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New York Law School

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Three SBA Members Resign in Heated Protest

By George Schwarz

Charging that the SBA is "merely a puppet for the Administration" and is used as a stepping-stone for "Administration favors," three members of the student government resigned last week to protest the lack of student input in Administration decisions.

The three, Richard Cohen, John Maier, and Loren Butler Rodstein, said they had thought other people would sign the letters of resignation, but emphasized they did not "expect" to have mass resignations. Both Rodstein had been one of the resigning members. Rodstein had been the secretary of the SBA.

Responding to the resignations, Larry Silverman, President of the SBA, said, "I am upset that they did not confer with me (with their complaints). A lot of the changes are fabrication and not true." Silverman said that until students take a more active role, the SBA's effectiveness is limited. "I am sure that in a year making strides slowly in placing students on to the faculty committee."

The committee system seems to be the classical way of insuring that nothing gets done," said Cohen.

Both stated that the way the Constitution of the SBA is written, it cannot become an effective voice for the students and does not represent their best interests.

"Dean gets his way"

Rodstein, in a separate interview, said that basic changes are pulled little, the President has the final say in all matters. NLO (National Lawyer's Guild) motions were always rejected; procedural questions were constantly redissued; input was discouraged; and the students on the Student-Faculty committees do not report to the SBA.

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by Dennis Stokemanker

James Brook is one of the young, new professors at NYLS who make it hard to tell the teachers from the students in the elevator. He graduated Harvard in '68, and went to law school there too. Is there a Harvard mystique? If so, the outside world recognizes you if it says, "Brook." It makes a huge difference to other people. Now, I want to like it if did before I went. Oh, Harvard. I think, did I ever?"

An undergraduate math major, he was a teaching fellow at the University of Michigan before going back to Harvard for law. Math was "a tremendously dry field," he said.

"I was interested in teaching," says Brook, but after law school, he put in two years private practice with a year with The Research Group, Inc. in Cambridge, Mass., doing research for other attorneys on a part-time basis.

He wrote memos and briefs mainly for single practitioners or two-practitioner firms, handling problems when they went wrong. "You could see how they could mark it up. Sometimes it took you two hours to find out their problems."

He handled a large number of small problems. "There's a misconception about who lawyers are. It's easy to think of the Wall Street lawyers but these are the exceptions. In any case, I saw students, here's where you'll be going. Keep up your paper work."

Unliked Private Practice

Because he didn't like private practice and, "wasn't much to get into it again," his teaching would have suffered if he hadn't done it. You can't teach these things in abstraction. You have to teach what really comes across a lawyer's desk — the mundane things. You can't give a distorted view to students otherwise."

Brook thinks law school is not so much a trade school — more a thing of passage, but you have to know the basic problem. "It's hard to get into the skill things."

"I'm teaching business classes by chance," he says, but again, he's a teacher, and has no desire to become involved in business himself. "I'm interested in how contracts and corporations are methods of how people enter into cooperative effort. How do you write an agreement that businessmen (do) want?"

First Semester

Last semester, his first at NYLS, he taught Contracts I and Agency and Partnership, both day and evening, as well as Legal Research. Before NYLS, a year as Bipolar Teaching Fellow and instructor at the University of Chicago Law School impressed him with the Chicago intensive legal writing and research program.

Financial Aid Expands Here

by Richard Grant

Like the rest of NYLS, the Financial Aid Office has been growing during this year:
• the office has come to the students and the teachers on the first floor of 47 Worth;
• it is centralized, run by a financial aid office and an assistant;
• the amount of money a student can borrow from a bank each year has doubled;
• the work-study program is increasing;
• and more grant money is available.

April 22 is the deadline for applying for financial aid during the 1977-78 school year.

According to Merrill F. Feinberg, financial aid officer, students can pick up an application folder in the office which includes the NYLS form, an independent-student certification form, a loan application and a GAPSFAS (Graduate and Corporation) L. Brook may well tie to settle down with this type of class load for another year. "It would give me a chance to think through school."

