“Our Second Century Has Arrived”

This has been a year unlike any other for Duquesne Law School. We celebrated our centennial in grand style—it would have made a hundred years’ worth of past Law School graduates proud. Now, the first months of our second century have arrived.

Already, we have shattered past fundraising goals. I am proud to report that our Centennial Fundraising Campaign is now the most successful non-building fundraising campaign in the history of the Law School. Thus far, we have received over $2 million in gifts and pledges, eclipsing the former record of $1.16 million raised during the “Celebration of Excellence” in the 1990s. Equally remarkable, every class with living graduates contributed to the fundraising drive—an unprecedented level of participation.

Our Centennial Campaign is not yet over. My goal, before it is complete, is to break the $3.1 million record set in the late 1970s, when the current building—Edward J. Hanley Hall—was constructed to move the Law School out of Rockwell Hall. As was true when that earlier generation marshaled resources to provide students with a new home and facilities in which to transform themselves into sharp lawyers and confident professionals, we must give our students the best educational environment possible, so that they can excel in an increasingly competitive market.

Today, as legal education continues to evolve, Duquesne Law School is desperately in need of a new home for its Clinic. Across the country, law schools are recognizing the importance of teaching students practical skills through top-notch clinical experiences. Duquesne is already ahead of its time—we have long emphasized practical training; our clinics are already a major force in the region. (See story on page 19.) But success and progress have caused us to outgrow our space. In addition, we have increasingly recognized the need to move our clinic into the midst of the community, so that our students can directly serve clients and receive on-the-ground experience while contributing to society on a broad and meaningful scale. That is the essence of a Duquesne law degree. It is what sets our graduates apart from all others.

We have hired a fabulous new Director of Clinical Legal Education, Professor Laurie Serafino, a true superstar from California who has been directing the clinic at Pepperdine Law School for over 15 years. Professor Serafino comes to us with a wealth of experience and ambitious new goals. She will be assisted by Professor Tracey McCants Lewis (who was recently promoted to a tenure-track position), Professor Joseph Sabino Mistick (who founded our Clinic two decades ago) and our talented Law Clinic team. We are now poised to achieve national prominence with our Clinic, just as we did with our Legal Research & Writing program—now ranked sixth in the United States—several years ago. That was made possible because an anonymous alumnus stepped forward to fund the beautiful Bridget & Al Peláez Legal Writing Center, literally transforming this program and our Law School.

The University has acquired a building on Fifth Avenue, across from the CONSOL Energy Center in a vibrant area of Uptown Pittsburgh that would serve our needs for the Clinic perfectly. We are now seeking individual alumni, law firms and other donors to make our dream become a reality by naming the Law Clinic program itself; naming the building on Fifth Avenue that will house it; and naming other components of the whole—the spectacular new conference room, the moot court room and the faculty office areas—that will make up the impressive, state-of-the-art new Law Clinic. (See sidebar on page 21.)

This dream of the Law School will only materialize if alumni with vision and commitment to the future step forward, just as others have stepped forward in the past to allow bold new changes to occur so that our graduates can walk into the arena of legal practice and excel in every way.

Duquesne Law School’s second century has finally arrived. I invite you to take a step forward and etch your name into it for posterity.

With deep appreciation,

Ken Gormley
Dean and Professor of Law
Order Your Copy of the Centennial Book

To order copies of our beautiful 100-page, full-color commemorative Centennial book, *One Hundred Years of Excellence*, please contact the Law Alumni office at 412.396.5215 or lawalumni@duq.edu.

Price: $25

Proceeds will benefit Law School projects.
Appellate Decision Making and Appellate Advocacy: ONE JUDGE’S VIEW

An afternoon with Judge Richard A. Posner, inaugural recipient of the Murray Award for Excellence in Scholarship

*Frank Stoy, President, Appellate Moot Court Board*

Dean Ken Gormley and University Chancellor John E. Murray Jr. present Judge Richard A. Posner with the Murray Award. The Excellence in Scholarship award was made possible by an endowment fund established by Dr. Murray in 2011 to enhance and enrich the scholarly environment and culture at Duquesne Law School.
Judge Richard A. Posner’s appearance at the Law School on March 22, 2012, gave all in attendance the opportunity to hear insight from one of our judicial system’s most well-known appellate judges. Through listening to Judge Posner’s prepared remarks, as well as his answers to questions posed by the students, professors and practitioners in attendance, the audience was able to gain a window into the mind of a brilliant legal scholar. While all were fortunate to have this experience, the students in attendance, particularly those with an interest in appellate advocacy, stood to benefit the most.

Over the course of the 2011-12 academic year, I have had the privilege of serving as President of the Law School’s inaugural Appellate Moot Court Board. Many students are attracted to appellate moot court because it allows them to step into the shoes of an advocate arguing in front of the highest courts in our judicial system. Accordingly, students who participate in this co-curricular activity must create, both in writing and orally, intricate arguments that are based not only on the facts of a particular case, but also on the law. In short, a successful appellate advocate must generate persuasive, scholarly arguments.

Needless to say, I was very excited when I found out that Judge Posner was coming to Duquesne to speak. He has served on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit for over 20 years and is precisely the type of influential jurist young law students dream of appearing in front of someday. As such, the prospect of hearing him lecture was thrilling, and the experience did not disappoint.

In particular, the judge’s reflection upon the influence of technology on the law seemed particularly appropriate given the role played by computers, the Internet and social media in our everyday lives. Most of us in law school today have grown up with these things and take them for granted. In contrast, Judge Posner, at age 73, has watched the advent of information technology from his seat on the Seventh Circuit bench. Nevertheless, the judge has chosen to regard the increased access to information provided by the Internet as a useful tool rather than as something to be regarded with suspicion. As mentioned during his talk, the lawyers who argue in front of appellate courts would prefer to be the ones providing all of the information about the case. But with judges now possessing the ability to obtain outside insight simply by typing a few terms into Google or by doing a quick search on Wikipedia, this is no longer a reality.

Indeed, as noted by Judge Posner, the issues of fact involved in many cases have become increasingly complex due to the new technologies involved. Non-traditional litigation ranging from complicated consumer products to the financial industry present judges with new and complex questions. In law school, we are made aware of this problem, but tend to view it from the eyes of the practitioner. Judge Posner’s talk astutely pointed out that the bench must also confront this problem in order to render proper decisions. While this seems daunting, Judge Posner’s point seemed to be that although the ever-changing nature of technology may complicate a case in many different ways, it can also be a source of answers to those complex questions.

