Brien grew up in Fresno, Calif., attending Catholic school and playing basketball. He attended the University of California Santa Barbara and Willamette University College of Law. When not coaching, O’Brien runs the Human Resources Department at the Portland law firm of Hoffman, Hart & Wagner. He still plays on a competitive men’s basketball team.

The night before a recent game, O’Brien took his players out to dinner and then to Jefferson High School, where they watched a varsity basketball game. Game day dawned with progress and passion, as the Nativity sixth graders passed, cut to the open spot and even made a brave go at running a full-court press.

One player missed a shot and fell to the ground, discouraged. O’Brien clapped his hands and gave the dejected lad some positive encouragement. The boy got up and dashed down the court so fast that his wheels spun.

Next, the coach celebrated with a forward who pulled down several rebounds from a much taller opponent. When one of his players emitted a nascent grumble about a referee’s call, the coach nipped the complaint like lightning. Later, O’Brien clapped as an opposing player made a particularly impressive shot.



With one of his less experienced boys, O’Brien made a simple suggestion: Stand in this place instead. The boy follows the advice and has a breakout game, scoring 16 points. “You see that type of growth and it’s pretty exciting,” O’Brien said, more interested in development than a winning record.

But like any coach, he does want to win. And so do the boys, who have celebrated their two victories so far with great gusto. For a few, O’Brien has had to cultivate a competitive spirit. “Some are just really sweet-natured boys,” he said, laughing. “I say to them, ‘Hey you need to want to get the basketball!’”

The players with experience have gamely taken on the role of leaders, helping their peers learn. Amazingly, they don’t get down on those who make mistakes. The team has a mix of white, black and Hispanic. About 80 percent of Nativity students play hoops. O’Brien has watched with satisfaction as the boys’ basketball skills have developed and their personal discipline has advanced. He’s had to lay down the law now and then.

“I hope they enjoy themselves and learn the fundamentals of the game and the fundamentals of being members of a team, of teamwork,” O’Brien said. “My hope is that we’ve planted a seed, a love for the game and an appreciation of teammates.”

“There’s a lot to learn about life through sports,” he concluded.

— Ed Langlois

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# A Dedicated Leader

Attorney Liani Reeves '98, JD'01 makes community involvement a top priority



earning what she calls a “solid legal education.”

“Willamette’s legal research and writing program is outstanding, and those skills are at the core of what lawyers do. The relationships I developed with faculty in the law profession helped me get to where I am today,” she says.

After graduation, Reeves worked at the Oregon Department of Justice Honors Program before joining the National Crime Victim Law Institute.

Liani Reeves '98, JD'01 spends her days at the Oregon Department of Justice, defending the state in employment cases. But she doesn't just call it a day after work and head home.

She leads the Oregon Commission on Asian Affairs, advising the governor and state on issues impacting the Asian community. She also participates in networking and educational events through the Oregon Minority Lawyers Association.

Reeves also finds time to mentor minority law students seeking advice on school and their careers.

“I have no idea how Liani balances it all,” says Emi Torres JD'10, one of Reeves's mentees. “She has inspired me to also become involved in the community.”

Her hard work caught the eye of the *Portland Business Journal* in February when it named her one of its Forty Under 40, which recognizes high-caliber young executives for career and community achievement.

“I was born in Korea and adopted by an American family, and that gave me many privileges,” Reeves says. “I’ve always had a great sense of gratitude to the community and the country that took me in, which is why I want to give back.”

Reeves's busy schedule stretches back to Willamette University. As an undergraduate majoring in religious studies and minoring in English, she led projects to improve campus security and increase awareness of sexual assault and alcohol issues.

At the College of Law, Reeves joined the Multicultural Law Students Association, participated in moot court and planned a university-wide Martin Luther King Jr. celebration — all while

She studied cases of sexual violence against women and worked to strike down laws that negatively impacted victims.

“Victims traditionally have not been well-represented in the criminal or civil justice systems, and they need a legal voice to help them assert their rights,” Reeves says.

