Let me begin by stating that I am grateful for the support of all our students, staff faculty and alumni as I begin my third year as Dean of the Law School and, with your ongoing support, I look forward to a very successful future for our school. As we journey toward our 100th anniversary, we do so with a sustained emphasis on continuing to improve our performance on the Bar exam and other areas as well, particularly our legal research and writing program.

As a huge first step and after a very successful national search, the Law School hired Professor Jan Levine as the new Director of Legal Research and Writing. Professor Levine enjoys a national reputation and has created ranked programs at his last two law schools. (See article on page 5.) Professor Levine has already developed a program to create smaller sections which will allow for more intense, one-on-one interaction with the students.

This year, we have a new team in the alumni office. Ms. Jeanine DeBor is our new Director and Ms. Estelle Feltovich is the new Assistant to the Director of Alumni Relations. These two professionals (see profiles on page 41) will give us a very strong alumni office, and I am confident they will improve our membership dramatically. You can help in this effort by taking every opportunity to attend our Law School events and by encouraging your classmates to join us.

We established a new position of Office Manager and hired Mr. Marlon Ferguson. He has been instrumental in developing and implementing controlled procedures to manage the budget, to maintain the physical plant, and to assist the staff. With Mr. Ferguson’s expertise, we are finding new efficiencies and better ways to be good stewards of all of our assets.

We also created the new position of Director of Bar Services, and we were most fortunate to attract Mr. Richard Gaffney, who began in September 2006. He has implemented the program that is described in the paragraphs below and, with almost a full year under his belt, has begun to analyze the effectiveness of our approach to preparing our law students to take the Bar exam. This includes an annual review of Bar examinable subjects, curricular structure, and educational support materials for the program.

Bar preparation programs were added (including the first Bar Boot Camp) and significantly strengthened. Our Bar passage rate for first time takers in Pennsylvania was 88.32% in July 2006, an increase of 20 points over the prior year and the largest one year increase in the school’s history. I am pleased to report that the 2007 bar passage rate was 91.39%. This trend will be our tradition.

To further improve our Bar passage rate, faculty actively encouraged students to faithfully participate in the BEAT and
Early Bird commercial bar preparation programs offered by BAR/BRI. We expanded these programs, offering classes each weekend. During our inaugural year, approximately one-half the class regularly attended these sessions.

Faculty covered topics not covered by BAR/BRI. This year, three faculty members volunteered to conduct Saturday morning sessions on Contracts (Dr. Murray), Property (Professor Gray) and Criminal Procedure (Professor Antkowiak). Again, approximately one-half of the class attended each session. Professor Astorino conducted his annual bar preparation program, continuing a tradition with a phenomenal success rate.

All seniors received a letter from me stressing the critical importance of their diligent participation in these programs and the disadvantage suffered by those who do not participate. Also, an invitation to attend our programs, at no expense, was sent by our career services office to graduates who were not previously successful. In our first year, the response was not encouraging, but we will persist in offering this benefit.

The most significant event of the year was our visit by the ABA/AALS site team. Our committee (Associate Dean Browne-Barbour, committee chairman Professor McClendon, Professor Yochum, and Professor Perkins) and the entire faculty and staff worked hard to make sure we were ready for the site visit that occurred in March 2007. Although we still await the written report, we received a very favorable oral brief during the exit interview indicating that the team found no issues that would preclude them from recommending anything other than full accreditation for a 7 year term to the ABA Council.

We celebrated another successful year with our Trial Advocacy Teams, led by Professor Streib and Professor Antkowiak. Each year, the Law School sponsors several student trial advocacy teams and has enjoyed a significant level of success. Our experience in the American Trial Lawyers Association (ATLA) competitions (now known as American Association for Justice, the AAJ) has been particularly impressive. Teams from Duquesne Law School have been regional champions in five of the last seven years. In this past academic year, our teams placed in the regional, semi-finals, and finals. Our teams also advanced and were recognized in the NTC, Buffalo/Niagara tournament, the NACDL Competition, and the Gourley Cup Competition.

Another student, Sarah Riley, was awarded the prestigious Burton Award for her Law Review article: *Title IX Prohibits Retaliation Against Plaintiff Who Complains of Sex Discrimination, Even if Plaintiff is Not Recipient of Original Claim of Discrimination: Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education*. The Burton Awards are modeled after the Pulitzer Prize to recognize excellence in legal writing. Every law school in the nation submitted an entry; only 15 were chosen as winners this year. Among the other schools fielding winning entries this year were Yale, Columbia, U Penn, and Georgetown.

Our *Juris Magazine* was named “Best Law School Magazine,” for 2007 by the American Bar Association Law Student Division. This is a unique honor as we compete for the award with every other law school in the U.S.

Duquesne Law School is always pleased to host nationally prominent visitors and programs. This year was especially rich. The Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law, directed by Professor Rago, presented its seventh annual conference: *Preserving Evidence, Saving Lives: The Roles of Forensic Science, Medicine and the Law in Mass Disaster Response*. Professor Robert Barker presented his international seminar: *Judicial Review in the Americas…and Beyond*. Professor Ken Gormley coordinated the highly successful visit of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, who received the Carol Los Mansmann Award on our campus. And, finally, the Law School hosted highly successful visits by the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (CAAF), the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and the Pennsylvania Superior Court. In each instance, actual cases were heard. One of our seniors, Ms. April Trimble, made oral argument before the CAAF, and her position was ultimately upheld in the court’s decision.

Our China summer program had its highest enrollment ever with 68 students from 40 law schools and 5 countries. This
continues to be a world-class program. In June, we completed a highly successful ABA re-accreditation visit to the China Program. Again, although we have not yet received the final written report, the ABA inspector remarked that it was probably the best China program he had ever seen. He was particularly impressed by the fact that the instruction was provided primarily by the entire English speaking faculty of the China University of Political Science and Law.

The Vatican and Ireland programs also had their strongest enrollment in several years, and they continue to draw strong interest from alumni who enjoy the experience of traveling to Europe for the continuing legal education requirements.

I am pleased to report that our evening division for this academic year rebounded from years of declining enrollment, and the number of minority students grew significantly. We enrolled 96 evening students and 25 students who declared minority status. These numbers reflect an increase of 300% and 130%, respectively, over last year. We thank our Admissions Director, Mr. Joe Campion, and his assistant, Ms. Gloria Malie, for an incredible effort and a terrific recruiting year.

Before my final closing, I want to offer congratulations to Professor John Rago who was awarded full tenure this year. He also was appointed as the first chair of the newly created, state-wide advisory committee that is studying wrongful convictions in Pennsylvania. We wish him success for a project that is so closely tied to the essence of the Law School’s mission and which echoes our motto: Salus Populi Suprema Lex, The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

As you can readily see, it has been a productive year. We continue to improve the Law School and we made numerous important changes during this past academic year, but there is still much to be done. We will be traveling to the American Association of Law Schools recruitment fair this fall to interview candidates for two doctrinal positions and three full time research and writing instructors. We are pleased to have the support of the board and the administration in this endeavor and in all our efforts as we move forward.

Donald J. Guter, L’77
Dean
FALL 2007

Practicing lawyers, judges, and law school faculties generally agree that legal writing is one of the most critical professional skills a lawyer can have. They also believe it is a skill that can be taught effectively in law school. Yet some law schools change their writing programs every few years without a clear idea of how writing can be taught, and without committing the necessary resources to make the program effective. With the hiring of Professor Jan M. Levine as the school’s first full-time legal research and writing program director, the Duquesne University School of Law has shown that they are serious about fielding a top-notch legal research and writing program, and graduating well-trained students.

A nationally-known expert in the field of legal writing and research, Levine has more than twenty years of experience leading legal writing and research programs. Levine comes to his tenured faculty position at Duquesne from Temple University School of Law, where he built the program into one of the highest-ranking writing programs in the United States, according to faculty surveyed for U.S. News and World Report. Prior to Temple, he ran the writing programs at the University of Arkansas School of Law (Fayetteville) and the University of Virginia School of Law.

Before he began teaching legal writing and research full-time, Levine served the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as Assistant General Counsel and Assistant Regional Counsel for the Department of Social Services, and as Deputy General Counsel for the Office of Children. Before that, he was a Staff Attorney at Boston University School of Law, working on public interest programs in the areas of health law, disability law, and elder law. A graduate of the State University of New York at Albany, and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Levine received his law degree from Boston University. He is a nationally recognized scholar who has published many works on legal research and writing. Levine’s most recent work was his contribution to several chapters of the ABA Sourcebook on Legal Writing Programs.

He is also a frequent presenter at national conferences on legal research and writing, and has had many elected and appointed positions in national organizations. Professor Levine was the founder and first president of the Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD); served as elected member of the ALWD’s board of directors and of the board of directors of the Legal Writing Institute; was appointed to the board of directors of SCRIBES, the American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects; and served as chair and member of the ABA Communications Skills Committee.

“Duquesne’s new writing program is designed to provide students with the fundamental writing skills that all lawyers need,” said Levine. “Legal writing is the only practical skills course required of students in most law schools. New law students quickly realize how much lawyers must read, but most students simply don’t realize how much lawyers write. Our students must appreciate that lawyers are professional writers, preparing transactional and litigation documents, of course, but also writing correspondence and office memoranda, drafting legislation and regulations, crafting speeches, and playing a critical role in the creation of business documents and government papers. Any lawyer knows that if you can’t write effectively, you won’t be successful.”

Duquesne’s first-year law students study the fundamentals of legal research, both print-based and computer-based, using the law library and the internet as the sources for information. They also
learn to prepare the two essential documents at the base of law practice: predictive office memoranda and persuasive advocacy pieces. The goal of the fall semester is to make students competent in writing the types of research-based memos they will be preparing in their first summer after law school, and in their future work as practicing lawyers. The spring semester is focused on persuasive writing and oral advocacy, in the context of an appellate brief with an accompanying moot court argument.