Judge Posner’s willingness to rely upon new sources of information in order to arrive at the right decision provides a very subtle example of why he is so highly regarded. But more than that, it is an important lesson for students to take away. Hopefully, we can all go forward and approach the practice of law with the same level of pragmatism and resourcefulness.
In a profession where there’s no more valuable commodity than an indisputable fact, the novel idea that having an attorney take six months off is good for business would seem to demand some supporting evidence.

At the Washington County (Pa.) law firm of Peacock Keller, however, you’ll just have to take their word for it.

“There was a concern at the outset that our sabbatical program would adversely affect the bottom line. It has not. We’ve done a good job of making sure that our clients experience no change in service,” says Doug Nolin, a 1984 Duquesne Law graduate and Peacock Keller partner. “It’s benefitted the individual partners and the firm as a whole.”

Nolin’s colleague, managing partner Jon Higie, agrees.

“This has done nothing but make us a better law firm,” Higie says of the innovative program, which dictates that partners of 10 years step away from the profession for six months—with full compensation and benefits.

“From a firm-management perspective, I honestly can’t think of one bad thing.”

Nevertheless, Nolin recalls that the idea was met with some skepticism when it was floated during the mid-'90s.

“It took a lot of thinking outside the box, in terms of getting people to think about more than billable hours. In 1995, there was one attorney who said ‘This is absurd. This will never happen,’” Nolin says.

But during the next several years, Nolin and others continued to make their case. Slowly, attitudes began to change.

“For some reason, the longer you hear about the concept, the less crazy it seems,” Higie explains. “We got to the point where we thought there was enough support to develop a proposal.”

By 2001, Peacock Keller’s leadership was sold.

“When it was finally voted on, it actually passed very easily,” Nolin says.

The idea for a mandatory sabbatical actually dates to the start of Nolin’s career in 1986, when senior partner Charles Keller became president of Rotary International. The responsibilities associated with running the national service organization amounted to a second full-time job, leaving young attorneys like Nolin to fill the void with Peacock Keller.

“It impacted me directly. I assisted in covering a lot of litigation work, and it made a huge difference in my professional growth,” Nolin says. “So I had that experience in my mind as we thought about this. I felt it would be beneficial to younger attorneys.”

That’s why Higie believes that a sabbatical program enhances the strength of his 19-attorney firm.

“There hasn’t been any adverse effect with regard to income,” Higie says, explaining that the firm works closely with clients to ensure they experience no disruption in service.
“I’m not sure that a firm much smaller than ours could do it, but I’m confident that a firm the same size or larger could do it,” he adds. “If you are in such a position that one person leaving affects a client, then you have a failure in your law firm.”

Nevertheless, sabbatical programs like Peacock Keller’s remain rare, according to Duquesne University School of Law Professor Rona Kaufman Kitchen.

“I’ve never heard of a six-month sabbatical being part of established benefits. I think it’s really incredible,” says Kaufman Kitchen, an expert in labor and family law. In general, she says, businesses incur significant hidden costs related to employee stress.

“The statistics are really powerful,” she says. “Job-related stress costs businesses $344 billion a year in absenteeism, lost productivity and health costs.”

Having finished his sabbatical in November, Nolin represents the ninth Peacock Keller partner to participate in the program. He likened the experience to a “halftime break” for his career.

“I have a wife and two kids in high school. We traveled for about six weeks out West, to the Grand Canyon, San Francisco, Yellowstone. We saw places that I didn’t even know existed,” says Nolin, who’s been a partner with Peacock Keller since 1993. “It was a wonderful experience—very relaxing.”

Like any company policy, Peacock Keller administers the sabbatical program under a set of guidelines. The six months can be taken in a single leave, two leaves of three months, or one leave of four months and another of two months. Only one partner per year takes sabbatical, and the leaves are determined by seniority. That way, the partner, the partner’s clients and the firm as a whole are able to plan for the extended absence years in advance.

As for the leave itself, though, there is only one rule.

“The only requirement is that we cannot practice law,” Nolin says.

What a Line-Up! Can you identify our law alumni in this 1979 photo?
THE 1911 BAR EXAMINATION:
HONOR IN THE PROFESSION

Professor Mark D. Yochum

In this season of centennial celebration, I have been examining the practice of law as it was a hundred years ago, at least as to qualification to practice as was tested by the 1911 Pennsylvania bar examination. This foray prompted my production for March 17, 2012, of a three-hour CLE program called “The 1911 Bar Examination” (a shorter version is available).

By 1911, the examination was in two parts, typically taken a year apart. The first part, which one had to pass to get to the second, has been described as a college entrance examination or perhaps in the nature of a capstone examination after a classic liberal arts education. The first part tests literature, mathematics, history and geography. Can you discuss “Hamlet” and its significance? Can you name all the presidents in order and note something significant in their administration (in 1911, you need only make it to Taft)? There was extensive testing of your Latin skills, grammar, vocabulary and translation; how is your Caesar, Virgil, Cicero?

The second part is the legal questions. Of the 30 or so questions, nearly all deal with debt collection (competition with judgment creditors) and decedents’ estates. There is but one tort question, one criminal law question and no constitutional law at all. But, functionally, there was nothing tested in the first part that was tied to the second. That is, as today, a student need not know the kings of England, the rivers of North America, the critical inventions of the 16th century or how Caesar undivided Gaul in order to write a note, execute a judgment or decide ownership among buyer, seller and creditor of one or the other of goods sold.

I have also come into possession of an 1888 Pennsylvania bar examination. Here, there is no preliminary examination, just 15 questions covering about the same legal practice points as in 1911. Indeed, the 1888 examination reflects what is perceived as the custom before bar examinations and state-wide licensing. Lawyers-to-be apprenticed with a lawyer, learned the ropes of practice and law (treatises, mind you, not cases; there were hardly any cases available). County by county, you were questioned by a judge from his bench, and passing meant you could pass his court’s bar.

The 1911 examination and its daunting first-part requirement were designed to keep out undesirables from the profession. Undesirables necessarily lacked the formal and cultural education that would make them facile in the history of the British or the niceties of the Cataline conspiracy. This experience was around the same time that the fairly young American Bar Association accidentally admitted a few black lawyers. When their race was discovered, they were expelled, the last black members of the association until the ’60s.

Even today, the bar examination has been occasionally attacked as culturally biased or de-facto racism, in structure or application. The Florida Supreme Court a few years back took many pains in an opinion responding to charges of racism when the court toughened its exam by raising the passing score by a mere half-percent. Complainants offered that almost all those that would now fail would be people of color.