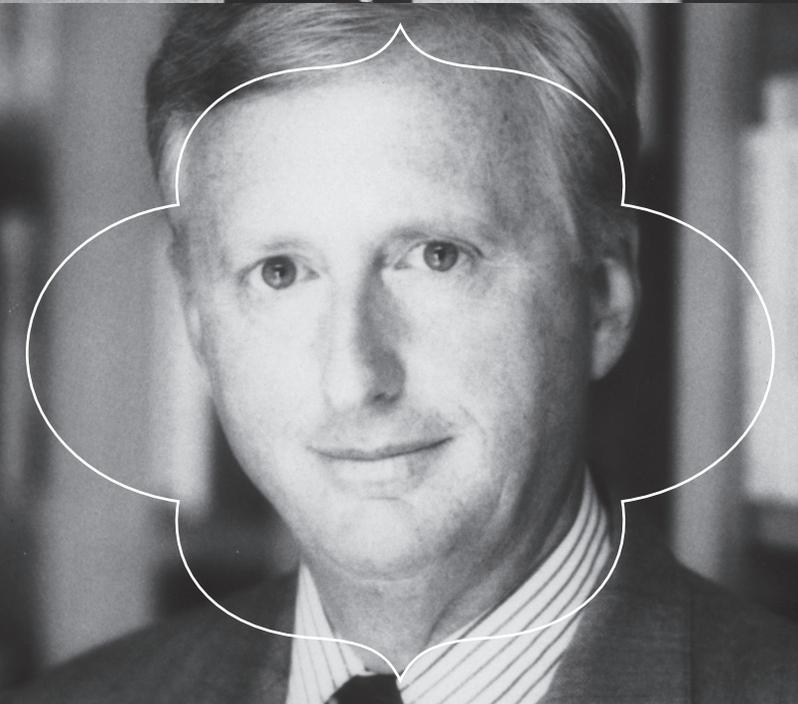
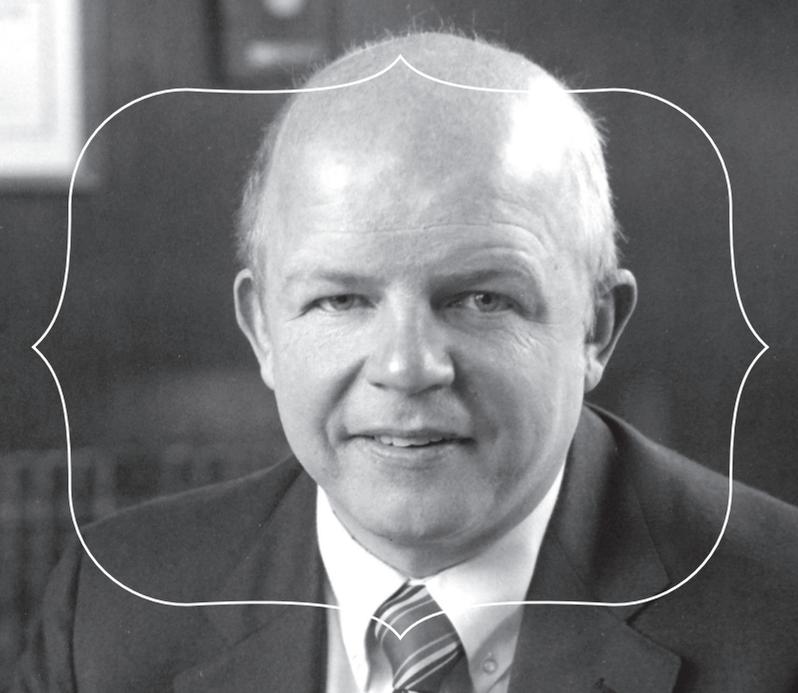
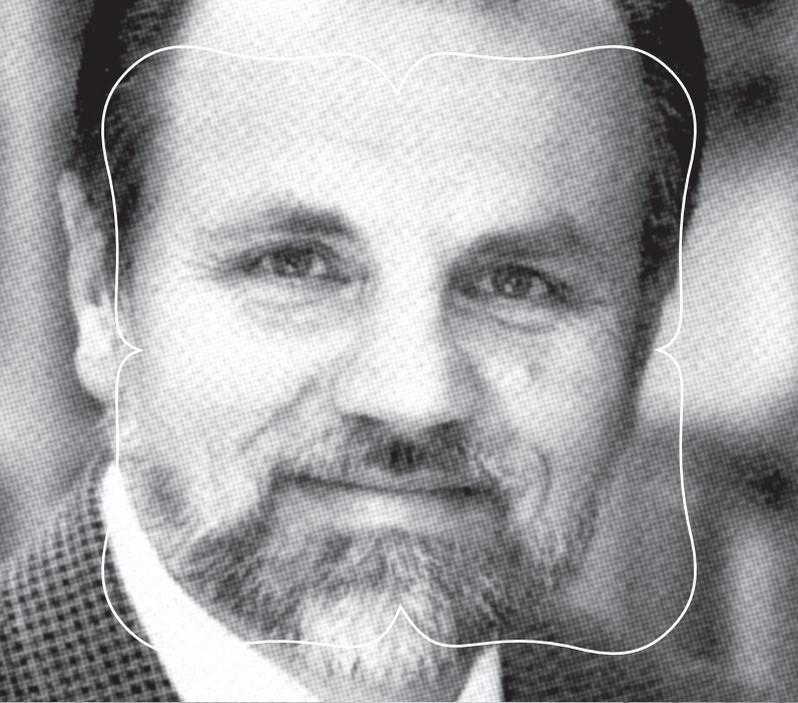
Five years ago, she returned to the Department of Justice as an assistant attorney general in the Trial Division. This past January, she was appointed assistant to the chief trial counsel. Reeves supervises the division's law clerks and manages special projects.

Her Salem office faces the Oregon Supreme Court building and the Willamette campus where she spent her formative years.

“Being at Willamette gives you a lot of opportunities to hop across the street and see what's going on at the Capitol or the Supreme Court. That proximity to the government is valuable, especially if you want to be a public servant.”

Reeves's location also provides her easy access to the law students she mentors.

“Liani provides great insight into the practice of law while also giving me a lot of personal support,” Jennifer Kwon JD'11 says. “I’m impressed by Liani’s active involvement in the Oregon legal community. She inspires me to make positive contributions in my own legal career.”





# TRANSITIONS



Six professors at the College of Law are transitioning to new periods in their lives.

One has retired; three are on part-time status; one will be on part-time status starting next year; and one has returned as a visiting professor.



## Dean Richardson

Dean Richardson's life outside law school is as eclectic as the courses he has taught over the years. He's a tango dancer, sits on the board of the Oregon Ballet Theatre, does Pilates and is a serious practitioner of yoga.

He's also a former high school and college athlete — which may be the reason he looks at least a decade younger than his actual age — didn't watch T.V. until he was in high school and, as a kid, skipped classes to work as a wool jumper. That involved jumping on big burlap bags of wool and running in place to tamp it down so it could be loaded on boxcars and sent to distant markets.

Once he discovered a passion for teaching the law, Richardson developed classes on civil rights law, Indian law and sports law. By the time he turns 70 in four years, he will have taught for 40 years.

In the space of 30 minutes on a recent weekday morning, he told his students the origin of a famous photo of workers high above the ground eating their lunches; made his students laugh about a 1930s-era tradition at Timberline Lodge; and talked about the idea of risk from the point of view of a dad with a teenage daughter.

"Be reasonable. Be careful out there," he said, imitating what he might have said to his own teenager as she headed out

for the night. Addressing the class, he said, "Now, what does that mean to me and what does that mean to a 16-year-old?"

Richardson's energy hasn't flagged, but he said it's time for a change.

"I love my life in Portland and the commute is not easy anymore," he said. "I really wrestled with, 'am I going to be happy in my life without law?' It's an opportunity to explore."

Richardson, who is teaching torts this semester, first studied the subject in 1966. He said he struggled with it, partly because his professor was "very Socratic." He's a little less so with his own students. Occasionally they bring their kids to class, and the kids' answers are sometimes better than those of the students, he said.

Steve Wynne '74, JD'77, chairman of the Board of Trustees, took an agency and partnership class from Richardson in the mid-1970s. The professor called on him the first day of class. Wynne said he "stammered my way through" but ended up impressed with Richardson's teaching style.

"Dean brought a dynamism about him and a passion for the subject," Wynne said. "He was always looking to take his teaching to the next level. He could tell you what the real world was like."