Would he like to develop his own course? Possibly a statistics and the law course in the future.

In Memoriam

Phyllis Scher Our Loss

by Peter Rose and Jim Tricario

This article should have been written for the last issue of EQUITAS, but we simply could not do it at that time. It was our own inability to write about the loss of a dear friend that caused the delay. Phyllis Scher died on Sunday, January 23rd at the age of 49.

She was a co-worker, a classmate, and the hardest working student at NYLS. Phyllis is survived by her husband David. Their marriage grew from a bond of mutual love, admiration and dedication.

We worked closely with Phyllis, being in the same group of students. We admired her caring and by her generosity. But, sure is not only an emotional loss, although it certainly is that; it is the loss of the benefit of the great insight and understanding that Phyllis brought to the study of law. The vitality that was hers has enriched our lives and can not be lost.

Phyllis was a difficult struggle through law school. The cultural shock that accompanied her first year of law school was especially hard on Phyllis, who came from a respected administrative position at a metropolitan hospital to the competitive pressure of law school at the age of 47. Yet, dissipated in some of her early grades, Phyllis worked all the harder and raised herself to academic excellence.

The awareness and understanding she brought to her work now, which we will never be able to measure; however, her classmates will be invited to contribute in her name to the NYLS library for a series of volumes in an area of great interest to Phyllis. The particular will be announced soon.

With graduation only a short while away, no matter how festive the ceremony, it will simply not be complete because Phyllis Scher cannot attend. But, for these writers, her name will be called and her diploma will be issued — if only in our hearts.
Silverman Defends Charge SBA is a 'Puppet'

He conceded that having stu­
dents on faculty committees may be a good idea, but said it should have been brought up by motion
at an SBA meeting and not in a
letter of resignation.

NLC's Part?

As to the rumors of the NLG's
part in the resignations, Silver­
man said that while it may be
debatable, he had not heard any­
things to that effect and would not
speculate on the issue.

The NLG has been in the past re­
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received a grant of $100, but the
funds were not turned over for a
few years.

The power to allocate funds to
student organizations was taken
from the SBA several years ago
and now the SBA gets its funds
directly, which is obligated to
pay over a percentage of its gross
to the student government.

The only other organization to
receive funds from the school are
the Law Review and EQUITAS,
both of which are funded by
student fees of $15, payable each
year to: Law Quot~s, EQUITAS,
516-74211

New SoHo Consumer Law Shop
by Dennis Stinchbrocker

The Consumer Law Training Center has opened its third of­
fices. The new center, at 1872
Thompson St., is operating Wed­
nesday and Thursday afternoons.
The storefront, in the heart of SoHo and Little Italy, is operated
by the Village Community Prob­
lem Solving Center, which gives the NY
LS Consumer Center students of­
five space and a telephone. The
Problem Center is backed by the Democratic, South Village Com­

New SoHo Consumer Law Shop

The Seminar of Bar Reviews

L a w Quo t e s, E Q U I T A S, New York, N.Y. 10012.

Those who serve our indepen­
dence by revolution were not con­
cerned, They did not fear political
changes. They did not erect order at the cost of liberty.

Brandes (Geneva in William Colby) George Schwartz

100% PASS NEW YORK BAR EXAM
THE RESULTS ARE OUT

In 1976 ten New York Law School graduates took the Pieper nightly Bar Review Seminar and bi­weekly essay writing sessions. THEY ALL PASSED!

In fact if you know any June 1976 graduate from any law school who attended the New York City
Pieper course last summer, you know someone who passed, because they all passed the New York Bar Exam.

ISN'T THAT WHAT A BAR REVIEW COURSE IS ALL ABOUT?

Contact the New York Law School Rep, Lori Burger, who has a list of the New York Law Students.
Lectures 6:00-9:30 p.m. — Prince George Hotel
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New York City

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★ Class size limited to 100 students
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★ Class participation encouraged
★ Special home cassette study course
★ Nightly testing
★ Free repeat course
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★ Tel. (516) 747-4311

SBA President Silverman

He emphasized, "We have done
difficulties, despite our shortcomings,
to justify our existence."