Lawyers are members of an honorable profession. The special status of the advocate before courts has been recognized for at least 800 years.
Yet I have not looked to the 1911 exam just to confirm that then there were virulent prejudices subsumed in life as in the practice of law. I also saw lawyers struggling, as steam turned electric, with the idea of honor in the profession. What were lawyers supposed to be as people (I could say men) in 1911?

Lawyers are members of an honorable profession. The special status of the advocate before courts has been recognized for at least 800 years. To practice, we take oaths. Only the honorable were permitted to take oaths, the nobility, the knight, the priest. I have in my collection of artifacts of the profession the oath King Roger of Sicily, a Norman, required of the advocates in his courts, from the 14th century with its promises of fidelity and honesty. Our noble heritage is manifest in how we are paid. Lawyers receive fees as in fee simple, a grant steeped in honor and oath. The ordinary receive a salary, worth their salt. Laborers are offered a lowly wage.

In 1911, as perhaps now, lawyers clutch for that honor and nobility. In 1911, all they could see for that status was, perhaps, breeding, the sort of cultural inheritance that would produce a man facile in classic culture, facile enough to smoothly pass part one of the 1911 bar examination. And, in some of the literature of the time (and our time), we can see the fear that that honor, nobility and status were slipping away.

I have another artifact of that age, a 1911 address by Circuit Judge Elmer Adams delivered to the faculty and students of what then was St. Louis University of Law: “What is it to be a Lawyer?” I close this brief note with Judge Adams’ closing. I offer it for your consideration and self-examination, if you will, on what it means to be a lawyer in the 21st century. After extolling the sort of education called for by our 1911 part one exam, he concludes:

[T]here are two kinds of lawyers … The one is an independent, masterful, courageous, honest leader of men and of public thought. A man who advises his clients and tries his causes in the fear of the law and tolerates neither evasion nor subterfuge, the kind which has brought honor and distinction to the profession and fame and renown to the individual. The other is the astute organizer, the servant rather than the master of his client, the apologizer for the wrong instead of champion for the right.

The one is the ideal lawyer of the old time … The other is a new creation of modern times, the commercialized specialist brought into existence and developed to a high state of efficiency by the necessities of our modern business. The honors of the profession, with a reasonable competence, belong, as a rule, to the first class. The second class may for a time reap a greater pecuniary reward, but their position is not comparable to his who practices the law in spirit as well as letter and constantly maintains the time-honored standards of the noble profession to which we belong.
Professor Kenneth Hirsch did a lot of teaching during his 40-year career at Duquesne.

He learned a thing or two along the way, as well.

“About 16 years ago, I realized that the awful process of grading exams is less awful when grading them under a palm tree. So, at the end of each semester, I started taking my exams to exotic places where there are palm trees,” Hirsch says. “I put a chair underneath a palm tree on the beach outside the door of my condo and read exams.”

As tedious as grading papers could be, it represented a minor annoyance compared with the joy and fulfillment of a teaching career that is ending with a well-earned retirement at age 68.

“How can you imagine being paid to talk to bright people about interesting stuff for five or six hours a week?” Hirsch asks rhetorically. “The classes have been the focus of my life, and I’ve had the opportunity to teach lots of courses. I might hold the working record among American law professors,” he says, reeling off subjects such as tax law, corporate law, constitutional law, environmental law, property law and civil rights among the 27 courses he’s taught.

Dean Ken Gormley says that Hirsch has been an anchor at the Law School for the past four decades.

“Everywhere I go, in meeting with prominent alumni and leaders in the profession, I am asked about Professor Ken Hirsch,” Gormley says. “He is universally described as one of the most upbeat, enthusiastic, dedicated professors our current and former students have ever encountered.”
“He is universally described as one of the most upbeat, enthusiastic, dedicated professors our current and former students have ever encountered.” —Dean Ken Gormley

Hirsch’s legacy is far-reaching, Gormley says. “We are excited for Ken as he embarks on this new adventure. He has made a remarkable imprint on legal education at Duquesne, to the great benefit of generations of lawyers and faculty colleagues,” Gormley says.

Since joining the faculty in 1972, the native of Highland Park, Ill., never seriously considered leaving Duquesne. With its commitment to the instruction of aspiring attorneys, Hirsch had found a perfect home.

“Duquesne has long been special in the emphasis on teaching as our primary responsibility. It’s a pleasant place to work. Every year, there’s a new crop of bright young people. And I have a lot of friends on the faculty here,” says Hirsch, who received both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Professor Joseph Sabino Mistick has a unique perspective on Hirsch’s career, having learned under him as a student and worked with him as a colleague.

“In the late 1970s, I had Professor Hirsch for both property law and constitutional law. Ken has the mellifluous voice of a lawgiver combined with a gentle sense of humor that humanizes any subject. As a student, you are first impressed with the majesty of it all, but he quickly stripped away any anxiety and cleared a path to learning. It was a wonderful experience,” Mistick says.

“We have been colleagues since 1993,” he adds. “It took a while to call him ‘Ken’ and not ‘professor,’ but he welcomed me warmly, seeming to take some pride that one of his old students was now a colleague. He was as good a mentor to me on the faculty as he was when I was his student. He will be missed as a teacher and a friend.”

Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Janice Holder also has fond memories of Hirsch, under whom she studied property law.

“He did everything well,” says Holder, a 1975 graduate. “He was enthusiastic. He made the material fun to learn. And I will say that I still remember the material. I was very fortunate to have him.”

Hirsch had been married to his high school sweetheart, Carol, for three years before arriving in Pittsburgh after a short stint teaching at a law school in Georgia.

“I spent nine months, 14 days and three hours in Georgia—but who’s counting?” he says, jokingly. “I had an interview with Duquesne, got an offer and have lived here happily ever since.”

Among his proudest achievements is being elected a member of the prestigious American Law Institute.

“The American Law Institute was founded during the 1920s by leaders in American law at the time and is an elective organization with a couple of thousand members. To say there are a couple of thousand out of a couple of million American lawyers, it’s a rather exclusive group,” Hirsch says. “It’s always interesting to talk with prestigious people who are not at all bashful about their views. It’s a celebration of legal learning and intellect. I’ve been a member for about 30 years and look forward to more as I’m retired.”

The decision to retire was not an easy one, he says. “I love to travel. My children and grandchildren live far away. At age 68, I don’t have a guarantee of many more years of good health for adventures,” he explains. “While I love the classroom and discussion, the benefit of doing this for another year probably is less than having time to travel and see my children. At least I hope that’s a good guess.”