### REMEMBRANCE:

Dean Richardson is a jazz musician who exercises every day and used to run marathons. A former student once told him, "Professor Richardson, if you don't do something about your Type A personality, you'll be dead by the time you're 40." Nearing 70, he now practices Hatha yoga and is considering becoming a yoga instructor.



## *Kathy Graham*

After three decades of teaching and setting policy, associate dean Kathy Graham said she's ready for a change.

The second woman to join the College of Law's faculty back in 1977, Graham said Willamette has been a wonderful place to work. But her second act — traveling, perhaps running for the Salem school board or the state Legislature — is calling.

"I was reading this from Tom Brokaw — 'Get out while you're still good. Don't wait until they throw you out,'" she said in her radio-perfect baritone. "I never looked at anything other than being here. In some ways I regret that, but in other ways I don't."

Graham has worked under four deans and lives next door to the current one, Symeon Symeonides. During her time at the College of Law, the number of female professors has grown to about one-third of the faculty. Some years, women have made up the majority of students. Legal Research and Writing is taught by full-time professors; faculty members publish more frequently. Graham herself uses PowerPoint and has her own Website.

"I've seen this law school transform itself," she said. "You just wouldn't know this law school from the way it was to now."

Besides teaching an array of legal subjects, Graham also has taught in the school's groundbreaking professionalism

program, which instructs first-year students in how to be a good lawyer. As associate dean, she was the chair of the academic affairs committee, which proposes changes to the academic program and law school curriculum. She was responsible for carrying out new policies such as the grading curve and mandatory student attendance. She counseled students and handled sticky issues — like the time a student complained about racially insensitive remarks made inside and out of class.

Now, with Graham's decision to teach part-time, those duties fall to associate dean Peter Letsou. He said Graham did a great job of running the school effortlessly.

"She never seemed irritated or excited," he said. "She did the job with a smile on her face the whole time."

Daniel Kittle JD'10, who was class president when the issue of racially insensitive remarks came up, brought his concerns to Graham. He said she truly tried to understand the situation and that her open door policy made students feel welcome.

"She was always available, always willing to answer questions," said Kittle, who graduated last spring. "We saw her at so many different social events. It stood out that this was a neat lady."

### REMEMBRANCE:

"Willamette has been a wonderful place to work," said Kathy Graham. "I couldn't have asked for a better career." She and her husband hope to do some of the traveling they've put off while raising their family.



## Leroy Tornquist

Leroy Tornquist's impact on the College of Law will linger long after he moves to part-time status in 2011. As a former dean, he started the exchange program with China, championed dispute resolution long before it became a standard part of the curriculum and imported an intensive trial practice program he began at Loyola University's law school in Chicago.

He also developed a new way of budgeting that returned more tuition money to the law school. And he involved faculty in budget decisions — a reflection of the transparency that he brought to the job, said Professor Jim Nafziger.

"Lee brought a lot of fresh spirit to the law school," said Nafziger, who has known Tornquist since 1978. "It was quite exciting; kind of a golden era, in a way."

Tornquist enjoyed being dean but believes the best job on campus is being a law professor. After eight years of being dean, he stepped down to teach.

An enthusiastic traveler, he plans to continue visiting distant places, paint, maybe write poetry and fiction.

"My wife and I have our health and we'd like to spend time in places we've seen in the world," Tornquist said. "You can't really do that when you're teaching. I want to have time where I'm not required to be a certain place at a certain time."

In the past he had offers to lead other law schools, but chose to stay in Salem because he didn't want to uproot his family. In addition to teaching, he's a pro tem judge and arbitrates labor and employment cases.

Willamette, he said, "is more of a humane school" than Loyola. "It's much smaller and it gives students a chance to succeed in ways you couldn't even think of. Willamette is in many ways a place where you can make mistakes and people will support you."

Tornquist is renowned as a specialist in trial practice, evidence and civil procedure. His intensive trial practice class does what no other law school class does — it simulates what it actually feels like to give a deposition, deliver a killer opening argument, think on one's feet when a cross-examination goes awry.

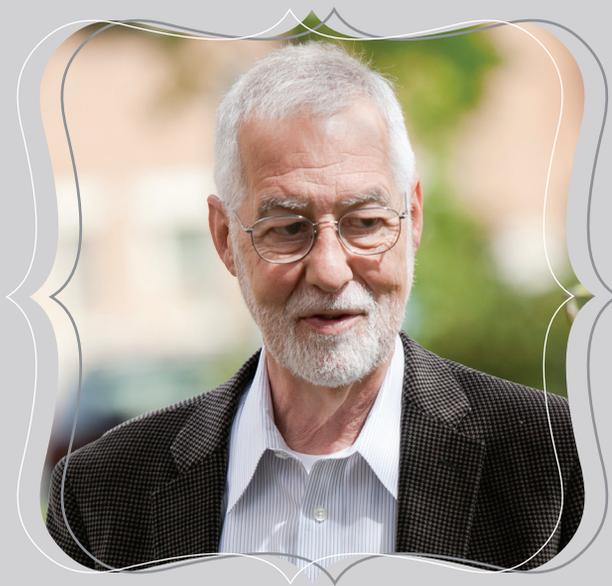
"Never cross-examine crossly" is one of Tornquist's bon mots that has remained with Rick Glantz JD'08 for years.

Translation: Just because you can tear into someone on the stand doesn't mean you must.

"Seasoned lawyers don't get it and it always worked to my advantage," Glantz said. Tornquist, he added, is "funny and he knows his stuff. He listens as much as he talks."

### REMEMBRANCE:

"I think law school teaches people to speak in paragraphs," said Leroy Tornquist. In a courtroom, he said, "you need to be able to have people understand what it's all about."



## Ross Runkel

Ross Runkel can't seem to let the law school go. Or maybe it's the other way around — year after year, he gets called up to teach contracts, or sales, or whatever opening needs to be filled. He refers to himself as the school's pinch hitter.

"I love teaching," Runkel said. "As a visiting prof, I could teach my class and have no other responsibilities like committees or faculty meetings or reading memos. It's a fun thing to do."

Runkel, who arrived at the College of Law in 1969, taught for 30 years before retiring. He's teaching sales in the fall. He lives in Salem and is raising a teenage daughter.