There were rumors circulating
around the school to the effect
that this was an attempt by the
NLC to embarrass, and perhaps
gain control of the SBA. Those
were emphatically denied by Gary
Schulman, a member of the collec­
tive running the NLC. They were
further denied by the members
who resigned, while emphasizing
that their (Cohen's and Rod­
stien's) membership in the NLC
had nothing to do with their feel­
ings on the SBA's effectiveness,
or lack thereof.

In a separate interview, Silver­
man admitted the SBA has little power, "It only has power to per­
form. Depending on how effec­
tively it is used determines the
result."

silverman:
"We have done enough!"

EQUITAS invites students, pro­
fessors and alumni to submit
quotes about the law, lawyers
and law school. The prize? You
get to see your name in print. Send your law quote, with prop­er
citation, and your name and class
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## Depository Bill

Attention students, faculty and alumnus.

Here is a chance for you to directly aid in the growth of NYLS. New York Congressman John M. Murphy is seeking support for his bill, which will allow any ALA accredited law school to receive depository library status if they request it.

Our librarian, Prof. Andrew Sinak, has gone on record in full support of this bill, noting that if NYLS were to receive depository status, our students would not have to go elsewhere when they need various federal documents which are only issued to depository libraries.

So, if it is stand that everyone in the NYLS community (and this includes the Trustees) should make an effort to contact their Congressional representatives and the members of the Subcommittee on Printing of the House of Representatives, which will review the bill. Its members are: Bradley, Gaydos, Van Deeerin, Mathis, Cleveland and Wiggins.

## Bar Date Problem

As reported in our last issue, the Court of Appeals is considering the use of the Multistate Bar Examination in New York. This proposed change is not to effect pending `77 graduates.

Nevertheless the State Board of Law Examiners has tentatively scheduled the next N.Y.S. Bar Examination to include the July 27th Multistate Bar exam date.

Such scheduling, if made permanent, will scuttle the plans of many candidates who intended to take two bar exams this summer.

In the past, the N.Y.S. Bar Examination was regularly scheduled in the third week of July, while the Multistate Bar Examination, since its inception in 1972 has been scheduled in the fourth week of July.

Imagining the strategy of students taking two bar examinations immediately after graduation have included: the litany of a justifiable charge of tougher residency rules in most jurisdictions; the belief that the studying necessary for passing the N.Y.S. Bar Examination would prove adequate for passing the Multistate Bar Examination; the cost of the second bar exam.

Furthermore one can possibly apply one's Multistate score, obtained in the second bar exam, towards meeting the admission requirement in yet additional states hereafter.

As previously stated, the July 27th and 28th dates for the N.Y.S. Bar Examination are tentatively set, and are therefore preserved.

EQUITAS strongly suggests that students who still want to take two bar exams this summer request that the examination be rescheduled for the third week in July!

## Odds and Ends

At the time of this writing, March 29, 1977, the SBA has not produced a formal final exam schedule late again. But there is some good news coming indirectly by way of the S.A.A. Through the efforts of Karen Miller, a third year student and member of the Curriculum Committee, the faculty has voted to allow student committee members to attend faculty meetings when proposals of their committees are being discussed.

This resolution was passed by the faculty at last month's meeting. Miller along with SBA President Silverman, spoke at the faculty meeting in favor of student attendance. This is certainly a step in the direction of significant student input — we hope it is the only one in many such steps.

And if the argument against a Multistate Bar Examination has tentatively scheduled the next N.Y.S. Bar Examination to include the July 27th Multistate Bar Exam date.

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## Letters To The Editor

To the editor:

The recent notices relating to this year's commencement exercises once again show the school's insensitivity to student needs and desires. For most of the students and their families, graduation represents the culmination of at least seven, and in some instances many more years of higher education. Commencement should therefore be something more than a mere window-dressing.

