A Gala Celebration to announce the
New York Law School
Capital Campaign

Thursday, December 13, 2007
Winter Garden in the World Financial Center

Honoring
Steven E. Pegalis ’65, Senior Partner, Pegalis & Erickson, LLP
Kathleen Grimm ’80, Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration,
New York City Department of Education
Charles E. Phillips Jr. ’93, President, Oracle Corporation

Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction: 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Dinner, Award Presentation, and Dancing: 7:30–10:30 p.m.

For further information please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations
at 212-431-2800 or visit our Web site at www.nyls.edu/gala.
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Every school has its genesis story. Ours lauds the renegade dean, faculty, and students who scoffed at conventional wisdom, broke away from Columbia Law School, and banded together to do it their (right) way. These legal education pioneers created a unique, fiercely independent, practical, open-minded institution that soon became the largest and most important law school in the country. This new school went on to graduate the leading lawyers, judges, and politicians of their day. It produced award-winning writers and entrepreneurs who built new businesses using technologies of their own design. Simply put: New York Law School broke new ground by building a vibrant, diverse school that gave opportunities to countless students to reach their goals—in law, government, and commerce.

Flash forward 116 years. Walk past our school. Watch the buzz of activity. Every day, we continue to break ground—literally—as our new educational home is being built. But in a much deeper way, we are also breaking new ground by creating an extraordinary, cutting-edge program that responds to the needs of the new generation of law students and bridges their hopes to a wide array of new careers for which a legal education is critical. New York Law School is breaking new ground. Again!

This issue of our magazine celebrates New York Law School’s innovative spirit by recognizing its continuity with the past and the platform it provides for the future. We highlight three of our graduates whose careers exemplify a New York Law School education. Steve Pegalis ’65, the consummate trial lawyer, is a man whose passion for justice for his clients drives him every day. Kathleen Grimm ’80 is a true public servant whose legal training is the foundation for managing the financial affairs of the largest public school system in our country. Charles Phillips ’93 is the lawyer/technologist/business executive who runs Oracle, one of the nation’s leading technology firms. These three alums represent the thousands of New York Law School graduates who are the most prominent lawyers, governmental officials, and executives serving our society.

There is a common theme in the New York Law School story; we highlight the drive to serve others; the commitment to constantly improve, innovate, and redesign; the desire to reach beyond our most hopeful dreams; and the quest for continued knowledge and perfection of our craft. We hope this issue of the magazine inspires that theme in all of us.

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Look Who’s Talking at New York Law School
New York Law School will kick off its *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Campaign on Thursday, December 13, 2007, with a glittering cocktail reception and dinner/dance at the Winter Garden in the World Financial Center. The Gala will honor three outstanding alumni—Steven E. Pegalis ’65, Kathleen Grimm ’80, and Charles E. Phillips Jr. ’93—whose lives are shining examples of the Law School’s ethos: “Learn law. Take action.” Their accomplishments span private practice, public service, and global business. Pegalis is the Founder and Senior Partner of Pegalis & Erickson, LLC; Grimm is the Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration for the New York City Department of Education; and Phillips is the President of Oracle Corporation. All three honorees also serve as trustees of the Law School.

The Gala marks the inauguration of the public phase of the *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Capital Campaign for the Law School. The Campaign supports the $190 million expansion and renovation program that has been underway at the School since 2006. The centerpiece of the program is the construction of a new glass-enclosed, 235,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility that will integrate with the Law School’s three existing buildings. The new facility will house the law library, public event spaces, student collaboration areas and lounges, and a variety of “smart” classrooms designed to accommodate New York Law School’s expanded use of new, technologically-oriented teaching methods. In addition, it will be the first major institutional project to open in Lower Manhattan post-9/11 and will increase the School’s educational space by 70 percent. Scheduled for completion in late 2008, the construction of the new building will be followed by the renovation of the School’s existing buildings, set to be finished by 2010.

“The December 13 Gala marks an exciting new part of our program to remake New York Law School for the 21st century,” says Dean and President Richard A. Matasar. “Although we have been working on the expansion and renovation program and the Campaign itself for some time, this is when we open the public phase. The support we have already received has been extremely gratifying, and now that we have gone public, even greater numbers of our alumni and friends are going to come forward and contribute to build our school.”

The purpose of the *Breaking New Ground. Again.* Campaign is to support the creation of a new academic program that is as cutting-edge as the Law School’s new facility. The School plans to implement this new program by increasing scholarships, adding more top-notch faculty, establishing new academic centers, and bringing the latest technological innovations to the study of law.
As a result, fundraising efforts are now more critical than ever. These efforts will ensure that the many plans and programs the Law School has been building will be available to every interested student. Therefore, New York Law School has launched the Breaking New Ground. Again. Campaign.

The Campaign is a logical continuation of New York Law School’s history of innovation. As the world changes, the role of lawyers is expanding and going in new directions unimagined only a decade or two ago. Technology is the driving force behind these changes. New York Law School is on the threshold of integrating cutting-edge technology into the legal education of every student. “The classrooms and other facilities will be outfitted with the latest technological innovations,” says Dean Matasar, “not because we admire bells and whistles, but because we know that lawyers who are trained technologists are the most likely to be able to fulfill the ultimate mission of this Law School—to produce lawyers who use their legal education to create something of value for others.”

But just as important as the new facility itself are the people who will bring it to life. Alumni returning to the School will find an amazing faculty of legal scholars, dedicated teachers, and educational innovators. They will also discover a student population of incredible diversity in terms of their professional interests, but with a number of shared personality traits, including intellectual curiosity, a commitment to excellence, and the drive to succeed. In addition, the new building will provide more opportunities to open the School’s doors to alumni, guests, and experts from across disciplines to enrich the school community.

“This is an incredibly exciting time to be a part of the New York Law School community,” Arthur N. Abbey ’59, Chairman of the New York Law School Board of Trustees, commented. “It is both fitting and appropriate that we will initiate the public phase of our Campaign with an amazing evening celebrating our alumni, our heritage, and our future at one of New York City’s most glamorous venues. I am looking forward to this wonderful evening, and I hope to see many alumni and friends there.”

The Breaking New Ground. Again. Gala will take place on Thursday, December 13 at the Winter Garden in the World Financial Center. For more information about the Gala and to purchase tickets, please visit the Gala Web site at www.nyls.edu/gala.

—Shelley Uva

Features

Gala Honoree

STEVEN PEGALIS ’65
A Trial Lawyer: Achieving Justice for Clients

By Katherine Tobin, Ph.D.

Steven Pegalis ’65 is the Founder and Senior Partner of Pegalis & Erickson, LLC, located in Lake Success, New York. His office is simple and elegant. Along one wall are two bookcases filled with framed photographs. One holds the smiling faces of his family—his wife Laura, their three adult children, and five grandchildren. Another set of shelves contains more family portraits—those of his clients. Pegalis has represented over a thousand clients in his 40 years as a medical malpractice lawyer. Each picture is a window into his work.

Many of these photos show children with disabilities, such as blindness, paralysis, and the inability to speak. They also glow with spirit, joy, achievement, pride, and love. One client pictured is a young woman wearing a beautiful prom dress. Another is a young man standing side by side with New York Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. Dressed professionally and smiling, the young man is in charge of disability services and programs for the city.

All of these young people were injured through medical negligence. None of them had a fair shot at a happy and normal life until their families met Steven Pegalis. Pegalis is a highly accomplished trial lawyer and the author of a three-volume text on medical malpractice. He is also an adjunct professor and trustee at his alma mater, New York Law School.

He values his legal education: “It’s a means to each individual’s chosen ends, and each individual has to deal with defining those ends, whichever way is best for him or her. But however one deals with it, the law is a very noble profession.”

Born in the Bronx in 1942, the oldest of three, Pegalis started working for his father at age 12. His father was a milkman and, eventually, a New York Law School grad. Pegalis worked his way through college delivering milk for his dad. “Right about the time I graduated from college, he gave up the milk business to become a lawyer. So the first year of law school I did part-time work; it was the first time I was not employed full time,” he recalls. “There were a lot of professors who still knew my father because it was not that many years after he had attended, and they used to refer to me as ‘Walter’s kid.’”

As an adjunct professor, Pegalis has an empathy for students that can only come from someone who’s faced and surmounted their challenges. “When I was in college, I would work at night and then go to school during the daytime. So, later on, in the first class I taught [as] guest lecturer [for Professor Don Shapiro’s Law in Medicine course] . . . I noticed this fellow in the back row dressed like a bum; it was hard not to notice him. . . . Don told me after class that the student was an undercover police officer. . . . Now, when you stop and think, here are people who have important jobs and families, and they’re out there. . . . They’re getting an education to go on and do something good.

“I do like that connection,” he says of his teaching at New York Law School. “I think that the legal profession is wonderful; one can become involved in bar associations, and with the trial lawyers—and I do to some extent—but working closely with the School, in the classroom, is another way of being involved. And that goes to the roots of creating the next generation of ethical, well-trained, confident lawyers.”

In terms of advice to law school students and young lawyers, Pegalis urges people to “build on the basics.” “Law school should teach you the basics about the law and how to conduct yourself,” he says. “And then, when you start working as a lawyer, learn from someone who knows how to do it well. Watch what they do.”

In addition to teaching at the Law School, Pegalis is honored
Pegalis is proud of New York Law School, but in his quiet way, even prouder of his family, his firm, and its success on behalf of clients. “I wanted to be successful for my family, and I think that’s what I have done. My wife and I are very proud of our children and grandchildren, and thrilled that they are very much a part of our lives.” He also takes great pride in his team, a group of nine attorneys that includes his partner, Stephen Erickson ’78, another graduate of the Law School. “I’m also proud of the fact we have ongoing relationships with our clients,” he adds. “That’s a very big plus.”

Pegalis stays in touch with his family of clients, often helping them manage after the case is won. “My partners and I have continued to represent many clients, without charge, years after the recovery in order to help ensure that the funds accomplish the financial goals of the suit,” he says. And in many cases, a friendship is formed. He recently invited a client of his to the Law School’s Gala celebration.

For Pegalis, medical malpractice is not only his area of expertise, it’s his driving force. He’s literally written the textbook on it, and recently wrote an article published in the *New York Law School Law Review* focusing on the role of the legal system in achieving patient safety (Volume 51, 2006/07). “That all takes a little time,” he says. “And I’d say it is fun . . . but it’s simply a matter of having the time. It’s a challenge to organize the information and present the medical and technical material in a certain way. This dovetails directly with what I do on behalf of clients.”

Pegalis describes his cases as fascinating and packed with raw emotion. In addition to the emotional challenge, they push him to master a great deal of technical information. “When I take on a case,” he explains, “I have to know all the technical details as well as the doctors and nurses who are going to be on the other side. Sometimes jurors say to me, ‘You knew the medicine better than they did.’” In addition, he says, he has to “put things together in a very cogent way, consistent with the law,” and advocate a position in such a clear, convincing way that he’ll never have to “step back and say, ‘Well, I didn’t mean that.’ It is to me very challenging.”

Clearly this work is both intellectually rigorous and emotionally trying, but when asked about how he handles it all, Pegalis says without hesitation, “It’s my clients who have inspired me. When you work with people who are dealing with major league issues, and they’re handling them well, it’s hard to complain about your own problems, and it’s hard not to be inspired by them.”

Pegalis credits his mentor, Steven O’Leary, as his professional touchstone. He joined O’Leary’s personal injury firm in his last year of law school and worked there for eight years. “Everyone loved Steve O’Leary because of his integrity,” Pegalis says. “He was a very hard worker, and if you worked for him, you worked hard, and you had to be truthful with clients, advocates, and judges. There were not two ways of doing it; there was only one way. We used to call him the Abe Lincoln of the courthouse.”

Talking about the way the profession is seen in our culture, he says, “I hate lawyer jokes. They’re really not very funny.” Instead, he likes movies such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* or *Anatomy of a Murder*, in which “the lawyers are very ethical and have a cause, and the movie puts the judicial system in a good light.”

What are his hopes for the future of New York Law School?

“I would like to see the Law School acquire the standing that it deserves,” Pegalis says. “Its reputation is a hard thing to define and a hard thing to gain, but I think we definitely have taken a major step in the right direction.”
“The School’s campus was really quite different then,” Kathleen Grimm ’80 recalls from her time as a law student. “We had no lunch room, for example. In the basement was a small hot dog stand run by a fellow named Gil. He could sell you a hot dog or a torts book.” Though the School’s facilities were more basic then, Grimm found New York Law School to be a place where she could thrive. “I loved it,” she says, seated today surrounded by student artwork at New York City’s Department of Education, where she is Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration. “I had a wonderful time.”

Her wonderful time included summer work for Louise Gans, who later became a New York judge, at a community-based organization close to the Law School. “Then I took two tax courses and fell in love... Tax has to do with everything,” Grimm says. “So... law school pointed me to my first job as a lawyer, which was with the Internal Revenue Service.”

After earning an LL.M. in tax at NYU while working for the IRS, Grimm moved on to private tax practice, and then to employment with the city as Deputy Commissioner for Audit and Enforcement at the Department of Finance. It was the next step in a career of public service, but it was by no means her first.

Born in Troy, New York, to activist parents, Grimm was the oldest of nine children. She was a parochial schools graduate, taught by nuns from grade school through her undergraduate education at Manhattanville College. She was also, quite literally, a good scout, from Brownies through Senior Scouts, and earned the Curved Bar (the Girl Scouts’ equivalent of an Eagle Scout).

Her father, who worked as the chief financial officer for New York State’s Division for Youth, was elected to the local school board. Each of his nine kids worked on that first race, and he won by just nine votes. Grimm sees a connection there. Her mother worked for Secretary of State, and then Governor, Mario Cuomo. Later, she was elected the Town Assessor in Grafton, New York. Grimm’s parents were active community people, “not just in terms of running and winning campaigns, but also in terms of creating a strong community. We never sat down to dinner with just the immediate family at the table.”

Grimm recalls the September she left home for college. She knew change was coming but not what it entailed. At Manhattanville, she soon found herself enjoying her new home and world of study; majoring in, not surprisingly, political science. It was an intense period nationally and in her young life, but she liked being pushed to be all she could. It steeled her for the future.

After college, Grimm worked as a social worker and administrator at the Menorah Home and Hospital in Brooklyn. Her manager and mentor was Max Wiseman, who ran the complex. From Wiseman, she learned how important human capital is to effective management. At his death, Grimm decided to go to law school at night. She felt she had more to learn, and that New York Law School was the place to do it.

Grimm liked what she describes as a much more interesting experience, studying law in the evenings with working people of varied backgrounds. She learned to look at the law and see what wasn’t there, as much as what was, and to use the law to make the everyday world work better for others. “I found finance and property issues to be fascinating,” she says. “And tax law too. There’s really a great beauty to it, the way the law and trusts, wills, and tax all interrelate. You can’t do one without the other.”

Today, Grimm is Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration for the New York City Department of Education, appointed in 2002 by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and Schools Chancellor Joel I. Klein. She is in charge of the service and business functions for New York City’s schools—the non-instructional elements. The Department’s annual operating budget is $17 billion, and its five-year capital plan is funded at over $13 billion. Grimm oversees the delivery of all business, operations,
Grimm’s management philosophy is straightforward: hire the right people, make it very clear what the goals are, and then let them do their jobs. She is very proud of her team. “We have more buses running every day than the MTA, to both public and parochial schools,” she says. “We serve over 800,000 meals five days a week. That’s more meals than any other organization in the country serves, with the exception of the military.”

“My goal is the same as every member of the Chancellor’s team: to move students’ performance levels upward. We’re all aligned on that, and it doesn’t matter what our particular roles are. . . . I make sure that 1,500 schools open every morning, that they’re clean and safe, that kids get to school safely on the buses, that they have food for breakfast, lunch, and snacks, that the food is good and nutritious, that we have good lighting and adequate space, good science labs, the proper allocation of funding, good IT services and health services, safety services, and support services. We deliver all those to the schools in a seamless way . . . all with the goal of moving student performance.”

Grimm strongly supports the “Children First” program that Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Klein launched in 2003. It’s a comprehensive school reform initiative aimed at creating great schools where all of the city’s 1.1 million schoolchildren can learn the skills and receive the support they need to realize their potential. She notes proudly that with graduation rates and test scores up, the city’s schools are making steady progress, but stresses that there is much more work to do.

Since her first city position with the Department of Finance, Grimm has found joy working in government at the local level. “At the state level, you’re mostly doing regulatory, monitoring, or oversight work. But with the city, you’re within everybody’s sensors; you’re picking up garbage, providing education, or getting cops on the beat. . . . This is where you can really make a difference.” As her parents did, Grimm takes on many jobs, and one of her life commitments is to New York Law School. It is a community that opened doors for her and to which she has given much in return. Grimm has been active in the Alumni Association for many years and is one of its past presidents. She also serves on the advisory board for the Center for New York City Law, which she believes “is a terrific way for students and faculty to see urban leaders and learn about making a city work.”

Grimm also serves as a trustee and as Chair of the Board’s Audit and Budget Committee, and she has taught Municipal Finance each spring for ten years. “I love having the opportunity to interact in a meaningful way with the student body,” she says. “And when you teach, you learn so much.”

She has advice for today’s law students: “Find your passion. If a job is just a means to an end and not a passion, don’t go through with it because you’re wasting your time. Find something you love.” For her, government was her passion, and she feels it could well be for today’s new lawyers. “In government there is so much to do that it’s never all done. People put things on your plate that you’d never get to do in the private sector. And at the senior level, you’re making decisions every day that affect people’s lives in very real ways. So governmental service, particularly in New York, is an incredible opportunity.”

Looking to the future, Grimm sees New York Law School continuing to be a place known for preparing students for the legal profession, but also one that provides students with the skills and values our society needs. Whether lawyers are in private practice, government, or business, they are shaping the world. “Lawyers are such an important part of our society,” she says. “So we have a real responsibility for making people not just good lawyers, but good citizens.”

Grimm loves the Law School just as she loves its city. Her favorite thing to do is travel around New York, looking at neighborhoods. “I’m now totally attuned to the schools, where they are, where the school crossings are . . . all the things an ordinary person might not notice. I love seeing the role the schools are playing in this city. A school is so much more than the building. And the city of New York has never looked or felt better.” For Grimm, it is an exciting time to be involved with New York Law School. It is a time when the School is transforming outwardly and inwardly. She is humbled to have been chosen for recognition for her work in public service.
Charles Phillips Jr., President of Oracle, the world’s largest enterprise software company, credits his father for his success. This captain of industry, who was formerly a captain in the Marine Corps, never forgets that every time he takes a risk, his father did it first.

“I grew up around risk-taking,” Phillips says. “My dad was one of nine kids from Clinton, Oklahoma, the son of a sharecropper. He left home at 16 because there were too many mouths to feed there. He went to the Air Force recruiting office and told them he was 18. Here’s a man who started out picking cotton and baling hay, and now he’s on the city council outside of Atlanta. Nothing I could ever think of was hard compared to that.”

Phillips believes that if you are willing to work hard, refuse to take no for an answer, and take some risks, anything can happen.

Phillips has earned three academic degrees—a B.S. in computer science from the Air Force Academy, an M.B.A. from Hampton University, and a J.D. from New York Law School. Each credential gave him the tools he has used to shape his career and the world around him.

On each career path he’s pursued, he has moved quickly to the top.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps, where he was a computer programming officer. By the time he was a captain, Phillips was looking for new worlds to conquer. He joined Morgan Stanley and was soon taking technology companies public, and helping investors spot hot, new technology companies. He has led people and initiatives in business, technology, education, music, and sports. It all boils down to this Marine’s succinct explanation: “I am always ready to capture the next hill.”

Phillips developed this thirst for challenge early on, modeling himself after his father, who pursued a career in the U.S. Air Force after he enlisted without a high school diploma. During that time, his father earned his diploma and a college degree. Later, he earned his law degree. It was a path his son would follow.

The peripatetic Air Force life sat well with Charles Jr. He was born in Little Rock, Arkansas, and moved frequently from one Air Force base to another, including a stay in Spain. “I’m from nowhere and everywhere, and that has its pluses and minuses,” he says. “It was always a new challenge, a new community, a new hill to take, a new situation to deal with. It was always fun for me to go to new places and to have to establish myself.”

When Phillips considered running for high school president, he was the new kid in another town. He asked his father if he thought it was a good idea. His dad replied, “Have you ever heard of King George IV? For 5,000 years before him, people made shoes the same for the right foot and the left foot. King George said, ‘That’s crazy. This is uncomfortable! I want a left shoe and I want a right shoe.’ And we’ve been doing it ever since. Until somebody does it the first time and thinks of the situation differently, that doesn’t mean it can’t be done. It just means nobody thought of it.” From his father, Phillips also learned to try anything and take risks because “failure is nothing but practice for your next success.”

After high school, Phillips applied to the U.S. Air Force Academy. The usual route was to ask your congressman for an appointment. But not young Phillips. He found out that the vice president of the United States can nominate one or two people a year to each service academy. Once again, Phillips took the road less traveled. It worked.

Phillips loved the Academy. “I learned a lot about leadership, and always to seek a bigger challenge.”

What bigger challenge could there be for a 22-year-old second lieutenant than leading a unit of 100 Marines? “Forty-year-old guys with tattoos. And I was their boss,” he recalls. “I learned a lot quickly about
how to get people to follow you when they initially don’t like you. I learned to engage people, to find something in common with them that motivates them.”

After five years in the Marines, Phillips moved on. “I’d been in the military all my life and decided I will never know what it’s like beyond that if I don’t try it.” Once again, he took the next risky step.

Phillips earned his M.B.A. from Hampton University, one of America’s best historically black colleges, and then headed to New York hoping he could take his leadership training and technology knowledge to business. “I decided to go to Wall Street. I wrote 175 letters and got 174 rejections. From their perspective, I had nothing to offer. People saw military on my résumé and just took me off the list.” Phillips didn’t take this as rejection; rather, he believed, “I only had to convince one guy.” And he did.

He was offered a job at Morgan Stanley and began a career he describes as extremely exciting. “It was like having your own little personal lab. I was there in the early ’80s, and I believed that software was going to change our world.” With his knowledge, he was able to analyze the companies coming to Wall Street, those that wanted to go public or needed secondary financing. He got to meet the CEOs, ask questions, and see what they were doing next.

Making himself a titan of Wall Street, though, wasn’t enough to occupy Phillips’s prodigious energy. He enrolled in the Evening Division at New York Law School. “I’d get up at 5 a.m., go to work to get ahead, leave at 6 p.m., go to class, get back to work at 9, and get home at midnight,” he recalls. “I did that for years.”

Early on at Morgan Stanley, he met Larry Ellison, the founder and CEO of Oracle. Over the years, the two argued about the direction software and markets would be taking in the future. Eventually Ellison recruited Phillips to Oracle, saying, “You think you’re so smart, come and help me run the company.” Phillips didn’t know exactly what he would be doing, but he took the chance, knowing he’d be able to figure it out once he got there.

Thinking back to his law school years, Phillips says, “I was still on Wall Street when I studied there. I couldn’t have done it any other way than at New York Law School.” In his current role, he uses his legal training all the time. “Basically, I’m working in a company that sells intellectual property, so knowing the law has been very useful.”

Just like when he was in law school, Phillips still works day and night. Beyond his very demanding “day job” at Oracle, he has many other commitments. In addition to being a trustee of the Law School, he serves on the boards of a number of other organizations, including the American Museum of Natural History, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Morgan Stanley, and Viacom Inc.

Phillips is proud of his heritage and spends time inspiring other young African Americans. He is a member of 100 Black Men of America Inc., which works to increase the number of men mentoring youth. He also remains connected to the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) at the Law School, and was honored as the keynote speaker at its annual alumni dinner in 2005.

In the midst of fast change and pace, Phillips’s life has two strong and steady groundings. First is his family, including his wife of 24 years. Second is his love of technology, which stretches back to childhood. “I loved gadgets and used to play making computers,” he says.

Since 2004, Phillips has been President of what has become the world’s largest enterprise software company. Oracle’s products enable people to simultaneously manage, process, and interact with complex and very important data sources. Phillips is responsible for global field operations, as well as corporate strategy—a job that has him constantly on the move. With homes in New York City and San Francisco, he spends most of his days in meetings or in planes or airports in more than 145 countries. Since joining the Oracle team, he has led the way and successfully brokered the acquisition of more than 31 companies, large and small. These technology buys are for the most part enterprise applications and security software companies, including many well-known names such as PeopleSoft, Retek, and Siebel Systems.

Phillips says his legal background gives him confidence to handle each new situation, and he is grateful for what the Law School has helped him achieve. Reflecting on the School’s progress, he says, “New York Law School is a great place, with a fantastic dean. He’s an imaginative and quixotic guy, and the School’s come such a long way since I was there. It’s so nice to see the quality of the students and faculty.” His advice for law students echoes what he learned from his father: “If you want something badly enough, just because it hasn’t been done, doesn’t mean it can’t be done!”
A Gala Celebration to announce the New York Law School

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Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg’s vision of New York City is one “without artificial borders,” neither hemmed in by the Hudson River nor confined by the Queens or Bronx borders, says Professor Ross Sandler, a former Commissioner of Transportation for New York City (1986–1990). What is most remarkable about the transportation component of the mayor’s PlaNYC for a greener, greater New York is its sheer breadth, says Professor Sandler, the founding Director of the Law School’s Center for New York City Law. Mayor Bloomberg’s biggest transportation challenge will be convincing the New York State Legislature to give a final OK allowing the city to experiment with congestion pricing, a traffic congestion relief program that would require motorists to pay a fee for entering Manhattan’s main business district. The timing is ripe for the legislature’s approval, Professor Sandler says. Steady improvements in the city’s public transportation system over the past 25 years demonstrate that the city and state can deliver on their promises. Congestion pricing will make street traffic more rational and provide hundreds of millions of dollars to continue public transportation improvements.

Mayor Bloomberg announced PlaNYC on April 22, 2007. The plan contains 127 separate initiatives on issues including housing, clean water, transportation, and access to parks, and aims to reduce greenhouse gases by 30 percent in the city by 2030. In addition to the congestion pricing proposal, the mayor’s transportation plan depends on significant improvements and enhancements of public transportation facilities for Long Island, Westchester County, and New Jersey, as well as within the five boroughs.

“I don’t recall a government plan that dealt so completely with all the transportation needs, not just of the city, but of the entire extended region,” says Professor Sandler, who teaches Torts as well as a variety of New York City government courses at the Law School. “While planners at the Regional Plan Association and elsewhere have insisted on a regional perspective, city officials are often mired down in highly localized day-to-day management chores. With his new plan, Mayor Bloomberg has broken through the daily cycle of immediate crises and put forward an extraordinary vision of the future of the city and its long-term needs.”