In class, said former associate dean Kathy Graham, Runkel was a formidable professor — gruff until students got to know him.

"He could scare you, I think," she said. "When you'd walk into class the first day, he'd put the full press on students: 'This is going to be hard, you've got to read carefully and I'm going to put pressure on you to push yourself.'"

Outside the school Runkel works as a labor/management arbitrator, traveling around the country to listen to cases involving employment disputes. He also started a business called Employment Law Memo, which aggregates labor law cases around the country and sends the summaries to clients.

Runkel said he likes arbitrating because it gets him out of the so-called "Ivory Tower" and into the workplace, where he sees up close what happens when, say, there's a police shooting and accounts differ about the circumstances surrounding it.

"I have a lot of respect for police," he said. "When they come to the hearing and testify, they're much more likely to be telling the absolute truth. They have extremely difficult jobs."

As for the most memorable cases he has arbitrated, Runkel cited the case of a man who was fired for sexually harassing women who worked in the lumber industry. The harassment had continued for eight years before the women gathered the courage to speak up; they were afraid they'd get fired if they complained.

When he first left Willamette, Runkel said, he took the books and pictures out of his office because he never expected to teach again. "I loved every minute of those 30 years but it was time for me to do something else," he said.

But then Associate Dean Kathy Graham asked him to return and he agreed. So, does that mean he's here indefinitely?

"I don't plan that far ahead," he said. "I take one day at a time."

### REMEMBRANCE:

Ross Runkel practiced for two years before becoming a professor. "The contrast was clear," he said. "It was more fun. In law, you're working on things your client wants; in law school, I worked on things I wanted."



## *Richard Hagedorn*

Asked what they remember most about Professor Richard Hagedorn, his former students all say the same thing: He knew his subject so thoroughly and could communicate so effectively that he had no peer. They describe him as a sort of Professor Kingsfield (of “The Paper Chase” fame) without the intimidating demeanor.

“He showed up every day with his ‘A’ game,” said Chris Drotzmann JD’96, who took contracts, payment systems and secured transactions from Hagedorn. “They’re not easy classes; the respect for him was that you knew when you walked out of that class, you were prepared. There was a feeling of, ‘wow, I really got my money’s worth.’”

Hagedorn moved to part-time status this year and will teach spring semester. He plans to update his textbook “Brady on Bank Checks,” and spend more time at his second home in Sunriver. He also wants to get to know his grandson, who was born in June.

“I didn’t want to quit completely because I love what I do, but I had the opportunity,” Hagedorn said. “What’s that line — ‘old soldiers never die, they just fade away?’ I’m going to fade away.”

Hagedorn’s love for the arcane subjects of liens, mortgages and payment systems is palpable. Students these days are more interested in classes such as constitutional law, he said, but he teaches concepts that make societies run smoothly.

“The wheels of commerce must move on to provide for all of us and the law I teach lubricates those wheels,” he said. “When I go to class, the adrenaline is still pumping. You’re a little bit nervous, a little apprehensive and a little excited.”

In more than 25 years of teaching, Hagedorn racked up many honors including: the Rosalind Van Winkle Melton Professorship; the Willamette University United Methodist Exemplary Teaching Award and Willamette University’s Teacher of the Year. He’s one of the few College of Law graduates to become a tenured professor at Willamette. Student evaluations consistently praise his ability to make dry, technical issues clear and interesting.

What makes him a good professor, said law school colleague Mike Wise, is “his concern for his students and his desire they do well, but also his being demanding of them.”

Hagedorn has taught long enough to remember when banking was done in bricks and mortar instead of over the Internet. When he first started teaching, he ended his classes with a side note that people were talking about the possibility of transferring money via computers.

“That’s Star Trek stuff,” he told his students. “It will be interesting to see where it goes.”

### REMEMBRANCE:

Peter Sheridan JD’88, a former student of Richard Hagedorn’s, said the contracts professor was obsessed with a certain pop diva. “He was smitten with Whitney Houston,” Sheridan said. “He’d give hypotheticals involving Whitney Houston.” On the last day of class, Sheridan and a friend brought in a boombox and played Houston’s 1987 hit, “I Wanna Dance with Somebody (Who Loves Me).” Hagedorn, he recalled, was pleased.



## Sam Jacobson

Sam Jacobson is so passionate about students' learning styles that she wrote her own textbook for Legal Research & Writing classes. There's plenty of information about how to analyze a case and how honor codes work. But she also included sections on learning patterns, organizational strategies, time management and stress reduction.

"I find it sort of amazing we're teaching the traditional pedagogy of 100 years ago, notwithstanding all this evidence of how it's better to learn," she said. "I'm really big on structure and how structure affects the way people act."

This is the first year in two decades that Jacobson won't be teaching students legal analysis and providing academic support outside the classroom. She has retired to her 11-acre home on the Oregon Coast where she plans to do more writing, as well as design and sew clothes.

"I've always worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week," she said. "For the first time in my life, I'm ready to be home."

Jacobson's students said she was devoted to their well-being. During the busy periods of the academic year, she stayed overnight at a local hotel in case they needed extra help. She would spend up to 90 minutes at a stretch analyzing a student-written legal memo. She invited students over for dinner and asked about their personal lives.

"She's incredibly committed to her students and she spent an inordinate amount of time helping them succeed," said Professor Valerie Vollmar. "A lot of students who graduate, if they have one faculty member with whom they have a close connection, she'll be the one."

Rebecca Russell, a third-year law student, said Jacobson taught her how to write effective transitions between paragraphs, eliminate passive voice and simplify her sentences. She was sympathetic and understanding, Russell said, but definitely not a soft touch.

"She expected a lot from us," Russell said. "She knew we could perform up to that level as long as we got the help we needed."

Legal Research & Writing is an exhausting marathon for first-years, a boot camp for undisciplined minds. Jacobson tried to make it fun. Her rubber chickens played starring roles in skits she put on to emphasize a legal point. Jacobson also created a version of "Trivial Pursuit" involving legal citations. The winners got prizes from the Dollar Store.

"Stress level causes memory to go kaput, and so I needed to do something to relieve stress," she said. "I'm entertaining me as much as them."