Yet this year's senior class has had no input into the selection of the commencement speaker or, for that matter, into the strategy that the school will take place. If the notices are correct, Atlas Tully Hall six, the site of the ceremonies, will be estimated 270 graduates receive tickets. Those eight invited guests, there will be only sixteen seats remaining for faculty, administrat

There are two chances on the positive side that each graduate will receive three tickets — alms and none.

With only two tickets, it is a difficult choice to determine which percentage of the family is to be actually in attendance.

And if the argument against a larger hall is its financial insolvency, then we can ask where the remainder of the fourteen or fifteen thousand dollars is going (70 graduates x $150 graduation fee equals $10,500).

The graduation decision is merely another example of the school's attitude of presenting the student body with what it is, whereas the worst of all possible worlds can be avoided. If one is going to fail accompli without input and without possibility of change, then the school should make no attempt to be even more concerned with the school's image, growth and education in the future with no practical experience in the course it is told to teach must teach.

There are classes being taught at this school from little more than the S.B.A.'s or N.B.C.'s series. The fault lies with the administration and Board of Trustees for its failure to recommend or grant brave in appropriate cases. It is the overwhelmingly most concerned with the school's income, prestige and other educational outputs. The constant turnover of faculty committee members at this school seems to have no practical effect.

The school could only hope that the turn-over of the secretarial staff was as constant. It amazes me that newly hired faculty members have no teaching experience, which is roughly apparent with each passing class. Even worse is the ties who not only has no teaching background, but also has no practical experience in the course it is told to teach must teach.

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News in Brief

Dwight Invites Gala Dinner

The Dwight Inn presents a gala dinner slated for April 23rd to be attended by guests and members of the NYLS community. Tickets may be purchased directly at the inn or can be placed on a table to be set up at Gil's Cafeteria.

Free Parking

All parking fees will be distributed with the Dinner-Dance tickets.

Tickets?

Admission is $20 per couple.

Bar Examiners want to see, by means of sample exams given under simulation conditions, that you translate your substantive learning into the kind of exam paper the Bar Examiners want to see. By the time you sit for the Bar Exam, you should be able to anticipate the kinds of questions that will be asked and be able to develop an effective strategy for tackling each question.

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  - COMPREHENSIVE MATERIALS... thorough, up-to-date outlines covering all 22 areas of New York law tested on the Bar Exam -- including the only CPLR summary designed specifically for the Bar Exam.
  - COMPUTER-GRADED PRETEST... compares your performance with that of others studying for the Exam, and tells you what you need to study before you start.
  - DIRECTED TESTING... throughout the course, a continuous program to help you translate your substantive learning into the kind of exam paper the Bar Examiners want to see, by means of sample exams given under simulated test conditions (with individual grading and critiques of selected essays and classroom hypotheticals as reinforcement).
  - CONVENIENCE... Each lecture in Manhattan is given twice a week at the Chinatown Center, 82 Mott Street, New York City.

Practitioners, litigators and judges of the state court system are experienced in the art of answering questions and guiding the increasing number of adjusting to new careers.

"It makes sense."

A BAR/BRI Course...

NOTE: TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR COMPUTER GRADED PRETEST, YOU MUST SIGN UP BY APRIL 30th.

Alumni News

George Heyman, '74, has been appointed a member of the Character and Fitness Committee of the New York State Apprentice Division, First Department.

2d Career News

The Second Careers organization of NYLS has gained its greatest usefulness to the school community in the pre-school counseling role. Bob Marmerston reports that he has met at least one NYLS applicant a month. They are mostly in their thirties or early forties and are experiencing tension and concern over the problem of adjusting to a new law school.

Although the hope of the Second Careers that the administration would utilize their combined experience of administrative, executive, and specialized skills has yet to be realized, Marmerston foresees the continued usefulness of the Second Careers as a support to the guidance team.

All NYLS students are encouraged to meet with the Pre-Law Committee for an individual interview to explore the situation.

JOIN EQUITAS...makes sense.