Mayor Bloomberg made the case for the need to implement such a plan in an address to the media at the American Museum of Natural History on Earth Day 2007. “As our city continues to grow, the costs of congestion to our health, to our economy, and to our environment are only going to get worse,” the mayor said. “The question is not whether we want to pay, but how do we want to pay—with an increased asthma rate, with more greenhouse gases, with more wasted time, lost business, and higher prices? Or do we charge a modest fee to encourage more people to take mass transit?”

The mayor’s plan shows a “maturity” in accepting a regional perspective, according to Professor Sandler.
In 1981, when Professor Sandler first joined the Koch Administration as a special advisor on public transportation, “people were deserting the city,” he says. Its financial woes, crime rate, and transportation problems were still “so immense and desperate” that there was neither time nor resources to develop a regional plan. The most urgent transportation issue at that time was to establish a capital plan for the city’s subways and buses. In 1982, Mayor Edward I. Koch, MTA Chair Richard Ravitch, and Governor Hugh Carey convinced the State Legislature to provide the funding for the MTA’s first modern capital plan. The highly visible success of that first plan and of the succeeding plans has given Mayor Bloomberg the foundation on which to make his case. The fact that the city has “a vibrant economy with a prosperous, strong present and future,” all bode well for the plan’s success, Professor Sandler says.

He also credits Mayor Bloomberg for having the personality to risk such an ambitious plan. “His instinct is to plan long-term and think broadly. The well-written plan paints a horizon-widening picture of the city of extraordinary breadth and sophistication.”

The part of the proposal that has caused the most controversy aims to charge motorists with personal vehicles $8 and commercial truck operators $21 when they enter Manhattan south of 86th Street during the most congested times, weekdays from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. A network of electronic readers will facilitate the generation of bills or charges to commuter accounts, thus eliminating the need for tollbooths. Commuters who do not drive south of 86th Street in Manhattan will not be charged. The fee will also be waived for those who use the tunnels, bridges, and highways, such as the FDR Drive and West Side Highway, without entering city streets.

Mayor Bloomberg argues that the city’s growing population of 8.2 million puts it “on a collision course with the environment, which itself is growing more unstable and uncertain.” Some business leaders, legislators, and others commenting on the proposal nevertheless worry that congestion pricing will have a dampening effect on the economy. Groups that have voiced opposition to the proposal include the American Trucking Association, whose spokesman Clayton Boyce said that people who use FedEx and UPS will “bear extra expense.” But as Mayor Bloomberg noted in responding to such criticism, truckers will benefit by having fewer private autos on the streets, and that benefit would, in fact, affect very few auto drivers. “In analyzing congestion pricing,” Mayor Bloomberg said, “we studied commuting patterns across the city, and we arrived at an astounding finding. Of the New Yorkers who work in Manhattan but live outside it, only five percent commute by car.”
The legislature’s tentative first step towards implementing the mayor’s plan occurred late in the session when it voted to establish a committee to evaluate the proposal. Both the makeup of the committee and the exposure it will give to concerns about congestion pricing provide an opportunity for Mayor Bloomberg to build the needed consensus for approval of actual implementation.

Professor Sandler, who strongly supports congestion pricing, says, “Any change large or small in the transportation system engenders controversy. It’s not unexpected to have opposition. It will take people some time to evaluate whether or not it is worth the cost.”

Professor Sandler notes that New York City, unlike other world cities such as Paris or London, is not a capital city and can’t rely on national taxes to maintain its public transportation systems. New York City therefore has to assume a greater financial burden. The overall regional plan envisions a variety of funding sources, including state and gasoline taxes, the general tax revenue of surrounding counties, and the tax contributions of future residents of New York. Even in its first year, congestion pricing will generate $400 million for the city, says Mayor Bloomberg. New York’s transit system, as well as other public transit projects, stand to benefit from this revenue.

Professor Sandler’s optimism that the timing is right for congestion pricing is based in part on his own experience with similar proposals. In 1975 he, along with his New York Law School colleague Professor David Schoenbrod, handled litigation against the city and state seeking to impose transportation restrictions including, as an ultimate strategy, tolls on the East River bridges. Both Professors Sandler and Schoenbrod worked for the Natural Resources Defense Council at the time. That year was the height of the fiscal crisis, and a new toll was exceedingly unpopular. In response, Congress eliminated bridge tolls in 1977 as a required federal Clean Air Act strategy. In 1987, Professor Sandler, then Commissioner of Transportation, raised the issue of tolls again as part of the city’s federal Clean Air Act duties. Once again, Congress backed off from requiring the city to act.

Professor Sandler sees current conditions as more propitious for congestion pricing. “The proposal this time comes from the local government leaders, not the distant federal government,” he says. “It builds on the proven success of public transportation, is justified by intensified development patterns in Manhattan and the rest of the city, and can be accomplished with non-intrusive electronic technology, which solves the problem of the Manhattan-based driver who would otherwise have unfairly escaped bridge tolls.”

There is a risk that congestion pricing will become embroiled in the upcoming mayoral election of 2009, in which case the momentum built up by Mayor Bloomberg could be overwhelmed. The best hope, says Professor Sandler, is for the enactment by the State Legislature later this year or early in 2008.

In the meantime, Professor Sandler continues to impact city government with students at the Law School, where he founded the Center for New York City Law in 1993. The Center hosts a series of events and publishes three widely circulated newsletters: CityLaw, a bimonthly newsletter that reports administrative and court decisions affecting New York City; CityLand, a monthly newsletter that reports every decision by New York City land use agencies; and CityRegs, a biweekly newsletter that alerts readers to every proposed and adopted New York City regulation. Professor Sandler describes the three publications as forming, along with the Center’s Web site, an “open window to city government.”

“For me, there is no higher calling than serving the public interest by working for local government,” he says. “All of my experiences have made me more committed to New York City, a commitment that I hope I also communicate in the classroom.”
Many students hope to make a difference after they graduate from law school. Others can’t wait that long. For those eager to get started, New York Law School’s Justice Action Center offers an outlet. Through faculty-driven initiatives and student-led projects, the Center is reaching out to the community and embracing the Law School’s motto.

“We’re the embodiment of ’Learn law. Take action,’” says Professor Richard Marsico, the Center’s Director, referring to the School’s motto.

The Center is one of seven at the School that focus on specific areas of the law. The idea for the Center, says Associate Dean for Professional Development Lenni B. Benson, a former co-director, came about when Dean Richard A. Matasar joined the School in 2000. He quickly discovered that many faculty members, especially those interested in social justice, were widely known in their fields. “But despite this incredible depth in the faculty,” Dean Benson says, “each person was working in an individual capacity.” Dean Matasar suggested channeling faculty interests into centers to build on that depth.

For the Justice Action Center (JAC), that idea has evolved into 16 full-time faculty members, several adjuncts, and, for the 2007–08 academic year, about 60 second- and third-year students eager to devote themselves to public interest law. In just a few years—the first class graduated in 2005—the Center has made an impact in the community and helped students get a head start on their careers. “By the time students in JAC are done, they have a sense of what lawyering really is,” says Chris Kendall, an adjunct professor and the Center’s Associate Director.
For students, that’s a welcome benefit. “Instead of just learning law,” says William (“Willie”) Johnson ’07, “you actually get to go out and get your hands dirty.”

The professors affiliated with JAC have varied interests and perspectives that cover the political spectrum, says Dean Benson. As a result, they have launched several unique and ongoing initiatives, including the Economic Justice Project, led by Professor Marsico, which works to protect low-income and minority communities from bad lending practices and improve financial services in those communities. The Racial Justice Project, directed by Professor Deborah Archer, uses litigation, training, and education to protect constitutional and civil rights and bolster awareness of racial injustice.

The Safe Passage Immigration Project, directed by Dean Benson, pairs students and attorneys to help juveniles seeking asylum. Another project, Citizenship Day (March 2007), involved more than 100 students and 70 volunteer attorneys, including many alumni, helping about 80 members of the public complete the paperwork required to become naturalized citizens. The lawyers and students identified problems with some immigrants’ applications that, unresolved, could have disqualified them and even led to deportation proceedings. “Others were completely eligible, and it’s going to transform their families’ lives,” Dean Benson says.

Many other projects are under way, but these faculty initiatives, though a significant part of the Center, are not its primary focus. From the outset, organizers wanted to involve students heavily and develop an academic approach linked to their passions and interests, says Dean Benson, who helped design the program and recently stepped down as the Center’s co-director to become Associate Dean of Professional Development.

To get the students on the path to action, the Center’s curriculum starts with a colloquium examining an array of approaches in public interest law. “The class shows students different strategies lawyers use to effect social change,” Professor Marsico says. Those strategies include traditional litigation, used in class-action cases and individual representation. The course also looks at groups that take a more grass-roots approach, using tools such as lobbying and protesting, and those that move away from adversarial approaches and instead focus on economic development or other projects that serve low-income people.

The colloquium, taken in a student’s second year, is not simply a survey of these methods, but a critical analysis, helping students develop an understanding of effective lawyering. To that end, the students choose a public interest organization to study, comparing its approach with the strategies learned in class and analyzing its effectiveness.

After the colloquium, students take at least four classes in a chosen concentration. The Center has nine pre-approved concentrations, including social justice advocacy, immigration, and mental disability, but students can also create their own programs. The academic concentrations are a way for students to focus on their passions and build a foundation in those areas.

“Law school is a good time to experiment with different areas of the law, so we don’t want to rein students in too tightly,” Professor Marsico says. “But on the other hand, public interest employers want to know that students are truly committed to their work, and this is a way to establish that.”

In addition to their coursework, JAC students complete a public service project, which typically involves a job or internship with a social justice organization.
All of this work leads up to the final project, the capstone, which is where the action really begins for many students. “To me, the capstone is the most innovative part of the program,” Professor Marsico says.

In keeping with the theme of the Center, the capstone demands more than academic research. It requires students to think creatively to address issues and produce written work that has a meaningful application. “The desired capstone for JAC,” Dean Benson says, “is something that can have immediate impact in the legal community.”

The capstones show a range and depth among JAC students that would be impressive even among experienced professionals. In recent projects, for example, students developed practitioners’ manuals to guide lawyers through various kinds of representations; created “know your rights” guides on many legal issues; drafted regulatory and statutory reform proposals; and offered proposals on ways to use trade agreements to improve working conditions in developing countries.

“They do astonishing work,” Professor Marsico says. “The capstones are not only high quality, but they’re all important and make a contribution to their field.”

The opportunity to make those kinds of contributions is what draws many students to the Center. “The students who affiliate with us come with a specific purpose—they are really attuned to social justice,” Professor Kendall says.

One of those students was Jennifer Addonizio ’07, whose decision to attend New York Law School was influenced by the Center and the potential it offered for becoming a legal activist while still a student. Her passion for social justice law led her to become one of the first students outside the Harlan Scholars honors program to be affiliated with the Center. JAC, like the Law School’s other academic centers, initially admitted only honors students, a restriction Addonizio felt was at odds with its goals. “It should be open to anyone who wants to make a difference,” she says. “A lot of my friends weren’t really academics, but wanted to be activists. They came to New York Law School to learn law and take action.”

Addonizio wasn’t the only one who held that opinion. The faculty at JAC decided that a group seeking to foster social justice should be open to any student who showed the dedication to commit to the demands of the program. Addonizio and two other students formed the first group of JAC associates. Based partly on their success, Professor Kendall says, the Center has made an effort to draw in more students. In 2007–08, he said, more than half of the 42 second-year students affiliated with the Center come from outside the honors program.

Addonizio made law review and graduated with honors last spring, but she says her involvement at JAC, especially her capstone project, had the most significant impact on her law school experience. She had wanted to be a lawyer since age 7, but pictured an unpleasant path to getting there. “Even though I wanted to go to law school, I never really envisioned it as a place where I could be happy,” she says. But finding her niche with the Center changed her attitude. “It was really a community,” she says. “People wanted to see other people succeed.”

After college, Addonizio taught special education, and that background came into play as she worked on her capstone, which included writing the curriculum for a training program to help lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered (LGBT) youth learn about their legal rights. She worked with Make the Road by Walking, a nonprofit group in the Bushwick neighborhood of Brooklyn.

“Instead of doing something really theoretical,” Addonizio says, “I wanted
to do something that people could really use, that would be helpful.” Part of the challenge was not only to explain the law to a young audience, but also to show teenagers the importance of understanding their rights. “These kids had had a lot of run-ins with the law, but nothing positive; I wanted to make the legal system seem accessible to them.”

Another challenge was simply articulating the law. Finding few cases dealing with LGBT youth, Addonizio had to identify the issues, then extrapolate the law from other areas, like general case law dealing with juveniles and LGBT adults. “I had to really take the law and make it applicable to other people’s lives and think about the way the New York courts would deal with issues that were novel,” she said.

The result was a training program for youth leaders and an accompanying brochure that identifies issues and explains legal rights. The program was well received by leaders at Make the Road by Walking, as well as by professors and peers.

And it had another, more personal outcome for Addonizio: “It reaffirmed why I went to law school, seeing that I could do something that really affected people’s lives.” Addonizio, who during school worked for a small firm that focuses on tenant law, says she may continue in that field. But she has a number of career interests, and says she knows wherever she ends up will be another step on the justice-action path she started in law school.

One of the benefits of working with the Center, Professor Kendall says, is seeing the students realize that kind of potential. As any law student knows, the first-year curriculum offers little room for exploring personal interests. That can leave some students feeling discouraged, he says. “When they start their second year and start working with the Center, they’re really searching for something that fulfills their interests,” he says. “It’s really great to watch that sort of coming back to life as they rediscover that drive.”

William Johnson ’07 is one student who kept his focus from the beginning. As an undergraduate, he worked with Catholic Charities, teaching English as a second language. “Through my experience with that organization,” he says, “I worked with a lot of immigrants, and a lot of them were either seeking asylum, trying to naturalize as citizens, or trying to become permanent residents. So I got a little exposure to immigration law.”

He transformed that initial exposure into a capstone project that could make a significant difference for Asociación Tepeyac, a nonprofit group that promotes social welfare and human rights for Latino immigrants. The group handles roughly 800 cases a year dealing with issues such as immigration, labor, and housing. Johnson started his project by creating a computer database to identify the issues clients presented and the services Tepeyac provided. That gave the group the data to determine needs and to apply for grant money that would help expand services. And, even after graduating, Johnson is working with the group to help it secure those grants. He also created “know your rights” summaries on key subjects, primarily immigration and labor law, which will be available in Spanish and English on the group’s Web site.

Johnson’s project is a perfect example of the kind of community activism the Justice Action Center encourages, Dean Benson says. The Center teaches students to understand the needs of a nonprofit organization by critically examining how it works and what its needs are, she says. That education lays a foundation that benefits students and community alike.
“Willie was able to find a way to serve a community and has established relationships that will last through a good part of his legal career,” she says, adding, “We’re really building community leaders.”

For Johnson, who is starting his career in business immigration at Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP in New York, the experience helped him appreciate the value of pro bono work. “I’m not going to be working for a nonprofit organization,” he says, “but the Center has taught me that working for a for-profit organization and doing public interest work are not mutually exclusive.”

Building those kinds of bridges between students and public interest groups is at the heart of the Center’s mission. “The idea is to have students begin to have conversations with people working in these areas to begin to see the realities of practicing law,” Professor Benson says. “It’s part of the transition from school to being a professional.”

Matthew Tropp ’06 has made that transition and credits JAC with helping him find a job he loves, working on housing cases in the Bronx office of the Legal Aid Society. “I would not be where I am without the Center,” he says, citing the curriculum, his internship experience, and the contacts he made working with professors and professionals in the public interest field as integral to his current success.

Tropp joined the Center because it “did things and advocated for things that I thought were important.” Not only that, but it promised the opportunity to get hands-on experience.

“The social justice aspect of the classes helped me find my passion in the law,” he says. And his internship, in the housing unit of Legal Services for New York, was his first real outlet for that passion. “After that summer,” Tropp says, “I knew this would be the kind of work I wanted to do.”

Knowing that, he set out to find public interest work that would involve representing individual clients. “It wouldn’t have made sense to go into something that was global in nature, affecting the actual letter of the law, before getting an idea of what it’s like to work in the trenches,” he says.

Now, he’s relishing his spot in the trenches, helping tenants who are being sued for nonpayment of rent or who are facing eviction for a variety of reasons. The work can be stressful, he said, and the hours are irregular, depending on the stage the case is at when the client comes for help. “We’re dealing with actual emergencies; people are on the verge of eviction.” But dealing with those stressful situations can be its own reward. “At the end of the day,” he says, “it’s nice going home knowing you preserved someone’s apartment, kept a roof over their head, and hopefully solved a problem for them in a long-term way.”

Tropp says his experience at JAC helped ease the transition from being a student to carrying his own caseload. “If I hadn’t taken some of the classes I took, I wouldn’t have the level of comfort I do when talking to a client one-on-one,” he says. In addition, focusing on public interest law in his coursework and his internship helped him understand the kinds of issues people living in poverty face. “I didn’t come into the situation being shell-shocked by the cases,” he says. “It made me a better advocate in that respect.”
Look Who’s Talking at New York Law School

By Andrea Juncos

Where can you find a U.S. senator, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet, and a Nobel Prize-winning scientist all under one roof? Fortunately for New York Law School and its surrounding community, the answer is right here on Worth Street. Throughout the academic year, the Law School hosts a busy schedule of programs and events, bringing guest speakers across a range of disciplines to present, debate, and discuss ideas with students. In the process, the School creates an environment buzzing with activity, fulfilling its role as a vibrant center for cultural and intellectual exchange.

“We connect students with the outside world in so many ways,” says Dean Richard A. Matasar, “through real-world projects, externships and clinics, and alumni mentoring—but also through our program of events and who we invite to the School. Every week, there are multiple opportunities to interact with impressive and inspiring guests who come to share their knowledge and expertise directly with the School community.”

Sponsored by the Law School’s academic centers, various programs and departments, and student and faculty groups, these events feature leading experts and practitioners from the legal profession and other fields that interface with the law. For example, the Center for New York City Law invites prominent city leaders to discuss current government and political issues. At the Center for International Law, two prestigious lecture series regularly bring speakers from across the globe to examine timely topics in international law. In addition, the Alumni and Career Services Offices welcome many successful graduates back to share advice and insights with students. In each case, students, faculty, and other participants engage in discussion and debate, get the latest information on current issues in the law, and learn new concrete examples of how to put their legal skills into action.

The Law School opens its doors to the public as well, inviting members of the local community to bring their diverse perspectives to the table. Many of the School’s events are free, and several programs offer credits in continuing legal education. The School also makes a special effort to connect with its neighbors in TriBeCa, with a series of art exhibits and cultural events sponsored by the Law in TriBeCa series, which provides a forum for information, entertainment, and friendly debate. With so many innovative programs and events, New York Law School strives to stand at the forefront of legal education, promoting community, collaboration, and the open exchange of ideas.

The following pages highlight some of the many inspiring and influential speakers who came to the Law School during the 2006–2007 academic year.
Nobel Prize-winning Scientists

In a powerful address to his first law school audience, Nobel Prize winner Dr. Eric R. Kandel discussed his ground-breaking research on the biology of the mind at the Center for International Law’s annual Otto L. Walter Lecture on November 8, 2006. Currently a professor of biochemistry and biophysics at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, Kandel originally set out to explore the biological basis of memory while he was in medical school at New York University. Fueled by childhood memories of fleeing Austria to escape the Nazis before World War II, he focused his work on trying to tackle questions such as “How did the Viennese past leave its lasting traces in the nerve cells of my brain?”

Kandel spoke about the moral and ethical implications of recent scientific advances concerning memory, including “cognitive enhancements” used to improve memory, medications designed to prevent the emotional impact of traumatic experiences, and treatments for erasing existing memories from the brain. “Should we remove memories from people’s brains?” he asked. “If we have the capability of going in there and somehow interfering with the storage process, to what degree would we be interfering with the character, the very being [of people] since we are what we are, in large part, because of what we learn and what we remember?”

To learn more about Kandel’s work, read his book In Search of Memory: The Emergence of a New Science of Mind (W.W. Norton, 2006).

Entrepreneurs

At a Spotlight Luncheon on January 24, 2007, Marc Lasry ’84 shared the inspiring story of his career path with an audience of students eager to learn from his many successes. A member of the Law School’s Board of Trustees, Lasry is Chairman and CEO of Avenue Capital Group, a hedge fund he founded, which manages assets valued at approximately $13 billion. He is also the founder and Senior Managing Director of Amroc, one of the nation’s largest broker-dealers of distressed securities.

Lasry described his immigration to the United States from Morocco at age 7, when he enrolled in public school in Hartford, Connecticut. Because he spoke no English, he was placed with ESL students in a class that was taught primarily in Spanish. Defying his teachers’ beliefs that he was developmentally challenged, Lasry went on to excel at Clark University, and then at New York Law School, which he said “enabled me to do things I never thought I could do.”

Reflecting on his enormous success, Lasry emphasized the importance of working hard and taking risks. “In what I’ve done, you’re always sticking out your neck,” he said. He encouraged students to find a job they really enjoy and have confidence to express their own opinions.
Elected Officials

On March 26, 2007, Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner Jr. (R–WI) delivered the Justice Action Center’s Third Annual Tony Coelho Lecture in Disability Employment Law and Policy, discussing his proposed improvements to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). One of the original sponsors of the ADA, Sensenbrenner described the enormous impact it has had since it became law in 1990, explaining that, as a result, “disabled citizens no longer live in isolation but, to varying degrees, live as independent, self-sufficient members of our communities.”

However, Sensenbrenner argued, a series of Supreme Court decisions since 1999 have prevented the ADA from reaching its full potential by imposing limitations on the legislation’s protections. By narrowing the definition of who is considered “disabled,” he explained, these decisions have “created a situation in which disabled Americans can now be discriminated against by their employers because of their impairments, but these citizens are not considered disabled enough by our federal courts to invoke the protections of the ADA.”

He discussed his proposed solution—H.R. 6258, the Americans with Disabilities Act Restoration Act—which he co-sponsored in 2006. This legislation revises the ADA’s definition of “disability” to make it more inclusive, so it can have a stronger impact on the lives of disabled Americans. It will be reintroduced this year.

Pulitzer Prize-winning Poets

The School’s 40 Worth Street location set the stage for an intimate afternoon poetry reading by Carl Dennis, the 2002 Pulitzer Prize winner in poetry, on April 18, 2007. A captivated audience of students, faculty, staff, and friends listened closely as Dennis quietly and modestly read from his acclaimed collections, choosing pieces that he saw as connected to the lives and work of lawyers. Among these was “The Bill of Rights,” which uses simple, vivid language to explore the many choices people make in life—sometimes freely and other times under force, after which he mused, “We’re free and we’re not free.” He commended the lawyers and law students in the audience for their dedication to seeking truth and justice, and he stressed the importance of language in accomplishing these goals.

The reading was the first in the new Wallace Stevens Annual Poetry Series, named for the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet who graduated from New York Law School in 1903. The series was organized by Associate Professor Susan J. Abraham, a published poet and one of Dennis’s former students. “With this new reading series,” Professor Abraham explained, “we honor our esteemed alumnus with a recognition of the importance of culture, creativity, and the arts to all endeavors, including law, and remind ourselves that law and poetry can indeed coexist and complement each other.”
Artists

New York Law School’s Broad Student Center isn’t just a place where students congregate, study, and eat—it’s also a gallery space where local artists showcase their work to the entire community. True to its TriBeCa roots, the School hosts exhibits throughout the school year, displaying colorful photographs, paintings, prints, and drawings that bring the walls of the bustling student center to life.

Shows usually run for six weeks at a time and are coordinated by the School’s Arts Committee, led by Accounting Manager and independent artist Robert Cook. The committee selects proposals presented by the Organization of Independent Artists, a nonprofit organization that helps unaffiliated artists display their work in public spaces throughout New York City.

At the launch of each exhibit, students get to meet featured artists at a kick-off event open to the public. Among the most influential guests at the School in recent years were world-famous New York artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude, who presented a lecture at the School in 2003, before the debut of “The Gates” project in Central Park.

For its role in the local arts community, New York Law School has earned a spot on the annual TriBeCa Open Artist Studio Tour (TOAST), a free, self-guided tour of approximately 100 artists’ studios throughout TriBeCa. Be sure to stop by the next time you are at the School to see the latest exhibit!

Presidential Advisors

At an event sponsored by the School’s Program on Law & Journalism on April 20, 2007, Professor John Yoo of the University of California, Berkeley discussed the media’s coverage of legal issues in the “war on terror.” Yoo is widely known for his controversial “torture memo,” written when he was with the Justice Department’s Office of Legal Counsel, which advised the Bush administration on the legality of torture and the use of force in interrogating suspected terrorists.

Facilitated by New York Times national legal correspondent Adam Liptak, the discussion focused on the battle between the press and the government in determining if, how, and when to disclose confidential information to the public during wartime. “I wish the government was much more open about some things,” Yoo said, “because I think it would make the American people more confident.” However, he argued, the press often rushes to publish information without understanding the full picture, and because enemy forces often use the media as a source of information, the revelation of some material may be harmful to Americans and to the nation’s counter-terrorist strategies.

Reflecting on the public’s harsh criticism of his memo on the legality of torture, Yoo said: “Had I known it would become a public document, I may have written things differently . . . but the bottom line advice would not have been different.”
Government Leaders

At a Center for New York City Law “City Law Breakfast” on November 17, 2006, Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Linda Gibbs discussed New York City’s plans for addressing poverty during Mayor Bloomberg’s second term. Building on the gains made over the mayor’s first term in areas such as education and public housing, Gibbs explained, the city is now positioned to make significant strides against poverty—which affects 1.5 million people in New York City.

Gibbs asserted that although many believe poverty is strictly a national issue, making a difference at the city level is not only possible, but one of the mayor’s goals. “We believe that we have the knowledge, resources, and people in place that if we really focus our time and attention on this issue, we can have an impact.”

She is part of a group of city leaders commissioned by the mayor to develop sustainable action steps for decreasing poverty in the city. The commission focused on the three segments of the population they consider most likely to remain in poverty if supports are not improved—the working poor, children 5 years old and younger, and young adults ages 16–24. Their recommendations include creating more efficient data collection systems to assess the impact of existing programs targeted to the poor and increased collaboration among city agencies.

Survivors

Ben Aguer, one of the “Lost Boys of Sudan” forced from his home during the nation’s ongoing genocide, shared his powerful story of survival and triumph at an event sponsored by the Justice Action Center and the National Lawyers Guild on March 13, 2007.