Congratulations and best wishes to professors Margaret Krasik and Robert Taylor as they enter their retirements from full-time teaching. Dean Ken Gormley said of the three distinguished professors, “Their positive impact, as teachers and scholars, on generations of law students will leave a lasting imprint on the profession. We will miss their daily presence, but we hope that they will remain an active part of the Law School community.”
Robert S. Barker

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS


• Feb. 16, 2012: “Latin American Constitutionalism: An Overview,” at the symposium on “Constitutionalism in Emerging and Dynamic Democracies in the Middle East and Latin America,” Willamette University College of Law, Salem, OR.

• Nov. 30, 2011: “El Estado de Derecho y la Independencia Judicial: La Experiencia de los Estados Unidos” at the Seminar on Justicia Constitucional y Estado de Derecho, co-sponsored by the Inter-American Bar Association (IABA) and the Fundación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Económico y Social, in Antiguo Cuscatlán, El Salvador.

PUBLICATIONS

• “El Estado de Derecho y La Independencia Judicial: La Experiencia de los Estados Unidos,” published earlier this year as a chapter of Estado de Derecho, Democracia y Gobernabilidad (Managua, Nicaragua: Imprenta Comercial La Prensa, 2012).

Nicholas Cafardi

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

• March 5, 2012: “Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church: How the Story Has Been ‘Told and How It Has Not Been ‘Told,” Fordham Center on Religion and Culture, Fordham University, New York, NY.

• Feb. 3, 2012: “Fifty Years After the Council, Have the Laity Made a Difference?,” address to Foundations and Donors Interested in Catholic Activities, Coconut Beach, FL.

PUBLICATIONS


• February 2012: Voting and Holiness: Catholic Perspectives on Political Participation, general editor and chapter author, Paulist Press.


Ken Gormley

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS


• April 10, 2012: Speaker, “The Death of American Virtue: Clinton vs. Starr,” Fayette County Bar Association/Penn State Fayette, Uniontown, PA.


• Jan. 5, 2012: Presentation, Chaoyan Lawyer Society, Beijing, China.

MEDIA


Dean Ken Gormley visited Beijing, China, from Jan. 3-8, 2012, at the invitation of the China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), the leading law school in China and the long-time cooperative partner of Duquesne Law School. Professor Frank Y. Liu accompanied Gormley on this remarkable trip, promoting the international exchange of legal education, scholarship and profession.

Kenneth E. Gray

APPOINTMENT

• Advisory Council of the Salvation Army Pittsburgh Temple South Hills Worship and Service Center

Rona Kaufman Kitchen

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

• Feb. 13, 2012: “Off-Balance: An Assessment of Obama’s Implementation of his Work-Family Agenda,” the University of Akron School of Law
• Nov. 15, 2011: “The Value of Mothering,” Continuing Legal Education, Duquesne University School of Law

PUBLICATIONS

• “Eradicating the Mothering Effect: Women as Workers and Mothers, Successfully and Simultaneously,” 26 Wisc. J. L Gender & Soc. 167 (2011)

Bruce Ledewitz

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

• April 13, 2012: “The End of Religion,” Symposium, Duquesne University School of Law
• April 4, 2012: “Church, State, and the Crisis in American Secularism,” Yale Law School
• March 6, 2012: “Belief Today,” undergraduate panel, Duquesne University
• Jan. 12, 2012: “Is There a Crisis in American Secularism?” Pittsburgh Chapter of the Center for Inquiry, Pittsburgh, PA
• Nov. 16, 2011: “One Nation Under God?,” Allegheny YMCA Lectures and Conversations Series, Pittsburgh, PA
• Nov. 3, 2011: “Toward a Meaningful Establishment Clause Neutrality,” Symposium on the Future of the Establishment Clause in Context, Duquesne University School of Law

MEDIA


MEDIA

• Nov. 17, 2011: Interview on Addie Ottlie Morning Show, WSTA Radio, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

PUBLICATIONS

• “A Response to ‘Dr. No;’ The importance of saying ‘yes’ to legal education in America,” The Pennsylvania Lawyer, January/February 2012, pp. 22-25
• “Duquesne Law School 1911-2011,” Spiritan Horizons, Issue 6, Fall 2011, pp. 63-75

MEDIA

• Nov. 17, 2011: Keynote speaker, Author’s Event, The Forum, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Dean Ken Gormley visited Beijing, China, from Jan. 3-8, 2012, at the invitation of the China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL), the leading law school in China and the long-time cooperative partner of Duquesne Law School. Professor Frank Y. Liu accompanied Gormley on this remarkable trip, promoting the international exchange of legal education, scholarship and profession.
Tracey McCants Lewis

MEDIA


AWARDS & APPOINTMENTS

- Decade of Dedication Award, Urban League Young Professionals of Greater Pittsburgh, March 30, 2012
- Chair, Court Administration Vision Team, Office of Public Defender, Allegheny County

Frank Y. Liu

APPOINTMENTS

- Member of the Advisory Council of the University of Texas at Austin, School of Information (UTSI), the world’s top-ranking school in information research and education, for a three-year term

Jane Campbell Moriarty

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

- April 2012: Invited Keynote Speaker at The American Academy of Economic and Financial Experts, Las Vegas, NV
- March 2012: “Women in IP—Ethical Considerations in the Practice of Law,” Jones Day, Pittsburgh, PA
- February 2012: “Neuroscience & Lie Detection,” Wecht Institute Forensic Friday Program

PUBLICATIONS


ELECTED

- January 2012-2013: Chair of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Evidence

Joseph Sabino Mistick

MEDIA


John E. Murray Jr.