Levine lists three keys to an effective writing program: “First, you must have dedicated students willing to do far more writing than they’ve ever had to do before. As I always tell my students, the average lawyer writes more than Stephen King; he or she just won’t make as much money! Second, you need a small student-to-teacher ratio, because students need individual guidance, and the best way to provide that is to have the faculty critique each student’s work and then meet with the writer for an individual conference, leading to a revision. Third, classes should be discussion-based seminars, in which students and faculty engage in a open dialogue about legal analysis and the structure of the documents, and in which there is no ‘hiding the ball’ about the material at hand.”

“The spring semester’s moot court program will give the students their first opportunity to write, talk, look, and act like real lawyers,” he said. “For most students, the process of writing an appellate brief and delivering an oral argument is a tremendous experience, and probably the capstone of the first year of law school. We are going to involve our alumni, a tremendous asset, in this program, and we will invite many to come back to Duquesne this spring and sit as ‘judges’ alongside the writing faculty.”

Levine is the only full-time faculty member in this new program – for now. The law school has plans to hire other full-time writing teachers in the near future, and currently employs an impressive group of adjunct professors in the writing program (see page 8). “I have a great deal of respect for the adjunct professors in the writing program,” Levine said. “It is incredibly time-consuming to be a professor in this new writing program. Beyond the time spent preparing for and teaching class, each teacher spends one to two hours critiquing each major assignment a student writes. Many more hours are invested in individual meetings with each student to discuss the critique and the revisions to be made for the next round of review.”

Duquesne looks to be on the fast track to a nationally-renowned writing program. “It often takes three years to have a writing program’s traditions set in place,” Levine admitted. “But I have already seen a change in the students. They know they are further along the path than are their peers at other law schools, and they’re proud of what they’ve accomplished so far. I’ve seen student work-product this semester that was as good as anything I’ve seen at the other law schools where I’ve taught, and I think we’re well on the way to turning out the best-prepared students we’ve ever graduated from the Law School. And Dean Guter and the university’s administration have been wonderful, providing me with the resources needed to build a high-quality writing program.”

So why did Levine choose to relocate to Pittsburgh and start a program from scratch? The choice was rather easy. “Dean Guter is the reason I came to Duquesne. From his years in the JAG Corps, Dean Guter understands the critical place of writing skills in modern law practice. He is deeply committed to the writing program as the foundation for student training, and he’s made it his number-one priority. Plus, as an alumnus, he’s extremely passionate about the law school and this university. It’s inspiring.” Levine believes that “Duquesne is a law school poised to do great things, but one that will do so while maintaining an awareness of the school’s history and commitment to the school’s mission.” Adding to his delight is the small town feel and aesthetic beauty of the city of Pittsburgh, which were a great surprise. “People from out of town don’t realize the beautiful, modern, and vibrant side of Pittsburgh—and Pittsburghers are exceptionally friendly and welcoming.”

Despite his success as a professor and lawyer, it would be unwise to stereotype Levine as a typical straight-laced lawyer. “I explore different ways to connect with students, including using current events, music, and popular culture as the foundation of many assignments. And I guess I have had a well-deserved reputation for using Star Trek as the basis for classroom exercises.”

Levine is married to Doreen Regan, a former elementary school teacher. They have one son, Evan, who attends Georgetown University. Given his impressive track record with writing programs, his strong work ethic, and unwavering dedication, it is clear that the Duquesne University School of Law has found the perfect person to lead its legal research and writing program to new heights.
Adjunct Writing Faculty

Julia M. Glencer, a native of Pittsburgh, holds a B.A. in English from Carlow College and a J.D. from The Dickinson School of Law. She spent six years as a judicial law clerk, serving the Hon. Joseph F. Weis, Jr. and the Hon. D. Michael Fisher—both on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit—and more recently, the Hon. Joan Orie Melvin on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Julia also practiced law for five years with the national law firm of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston Gates Ellis LLP, where she concentrated in appellate litigation and governmental affairs. Julia has co-authored briefs filed before all three Pennsylvania appellate courts and various federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court. She lives in the North Hills of Pittsburgh with her husband and their five-year-old daughter.

“The arrival of Jan Levine demonstrates Duquesne Law’s recognition of the critical importance of legal research and writing to the profession.”

Ella A. Kwisnek graduated from St. Vincent College in 1987. She received her J.D. degree from Duquesne University School of Law, where she was on the editorial boards of the Duquesne Law Review and Juris Magazine. After serving for two years in the U.S. Peace Corps, she clerked for then Superior Court Judge Thomas G. Saylor. In 1995, Ella returned to Duquesne University School of Law as a full-time Research & Writing Instructor. Although assuming various administrative responsibilities at the Law School, including the positions of Director of Career Services and Assistant Dean for Students, Ella has continuously taught in the research and writing program. She has also obtained an M.S.Ed. degree from Duquesne University’s School of Education. Ella is very excited to be working under such a renowned legal research & writing expert as Jan Levine. Ella stated, “Under Jan Levine’s leadership, I am confident that the Duquesne University School of Law legal research and writing program will be ranked among the top programs in the country. Jan has the proven leadership abilities and expertise to build an outstanding program, and I am honored to be able to work with and learn from him.”

Toni Pellegrini received her B.S. from IUP in 1967, a M.Ed. from the University of Pittsburgh in 1971, and her J.D. from the Duquesne University School of Law in 1975. Toni previously worked as an Assistant City Solicitor and has been teaching legal research and writing at the Law School for 10 years. She also teaches public policy and management at the Carnegie Mellon University’s H. John Heinz III Graduate School. Toni is married to the Honorable Dan Pelligrini and has two daughters.

“As alumni, students, faculty and especially members of the LR&W faculty, we are so fortunate to have Jan Levine as our director. It’s as if Duquesne got a first round draft choice, and we know we are now contenders!”
After serving four years of active duty in the United States Air Force as a Command Post Crew Commander, Tara Willke attended Southern Illinois University. She received her undergraduate degree, summa cum laude, in 2000 with a major in History and minor in Political Science. She earned her J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2004, where she graduated magna cum laude and was elected for membership in the Order of the Coif. While at the University of Pittsburgh, Tara served as the Senior Managing Editor of the Law Review and was a Teaching Assistant for Legal Research and Writing. After graduating from law school, Tara was a litigation associate with the Pittsburgh law firm of Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C., where her practice included commercial, construction and environmental litigation, as well as other types of complex litigation matters. She is currently a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

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**Evening**

**Julie K. Freeman** is Chief Law Clerk to Justice Cynthia A. Baldwin of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Immediately prior to joining Justice Baldwin at the Supreme Court, Julie practiced law with the firm of Goldberg, Gruener, Gentile, Horoho, and Avalli, P.C., primarily in the areas of family law, estate administration, and estate litigation. Earlier in her career, she was Judicial Law Clerk to then-Judge Baldwin at the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

Julie received her J.D. degree, cum laude, from Duquesne University, where she was Managing Editor of the Duquesne Law Review. She also holds Bachelor of Arts, Master of Urban and Regional Planning, and Master of Business Administration degrees, all from the University of Pittsburgh. Julie is admitted to the bars of Pennsylvania and of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Julie’s published works have appeared in the Duquesne Law Review, *Juris Magazine*, the *Pennsylvania Family Lawyer*, and the *Pennsylvania Bar Association Quarterly*. In addition, she has been a frequent contributor to the *Allegheny County Bar Association’s Lawyers Journal*.

“Having excellent legal research and writing skills are essential for a lawyer’s success. Consequently, I am so pleased that our law school was able to entice Professor Levine, a nationally renowned expert in the field, to come to Duquesne Law School to ensure that our graduates have those indispensable skills.”

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**Amy Elizabeth McCall, Esq.** is a 2003 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Duquesne University School of Law, where she was an Executive Articles Editor of *The Duquesne Law Review*. A member of the bars of Pennsylvania, the Western District of Pennsylvania, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office, she practiced in the Pittsburgh office of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis, LLP, specializing in emerging business and intellectual property law, primarily representing small-to-mid-sized technology companies. Amy is currently a Judicial Law Clerk for Justice Cynthia A. Baldwin on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. She is a member and past chair of the Pittsburgh Intellectual Property Law Association Writing Award Committee. “I am very excited to be part of Professor Levine’s efforts to update the writing program at Duquesne. I believe that Professor Levine’s energy, experience and commitment to the students will serve Duquesne School of Law well, both now and in the future.”
Ann Schiavone is a 2003 graduate of Duquesne Law’s evening division, and is currently an associate with Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, PC where she practices in the commercial litigation section. Ann has represented a wide range of clients, from Fortune 500 companies to individuals, in business related disputes in both state and federal courts. Additionally, she has focused a portion of her practice in the area of appellate advocacy. During law school, Ann worked as a legislative assistant for State Senator Jane Orie where she helped research draft legislation. Ann is also a 1998 graduate of St. Vincent College, a 1994 graduate of Vincentian High School (Now Vincentian Academy-Duquesne University) and is a member of the Vincentian Academy Board of Trustees.

“Effective research and good writing are the most fundamental skills necessary to practice law. They are essential for students to perform well in law school, pass the bar, and succeed in their first jobs. Professor Levine has brought a world class research and writing program to Duquesne, and I am very excited to be a part of it.”

Judith A. Teeter received her J.D. degree in 1984 from Boston University School of Law. Judith practiced in Chicago as a general civil litigator then later as a labor law attorney, representing Unions as well as individual employees in a variety of cases including plant closings, employment discrimination cases, and employment contract disputes. She then moved to Spokane, Washington, and became Litigation Director at Spokane Legal Services Center. After another move, she directed a program at the Volunteer Legal Services Center in Rochester, New York, helping parents with HIV and AIDS develop custody plans for their children.

Upon moving to Pittsburgh, Judith worked part-time as a law clerk for then Justice (now Chief Justice) Ralph Cappy, and then full-time as a law clerk for Superior Court Judge John Musmanno. After moving to the private sector for a few years doing grant writing for non-profits, Judith is now a law clerk to Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Baldwin.

Judith is also a mediator and trainer of mediation and conflict resolution skills, and attended Duquesne University’s Graduate School of Public Policy in 2003-2004 to obtain a Master’s Certificate in Conflict Resolution. “I am delighted to be back at Duquesne in an adjunct teaching capacity with Professor Levine.”