Government troops attacked Aguer’s village in southern Sudan in the 1980s when he was 7 years old. Separated from his family, Aguer fled to Ethiopia on foot—a two-and-a-half-month trip that many of his fellow refugees did not survive. When war consumed Ethiopia five years later, he made another dangerous journey to a refugee camp in Kenya. Along the way, he explained, “Death became a part of life . . . you always knew: maybe it was going to be your turn next.”

In 2001, Aguer was placed in a U.N. relief program that brought him to Vermont, where he graduated from the University of Vermont in 2007.

He spoke candidly about his painful experiences, as well as about establishing a life in the United States and reconnecting with his surviving family members after 19 years. When asked about the continued violence in Sudan, he said, “The solution has to do with diversity . . . with understanding, coexisting.”

From the audience, Associate Dean Lenni B. Benson pointed out that 60 percent of people seeking asylum in the U.S. are unrepresented, and by helping even one of them, lawyers can make a difference.

Looking Ahead

With the School’s new academic building set to open in the fall of 2008, New York Law School will have even more opportunities to open its doors to the community. The brand-new facility will include several impressive event spaces, including a large auditorium and a multipurpose room, where it will host lectures, art exhibits, conferences, housewarmings, and other events for alums and the larger community. “The facilities will offer new opportunities to interact on-site with alumni, members of the legal community, and the public and underscore the School’s fundamental mission of active participation and exchange,” says Dean Matasar. “The public spaces in particular will become rich opportunities to tell the story of the School’s history and fundamental relationship to New York City.”

Until then, the School will continue to host a packed schedule of events featuring more impressive guests and speakers. Stay tuned for information about upcoming events, which include: the Center for Real Estate Studies’s Redeveloping Brownfields in New York Symposium in January 2008, the Institute for Information Law & Policy’s sixth State of Play Conference, scheduled for February 2008 in California, and the Justice Action Center’s Fifth Annual Adoption Policy Conference in May 2008. For more information, visit www.nyls.edu.
Look Who’s Talking at New York Law School

Building Update: Wired for Success

Center for International Law

Center for New York City Law

Center for Professional Values and Practice

Center on Business Law & Policy

Center for Real Estate Studies

Justice Action Center

Institute for Information Law & Policy

Media Center

Spotlight on the Securities Arbitration Clinic
As construction continues on the brand-new academic building, the School’s technology experts are working to ensure it will be equipped with the most innovative technology available in legal education. In collaboration with the School’s faculty, administration, and external partners, the Office of Information Technology is researching and planning for the implementation of cutting-edge tools and systems that will set New York Law School apart as a leader in law and technology.

“The expansion and renovation project is opening two doors for the School,” says John Southard, Chief Technology Officer. “One is the literal door to the new state-of-the-art building; the other is an electronic door that will allow entrance to New York Law School’s virtual teaching and learning environment.”

The new building, Southard says, will shine in terms of its technical infrastructure and its AV/multimedia capabilities. His team is rebuilding an entirely new core convergent infrastructure that goes above and beyond the current switching and routing of information to build a platform that will enable all applications—academic, Web-based, and multimedia—all with the goal of maximizing teaching and learning. “We’re moving from a system of access to one of applications,” he says. “When all is said and done, there won’t be a law school in the nation with a better technical infrastructure.”

Classrooms in the new building can be equipped like TV studios, complete with sophisticated AV and multimedia equipment built in for easy, everyday use. Students will have access to social networking tools such as blogs and wikis that will allow them to reach out beyond the classroom and collaborate with alumni and other experts in the field. They’ll be able to go back and review individual classes that have been captured on video. Virtual meeting spaces will enable them to continue their discussions with professors and classmates after class—and to tap outside experts for their perspectives. And in the future, they’ll use “voice over Internet protocol” (VoIP) to connect with the outside world through teleconferencing. All of these innovations, set to be launched over the next few years, will serve to extend students’ learning experiences far beyond the classroom and promote collaboration across the legal profession.

The new infrastructure will also enable the implementation of a unified communication and messaging system, allowing the School to deliver targeted information to students more quickly and easily through their computers and even their cell phones, with mobile messaging. In addition, the School is working to enhance its information management systems. For example, the Office of Information Technology is currently implementing ImageNow software, a document imaging and management tool that will allow members of the School community to easily capture, organize, and manage data, and reduce dependency on paper documents.

Southard says none of these technological innovations would be possible without the support of the dean. “Dean Matasar is a visionary who understands the power of technology and that technology in the hands of educators and students is magic,” he says. He also credits the faculty for their tremendous leadership and support in moving the School’s technology plans forward. “They understand that the learning that happens inside the classroom is just the beginning—that technology allows us to create an enhanced, 24/7 learning environment for all our students.”
Center for International Law

The Center for International Law, continuing its activities involving developments in Iran, organized a panel on the subject of “Iran: What Next?” on March 27, 2007. Led by Associate Professor Tai-Heng Cheng, the Center’s Associate Director, the panel analyzed political, social, and economic trends in Iran.

On April 11, 2007, the Center organized a C.V. Starr Panel on the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Panelists included Professor Debra Steger of the University of Ottawa, who was formerly the Chief Legal Advisor to the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization; Ricardo Anzaldúa-Montoya, who represented Mexico in the NAFTA negotiations; and Professor Sydney M. Cone III, Director of the Center.

At another C.V. Starr event on February 21, 2007, Alan L. Beller, former Director of Corporation Finance and Senior Counselor at the Securities and Exchange Commission, presented a lecture on the domestic and international consequences of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

The Center now benefits from an advisory board, which held its first meeting on May 14, 2007. Members include Dean Alfred Aman of Suffolk Law School, Pamela Foster ’00 of the Rockefeller Foundation, Patricia Huntington of Network 20/20, Dean Richard A. Matasar, and New York Law School Professors Lloyd Bonfield, Tai-Heng Cheng, Sydney M. Cone III, Stephen J. Ellmann, and Ruti G. Teitel. Among the items the group discussed were events being planned for the 2007–2008 year and collaborations with groups both within and outside the School.

The spring issue of the Center’s International Review newsletter featured articles on the revised system of military justice in the United States and other aspects of international criminal justice. It also expanded its coverage in the area of world trade, and into matters relating to the law of outer space.
The Center for New York City Law had a busy spring season. Department of Buildings Commissioner Patricia J. Lancaster spoke at the March 16, 2007 City Law Breakfast, discussing the new City Building Code—the first revision of the Code in 40 years. Department of Investigation Commissioner Rose Gill Hearn spoke at the April 13, 2007 breakfast, where she described the significant criminal and civil investigations completed during the past year. Both breakfast events were broadcast live on the Center's Web site (www.citylaw.org), where they are still available for viewing, along with Webcasts of all the Center’s other recent breakfast events.

On April 19, 2007, the Center co-sponsored with the New York City Law Department and the School’s Center for Real Estate Studies the First Annual Conference in Trends in New York City Land Use and Development. The conference, attended by 300 lawyers and city officials, addressed cutting-edge issues in the land use arena, including the use of innovative financing techniques to stimulate large-scale development, the expansion of the city’s inclusionary housing program, and other developments at the Department of City Planning. The featured speakers at this successful CLE event included Marvin Markus, Managing Director at Goldman Sachs, and James W. McSpiritt, General Counsel at Phipps Houses.

On May 16, 2007, the Center co-sponsored with the city’s Conflicts of Interest Board the Thirteenth Annual Citywide Seminar on Ethics in New York City Government. Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and City Council Speaker Christine Quinn delivered keynote addresses.

Morgan Kunz ’06, who worked as the Center’s Fellow during the 2006–2007 year, recently accepted a position as Assistant Corporation Counsel with the New York City Law Department in the Special Federal Litigation Division.

The Center’s Web site added three additional agencies to the CITYADMIN library of New York City administrative decisions. The Borough President of Brooklyn, the Department of Investigation, and the Taxi and Limousine Commission are now sending their determinations to the Web site. This raises to 22 the number of city agencies that use the Center’s Web site to make public their administrative decisions, and over 38,000 decisions are now available on the site.
The Center for Professional Values and Practice supports research and teaching on the legal profession, focusing on the dynamics of professional regulation, the market for lawyers, and lawyers’ careers. In March 2007, the Center co-sponsored two events with the School’s Justice Action Center, providing students a glimpse of the law’s effect on society, and offering them an opportunity to put their lawyering skills to practical use.

- On March 24, the Center co-sponsored Citizenship Day, during which more than 100 New York Law School students and 70 attorneys from the American Immigration Lawyers Association volunteered to offer free legal advice to permanent residents on how to become citizens.

- On March 26, the Center co-sponsored the event Are Immigrants Really “Americans in Waiting?” Professor Hiroshi Motomura, a nationally recognized expert in immigration and nationality law, discussed how the history of immigration in the United States offers a unique and powerful perspective on the current debates over immigration reform. Commentary was provided by Cyrus D. Mehta, founder and managing attorney of the immigration law firm Cyrus D. Mehta & Associates, PLLC.

The spring was an active time for the Center’s faculty as well. Co-directors Tanina Rostain and Elizabeth Chambliss both had research proposals selected from a national pool to be part of the Law Firms Working Group, a research consortium sponsored by the American Bar Foundation and the Indiana University School of Law. The Working Group (through the American Bar Foundation) has entered into a special license with American Lawyer Media for all their historical data on law firms, some of which dates back to the late 1970s. Professor Chambliss’s research proposal, “The Professionalization of Law Firm Management?” examines the professionalization of top management positions within law firms and the increasing structural separation of practice and management roles. Professor Rostain’s research project, “In-House Counsel in the Age of Compliance,” considers how the work of general counsel has changed in the wake of new regulatory regimes that emphasize the importance of internal compliance mechanisms within corporations.
On April 13, 2007, the Center on Business Law & Policy held a symposium titled “Corporate Governance Five Years After Sarbanes-Oxley: Is There Real Change?” The Honorable Myron T. Steele, Chief Justice of the Delaware Supreme Court, was the keynote speaker and discussed Delaware’s perspective on corporate governance five years after the enactment of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. In addition, several panels of distinguished academics and practitioners discussed the changing points of view on corporate governance, accounting, auditing, disclosure, and liability after the passage of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

On March 21, 2007, the Center held a Master Class called “White-collar Defense: Reflections of a Veteran Litigator.” Anthony A. Capetola ’70, a member of New York Law School’s Board of Trustees, shared his experiences as a white-collar defense attorney. Capetola began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Nassau County and since then has been admitted to many federal jurisdictions across the country because of his extensive background in criminal law. One of his most notable clients was Henry Hill, immortalized in Martin Scorsese’s film Goodfellas.

The Center continued to expand its Web site, www.nyls.edu/cblp, which provides news, information, and resources related to current topics in securities and corporate law, including landmark cases and recent publications. In addition, the Center further developed its blog, http://newyorklawschool.typepad.com/cblpblog, creating a discussion forum for students and other visitors interested in business law and policy.
In March 2007, the Law School opened its newest academic center, the Center for Real Estate Studies, with a public launch that was covered in the *New York Law Journal*, *Crain's New York Business*, *Real Estate New York*, *Real Estate Weekly*, and other publications. Since then, the Center has presented several successful events, including the following:

- On March 12, 2007, Susan Mendik, a member of the Center’s advisory board and the School’s Board of Trustees, hosted a cocktail reception at her home to celebrate the Center’s launch.

- The next day, Stephen M. Ross, Chairman and CEO of RELATED and Chairman of the Real Estate Board of New York, addressed over 200 people at the Center’s inaugural breakfast forum on the topic of “Will New York City Remain the Capital of Real Estate?” Ross Moskowitz ’84, Partner at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan, was the commentator, and Stroock sponsored the event.

- On March 21, 2007, Alan J. Schnurman ’71, Partner at Zalman & Schnurman, presented a Master Class to more than 100 New York Law School students on the topic of “Finding Your Fortune in Real Estate.”

- With the Center for New York City Law and the New York City Law Department, the Center co-sponsored the First Annual Conference on Trends in New York City Land Use and Development on April 19, 2007.


The Center for Real Estate Studies has built an active advisory board consisting of 13 real estate professionals from the private sector and academia, many of whom are alumni. With their help, the Center’s 23 full-time and adjunct faculty members have created a comprehensive real estate curriculum reflecting the academic interests of many of its Harlan Scholars and the student body in general. Already, the Center has 24 Harlan Scholars engaged in coursework, fieldwork, and projects. In addition, the Center welcomed Melissa Rumbold ’05 as Associate Director.

**Center for Real Estate Studies**

Professor Andrew R. Berman, Director of the Center for Real Estate Studies (center) with Center Advisory Board members Norman J. Radow ’81, President, The RADCO Companies (left), and Alan J. Schnurman ’71, Partner, Zalman & Schnurman (right).

Stephen M. Ross, Chairman and CEO of RELATED and Chairman of the Real Estate Board of New York.
Justice Action Center

The Justice Action Center fosters a critical evaluation of lawyering for social change and gives students the opportunity to practice what they learn. The Center continued its efforts this past spring by sponsoring numerous events at the Law School, most of which were open to the public:

- During March 2007, the Center joined forces with several Law School programs and student groups to sponsor Immigration Awareness Month. The purpose of Immigration Awareness Month was to foster a dialogue in the Law School community about immigration law, to celebrate the various backgrounds of the community’s members, and to encourage deeper understanding of the importance of immigration law in various legal practice areas. A complete list of Immigration Awareness Month events is available on the Center’s Web site, www.nyls.edu/jac.

- On March 26, 2007, the Center sponsored the Third Annual Tony Coelho Lecture in Disability Employment Law & Policy. This year, Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner Jr. delivered the lecture, which focused on opportunities to improve the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- On April 9, 2007, the Law School honored the work and memory of Professor Denise C. Morgan. A leading member of the Justice Action Center faculty, Professor Morgan passed away on April 7, 2006. Faculty members and colleagues discussed Professor Morgan’s contributions as a scholar, professor, mentor, and friend.

- On May 18, 2007, the Justice Action Center and the Center for Adoption Policy, an independent think tank, co-sponsored the Fourth Annual Adoption Policy Conference, which examined the Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption and its effects on adoption policy and practice in the United States.

- On May 31, 2007, the Center co-sponsored a housing court training with Legal Aid for practitioners who represent clients in housing court. This is the second such training held at the Law School.

In addition, the Justice Action Center continued working towards its goal of offering an intellectual home for social justice-minded law students within the larger Law School community. Students interested in affiliating with the Center do so in the spring of their first year at the Law School, and this year saw a surge in membership to over 40 1L students.
In spring 2007, the Institute for Information Law & Policy launched the Peer-to-Patent project. In cooperation with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the Institute designed and deployed an experimental online system to open the patent examination process for public participation. This pilot program will run from June 2007 to June 2008 and is available for free community participation at www.peertopatent.org. Students and graduates Brian Pyne 2L, Yeen Tham 3L, Rahan Uddin ’07, and Chris Wong 3L, and members of the Institute Tech Law Lab course participated in the development of the project. Inventors wishing to have their applications reviewed faster and public reviewers wishing to contribute know-how to improve the quality of issued patents are invited to apply. For more information, visit http://dotank.nyls.edu/communitypatent.

At Commencement 2007, six graduates received the Institute's Certificate of Mastery in Law Practice Technology, awarded to students who have demonstrated substantial expertise in how technology changes law practice and institutions.

The Institute welcomed back Visiting Professor Dan Hunter to teach Intellectual Property Law during summer 2007. Professor Hunter organized State of Play V: Building the Global Metaverse, the fifth State of Play conference on virtual worlds. The event took place in Singapore on August 19–21 and focused on legal, political, cultural, and business issues relating to cyberspace technologies.

Institute Professors Richard Sherwin and David Johnson are spearheading the design of a new first-year section—open to students entering in fall 2008—that will deploy cutting-edge technology and methodology to enhance law teaching and learning in and outside of the classroom.

The State of Play Academy, the Institute’s virtual-world, online law teaching space, convened courses and conversations about such topics as Law and Search Engines, taught by Professor James Grimmelmann, who joins the Institute faculty this year.

Professor Johnson testified before the Vermont State Legislature on new legislation to support the creation of virtual entities that will allow individuals to form companies by contributing time and attention rather than capital. Professor Johnson worked with a team of Institute students on the legislation with the goal of enhancing the global economy by enabling companies to form and operate entirely online.

On September 15, 2006 the Media Center co-sponsored an all-day conference on “Broadband to the Home: Legal and Regulatory Issues,” in conjunction with the Council of Europe’s European Audiovisual Observatory. Resulting papers will be published jointly by *Media Law & Policy* and the Council of Europe in early 2008.

On March 29, 2007, the Media Center and *Media Law & Policy* co-sponsored a program on “National Security and Telecommunications: A Legal Analysis of Terrorist Surveillance Programs,” held at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. Edited versions of the papers will appear in the next issue of *Media Law & Policy*.

During summer 2007, Professor Michael Botein, the Center’s Director, was a visiting professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Wroclaw, Poland. He also gave a seminar at the European Audiovisual Observatory, and presented a paper on Wi-Fi at a conference held by the city government of Taipei, Taiwan.

Robert Ward, Director of Video Projects, continued to produce the Center’s television program, *Media Reporter*, with more than 30 new episodes in the last academic year.
After quickly establishing a track record for success, the Securities Arbitration Clinic at New York Law School is eager to expand its client base. Since 2003, students at the clinic have helped individual small investors who have suffered damages at the hands of dishonest or incompetent stockbrokers and brokerage firms. For most clients, the clinic serves as a last resort, since they would not otherwise be able to afford or obtain legal representation. “In some cases, our clients were rejected by other attorneys because their damages were too small,” says Visiting Professor Howard S. Meyers, who co-teaches the two-semester course with Professor Aleta G. Estreicher. “While it may not seem like a lot of money overall, to an individual person, the impact is devastating.”

Students represent clients in securities arbitrations before the newly formed Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), formerly the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD), applying what they’ve learned in the classroom in a real-world setting. Through a combination of fieldwork, lecture, and simulation exercises, they gain skills in interviewing clients, evaluating claims, implementing case strategy, and negotiating settlements. In teams of two, they also conduct research, write briefs, and meet regularly with their professors. Along the way, students learn the law of broker-dealer regulation and investor rights, as well as the ins and outs of the FINRA arbitration process.

“The clinic bridges the gap between theory and practice,” says Professor Meyers, “teaching students to think and act like lawyers.” Positioned within a mile of Wall Street, he adds, the clinic provides students with a unique opportunity to work directly with arbitrators, opposing counsel, and clients, gaining hands-on experience that will be invaluable in their careers. “We provide students with the necessary skills and training they can use after graduating to make a real impact.”

And so far, students at the clinic have already made a lasting impact in the lives of many clients. Students involved with last year’s course celebrated many victories, helping a number of aggrieved investors recover mismanaged funds. In one case, a broker-dealer refused to comply with an arbitrator’s orders to submit documents pertaining to a client’s transactions. When clinic students got involved, they moved for a sanction order, obtaining $1,000 for every day the documents were withheld. As a result, the broker-dealer immediately complied.

Based on these and other successes, and the feedback from many grateful clients, it’s clear that students are making a real difference. In April 2007, one client wrote of her student representatives: “Throughout the entire procedure, they proved to be extremely knowledgeable, polite, and caring. Ultimately my case was resolved. . . . Our country and our world will be in very good hands with young [people] such as these at the helm.” Another recent client wrote to Professor Meyers: “Both you and the students we have dealt with have given us hope that we will finally be heard. We see light at the end of a very discouraging and dark tunnel. Both groups we have dealt with at the New York Law School Arbitration Clinic have been very courteous, kind, highly ethical, and professional. . . . Please know that we are extremely happy with the excellent services you have provided.”

For the 2007–2008 academic year, the clinic has expanded to 12 students, up from 8 in last year’s group. These future lawyers are ready and willing to take on new cases, so if you know someone who can use the clinic’s services, please call Professor Howard Meyers at 212.431.2338.
Meet the authors

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Professors Michael Perlin and Henry Dlugacz ’91
Examine Mental Health Issues in Jails and Prisons

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How Professor Cameron Stracher Finds His Way Back to the Family Dinner Table
Of the two million-plus people incarcerated in the United States today, tens of thousands are estimated to suffer from a mental disability. As Professor Michael Perlin notes, “This creates a complex web of legal, policy, and humanitarian issues at every stage at which these individuals come into contact with the criminal justice system, which is not equipped to deal with them.”

With his co-author Adjunct Professor Henry Dlugacz ’91, Professor Perlin presents a comprehensive overview of these issues in the casebook Mental Health Issues in Jails and Prisons: Cases and Materials and its supplement (Carolina Academic Press, 2007). Both publications cover the latest information on a range of topics in mental disability law, including significant court cases, potential applications of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other legislation, and the insanity defense. “We identified key areas of interest to lawyers, administrators, judges, clinicians, and policy makers in the field,” says Professor Dlugacz. “We then conducted an exhaustive literature search to ensure that cutting-edge material was presented. We also sought the input of leading practitioners in the field.”

The authors bring a wealth of experience to the project—Professor Perlin, a renowned expert in the field of mental disability and the law, directs the Law School’s Online Mental Disability Law Program as well as the International Mental Disability Law Reform Project at the School’s Justice Action Center. Professor Dlugacz teaches the Mental Health Issues: Jails & Prisons course at the Law School in addition to maintaining a private practice focused on mental disability issues, particularly the court-appointed monitoring of complex, class action litigations related to correctional mental health.

Together, they set out to raise public awareness about the issues facing people with mental disabilities in the criminal justice system and to push for much-needed change in policies affecting this group. “You can assess the quality of a civilization by the way it treats those whom it incarcerates,” says Professor Perlin. “By this metric, our civilization doesn’t deserve much praise.” The authors note that although U.S. policies have had a positive influence on other countries, significant reform is still needed to ensure the fair treatment of the mentally ill in the criminal justice system. “There is an urgent need for public education about this issue, focusing on the human and monetary cost of our current policies regarding this group,” Professor Perlin adds. “Mentally ill people have no real voice in government, the media, or legislatures. They face the double stigma of being mentally ill ‘criminals.’ As a result, their legitimate needs are often dismissed.”
In addition to being a civil rights issue, Professor Perlin says, the treatment of mentally ill people in the criminal justice system is a major public health issue as well. “Although there is a tendency to consider that incarcerated people with mental illnesses are ‘somebody else’s problem,’ how our society deals with their situation affects us all,” he explains. “Despite increasingly tough sentencing laws, about 97 or 98 percent of those we incarcerate are eventually released to the community.”

The issue also concerns public safety, says Professor Perlin, pointing out that people with mental illness are often the victims of violence within correctional facilities as well as in the community. He refers to the sometimes substandard psychological treatment of the mentally ill, and the fact that many police or corrections officers are often unequipped to deal with them. “Further, a small subset of the mentally ill may present a heightened risk of violence if not adequately addressed,” he says.

Throughout their research, Professors Perlin and Dlugacz discovered some troubling realities as well as some promising signs of change. “There are so many more cases of brutal mistreatment of jail inmates and prisoners with mental disabilities than we had been aware of,” says Professor Perlin. “At the same time, we were very happy to see the quality and quantity of valid and reliable social science research being conducted that, we hope, will eventually lead to authentic ameliorative policy change in this area.”

The authors also hope the book will reach a wide audience—within academia as well as the professional world. “This is a law book,” says Professor Perlin, “but one that we produced with the specific aim that it be equally accessible to non-lawyers who are interested in this field—advocates for people with mental illness who are incarcerated, judges hearing cases involving this population, attorneys for governmental agencies defending lawsuits, and clinicians and administrators providing mental health services within correctional settings.”

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To the average American professional—addicted to e-mail and stuck at the office past dinner time—the idea of enjoying a home-cooked meal every night with one’s family seems like an archaic fantasy straight out of *The Waltons.*

Professor Cameron Stracher attempted to make this fantasy a reality when he vowed to be home for dinner with his family five nights a week for an entire year. He chronicled his experiment in *Dinner with Dad: How I Found My Way Back to the Family Table,* published by Random House in May 2007.

Street Journal, and other publications. He embarked on the project after a particularly grueling year working as a consultant for an insurance company in Kansas City, Missouri while maintaining his usual commitments at the Law School—as a professor, Publisher of the Law Review, and Co-director of the Program in Law & Journalism. The constant traveling took a toll on his family time. “I realized I had to do something to change the way I was living,” he says. “I decided to re-evaluate my priorities and make dinner the focus of my day.”

Professor Stracher's wife Christine and their son Simon, 11, and daughter Lulu, 8, welcomed the experiment. The couple decided to split the cooking duties, but fitting in kitchen time around the professor's two-hour commute from the Law School to his Westport, Connecticut, home initially proved challenging.

“I tried to have one late night in the city, then two nights where I tried to leave early,” he says. “Because I'm an academic and I have some flexibility in my schedule, I also worked at home more.”

He was surprised to discover that his increased presence at home was not always welcomed by Christine, who had grown accustomed to having a fair amount of peaceful time alone in the house. “Absence can make the heart grow fonder; presence sometimes can do the opposite,” he laughs.

Professor Stracher also encountered a familiar parenting struggle: feeding young children with limited tastes. “There were times when I made something I thought was really good, but my kids didn't like it, and I got angry,” he recalls. “It defeated the whole purpose of the dinners, which was about being close to my children. I realized I had come to think of cooking as a way of impressing people, but kids aren't impressed by that.”

Despite the challenges, Professor Stracher and his family adjusted to their new routine and developed greater patience with each other—and greater tolerance for each other's food preferences. The dinners allowed them to grow closer, and provided opportunities for lively conversation, playfulness, and affection.

Professor Stracher documented all of these experiences on his Web log, DinnerWithDad.com, which he maintained while writing his book. The blog developed into an informal companion piece to the book, where his readers shared recipes and personal experiences of feeding their families.

“The blog allowed me to get reader feedback, some of which I incorporated into the book,” he explains. “People were sympathetic; they’d say, ‘Here’s a macaroni-and-cheese dish my kid likes.’”

In addition to the publicity he’s gained with the blog, Professor Stracher has received considerable attention in the press as well, with coverage on the Today show and in publications including The New York Times and USA Today. Adding to his busy schedule, he’s also been touring the nation speaking about the book. Along the way, he offers other parents attempting the same dinner project this advice: “Keep offering new food to them, but try not to turn it into a battleground.”

Today, Professor Stracher's family continues to make family dinners a priority even after the experiment has ended. The gatherings—while perhaps not exactly Walton-esque—have become an integral, cherished part of their lives.