### REMEMBRANCE:

Matt Fitzgerald JD'02, an English teacher-turned-lawyer and former student of Sam Jacobson's, said she corrected his bad writing habits. "To this day, I still wonder when I submit a memo to court, am I following her analysis? It's my mental tool to make sure I'm not submitting junk."

# Class Action

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## the 1960s

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**Paul L. Stritmatter JD'69** of Hoquiam, Wash., was honored by

the Public Justice Foundation, a national organization, for his long-standing commitment to clients and dedication to the legal profession. Stritmatter currently is working on a case against AT&T Corp. involving an invalid arbitration clause and is heading up a team to defend a suit including ERISA subrogation.

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## the 1970s

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**Robert F. Webber JD'71** of Port Orford, Ore., has been appointed to represent Oregon's 4th Congressional District on the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. Webber is a partner with the southern Oregon firm of Black Chapman Webber & Stevens. Since 2009, he has worked as a special deputy with the Curry County District Attorney prosecuting wildlife cases.

**Robert W. Donaldson JD'74** of Portland, Ore., has completed a four-year tenure as managing partner of Black Hetterline LLP. Donaldson maintains an active practice in business and corporate law,

including business formation, business-related immigration issues, acquisitions, reorganizations and strategic planning.

**David C. Baum JD'75** of La Grande, Ore., has formed the law firm of Baum, Smith & Eyre in La Grande with partners Brent H. Smith and Brandon J. Eyre. Baum focuses his practice on real estate, insurance defense and personal injury matters.

**Kip W. Leonard JD'75** of Eugene, Ore., retired from the Lane County Circuit Court effective May 1, 2010, after more than 25 years on the bench. Leonard served as the court's presiding judge from 1996 to 2000. He acted most recently as the juvenile court judge, establishing the state's first juvenile drug court, in which offenders can avoid jail by agreeing to close court supervision to monitor their compliance with drug abstinence and other terms. Over the course of his career, Leonard served also as a district court judge, Lane County deputy district attorney, Eugene city prosecutor, and also ran a general law practice for a time.

**JoAnne Brandes JD'78** of Franklin, Wis., has joined the board of directors of First Business Bank — Milwaukee. Brandes is a founder and senior fellow of the Carroll University Center

for Leadership Excellence. She also is an attorney; an outside board member of several corporations; and a speaker and consultant specializing in leadership development, corporate structure and governance, cultural transformation and change management. She retired after more than 25 years with the S.C. Johnson family of companies as executive vice president, CAO, general counsel and secretary of JohnsonDiversey Inc.

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## the 1980s

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**Robert W. Burns JD'80** of De Pere, Wis., has been appointed to the board of Davis & Kuelthau s.c. Burns is a shareholder and managing partner of the Green Bay office and focuses on school law and labor and employment law.

**Elizabeth Pike Martin JD'82** of Tacoma, Wash., was appointed to the Pierce County Superior Court by Gov. Chris Gregoire on May 11, 2010. Martin previously was an attorney at Gordon Thomas Honeywell LLP in Tacoma, where she represented plaintiffs and defendants in a wide range of civil matters, including labor and employment law, personal injury and products liability. From 2003 to 2008, Martin served as a pro tem judge for Pierce County Superior Court,

where she presided over jury and bench trials. She also spent time as a mediator in state and federal courts and as a volunteer mediator for the Pierce County Dispute Resolution Center.

**Edward G. "Ted" Chester Jr. BS'80, JD'86** of Polson, Mont., recently opened his own law firm, which will focus on family law issues. Chester previously worked for the FBI in various capacities, including as a Safe Street Task Force coordinator, Joint Terrorism Task Force member, Field Intelligence Group agent, SWAT team member, legal advisor/instructor and investigator.



**Donald L. Krahrmer Jr. BS'81 JD/MBA'87** of Tigard, Ore., recently

joined the board of directors of Regence BlueCross BlueShield of Oregon. Krahrmer is a shareholder at Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt and currently serves as co-chair of the firm's technology and business practice. He also is on the board of directors of Pacific Continental Bank as well as chairman of the bank's audit committee and a member of its corporate governance/nominations committee.



**Cynthia L. Pevehouse JD'87** of Washington, D.C., has joined

Step toe & Johnson LLP as senior counsel. In her new position, she will advise clients across many industries on corporate governance and ethics issues. She previously served as senior vice president and general counsel at Allianz of America, where she oversaw legal, ethics, investigative, compliance and regulatory affairs.

## the 1990s

**Nichole J. Cheneweth JD/MBA'91** of Roanoke, Texas, has been named vice president of information technology and general counsel for Fellowship Technologies. Cheneweth had served as a consultant to Fellowship Technologies for several months prior to his appointment. In his new role, he will oversee the company's information technology department and establish a new team focused on improving back-office operations, in addition to serving as general counsel.

**John J. Tiemessen JD/C'91** of Fairbanks, Alaska, has been elected president of the Western States Bar Conference for 2010–2011. Western States Bar Conference is a forum for the mutual interchange of ideas among state leaders and the local bar associations of 17 western states. Tiemessen is past president of the Alaska

Bar Association. He is the managing member of Clapp Peterson Van Flein Tiemessen and Thorsness LLC in Fairbanks.



**James C. Reinhart BS'89, JD/C'92** of Washougal, Wash., has

joined the Portland office of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP in the firm's real estate practice group. Reinhart previously worked for the legal departments of First American Title and Chicago Title. He brings with him more than 18 years of experience in commercial real estate transactions.

**Ryan W. Collier JD'97** of Salem, Ore., was honored in January by the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce, receiving the organization's Outstanding Young Professional Award. Collier was the first individual to receive the new award. His law firm serves clients in Oregon and Washington in the areas of estate planning, probate and trust administration. Collier is affiliated with Leadership Salem, Salem Foundation and Salem Leadership Foundation, and is active in his church, the Boy Scouts of America, and his childrens' school.

**Timothy J. Bernasek BS'93, JD/MBA'98** of Portland, Ore., has been named partner at Dunn Carney Allen Higgins & Tongue LLP, effective January 2010. Bernasek leads the firm's government affairs team and also is a member of the agriculture/natural resources and real estate and land teams.

## the 2000s

**Kate Cooper Richardson JD'00** of Dallas, Ore., has been named deputy director and policy chief for the Oregon Department of Justice Division of Child Support. Richardson previously was a senior member of the Economic Recovery Executive Team in the office of Gov. Ted Kulongoski.