PUBLICATION


Nancy Perkins

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS


PUBLICATION


John T. Rago

MEDIA


Ronald J. Ricci

MEDIA

- Dec. 4, 2011: “Not So Fast, Judge Tells SEC, Citi,” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

S. Michael Streib

MEDIA


Mark D. Yochum

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

- March 17, 2012: Continuing Legal Education, “The 1911 Bar Exam,” Duquesne University School of Law
• Feb. 29, 2012: Rotary Student Ethics Seminar, “The Bonehead Play,” Duquesne University
• Feb. 10, 2012: Washington County Bar Association Winter Bench-Bar CLE, “Supervision,” and panel chair on Bankruptcy Practice Primer, Southpointe, PA
• Jan. 26, 2012: Westmoreland County Bar Association CLE, “Honor in the Profession: Sex with Clients,” Greensburg, PA
• Dec. 9, 2011: ACBA Annual Bankruptcy Symposium CLE panel re: Bankruptcy Business Development, Pittsburgh, PA
• Nov. 9, 2011: Association of Corporate Counsel CLE, “The Bonehead Play,” Pittsburgh, PA
• Nov. 4, 2011: Association of Legal Administrators Southwestern Regional Convention, “Ethics in Challenging Times,” Charlotte, NC

Law Library Faculty
Joel Fishman

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS
• The Opinions of Judge David N. Wecht (2003-2010) of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (with Amy Lovell), DCLI/A CLL, 2011

IN MEMORIAM
Samuel J. Astorino—“Dr. Sam” 1932-2012

The Law School community mourns Professor Samuel J. Astorino, who taught generations of students in both history and law at Duquesne University over a period of 48 years. He was an extraordinarily popular professor who cared deeply about students and made a difference in thousands of lives. He himself had an extraordinary life, growing up and working in the steel mills in Carnegie, PA.; serving in the U.S. Army (stationed in Germany in the aftermath of the Berlin Airlift); serving as a special clerk to Justice Nicholas Papadakos on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; initiating a popular summer law study program in the Vatican (where he taught Roman Law); and teaching an extremely popular and successful course here at the Law School that met on nights and Saturdays to help students pass the bar exam. Dr. Sam touched many lives during his half-century on the faculty at Duquesne. He will be greatly missed.
for the fifth consecutive year, the School of Law’s Legal Research & Writing program was ranked as one of the best in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report.

Duquesne Law School has been rated among the best in the nation for its bar exam preparation, according to The National Jurist magazine. In its February 2012 cover story, ”Who Are Bar Exam’s Biggest Stars?,” The National Jurist ranked Duquesne 22nd out of approximately 200 ABA-approved law schools in bar exam preparation success. The magazine evaluated the pass rates for all ABA-approved law schools and compared their results with statewide averages to identify schools that outperform their students’ incoming LSAT scores would predict. The National Jurist employed a statistical analysis using each school’s LSAT at the 25th percentile (to account for students most likely to fail the bar exam) and the ratio of graduates who passed the bar exam compared to the state averages for 2009 and 2010. Duquesne Law School held the highest ranking among all Pennsylvania law schools, with one exception, and was ranked slightly ahead of Yale.

Dean Ken Gormley stated, “It is a great honor to be recognized by The National Jurist for our students’ outstanding performance on bar exams, but the results are not entirely surprising to those of us who are privileged to see the hard work and dedication that characterize our Law School community. Our school’s success on the bar exam is a testament to the joint efforts of our faculty, administration, staff and students who, we feel, are capable of performing at the highest levels of professional excellence and who can compete with graduates from the very best law schools across the United States.”

According to Richard Gaffney, Director of Bar Services at Duquesne Law School, the exceptional ranking was the product of diligent preparation, beginning with the first-year core courses and continuing through the Law School’s comprehensive Bar Examination Preparation program, which was instituted by the faculty in 2006. This program includes a year-long course and a separate spring semester course, both of which are designed to optimize student performance on the multiple choice and essay components of the bar exam. Since the introduction of the spring semester Bar Preparation Course in 2006, Duquesne’s first-time bar pass rate has soared from a rolling 10-year average of 75 percent to a five-year average of 90 percent. “As nice as it is to receive recognition from The National Jurist for our bar success,” Gormley says, “it is even more gratifying to know that the overwhelming majority of our graduates are able to pass the bar exam on their first attempt. This allows them to move seamlessly from law school into their chosen profession, serving others through the practice of law in both the public and private sectors.”
August Damian has enjoyed a long and successful career since graduating from Duquesne University School of Law in 1960.

Nevertheless, he hasn’t forgotten the struggles that preceded his success.

“I came from humble beginnings. My parents were immigrants from Italy and were strong advocates of obtaining education,” Damian says. “That’s what drove me to seek a law degree. It was very difficult financially.”

It’s that personal history that compelled him to establish the Damian Family Endowed Scholarship. With an extraordinary $100,000 commitment, Damian became the Law School’s second Sciullo Fellow. Funds from the Damian Family Endowed Scholarship will assist law students who have outstanding academic credentials and demonstrate financial need.

“God provided me with a successful career in law and real estate, and I wanted to make it easier for young men and women seeking a law degree,” he says. “Duquesne is a truly blessed place in my life. I was very fortunate to be able to attend there. It always will have a place close to my heart. Anything I can do, I am most happy to do so.”

Dean Ken Gormley says that the Law School is fortunate to have generous alumni such as Damian.

“August Damian is the embodiment of all the best qualities of Duquesne Law School. Not only has he been extraordinarily successful throughout his career, but he has consistently given back to the Law School and to the profession in order to enable a new generation of graduates to succeed as he has succeeded,” Gormley says. “We are extremely proud of and grateful for his many contributions. They have advanced our institution and our students in a profound way.”

Damian’s gift coincides with the celebration of the Law School’s centennial, which has brought luminaries such as U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett to campus during the past year. Damian says he particularly enjoyed the opportunity to meet United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, who delivered an address and appeared at a black-tie gala in September 2011.

“I was honored to be introduced to the justice,” Damian says. “I had read that his parents were immigrants from Italy, as well.

As Italian-Americans often do, we reminisced about our parents’ and grandparents’ lives.”

Damian says that had it not been for Duquesne’s evening program, he likely couldn’t have attended law school.

“My father died when I was 14, and my mother became a single mother,” he says. “When I graduated from college, I had to work to help my mother, and I went to Duquesne night school for my law degree.”

Damian says that Duquesne’s Spiritan heritage makes the University unlike any other.

“It has a very strong magnetism for those of all faiths, but especially the Catholic faith. The faculty and the support that I received there created a special bond that has lasted all my life. Duquesne was very unique in supplying a moral compass, in addition to the intellectual ability of the teaching staff to educate me,” he says.

Damian believes the training he received at Duquesne provided an essential foundation for his legal career.

“Our faculty was composed of successful, hardworking attorneys, and they brought to the classroom a distinctive knowledge of what it took to succeed in becoming a lawyer. It gave one keen insight about what to do to be successful and was very helpful to me.”
Centennial Fellows

Alumni and friends making qualifying gifts and pledges to the Law School of $10,000 or more have been designated as Centennial Fellows. Four levels of recognition have been established, each honoring a prominent dean of the Law School who has passed away.