“Every morning now, Simon will say to me, ‘Dad, are you coming home early or late?’ Or, ‘Who's cooking dinner?’” he says. “Two years ago that wouldn’t have happened.”
Distinguished Scholar, Professor, and Dean Emeritus Harry H. Wellington Retires after 51 Years of Educating Law Students

Judge Gerald Lebovits, Champion of the Moot Court Association, Retires after 18 Years at the Law School

New York Law School Welcomes New Faculty Members, Announces Promotions and New Positions

Full-time Faculty Activities

Adjunct Faculty Activities
After retiring this past spring, Professor and Dean Emeritus Harry H. Wellington is now considering writing a book about the separation of church and state. With 51 years of teaching law behind him, Professor Wellington certainly has erudition to draw on. But it’s a testimony to his lack of ego that he will start writing only if he “truly has something new to say.”

“Jefferson’s wall ought to be very high,” he says, referring to the third president’s endorsement of a separation of church and state through exercise of the First Amendment to the Constitution. “And it has crumbled badly in the last several years.” Students in Professor Wellington’s popular Religion & the Constitution course have written extensively about this topic and quoted real politicians who use language that is nothing if not biblical.

Another kind of crumbling that bothers Professor Wellington has been the erosion of civil rights since 9/11. Because of the terrorist attacks, he says, constitutional law scholars like him have had to rethink the meaning of civil rights in terms of external threats. Even so, he adds, “This administration has gone way overboard. It’s hard to believe this is America.”

What courts, and in particular, the Supreme Court, should and should not do has always interested Professor Wellington, and this passion will probably remain the focus of his scholarship, in book form or not. Described by colleague Professor Edward Purcell as a wonderful past dean and a “man of very broad interests,” Professor Wellington has also focused on contracts, employment law, legal interpretation, and federal regulation, as well as the legal process in general.

“I’m retiring from teaching only because it seems like the right thing to do after 51 years,” Professor Wellington says from behind his desk stacked with textbooks like Constitutional Law and Individual Rights and Law and Religion, as well as Daedalus, the journal of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, of which he is a member—hardly the desk of a man contemplating retirement from teaching law. “It seems right to step aside for a new person. But,” he adds emphatically, “I still plan to be very active with the faculty.”

Retirement is understandably foreign to Professor Wellington: he has been working nearly his entire life. As a boy he stood in the fields outside New Haven and held poles while his father, the town’s surveyor, ran out the measuring tape, creating the plots of the new suburb of Woodridge, “making sure each one was exactly right.”

Because his father, a graduate of Yale’s Sheffield Scientific School, worked for the city, there wasn’t much money to pay for college. Professor Wellington could have stayed home and saved a little money by going to Yale, but he was eager to chart his own path. Though he admired his father’s steadiness in staying at one job his entire life, Professor Wellington knew he wanted more adventure and variety. “I’ve always been pretty independent about what I wanted to do,” he says.

So when the acceptance letter came from the University of Pennsylvania in 1944, he grabbed the chance. He took a job as a fry cook at the Philadelphia Penn Luncheonette flipping burgers and fried eggs, and that fry cook wage, as well as a scholarship and a few free meals, helped pay his tuition. Besides, he wryly notes, “College was much more affordable then.”

He was accepted to Harvard Law School and later awarded a clerkship with Justice Calvert Magruder of the U.S. Circuit Court and another clerkship with Justice Felix Frankfurter of the U.S. Supreme Court. After a one-year appointment at Stanford Law School, Yale
Law School came calling in 1956. Professor Wellington returned home—a little unsure of what it would be like to be a law professor in his hometown. Fortunately, his career path rewarded him with ambitious, interesting colleagues and bright students who took his courses in contracts, employment, and constitutional law.

One of his students, Professor David Johnson, now a visiting professor at New York Law School, recalls that Professor Wellington would lead his classes outside to a small courtyard to conduct a class, one that was no less rigorous for the bucolic setting. “He taught a legal process course and we had to figure out how to solve legal disputes about the transportation of perishable fruits,” Professor Johnson recalls. “He was always prodding people to think much harder about the legal process, and as a result I was inspired to think outside the box.”

Professor Johnson experienced déjà vu, remembering his days as a student, when he came to the Law School to present to the faculty about Internet management of identity systems. A hand came up during the Q & A. “Harry asked how that [Internet] structure would work with other legal systems,” Professor Johnson says. “There hasn’t been a time when he hasn’t pushed the discussion in a productive way that broadens its framework.”

After teaching for 19 years, Professor Wellington was named Dean of Yale Law School in 1975. During his ten years in the role, he became known as a nurturer of his faculty members.

“He had a dean’s special gift of urging young academics to find their ideas by searching their own deepest convictions, and thereby to become true scholars by becoming more truly themselves,” said Harold Hongju Koh, Yale Law School’s current dean, at a symposium honoring Professor Wellington at New York Law School in 2001. Of Professor Wellington’s commitment to civil service, Dean Koh said that the questions scholars he has influenced must ask themselves are, “With the years I have left, what can I contribute? With what I know, who can I help? With what I have learned, how can I serve?”

Indeed, Professor Wellington posed those very questions to himself. He was named Sterling Professor of Law in 1983 and retired from Yale in 1992, leaving a school well-fed by his distinctive scholarship. From there, he could have ended his career and rested on his laurels. But another challenge arose, which would lead him from the hallowed halls of Yale to another school with great energy, great ambition, great potential, and great needs: New York Law School. As Professor Wellington has said, “At first I said no, and when the Board of Trustees [of which he was a member] asked me why, I told them that being a tenured professor at Yale Law School was the next best thing to being born rich. But as I thought about the opportunity to try to help this place that I had come to love, I changed my mind.”

Professor Wellington led New York Law School as President and Dean and burnished its reputation by bringing in many of the new, and, in his words, “stellar” generation of faculty. He says his greatest contribution was championing the hiring of Dean Richard A. Matasar, “because where would New York Law School be without him?”

Dean Matasar returns the compliment by saying, “Anyone educated by an American law school in the last 25 years has benefited from Harry Wellington—the teacher, scholar, and dean.”
Robert Blecker
Professor of Law

Professor Robert Blecker has contributed his renowned and controversial death penalty scholarship to the Law School for an impressive 32 years. But getting him to discuss it is another matter. Professor Blecker has too much going on—even after finals—to bother with reminiscences about the award for his thesis at Harvard or the profile on NPR or even the film documentary about his fearless advocacy of the death penalty for the most hardened criminals.

Instead he would prefer to talk about the June 27 reading of his play, *A True Patriot*, about Joseph Warren, the forgotten father of America, “in whose shadow” Professor Blecker “aspires to crawl.”

“It’s two sides of the same coin,” Professor Blecker says of his “obsession” with Warren and his own deeply held retributivist position. “The past counts. Some—the worst of our worst criminals—deserve to die, and we have an obligation to execute them. Others, like Warren, a brilliant precedent-setting leader who gave his all for the Republic and died a martyr’s death at Bunker Hill, deserve to live in our hearts forever. And we have the obligation to bring him back to life.”

Through his scholarship and his play, analytic and passionate, Professor Blecker accomplishes both ends.

Michael Botein
Professor of Law
Director, Media Center

When Professor Michael Botein launched the Media Center 30 years ago, no one knew that the media would undergo a radical change. In 1977, media referred mostly to broadcasting and cable. In fact, the Center offered only one course, Communications Law.

Today the Media Center and the Institute for Information Law & Policy together offer more than a dozen courses that keep pace with the rapidly changing nature of communications law. The Center offered the nation’s first courses in cable television, computer, and European media law. It also has served as a consultant to organizations that include the Federal Communications Commission, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and the Council of Europe.

“It has done what I asked it to do,” Professor Botein says. “And with certain things like publishing *Media Law & Policy*, it has exceeded my expectations.”

Professor Botein notes that the Center has placed New York Law School students as paid interns at the Federal Communications Commission for the past ten years. And it has hosted foreign law students as researchers, Fulbright scholars, and visitors—this year from Romania, Russia, and Spain.

Media Center faculty members also teach U.S. law abroad. During summer 2007, Professor Botein presented a six-week lecture series at the University of Wroclaw, Poland.

James Brook
Professor of Law

TriBeCa was a newly-minted name and the trendy Odeon hadn’t yet opened when Professor James Brook began teaching 31 years ago. Much has changed since 1976, but Professor Brook’s reason for becoming a law professor has remained the same: “student contact.” The art of teaching—which as a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard, he understands from both sides of the podium—drew him to academia. Now, he says, there are new challenges.

“I do think that legal education has become very different with electronics sometimes coming between the students and me,” he says. “But I have tried to adapt.”
And adapt he does, by continuing to make commercial law not only comprehensible but enjoyable. In addition to his accessible style, Professor Brook employs “get acquainted” lunches to connect with his Torts students.

He contemplates a gradual shift to retirement by taking on a lighter teaching load within a few years. For the foreseeable future, Professor Brook, an expert on commercial transactions, contracts, and credit, will continue to revise his popular Examples and Explanations books on Secured Transactions, Payment Systems, and Sales and Leases under the Uniform Commercial Code. He is also writing a new hardcover casebook on secured transactions for Aspen Publishers.

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**EUGENE CERRUTI**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**

Abraham Lincoln wrote during the Civil War that “the struggle of today, is not altogether for today—it is for a vast future.” Similarly, the struggles for legal and social change that Professor Eugene Cerruti and other lawyers undertook during the Warren Court era have benefited not only his generation but subsequent ones as well. Later, as both a defense attorney and a prosecutor, he was involved in cases that made law and set precedent. For example, one of his early cases set the standard in New York for the search and seizure of a drug suspect on the streets.

Since then, things have “settled down somewhat in our criminal courts” and become predictable, he says. But Professor Cerruti, who teaches Criminal Law and related courses, found that the kind of criminal law revolution he loved was brewing abroad. Last fall, he spent several weeks in The Hague following the war criminals being tried in the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia.

“It was exciting,” he says. “There were groups of people from all over the world there inventing new trial procedures . . . and bringing a new dimension to criminal courts. There are no trials here like those taking place at the international tribunals.”

Professor Cerruti’s other passion is high-tech advocacy. Courtrooms can currently play DVDs of evidence, presenting a case electronically. In the Law School’s new, fully-wired building, he wants to “develop courses that will teach students the extraordinary utility of being able to use computer technology in litigation, both in the office and the courtroom.”

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**LUNG-CHU CHEN**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**  
**FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT, NEW CENTURY INSTITUTE**

When Professor Lung-chu Chen joined the Law School 30 years ago, he found an institution in sync with his commitment to universal democracy, especially that of his native country, Taiwan. During his tenure, he has seen both the development of democracy in Taiwan as well as a “renaissance” of the Law School.

“It has been exciting to be part of New York Law School’s continuing process of growth to become a creative center of legal theory and action,” he says.

Professor Chen, who divides his time between New York and Taiwan, is a fierce champion of Taiwan’s membership in the United Nations. Despite China’s “overbearing threat and obstruction,” he says, “never give up faith in the human conscience.” During his semester at the Law School, Professor Chen teaches courses on international law and United Nations law, and runs the New Century Institute, a think tank devoted to promoting democracy in Taiwan. Its sister think tank, the Taiwan New Century Foundation, operates from Taipei. Professor Chen says both organizations combine “legal scholarship and practical action in our world of ever-increasing globalization.”

His newest book, *Membership for Taiwan in the United Nations: Achieving Universality and Justice,* will be published this spring by the New Century Institute Press.

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**ARTHUR S. LEONARD**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**  
**EDITOR, LESBIAN/GAY LAW NOTES**

Music lover, avid blogger, professor, scholar, pioneer for and chronicler of social and legal change, Professor Arthur S. Leonard is nothing if not a Renaissance man. He is, however, the pursuit for social justice—in particular, the abolishment of sexual orientation discrimination—that has been the unifying theme in his quarter-century of scholarship.

Soon after joining the Law School in 1982, Professor Leonard introduced a policy banning discrimination based on sexual orientation, making New York Law School one of the first law schools to include sexual orientation in its nondiscrimination policy. Later, he proposed a domestic partnership policy that once again signaled the Law School as an arbiter of social change.
The untimely death of faculty colleague James Kibbey from AIDS inspired much of Professor Leonard’s early scholarship, including two of his landmark accomplishments: the publication of the first law review article on AIDS discrimination, which influenced national legal policy on the AIDS epidemic in 1985, and the first textbook on AIDS in 1987. Since then, he has written or co-authored five other books on law and sexuality, contributed chapters to 13 books, and written numerous articles for law reviews and other scholarly publications. He also launched New York’s LGBT bar association, which was incorporated in 1984.

At the Law School, Professor Leonard’s courses include Contracts, Employment Law, Employment Discrimination Law, Sexuality & the Law, and Torts II. In February 2000, he was honored at a law school symposium commemorating the 20th anniversary of the widely-read Lesbian/Gay Law Notes, a journal addressing legal issues facing the gay and lesbian community.

**Stephen A. Newman**  
**Professor of Law**

Despite his groundbreaking contributions to the Law School in establishing a Consumer Law Protection Center and developing new courses, Professor Stephen A. Newman modestly claims a humbler role when asked about his greatest contribution: teaching.

“I hope I’ve influenced my students to be careful, thoughtful, and caring in the way they practice law—and live their lives—throughout their careers. A teacher rarely knows what his influence has been. But when I hear of the successes of former students, it is extremely gratifying,” Professor Newman says.

In a teaching career that began with consumer law and expanded to include family law, Professor Newman created several popular courses to meet the legal education needs created by social upheaval: Family Law; Persuasion; Divorce: Lawyers, Clients, and Families; and Children & the Law.

Professor Newman has written several articles designed to improve the quality of decision making in custody cases. “Cases involving children arouse the most intense emotions,” he says, “and the legal system has to deal with these disputes with greater sensitivity.”

And the School’s greatest contribution to Professor Newman? Meeting his wife, Catherine Sullivan, who joined the faculty in 1977 to teach Constitutional Law. “I never thought of the Law School as a romantic spot, but somehow love finds its way into the most unexpected places.”

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**James F. Simon**  
**Martin Professor of Law**  
**Dean Emeritus**

It’s fitting that a writer, when given a chance to build something, would choose a library. And that is exactly what best-selling author Professor James F. Simon did. His books include What Kind of Nation: Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, and the Epic Struggle to Create a United States; Lincoln and Chief Justice Taney: Slavery, Secession, and the President’s War Powers; and five other books on American history, law, and politics.

As Professor Simon, a constitutional law professor and Dean Emeritus, reflects on 32 years of service to the Law School, he is most proud of championing and overseeing the creation of the Mendik Law Library.

“It was the cornerstone of the Law School’s move forward,” Professor Simon says. The library and other facility improvements accompanied an “improvement in the quality of the faculty,” curricular changes, and vigorous fundraising during Professor Simon’s tenure as dean, from 1983 to 1992.

He has garnered numerous honors, including a Ford Foundation Africa-Asia Fellowship to work and study in India, and a year as a Harvard Fellow in Law and the Humanities. Other awards and honors include The New York Times’s “Notable Book” designation, a Certificate of Merit and the 1974 Silver Gavel Award from the American Bar Association, and the 1981 Scribes Book Award from the American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects.

Professor Simon continues his long and distinguished service to the School by teaching Constitutional Law I and II, Legal Journalism, and the Modern Supreme Court. He is also writing a proposal for a new book on constitutional history, which he plans to deliver to his publisher, Simon & Schuster, in the next few months.
Judge Gerald Lebovits, Champion of the Moot Court Association, Retires after 18 Years at the Law School

After 18 years at New York Law School, Judge Gerald Lebovits retired in the spring of 2007. The following excerpt from the spring issue of the MCA Docket, the Moot Court Association’s regular newsletter, describes the enormous impact Judge Lebovits has had on every one of his students.

Judge Gerald Lebovits taught at New York Law School from 1989 to 2007 as an adjunct professor and served as the New York Law School Moot Court Faculty Advisor from 1992 to 2007. Every student of his recalls him as a gifted, extraordinary teacher, selflessly devoted to his students and to his beloved New York Law School.

In addition to Moot Court, he taught first-year legal writing, the first-year legal research component, Advanced Writing Skills for Lawyers, Drafting Judicial Opinions, and Memorandum and Brief Writing. He was also the Mock Trial Advisor for 12 years.

At Moot Court, Judge Lebovits revamped the Charles W. Froessel Intramural Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition and the Robert F. Wagner Labor and Employment Intermural Moot Court Competition into what they are now. In fact, he revamped the entire structure of New York Law School Moot Court into what it is today.

Currently and during Judge Lebovits’s entire tenure, the Moot Court Board has remained an independent, student-run honors society. That was Judge Lebovits’s contribution. He led by example; his students exemplified. He taught; his students thrived—to the point that, under his guidance, New York Law School Moot Court won 79 first-place awards in intermural competition, earning championships and awards for Best Briefs and Best Oralists.

As a part-time professor, Judge Lebovits set the pace. No U.S. law school other than New York Law School can boast such moot court successes under the guidance of a part-time professor. Having won the Best Speaker and Best Brief awards in his law school’s equivalent of the Froesssel Competition, he was destined to work with New York Law School Moot Court. He taught law as a teaching assistant at age 20, a year before he went to law school, and he taught law every year while he was in law school at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. That made him destined to be a great teacher at New York Law School.

Judge Lebovits became the Moot Court Faculty Advisor after two successive, unanimous Moot Court executive boards petitioned Dean Simon, in 1991, and Dean Wellington, in 1992, to appoint him. The executive boards gave Judge Lebovits signed, framed copies of their petitions. They are the first thing you see on the wall as you walk into Judge Lebovits’s chambers.

For his work at New York Law School, the student body elected Judge Lebovits the “Adjunct Professor of the Year” for 1993–1994, the only year in memory that a vote of that kind was taken. In 1994, the Moot Court
Board named its Best Brief award in the Froessel Competition the “Gerald Lebovits Best Brief Award.” In 2000, New York Law School honored him with a Lifetime Achievement Award for Moot Court. Over the years, the students have given him 23 plaques.

When asked to write a few words about his experience as Moot Court Advisor, Judge Lebovits summed it up with the following remarks, also excerpted from the spring 2007 MCA Docket:

“My years as Moot Court’s cheerleader have been wonderful. I leave New York Law School with the best memories. My memories will last a lifetime. I recall each Froessel, each Wagner, each intermural competition. I’ll always remember every one of my students. We shared special moments: victories, defeats, hours of preparation, and effort and hard work. Moot Court was the formative experience for my students. For me, too. What we learned can never be taken from us. And the friends we made will be ours until we die.

“Moot Court made us care about ourselves, about our Moot Court team, and about our New York Law School. We were rewarded in return. I hear it all the time; I know it’s true... The Moot Court team was and will always be the ‘A’ team. It was my privilege and honor to work with you...”

On April 23, 2007, New York Law School hosted a tribute to Judge Lebovits, where students, faculty, and staff joined the 2006–2007 Moot Court Board in thanking him for his tireless dedication to students and bidding him farewell. At this gathering, Dean Richard A. Matasar read the following faculty resolution: “The Faculty of New York Law School join our Moot Court students, past and present, in celebrating the many years of service to the School by Adjunct Professor Gerald Lebovits. With Judge Lebovits’s guidance as Moot Court Faculty Advisor, New York Law School’s students have developed a tradition of excellence in moot court competition, a tradition reflected both in the hard work of the students and in the many awards they have won in moot court competitions around the country. We thank Gerry for his own exceptional hard work and commitment to the students of the Moot Court Association, and we are grateful to him for building a program that we are confident will continue to grow and flourish based on the foundation he helped establish.”

Among other remarks presented at the event was a light-hearted poke at Judge Lebovits, written by James E. Iniguez ’95, which appears at right.
New York Law School Welcomes New Faculty Members, Announces Promotions and New Positions

By LaToya Nelson

New York Law School’s Associate Dean for Faculty Development, Professor Stephen J. Ellmann, has announced the appointment of new faculty, including five full-time and four visiting professors, and the promotions/new positions of existing faculty members.

“New York Law School has just had one of its most successful hiring years ever,” Dean Ellmann said. “We’re delighted with our new colleagues, of course; we’re also proud that in hiring them we were building ‘strength on strength’—bringing new faculty who were drawn here by the colleagues they would join and the programs they would become part of. It will be great to watch these new scholars grow and to see the ways they help the Law School grow as well.”

Promotions and votes of tenure

Deborah N. Archer, Professor of Law

Professor Archer joined the Law School in 2003 and has recently been appointed full Professor of Law with a long-term contract. She teaches Racial Discrimination & American Law, Externship Seminar & Placement, and the Urban Law Clinic, and she directs the Racial Justice Project at the School’s Justice Action Center. Professor Archer’s scholarly work has addressed the rights of ex-offenders coming out of prison and, most recently, the constitutionality of considering race in assigning students to public schools in order to achieve racial balance. Previously, she worked at Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett as a litigation associate and also performed pro bono work on behalf of political asylum seekers and battered women. She was Assistant Counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., where she was involved in a number of important cases, including Maxwell v. Foster, which defended a challenge to majority-minority voting districts; Lewis v. Chicago, which challenged the Chicago Fire Department’s hiring practices; and Simms v. Oklahoma, which dealt with employment discrimination litigation. Professor Archer is a member of the Civil Rights Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York and the Committee on Civil Rights of the New York State Bar Association.

Beth Simone Noveck, Professor of Law

Professor Noveck, Director of the School’s Institute for Information Law & Policy, has been appointed full Professor of Law with tenure. Formerly an information technology and corporate lawyer, Professor Noveck teaches in the areas of intellectual property, innovation, and constitutional law. Her research and design work lie at the intersection of technology and civil liberties and are aimed at building more democratic institutions. In 2002, Professor Noveck founded the State of Play Conference, the world’s first research conference on virtual worlds. She also created the State of Play Academy, New York Law School’s online distance learning platform for open legal education in There.com. In addition, she launched Democracy Island, an experimental space in the online role-playing game Second Life, to study and do citizen participation and engagement using the virtual world.
medium. She is the co-editor of *The State of Play: Law, Games, and Virtual Worlds* (NYU Press, 2006). Professor Noveck directs the Peer-to-Patent Project, which opens the patent examination process at the United States Patent and Trademark Office for online, public participation for the first time. She and her students blog at http://cairns.typepad.com.

**NEW FULL-TIME FACULTY APPOINTMENTS**

**RICHARD CHUSED, PROFESSOR OF LAW**

Professor Chused is a prolific scholar and an expert on property law, law and gender, copyright law, and cyberlaw. He will join New York Law School in the 2008–09 academic year. He is currently Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center. In 2004–05 he received a Senior Scholar Fulbright Grant to teach at the Law Faculty of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Before joining Georgetown’s faculty in 1973, he taught for five years at Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, New Jersey. Professor Chused is a member of various history associations as well as the Society of American Law Teachers, where he is currently the Webmaster and he previously served on the board of governors for 12 years. He has published numerous books and articles on the legal history of gender and property law, and teaching texts in copyright and property. His recently published work includes a book chapter on the treatment of the poor in American landlord-tenant law, an article on copyright law in the digital age, a lengthy history of the famous landlord-tenant case *Javins v. First National Realty Corporation*, a historical essay on Myra Bradwell’s *Chicago Legal News*, and a history of landlord-tenant court in New York City at the turn of the 20th century.

**MOLLY BEUTZ, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW**

Professor Beutz will teach Conflict of Laws, Civil Procedure, and International Intellectual Property at the Law School. Previously, she was the Robert M. Cover and Allard K. Lowenstein Fellow in International Human Rights and a visiting lecturer in law at Yale Law School, where she co-taught the Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic and International Human Rights: Law and Policy. She also taught International Human Rights as a lecturer at Yale College. Before teaching at Yale, Professor Beutz litigated trademark, copyright, and patent cases as an associate in the intellectual property group at Faegre & Benson LLP in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She also worked with Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights on a human rights report concerning the state’s response to domestic violence against immigrant and refugee women in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area. Professor Beutz’s research and scholarship focuses on the intersection of intellectual property and international human rights. She is currently working on a project that seeks to marshal human rights arguments in support of compulsory licensing of educational materials.
Doni Gewirtzman, Associate Professor of Law

Professor Gewirtzman is a scholar of constitutional law and theory whose research focuses on the intersection between constitutional law and politics. Prior to joining New York Law School, Professor Gewirtzman taught Constitutional Law as a visiting fellow at Vanderbilt School of Law, and served as Co-associate Director and Acting Assistant Professor of Law in New York University School of Law’s Lawyering Program. He began his legal career as a Skadden Fellow at the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, where he represented the mother of Brandon Teena, a Nebraska teen whose murder was portrayed in the film Boys Don't Cry, in a wrongful death suit against a local police department. He also represented members of gay student organizations that were banned from meeting in Salt Lake City public schools, and spearheaded Lambda’s advocacy efforts on behalf of older lesbians and gay men. Previously, Professor Gewirtzman was a litigation associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, where he represented clients on a range of commercial and pro bono matters. He also served as a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs and worked as an educational consultant for Prep for Prep, a nonprofit organization that identifies and places intellectually gifted high school students of color in elite prep schools.

James Grimmelmann, Associate Professor of Law

Professor Grimmelmann comes to the Law School from the Information Society Project at Yale Law School, where he was a resident fellow. He will teach Copyright, Intellectual Property, and Internet Law. Last year, Professor Grimmelmann was an adjunct professor at New York Law School, and he has also been involved in the School’s State of Play Conference as an interviewer, speaker, and moderator. His background is in computer technology; he worked for Microsoft as a programmer and has been blogging since 2000. He studies how the law governing the creation and use of software affects the distribution of wealth, power, and freedom in society. As both a lawyer and a technologist, Professor Grimmelmann aims to help these two groups speak intelligibly to each other. He writes on such topics as intellectual property, virtual worlds, search engines, electronic commerce, online privacy, and the use of software as a regulator. Previously, Professor Grimmelmann was a legal intern for Creative Commons and the Electronic Frontier Foundation.

Rebecca Roiphe, Associate Professor of Law

Professor Roiphe will teach American Legal History, Criminal Procedure, and Legal Profession. Her current research explores the history of the profession and the changing relationships among government, courts, and the individual. She taught for two years as a visiting assistant professor at Fordham University School of Law. Prior to joining academia, Professor Roiphe worked in the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office, where she prosecuted complex financial fraud cases. She also worked as an associate at Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP in Manhattan, specializing in white-collar criminal defense work. While at the firm she received her Ph.D. in American history from the University of Chicago. Her dissertation, titled Law and the Modern Soul, 1890–1930, addresses changing conceptions of the self in the law.