Additional Adjunct Writing Faculty

**DAY DIVISION**

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**EVENING DIVISION**

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**ORAL ARGUMENT COORDINATOR (SPRING)**

Erin Karsman
ekarsman@smithpachter.com
Duquesne Law Alumnae have made the Law School very proud this year. The following women have been honored with various awards.
Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Baldwin, L’80, was named the winner of the 2007 Athena Award at the Allegheny Conference on Community Development’s 17th Annual luncheon. The award is given to a woman in the community who demonstrates leadership, community service and mentorship.

This award means a great deal to Justice Baldwin. “I have been with the Athena Award program in various volunteer capacities since the late 1990’s. A variety of dynamic, dedicated and determined women are nominated yearly and I think ‘they’ll never find a group of women like this again!’ Yet the next year another fabulous group of women leaders are honored—women who exemplified and achieved professional excellence while helping others grow. These women are recognized not only regionally, but nationally. This award means so much to me because the women being nominated are friends of mine. It is truly humbling to be included among them.”

In 2005, Justice Baldwin was nominated by Governor Edward G. Rendell to serve on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court—becoming only the second African-American woman to hold a position on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. She received her B.A. in English and Master of Arts in American Literature from the Pennsylvania State University, and a J.D. from Duquesne University. While at Duquesne, she was a member of the Law Review and has since served both as an adjunct professor and a visiting professor at the Law School.

“I absolutely loved law school,” said Justice Baldwin. “The experience was enjoyable and the friendships I formed with both students and professors are important to me. Without a Duquesne legal education, I definitely wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Justice Baldwin is married with two adult children. She realizes that she wouldn’t have won this prestigious award, or had her exemplary career, without faith and her family—which are major priorities in her life.
Judge Stephanie Domitrovich, Ph.D., L’79, was honored with the Women’s Law Association Women of the Year Award from Duquesne University School of Law.

She was moved by this award, and was speechless when she found out. “This is the most prominent award I have ever received. Judge Kate Ford Elliott, Judge Joy Conti and Justice Cynthia Baldwin have all been previous award winners,” she said.

Judge Domitrovich has been Erie County General Jurisdiction State Trial Judge for 18 years. She also worked as a participant with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in a sponsored program to educated judges in the former Soviet Republic nations of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Her extensive judicial education is very impressive. She received a B.A. in History from Carlow College; a J.D. from Duquesne University; a Masters of Judicial Studies, Major in Trial Judges, from the National Judicial College and the University of Nevada Reno; a Master of Judicial Studies, Major in Juvenile Justice, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the University of Nevada Reno; and a Ph.D. as a Doctor of Philosophy in Judicial Studies, University of Nevada Reno (the first judge to receive this degree).

Judge Domitrovich met her husband, fellow Duquesne alumni, Attorney Ronald J. Susmarski, in the elevator at the Law School. They were married shortly after graduation. They have two sons—one in medical school and the Navy, and one in college.

The importance of the Law School is something Judge Domitrovich has not forgotten. “Duquesne was a foundation for my entire career as a lawyer and judge,” she said. “What stood out was, beyond fundamentals, I learned ethics— the key to any law career. I make Duquesne Law students priorities when it comes to interviews or internships because I know they are being taught ethics.”

Maureen P. Kelly, L’87, was awarded the Susan B. Anthony Award by Women’s Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania and the 2007 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Outstanding Leadership in Support of Legal Services Award. The Susan B. Anthony Award is given to one person each year who has worked to promote and maintain the highest degree of professionalism in the practice of law, one who encourages the participation of women in all facets of the legal profession, and one who promotes the equal treatment of women in the practice of law and the court system. The Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Award is given for consistent leadership in matters affecting the delivery of legal services to the poor.

She was elated to receive both awards. “It was an honor to receive these awards. The awards represent two of the integral parts of my professional life—my commitments to the delivery of legal services to those in need and to the advancement of women in the profession.” As for her time at Duquesne University’s School of Law, Maureen added, “Duquesne, as a Catholic Law School, provided me the opportunity to integrate my faith and commitment to service into my profession as a lawyer. I am grateful that many friends from Duquesne remain close and are sources of professional and personal support.”

Maureen is a shareholder in the Employment and Labor Services Group of Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C., in Pittsburgh and serves on the firm’s Operating Committee. Her practice consists primarily of representing employers in the defense of discrimination claims and handling restrictive covenant cases. After receiving her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame, she did a year of post-graduate volunteer work with the Holy Cross Associates. She then earned a J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law.

She shares these great awards, and her successful career, with her husband, Kevin Hayes, and their sons, Connor and Kevin Paul.
Ann L. Begler, L’75, was recognized with the Anne X. Alpern Award by the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s commission on Women in the Profession. This award is given to a female member of the Bar Association who demonstrates leadership in her law-related profession and community, participates in mentoring, and engages in significant activities on behalf of women.

“I was very surprised by the Alpern Award,” said Ann. “My approach to my work has always been about bringing all I can to my clients, and, frankly, just doing what I seem meant to do. I have never done my work with the motive to gain recognition. So to receive this type of recognition, and to be honored by colleagues, is very humbling.”

Ann is the founder and Principal of the Begler Group, a Pittsburgh firm providing services in mediation, advanced facilitation and organizational change processes. Her practice includes mediating complex cases as well as mediating conflicts through early intervention, and litigation-prevention programs that are operational within institutions. She is one of the original planners and designers of the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Law Firm Dispute Resolution Program. Ann is also of counsel to the Pittsburgh law firm of Frank, Bails, Murcko, Gubinsky and Gale.

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh, she received her J.D. from Duquesne University. She remembers Duquesne with great fondness. “The environment fostered a high level of academic learning and the value of individual responsibility,” Ann recalled. “My independent spirit was nurtured at Duquesne, giving me a strong base of academic knowledge, as well as opportunities to translate that knowledge to life experience.”

Her family is extremely supportive. In fact, eleven family members showed up in Philadelphia when she accepted the Alpern Award. “I believe it is my family that fostered my resilience. It is this spirit and resilience that I believe intrinsically adds to the skill I bring as a lawyer, a mediator and an organizational consultant.”

Amelia M. Joiner, L’02, was honored with the Duquesne University School of Law Women’s Law Association’s Recent Graduate Award. This award is given to the woman, who in 10 years or less since graduation, has contributed to the community and has given the most back to the Law School.

“I think it’s very important to acknowledge recent graduates. It is encouraging to know that our peers and mentors recognize young lawyers early in our careers. Recognition gives us a boost of confidence that encourages us to keep striving for excellence. I was thrilled with this award,” Amelia stated.

Currently, Amelia is working as Law Clerk for the Honorable Joy Flowers Conti in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. She is also an adjunct professor at Duquesne, teaching in the Trial Advocacy program. After her clerkship is over, she will return to private practice.

Amelia has a B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and earned her J.D. from Duquesne University. Her participation on the Trial Moot Court Team was one of her favorite memories of Duquesne. “I remember traveling to a regional competition at the University of Tennessee. I don’t think anyone knew who we were then. We ended up winning the competition and moving on to compete nationally. After we won, they knew exactly who Duquesne was.”

The driving force in Amelia’s life continues to be her family. She has four children with her husband, Pierce. “Their support enables me to do everything I am doing. I could not have won this award without them.”
Duquesne University’s School of Law conferred the degree of Juris Doctor upon 101 graduates during the 94th Annual Commencement Ceremony on June 3, 2007. Alberto J. Mora, Vice President and General Counsel for The International Department of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and former General Counsel to the Department of Navy was the commencement speaker.
Duquesne University
School of Law Class of 2007