Sciullo Fellows—$100,000 and above: John J. Sciullo’s appointment as dean was announced in June 1982 to a standing ovation at the School’s annual commencement. Sciullo led efforts to maintain quality admissions standards while strengthening the School’s commitment to the values and ethics of a law school in the Catholic tradition. He served as dean from 1982 until his death in 1993. Our Sciullo Fellows are:

- August C. Damian
- R. Elliot Katherman

Manderino Fellows—$50,000 to $99,999: Louis Manderino was dean from 1968-1970, and during his tenure enrollment increased from 472 students to more than 600. He left the deanship after being a justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, though he remained an adjunct faculty member while on the bench. We are appreciative of the generosity of our Manderino Fellows:

- Linda Varrenti Hernandez
- Hal A. Kestler
- Duquesne Law Alumni Association

Quinn Fellows—$25,000 to $49,000: Thomas F. Quinn oversaw the School’s move to Rockwell Hall. Soon thereafter, the School’s full-time faculty grew to 15, its library acquisitions nearly tripled, and its full-time day program was initiated. Also during his term (1957-1966), the Student Bar Association was organized (1959) and the first issue of the Duquesne Law Review was published (1963). The following individuals and organizations have committed to being Quinn Fellows:

- Estate of Gretchen G. Donaldson
- Estate of Edythe R. Fingold
- Marie Milie Jones
- John Krolkowski
- William J. McKim
- E. Kears Pollock
- John E. Quinn
- Peirce Family Foundation
- Student Bar Association

Brophy Fellows—$10,000 to $24,999: C. Gerald Brophy was a 1923 Duquesne Law graduate and served as dean from 1940 until his death in 1956. His tenure is remembered for modernizing the curriculum, instituting an instructional approach stressing practical demonstrations within the court systems, in addition to professional theory. We are grateful for the following Brophy Fellows:

- Hon. Donetta Ambrose
- Mark Bartholic
- Hon. Joseph L. Cosetti
- James Cummings
- Kenneth P. Davie
- Joan Ellenbogen
- Many Emamzadeh
- Rodney W. Fink
- Paul J. Gitnik
- James F. Glunt
- Louis S. Gold
- Gail Balph Gordon
- Ken Gormley
- William B. Grant
- Mary R. Grealy
- Kenneth L. Hirsch
- Edward J. Krug
- Hon. Maureen Lally-Green
- Hon. Michael McCarthy
- John R. McGinley
- Patsy Popivchak McKinney
- Tina Oberdorf Miller
- J. Manning and Rebecca C. O’Connor
- Walter T. Perkins
- David S. Pollock
- Gwendolyn Robosson
- William Campbell Ries
- Andrew M. Roman
- Arnold Schulberg
- Theodore M. Trbovich
- F. Christopher Spina
- Thomas Silverman
- Theodore M. Trbovich
- Alcoa Foundation
- Eckert Seams Cherin & Mellott, LLC
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy

Information is accurate as of April 1, 2012.
The words of Cicero, “The welfare of the people is the highest law,” serve as the motto for the Duquesne University School of Law. The School is founded on the principle that mere proficiency in the law is not sufficient. The Duquesne lawyer pursues his or her practice with a deep sense of moral and ethical values and a commitment to service and justice for all.

“Throughout its history, the School has employed different approaches to prepare students for practice, introduce them to employment opportunities and extend the tradition of pro bono service,” explains Tracey McCants Lewis, Esq., acting director of Clinical Legal Education.

When the School opened in 1911, founding Dean Joseph Swearingen required students to observe trials at the nearby Allegheny County Courthouse. In the 1940s, Dean C. Gerald Brophy arranged for students to work in the county Register of Wills office. Positions in the District Attorney’s office opened up in the 1970s. Twenty years later, under the direction of Professor Joseph Sabino Mistick, a comprehensive clinical education program was in place.

In those days, clinical program offices were housed in the basement of the Law Library in Hanley Hall—hardly a convenient location for clients visiting campus, and barely visible even to law students themselves. In 1997, the facilities were moved to the sixth floor of Fisher Hall.

“The new quarters better resembled a professional law office environment, and were considered a significant upgrade,” remembers Dean Ken Gormley. “They were adequate for our three clinics at the time, but are now stretched to capacity with the additional programs we offer.”

The School currently operates four in-house clinics and two externship programs, with two more externship programs and another clinic scheduled to open later this year (see sidebar on next page).

Other aspects of Fisher Hall have also proven to be less than optimal. The on-campus location remains difficult for clients to find. Once inside the building, visitors find it hard to navigate hallways and elevators that are often crowded with students hurrying to and from classes.

A potential solution is at hand. The University has acquired a three-story structure at 914 Fifth Avenue—a prime location situated across the street from the CONSOL Energy Center and the Chatham Center office and hotel complex, in the heart of the growing Uptown district.

“Clients and passers-by will easily recognize the home of Duquesne’s Law Clinics in this stand-alone building,” Gormley says. “The structure will be occupied solely by our clinics, alleviating student traffic congestion while retaining easy access to the city, county, state and federal offices and courthouses, as well as scores of law firms’ offices, all within a few blocks’ walk.”

School Seeks Funds for New Clinical Education Building

Robert V. Woodside, Director, Advancement Communications.
“Clients and passers-by will easily recognize the home of Duquesne’s Law Clinics in this stand-alone building.”

Duquesne University’s Law Clinics and Externship Programs

- Bill of Rights Clinic
- Civil and Family Justice Externship Program
- Community Enterprise Clinic
- Criminal Advocacy Externship Program
- Criminal Prosecution Externship Program (opening fall 2012)
- Federal Litigation Clinic (opening fall 2012)
- Unemployment Compensation Clinic
- Urban Development Clinic
- Veterans Court Externship Program (being developed for fall 2012)

The Clinical Legal Education department also administers a summer Public Interest Fellowship Program. In addition, the department coordinates individual student placements with more than 200 externships at judicial, government, public interest and non-profit placement sites.
Plans call for the building’s first floor to serve as the hub of student-client interaction. Clients will be welcomed in a comfortable, professional reception area before being escorted into one of three new meeting rooms. This level also includes a student work room and small office.

The second floor will house another student work room, a beautiful conference room, a flexibly furnished moot courtroom and a classroom, making it the educational center of the building.

The third floor will house much-needed offices for the director, clinical faculty and administrative support staff, with a sweeping view overlooking Uptown Pittsburgh.

“The Law School will need significant individual and organizational financial support to take advantage of this great opportunity,” Gormley explains. “Funds are required to renovate the space and install suitable furnishings, along with state-of-the-art equipment and technology.”

A variety of naming opportunities are available (see sidebar at right for a complete listing).