**Visiting Faculty, 2007–2008**

**Lloyd Bonfield, Visiting Professor of Law**

Professor Bonfield is a legal historian and internationally-minded law professor who teaches in the areas of trusts and estates, property, European Union law, and legal history. For the 2007–08 academic year, he joins New York Law School as a visiting professor of law and holds a concurrent professorship at Tulane University, where he serves as the Thomas Andre Jr. Professor of Law and Associate Dean for International Graduate Studies and International External Relations. Beginning in 2008–09, Professor Bonfield will continue at New York Law School as a full-time tenured professor, teaching Comparative Legal History; Property; and Wills, Trusts, and Future Interests. He edits *Continuity and Change*, a journal of social history, demography, and the law published by the Cambridge University Press. He has written extensively on the historical aspects of marriage settlements and inheritance. In March 2006, West Law School published Professor Bonfield’s *American Law and the American Legal System in a Nutshell* as part of its Nutshell Series. He is also collaborating on a volume (1688–1760) for the *Oxford History of English Law*. In 2000, Professor Bonfield was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship and a Sumter Marks Award. He was awarded a Fulbright teaching and research award for the academic year 2005–06.

**Dan Hunter, Visiting Professor of Law**

Dan Hunter is Professor of Law at the University of Melbourne; Adjunct Associate Professor of Legal Studies at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; and Visiting Professor at New York Law School. In 2006–07, he taught Intellectual Property, Cyberlaw, and the Information Law Capstone at the Law School, and he will return to teach here again for the 2008–09 academic year. He continues his involvement at the law school during the 2007–08 academic year as co-organizer of the State of Play and Amateur Hour conferences. He is an expert on cyberspace and Internet law, artificial intelligence and cognitive science models of law, and electronic commerce regulation. He previously taught in the law faculty at Cambridge University, England, where he also held the Herchel Smith Research Fellowship in Intellectual Property Law at Emmanuel College. Professor Hunter regularly publishes on issues dealing with the intersection of computers and law, including the regulation of virtual worlds, the use of artificial intelligence in law, and high-technology aspects of intellectual property. He was one of the first scholars to examine the social significance of virtual worlds. His research has appeared in journals such as the *California Law Review*, *Texas Law Review*, and the *Journal of Legal Education*. He co-founded the blog *Terra Nova*, and ran the 2006 and 2007 State of Play Conferences, presented by New York Law School.
Sheldon Leader, Visiting Professor of Law

Sheldon Leader is Professor of Law at the University of Essex in the United Kingdom. He will join New York Law School in spring 2008 to teach Corporations. He has taught at the University of Paris X and in the United States at Brooklyn Law School, Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, New Jersey, and Tulane Law School. He teaches and conducts research in the areas of corporate law, labor law, international economic law, and jurisprudence, and examines the links between these subjects and human rights. He is Chairman of the Pallas Consortium of Universities for European Business Law, Legal Advisor to Amnesty International UK, and a member of the Chatham House Advisory Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility. He is the author of Freedom of Association (Yale University Press, 1992), and his articles have been published in the Journal of International Economic Law, the International Social Science Journal, the Modern Law Review, and the Columbia Law Review.

Marshall Tracht, Visiting Professor of Law

Professor Tracht will work with the School's newest academic center, the Center for Real Estate Studies, and will be teaching Bankruptcy, Real Estate Transactions and Finance, and Advanced Real Estate Financing. Professor Tracht has been a member of the Hofstra University School of Law faculty since 1994, serving as Vice Dean from 2001 to 2006. He is a member of the editorial board of The Banking Law Journal, a contributing editor to the Real Estate Law Report, and has written extensively in the areas of real estate development and construction financing, workouts, and bankruptcy. His articles have appeared in the Cornell Law Review and Vanderbilt Law Review, among others, and he was a winner of the 1997–98 Grant Gilmore Award from the American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers for excellence in legal scholarship. Before going into academia, Professor Tracht practiced in the real estate and bankruptcy groups at Arnold & Porter LLP in Washington, D.C.

Faculty in New Positions

Lenni B. Benson, Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Professional Development

Lenni Benson is now Associate Dean for Professional Development. In this new role, she oversees the offices of Student Life, Career Services, and Public Interest and Community Service, helping students enhance their professional prospects through mentoring, networking, and skills development. Previously, she was Co-director of New York Law School’s Justice Action Center, where she pulled a diverse group of activist faculty together to offer students the opportunity to get directly involved in public interest and advocacy work. Dean Benson specializes in immigration law and political asylum and is nationally recognized in the field. In 1999, the American Immigration Lawyers Association named her the outstanding professor in immigration law based on her contributions to the professional and scholarly development of the field and her role as a mentor of students and young attorneys. She has been a member of the Law School faculty since 1994.
CAROL BUCKLER, PROFESSOR OF LAW, ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Carol Buckler is now Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. In addition to overseeing Academic Affairs and the Registrar's Office, she remains the Director of the John Marshall Harlan Honors Program. Previously, she was the Law School's first Associate Dean for Professional Development. During her five years in that role, she oversaw the offices of Student Life, Career Services, and Public Interest and Community Service. Dean Buckler entered academia as an adjunct professor at Pace Law School and came to New York Law School in 1991. She teaches the wide-ranging yet often subtle professional skills needed by practicing lawyers, and is affiliated with the Law School’s Center for Professional Values and Practice. In addition to speaking on and writing articles related to political asylum as part of her work in the Civil and Human Rights Clinic, Dean Buckler is co-author of the popular workplace reference book *Everything a Working Mother Needs to Know About Pregnancy Rights, Maternity Leave, and Making Her Career Work for Her* (Doubleday, 1994).

CATHY GLASER, PROFESSOR OF LEGAL WRITING, DIRECTOR OF THE WRITING PROGRAM

Professor Glaser is now the Director of the Writing Program, where she has served as an administrator since 1986, preparing the curriculum, supervising the adjunct faculty, and teaching both the first-year course and various upper-division writing courses. Professor Glaser has incorporated her years of experience with legal writing into a first-year textbook, *The Lawyer's Craft: An Introduction to Legal Analysis, Writing, Research, and Advocacy* (Anderson Publishing, 2002), which she co-authored with several colleagues at New York Law School. Before coming to the Law School, Professor Glaser practiced labor relations and employment law with several law firms, including Brown & Glaser, where she was a named partner. She taught legal writing at Syracuse University College of Law and Rutgers Law School-Newark as an adjunct professor, and several collective bargaining courses at the Graduate School of Management and Urban Professions at the New School for Social Research.

JETHRO K. LIEBERMAN, PROFESSOR OF LAW, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC PUBLISHING

Professor Lieberman has become the Vice President for Academic Publishing, a new office at the Law School. In this role, he will be Publisher and Editorial Director of TriBeCa Square Press, the Law School’s new publishing house. He was previously the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for seven years and Director of the Writing Program for 22 years. He earned a B.A. in politics and economics from Yale, and after graduating from Harvard Law School in 1967, practiced law for six years. In 1973, he became founding editor of the Legal Affairs Department at *BusinessWeek*, where he worked for 10 years. He later received a Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University, where he taught for several years. He is the author of 24 books. His most recent book is *The Lawyer's Craft: An Introduction to Legal Analysis, Writing, Research, and Advocacy* (Anderson Publishing, 2002), a first-year textbook that he co-authored with colleagues in the Writing Program. His books also cover legal ethics and business and constitutional law, and include *A Practical Companion to the Constitution: How the Supreme Court Has Ruled on Issues from Abortion to Zoning* (University of California Press, 1999).
Richard Marsico, Professor of Law, Director of the Justice Action Center, Chair of First Thursday Lunchees, Co-editor, Clinical Research Institute

Professor Marsico is now the sole Director of the Justice Action Center, where he is responsible for shaping the School’s efforts to use law’s constructive power as a tool of justice and social welfare. He brings extensive practical experience to the Justice Action Center, having worked as a staff attorney in the Civil Division of the Legal Aid Society in the Bronx and as law clerk to the Honorable Shirley Wohl Kram of the U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York. He teaches clinical courses at the Law School, where he has supervised students representing clients on diverse issues including discrimination, community reinvestment, not-for-profit law, and political asylum. In addition, he has written and lectured extensively in the field. Professor Marsico’s recent scholarship focuses on the Community Reinvestment Act. He published a book about this federal law that promotes economic development in impoverished communities, and he is examining ways to encourage banks to make loans to businesses and residents of low-income neighborhoods without encouraging predatory lending at high interest rates and harsh terms.

Learn law. Take action.
**Deborah N. Archer**

**Publications**

**Richard C.E. Beck**

**Publications**

**Lenni B. Benson**

**Appointments**
Immigration Subcommittee Chair, ABA Section on Administrative Law (June 2007).

**Scholarly Presentations**
Planned and conducted a program with Human Rights First on Special Juvenile Immigrant Status (June 2007).

Moderated and spoke on the topic of federal court review of immigration cases at the New York Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (May 2007).

Was the main speaker at the National Association of Women Judges’ conference, Albany, New York (April 2007).

Planned and moderated a panel for the Civil Rights Committee of the New York State Bar Association at a state bar conference (January 2007).

**Publications**
Her paper analyzing the roots of the increase in federal immigration litigation will appear in the Legal Forum of the University of Chicago Law School (forthcoming 2007).

**Projects**
Planned a panel on administrative adjudication for a future meeting of the ABA Administrative Law Section (June 2007).

Attended ABA convention in San Francisco (Summer 2007).

**Robert Blecker**

**Media References and Appearances**

Committee Moves to Ban Death Penalty, Courier Post (May 2007).


**Michael Botein**

**Appointments**
Visiting Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Wroclaw, Poland (Summer 2007).

**Scholarly Presentations**
Gave a seminar at the European Audiovisual Observatory (Summer 2007).

Gave a paper on Wi-Fi to a conference presented by the city government of Taipei, Taiwan (Summer 2007).

Participant, six-week lecture series on comparative U.S./European telecommunications policy at the University of Wroclaw, Poland (April 2007).

**Publications**

La politica di controllo in tema di oscenita della Commissione federale sulle comunicazioni, chapter in La Societa DELL’INFORMATIZIONE: LIBERTA, PLURALISMO, RISORSE (University of Urbino, 2007).

**Projects**
Consultations with German media lawyers on U.S. media law developments (June 2007).

Participation in board meeting of IRIS, the official Council of Europe monthly publication on media law (June 2007).
Participation in the board meeting of the European Audiovisual Observatory on media law issues (June 2007).

Consultation with Polish policymakers on U.S. telecommunications policy issues (April 2007).

Signed with Gilberts-West to contribute to a “Nutshell on CD,” an audio presentation on U.S. media and telecommunications law (April 2007).

Advised New York State Public Service Commission on development of Wi-Fi communications (March 2007).

**Elizabeth Chambliss**

**Appointments**

Member, Law Firms Working Group, a joint effort of the American Bar Foundation, the University of Indiana School of Law-Bloomington, and American Lawyer Media (April 2007).

**Scholarly Presentations**

Spoke about the professional responsibilities of bar associations at the 13th Annual Clifford Symposium, Chicago (April 2007).

Presented research on law firm in-house counsel at the First Annual National Program of the Firm Counsel Project, an association of law firm in-house counsel organized by the ABA Section of Business Law (March 2007).

**Projects**

“The Professionalization of Law Firm Management?” as part of her work with the Law Firms Working Group, a joint effort of the American Bar Foundation, the University of Indiana School of Law-Bloomington, and American Lawyer Media (April 2007).

The Professionalization of Law Firm In-House Counsel, 84 North Carolina Law Review 1515 (2006) was selected as the centerpiece for the ABA Section of Business Law’s First Annual National Program of the Firm Counsel Project, Washington, D.C. (March 2007).

**Pamela R. Champine**

**Publications**

**Scholarly Presentations**


**Publications**


**Media References and Appearances**


**Citations**

State Succession and Commercial Obligations (Transnational Publishers, 2006) has been favorably reviewed in:


Recent Books on International Law, 100 American Journal of International Law 963, 1000 (2007).

Yale Law Report, Bibliography (Spring 2007).


Kris Franklin

Appointments
Re-elected to the board of directors of the Pratt Area Community Council (June 2007).

Scholarly Presentations
Featured speaker, LSAC Academic Assistance Training Workshop (June 2007).

Media References and Appearances
Prominently featured in Robert Wagner’s Love and Marriage, a documentary film on gay marriage (Summer 2007).

Brandt Goldstein

Media References and Appearances

Annette Gordon-Reed

Appointments
Judge, nonfiction entries, National Book Award (2007).

Scholarly Presentations
Delivered annual Thomas Jefferson Lecture at the University of Tennessee’s Space Institute (April 2007).

Moderated and commented on a panel about the modern legacy of the Dred Scott decision, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis (March 2007).

Participated in a panel about the Dred Scott decision, Grand Rapids, Michigan (March 2007).

Media References and Appearances
“New Pop A-List: 50 to Watch (30 or Under),” Interview Magazine (June 2007).

Karen Gross

Media References and Appearances

Seth Harris

Scholarly Presentations
Advisor and participant, Big Sky Project consortium, Orlando, Florida (April 2007).

Randolph N. Jonakait

Scholarly Presentations
Discussed the development of the American adversary system at a symposium on cross-examination, Widener University Law School, Wilmington, Delaware (April 2007).

Media References and Appearances
Why Is a DOJ Lawyer Taking the Fifth? TIME (March 2007).
Arthur S. Leonard

Publications
Charney Turns Tables on S&C, Gay City News (April 2007), one of several articles written in recent months as contributor to Gay City News.

Media References and Appearances


Jethro K. Lieberman

Appointments

Richard Marsico

Scholarly Presentations
Spoke about discriminatory subprime lending practices at the annual conference of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, Washington, D.C. (March 2007).

Richard A. Matasar

Scholarly Presentations
Panelist, Student Debt Symposia, University of Chicago (March 2007).

Stephen A. Newman

Publications


Beth Simone Noveck

Scholarly Presentations
“The First Amendment in the Digital Age,” McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California (March 2007).

Gave a talk on patent reform at DePaul Law School in Chicago (March 2007).

Rudolph J.R. Peritz

Scholarly Presentations
“Re-Thinking the Experimental Use Defense to Patent Infringement” at the annual Advancement of Teaching and Research in Intellectual Property (ATRIP) conference, Buenos Aires (June 2007).


Michael L. Perlin

Appointments
Re-appointed to the editorial boards of Psychology, Psychiatry & Law; Behavioral Sciences and Law; and the International Journal of Law and Psychiatry (2007).

Sadiq Reza

Scholarly Presentations
“Forensic Ethics, Sanism and Pretextuality” at the 25th annual symposium of the American College of Forensic Psychiatry, Santa Fe, New Mexico (April 2007).

Publications
Reassessing the Aftercare Treatment of Individuals Found Not Guilty Due to a Mental Disability in Hunan, China: A Supplemental Study into the Disposition of Mentally Ill Offenders after Forensic Psychiatric Assessment, 41 Australian & New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry 337 (2007) (with X. Wang, H.E. Cucolo et al.).


Joyce Saltalamachia

Projects
Performed a solo site visit for the ABA at the American University summer program in Santiago, Chile (June 2007).
Attended the Board of Governors meeting of the Society of American Law Teachers, New Orleans (April 2007). Attended the spring meeting of the AALS Membership Review Committee (April 2007).
Chaired the ABA site team that visited the University of Missouri, Kansas City (March 2007).
Participated in the first round screening review of the entries for the ABA Gavel Awards, Chicago (March 2007).

David Schoenbrod

Scholarly Presentations

Publications
Environmental Quality Requires Congress to Make the Hard Choices, 24 Renewable Resources Journal 7 (Winter 2006–2007).

Richard K. Sherwin

Scholarly Presentations
Media References and Appearances
Interviewed on “Australia Talks” about cameras in the Australian courtroom and the need for visual literacy, ABC (Australia Broadcasting Corporation) (May 2007).

James F. Simon
Scholarly Presentations
Presented on a panel, Washington University School of Law, St. Louis (March 2007).

Cameron Stracher
Publications
DINNER WITH DAD: HOW I FOUND MY WAY BACK TO THE FAMILY TABLE (Random House, 2007).


Media References and Appearances
Dad Savors Taste of Family Life, USA Today (June 2007).

Discussed his book, DINNER WITH DAD, on the Leonard Lopate Show on WNYC, Good Morning America Radio, and Life’s Work with Lisa Belkin on XM satellite radio (June 2007).

Book reading of DINNER WITH DAD at Borders bookstore, Manhattan (June 2007).

Nadine Strossen
Scholarly Presentations
Panelist and moderator of “What Happens Next?” at Harvard College’s 35th Reunion (June 2007).

Spoke at various programs for the ACLU’s Biennial Conference, Seattle, Washington (June 2007).

Panelist, “Dialogue on Drama,” following a performance at the New Jersey McCarter Theater of the play MRS. PACKARD, which is based on the life of 19th-century activist Emma Packard (May 2007).

Participated in debate about abortion for “Fire and Ice Week,” sponsored by Students for Healthy Choices and Students for Life, Grand Valley State University, Michigan (debated Scott Klusendorf, President of Institute for Life Advocacy) (April 2007).


Delivered keynote dialogue, “Civil Liberties in a Time of War,” at the “Difficult Discussions” program at Manchester College, Indiana (March 2007).

Debated in “Bare it or Bar it: Should Government Regulate Adult Pornography to Prevent Exposure to Minors?” at the Sixth Annual Lecture Series at Susquehanna University, Pennsylvania (March 2007).

Delivered keynote address, “Current Challenges to Women’s Civil Liberties,” at a month-long celebration of Women’s History Month, sponsored by the Women’s Center at Shippensburg University, Pennsylvania (March 2007).

Media References and Appearances

Ruti Teitel
Scholarly Presentations

Spoke at the 2007 World Congress International Association of Constitutional Law on its Plenary Panel, “Constitutionalism on Conflict and Stability,” and presented a paper at a workshop on Secularism and Constitutionalism, Athens (June 2007).

Convened and moderated “Religion in the Public Sphere: A Transnational Conversation on Freedom and Tolerance” panel, Center for Jewish History (April 2007).


Publications

Adjunct Faculty Activities

Marc S. Bekerman

**Appointments**
Associate Director, Graduate Tax Program, New York Law School (April 2007).

**Scholarly Presentations**
Lectured at “An Introduction to Trusts and Estates,” a program of the ABA Real Property, Probate, & Trust Law Section’s Standing Committee on Community Outreach, Washington, D.C. (April 2007).

**Publications**

Projects
Assisted in the planning of the Spring Symposia of the ABA Real Property, Probate, & Trust Law Section’s Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education, held in Washington, D.C. (Spring 2007).

Created the initial Young Lawyer’s Institute for the Probate and Trust Division of the ABA (Spring 2007).

Pei Pei Cheng-de Castro ’00

**Appointments**
Partner, Peluso & Touger, LLP (June 2007).

Lindsay A. Curcio

**Scholarly Presentations**


Publications

David L. Ferstendig

**Appointments**
Recaptured as Chair of the Committee on Civil Practice Law and Rules, New York State Bar Association (2007).

**Publications**
WEINSTEIN, KORN AND MILLER CPLR MANUAL (Lexis, 2007) (General Editor with O. Chase).

Jacob I. Friedman

**Publications**
Public Charities, supplement chapter in COMPLETE GUIDE TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (Civic Research Institute, 2007) (co-author).

Finally—The Final 409A Regulations, JOURNAL OF TAXATION AND REGULATION OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (July/August 2007) (co-author).

David L. Glass

**Appointments**
Head of RMG (Risk Management Group) Legal Affairs for the Americas for the Macquarie Group (April 2007).

Thomas D. Hughes ’85

**Scholarly Presentations**
Presented a paper examining the theories of scientific philosopher Karl Popper, New School for Social Research (April 2007).

**Testimonies and Legal Consultation**
Appellate Division, First Department, handed down a decision in a case he briefed and argued vacating an $18.5 million verdict against his company in a first-party insurance coverage lawsuit and ordering a new trial on damages (May 2007).

William Jannace ’92

**Scholarly Presentations**

Participant, “Communications with the Public” panel, NASD Spring Conference (May 2007).


Panelist, “Communications with the Public” at the SIFMA Annual Legal and Compliance Seminar (March 2007).

Presented “IPO Process” to visiting students from China, NYU School of Continuing and Professional Studies (May 2007).

Margaret Sipser Leibowitz
Appointments
2007–08 full-time Visiting Professor in labor and employment law, Wayne State University Law School, Detroit, Michigan (2007).

Amy Baldwin Littman
Appointments
Re-installed as second-term President of the Rockland County Women’s Bar Association (June 2007).

Steven E. Pegalis ’65
Appointments
Chosen as an alumnus honoree of the New York Law School Alumni Gala event, to take place in December 2007 (2007).

Publications
A Proposal to Use Common Ground That Exists Between the Medical and Legal Professions to Promote a Culture of Safety, 51 NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL LAW REVIEW 1058 (2006–07).

Norman L. Reimer
Awards and Recognition
Robert Louis Cohen Award from the New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (June 2007).

Mitchell Rubinstein
Appointments
Editor, Adjunct Law Prof Blog (May 2007).

Paul Schneiderman
Appointments
Managing Counsel, Manhattan office, Internal Revenue Service (February 2007).

K.A. Taipale
Publications
Seeking Symmetry on the Information Front: Confronting Global Jihad on the Internet, 16 NATIONAL STRATEGY FORUM REVIEW 14 (Summer 2007).

Testimonies and Legal Consultation
Testified on “Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Modernization: Reconciling Signals Intelligence Activity with Targeted Wiretapping” before the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (SSCI) Hearing on the Foreign Intelligence Modernization Act of 2007 (May 2007).

Barry Temkin
Appointments
Chair of the New York County Lawyers Association Ethics Committee for the September 2007–August 2008 term (June 2007).

Andrew J. Turro
Publications

Lis Wiehl
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New York Law School Recognizes David Boies, Sybil Shainwald ’76, and Faculty and Students at 115th Commencement

By LaToya Nelson

More than 2,000 students, alumni, faculty, family, and guests gathered at Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall for New York Law School’s 115th commencement exercises on May 20, 2007. David Boies, one of the nation’s top litigators, addressed the graduating class, which included 370 J.D. candidates and 13 candidates for the LL.M. in Taxation.

Boies, Chairman of the law firm Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP, also received the honorary degree Doctor of Laws. “You deserve some time to revel in your successes and accomplishments, and after that, you then begin the rest of your lives,” he told the graduates. “You have learned to listen and read more carefully . . . to reason better and more objectively . . . to communicate better . . . And you have learned—even more than you had when you came here—the commitment that you must have to integrity in everything you do. Those lessons will serve you regardless of what the future of your life brings.”

Boies has been recognized as “Lawyer of the Year” by The National Law Journal, runner-up “Person of the Year” by TIME magazine, and “Commercial Litigator of the Year” by Who’s Who. His clients include George Steinbrenner and the New York Yankees, Mike Wallace and CBS, Maurice R. “Hank” Greenberg ’50 and C.V. Starr & Co., Inc., as well as American Express, DuPont, and Ernst & Young.

Hank Greenberg presented Boies with the honorary degree. He is Chairman and CEO of the global investment firm C.V. Starr & Co., Inc. and was formerly the Chairman and CEO of American International Group (AIG), where he was largely responsible for transforming AIG into the largest insurance company in the world.

The President’s Medal of Honor, given to the Law School’s most outstanding and accomplished alumni and its most generous benefactors, was awarded to its first-ever female recipient, Sybil Shainwald ’76. She is the President of the Law Offices of Sybil Shainwald in Manhattan, where she specializes in women’s health law. Throughout her career, Shainwald has litigated thousands of cases involving drugs and medical devices that have injured women and their children.
New York Law School premiered two new commencement events this year—a graduation party and a pre-commencement open house—for students and their families and friends. The graduation party was held at the Copacabana in Midtown on Wednesday, May 9. In spite of a torrential downpour, more than 250 students and their guests attended. The party was open to all members of the graduating class and their guests, free of charge, and included an open bar, a DJ, and an endless array of hors d’oeuvres.

On Saturday and Sunday, students and their families and friends were invited to take part in the Law School’s first pre-commencement open house. The open house provided an opportunity for the graduates to introduce their families and friends to Dean Richard A. Matasar and the many professors who attended, show them around the Law School building, and socialize with one another. The participants also were invited to view the construction site for the new building from the Wellington Conference Center on the fifth floor.

“The response we received from both of these events was enthusiastic and positive,” Dean Matasar said. “The Law School is very pleased to initiate two new traditions that will continue in the future.”

—Shelley Uva
COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

TRUSTEES’ PRIZE FOR THE HIGHEST AVERAGE

The Trustees’ Prize for the Highest Average was awarded to Catherine Hughes Corwin, William Johnson, and Cyril Touchard (Day Division), and Poopak Rafaty Banky and Scott Glotzer (Evening Division).

DEAN’S AWARD FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The Dean’s Award for Student Leadership was awarded to Marie A. Bonitatibus, Christian Gonzalez, and Asha Saran Smith.

ALFRED L. ROSE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

The Alfred L. Rose Award for Excellence was awarded to Catherine Hughes Corwin (Day Division) and Alice Louise King (Evening Division).

CLASS OF 2007 TEACHING AWARD

The Class of 2007 Teaching Award was given to Professor Sadiq Reza.