John B. Acierno III
- August 2006 Grad
Cynthia Ann Adimari
Melissa A. Antoszewski
Marie Therese Batz
Salvatore Joseph Bauccio
Matthew Bechak
Cesare Marie Bell
Jeanette Anne Bellon
Christopher J. Bennett
Kristin A. Biedinger
Matthew Donald Boccardi
Kristin Michelle Boose
Jason Michael Borkowski
Christopher Louis Borsani
Christopher Boyd
Robert Andrew Bracken
Monika L. Bradford
Bradley James Breslin
Courtney Cole Bucci
Megan Ann Burdelsky
Courtney Michelle Butterfield
Stephen Christopher Byers
Melissa M. Byrnes
Timothy S. Bytner
Michael Wayne Calder
Christine Marie Carey
J. Ashton Carr II
Benjamin Andrew Carroll
Brian David Catanzarite
Yuliya A. Charnyshova
Timothy Joseph Chiappetta
Eric Michael Chir
Matthew Paul Christensen
Megan Whitney Clement
Joshua Joseph Cochran
Andrew John Codelka
Joshua Ray Coffman
Matthew Christian Cole
C. Justin Conrad
Jessica Katherine Coon
Zachary Douglas Cregar
Ryan L. Dansak
Mark K. Dauch
Ryan Robert Del Greco
Alexis Marie Dissinger
Beth A. Dodson
Ryan Donnelly
Kara Eaton
Caroline Marie Eshman
Jayme Rae Ewing
Gerald W. Farmer, Jr.
Masha Federman
Daniel Feller
Jonathan Henley Ferguson
Michael Patrick Flynn
Edward F. Fochtman
Jessica Lynne Fonow
Jonathan Paul Foster
David L. Fuchs
Branden A. C. Fulciniti
Teresa K. Gabriel
David R. Gaiser
Robert Anthony Gallagher
Nicole M. Gardiner
Diana Leigh Garguilo
Kelly Lynn Geer
Dawn Marie George
Jonathan M. Gens
Stuart Douglas Patrick Gilgannon
David Spencer Goldband
Joshua Frasier Hall
Mark A. Harasymiw
Jarah Lee Heeter
Alison Brooke Hoagland
Tracy Lynn Hoffman
Kelly Lynn Hollis
Joshua James Horton
Imrana Iqbal
Mary R. Jensen
Christina Lee Jurik
Elizabeth A. Kabacinski
Rachael Darlene Kassner
Esiprith Hope Kaveney
Lauren Elizabeth Kenney
Kevin Paul Kinross
Christian Miles Kish
Holly L. Koehler
Katherine Elizabeth Koop
Larissa Ann Kosarych
Brian D. Kravetz
Kathleen Anu Kuznicki
Gregory T. Landgraf
Jesse C. Leisawitz
Lara Elizabeth Levengood
Dylan Carlson Lewis
Brandi McLavy Lohr
Kristen Louise Lunz
Rebecca L. Magyar
Hasan Mansori
Alan Marmalich
Benjamin Alan Mathews
Melanie Lynn Matovich
John Edward McCall
Justin McCarthy
Shawn Patrick McClure
Brian Thomas McCully
Kyle Tice McGee
Scott Kenneth McKernan
Jason William McNish
Lauren Alexis Melfa
Amanda Marie Mesle
- August 2006 Grad
Natalie C. Metropulos
Carl Walker Metzgar
Gregory Charles Michaels
Jacqueline F. Mirowsitz
Matthew M. Mlecko
Heather L. Momose
Lindsay Joy Monroe
Matthew Louis Moritz
Jean Marie Mosites
Anne Elizabeth Nelson
David M. Nernberg
Emily K. Nicholson
Shannon Marie O’Brien
James Derrick O’Leary II
Jonathan Orie
Jennifer Marie Palonis
Eugene T. Partridge III
Leann Michelle Petrilla
George V. Philippopoulos
Rebecca Lynn Pierce
Catherine Bassani Pober
Roger Poorman
Joseph Jay Pricener
- January 2007 Grad
Jennifer Marie Richardson
Dana Jo-Ann Richardson
Dana Jo-Ann Richardson
Troy Brandon Rider
Sarah Marie Riley
David William Ringlaben
Suzanne Catherine Rohrig
Corrine Nicole Ropelewski
Robert W. Rosato
Maureen L. Rottschaefer
Lyndsay Elizabeth Rowland
Philippe Roy
Christina J. Rumbaugh
Terry L. Savina
Brian P. Scanlon
Karissa L. Schepis
Jason M. Schiffman
Will Armstrong Schmitt
Vaughn Karl Schultz
Andrew Francis Senge III
Benjamin Alexander Sigall
Jimmi Sue Babcock Smith
Michael T. Smith
Brett W. Stedman
Steven Robert Stipetich
Kyle A. Sturm
Patricia Anne Suffern
Jillian Lynn Tefft
Stephanie E. Thatcher
Matthew Alexander Thren
Beth M. Tibbott
April Lauren Trimble
David Lewis Trzcicki
Eleanor E. Vaid
Nicholas Peter Vaughan
Nikki L. Velisaris
- January 2007 Grad
John Lee Wainright
Michael Edward Waltman
Thomas Charles Warner
Jessica Warren
Ethan Padraic Weddell
Casey David White
Hollyce L. Winters
Jennifer Jane Woods
Kimberly Wilkinson Young
Thomas Edward Zahn
Stephaine Marie Zahradnik
Certificate of Completion leading to LL.M. Dubravka Nezic
The study and practice of international law is no longer limited to niche practice areas of large firms in the biggest cities. Harvard and Georgetown now require first year law students to study international law, and the trend is quickly growing. Having been headquarters to many global businesses, international law is no stranger to the practice of law in Pittsburgh.

Duquesne recently hired Dr. Antonio Lordi, a European contract specialist, whose work is cited by the European Court of Justice, to teach International Business Transactions. Mr. Lordi will be part of the spring semester CLE program on European Union Law.

Duquesne’s LL.M. program, now in its third year, has graduated students from Germany and Croatia, and currently has students registered from Saudi Arabia, India, Venezuela, Paraguay and China. As a result of Duquesne’s partnership with the University of Cologne, Duquesne regularly exchanges students in the J.D. program to conduct clinical work or doctoral research. Also as a result of that exchange, Matt Roy, L’07, will begin his LL.M. study at the University of Cologne this autumn.

Duquesne has begun a new collaboration with the law faculty of Sts. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia. As a result of that collaboration, Skopje hosted Melissa Ruggiero, L’03, for a study visit in March 2007, to form the basis of her LL.M. dissertation, to be jointly awarded by the Queen’s University of Belfast and the National University of Ireland, Galway.

The law school continues to offer three week programs in China, Ireland and Italy each summer. Both the Ireland and Italy programs have included CLE courses. The Law Library has begun a new initiative between the law school and the universities in Mekelle and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
(Left to right) Dorothee Maria Kaulen, our first LL.M. graduate, graduated with a Master of Laws (LL.M. for Foreign Lawyers) August, 2006; Professor Kirk W. Junker; and Janine Discher, German exchange student from Cologne, Germany. Ms. Discher will be studying law in the fall semester, 2007.

Dubravka Nezic (left), our second LL.M. graduate, graduated with a Master of Laws (LL.M. for Foreign Lawyers) August 2007; and Dorothee Maria Kaulen.

(Left to right) Ammar Saeed Alrefaei, LL.M. day student, expected graduation June 2009; Ratna Prabhu, LL.M. day student, expected graduation June 2008; Narlu A. Castellano, LL.M. day student, expected graduation June 2008; Rafael F. Torres Antonioli, LL.M. evening student, expected graduation June 2009.
**Vatican City**

The Vatican City program has proven to be my most rewarding experience of law school. With Italy as our classroom, we were immersed in the birthplace of modern civilization. We learned about the foundation of the legal system and were also exposed to the origins of the Roman Catholic Church.

Visiting the Roman Curia as well as other significant historical sites, both within in Rome and throughout Italy, helped illustrate the rich tradition of Italian culture. As a first year, this trip was recommended to me and I, in turn, offer it my highest recommendation to all students looking for a valuable study-abroad program.

Mike Ihrig, L’10

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**Macedonia**

In May 2007, I had the opportunity to do a study-visit to Skopje, Republic of Macedonia, as part of my dissertation research for my LL.M. in human rights and criminal justice from Queen’s University Belfast and National University of Ireland, Galway. Dr. Kirk Junker from Duquesne Law and Professor Saso Georgievski, Vice Dean and Irena Pandeva, Coordinator for International Cooperation at the Faculty of Law of Sts. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje helped to arrange my study-visit as part of the new co-operation between the law schools. Barbara Carlin, Esq. a Duquesne Law graduate, invited Duquesne to begin a collaboration while she was the Resident Justice Department Legal Advisor to the US Embassy in Skopje. During my study-visit I interviewed Ms. Carlin, political officers from the US Embassy as well as directors of non-governmental organisations, and the head of the rule of law unit at the local Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) mission to learn about various initiatives to reform the judiciary and the police service to help establish the rule of law in Macedonia.

Melissa R. Ruggiero, L’03
My participation in the study abroad program in Beijing, China was an invaluable part of my legal education at Duquesne. The experience that I am walking away with has made me realize that there is much to be gained in legal education outside of the classroom. Attending a criminal trial in a foreign nation, touring the National People’s Congress, and shadowing attorneys working in both US and Chinese law firms in Beijing has allowed me to realize the pervasiveness of international law. Additionally, by having the opportunity to meet students from other law schools around the country and around the globe, I have come to realize that no matter what area of law one chooses to practice they will benefit from exposure to the practice of law in an international forum. The time, patience, and availability of the professors and lecturers provided the opportunity to target the particular interests of each of the students traveling. The program, in its entirety but particularly the professors and guest speakers who lectured and traveled with the group, made the program second to none.

Nicole Hall, L’09
Last June, about twenty students from Duquesne’s Law School and other schools around the country spent 3 weeks in Northern Ireland and Ireland. Our trip began in Belfast where we studied Human Rights Law and the United Nations. We were able to see first hand what years of internal strife and hatred will do to a city and how a city and its people have responded since “The Troubles” ended with the Peace Agreement in 1998. Belfast is now a city showing signs of a growing sense of cooperation between both Catholics and Protestants alike. Not only does Northern Ireland have a vibrant and interesting history, but the surrounding countryside is breathtaking and full of life. Although we were only in Northern Ireland for a week, we were able to observe how people from Belfast spend their time in the pubs and shopping and how they have learned to manage their problems and strive to acquire complete independence from the United Kingdom.

After a week in Belfast, we took a bus down to Dublin where we would spend the bulk of our trip. Because we spent more time in Dublin, we were able to explore the Irish life a little more. Here we studied European Union Law and International Arbitration. It was quite interesting to see how Ireland is trying to make a voice for itself within the European Union.

After learning about the legal systems in the classroom, we were given the opportunity to visit the Courts in Dublin and have dinner with the Barristers at the King’s Inn.

Teisha Smith-Harrison, L’09

The Law School will miss our friend, John Kirkwood, who passed away this year. John was a staunch supporter of our Ireland program, for which he funded many scholarships over the years.

(Left to to right) Diarmuid Convery, General Manager of Biznet-Solutions (a company that John helped to create in Northern Ireland), John Kirkwood, Professor Kirk Junker, Barbara Benner, Rachel Myers (St. Thomas University student), Kirsha Weyand, L’06
Dean Donald Guter was featured in the following interviews in November 2006: “Government War on Terror: Policy Development in the Bush Administration, Sources and Influence on Policy Development”, ABC News & Current Affairs (November 4, 2006); “Background on General Fiscus Whistleblower Complaint against Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld”, The New Yorker (November 7, 2006). The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review interviewed Dean Guter on the issue of “Specter Detainee Measure Helps Enemy” (January 18, 2007). He was then interviewed by New Standard News on January 31, 2007 regarding “Reflections on Amicus Brief filed in the case of Al Marri filed in the Fourth Circuit.” Dean Guter also participated in a forum sponsored by Human Rights First at the Franklin Pierce Law Center in April 2007 to discuss U.S. detention and interrogation policies; he will be recognized this fall by Human Rights First for his leadership and commitment to human rights to ensure that detainee treatment is once again in accordance with the Geneva Convention. On May 22, 2007, Dean Guter testified before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee regarding “Restoring Habeas Corpus: Protecting American Values and the Great Writ” and was also interviewed by the Pittsburgh Post Gazette on this topic. Dean Guter was also interviewed by the Los Angeles Times, “Tribunals are Dealt Another Legal Setback”; and by the Naval Institute Proceeding, Vol. 133/9/1255, “Damned if You Do, Damned if You Don’t”. He also participated in the World Affairs Council presentation on war crimes on September 5, 2007, and most recently participated in a panel discussion at Indiana University of Pennsylvania for their 3rd annual Constitution Day on the topic of “Torture: Where’s the Line?”