For more information about the Law Clinics, visit www.duq.edu/law/clinics. To learn about plans for the building and giving opportunities, call the Development Office at 412-396-5690.

Clinical Education Naming Opportunities

Physical Facilities
- Naming of Entire Clinical Education Building
- Naming of Individual Spaces:
  - Reception Area
  - Client Meeting Rooms (3 available)
  - Student Work Rooms (2 available)
  - Student Manager Office
  - Moot Courtroom
  - Classroom
  - Conference Room
  - Large Faculty Offices (3 available)
  - Faculty Offices (7 available)

Programmatic/Endowment Support
- Naming of Individual Clinic Programs
  - Bill of Rights Clinic
  - Community Enterprise Clinic
  - Federal Litigation Clinic
  - Unemployment Compensation Clinic
  - Urban Development Clinic
- Naming of Individual Externship Programs
  - Civil and Family Justice Externship Program
  - Criminal Advocacy Externship Program
  - Criminal Prosecution Externship Program
  - Veterans Court Externship Program
- Naming of Public Interest Fellowship Program or Individual Student Fellowships
- Named Clinical Directorship
- Named Technology Endowment Fund
While there are many Duquesne Law “super couples” practicing today, it is rare to find one in which each individual is also the leader of a prominent legal organization. **Patti Dodge**, managing partner of Meyer Unkovic & Scott, and **Howie Schulberg**, partner, Goehring, Rutter & Boehm, are finishing their respective terms as president of the Allegheny Academy of Trial Lawyers and the Allegheny County Bar Association. Law alumni director Jeanine DeBor recently talked to this super duo about their careers and finding that precious “life-work” balance.

**JD:** What made you decide to seek the highest office in these legal organizations?

**Patti:** I am extremely honored to have been selected for membership in the Academy of Trial Lawyers and it has been my privilege to serve on the Board of Governors and as an officer. I have a real passion for the goals and mission of the Academy, and this was an opportunity to do my part in maintaining and advancing these goals. Besides, it’s really a great group of people with whom I enjoy working!

**Howie:** I have been involved in the Allegheny County Bar Association since I first became a lawyer. I enjoyed the ability to share ideas among my colleagues, which included not only the young lawyers but more senior attorneys. The experienced lawyers were more than willing to pass along good advice for practicing in Allegheny County. I have always appreciated their advice, saw the benefits of membership and continued with involvement with the ACBA thereafter. Having received great benefits from the ACBA, I believe it only proper to give back to the next generation of lawyers.

**JD:** The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette referred to these organizations as “the region’s most important” ones. Do you agree with that statement and, if so, why?

**Patti:** Yes, I do. The Academy’s mission is to promote the highest standards of integrity, civility and excellence in the legal profession and to preserve the civil jury trial system. These matters are vitally important for both the bar and for every citizen who becomes part of the system, whether as a litigant or as a juror.

**Howie:** I think the ACBA is not only a regional asset but is recognized nationwide as a leader among metropolitan bar associations. We have award-winning programs, very active divisions, sections and committees, and set an example for the way a bar association is to be run. We also provide valuable services to the public through our judicial ratings and public service programming like the “This is No Joke” for school-age children and “Operation M.V.P.” for veterans. We have programs for school-age children, college-bound kids, families in crisis, the elderly, just about every demographic in the community.
JD: Patti, membership in the Trial Academy is by invitation only, and membership is limited to 250 lawyers. Describe the qualifications needed to become a member, and the significance of being elected president.

Patti: The Academy has rigorous criteria for membership. As you mentioned, membership is limited to 250 members who are actively engaged in civil trial practice from both the plaintiff’s and defendant’s side. Admission into the Academy is by invitation only after an extensive review and election process. All applicants must be nominated by a current Academy member. The entire Academy membership is confidentially surveyed regarding the qualifications of each applicant. The results of the survey, together with information gained through the application, letters of recommendation, personal interviews and the candidate’s trial experience, are carefully reviewed and considered by the committee as part of its confidential process of selecting for membership those civil trial lawyers who have exhibited excellence and the highest levels of ethical standards and professionalism.

JD: Howie, the ACBA is the second-largest Pennsylvania county bar association with 6,700 members. What impact does this group have on our community as a whole?

Howie: In addition to the programs I mentioned, there are numerous other programs for the public that address the concerns of our local citizens and that have a very broad reach. “KD, You and the Law” is one such program. We get about 1,500 calls from local citizens every year when this program is run. We have also taken great strides in bringing awareness to the issues of professional women and diversity in our community.

JD: You both attended Penn State and Duquesne Law School. Did you meet in Law School?

We get asked that a lot but the answer is no. While it would have been fun to meet while we were still in school, we were both well established in our careers before we met.

JD: Why did you decide to attend Duquesne for your legal education, and describe the impact that education has made on your career.

Howie: I have a long line of relatives who attended Duquesne Law School, starting with my mother (June S. Bowers, L'69). She returned to law school after being a secretary for quite a number of years. Not only is she an inspiration to me for the dedication she showed but for her love of the law. Duquesne allowed me to attend a law school that was steps away from the legal community. I was able to work for law firms during most of my legal studies because of its location. The professors were top notch and memorable. I continue to reflect on that education regularly and am grateful that I was able to gain the knowledge of the law in my hometown.

Patti: As I was working full time, I appreciated the fact that Duquesne had an excellent night school program that fit my needs. I enjoyed law school, obtained an excellent education and like the fact that I continue to work with and interact with my classmates.

JD: You both have very busy practices, and Patti just became managing partner of her firm. How do you maintain a work/life balance?

We try to support each other in numerous ways. Being so involved in our organizations is actually beneficial to the other. We can usually sense when there is an issue that the other needs to discuss and offer advice. We enjoy each other’s company immensely and take advantage of our off time to explore local restaurants, travel and exercise. Having a sense of humor and being flexible also helps!

JD: Describe the best part of doing what you do:

Howie: Meeting so many people who have the best interests of the legal community at heart. Because of this I know the ACBA is in good hands well into the future.

Patti: I am proud to be a lawyer and whether it is for a client, a member of my firm or one of my friends or family, I really enjoy engaging with other people and helping them to resolve a conflict or achieve a goal.

“I continue to reflect on that education regularly and am grateful that I was able to gain the knowledge of the law in my hometown.”

—Howie Schulberg

1967
William P. Bresnahan, William G. Ball, ’88, and Heather Schmidt Bresnahan, ’01, formed the law firm Hollinshead, Mendelson, Bresnahan, Nixon & Ball, P.C.