OTTO L. WALTER DISTINGUISHED WRITING AWARD

FACULTY AWARDS


STUDENT AWARDS

Todd David Marcus (Day Division), for the article, “Fostering Creativity in Virtual Worlds: Removing the Restrictiveness of Copyright for User-Created Content” and Linda M. Lemiesz (Evening Division), for the article “Should Pensions Be a Mandatory Subject of Collective Bargaining Under the Law?”
**ADDITIONAL COMMENCEMENT AWARDS**

**Professor Joseph T. Arenson Award**
for Excellence in Wills and Decedents’ Estates
Layne Roistacher

**Chief Justice Rose E. Bird Award for Motivation in Pursuing Public Interest Law**
Jessica Eileen Roth

**Center for New York City Law Fellowship**
Shlomit Aroubas
Jonathan A. Reingold
William H. Vidal

**Professor Lung-chu Chen Award**
for Excellence in the Field of Human Rights
Theresa Loken
William H. Vidal

**Helen & Andrew Dokas Memorial Award**
for Excellent Achievement
Marie A. Bonitatibus

**Professor Stephen J. Ellmann Clinical Legal Education Prize**
Lea Malani Bays

**Elsberg Prize for Proficiency in the Law of Contracts—Evening Division**
Lucia Freda

**Faculty Award for Outstanding Service to the New York Law School Law Review**
Catherine Hughes Corwin
Barbara Yan

**Daniel Finkelstein Writing Award**
Jennifer M. Addonizio

**The Ruben S. Fogel Commencement Award for Excellence in Constitutional History and Death Penalty**
David A. Smiley

**Alexander D. Forger Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession**
Chaeri Kim Tornay

**Sylvia D. Garland Award for Excellence in Subjects Relating to Civil Litigation**
William Johnson

**Milton S. Gould Award for Proficiency in the Law of Contracts—Day Division**
Miles Baker Cowan

**Professor Albert Kalter Award for Excellence in Tax Law**
Steven Marcus

**Professor James P. Kibbey Memorial Award for Excellence in Commercial Law**
Chaeri Kim Tornay

**D. George Levine Memorial Award for the Highest Grade in the Law of Real Property—Day Division**
Cyril Touchard

**D. George Levine Memorial Award for the Highest Grade in the Law of Real Property—Evening Division**
Poopak Rafaty Banky

**Media Center Award for Outstanding Performance**
Matthew Benjamin Gerst

**The Abraham “Avi” Mund Prize for Excellence in Information Technology and the Law**
Jessica Lee Campbell

**New York Law School Law Review Award for Best Note**
Sarah E. Warne

**New York Law School Law Review Award for Outstanding Editorial Contribution**
Patrick T. Campbell
Todd David Marcus
Keith R. Martorana

**New York Law School Moot Court Association Best Advocate Award**
Marie A. Bonitatibus
New York Law School National Moot Court Team
Marie A. Bonitatibus
Jenny S. Cheung
Rachel Einbund
Brian Francolla

New York Law School Moot Court Award for Serving with Distinction
Jose M. Gomez
Christian Gonzalez
Gena Marie Kaufman
Jeff Smodish

Order of Barristers
Marie A. Bonitatibus
Jenny S. Cheung
Rachel Einbund
Brian Francolla
Jose M. Gomez
Christian Gonzalez
Gena Marie Kaufman
Carolyn A. Klos
Kerona K. Samuels
Jeff Smodish

Honorary Order of the Barrister Award
Basil F. O'Connor ’75

Professor Robert R. Rosenthal Award for Excellence in New York Practice
Cyril Touchard

Joseph Solomon Award for Excellent Character and Fitness
Patrick T. Campbell
Natasha Lucia Carroll-Ferrary

Ernst C. Stiefel Writing Award for Excellence in Comparative-Common Civil Law
Jennifer Brooke Pastarnack
For the Article, “A Historical Perspective of the Fair Report Privilege”

Murray Stockman Memorial Award for the Highest Average in the Law of Evidence
Ryan Sexton

Louis Susman Memorial Award for Excellence in the Study of the Law of Evidence
Poopak Rafaty Banky

Woodrow Wilson Award for Proficiency in Constitutional Law—Day Division
William Johnson

Woodrow Wilson Award for Proficiency in Constitutional Law—Evening Division
Scott Glotzer

Henry J. Wolff Award for Proficiency During a Full Course of Study—Evening Division
Scott Glotzer

New York Law School Alumni Association Awards
Professor Vincent Lolordo Award for Excellence in Administration of Criminal Justice
Laurie Moffat

Dr. Max Reich Award for Excellence in Civil Trial Advocacy
Lucia Freda

Professor Ivan Soubbotitch Award for Excellence in Poverty Law and Civil Rights
Jennifer Addonizio
New York Law School is proud to honor David Boies, one of the nation's most prominent and accomplished litigators, for the courage, intellect, passion, and commitment he brings to the pursuit of justice. The leadership and skill he has demonstrated throughout his career, in cases that have greatly impacted U.S. legal history, are an inspiration to the entire Law School community.

David Boies is Chairman of the law firm of Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP with offices in New York, Washington, D.C., California, Florida, Nevada, New Hampshire, and New Jersey. Mr. Boies attended college at the University of Redlands and law school at Northwestern and Yale. He received a B.S. degree from Northwestern in 1964, his LL.B. *magna cum laude* from Yale in 1966, and his LL.M. from New York University in 1967.

Mr. Boies served as Chief Counsel and Staff Director of the United States Senate Antitrust Subcommittee in 1978 and Chief Counsel and Staff Director of the United States Senate Judiciary Committee in 1979.


Mr. Boies is the recipient of an LL.D. from the University of Redlands, the Milton Gould Award for Outstanding Oral Advocacy, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the LD Access Foundation, the Outstanding Learning Disabled Achievers Award from the Lab School of Washington, the Pinnacle Award of the International Dyslexia Association, and the William Brennan Award from the University of Virginia. He has been named “Lawyer of the Year” by *The National Law Journal*, runner-up “Person of the Year” by *TIME* magazine, and “Commercial Litigator of the Year” by *Who’s Who*. When Mr. Boies received the Milton Gould Award in 1996, the citation said, in part, “No lawyer in America has tried and argued on appeal as many landmark cases in as many different areas as Mr. Boies.”

Mr. Boies’ clients include George Steinbrenner and the New York Yankees, Mike Wallace and CBS, Don Imus, Maurice R. “Hank” Greenberg and C.V. Starr & Co., Inc., Ernst & Young, DuPont, Tyco, Philip Morris, Altria, American Express, and Texas Instruments.

Mr. Boies is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers.

*For your outstanding accomplishments and influence in the field of law, New York Law School takes great pride in awarding you, David Boies, the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.*
**PRESIDENT’S MEDAL OF HONOR**

**Sybil Shainwald ’76**

Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

President, Law Offices of Sybil Shainwald

This year New York Law School is honored to award the President’s Medal of Honor to its first-ever female recipient, and one of the Law School’s most accomplished alumni: Sybil Shainwald.

In the words of United States District Court Judge Jack B. Weinstein, before whom she has appeared hundreds of times on behalf of injured women and families from across the globe, Sybil Shainwald’s “compassion and professional skills have ennobled the practice of law.”

Through groundbreaking and passionate advocacy, Sybil Shainwald has advanced a deeply personal commitment to social justice and women’s rights. Since her graduation from New York Law School as a member of the evening class of 1976, Sybil Shainwald has been a tireless force for safe and effective women’s health care, and one of the most successful pioneers of the women’s health movement. Due to her efforts, which have stretched to all corners of the globe, the quality and scope of women’s health care has dramatically improved.

Since the beginning, Sybil Shainwald’s legal career has focused almost exclusively on women’s health issues—often taking on cases other lawyers thought impossible to win. Throughout her career, Sybil Shainwald has litigated thousands of cases involving drugs and devices harmful to women and their children. Proving that women had suffered irreparable damage to their reproductive organs and overall health as a result of the pharmaceutical industry’s failure to test Diethylstilbestrol (DES) before putting it on the market, Sybil Shainwald was co-counsel in the nation’s first DES daughter victory, *Bichler v. Lilly*. After Bichler, thousands of women who had been exposed to DES and, consequently, had either developed cancer or were unable to bear children were able to obtain compensation.

Subsequently, Sybil Shainwald was instrumental in changing the Statute of Limitations in New York State to a discovery statute. She filed the first case under the Revival Statute, which allowed dismissed cases to be filed for a period of one year. In addition, Sybil Shainwald represented two thousand women in the Dalkon Shield class action against A.H. Robins and obtained equality for the women of Bangladesh, India, Kenya, and China; consequently, her picture hangs on the walls of many Bangladeshi homes. She has pioneered in many areas of women’s health, including bringing the initial cases for the lactation suppressant Parlodel (a product by Sandoz Corp. that is now off the market), the pregnancy test, chronic villus sampling, and many others.

Where traditional remedies have been inadequate, Sybil Shainwald has devised innovative litigation strategies to achieve her clients’ goals. Sybil Shainwald persuaded the Court to establish an Emergency Fund to enable those women who had suffered from tragic injuries resulting from exposure to DES to adopt children or use surrogacy, so that their dreams could come true on their own timelines, and not that of their pharmaceutical litigation. In short, her passionate concern for women’s health and her unflagging devotion to her clients has transformed the practice of mass torts to enable women and men to have families, and to ensure safe and effective health care for American women and women in developing nations.
In addition to her advocacy in the courtroom, Sybil Shainwald has been an exemplary force for proactive education and information dissemination from Appalachia to Africa. For example, she was Chair of the National Women's Health Network and co-founded Health Action International, two organizations that enable women to preserve their health and rights to sound health care through knowledge. Throughout her career, Sybil Shainwald conducted meetings in places as far as Kenya, Costa Rica, and Bangladesh to acquaint women with the toxicity of various women's health products including the Dalkon Shield, Depo-Provera, Norplant, and silicone breast implants. Moreover, she served as an advisor for several international documentaries on women's health, established a book club, and contributed to numerous books. To be sure, her extensive writings, lectures and appearances before Congressional subcommittees, the Food and Drug Administration, and national and international media, including all of the major national and international news stations, have raised global consciousness on crucial women's health issues.

Sybil Shainwald's volunteer service has also been unending, and the list of philanthropic and social organizations that she has served is lengthy. For example, she was a founding member of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, a member of the Food and Drug Administration's Consumer Consortium, a part of Trial Lawyers Care (a group of attorneys representing the September 11th victims' families on a pro bono basis), Chair of the Environmental and Toxic Torts Section of the American Trial Lawyers Association (ATLA), a representative to the End-of-the Decade Conference on Women, Health Advisor to the United Methodist Church, an integral part of the First Black Women's Health Conference and the first Rural Women's Health Conference, just to name a few. Additionally, Sybil Shainwald has served a number of important grassroots women's organizations, which she also helps fund.

Sybil Shainwald has served on numerous boards, past and present, including the Board of Trustees of New York Law School, and the Boards of Directors of the National Women's Health Network (Chair), the Consumer Interest Research Institute, Hysterectomy Education and Resource Services (HERS), Health Action International, Civil Justice Foundation, the New York Academy of Art, American Friends of Tel Aviv Museum, and the Washington National Opera.

Perhaps most importantly, Sybil has ensured the continuation of her and her late husband Sydney Shainwald's legacy of professionalism, ethics, and social responsibility by empowering the next generation of socially conscious activists and advocates. To this end, Sybil has established the Sidney Shainwald Public Interest Lecture Series at New York Law School in loving memory of her late husband. As a result of Sybil's endowment, New York Law School has been able to bring such distinguished speakers as Special Master Kenneth R. Feinberg, Senator Edward M. Kennedy, and Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer to address students and faculty regarding meaningful issues the world faces. In addition, she has served as a professor and lecturer on issues related to corporate responsibility, women's health, and mass tort litigation at universities, law schools, the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, the American Board of Trial Associates, and many other national and international organizations.

Sybil Shainwald's academic career was as stellar as her legal one. At the College of William and Mary she was the President Bryan Scholar and graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She received an M.A. degree in Political Science from Columbia University, before securing grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities to found the Study Center for the Consumer Movement at Consumers Union, where she served as Director. Because of her significant work in consumer affairs, Sybil Shainwald was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation grant and others for the purposes of an oral and written history of the Consumer Movement. Indeed, Sybil Shainwald's legal achievements are all the more inspiring, as the law was her second career, and she attended law school in the evening after her children were grown.

*New York Law School honors Sybil Shainwald ‘76 for her inspiring leadership, her unswerving dedication, and her superb and innovative legal skills on behalf of the global women's health movement.*
Maurice R. Greenberg is Chairman and CEO of C.V. Starr & Co., Inc., a global investment firm. His tenure at C.V. Starr & Co., Inc. began in 1960, when he joined C.V. Starr as Vice President. Mr. Greenberg retired as Chairman & CEO of American International Group, Inc. (AIG) in March 2005, after serving as Chairman and CEO from May 1989 until March 2005. He became President and Chief Executive Officer of AIG in 1967. He was largely responsible for transforming AIG into the largest insurance company in the world and generated unprecedented value for AIG shareholders during his tenure. During the nearly 40 years of his leadership, AIG’s market value grew from $300 million to $180 billion.

Mr. Greenberg is the founding Chairman of the U.S.-Philippine Business Committee and Vice Chairman of the U.S.-ASEAN Business Council. In addition, he is Honorary Vice Chairman and Director of the Council on Foreign Relations; former Chairman and current member of the U.S.-Korea Business Council; a member of the U.S.-China Business Council; and a member of The Business Council. Mr. Greenberg served on the Board of Directors of the New York Stock Exchange, the President’s Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations, and The Business Roundtable. He is the past Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Mr. Greenberg served in the U.S. Army in Europe during World War II and in the Korean conflict, rising to the rank of captain. He is a recipient of the Bronze Star. Mr. Greenberg received his pre-law certificate from the University of Miami and an LL.B. from New York Law School in 1950.

An alumnus and former trustee of New York Law School, Mr. Greenberg established New York Law School’s largest scholarship fund, the C.V. Starr Scholarship, to honor AIG founder Cornelius Vander Starr, with an initial gift of $175,000 by The Starr Foundation. As Chairman of The Starr Foundation, he oversees the disbursement of major financial support to academic, medical, cultural, and public policy institutions.

For his outstanding contributions as both a businessman and a philanthropist, New York Law School is honored to have Maurice R. Greenberg ’50 as the presenter of this year’s honorary degree to David Boies.
Presenter of the President’s Medal of Honor

Arthur N. Abbey ’59
Senior Partner, Abbey Spanier Rodd & Abrams, LLP
Chairman of the New York Law School Board of Trustees

Arthur N. Abbey ’59, Chairman of the New York Law School Board of Trustees, founded his own law firm, Abbey Spanier Rodd & Abrams, LLP more than 30 years ago with just one associate. Today, the firm employs 20 lawyers, half of whom are New York Law School graduates. The firm specializes in the representation of investors in class and shareholder derivative actions, consumers in class actions for defective products, and purchasers who have been damaged by violations of the anti-trust laws.

Mr. Abbey received his B.A. in 1957 from Hofstra University, his LL.B. in 1959 from New York Law School, and his M.B.A. in 1961 from New York University Graduate School of Business Administration. Over the years, Mr. Abbey has appeared in almost every federal court in the United States as well as many different state courts throughout the country. He is particularly proud to serve the Law School as Chairman of the Board of Trustees and to help the School navigate many of the exciting changes that are currently underway.

Mr. Abbey established a fellowship to provide financial support for student work in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern or Southern District of New York. He also established scholarships at New York Law School in honor of his wife and his parents to help students in need.

New York Law School is proud to have our very distinguished alumnus and Board Chairman Arthur N. Abbey ’59 as the presenter of this year’s President’s Medal of Honor to Sybil Shainwald ’76.
This section presents a snapshot of some of the many alumni events that took place throughout the spring 2007 semester—as well as a spotlight on Reunion Weekend 2007. For more information about these and other alumni events visit www.nyls.edu/alumni.
March 11, 2007: Jackson Lewis Brunch

The fourth annual Jackson Lewis Brunch was held on March 11 in the Wellington Conference Center. The brunch honored the final round justices for the Robert F. Wagner National Labor & Employment Moot Court Competition, which is the largest student-run moot court in the United States, and the only one dedicated to labor law.

The final round justices were Hon. Ronald L. Gilman, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, who served as the Moot Court's Chief Justice; Ronald S. Cooper, General Counsel, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; Pico Ben-Amotz, New York State Deputy Commissioner of Worker Protection (who was unable to attend the brunch); Hon. Gerald Lebovits, Judge of the New York Housing Court; and Dean Richard A. Matasar.

March 20, 2007: Midyear Graduates Reception

Each year, New York Law School hosts a reception for students who complete their course of study in December. The Midyear Graduates Reception is, of course, far smaller than the commencement exercises in May, but graduates and their families and friends all enjoy it immensely. In addition, the midyear graduates are invited to attend the traditional commencement in May. This year, New York Law School hosted the annual Midyear Graduates Reception on March 20 in the Wellington Conference Center. As is customary, Dean Richard A. Matasar offered his congratulations to the graduates on behalf of the entire Law School community.
March 22, 2007: Spotlight on Litigation

Three highly successful New York Law School alumni—Arthur N. Abbey ’59, Joseph H. Farrell ’59, and David N. Kelley ’86—spoke at a lively and well-attended Spotlight on Litigation event on March 22 in the Wellington Conference Center. Each speaker represented a different type of career in litigation, proving once more that, in the words of Dean Matasar, there are “many roads to success” and so many begin with a New York Law School degree. Arthur Abbey, Chairman of the New York Law School Board of Trustees, founded his own law firm, Abbey Spanier Rodd & Abrams, LLP, more than 30 years ago. Joseph Farrell is Chairman of Conway, Farrell, Curtin & Kelly P.C., which he joined in 1957. David Kelley, currently a partner at Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP, was U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York from 2003 to 2005, and prior to that, Deputy U.S. Attorney from 2002 to 2003.

April 18, 2007: Spotlight on Women

Blanche Lark Christerson ’86, Cathy R. Hershcopf ’85, and Hon. Loren Baily-Schiffman ’77 spoke about the many turns in their career paths at a Spotlight on Women Luncheon held on April 18 in the Wellington Conference Center. Blanche Lark Christerson is Managing Director at Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management and the author of its newsletter Tax Topics, a commentary on current legislation and other tax issues. Cathy R. Hershcopf is a partner at Cooley Godward Kronish LLP in the firm’s bankruptcy and restructuring practice. Judge Baily-Schiffman worked in private practice for almost 20 years, and has been a judge of the Civil Court, Kings County, since 1998.
May 9, 2007: Long Island Alumni Reception

Every year, New York Law School hosts a variety of alumni receptions in locations around the country. Although the Law School has alumni everywhere, the greatest concentration is in the tri-state area, and a significant number of those alumni live and work on Long Island. This year, Trustee Anthony A. Capetola ’70 hosted a cocktail reception for Long Island alumni on May 9 at his fabulous, award-winning restaurant, Carltun on the Park, located in East Meadow, New York. The reception was held in the garden as well as inside the restaurant. Dean Matasar spoke to the attendees about the Law School’s expansion and renovation program, the centerpiece of which is the new state-of-the-art academic building currently under construction.

June 13, 2007: Class of ’83 Reception

Robert Littleton, Robert Smith, Robert Soloway, Lee Squitieri, Karen Timko, and Adrian Zuckerman, all members of the Class of 1983, hosted a special reception for members of their class at the Friars Club in Manhattan on June 13. Dean Matasar spoke about the School’s expansion and renovation program as well as other plans for the future.
June 14, 2007: Westchester and Fairfield Counties Reception

John V. Fabiani Jr. ’76 and Marcy Sonneborn ’78 hosted a reception for alumni and friends living in Westchester and Fairfield Counties on June 14 at their home in White Plains, New York. Alumni receptions provide an opportunity for graduates of the Law School from different classes to reconnect with friends, meet alumni who live in their area, network, and learn about new developments at the Law School. Dean Matasar spoke at this reception about the progress of the Law School’s expansion and renovation program and other new initiatives.
Nearly 300 alumni and guests returned to the Law School for Reunion Weekend 2007. The events began on Friday, October 5, 2007, with the Dean’s Cocktail Party in the Stiefel Reading Room, where attendees reconnected with friends, classmates, and faculty.

Adjunct Professor Zuhayr Moghrabi ’67, who considers himself to be “very active in Law School affairs,” said, “The party was a wonderful occasion. I would never miss Reunion Weekend—it’s always enjoyable to be able to see my classmates and friends.”

Memories came rushing back for the many alumni in attendance. Cecilia Blackburn ’02 commented, “It’s really great to be back at the School—I hadn’t realized how much I’ve missed it until I came here for the reception.”

In addition to reminiscing with classmates, alumni also spent much of the weekend discussing the future—namely, the Law School’s $190 million expansion and renovation project, which is currently underway. Many graduates expressed their anticipation for what would eventually rise from the construction rubble next door.

“The project is very exciting,” said Paul Kemnitzer ’02. “Dean Matasar is doing a great job in terms of fundraising and having a vision of what he wants the School to be about.”

“I think the building plans are really beautiful,” remarked Frederick Hayes ’57. “It’s very important for us to be a part of it by attending these events to see how things are going.”

Scott Jacobs ’97 added, “It’s great—not just from the standpoint of having more space and facilities. The endowment that we have now will surely make a tremendous impact on our future.”

The events continued on Saturday, October 6, when alumni enjoyed a continental breakfast at the Law School followed by three CLE classes. At the first session, Duty of a Lawyer to Report Up the Ladder, Professor Sydney Cone III and Holly Gregory ’86 collaborated to discuss ethical issues in compliance from a corporate perspective. Professor Cone, an international business law expert, directs the School’s Center for International Law and is Senior Counsel for Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Gregory is a partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, where she specializes in corporate governance.

Susan McCarter ’97 found the course “extremely helpful and timely.” Assemblyman Charles “Chuck” Lavine ’72 agreed, saying, “They covered an area of the law that I know very little about. It was very complicated material, but their presentation was first-rate and entertaining as well.”

Professor James F. Simon discussed his latest book, Lincoln and Chief Justice Taney: Slavery, Secession, and the President’s War Powers (Simon & Schuster, 2007), at his late morning course, which included a book signing. The award-winning author also discussed his next book project: a dual biography of Franklin D. Roosevelt and Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes. Professor Simon was pleased to have the opportunity to talk about his work with alumni. “It was great to see my former students; some were from the first few years that I began teaching here,” he said. “It was also gratifying to learn that their legal education has served them very well in their careers.”

The final panel, Estate Planning for Older or Incapacitated Clients: Think Outside the Box, was conducted by William LaPiana, Rita and Joseph Solomon Professor of Wills, Trusts, and Estates, and an academic fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel; and Elizabeth M. Haag ’03, an associate in the business law practice of Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.

“It’s always fun to teach a CLE session to the reunion classes, not the least because I get to see former students,” said Professor LaPiana. “It was especially satisfying this
year because Elizabeth Haag and I co-taught the session. Working with accomplished alumni at the reunions is one of the great rewards of teaching here; it reminds us all that we really do help our students acquire knowledge with which they really can take action.”

Session participants also found the panel rewarding. “The session was very informative; I learned a lot,” said Mary Amendola ’97. “I love Professor LaPiana. I had him for Wills & Trusts. He’s a wonderful professor—always lively and fascinating.”

The final event of the weekend was a gala dinner/dance held on Saturday night in the Crystal Room at Tavern on the Green. Attendees enjoyed cocktails on the outdoor terrace in beautiful, unseasonably warm weather, and then moved inside for a delicious dinner followed by an evening of music that kept the dance floor packed. Arthur N. Abbey ’59, Chair of the Board of Trustees, and Dean and President Richard A. Matasar welcomed the guests. John J. Reddy Jr. ’79, President of the Alumni Association, also spoke, highlighting the critical role the Law School has played in preparing graduates to impact the lives of others.

“Today, whether your practice involves helping a family deal with the loss of a loved one, a young couple buy their first house, an older man avoid being evicted from his apartment, or a family whose child is in trouble with the law, we do have the opportunity to help people,” Reddy said. “The single shared institution that we all look back upon—the place that gave us this opportunity—is New York Law School. I call upon each of you, whether through a class gift, the upcoming Gala, or the Capital Campaign, to join me in thanking New York Law School.”

At the conclusion of the weekend, Dean Matasar shared his thoughts on the successful event, describing it as a wonderful time for reflection. “Five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, and fifty years ago, our alumni were all on the threshold of their new professional lives,” he said. “What were they thinking then about their careers, about using their legal education, and about serving society? Reunion is an extraordinary occasion that brings us together to celebrate these various paths and choices. The great joy is knowing that every year we can have the same celebration.

“Our alumni epitomize our ethos: they learned law and they have taken action,” he continued. “The challenge now is for them to go one step further in their action plan: give back to the students who are following in their footsteps and support them in their quest to add value.”

**REUNION WEEKEND 2007 CLASS COMMITTEES**

| Class of 1992 | George A. Smith |
| Class of 1957 | Frank N. Snyder Jr. |
| Class of 1957 | Erol B. Taylor |
| Class of 1992 | Patricia A. Taylor |
| Class of 1982 | Alice A. Gerber Ochota |
| Class of 1992 | Donald L. Jones |
| Class of 1992 | Mary J. Smolian |
| Class of 1992 | Gerald M. Tofalski |
| Class of 1997 | Michael L. Laufer |
| Class of 1997 | Charles D. Lavine * |
| Class of 1997 | Ronald A. Sabitsky |
| Class of 1997 | A. Michael Weber * |
| Class of 1997 | Leonard M. Eaton |
| Class of 1997 | Zuhayr A. Mokhrabi |
| Class of 1997 | Raymond B. Schwartzberg |
| Class of 1997 | Hon. Richard J. Smolian |
| Class of 1997 | Gerald M. Tofalski |
| Class of 1972 | Michael L. Laufer |
| Class of 1972 | Charles D. Lavine * |
| Class of 1972 | Ronald A. Sabitsky |
| Class of 1972 | A. Michael Weber * |
| Class of 1972 | Helen E. Blank |
| Class of 1972 | Gregory J. Cannata * |
| Class of 1972 | Alan W. Clark |
| Class of 1972 | Gary E. Feinberg |
| Class of 1972 | Vivienne Gilbert |
| Class of 1972 | David H. Kaplan |
| Class of 1972 | Arnold S. Klein |
| Class of 1972 | Anita P. Miller |
| Class of 1972 | Karen Miller |
| Class of 1972 | Stephen S. Norman |
| Class of 1972 | George Pfugger |
| Class of 1972 | Martin S. Silberman |
| Class of 1972 | Elliot H. Taub |
| Class of 1982 | Lee S. Braunstein |
| Class of 1982 | Eugene S. Callander |
| Class of 1982 | Charlene G. Daniels |
| Class of 1982 | Paul V. Geoghan |
| Class of 1982 | Hon. Diana Johnson |
| Class of 1982 | Margaret McIntyre-Enloe |
| Class of 1982 | Stewart Pinkerton * |
| Class of 1982 | Francine L. Semaya |
| Class of 1982 | Gail S. Wilson * |
| Class of 1982 | Robert S. Wolf |
| Class of 1987 | Robert W. Abrams |
| Class of 1987 | Adele H. Cohen |
| Class of 1987 | Sean P. Dwyer |
| Class of 1987 | Robert S. Gregory * |
| Class of 1987 | Christopher J. McHattie |
| Class of 1987 | John J. McNeil |
| Class of 1987 | F. Peter Phillips |
| Class of 1987 | Nora D. Renziulli |

* Denotes Chair/Co-chair
CLE Courses
New York Law School | October 6, 2007
Gala Dinner at Tavern on the Green
Central Park | October 6, 2007
CLASS PORTRAITS
IT ONLY HAPPENS EVERY FIVE YEARS . . .

THIS IS YOUR YEAR.

REUNION WEEKEND 2008

NOVEMBER 14 AND 15, 2008

FOR ALUMNI FROM CLASS YEARS ENDING IN “3” OR “8”
Building a Tradition of Giving Back:  
The Law Firm Challenge Reaches Out to Alumni

By Christine Pakkala

Winston Churchill famously said, “We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.” Alumni may not always know how to give back to their schools, but New York Law School is helping to change that this fall with a little teamwork. The School is launching its first annual Law Firm Challenge, an Annual Fund drive that gives alumni the perfect opportunity to donate.