Dr. John E. Murray, Jr., Chancellor of the University, was presented with the Distinguished Leadership Award by the American Red Cross on April 28, 2007 for his uncompromising leadership in the community. Dr. Murray will also be honored this fall by the Legal Division of the Pittsburgh Campaign for State of Israel Bonds during its 19th annual tribute dinner. Dr. Murray also authored an open editorial for the Pittsburgh Post Gazette titled Redefine Pittsburgh (August 19, 2007).

The President of the City Council presented Distinguished Professor Robert S. Barker with the Ordinance designating him an Illustrious Guest of the City of Sucre, Bolivia, where Professor Barker spoke at the X International Seminar sponsored by Bolivia’s Constitutional Tribunal and devoted to the topic, La Justicia Constitucional en el Siglo XXI, July 18 - 20, 2007. While in Bolivia, Professor Barker also spoke on constitutional topics in the cities of Tarija and Santa Cruz, and was a guest on several television and radio programs. The second edition of his book, La Constitución de los Estados Unidos y su dinámica actual, was published in Bolivia during Professor Barker’s visit. Barker was awarded a Speaker and Specialist Grant by the U.S. State Department to address the Tenth Juridical Conference, sponsored by the Honduran National Bar Association, March 13-15 in Tegucigalpa. Professor Barker spoke to the Conference on La Constitución de los Estados Unidos y su Proceso de Enmienda and La Independencia de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos. While in Honduras, he met with the members of the Congressional Committee on Constitutional Affairs, and was guest on the nationally-televised public affairs program, “Frente a Frente.” In June, Professor Barker participated in the XLIII Conference of the Inter-American Bar Association in Mexico City. As Chairman of the IABA’s Law School Section, he organized and presided at the session on Legal Education in the Americas, and spoke on La Educación Legal en los Estados Unidos. Also in Mexico, he spoke at the Institute for Juridical Research of the National Autonomous University in Mexico on El Federalismo Judicial en los Estados Unidos. Also in June, Professor Barker participated in the III Foro Iberoamericano de Juristas, held at the University of Salamanca (Spain), speaking on “Constitucionalismo y Democracia: Una Perspectiva Interamericana.” The following articles by Professor Barker have been published since the last issue of AlumNews:

- Las Constituciones de las Américas: Sus Procesos de Enmienda, 14 Coloquios Jurídicos 55 (Universidad APEC, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 2006 [2007].
- La Responsabilidad del Gobierno de Dar Cuenta: La Experiencia de los Estados Unidos, 92 Revista del Foro 79, (Lima, Peru, 2006 [2007].

Professor Barker is also celebrating his 25th year of teaching at the Law School.

Professor Bruce Antkowiak was the principal author and editor of two books, Pennsylvania Suggested Standard Jury Instructions—Criminal, 2006 Supplement; and Pennsylvania Criminal Procedure: Elements, Analysis, Application. He also wrote Picking Up the Pieces of the Gordian Knot: Towards a Sensible Merger Methodology published in both the International Journal of Punishment and Sentencing, Vol 3, No. 1 and 41 New England Law
Dean Nicholas Cafardi and Professor Jaclyn Cherry will publish the second edition of *Tax Exempt Organizations: Cases and Materials* this fall. This is a revision of first edition of their book, which was published in 2003.

Duquesne University has named Professor Kenneth G. Gormley associate vice president for interdisciplinary scholarship and special projects. Gormley, who has taught at the Duquesne University School of Law since 1994, will continue teaching as he takes on new responsibilities aimed at promoting interdisciplinary scholarship, facilitating exchange among scholars and collaboration with other academic institutions. He will report to the Office of the Provost.

This month, Gormley became the first president from academia to head the 136-year-old Allegheny County Bar Association. He has testified before the U.S. Senate and the Pennsylvania legislature on wiretapping, obscenity law, presidential pardons and independent counsel.

Gormley is also writing a book on the Clinton-Starr investigation that is expected to be completed next year. His past books, articles and documentary films have tackled the 50-year anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, Watergate special prosecutor Archibald Cox, the Pennsylvania Constitution, and legislative reapportionment, among other topics.

Professor Kenneth Hirsch became a life member of the American Law Institute this May.

Professor Martha Jordan published *Repairing Façade Easements: Is this the Gift that Launched a Thousand Deductions?*, 22 Akron Tax Journal 101 (2007); and *The Impact of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 on Qualified Conservation Contributions: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly*, 85 Taxes 35 (2007). Professor Jordan was also re-elected as vice chair of Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation for 2007-2008.

In May 2007, Professor Kirk Junker provided a seminar in sanctions for international environmental crimes to OPDAT at the American Embassy in Skopje, Macedonia. He also presented two lectures to law students of Sts. Cyril and Methodius University on emissions trading and international environmental law. Dr. Junker provided environmental law lectures to masters students at the University of Cologne, Germany, as part of their International Masters of Environmental Science program.

Professor Junker managed the Duquesne University School of Law summer study of law program this June in Belfast, Northern Ireland and Dublin, Ireland. In July he presented a paper, *The Common Procedures of the Rhetorica Ecclesiastica in Twelfth Century Canon Law and Common Law* to the International Society for the History of Rhetoric conference in Strasbourg, France.


Professor Frank Liu, director of the Center for Legal Information, was appointed a commissioner for the United States-China Joint Commission on Legal Education, a new cooperative initiative between the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) and the Guidance Commission of Higher Legal Education of the People’s Republic of China.

Professor John T. Rago was appointed by Senator Stewart Greenleaf, chairman of the Pennsylvania Senate Judiciary Committee, to serve as chairman of a state-wide advisory committee that will study wrongful convictions in Pennsylvania.

Professor Mark Yochum spoke on *Recalibrating Your Ethical Compass*, as the featured Ethics speaker for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the National Association of Chapter Thirteen Trustees, August 5-9, in Baltimore, Md. Professor Yochum has frequently been a featured speaker for the regional Tri-State Annual Bankruptcy Symposium as well as the National Convention of Bankruptcy Trustees, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, the Commercial Law League, the American Bankruptcy Institute, and other regional conferences around the country. This fall, he will offer ethical education for the regional meeting of the Association of Legal Administrators in Wilmington, DE and will also be the ethics speaker for the Fiftieth Annual Tri-State Tax Institute held at Wheeling Jesuit University. On a side note, Professor Yochum has been active in regional amateur theater for 30 years, and has recently been part of the core group establishing a new theater based in Washington County, the Terra Nova Theatre Group, Inc.
Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito Visits Duquesne University

On April 4, 2007, Duquesne University School of Law proudly hosted United States Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. and his wife Martha-Ann Alito. Justice Alito was presented with the second Carol Los Mansmann Award for Distinguished Public Service in front of an audience of nearly 1000 students, faculty, community and university leaders, attorneys and prominent guests. These included J. Jerome Mansmann and members of the Mansmann family; the First Lady of Pennsylvania, the Honorable Marjorie O. Rendell; ten judges on the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit; federal trial and bankruptcy judges; as well as numerous Pennsylvania trial and appellate judges. This special award, named for the late Judge Carol Los Mansmann, a dedicated and respected jurist and Duquesne alumna was first bestowed on Justice Sandra Day O’Connor in 2001.

In a stirring moment of pride for the School of Law, six women jurists who had graduated Duquesne Law School and had been friends of, and mentored by Judge Mansmann, gathered on stage and presented Justice Alito with the award. These were: Justice Baldwin of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, Chief Judge Donetta Ambrose of the Western District of Pennsylvania, Judge Joy Flowers Conti of the U.S. District court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, Judge Maureen Lally-Green of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania, and Judge Kim Berkeley-Clark of the Common Pleas Court of Allegheny County.

Justice Alito then took the podium, true to his demure style, he insisted that the program be more of a tribute to Carol Los Mansmann than to himself. He began with praise for Duquesne, having heard so many wonderful things over the years about the school from colleagues including Judge Mansmann and Judge Timothy K. Lewis, who was also in attendance. Justice Alito said, “I felt like I knew the place.”

Serving alongside Judge Mansmann for twelve years on the Third Circuit, Justice Alito told the audience, “I really marveled at all of her abilities; I was immediately struck by her intelligence, by her warmth, her collegiality, her discipline, her poise, her hard work, and her willingness to help others...she was the quintessential superwoman; she could do it all.” Justice Alito said he could not remember a moment where Judge Mansmann did not embody poise and grace. He called Judge Mansmann the most efficient judge he ever knew. ☛

Courtesy of P. Matthew Roy, L’07
LAA President’s Message

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve as the 2007-08 President of the Duquesne Law Alumni Association. Under the leadership of Dean Guter, Duquesne Law School is entering into a period of growth in its academic programs and retention of renowned faculty and scholarship. At the forefront of this progression is the hiring of Professor Jan Levine, one of the premier law school writing instructors who built the Temple University School of Law program into one of highest ranking programs in the country. Please join me in welcoming Professor Levine, and let’s show him the dedication of our alumni to the law school and its writing program.

The past year has proven to be remarkable for the law school. The bar passage rate increased 20 points to 88.32% in 2006; the 2007 rate was an outstanding 91.39%, second in the state. The student law magazine, Juris, received the ABA Law Student Division award for best law school magazine. Our moot court teams were once again successful this year, including winning Best Cross-Examination at the National Trial Competition and Best Advocate in the National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys Competition. For these successes to continue, you support is critical.

I thank you for all that you have already done for the law school. Your generosity has, for example, enabled the LAA to provide three student scholarships this year. Through your continued financial assistance, we are able to support the students and faculty of this fine institution. We are in the midst of our membership drive, and I encourage all of you to complete your forms and return them to the Alumni office. It is my audacious goal this year to double membership in the LAA, and we cannot do this without you.

The LAA is hosting several exciting events this year: fall receptions in Pittsburgh, Washington D.C. and Harrisburg; spring receptions in Philadelphia, Scranton and Erie; an evening at the Benedum in February to see “The Lion King”; a golf outing and Pirate baseball game; and, of course, the annual Reunion Dinner in April. I look forward to seeing all of you at these events, and for your anticipated membership in the LAA.