**Shaunda C. Lynch-Schmidt JD'00** of Tell City, Ind., has been appointed chief deputy prosecutor for Perry County, Ind. She served most recently as an assistant district attorney for Buncombe County in Asheville, N.C. In 2005, Mothers Against Drunk Driving chose Lynch as Indiana's Prosecutor of the Year, and the Indiana Governor's Council on Impaired and Dangerous Driving named her Indiana's Outstanding Prosecutor of the Year.



**Sanam "Sam" Dowlatdad BA'97, JD'01** of Portland,

Ore., has opened a new law firm with partners Edie Rogoway Van Ness and Douglas Green. Dowlatdad's practice focuses on criminal defense, crime victim representation and personal injury law. She most recently practiced with the firm of Cosgrave Vergeer Kester LLP. She also served as a Multnomah County prosecutor for five years.

**Caleb A. Williams JD'01** of Salem, Ore., received the Clara Barton Honor Award for Meritorious Volunteer Leadership from the Willamette chapter of the American Red Cross at the chapter's annual award banquet in April 2010. He has served on the Willamette chapter's board for the past six years, and acted as chairman the last two. Williams is an attorney at Saalfeld Griggs PC.

**Travis R. Marker JD/C'03** of St. George, Utah, has closed his own law practice in Ogden and opened an office for the firm of Stone & Law in St. George. His practice focuses on criminal defense.

**Walter R. "Randy" Miller Jr. JD'04** of Bend, Ore., an associate in the Central Oregon office of Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, has been named an associate vice president of the Central Oregon Builders Association and a member of its executive committee. Miller's law practice focuses on construction law, commercial litigation and real estate and land use. He represents general contractors and landowners in construction-related matters that include drafting of contracts and liens, and construction litigation.

**Renee E. Starr JD'04** of Portland, Ore., has opened her own law practice, where she will focus on employment advising, counseling and litigation for employers of all sizes. She previously practiced at the Portland firms of Perkins Coie and Stoel Rives LLP.



**Susan G. Hiler JD'05** of Portland, Ore., has joined the family law

firm of Gevurtz Menashe as an associate. Her practice will focus on divorce, custody and support issues.



**Yvonne E. (Schindler) Tingleaf JD'05** of Wilsonville, Ore., has

joined Waggener Edstrom Worldwide as associate counsel. Waggener Edstrom Worldwide is a global, integrated communications agency with more than 800 employees in 16 offices around the world. Tingleaf previously was an associate at Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt in Portland.

**Justin W. Nelson JD'07** of Lexington, Ore., was appointed Morrow County district attorney by Gov. Ted Kulongoski. Nelson was elected in the May 2010 primary, but his term was not scheduled to begin until January. The July 2010 appointment puts Nelson in the job immediately. Nelson previously served as deputy district attorney in Umatilla County.



**Myah M. Osher JD'07** of Portland, Ore., who had opened her own law practice in 2009, recently joined forces with classmate **Christopher J.**

**Bergstrom JD'07** of Vancouver, Wash. Together they have created the new firm Osher & Bergstrom Law. Their practice focuses on family law.



**Julia C. (Smith) Rice JD'07** of Salem, Ore., has started her

own mediation and parent coordination practice. As a domestic relations mediator, Rice helps parties reach collaborative solutions to custody, parenting time, property and support issues. As a parent coordinator, she assists families in reducing parenting disputes in high conflict cases when appointed by the court. Rice previously practiced family law at Garrett Hemann Robertson PC in Salem.

**John C. "Christian" Barlow JD'08** of Ivins, Utah, is taking on one of the country's biggest banks in a case he recently filed. In May 2010, Fifth District Court Judge James L. Shumate issued an order stopping all foreclosure proceedings by Bank of America Corp. based upon the documents filed by Barlow on behalf of his client. If it becomes permanent, the court order will force Bank of America and other mortgage companies with home loans in Utah to adhere to the Utah laws requiring lenders to register in the state and have offices where homeowners can negotiate face-to-face with their lenders.



**Tara M. Costanzo JD'08** of Bend, Ore., has joined Stahancyk,

Kent, Johnson & Hook in the firm's central Oregon office as an associate. The firm focuses its practice on family law and estate planning.



**Bryana L. Sack JD'08** of Portland, Ore., has joined Bodyfelt

Mount LLP as an associate. Prior to joining the firm, she worked as a contract attorney for a civil litigation firm in Salem, specializing in personal injury. She also worked as a deputy district attorney for Washington County, where she served on the Domestic Violence Team. Her practice includes cases involving employment, insurance defense, personal injury, and general liability claims.



**Peter A. Werner JD'08** of Bend, Ore., has joined SELCO

Community Credit Union as associate general counsel and credit counselor. In his new position, Werner will focus on creditor rights (bankruptcy and collections), litigation, contracts and corporate law. His office is located at SELCO's Old Mill branch in Bend. Prior to joining the credit union, Werner was in private practice in Bend.

**John C. Davis JD'09** of Vancouver, Wash., has joined the Vancouver office of Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt as an associate. Davis focuses his practice in the area of commercial litigation, where he assists in cases ranging from property disputes to construction defects. He also handles transactional matters in the area of corporate, municipal and employment law; and appellate cases.



**Vincent L. Nguyen JD'09** of Renton, Wash., has joined the

Department of Veterans Affairs as a veterans' service representative. In his new role, Nguyen will assist veterans with their benefits.



**Richard C. Riggs Jr. JD'10** of Salem, Ore., has joined Garrett

Hemann Robertson PC in the firm's divorce and family law practice group. He will focus on family law and divorce cases, addressing issues such as child custody, parenting plans, spousal and child support, and property division. Riggs graduated from Willamette University College of Law after more than 20 years of service in the U.S. Navy. He serves as the vice chair of Chemeketa Community College's board of education and sits on Chemeketa's foundation board.

## Family Additions



**Vesna (Ostojic) Dodge JD'02** of Tillamook, Ore., and

husband Brendan welcomed son Samuel Cooper on April 28, 2010. He joins sister Ella.



**Catherine M. (McCann) Gaskin JD'02** and husband Brian

welcomed a son Benjamin Brian, born on Aug. 10, 2010. He joins siblings Joshua and Marilyn.