B.A.R/B.R.I. COURSE

EQUITAS

BAR REVIEW

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Hey, Did Ya Hear The One About The Animal Lawyer?

by Richard Grant

Equine. From the Latin, meaning "They indict horses, don't they?"

All my life I have wanted to be an animal lawyer, defending Garnet Shephard on trial for Murder One, aiding cats in inheritance battles.

Picture me in a courtroom questioning my client, a sad-faced dachshund with soft brown eyes, a dog caught in the middle of a booby trap.

"Who maltreated you?" I ask.

"Ralph," he barks out.

"Did he throw you anything?" I ask.

"Food," he replies.

"What do you want to live with?" I ask.

"Ruth," he answers.

So I applied to law school and was accepted at the Aaron Burr Law School of Law. During my first year, I took Evidence, Civil Procedure, Contracts, Morality, and the Law of the Averages. The last one was a tricky course. No matter how hard you studied, you got a C.

We read casesheets like Our Friend, the Tort and The How and The Why Book of Civil Procedure. Some students complained because the cases were extraneous. But they were laughs, make no mistake about that — they had substance.

Then, without any warning to the students, the school made a major policy change in an effort to become a "hot law school." The faculty failed the entire student body. The school then began recruiting 15 year-olds for next September's class. The kids were shorter and thinner, so attendance could climb from 1,000 to 2,700 without any additions to the facilities.

What could I tell my friends? That I was thrown out of law school for being too tall? I looked around.

There was the Joseph R. McCarthy Law School, located in a ten-story walk-down. The interviewer asked me, "Are you now or have you ever been?" They had no study abroad program and operated in New York City reluctantly.

"The Joseph McCarthy?" I asked.

"No," the interviewer explained. "This Joseph McCarthy had been associated with the law in his adult life, mostly from five to ten years previously. He had hired the best lawyers in the country, graduates of Harvard, Yale and Columbia. Proceed to explain his legal methods, they said, it was his eyes, he was now a law school, close to be accredited, I might add."

For a brief period, I considered the Hildab Fillmore Law School which has attracted more students by opening up a degree on the premises. The Admissions Office told me, "We're attracting the type of students who have a three-piece suit and rarely wear it. We'll teach you how to hustle!"

MFLS had a program enabling any student to get out of final exams by suing the school and winning. If he won, he became an A student with absolutely no chance of help from the placement office and tuition went up. Due to the school administration's difficulty in understanding the meaning of due process, the school was often sued and tuition already has paid for a new $30 million volume library and squash courts at the end of campus.

At the Cleveland Institute of Law, I was permitted to observe a student enrolled in a basic engineering course by sitting there while sitting at a lone desk in the middle of a large, empty room. The professor's voice asked someone to read the case. The student looked around as the professor's voice vowed off names. Thus, the professor mentioned her name, "Shit," she said.

Due to cost considerations, I had to rule out the Raymond Burr drive-in law school in California. Located in a parking garage, it was the first drive-in law school to the country. I did not own a car.

One week later, I was accepted at New York Law School, my first choice, and since then I've been forever grateful.

Prof. Biskind: This Man Needs You — Really!

by Mike Solis

One of any lawyer's most effective tools is the ability to communicate really well.

Despite the really many years of education such lawyer and law student has, many continue to popper their daily conversations with really large words.

For instance, I'm sure everyone been at NYLS is familar with such really many exagerrated words and phrases such as "whatshamacallit." "Ia known," "like when," "if mean," and "hookit" to mean what is really just the tip of a really big iceberg.

The really widespread use of such empty words and phrases has chased them with some degree of acceptance, at least in peer groups, but there is really no rational reason for their use. And, in the interest of verbal efficiency, they are really a waste.

But, like any of the many really bad habits we are reminded of daily, omitting these phrases from our speech is really tough. Especially when no one really points out when a person uses them.