John P. Goodrich, L’87

“YOUR GENEROSITY HAS, FOR EXAMPLE, ENABLED THE LAA TO PROVIDE 3 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS THIS YEAR.”
LAA Awards its PILA Scholarship to Ariosto

I spent 10 weeks with Neighborhood Legal Services this summer, working on the landlord/tenant project and also the unemployment compensation project. In addition, I attended the debt and family law clinics, and also the elderly law project where the attorneys visit elderly centers across Pittsburgh and help out anyone who is over the age of 65 with whatever legal issues they may have.

I had about 3 days of training at NLS, and on the 3rd day I was told, “here are your clients, call them, see what is going on”. This was at first overwhelming because I had just finished my first year of law school and this was my first legal job. At first it was a little scary, but by the end I just felt so comfortable calling people—we helped about 250 clients over the course of the summer time. So, we definitely made some progress and we helped a lot of people. They consider this the emergency room of the legal profession because by the time people come to us, they are being evicted or their electricity is turned off or about to be turned off. It opened my eyes to what a person can do with a legal degree and how much she can help.

I also represented two clients at unemployment referee hearings downtown. So, not only did I actually get to help these people, I got an experience that most of my colleagues coming out of their first year of law school didn’t get. I don’t know where my future is going in the legal profession, but I know that I will always have a commitment to Pro Bono work.

I couldn’t have worked at NLS without this Public Interest Scholarship from the LAA, so thank you all so much!

Kelly Ariosto L’09

Jack Goodrich presents the LAA PILA Award to Kelly Ariosto
The 56th Annual Law Alumni Reunion Dinner was held on April 20, 2007 at the Omni William Penn Hotel. Guest speaker was Justice Janice M. Holder, L’75, of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The Distinguished Alumni Award went to William S. Schweers, Sr., L’59, whose award was accepted post mortem by his family. The Honorable Donald E. Machen received the Outstanding Achievement Award, and the Honorable Terrence F. McVerry received the Meritorious Service Award.

Justice Janice M. Holder

(Left to right) Judge Terrence F. McVerry, Carl Schiffman, Dean Guter, Robert Marino, and Richard Rosenthal
Dinner

Kathryn Schweers and David Hickton
1972
Henry S. Perkins was appointed Federal Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Jeffrey Wright has been elected president of the Pennsylvania Ski and Winter Sports museum, which is based at the Camelback Ski Area.

1973
Kenneth P. Davie a partner in the Harrison, NJ firm of Cifelli & Davie, was reappointed Assistant Town Attorney for the town of Kearny, NJ. Ken also recently coached his high school soccer team to their 3rd consecutive Hudson County Championship.

1975

Col. Mark S. Fenice was presented with the Legion of Merit upon his retirement from the Pennsylvania National Guard in December 2006. He was also promoted to the honorary rank of Brigadier General by Governor Ed Rendell.

Philip D. Freeman joins the firm of Winstead, P.C., in San Antonio, Texas.

1976
David L. Smiga, United States Steel Corporation's senior counsel-Litigation in the company's Law Department, was recently elected chairman of the Allegheny County Bar Association's Environmental section.

1977
David V. Breen was appointed to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution.

1979
Ingrid Lundberg, shareholder in the Pittsburgh office of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C., was elected Chair of the Allegheny County Bar Association Health Law Committee.

Mary K. McDonald, a partner with McCarthy, McDonald, Schulberg & Joy, was appointed by Mayor Luke Ravenstahl to a 4-year term on the City of Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations.

Anthony J. Plastino II has joined Jones, Gregg, Creehan & Gerace, LLP.

Paul Yagelski, an attorney at Rothman Gordon, P.C., has been re-certified as a Creditor's Rights Specialist by the American Board of Certification.

1980
Charlotte S. Jefferies has been appointed to the Pennsylvania Disciplinary Board by the state Supreme Court for a 3-year term.

Veleter Mazyck, chief legal counsel for Atlanta Public Schools, is among 15 prominent education leaders, business executives and high-ranking military officials selected to participate in the 2007 Broad Superintendents Academy. The Broad Academy is a 10-month executive training program to train top executives to lead urban, public school districts.

Elaine M. Rinaldi, a member of the Subrogation and Recovery Department of Cozen O’Conner, Philadelphia, began a 2-year term as president of the Philadelphia Bar Foundation on January 1, 2007.

1983
Carol A. Behers, a principal of Raphael, Ramsden & Behers, was named to the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute for a 3-year term.

Nathaniel E.P. Ehrlich, a partner at the Reading law firm Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman & Smalley, has been named to the Juniata College Board of Trustees.

Andrea Geraghty, of Geraghty & Associates, was named to the Killbuck Township Landslide Task Force Advisory Committee by the Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission.

Manning J. O’Connor was named senior partner to the management committee of Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl.
James M. Sanders was appointed senior vice-president, general counsel, and corporate secretary of Sharper Image Corporation.

Samuel S. Woodhouse established his own law firm, the Woodhouse Law Firm in Atlanta, Georgia.

1984
Sheila Arcuri was elected president of the Washington County Bar Association for 2007-08.

The Honorable Michael McCarthy was sworn in on July 19, 2007 as judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

Melaine Shannon Rothey joined Jones, Gregg, Creehan & Gerace, LLP.

June F. Swanson, with the firm Geraghty & Associates, was elected to the executive council of the Allegheny County Bar Association, Women in the Law Division.

1985
The Honorable Cathleen Bubash was sworn in on July 19, 2007 as judge of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

1986
Jeanine Fonner is a co-founder of the law firm Roger Wise & Associates, focusing in estate, tax, corporate and elder law along with civil litigation, mediation and arbitration.

Kathleen Doolin Schneider was honored at the 2007 Celebrate and Share Women of Achievement Award Breakfast in Pittsburgh.

1987
Senator Jane Clare Orie was elected by her colleagues to serve as the first woman Majority Whip for the 2007-08 legislative session.

Jeanne Welch Sopher joined the Pittsburgh office of Rawle & Henderson as a partner, concentrating her practice on medical professional liability, toxic tort and product liability.

1988
Joseph H. Bucci joined Houston Harbaugh, P.C. as a director in the Litigation Department.

Gregg Zagarelli published the book, One, the Unification of the Four Gospels of Jesus Christ.

1989
Patricia L. Blais has been named Manager of the Foreclosure/Evictions department for the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia offices of Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A.

Christopher Passodelis joined Blumling & Gusky, L.L.P. as a partner in the corporate and commercial practice group.

1990
James C. Heneghan joined Edgar Snyder & Associates.

Maureen Kowalski, shareholder in the Pittsburgh office of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C., was elected treasurer of the Allegheny County Bar Association Workers’ Compensation Section.

Donna Marie Zotter retired from private practice and started her own culinary consulting business, There’s a Chef in My Kitchen.

1991
Donna J. Geary was elevated to partner of the Pittsburgh office of Jackson Lewis.

Elizabeth Tarasi of Tarasi & Tarasi was named to the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

Robert Walter announced the formation of a new law firm, Poerio, Walter & Mason, Inc. specializing in worker’s compensation litigation, and representing a wide variety of self-insured employers and insurance carriers.
1993
Karen Y. Bonvalot joined Sherrard, German & Kelly as a shareholder and director. Karen also coaches the Woodland Hills High School Mock Trial team, which won the Allegheny County Mock Trial Competition for the second time this year.

Kelly Jones, an attorney with Thorp Reed and Armstrong, was appointed to the ACBA Services, Inc. Board of Directors by the Allegheny County Bar Association Board of Governors.

1994
Julian E. Gray, a Certified Elder Law Attorney and Shareholder of Springer Bush & Perry, P.C., has been elected to a 3-year term serving on the Pennsylvania Bar Association Elder Law Section Council.

1995
Deborah A. Rouse has been elected to partner at in the Pittsburgh office of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP. Deborah practices in the Business Services—Real Estate group.

James P. Thomas was promoted to partner at Pepper Hamilton LLP and was featured in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette article, *Religion at Work: A Growing Number of Discrimination Cases Center on Employees’ Beliefs* (August 28, 2007).

Dennis R. Very was elected to “of counsel” with Pepper Hamilton LLP.

1996
Samuel M. Difatta is a junior partner at The Cook Law Group.

Robert C. Gallo II was appointed Executive Vice-President and General Counsel of MED3000.

Kurt F. Fernsler has joined Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C. as a senior associate in the firm’s Construction Services Group.

Joseph C. Safer was elected to partner at K&L Gates in their antitrust and competition law group.

John Tedder is a partner at the Pittsburgh office of Duane Morris, LLP in the Trial Practice Group.

John W. Zatkos, Jr. has been promoted to partner of Rothman Gordon, P.C.

1997
Melissa J. Tea was elected to partner at K&L Gates in their commercial litigation group.

1998
Ronald T. Aulbach was elected to partner at K&L Gates. He concentrates his practice in tax law.

Timothy S. Burns was named an “Up and Comer for 2007” by Johnstown Magazine for his pro bono work.

Gregory S. Cooper was elected a partner in the Fort Wayne office of Barnes & Thornburg LLP. He is a member of the Intellectual Property Department.

Brent Fewell has joined Hunton & Williams LLP in Washington D.C.

David E. Gould was promoted to shareholder at the Pittsburgh office of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney. He practices in the technology transactions group.

Leo Pandeladis appointed as Deputy State Treasurer and Chief Counsel of the Pennsylvania Treasury Department.

Terry A. Shulsky is now a shareholder in the Pittsburgh office of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney. He is a member of the firm’s bankruptcy and creditor’s rights practice group.

1999
Derek J. Ferace was hired as general in-house counsel at Parkvale Bank.

Melissa Furrer Miller, husband David, and son Adam Trent welcomed Jack William into their family on September 5.

2000
David J. DelFiandra was promoted to partner at Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl, LLC.
Matthew J. Doz was hired as an associate in the litigation group of Burns, White & Hickton.

Leslie Britton Dozier gave birth to a baby boy, Evan.