Six prominent law firms will launch the Law Firm Challenge, which will expand over a multi-year period to include all law firms with New York Law School alumni. At each firm, two captains—one for partners and one for associates—have volunteered to reach out to fellow alums at their law firms in an Annual Fund drive that begins in the fall and ends on December 31. Whichever firm garners the most participation in donations will win the challenge. But Suzanne Davidson, Associate Dean and Vice President of Alumni Relations and Development at the Law School, notes that the goal is “100 percent participation” and hopes that “all the law firms are winners.”

Making light work of fundraising is part of the Law Firm Challenge plan, says Dean Davidson, who notes that “lawyers are naturally competitive,” which makes the Challenge “a fun and easy way to expand support and give everyone an opportunity to be part of the enormous transformation that New York Law School is undergoing.”

Dean Davidson emphasizes that the Challenge’s major goal is participation, which builds community. “A one-figure gift is fabulous from some alumni,” she says. “It’s the thought and the effort and the commitment that count. As their financial circumstances improve, we know they will make larger gifts accordingly. But others have far greater capacity, and, as with every school, we need them to make the larger gifts, because they can, and because their school needs their support.”

Establishing a tradition of giving is what matters most, she says. Giving is not just a vote for the campaign, she adds, but “a vote of enthusiasm and a vote of confidence in the School.”

The percentage of alumni who donate varies greatly from school to school. As an independent school not affiliated with a university, the Law School is just now beginning to establish a “culture of giving.” The current percentage of alumni who give to the School is 12 percent, which Dean Davidson hopes will increase to 20 percent over the next few years.

Gifts help the Law School in myriad ways. Funds enable the School to increase the bottom line for both percentage participation and the amount of the Annual Fund, which reflects the health of the institution. U.S. News & World Report also counts how many alumni give back to their schools, rather than how much money they give, and uses that number as one factor in determining a law school’s ranking.

“I guess [U.S. News & World Report] figures that if the alumni think enough of the school to give back, then they should too,” Dean Davidson says. “A school whose alumni support it at a higher percentage shows a school that deserves extra notice.”

Law firms get another reward when alumni give: “the goodwill that comes with giving, as well as the notice of the top students, professors, clients, and the like,” Dean Davidson says.

Law firms that have volunteered for the first challenge include Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP; Proskauer Rose LLP; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates; Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP; Thacher Proffitt & Wood LLP; and Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. (See the following pages for profiles on the partner captains of the challenge.)

The Law Firm Challenge will eventually expand to corporate and government arenas, where the Law School has many alumni. For now, these law firms have inaugurated a new era in giving, one which draws on the School’s talented community of graduates.

“The expansion of new programs and the plan for the new building could not have taken place without Dean Matasar’s outreach to the alumni,” Dean Davidson says. “Alumni want to participate and are often just waiting to be asked.”
When Robert J. Raymond ’94 talks about the Law School, it’s with the affection of one old pal talking about another. “I’m very fond of the Law School because it was very good to me,” Raymond, a partner at Cleary Gottlieb, says. “I received a scholarship from the School as a member of the police department. The Law School helped me when I needed it, so I like to help it out in any way I can, like beefing up the recruiting of New York Law School graduates and participating in the Challenge.”

The Law School, from which he graduated summa cum laude, prepared Raymond well for a career at Cleary Gottlieb, where he started in 1995 and became partner in 2003. There, his practice encompasses executive compensation and employee benefits and related matters, including equity and non-equity-based compensation; carried interest and co-investment plans, especially in the M&A and private equity contexts; and general advice regarding federal and state statutes and regulations governing certain fiduciary relationships, securities laws, and the terms and conditions of employment. He also advises boards of directors and individual directors on corporate governance matters.

Raymond is relishing the Challenge; he’s hoping for 100 percent participation from the pool of New York Law School talent that has increased significantly since he joined the firm in 1995, when there was only one other New York Law School graduate there. Now the connections between the Law School and Cleary Gottlieb are numerous, including a retired partner of the firm, Professor Sydney M. Cone III, who now directs the School’s Center for International Law. The ever-increasing diversity at the School is what Raymond most appreciates. “I got a résumé the other day from a French New York Law School student,” he notes. “It’s just phenomenal how diverse the School is.”

Raymond says it’s an exciting time to be involved in fundraising for the School, because it gives him a sense of being part of all the progress: physical expansion and the “huge substantive improvements Dean Matasar has made, such as the clinical programs.”

The Evening Division holds a special place in Raymond’s heart—it was there that he first experienced evening classes where students enriched academic discussions with work experience. He hopes that the School will “put the spotlight” on the Evening Division and continue to strengthen what he feels is a vital law school program. “The Evening Division gives people a chance,” Raymond says. “Law is about people’s experiences, and the Evening Division brings together people with all kinds of different experiences.”

Raymond recalls that in his classes there were nurses, dentists, police officers, “even a guy who served on the board of Philip Morris,” who enlivened discussions with their varied perspectives.

In those classes, Raymond also encountered “fabulous” professors—he mentions Professors Aleta Estreicher and Robert Blecker—who surprised him with their accessibility to students. “I would be able to come into Professor Blecker’s office and sit down and talk with him about the issues of the class—or any issues,” he says. “And I don’t think that was unique to me.” All students had such access, and the fact that this kind of openness is not necessarily found at other law schools was something Raymond discovered when talking to colleagues who’d attended other—sometimes elite—law schools.

Raymond was named by Chambers USA America’s Leading Lawyers for Business (2007) as one of the leading lawyers in the area of employee benefits and executive compensation. From 1994 to 1995, he served as law clerk for the Honorable Roger J. Miner ’56 of the U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit.
When Perry Cacace ’79 graduated from the Law School 28 years ago, it was a very different place: a strong neighborhood school that attracted a student population from the metropolitan area. Since then, the School has grown in reputation and reach, attracting a national and international student body, increasing its programs, and now expanding its physical space with the planned addition of a new building. As Cacace, a partner in Proskauer Rose’s real estate department, sees it, it’s only natural that this year’s Law Firm Challenge seeks to continue the growth and strengthening of the institution.

“Fundraising is critical to the ability of an academic institution to achieve its goals, particularly a law school that is not affiliated with a larger institution. I am pleased to assist by participating in the Law Firm Challenge,” Cacace says.

The Law School provided Cacace with the tools necessary to learn to be a lawyer, and Cacace, in turn, used those skills in deciding to captain the Challenge. As he says, “The most important aspect of a legal education is learning how to analyze facts and determine issues. Once the issues are clear, formulating resolution strategies is relatively easy.” The facts in this case are clear: the Law School needed help, and Cacace rose to the challenge.

It’s not surprising that Cacace agreed to captain the Challenge for Proskauer Rose; even as a student, he was not content to do the bare minimum. He came to the School with a cum laude degree from Wesleyan, was Articles Editor for the Law Review from 1978 to 1979, and graduated cum laude from the Law School.

But a stronger, more prosperous law school is good for Cacace and his firm, too. “Recruitment of new lawyers is important to our ability to meet the needs of our clients, and we have benefited from the contributions of many New York Law School alumni over the years.” The firm, which owes much of its early success to alumnus Alfred L. Rose ’10 (see p. 112), was also responsible for facilitating the real estate deal that launched the School’s new building project.

New York Law School alumni would do well to follow in Cacace’s footsteps. At Proskauer Rose, he has handled a distinctive array of transactions, including the financing, sale, acquisition, and development of office buildings, hotels, sports stadiums and arenas, and other commercial properties. Cacace recently represented a joint venture between the New York Jets and the New York Giants concerning the development and financing of a new football stadium in the Meadowlands, as well as Trilyn-Investcorp Mezzanine Partners I, L.P, in connection with mezzanine loans to developers of commercial, hotel, and residential properties in Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Oklahoma, and Texas. Other recent clients include the Bank of Scotland, involving the financing of residential/recreational development projects located in Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, and Scotland; and J.D. Carlisle Development Corp., in the development of a cancer treatment facility located in New York for NYU Hospitals Center.

This is work any real estate lawyer would be thrilled to do, and Cacace hopes that the Law Firm Challenge will make it possible for others. “The success of the Law Firm Challenge will help New York Law School continue to train new lawyers,” he says, “which will benefit the legal community generally, including my firm.”
When Edward Filardi '68 agreed to captain the Law Firm Challenge for Skadden, he found a way to say thank you to the law school that did so much for him nearly 40 years ago. Now seven years away from his retirement as a partner at Skadden, Filardi looks back on a career that has been “a rewarding and exciting ride that I would not have experienced except for the legal training and foundation I obtained at New York Law School. I guess there could be no better time to give back.”

One of the most valuable lessons he learned at the Law School was the ability to be succinct in writing, a requirement he found particularly challenging in answering test questions. “I believed at the time that this was rather unfair—particularly since many of the cases we studied were wonderfully voluminous and by excellent jurists—but have ever since valued the ability to articulate, both orally and in writing, a legal opinion or position concisely and precisely.”

He recalls a time when this ability came in handy: “Some years ago, before Judge Will in the Chicago U.S. District Court, on a dismissal motion brought on behalf of our client, the judge allowed the other side wide leeway in argument time after I simply stated that we had nothing further to add to our written motion papers,” he says. “After the other side finished, I again declined to say anything further. The judge ruled in our client’s favor on the spot, with a comment on the ‘brevity’ of our oral argument, good judgment exercised in not wasting the court’s time, and confidence in our legal position on a close question.”

Captaining the Challenge for Skadden makes sense for a leader like Filardi, who is the co-head of Skadden’s intellectual property and technology group and who has enjoyed a wide-ranging career in patent, trade secret, unfair competition, and antitrust-related matters, specifically regarding litigation and dispute resolution.

Besides a sense of gratitude for his past at the Law School, he is also excited about the School’s future.

“The School has made tremendous strides since I’ve been there in trying to develop a strong educational institution,” he says, “and I think there’s a need in New York for New York Law School; it fulfills that niche, which is affording a legal education to a wider diversity of students who have the potential to strengthen the overall legal system.”

Filardi recalls professors who were dedicated to their students, and students who not only worked hard in the classroom, but also worked hard outside it. “When I was there everybody had other jobs. I was married and had a kid. I had a job at night, and I went to law school during the day,” he says. That job, as a chauffeur, was “primarily for lawyers who stayed at the printer to get out stock offerings, pre-computer of course.”

That kind of work ethic paid off for Filardi. His career is studded with highlights as a registered U.S. patent attorney with both jury trial and appellate experience, and he has litigated patent and other technology-related cases for both plaintiffs and defendants. According to Skadden’s Web site, Filardi has served as lead trial counsel in matters involving various technologies, including medical devices, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, computer software, telecommunications, mechanics, and business methods, in federal and state courts as well as before the International Trade Commission. He represents clients in international litigation related to the pharmaceutical, chemical, and fabricated materials industries.

As hard-working as Filardi was during law school, he still managed to find like-minded people to befriend. “I made friends I still see to this very day. So it was a nice law school experience for me,” he says.
Hon. Ernst Rosenberger ’58 and Ross Moskowitz ’84
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

If one is good, then two must be terrific. So goes the reasoning behind the decision of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan partners Ross Moskowitz ’84 and Justice Ernst Rosenberger ’58 to co-captain their firm’s Law Firm Challenge. Each brings a wealth of experience from his distinguished career and a commitment to helping his alma mater.

“This school, which has done so much for so many of us, deserves that we attempt to return the favor,” says Justice Rosenberger, who was Associate Justice of the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Department, from 1985 to 2004 before joining Stroock.

Ross Moskowitz heartily agrees, saying, “The School is undergoing a major face-lift, both literally and figuratively, as the new Center for Real Estate Studies rises and the new building is under construction, and I wanted to be part of this extraordinary time for New York Law School.”

Both Stroock partners bring years of diverse experience and contacts to the Challenge. Justice Rosenberger specializes in domestic and international litigation, as well as arbitration, alternative and international dispute resolution, and mediation. He was named by New York magazine and the Village Voice as one of New York’s best judges and has served on the Law School’s faculty for 33 years. During his tenure with the Supreme Court, Justice Rosenberger sat on over 15,000 criminal and civil appeals from the highest trial courts of New York. Prior to the Appellate Division, Justice Rosenberger served as Justice of the New York State Supreme Court from 1977 to 1985. At that time, he was also the Presiding Justice of the Court’s Extraordinary Special and Trial Term for investigation of corruption in the criminal justice system. He also served as an acting justice of the New York State Supreme Court (1973–1976) and a judge in the Criminal Court of the City of New York (1972–1976).

Moskowitz is the administrative partner for Stroock’s Real Estate Group and an advisory board member for the School’s new Center for Real Estate Studies. Moskowitz focuses his practice on land use, zoning, environmental, and tax abatement and exemption issues, and was recognized in the 2007 edition of Chambers USA for land use/zoning. He came to the group in 1998 after serving as Executive Vice President for the New York City Economic Development Corporation.

Justice Rosenberger recalls his time at the Law School with fondness and a certain astonishment for the way the School and the neighborhood have changed since he was a young student. “When I attended New York Law School, it was a very different place in a very different setting. The building at 244 William Street, where Police Headquarters is now, was the former Newsboys’ Home [a lodging house run by the Children’s Aid Society],” he recalls.

While his experiences with professors and fellow students were positive, one teacher made a profound impact. “A fond memory, close to 50 years later, is of Professor Milton Silverman, whose depth of knowledge and understanding of the law educated very many lawyers, not through bullying, but through wit, concern for, and commitment to his students,” says Justice Rosenberger.

Moskowitz’s appreciation of the kind of education he received at the Law School has deepened in the 23 years since he left with diploma in hand, an untested but well prepared lawyer. “In particular, I remember being pleasantly surprised at each of my professors’ commitment to me as a student, something I had not always seen in college,” he says. “Some 23 years later and having guest-lectured at New York Law School and other law schools, I realize how difficult it can be to connect with students, and I truly appreciate those who taught me.”
Mitchell Williams '84
Thacher Proffitt & Wood LLP

In his earlier days as a land surveyor, Mitchell Williams '84 found the legal principles concerning property ownership and boundary locations to be much more interesting than the "nuts and bolts of making maps." So the then 30-year-old Williams decided to take a different road in his career, one that would take him from surveyor to real estate partner at Thacher Proffitt. It was a road paved by a "first-rate education"— *summa cum laude*—at the Law School and has led Williams to a highly successful career, with clients that include numerous financial institutions and lenders, which he has represented in a large number of loans and financial transactions focusing on construction and real estate.

Now that road leads Williams back to the Law School—at least as the captain of his firm’s Law Firm Challenge. "The Law Firm Challenge is a way to help pay back New York Law School for all that I learned there," says Williams, who received a John Ben Snow scholarship. "It’s a chance to help, in some small way, the Law School to continue to offer a great education and financial help to those who need it."

Williams remembers the intellectual challenges of his classes and the lively discussions and arguments of his study group. He also recalls Professors Joseph Koffler and Robert Blecker, who both had a lasting influence on how he practices law. "Although I dreaded the Socratic method he used in his Torts class, Professor Koffler really did, as the cliché has it, teach me to 'think like a lawyer.'"

Williams did an independent study with Professor Koffler on common law pleading, which led to a published paper. He also studied Criminal Law with Professor Blecker, and while Articles Editor of the *Law Review*, edited his ABSCAM article. He describes Professor Blecker as a "wonderful teacher," who not only taught his subject matter well, but "opened up to me the philosophical and ethical issues that underlie all legal systems.

"While torts, common law pleading, and legal philosophy may not seem at first glance to be very 'practical' for someone who practices real estate finance law, I feel that much of my success is due to the way that Professors Koffler and Blecker taught me to think about legal issues."

Williams has taken the critical thinking skills he honed at the Law School and applied them to his career at Thacher Proffitt, where he has represented insurance companies, investment banks, pension funds, and savings banks in "a large number of permanent and construction financings in New York and across the country," according to his firm’s Web site. In addition, he has represented lenders on numerous large cross-collateralized, multi-state transactions that have been securitized in both public and private offerings, as well as a number of investment banks in secured and unsecured syndicated lines of credit and acquisition facilities to REITs and other real estate-related companies.

He also utilizes his knowledge as a land surveyor, noting, "Knowing some background in the legal principles about boundaries and title, and knowing how surveyors perform the surveys, is very helpful in the analysis of issues relating to discrepancies in legal descriptions, encroachments, and water rights that are not uncommon on real estate transactions."

The busy Williams nevertheless has found the time to serve his law school alma mater. In addition to becoming the captain of the Law Firm Challenge, Williams also taught legal writing at the School as an adjunct faculty member in the late 1980s. He has also contributed financially to the School because he "never could have afforded to go to law school without the financial aid I received, and I feel that I owe the School for giving me that opportunity, as well as for giving me a legal education that has enabled me to be successful."
When Dean Matasar asked Holly J. Gregory ’86 to lead the School’s Law Firm Challenge at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, she agreed, but on one condition. Gregory, a partner at Weil, requested that her husband, Robert S. Gregory ’87, be given his own challenge—chairing and raising funds for his 20th law school reunion this year.

“It’s a Gregory Family challenge year,” Gregory says.

Besides celebrating their commitment to the Law School, the Gregorys are also celebrating 20 years of marriage, a partnership that began at the Law School when Gregory was Executive Editor of the Law Review and her husband-to-be was “a lowly candidate,” she jokes.

Gregory stepped up to the challenge because “it is important to find a way to give back” to the school that gave much to her. The Law School provided Gregory, an honors graduate of SUNY Purchase, with a full scholarship funded by alumni dollars. “It was a luxury to go to school and not have to work at the same time,” she says.

Law school turned out to be a perfect match for Gregory who “loved every minute” of “three strong foundational years.” While she remembers many terrific professors and courses, a rigorous Torts class taught by Professor Joseph Koffler made a strong impression on the bright young woman from upstate. “He was a prickly Socratic method teacher who had us on the edge of our seats,” she recalls. “It was sometimes painful but always exciting to be taught by him.” Gregory adds that Professor Koffler’s classroom “wasn’t a place for sloppy thinking.”

Law school taught Gregory to think rigorously, and it also taught her to use the tools of the trade. No one can know every legal principle, but one can learn where to find answers, and Gregory says that New York Law School provided her with skills in research and analysis that she uses daily. “What I love most about practicing law is that it forces you to expand your knowledge and stretch every day,” she says.

Although Gregory graduated from law school with an interest in practicing in the areas of intellectual property and First Amendment law, opportunities at Weil led her to corporate governance under the tutelage of renowned antitrust and governance attorney Ira M. Millstein. This was years before the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 focused law firms on governance as a distinct practice area. At Weil, Gregory counsels corporate directors, trustees, managers and institutional investors on a range of governance issues, including director and trustee responsibilities, conflicts of interest, board and committee structure, audit committee investigations, board audits, board self-evaluation and director peer evaluation processes, institutional investor initiatives, international governance “best practices,” and compliance with legislative, regulatory, and listing rule requirements.

Gregory was named by her peers to the first International Who’s Who of Corporate Governance Lawyers in 2002 and in all subsequent editions. She proudly notes that for three years running, Weil has been named in the same survey as the Global Corporate Governance Law Firm of the Year—the only firm to have ever received the award. In 2005, Gregory was named in a Legal Media Group survey of lawyers as among the world’s top corporate governance lawyers, ranking in the top 10 by number of nominations.

In addition to her husband and thriving career, Gregory says tongue-in-cheek, “I have the Law School to thank for having a 17-year-old.” Whether or not her son Thaddeus will follow in his parents’ footsteps remains to be seen, but Gregory says that having two lawyers as parents taught him a few legal tricks. “As a young child, he always had an infallible argument for why he needed to stay up late or had to have a particular toy,” she laughs.
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1959
Edward B. Berger was elected as Non-executive Chairman of the Board of Directors of American CareSource Holdings. He is the Chief Executive Officer and Director of CardSystems Solutions, Director of Compass Bank of Tucson, and a director of Healthcare Acquisition Corp. (Quote.com)

1961
Richard J. Schachter was included in the Business Litigation section of New Jersey Super Lawyers 2007. He is a member of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A. in Bridgewater, New Jersey.

1965
Judith Sheindlin, also known as Judge Judy, was named the 13th richest woman in entertainment history by Forbes magazine in its January 18, 2007 issue. (Forbes)

Pete Spanakos wrote a book review of Cradle of Champions: 80 Years of NY Daily News Golden Gloves, by Bill Farrell, that appeared in the Brooklyn Daily Eagle newspaper. In the review, Spanakos also wrote about his boxing days with his identical twin Nikos.

1968
Guy E.C. “Clay” Maitland has received an honorary degree from SUNY Maritime College. He is a managing partner at International Registries, Inc. In 2006, Maitland received the Admiral’s Award for Outstanding Service to SUNY Maritime College. At that time, he established the Clay Maitland Endowed Scholarship in International Transportation Management. In 1999, he was inducted into the International Maritime Hall of Fame. (Marinelog.com)

1972
Hon. Ute W. Lally has been chosen to receive the Woman of the Year Award from the Fraternal Order of Court Officers. She serves on the New York State Supreme Court, 10th Judicial District. (Glen Cove Record Pilot)

1973
Anthony B. Bergamo was named a member of the new State Commission on Sentence Reform, a group created by Governor Eliot Spitzer. Bergamo was also nominated for election to the board of directors of Steel Partners II. (New York Law Journal; Theflyonthewall.com)

1976
Stephen LaCount was awarded the prestigious Greg Ross Community Service Award on May 10, 2007 at the 14th Annual High-Tech Innovation Awards, presented by the American Electronics Association. The award is given each year to those who have greatly contributed to Orange County’s high-tech community. LaCount is the founder of LaCount Law in Irvine, California.

Hon. Andrew Mead was sworn in as an associate justice on the Maine Supreme Judicial Court in March 2007, after almost 20 years as a trial judge. (Bangor Daily News)

1977
Gregory J. Cannata served as co-counsel for the plaintiff in a products liability suit; the jury returned a $259,985 verdict for the plaintiff.

1978
Harry Leonard is Managing Director and Director of State Tax at Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.

1979
Sanford Altman is an attorney at Jacobowitz & Gubits, LLP in Walden, New York.

Steven Bamundo was named President of the Columbian Lawyers Association of Brooklyn. He is a managing partner of Bamundo, Zwal & Schernhom, LLP, which is headquartered in Manhattan. (Brooklyn Daily Eagle)
Thomas J. Lynch has been named Vice President of Human Resources at New York Independent System Operator, a federally regulated nonprofit established to facilitate the restructuring of New York’s electric industry. (Electric Energy Online)

Julia L. McClure is Deputy First Assistant Prosecutor of Middlesex County, New Jersey. In 2006 she received the New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Award for Prosecutors and in 2005 she received the Hon. Aldona Appleton Award from the Women Lawyers’ Section of the Middlesex County Bar Association. She is also a lecturer at New Jersey Judicial College and teaches various courses at Rutgers University and at the Institute of Continuing Legal Education.

Robert J.A. Zito is a partner in the litigation department at Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP in Manhattan. He was also recently elected to the board of directors of Brooklyn Federal Bancorp Inc. and Brooklyn Federal Savings Bank.

Edward J. Anthony served as trial counsel for a plaintiff who received a $1.6 million jury verdict in an injury case against a sporting goods company. (NYLJ)

Rabbi Annette Koch was formally installed as spiritual leader at South Metro Jewish Congregation in West Linn, Oregon. (OregonLive.com)

James R. Panepinto, founder of Pinnacle Professional Consulting Services, LLC, has formed a strategic partnership with REAL Alliances, LLC to improve the performance of mortgage and title joint ventures associated with real estate and home building companies. (RISMedia.com)

Michael Schaff was named a Top 100 Super Lawyer by Law & Politics magazine. He is shareholder and Chair of the corporate and health care teams of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., which is headquartered in Woodbridge, New Jersey.

Harry Wallace belongs to a group that helps establish scholarships at Stony Brook University for people of the Shinnecock and Unkechaug Indian nations. The scholarships will include tuition, room and board, fees, supplies, and health insurance. He practiced law for over a decade before getting involved with tribal government. (Indian Country Today)

Richard T. Walsh argued the appeal in Rosario v. Diagonal Realty before the New York State Court of Appeals on behalf of the appellant landlord on May 31, 2007. The issues in the appeal concerned a landlord’s right to opt out of the Section 8 program under federal law and whether rent stabilization or the city’s J-51 program barred a landlord from exercising that right. According to Walsh, the case has lasting implications for landlords and tenants in New York.

Robert Littleton has formed Littleton Joyce Ughetta Park & Kelly LLP, which specializes in complex litigation and has offices in Manhattan, Purchase, NY, and Red Bank, NJ. Littleton is Managing Partner in the Manhattan office. (Littleton Joyce Ughetta Park & Kelly LLP)

G. Brian Morgan was elected President of the Dutchess County (New York) Bar Association for the 2007–2008 term.

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

Hon. Susan B. Lyons is serving as Acting Village Justice of Freeport, New York. (FreeportNY.com)

Rosemary Palladino was honored in June 2007 by New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson Jr. at a kickoff event for Gay Pride Month in Manhattan. She was recognized for her many years of political activism on behalf of the gay community. She served for four years as commissioner of the city’s Board of Standards and Appeals, and since 1999 she has been a court attorney at the Supreme Court, Appellate Division. (Staten Island Advance)

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1985

Craig Eaton is Chairman of the Kings County Republican Committee. He serves on the boards of HeartShare Human Services and Daytop Village. He is also the founder of the Brooklyn Republican Victory Committee and founder and president of the Xavier Bar Association. (Brooklyn Daily Eagle)

Andre E. Harlfinger is an associate at Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney in Manhattan. (NYLJ)

Hon. Bernice D. Siegal is Supervising Judge of the Civil Court for Queens County. (www.NYcourts.gov)

1986

Hon. Louis Crespo was inducted as Secretary of the New York County Lawyers Association. (NYCLA)

Howard O. Godnick was a finalist for the Public Justice 2007 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award, given by the Public Justice Foundation to lawyers who try or settle precedent-setting public interest cases.
Godnick is a partner with Schulte, Roth & Zabel; he was one of a team of lawyers who argued on behalf of Hurricane Katrina evacuees in McWaters v. FEMA. The team won a ruling that forced FEMA to continue to pay the evacuees’ hotel bills until they could find permanent housing. (www.tlj.org)

Patrick Marthage is one of the lead vocalists on You Raise Me Up, an album featuring songs from Broadway musicals. Marthage is a first assistant public defender for Oneida County, New York. (Evening Times)

Phyllis Newbeck, author of Virginia Hasn’t Always Been for Lovers: Interracial Marriage Bans and the Case of Richard and Mildred Loving, was a plenary speaker at a CLE event held by the Minority Bar Associations of Washington State. The event was held in recognition of the 40th anniversary of the 1967 Supreme Court case, Loving v. Virginia. Additionally, she was a presenter at the 40th anniversary Loving conference held in Chicago and was featured in a BBC documentary regarding the case. Virginia Hasn’t Always Been for Lovers will be released in paperback next spring.