But that doesn't mean one shouldn't really try to eliminate them from his (or her) vocabulary. It would really better when they are not used. Really.
by Mike Salts

It's a familiar situation. The "simple concept made difficult" syndrome. But, this time we're matching wits with the awesome trio of the government, media and Mother Nature herself.

The concept is the weather. Not necessarily the extended period of sub-frigid temperatures, but the general phenomenon of weather itself.

It's a simple concept; at least it used to be; and it should remain so.

Although "coldness" is a subjective measure, formerly, when the temperature dipped below say 32 degrees, it was cold and people acted accordingly.

Then the triumvirate struck. The weather forecasters, criticized so often for his or her less than accurate predictions, decided to qualify his forecast with the "wind chill factor." This variable, derived not surprisingly by Arctic explorers and the military, describes the cooling power of the air on exposed flesh.

Now, 30 degrees, standing alone, means very little. With a wind chill of 20 miles per hour, some extra clothing would be a commonsense reaction.

But, amid this olio, some good exists. In the interests of peace, we'll try to retain the weather as the last vestige of her unchallenged power, and since there are a few less "cold" days (defined as less than 32C) or -18F, we can't be upset with the switch-over attempt. If anyone's going to go on a vacation, you need not go as far south for a vacation.

The result was inevitable; the coldest winter, generally, has always required that a student receive a maximum loan before being eligible for work-study. No matter how you say it, it all means the same thing. It is with deep regret that we have to use this term after our 11 years with the School.

The Company, at this time, would like to take the opportunity to thank the student body, the professors and all the staff for their extended cooperation during our long past association.

U.S. BUILDING MAINTENANCE CO., INC.
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WILLIAM L. OTTO

Page 7
**Letters to the Editor**

(Continued from Page 4)

**Under New Management**

NYLS students welcome as always

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**EQUITAS**

Moot Court Big Success

The second annual labor law competition held in honor of the late Hal Lieberman on March 11-12, 1977. The competition was coordinated through the office of Dean Marshall Lippman by EQUITAS Executive Editor Peter Rose and by Maria Derr.

**Outstanding Judges**

The competition boasted outstanding judges from all areas of the labor law field. The winning team was the one woman advocate from George Washington University School of Law, Joan Darby. The second place team was from the University of Iowa School of Law. Presenting the awards to the winners from New York City Councilman Robert Wagner, grandson of Senator Wagner and the son of former Mayor Wagner. A well-attended reception followed the competition.

**Will Calendar Change For 77-78?**

Our memories are not so dim that we cannot recall the difficulties of studying during the Christmas and New Year's holidays. Traditional times for studying dissolved into hours of outlining, reading and record-keeping, legal group therapy, and shirking.

Calendar Used Elsewhere

Several law schools have adopted the type of schedule embraced in the proposed calendar. We are well aware that NYLS hopes to take full advantage of its facilities, but the result that the school is being used for a week during the off months of the year. A simple shift forward in the calendar might add tremendously to the convenience and comfort of the entire school.

The whole new and floor of the school year would coincide more naturally with those special days and seasons set aside by nature as well as by tradition. Students would be free from the demands of learning during holidays traditionally preserved for family and friends. An earlier starting date in the Fall would not only allow the student to take advantage of new and permanent positions at the same time our colleagues from neighboring institutions are seeking their footholds in the legal world. The immediate benefit of winding up the school year early in the Spring would be to allow graduates more time to prepare for the Bar. Under the proposed calendar summer vacation is not scheduled until July, which would force many to put off the major transition of looking for jobs until after a six-month break.

**PROPOSED CALENDAR**

**FIRST SEMESTER:**

- Registration and Orientation for First Year Students
- Fall Term begins
- Labor Day Holiday
- Fall Term classes end
- Fall Reading Period
- Fall Examinations begin
- Fall Examinations end

**SECOND SEMESTER:**

- Spring Term begins
- Washington’s Birthday, Holiday
- Spring Reading Period
- Spring Term classes end
- Spring Examinations begin
- Spring Examinations end
- Commencement

**EQUITAS**

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Address correction requested

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