**Travis R. Marker JD/C'03** of St. George, Utah, and wife Ronna welcomed daughter Ambria Maria on July 15, 2010. She joins sisters Avalon, Adelaide and Andenelle, and brother Boston.



**Lisa A. (Lorenzo) Wilmot JD'03** and husband Daniel G.

**Wilmot JD'02** of Tacoma, Wash., welcomed daughter Vivien Clare on June 14, 2010.



**Kelly A. (Rees) Rosenberg JD'04** of Denver, Colo., and husband

Dan welcomed daughter Molly on February 28, 2010.



**Kevin M. Barrett JD'09** of Keizer, Ore., and wife Rachelle

welcomed daughter Maya Olivia on April 9, 2010.



**Keith A. Wells JD'10** of Salem, Ore., and wife Katie welcomed

son Carter Allen on June 11, 2010.

## In Memoriam

**Arthur L. Davis LLB'49** of Kansas City, Mo., passed away March 18, 2010, at the age of 88. Davis served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the island of Guam during World War II. He worked for Caterpillar for 30 years. He is survived by his six children.

**R. Thomas Gooding BA'55, LLB'58** of Meridian, Idaho, passed away Feb. 14, 2010, at the age of 76. Gooding practiced law in La Grande, Ore., for 25 years before serving as a Union County Circuit Court judge for seven years. He then worked eight years as a special assistant attorney general in Salem after his appointment by Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer. He retired in Idaho. Gooding enjoyed skiing, boating, golfing, hunting and spending time with his family and friends. He is survived by wife Charlotte, four children and two step-children.

**William T. Schantz CLA'56, JD'60** of Portland, Ore., passed away April 14, 2010, at the age of 75. During his time in law school, Schantz was one of the founding members and editors of the *Willamette Law Journal* (now known as *Willamette Law Review*). He received the high grade on the 1960 Oregon State Bar exam and went on to receive his LLM in Taxation from New York University in 1961. He practiced tax law with Davidson, Duffy & Stout in

Portland before moving full-time into teaching. He retired in January 1994 as a professor emeritus in the School of Business Administration at Portland State University after 31 years of teaching. He had a beautiful singing voice, and sang with the Salem Senate Aires. He produced beautiful oil paintings, grew exquisite roses, was a gourmet cook who made incredible apple pie, and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He is survived by wife Janice and four children.



**Douglas B. Dawson JD'70** of Salem, Ore., passed away March

11, 2010, at the age of 71. Prior to attending law school, Dawson was a police officer in Fairbanks, Alaska. While at Willamette University College of Law, he served on the *Willamette Law Journal* editorial board. After graduation, Dawson ran his own law practice for a time before joining the Multnomah County District Attorney's office. He then moved into a two-person firm before becoming a deputy district attorney in Marion County. He was elected Polk County District Attorney in 1980 and ultimately completed his legal career after 14 years as assistant attorney general for the State of Oregon in the District Attorney Assistance Division. Upon retiring, Dawson pursued his love of painting, becoming an accomplished professional pastel and acrylic artist represented by Lawrence Galleries in Oregon. His art is found in many private, corporate and public collections. He is survived by wife **Sheryl Westfall Dawson JD'83**.

**Timothy R. Weaver JD'70** of Yakima, Wash., passed away March 22, 2010, at the age of 65 after a 17-year battle with cancer. Weaver represented the Yakima Nation, a central Washington tribe, from 1971 until he retired in January 2010. He was a passionate advocate for Native American rights to Pacific salmon for nearly four decades. He is survived by wife Gail and sons Tyler and Ryan.

**Douglas P. Devers JD'71** of Portland, Ore., passed away April 15, 2010 at the age of 64. He practiced law in Portland his entire legal career. He was a member and former trustee of the Multnomah Athletic Club, and founding director and writer for Well Arts Institute. He was an avid golfer and skier, and was passionate about sailing. He is survived by companion Carolyn Martin and son Justin.

**Peter W. Berney JD'84** of Shelton, Wash., passed away Feb. 13, 2010, at the age of 52. Berney was a deputy prosecuting attorney in Benton County, Wash., before moving to Olympia to work as an assistant attorney general for the State of Washington in the torts division. For the past seven years, Peter had been a senior member of the attorney general's civil rights unit, where he worked with and mentored a number of attorneys new to the practice of law. He is survived by wife Jan.

**Robert L. Cook JD'89** of Independence, Ore., passed away April 1, 2010, at the age of 58. Cook grew up on the family farm northwest of Albany, Ore., and was involved in farming and agriculture his entire life. He is survived by wife Stephanie and his seven children.

**Reunion 2010** July 17, 2010 Salem, Oregon



Class of 1955 — Rudy's Restaurant

Left to right: Richard D. Barber Sr. JD'55; Frank E. Bocci JD'55; George R. Duncan Jr. BS'53, JD'55; Eldon F. Caley BA'52, JD'55; Elton T. Lafky BA'52, JD'55; and Louis E. Prediletto BA'52, JD'55



Class of 1970 — Illahe Hills Country Club

Left to right: Douglas P. Cushing JD'70, Esther Melcher, Jerry E. Melcher JD'70, Francisco J. Yraguen JD'70 and Patty Yraguen



Class of 1980 — Prudence Uncorked

Front row, left to right: Marsha A. Todd Parker JD'80; June K. Campbell JD'80; Mary Anne Sandoval; Karen Ross; Ellen E. Johnson JD'80; John B. Maher JD'80; Back row, left to right: Michael R. Sandoval JD'80; R. Michael Ross JD'80; C. Craig Heath BS'76, JD'80; Dan R. Olson JD'80; Adolph J. Dean, Jr.