Peter von Maur is Director/Senior Counsel at RBC Capital Markets Corporation in Manhattan.

Correction: In the Spring/Summer 2007 issue of New York Law School Magazine, Susan M. Cohen was incorrectly reported as being Special Counsel at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft. Cohen is Counsel in the Corporate Department at Lowenstein Sandler PC. Her practice is concentrated on blue sky laws.

1988

Selina M. Brooks is Administrative Law Judge for the State of North Carolina. (North Carolina Bar Association)

1989

John J.P. Howley argued the United States Supreme Court case India and Mongolia v. City of New York on April 24, 2007. Howley argued on behalf of the foreign embassies of India and Mongolia. He is a partner at Kaye Scholer LLP. (The Wave)

1990

Joann (Berardo) Birle is Counsel in the Newark, New Jersey, office of Herrick, Feinstein LLP, where she specializes in commercial leasing.

1991

Cindy Rose has been named Senior Vice President and Managing Director of the Walt Disney Internet Group (WDIG) Europe, Middle East, and Africa. She has been with the company since 1995. (WDIG)

Lori S. Sherman, an associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in Manhattan, was part of the team that represented Bank of America, JC Flowers & Co., and JPMorgan Chase in the $25 million purchase of Sallie Mae. (NYLJ)

1992

Deborah Dorfman was in charge of the investigation of a Seattle hospital that performed a hysterectomy on a 6-year-old severely disabled girl. The hospital later admitted it had broken the law.

Charles L. Friedman is a principal at Schonbraun McCann Group, LLP. (NJBIZ)

James Oddo, New York City Councilman, successfully proposed a bill in March 2007 that banned metal bats from high school baseball in New York City. (The New York Times)

Scott T. Rumana is the Mayor of Wayne, New Jersey, and an attorney with Hunziker, Jones & Sweeney, PA. He was also a candidate for State Assembly in the 40th Legislative District under the Republican Party. (The Star-Ledger)

Mary Ellen Tully is President of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation. She is a partner with the law firm of Rabinowitz, Lubetkin & Tully in Livingston, New Jersey. (New Jersey State Bar)

1987

After receiving an LL.M. in Taxation, Joanne Clark opened a practice in Bergen County, New Jersey, where she focuses on estate planning, estate administration, and taxation.

1988

Lori Freudenberger is Manager of Legal Recruitment at Herrick, Feinstein LLP, which has offices in New York and New Jersey.

Darren M. Gelber, shareholder and Co-Chair of Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer, PA.’s Criminal Law/Civil Rights Team, was named a “Super Lawyer” by Law & Politics magazine. (Wilentz Goldman & Spitzer)

Carla Varriale co-presented “Risk Management in Public Assembly Venues—What’s Going On in 2007?” in July 2007 at the International Association of Assembly Managers 82nd Annual Conference and Trade Show in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is a partner at Havkins Rosenfeld Ritzert & Varriale, LLP in Manhattan.
1993

Stewart Milch is an attorney at Gersowitz Libo & Korek, PC. He has written more than 30 appellate briefs in areas including medical malpractice, products liability, and firefighters’ litigation. (OnlyPunjab.com)

Nicholas Penkovsky and a group of lawyers from his firm represented Bauer-Griffin, Flynet, INF, London Entertainment, and Splash News and Pictures in a copyright infringement lawsuit against Mario “Perez Hilton” Lavandeira. The suit alleged that Lavandeira unlawfully posts the agencies’ celebrity photographs and videos on his Web site.

Leslie Torres is Deputy Commissioner of the New York State Office of Rent Administration in the Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR).

1994

Frank A. Blandino owns a general practice law firm in Hillsborough, New Jersey. He has been the township’s municipal prosecutor since 2003 and is also the municipal prosecutor for the borough of South Bound Brook. (The Courier News)

Daniel Jocelyn is a partner at McDermott Will & Emery LLP in Manhattan. (NYT)

Thomas Majewski is a partner with Thacher Profitt & Wood LLP. (Thacher Profitt & Wood)

Ian Marx was named to the New Jersey Law Journal’s “40 Under 40” list in August 2007. He is a shareholder in the Florham Park, New Jersey, office of Greenberg Traurig LLP. (Greenberg Traurig LLP)

Carolyn D. Richmond is a partner in the labor and employment department at Fox Rothschild LLP in Manhattan. She is also Co-chair of the firm’s hospitality practice group.

1995

Leslie Abella Dahan is a shareholder with Littler Mendelson, PC in Phoenix, Arizona, where she works in the Corporate Migration Practice Group. She specializes in high volume and complex corporate immigration issues and represents Fortune 500 companies in a variety of industries.

Timothy McIlwain is a solo practitioner in Montclair, New Jersey. His areas of practice include employment discrimination, sexual harassment, and medical malpractice. He has represented former NFL running back Jim Brown and Donald Trump’s casinos, and has appeared on Greta Van Susteren’s TV show and on National Public Radio. (McIlwainLaw.com)

Mary Mooney is Counsel with ABC, Inc. and is a director of the Law School’s Alumni Association.

Frank Nardi was recognized as immediate Past President of the Accounting, Financial, and Tax Professionals Society of New Jersey. He is a founding member of McLaughlin & Nardi, LLC in Totowa, New Jersey.

Eric M. Yee is a director in the Office of General Counsel at Merrill Lynch Global Bank Group and Chair of the Law School’s Alumni Association Mentor Committee.

1997

Joseph W. Ferraro was elected an officer by the board of directors of International Securities Exchange, where he is also Associate General Counsel and Vice President.

Andrew O’Connell is Managing Director of the Washington, D.C., office of Fortress Global Investigations Corporation, an international investigations and security services firm. (Fortress Global)

Diane Seigel is an associate at Pearce Law Firm LLC in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. (The Post and Courier)

Scott W. Wachs is an agent in the television department of the William Morris Agency, where he specializes in the representation of broadcast talent and hosts.

1998


1999

Seth Lehman has written The Color Pets, his first children’s book; he is President of the book’s publishing company, 4All Ages, LLC, in East Rockaway, New York. He is also an attorney for Marvel Entertainment, Inc. in Manhattan. (4All Ages, LLC)

Luis Rodriguez Jr. is serving a two-year term on the board of Manhattan’s Community Board Five (CB5). He holds the office of treasurer. (www.cb5.org)
Nancy Cifalino is an associate and a member of the products liability department at Gibbons, P.C. in Newark, New Jersey. (Gibbons, P.C.)

Jennie Getsin is an associate in the Manhattan office of Reed Smith LLP. She is a member of the firm’s new Blue Sky Practice Team. (Reed Smith)

Thomas H. Prol was appointed to a two-year term on the New Jersey State Bar Association’s Board of Trustees. He is an attorney with Scarinci & Hollenbeck, LLC in Lyndhurst, New Jersey.

Michael Barrington is working in Boston as Associate General Counsel (U.S.) at Aspen Specialty Insurance Company, a surplus lines insurer that is part of a multinational insurance and reinsurance group.

John Cortes is an assistant district attorney in the Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Bureau of the District Attorney’s Office in Suffolk County, New York.

Douglas Singleterry is a recipient of the Service to the Community Award, given by the New Jersey State Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division. He is an associate at Dughi & Hewit, based in Cranford and Marlton, New Jersey. (The Courier News)

Justin Blitz is an associate at Shandell, Blitz, Blitz & Bookson, LLP in Manhattan. (NYT)

Melvyn Hoffman is a solo practitioner of special education law in Manhattan. (West Side Spirit)

Rebecca Elin is an associate at Avery Camerlingo Kill, LLC in Chicago. (Avery Camerlingo Kill)

Helena Lynch is taking a clerkship leave from White & Case LLP, where she has been a litigation associate since 2005, to clerk for the Hon. Roger J. Miner ’56, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, starting in August.

Abigail Rose Schiller is serving a one-year term on the Women in the Profession Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association. She is an associate in the litigation department at Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP in Philadelphia, where she also serves as the Recruiting Director and Summer Associate Coordinator. (Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel)

Correction: In the Spring/Summer 2007 issue of New York Law School Magazine, Deborah S. Newman was identified with the incorrect middle initial and job information. Newman was most recently Vice President, Industry Relations & Licensing for Muze, Inc., a digital media services provider in New York City. She is currently consulting for online and mobile entertainment companies on content acquisition, digital rights, and licensing strategies.

Sean F. McAloon is an associate at Rivkin Radler LLP in Uniondale, New York. (Long Island Business News)

James E. Prentice is an analyst at Papamarkou Asset Management in Manhattan. (NYT)

Zully Rosado founded Abundant Title Agency LLC, a real estate title company in Union City, New Jersey.

Leslie Spitalnick is Assistant Corporation Counsel, Commercial and Real Estate Litigation, with the New York City Law Department. She married Josh Kaplan at a wedding that included her father, Robert Spitalnick ’78, Abbey Gruber ’06, and Diana Raynes ’06.

Scott Williams is an associate with Siesko Partners, LLC in Manhattan. (Siesko Partners)
IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI

1937
Joseph Nass
August 10, 2007

1949
William R. Joyce Jr.
April 17, 2007

1950
William M. Sloane
February 28, 2007

1957
John Appleyard
May, 1992

1958
Kenneth S. Berkman
February 27, 2007

1960
Sylvia D. Garland
June 16, 2007

1960
Charles L. Marabondo
July 28, 2007

1969
Norman Stier
March 15, 2007

1985
Nancy Jo Groverman Meyer
March 17, 2007

1993
Joseph M. Conway
September 3, 2007

2000
William Cozzolino
April 2, 2007

2005
Mellissa Williams
August 1, 2007

FORMER STUDENTS

Toni Grossi Abrams
April 2007
(Attended 1997–2000)

Robert T. Holup
June 16, 2007
(Attended 1964–1965)
In memoriam

The entire New York Law School community mourns the death of Professor Joel S. Lee, who passed away on April 15, 2007. Professor Lee, who was 93, taught at New York Law School for more than 40 years, until he became Emeritus Professor and retired fully in 2004.

Throughout decades of teaching the core curriculum, Professor Lee inspired generations of students to love the law and respect its power. “I try to give them an ethical background,” he once said. “As lawyers, they will have more power than the average person. You have the ability to bring forth the power of the courts upon the person, and therefore, you should not bring that power upon that person unfairly.”

Professor Lee began his legal career with a successful private practice in entertainment law. In 1962, he joined New York Law School, where he taught several core classes with a specialty in contracts, property, and real estate. Never tiring of the material, he kept it fresh by following recent cases and bringing them into the classroom. He read for hours every day, consuming the latest news and books across a broad spectrum of subjects.

Professor Lee also thrived on the knowledge he gained from his students, and he especially enjoyed teaching upper-level courses. He tried to keep his classes on a light note, using Socratic dialogue and being careful never to insult the aspiring lawyers. “I tried all other methods and found this to be the most successful,” he said.

Born and raised in New York City, Professor Lee joined the army during World War II and spent two years in the South Pacific as part of the 4th Engineers Special Unit before he was severely injured in Manila. Although he struggled with the injuries for the rest of his life, being a disabled veteran earned him a fully-paid education. Eager to make up for lost time, Professor Lee crammed seven years of schooling into four, getting both a college and law degree from New York University, where he was Articles Editor of the Law Review.

While still a law student, Professor Lee contributed to the 1949 Annual Survey of New York Law and the Simpson and Stone’s Cases and Readings on Law and Society, which is now out of print. He worked with top Harvard Law School professor Zechariah Chafee Jr. on a casebook on equity and then became law clerk to the Honorable Samuel H. Kaufman, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York.

Professor Lee is survived by his cousin, Albert H. Lewis, and his longtime nurse and friend, Patricia Standen. Contributions may be made to The New York Times Neediest Cases Fund, 229 W. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036.
New York Law School Magazine wishes to thank all who shared their recollections of Professor Lee and gratefully reprints a small selection.

“Professor Lee made an indelible and inspirational impression on many if not each and every one of his students. This was no accident, for he brought to his teaching an enormous passion. His ever-modest personal manner never concealed the profound respect and love he had for the law. Happily for his students, Professor Lee drew no distinction between his feelings for the law and those who endeavored to learn it. He truly respected us, and that, in turn, taught us to respect one another and, of course, Professor Lee and the law.”

Thomas H. Gabriel ‘78

“Professor Lee was one of my most memorable professors. . . . He was the first to teach me how textured and rich the law can be. He also taught me how and why to question not just what the law is, but also what it should be. His devotion to the law was only equaled by his devotion to the Law School and its students.”

Kathleen Grimm ’80

“I have thought of Professor Lee often in the 21 years since I was a student at the Law School. . . . I had many private and somewhat personal conversations with Professor Lee and found him to be a highly intelligent, caring individual who truly enjoyed being in the classroom. I think his students benefited from his years of experience and dedication to his profession. Who else could have explained the ‘rule against perpetuities’ so clearly? He will be missed.”

Mona Haas ’86

“I was greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Professor Lee. His Contracts class was one of the most significant for my career, as I now too find myself teaching Contracts. . . . He was genteel, affable, and made the lugubrious logic of the law more lively and, at times, less bitter. I think of him often when I teach. I hope that I can touch the lives of as many students as he did.”

Kevin P. Lee ’90

“I attended Professor Lee’s class in Wills and Trusts in my second year of school. I never forgot his class and the particular personal flair of this remarkably brilliant professor. . . . I can remember how his wit and enlivening manner seemed to bring the text and legal cases to life. . . . I feel particularly fortunate that Professor Lee taught into the late years of his life. He was a master teacher and it was a privilege to participate in his classes.”

Claire Beth Steiner ’03
Sylvia Dillof Garland ’60 died peacefully at her home on June 16, 2007, at age 88. She is survived by her husband Albert, daughter Margaret, son Paul and daughter-in-law Elizabeth, and her grandchildren, Victoria, Natalie, and Ian.

Garland led a distinguished life and took great pride in her family, the practice of law, and New York Law School. She graduated from New York Law School first in her class and was Editor in Chief of the Law Review. She served as a trustee of the Law School and as President of the Alumni Association. She was also a partner at Hofheimer Garthir & Gross, LLP, in Manhattan, and a member of the Fitness and Character Committee of the New York Bar. In recognition of her outstanding work in civil litigation, the Law School presents the Sylvia D. Garland Award each year to a graduating student who demonstrates excellence in subjects relating to civil litigation.

New York Law School will host a memorial service in Garland’s honor on November 26, 2007. For more information, please visit www.nyls.edu/alumni or call 212.431.2800.

Special thanks to Paul Garland for providing much of this information.

Joseph Conway ’93 was killed in a car accident on September 3, 2007, in Staten Island. He was 39 years old. Conway, who was born in Brooklyn and raised in Staten Island, was home visiting family in Prince’s Bay the weekend of the accident. He lived in North Adams, Massachusetts, where he had recently accepted a position as an adjunct professor at the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. In addition to consulting and building his own practice focused on gay and lesbian rights, he played a key role in the development of his partner’s Kolok Gallery.

Before earning his J.D. at New York Law School, Conway graduated from Fordham University. He spent several years as a staff attorney with former New York Governor George Pataki’s administration, first with the state Consumer Protection Agency, then with the governor’s general staff, and later with the Child Services Administration. During that time, he helped draft several pieces of legislation and contributed to the state’s Child Health Plus plan, which provides health coverage for uninsured children.

Besides his life partner, Kurt Kolok, Conway is survived by his parents and two brothers.

William Cozzolino ’00 died at age 56 on April 2, 2007, after a brief struggle with colon and lung cancer.

For 23 years, he was a respected N.Y.P.D. transit police officer, known for being a strong advocate for his fellow officers. His peers elected him to be a union delegate on their behalf. He later became an attorney, helping injured employees as a workers’ compensation lawyer at Markhoff & Mittman, P.C. in Manhattan.

Cozzolino was a lifelong resident of New York City. He grew up in Queens and moved to downtown Manhattan in 1993. He attended Empire State College before receiving his law degree from New York Law School.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Cozzolino; his mother, Virginia; his brothers, Christopher and Jude; and his sister, Diane Varsico.

Toni Grossi Abrams was tragically killed in early April 2007 in Panama City, Panama, shortly before her 58th birthday.

Grossi Abrams attended New York Law School from 1997 to 2000, withdrawing after the death of her sister. She was a successful investment banker, financial planner, and president of Financial Profiles Investment Services. Previously, she worked for nine years at Junior Achievement, a nonprofit in Colorado Springs that teaches entrepreneurship and financial literacy to children. In addition, she held real estate investments in the United States and Panama. Her husband, Martin Abrams, was a mortgage broker who died in 1998 at age 69 from lung cancer.

Grossi Abrams grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where she graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1970. She graduated from Carrick High School in 1966 as an honors student and senior class president. She was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 2006 by the Carrick High School Alumni Association.

Grossi Abrams was also a well-known philanthropist and activist dedicated to her community. A resident of Staten Island, she was on the board of trustees of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences and co-chaired the Institute’s annual golf outing, which benefited the Visiting Nurse Association.
Alfred L. Rose ’10
Longtime Managing Partner of Proskauer Rose LLP

New York City is the birthplace and headquarters of many of the nation's largest, most venerable law firms. In a number of cases, New York Law School graduates have played key roles in the establishment and growth of these firms. One of the most notable examples is Proskauer Rose LLP, consistently ranked among the top 10 New York firms, with hundreds of attorneys in seven domestic and one overseas office (in Paris). The firm was founded in 1875 by William R. Rose; but its current size and stature are largely due to his son, Alfred L. Rose, a graduate of New York Law School's Class of 1910.

Rose, who served as Managing Partner from the mid-1920s to 1966, guided Proskauer Rose on its path from small local law office to global legal powerhouse with 47 practice areas and offices on two continents. He spent his entire professional career—and virtually his entire life—with the firm, joining after his admission to the bar in January 1911 and continuing to go to his office until shortly before his death in November 1981 at age 95.

Rose was born in New York City on June 21, 1886. From his earliest years, the law firm founded by his father figured largely in his awareness. In a history of the firm's first half-century written by Rose, Proskauer Rose Goetz & Mendelsohn: The Early Years, 1875–1930, he recalled visiting the firm with his father at about age five:

"Of course, like all other children, I had to play with the typewriter and other office paraphernalia, and at the end of the day [bookkeeper] William Wetterer presented me with a small manila envelope containing 25 cents as my compensation for the day's work. I had been educated not to accept money, so I promptly went to my father and asked him whether I would be allowed to keep so large a sum and was delighted when he told me I could."

Rose graduated from Princeton University in 1908 and enrolled at New York Law School at the suggestion of his father, who had studied under the Dwight system at Columbia Law School. Columbia Law's founding dean, Theodore Dwight, and a group of faculty, students, and alumni subsequently broke away and established New York Law School following a dispute with Columbia Law's trustees over teaching methods. Rose's father also liked the fact that one could graduate from New York Law School in two years, in contrast to the three years required by a university law school; in those days, it was possible for a college graduate to be admitted to the bar after two years of law school study.

In his son's words, William R. Rose “maintained that more people were ruined by working for relatives in the early stages of their careers than in any other manner, for which reason he refused to allow me to work in his office during my attendance at law school.” Accordingly, a position was found for Alfred Rose at the firm of James, Schell & Elkus. One of the firm's senior partners was Joseph M. Proskauer. Many years later, confronted by the declining health of his father's law partner Benjamin G. Paskus, Rose invited Proskauer to join his firm as senior partner—thus creating the firm of Proskauer Rose & Paskus, today known as Proskauer Rose.

Rose practiced corporate, real estate, and trusts and estates law. Among his principal clients were May Department Stores, Federated Department Stores, Miles Shoes, Roxy Theaters Corporation, Sunray (later Sun) Oil Corporation, and Irving Trust Company. He served as a director of May and Sunray, as well as Liebmann Breweries, the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railway, and Carnegie Hall. He was highly regarded for both his legal and management skills; according to one of his partners, he was "an excellent business lawyer, able to make good business judgments. He had a very great ability to decide between what was really important and what was not important."

Rose's principal philanthropic focus was Mount Sinai Hospital. He was elected a trustee in 1933 and served as president from 1948 to 1956 and as chairman from 1956 to 1960. In 1976, the hospital's Cardiac Care Unit was named for him and, the following year, he received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

Today, New York Law School remembers Rose with a commencement award, the Alfred L. Rose Award for Excellence, established in his memory by the firm of Proskauer Rose. The award is given to graduating students who exemplify outstanding legal ability, character, and potential for leadership in the profession.
The accomplishments of Barbara Watson ’62 are exceptional by any standard, but all the more so because of the pioneering path she forged; not only was she the first woman, but the first black person to be named an assistant secretary of state. The daughter of James S. Watson ’13, the first black New York municipal judge and first black member of the American Bar Association, Watson was born into a family of high achievers. Like her father, she found opportunity at New York Law School, which had historically observed a policy of opening its doors to students of all races.

Her career reached its zenith at the United States Department of State. Watson served as administrator of the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs from 1968 to 1974, and assistant secretary of consular affairs from 1977 to 1980. Her duties were largely similar during both periods of service: she monitored the implementation of laws and policies relating to visas, passports, and nationality status, and she supervised the protection of U.S. citizens living and working abroad. She was responsible for 3,000 employees in the United States and 250 Foreign Service posts abroad. At the State Department, Watson is acknowledged as an initiator and champion in the development of standards of leadership in consular officers. The Department has named an award after her: the Barbara M. Watson Award for Consular Excellence, which recognizes foreign service and civil service employees for outstanding contributions to consular operations.

The following excerpt has been condensed and reprinted with permission from Notable Black American Women: Book II (Thomson Gale, 1995):

Barbara Mae Watson, born November 5, 1918, in New York City, was the oldest of four children born to James S. and Violet Lopez Watson. Although Watson’s mother came from a prestigious family, her father studied law while working as a bellhop. Watson’s wealthy Jamaican-born parents expected their children to excel, believing that “honor through distinction” was the norm by which their achievements should be measured.

Watson attended Barnard College in New York City. She graduated in 1943 with a bachelor of arts degree. She enrolled in law school at St. John’s University but withdrew because she didn’t feel challenged. During World War II, she made broadcasts for the Office of War Information and produced a weekly show for radio station WNYC.

In 1946 Watson made a career move that met her need to be challenged. She opened a charm school and modeling agency to recruit young black women for fashion and photographic assignments. Edward Branford, a commercial artist, was Watson’s partner. Their models were some of the first women to appear in magazine advertisements that featured blacks. After assuming full ownership, Watson renamed them Barbara Watson Models and Barbara Watson Charm and Model School. Before closing the agencies in 1956, Watson worked for the New York State Democratic Committee as assistant director of research.

She soon found herself ready to resume law studies and entered New York Law School, where she graduated third in her class in 1962. She then began a stint in city government, first for the New York City Board of Statutory Consolidation and then as assistant attorney in the office of the Corporation Counsel of the City of New York. After this, she served as executive director of the New York City Commission to the United Nations, the official liaison agency between the city and United Nations personnel and diplomatic representatives.

Only four years after graduating from law school, Watson was invited to the State Department to explore employment options. In 1966 Watson began her State Department career as special assistant to the deputy undersecretary of state for administration, William Crockett. Later that year, President Lyndon Johnson appointed her to the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs. In August 1968, Watson became director of the bureau.

In 1974 her pro forma end of term resignation was accepted. During the next two years, Watson worked as an attorney in private practice and served as a legal consultant and college lecturer. Jimmy Carter assumed the presidency in 1976, and one year later appointed Watson assistant secretary of state for consular affairs. She then became the first black and first woman to achieve this diplomatic rank.

Watson held this position until 1980 when she was named ambassador to Malaysia. She retired in 1981 when Ronald Reagan became president. At the time of her death, on February 17, 1983, Watson was ready to assume new duties with the State Department as a member of the Special Selection Board, the body responsible for reviewing the qualifications of Foreign Service Officers.
Test Your New York Law School Knowledge!

See if you can answer the following questions about the Law School’s faculty.
(Answers below.)

1. Professor Seth Harris came to New York Law School after serving as counselor to which secretary of labor under which president?

2. Professor Emeritus Harry H. Wellington is a former dean of New York Law School. At what other law school did he also serve as dean?

3. Professor Ross Sandler served as commissioner of what New York City department under what mayor?

4. Which New York Law School professor is the author of Dinner with Dad (Random House, May 2007), a celebration of family and the discovery of the things that really matter in life?

5. Professor Annette Gordon-Reed’s first book, published in 1997, focused on the way that previous biographers had written about a very controversial issue in the life of one of our early presidents. Who was the president and what was the issue?

Did You Know?

More facts about the Law School—past and present.

- New York Law School’s oldest alumni (from classes that graduated 50 years ago or more) are affectionately known as “the Old Guard.” Currently, there are about 500 members of the Old Guard.

- New York Law School’s first lecturer on Constitutional Law was Woodrow Wilson.

- More than 340 undergraduate institutions are represented among New York Law School’s 1,400 students.

- New York Law School’s bar passage rate for first-time takers was 83.8 percent in 2006. That is an increase of almost 10 percent over 2005. New York state’s average is 79 percent.
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Alfred L. Rose ’10
Barbara M. Watson ’62

Below is some of the positive feedback we’ve received on our newly revamped magazine:

“Absolutely spectacular!” .......................... Kathleen Grimm ’80

“I have just finished reading the …Spring/Summer 2007 issue. I can’t tell you how proud it made me to think that I had graduated from the Law School. The School has come a long, long way since I first attended, and the success of its management and faculty are borne out in just what the School has become.”

Robert A. Freeman ’55

“I thought the issue showed a major improvement.” .................................. Scott H. Jacobs ’97

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A Gala Celebration to announce the
New York Law School
Capital Campaign

Thursday, December 13, 2007
Winter Garden in the World Financial Center

Honoring
Steven E. Pegalis ’65, Senior Partner, Pegalis & Erickson, LLC
Kathleen Grimm ’80, Deputy Chancellor for Finance and Administration,
New York City Department of Education
Charles E. Phillips Jr. ’93, President, Oracle Corporation

Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction: 6:00–7:30 p.m.
Dinner, Award Presentation, and Dancing: 7:30–10:00 p.m.

For further information please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations
at 212.431.2800 or visit our Web site at www.nyls.edu/gala.

New York Law School Launches a Capital Campaign
and Honors Three Outstanding Alumni

Professor Ross Sandler on the Mayor’s Plan
for a Greener, Greater New York

Putting Passion into Action
with Students at the Justice Action Center

Look Who’s Talking
at New York Law School