Michael Faber, an associate at Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C., was elected as Council Member to the Allegheny County Bar Association Workers’ Compensation Section.

Jonnie S. Joseph, attorney for Women’s Center and Shelter, was elected to the Allegheny County Board of Governors.

Adam Palmer, Director of the Office of Legal Counsel for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, was awarded the 2006 Community Service Award by the Washington D.C. Association of Corporate Counsel.

Bobbi Britton Tucker gave birth to a baby girl, Gabrielle Nicole.

2001
Kenneth C. Foltz, Sr. joined Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl.

Linda Varrenti Hernandez was named as the new Gender Equality Coordinator for the Allegheny County Bar Association, the first position of its kind in the nation.

Brian H. Leinhauser has joined Lamb McErlane, P.C., as an associate in the Post-Trial and Appellate Law Practice Group.

Danielle M. Vugrinovich has joined the Pittsburgh office of Marshall, Dennehy, Warner, Coleman & Goggin in the firm’s Professional Liability Group.

2002
A. Brad Collins just began a two-year expatriate position in India, leading a portion of Deloitte Tax Services there. Brad’s advice to everyone is “you can truly do a lot with a law degree”.

Nick DeFulisi, president and CEO of CNX Gas Corp., was featured in an article in SmartBusiness Pittsburgh called Stepping on the Gas.

Justin Lewis joined The Cook Law Group as a junior partner.

Adam Perza and his wife, Kasey Leigh, welcomed their first child, Kayleigh Jane, on April 12.

Michele Currence Primis and her husband, Ben, welcomed a baby girl, Madelyn Victoria, to their family.

Jeff Zatorski joined Grossman Yanak & Ford LLP as an associate in the tax services group.

2003
Michael Bushwack was hired as an associate at Dickie McCamey & Chilcote in Pittsburgh.

Morgan A. Evans joined Grogan Graffam P.C. as an associate concentrating her practice in estate planning, elder law, real estate and commercial litigation.

Shirley Ann Hall was elected to the board of directors of the National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), which represents official court reporters and providers of captioning and realtime transcription services.

Christine R. Hardy was hired as an associate in the workers’ compensation group of Burns, White & Hickton.

Marla N. Presley, an associate in the Pittsburgh office of Dickie McCamey & Chilcote, was elected council member of the Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division.

Karen D. Pressler is an associate with The Cook Law Group.

2004
Stephen A. Buchianeri joined Eckert Seaman Cherin and Mellott, LLC as an associate.
Carlos R. Diaz has joined the Pittsburgh office of Burns, White & Hickton LLC as an associate.

James J. Esposito, a member of Curtin & Heefner LLP’s Real Estate Section, recently served as a panel member at the third annual “Landlord Gala” presented by the Bucks County Fair Housing Committee.

Kathleen G. Sheehan joined the Pittsburgh office of Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP as an associate.

Samuel J. Toney IV joined Sherrard, German & Kelly as an associate.

Jackie West Obara and husband, David, welcomed a baby girl to their family in September 2007.

Stephen A. Antonelli joined the Pittsburgh law firm of Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C. as an associate in the Employment and Labor Services and Litigation Services Groups.

Jason Michael English joined Willman & Arnold LLP as an associate attorney.

Justine Mack is an associate with Lavin, O’Neil, Ricci, Cedrone & DiSipio.

Karen O. Myrick joined Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP as an associate in the Tax Practice Group.

Gregory B. Proffitt has joined Robb Leonard Mulvihill as an associate.

Jessica A. Keating joined the Business Restructuring and Insolvency Practice Group at Bernstein Shur, in Portland, ME.

Kathryn M. Kenyon joined Pietragallo, Bosick & Gordon as an associate in the litigation defense practice group.

Derek K. Koget is an associate at Goehring Rutter & Boehm, focusing his practice on real estate, business, school and municipal law and commercial litigation.

Mark S. Kubiak, Assistant Attorney General of the Antitrust and Consumer Litigation Section for the Commonwealth of Virginia, was instrumental in settling a case with Rosemont Auto Title Loans and Oceana Auto Title Loans, two title lenders operating out of Virginia Beach, for violations of Virginia’s Consumer Finance Act. The settlement calls for repayment of monies to the class of affected borrowers.

Dr. Gary A. Nitowski is an associate in the Pittsburgh office of Pepper Hamilton, LLP in the intellectual property practice group.

Aaron M. Ponzo was hired as an associate at Dickie McCamey & Chilcote in Pittsburgh.

Nikki L. Velisaris is an associate with Rothman Gordon, P.C.

Dawn M. George gave birth to a baby girl.

Randy K. Hareza  L’88
Bruce Bagin  L’83
David Ward Murphy  L’73
Matt Ammon  L’99
Linda Turner Cobb  L’79
Eva Anne Vogeley  L’88
William S. Schweers, Sr.  L’59
Herman C. Kimpel  L’62
Edward Fagan  L’50
John T. Richards, Jr.  L’59
Marianna E. Specter  L’81
Andrew Ranger  L’02
John H. Kirkwood  L’64

We want to hear from you!

Please contact the alumni office at lawalumni@duq.edu or 412-396-5215 with your recent achievements, recognitions and advancements. (See the mail-in card).

We are pleased to announce that a tremendous number of Duquesne University Law Alumni have been selected as Pennsylvania SuperLawyers and Rising Stars. As our space here is limited, we have posted these alumni on our website (www.law.duq.edu).
In the Spotlight: Nicole Scialabba, L ‘06

Neighborhood Legal Services attorney Nicole Scialabba has one of the best kept secrets of any alumni; she is a member of the National Women’s Football Association team, the Pittsburgh Passion. This year, the team went undefeated and ultimately captured the national championship on July 21 in Nashville, TN. Law Alumni Director, Jeanine DeBor, recently caught up with Nicole about the success of the team and her impressive legal career to date.

Tell us a little bit about yourself.
I’m originally from Beaver County (Ambridge) but my family moved to York when I was in high school. I came back to go to Duquesne for undergrad and law school (I did the 3/3 program). I have always wanted to play football, but my dad wouldn’t let me when I was younger; he was worried I would knock my teeth out. I was a dancer and cheerleader all my life but always wanted to play. As soon as I heard about it, I couldn’t wait to try out!

Where do you live now?
In the South Side for a little over 3 years.

What is your favorite restaurant?
This is a really hard question, because I love to eat! I guess my favorite Italian is Buca di Beppo and my favorite steak place is Outback.

Why did you go to law school?
I have wanted to go to law school since I was in second grade. I am the first attorney in my family. I just decided in seventh or eighth grade that I wanted to go to Duquesne because no one in my family had gone to Duquesne before me, and because I wanted to do the 3-3 program.
What awards/recognition did you receive while in law school?

During my third year, I was the chair of the Public Interest Law Association and the Pro Bono Student Coordinator. I received the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Law Student Pro Bono Award for 2005 and was honored with that award at a dinner in the fall 2006. At the Awards dinner over graduation weekend, I was awarded the John J. Sciuillo Peer Excellency Award. I was extremely honored to receive that award because I was nominated by a classmate and then my peers and professors voted on who would receive it. I was surprised and a little overwhelmed when my name was announced at the dinner.

What drew you to Public Interest Law?

I went to law school because I wanted to become a district attorney. Once in law school, I became involved with PILA and then interned at Neighborhood Legal Services during the second semester of my second year. The summer after my second year, I interned for KidsVoice. Once I became involved with PILA and interning at those public interest organizations, I really felt that my education should be used to help people that are unable to help themselves or don’t know where to go to get help. I believe that my degree should be used to make society better and help people. I think I was a social worker in another life!

Tell us about the Passion.

The team was founded in 2002, and the 2007 was our fifth season. We originally were part of the National Women’s Football Association but we just made a switch a couple weeks ago to the Independent Women’s Football League. Both leagues have big and small city teams and are all-women full contact/tackle football. No one on the staff of the Passion gets paid. The coaches, trainers, players; we are all there voluntarily. The team has been featured in Sports Illustrated (2005) and this past season, one of our games was featured on ESPN’s top ten plays of the day! Those are the two major media outlets we have been in. Our games are on “on demand” on Comcast, and there are now numerous articles and TV spots about our team due to our recent success this season. The Pittsburgh Passion established the Passion Foundation in July 2006 whose focus and mission is to “teach life lessons through sport”. We partnered up with Propel Charter Schools and mentored 15 girls twice a week at the Propel Charter School in Homestead during the spring 2007. I was a mentor for the program and plan on continuing; it was a huge success and I can’t wait to start that up again!

How did you get involved with the Passion?

I found out about the Passion through a friend of a friend and I had every intention of trying out for the 2006 season. I also found them in a Sports Illustrated issue in 2005. I looked them up online right around Christmas 2005 and saw that they already had their 2006 team. I made sure to keep a watchful eye on the website during the next year so I would not miss try outs again. In the fall of 2006, I tried out for the team; I didn’t have anyone trying out with me nor did I know anyone on the team. I merely showed up and went through it. I have loved it ever since!

What is your position?

My position for the 2007 was inside linebacker and I also played special teams, but I am definitely going to go for an outside linebacker position this season.

What was it like winning the championship?

This season has been so amazing!! From the first time I got involved, I knew this was something I wanted to work hard for. We had informal fall practices 3 days a week just playing flag football, running routes, conditioning. In January, we went to indoor facilities, practicing 3 nights per week with the full pads. In mid-March we moved outdoors to our home field (Cupples Stadium, South Side) for practices on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. When the season started at the end of April, we also had games on Saturday nights. There were so many players on the team that came back for this last season and they kept saying what a great group of rookies they had this year. It was really amazing to come together as a team and work so hard to reach our goal of not only a championship title, but an undefeated season!

What’s next on your agenda?

I plan on running the 5k in the Great Race and becoming more involved with the ACBA – YLD.
The American Bar Association Law Student Division recently announced at its annual meeting that *Juris Magazine* won in the category of Best Overall Magazine for 2007 for the fall 2006 and winter 2007 editions. This is the 12th time the magazine has received top honors in this category. Some of the outstanding staff involved with these publications are pictured above, from left to right: Jenyce Michelle Woodruff, L’08; Jacki Mirowitz, L’07, Editor-in-Chief of the Winter edition; Catherine B. Pober, L’07; and Kelly Geer, L’07. The faculty advisors were Professors Ken Gormley, Kirk Junker, John Rago and Robert Taylor.