Class of 2000 — DaVinci Ristorante

Top left: Teddy E. Chow JD'00, Jovi Swanson, Barbara V. Veverka JD'00 and David M. Veverka JD'00; Top right: Ingrid S. Mungia JD'00 and Kymberlee C. Stapleton JD'00; Bottom left: T. Jill (Polson) Smith JD/C'00, Christopher G. Swanson JD'00, Cami G. Lewis JD'00; Bottom right: Evan Stapleton, Lucien Latcu, Misty M. Latcu JD'00, Jeffrey S. Garrett JD'00

**Reno Reception**

Feb. 14, 2010 — Siena Hotel



Thomas A. Collins JD'77, Severin A. Carlson JD'04, Katheryn L. Yetter JD/C'97 and guest

**Las Vegas Reception**

Feb. 15, 2010 — Capital Grille



Bradley K. Lord-Leutwyler JD/C'91, prospective student Rocco Massari, prospective student Joshua Webster and Gary W. Call JD/C'92

## Washington, D.C. Trip and Reception March 1–4, 2010

In March 2010, a group of 12 College of Law alumni and their guests took a special trip to Washington, D.C. The trip included a tour of the U.S. Capitol, a night tour of the area's monuments and an alumni reception at the Capital Grille. The trip culminated in the alumni being sworn in to the U.S. Supreme Court followed by a private visit with Maj. Gen. William K. Suter, clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court. Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Hemingway BA'62, JD'65 made the oral motion before the Court for the Willamette applicants' admission.



Clifford L. Peterson JD'81; Valerie L. Kramer MBA'82, JD'84; Elizabeth J. Nevue JD'88; and Kristie L. Gibson LLM'09 visit the Lincoln Memorial at night.



Maj. Gen. William K. Suter and Brig. Gen. Thomas L. Hemingway BA'62, JD'65 at the brunch preceding the swearing-in ceremony



William Suter and Dennis E. Koho JD/C'04 in Suter's chambers



Dennis E. Koho JD/C'04, Russell D. Garrett JD'88, Robert E. Lawrence-Berrey JD/C'89 at brunch



Left: Valerie L. Kramer MBA'82, JD'84; Michael W. Peterkin JD'82; Elizabeth J. Nevue JD'88; Clifford L. Peterson JD'81; Deanna L. Franco LLM'00; Joseph A. Barbknecht JD'84; Robert E. Lawrence-Berrey JD/C'89; Ralph M. Yenne JD'86; Russell D. Garrett JD'88; Dennis E. Koho JD/C'04; Eric P. Thornburgh JD'87; and Kristie L. Gibson LLM'09 were sworn in to the U.S. Supreme Court on March 3, 2010.



Angela E. Gipson JD/C'08; Lynette I. Hotchkiss JD'82; James B. Fisher JD'08; Daeleen M. Chesley JD'02; and Charles A. Harwood JD'83 at the Capital Grille



Steven G. Berry JD'78 and Susann Reising Reilly JD'78 at the Capital Grille

# Keepers of the King's Conscience

Beginning with the conversion of Anglo-Saxon kings to Christianity by St. Augustine in 597 A.D., English kings have appointed a learned priest as royal confessor and spiritual shepherd of the king's chapel. In time, the role of the priest in the royal court expanded to include that of private secretary to the king. As such, he became Keeper of the Great Seal, as well as Keeper of the King's Conscience. Thus, the "officina justitiae" called Chancery was born, and the king's priest assumed the title of Lord Chancellor.

In the centuries that followed, chancellors spoke often of their conscience, and those who were lacking such. Hence, the maxim that the evil men do lives after them; the good is often interred with their bones.

An infamous example of the former was the late 11th century Lord Chancellor and Bishop of Lincoln Robert Bloet, a Norman who so exceeded his predecessors in extortion, oppression of the Anglo-Saxons and venality that Lord Coke in a later century wrote that "he lived without love and died without pity, save of those who thought it a pity he lived so long."

Such were the expected profits of the chancellor's office that in 1131 Geoffrey Rufus, Bishop of Durham, purchased the Chancery from King Henry I for the princely sum of more than 3,006 £ in what appears to have been an auction for the office.

Another defining moment in the history of the Chancery occurred in the late 14th century when Lord Chancellor and Archbishop of Canterbury Simon de Sudbury opened Parliament and secured passage of a "capitation tax" on every person of the kingdom, male or female. The implementation of this tax sparked the Peasants' Revolt of 1381 led by Wat Tyler and the subsequent loss of the Lord Chancellor's head.

Against this background, the equitable jurisdiction of the Chancery was expanded — and frequently abused through excessive fines — during the 15th and 16th centuries so that by the 17th century the celebrated English jurist and historian John Selden wrote:

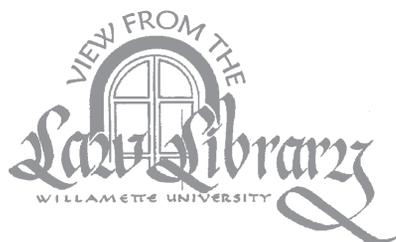
*Equity is a roguish thing; for law we have a measure. Equity is according to the conscience of him who is chancellor, and as that is larger or narrower, so is equity. It is all one as if they should make the standard for the measure we call a foot "a chancellor's foot." What an uncertain measure would this be? One chancellor has a long foot; another a short foot; a third, an indifferent foot; it is the same thing in the chancellor's conscience.*

And since each chancellor had two feet, he also had two consciences: one to suit the king and one to suit the pope.

No better example can be found than that of Lord Chancellor Thomas Becket, whose conscience showed great versatility in service of Henry II, but great virtue in service of Pope Alexander III as Archbishop of Canterbury. The result of this transformation of conscience was martyrdom in 1170, sainthood in 1173 and stardom in 1964 in the Academy Award-winning film "Becket," starring Richard Burton.

By the 18th century, the Chancery had become less the projection of the king's conscience and more the progenitor of precedents and procedures in the pursuit of fixed principles of equity. Thus, we read in the early 19th century decision of *Gee v. Pritchard* the words of Lord Chancellor Eldon: "Nothing would inflict on me greater pain in quitting this place, than the recollection that I had done anything to justify the reproach that the equity of this court varies like the chancellor's foot."

You can judge for yourself by perusing the multi-volume work *Lives of the Lord Chancellors and Keepers of the Great Seal of England*, written by Lord Chancellor John Campbell in the mid-19th century, as well as other works on the development of equity. All may be found in the law library.



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For more details, contact Mike Bennett BA'70, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, WU College of Law, 503-370-6761, or e-mail [mbennett@willamette.edu](mailto:mbennett@willamette.edu).



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Gorgeous sunny weather greeted the Class of 2013 during New Student Orientation in August. The class, according to Dean Symeon C. Symeonides, is one of the strongest ever.