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The Law School was pleased to welcome the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces on March 15, 2007 as part of its “Project Outreach”. The Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces has jurisdiction over members of the armed forces on active duty and all other subjects to the Uniform Code of Military Justice. For military appeals, the Court is second only to the United States Supreme Court.

The Court entertained argument on the case of United States v. Harvey A. Gardinier II. Duquesne Law Student April Trimble was selected to deliver an amicus argument to the Court. Sal Bauccio assisted with the writing of the brief. The Law School was proud and honored that April and Sal participated in this argument.

Sarah Riley won the prestigious 2007 Burton Award for her article, *Title IX Prohibits Retaliation Against Plaintiff Who Complains of Sex Discrimination, Even if Plaintiff is Not recipient of Original Claim of Discrimination: Jackson v. Birmingham Board of Education*. The Burton Award is modeled after the Pulitzer Prize and recognizes excellence in legal writing. Congratulations! 🎉

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**STUDENT BRIEFS**

**Moot Court Teams are Successful Again!**

*National Trial Competition:* Finalist, 2007 (Class of 2008—Amie Mihalko, Michael Herald, Britt Freund, Lyle Dresbold, Lauren Applegate, Julie Werner)

*Buffalo Niagara Tournament:* Best Cross-Examination Award, Fall 2006 (Lauren Melfa L’07)

*National Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys Competition:* Best Advocate, Fall 2006 (April Trimble L’07)

*Gourley Cup:* Best Advocate, 2007 (Katie Charlton L’08)

*American Association for Justice (AAJ) Student Trial Advocacy Competition:* Finalist (Christopher Boyd L’07, Laura Melfa L’07, Dana Butia L’08, and Timothy Houston L’08) and Semi-Finalist (Michael Calder L’07 and Michael Waltman L’07, Lisa Goodman L’08, and Ashley Fowler L’08)

Sarah Riley
Message from the SBA President

As President of the Student Bar Association, I am fortunate to lead a dedicated group of individuals who care more about others in the community than they do about themselves. Because of our commitment to those around us and our eagerness and ability to affect change, we recognize that, as law students, we are in a unique position to positively impact our school and community.

In addition to acting as the Law School’s governing body by reviewing policies and procedures, one of SBA’s main goals is to provide Duquesne Law Students with opportunities to reach out to those around them. Even though we are a small group, we have the energy and passion to enrich and strengthen our community.

On Saturday, September 15th, two dozen law students participated in the “Wheelchair Grand Prix,” an event that raised money for Variety, the Children’s Charity. The event was sponsored by the Variety Young Professionals, a group of young people committed to providing life-saving and life-enriching assistance to physically disabled children in need throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

On Saturday, October 13th, the 11th Annual Katie Westbrook Run/Walk was held in memory of Katie, who passed away from a rare form of bone cancer when she was just 15 years old. All proceeds were donated to the Katie Westbrook Award, which is presented annually to an individual who demonstrates a clear passion for advocacy and the practice of law, and to “Katie’s Fund” at UPMC Children’s Hospital, which supports research and ongoing clinical needs for the Hematology/Oncology Department.

Additionally, thirty students are involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh, mentoring youths in the area. We participate in the “on-site” program where volunteers meet with their “littles” once a week, providing them with companionship, help with schoolwork or other fun activities. Our volunteers are rewarded when their “littles” say they want to become attorneys and Big Brothers or Sisters when they grow up. To some, these comments may seem insignificant, but they mean the world to us.

I look forward with optimism to this school year that SBA will make a difference as both an organization and a student body. We proceed with Margaret Mead’s notable quote in mind, “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” While SBA does not set about to change the world, we take small, but important steps to improve our school and community, and if, in the process, we gain the respect of our community, peers and distinguished administration, faculty and alumni of the Law School, I will consider our endeavors a success.

Amie Mihalko, L ’08

“SBA WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE AS BOTH AN ORGANIZATION AND A STUDENT BODY”
Wecht Institute’s 2008 Conference to Examine The Fact and Fiction of “CSI” Culture

By Benjamin Wecht, Program Administrator

As any primetime TV viewer or bookstore browser knows, the “CSI” craze is enjoying more than a mere 15 minutes of fame. In fact, as forensic science continues to exert its influence over the television and publishing industries, criminal and civil legal practitioners are increasingly encountering its effects in the form of heightened juror expectations and more ambitious adversaries.

In recognition of both the positive and negative consequences of this interaction, the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law has selected as the topic of its 2008 Annual Conference, Where Truth Meets Fiction: A National Symposium on the Intersection of Forensic Science and Popular Culture. Scheduled for the evening of Thursday, April 3 through Saturday, April 5 in Duquesne University’s new Power Center Ballroom, the program is intended to help forensic professionals and the makers of forensic science-driven popular culture arrive at a greater understanding of the significant ways in which they can learn from and contribute to one another’s work, as well as to engage individuals from both worlds in a dialogue about the so-called “CSI Effect.”

Among the program’s confirmed faculty to date are crime authors Jan Burke, Lee Goldberg, Jon Jefferson, D.P. Lyle and Robert Tanenbaum; forensic scientific practitioners Henry Lee, Katherine Ramsland, Michael Welner and Dr. Wecht himself; and legal scholars Jim Starrs and George Annas. Also anticipated are producers and writers from both primetime dramas and cable news channels.

“We are tremendously excited about the prospects for both a scholarly exchange of information and ideas and an inside look at the pop culture machinery that next year’s conference topic presents,” said Dr. Wecht, chairman of the Institute’s Advisory Board and a longtime adjunct professor at the Law School. “We are confident that this will be one of our best attended annual conferences yet.”

Established in the fall of 2000, the Wecht Institute collaborates with the University’s schools of Law, Nursing and Natural and Environmental Sciences, as well as other University departments and academic institutions throughout the region, to offer graduate degree and professional certificate programs in forensic science and law to a diverse group of students. Since 2000, the Institute also has hosted an annual conference that convenes local and national experts from a wide variety of disciplines in an effort to shed light upon a particular set of issues. As the first and only set of forensic science programs housed at a law school, the Institute is nationally unique.

For more information or to add your name to the Wecht Institute’s mailing list, please visit us at www.forensics.duq.edu, or contact us at wechtinstitute@duq.edu or 412-396-1330.
Career Services Update

By Ella A. Kwisnek, Assistant Dean for Students

This year the Career Services Office (CSO) is focusing on technological upgrades. In October, we will be switching from the eAttorney online job posting and recruiting tool to Symplicity. Symplicity is now used by the majority of law schools and offers many additional features that will enable the office to provide its students and alumni with the most up to date recruiting tools.

The CSO continues to offer its slate of informational programs. This year’s programs included the following: Interviewing Skills, Judicial Clerkships, Beyond Fall Recruiting, First Year Orientation, Careers in Children’s Advocacy, Mock Interviews, Government Careers, Utilizing Streaming Placements in the Job Search, and Careers in Energy and Mineral Law. The CSO also co-sponsored speaking events with a number of student organizations.

In spring 2008, the CSO is planning a practice area table talk event. Alumni from various practice areas will be asked to spend an hour or two at the Law School to answer student questions about their practice areas. If you would like to participate, contact Ella Kwisnek at 412-396-6279 or kwisnek@duq.edu for more information.

Despite the difficult entry-level market locally, placement for the class of 2006 was 96.4% six months after graduation. Of those reporting, the types of employment and percentages of 2006 graduates employed in each category were as follows.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private Practice</td>
<td>55.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>22.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judicial Clerkships</td>
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<td>8.3</td>
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<td>3.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The CSO is more than happy to assist alumni in meeting their employment needs by posting positions or by providing resumes from our Alumni Resume Bank. We also regularly assist alumni who are making career transitions, whether it is to another firm or practice area or to an alternative career. To learn more about our services, visit us on line at www.law.duq.edu/career and click on “Alumni,” e-mail us at lawcareers@duq.edu, or call 412-396-6559.

Pro Bono Program Update

Duquesne University School of Law’s Pro Bono Program continues to work with the Allegheny County Bar Association and with various public interest law organizations in Pittsburgh to develop opportunities for students to assist legal aid organizations and attorneys working on pro bono projects.

This fall, we will be mailing a brochure to all law firms in the Pittsburgh area to inform them of this valuable service. By providing law students willing to volunteer their time to help make a difference, the Program hopes to increase the number of disadvantaged persons in our community receiving pro bono legal assistance.

If you need a student to help you with a pro bono case, contact the Pro Bono Program Office at probonolaw@duq.edu or (412) 396-1905.
Staff Updates

Jeanine L. DeBor was hired as the Director of Law Alumni Relations in June. Jeanine received her B.A. cum laude from Duquesne University and her J.D. from The Dickinson School of Law. She most recently was a child advocate at KidsVoice, representing abused and neglected children in Allegheny County.

Estelle Feltovich joined the Law Alumni Relations Office as Assistant in May. Estelle earned a B.A. in French and English Literature from the University of Pittsburgh. Most recently, Estelle worked as a customer service representative at Thomas & McMenamin Insurance Services.

Joe Campion, Admissions Director, was recently appointed to serve as a member of the Annual Meeting and Educational Conference 2008 Planning Work Group of the Law School Admission Council (LSAC). Campion also continues to serve in his second term as an Associate Member of the Executive Board of the Northeast Association of Pre-Law Advisors (NAPLA). 📝
We’re renaming Alum News!

We need YOUR IDEAS

Submit YOUR creative name which exemplifies the spirit and mission of The Law School.

The winner will be featured in our next issue, and will be recognized at the Reunion Dinner on April 18, 2008.

Submit to Jeanine DeBor at deborj@duq.edu
Dean Guter swears in three of our students into the Judge Advocate General’s Corps. Left to right: Sarah Cottrill, L ’06, Tracy Hoffman, L ’07, and Guy Reschenthaler, L ’07.