1968
John R. McGinley Jr. was named to the board of directors of Ward Home.

1971
William A. DeStefano joined the Philadelphia office of Stevens & Lee as chair of the firm’s White Collar Defense and Investigations practice.

Stanley M. Stein opened a full-time practice concentrating in commercial litigation in Pittsburgh.

1973
Hon. Gary Caruso was elected president judge of the Westmoreland County Common Pleas Court.

P. Brennan Hart was named vice chair of the board of directors of the Judiciary Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association.

John L. Livingston was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Catholic Lawyers Guild for contributions to the profession and the country.

Glenn R. Mahone was appointed chairman of the board of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

1974
Hon. Maureen Lally-Green was appointed to the Pennsylvania Board of Education by Gov. Tom Corbett.

1975
Keith R. McMillen was certified as a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

1976
Patrick Loughney was named to the board of directors of Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium.

Hon. Janet L. Zoltanski was nominated by New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie to serve as a Superior Court judge in Burlington and was confirmed by the state Senate in June of 2011.

1978
Donald R. Calairo has been named a director of the American Board of Certification board of directors for a three-year term. Calairo has been certified as a dual specialist, a consumer bankruptcy law specialist, and a specialist in business bankruptcy law.

James A. Wilkinson was selected by the executive committee of the PSO board to become the new president and CEO of the Pittsburgh Symphony.

1981
Patricia L. Dodge was selected as one of the Women of the Year by The Legal Intelligencer and will be featured in its Women in the Profession supplement.

Joan Ellenbogen was named to the board of directors of Magee-Womens Research Institute & Foundation.

1982
Clarence Augustus Martin, assistant vice president for Faculty Affairs at California State University, Dominguez Hills, published the fourth edition of Understanding Terrorism: Challenges, Perspectives, and Issues in February 2012.

1983
Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark received the 2012 Drum Major for Justice Award presented by the Homer S. Brown Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Andrea Geraghty joined Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP as a partner in the firm’s Real Estate and Lending group.

1984
Jeffrey B. Killeen retired from the FBI and started a new job as an assistant district attorney in the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office.

June F. Swanson joined Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP as a partner in the firm’s Real Estate and Lending Corporate and Business Law group.

1985
Pamela G. Matt was selected as the new executive director of the Mohawk Valley Chamber of Commerce beginning March 1, 2012.

1986
Bernadette L. Puzzuole received the Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce’s 2011 Jenny Award for her dedication and service to the chamber.

1987
Thomas J. Dempsey, Jr. joined the firm of Sikov and Love, P.A. focusing on litigation in Orphans Court matters.

Falco A. Muscante will serve as the primary attorney for Maiello Brungo & Maiello, recently appointed solicitor for Braddock Borough.

1988
Hon. Alexander P. Bicket was elected to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

Col. David K. Trautman assumed command of the United States Army Reserve Legal Command and was awarded the Meritorious Service Award.

1989
State Sen. Jay Costa was elected treasurer of the board of trustees of Allegheny County Community College for 2012.

Douglas G. Smith was named managing partner of the Pittsburgh office of Jackson Lewis LLP.

1990
Robert J. Hannen joined Eckert Seamans in the Southpointe office as a member in the Litigation, Labor and Employment, Financial Institutions and Health care practice groups.

1991
Gene A. Leposki became board certified in Family Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.

Michael F. Nerone was elected to the Trucking Industry Defense Association’s board of directors.
1992

Charles F. Pegher was promoted to partner at K&L Gates LLP.

Hon. Kelly T. Streib was selected as one of the Women of the Year by The Legal Intelligencer and will be featured in its Women in the Profession supplement.

1993

Jackie Atherton Bernard, chief district attorney of Blair County, was appointed by Gov. Tom Corbett to the Child Protection Task Force upon nomination by Pennsylvania Speaker of the House Sam Smith.

Mary Ann DiIanni joined Cohen & Grace LLC as a partner in the firm’s general litigation and OSHA practice.

Hon. James P. Goodman was elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Schuylkill County.

Hon. Michael F. Marro was elected to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

Brian K. Parker was appointed managing partner at McGuire Woods LLP in the Pittsburgh office.

Patricia S. Reimer is serving as president of the School Advisory Board of the St. Pius X Regional School in Bowie, MD.

Heide Rai Stewart received the Pennsylvania Bar Association pro bono award at a special meeting of the Public Service Committee.

1994

Sally R. Miller was promoted to the position of director with the Pittsburgh office of Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky, where she concentrates her practice in family law.

Heidi Rai Stewart received the Pennsylvania Bar Association pro bono award at a special meeting of the Public Service Committee.

1995

Francis J. Schultz was elected president of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association at the summer 2011 meeting and re-elected to a fourth term as district attorney of Crawford County, PA, in the November 2011 general election.

1996

Brett W. Farrar was elected shareholder at Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

David C. Kaleda, partner at Alston & Bird LLP, was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Labor to the ERISA Advisory Council for a three-year term.

Jonathan C. Parks was named an attorney in the intellectual property practice group at Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti LLP.

John M. Tedder was elected shareholder at Sherrard, German & Kelly, P.C.

1997

Dana L. Baci was promoted to partner at Goehring Rutter & Boehm.

Eugene A. Vittone was elected district attorney of Washington County.

1998

Sean M. Girdwood was named a shareholder at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney in the financial services and real estate finance practice.

Elliot Howsie was appointed public defender of Allegheny County by County Executive Rich Fitzgerald.

Kathryn M. Kenyon received the 2012 Unsung Hero Award presented by The Legal Intelligencer for pro bono representation in the Pittsburgh community and for recruiting fellow lawyers to help those in need. In 2010 and 2011, Kenyon was vice chair of the administrative board of the Pittsburgh Pro Bono Partnership and was on the board of directors of the Neighborhood Legal Services Association.

Stephanie-Anna Kapourales Ramaley received the 2012 Unsung Hero Award presented by The Legal Intelligencer.

1999

Anthony J. Valenti opened The Law Office of Anthony J. Valenti focusing on criminal and civil litigation.

Dawn M. Felder accepted an associate position with Sitko Bruno LLC focusing her practice on real estate law, including commercial leasing, real estate development and real estate financing.

2000

Patrick Dougherty was elected district attorney of Indiana County, PA.

Jeremy G. Hartzell was named president of the board of directors for the Pittsburgh Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for Cure®.

2001

Shawn N. Gallagher was promoted to counsel at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney.

Frank Kosir Jr. joined Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP as Of Counsel in the firm’s Real Estate and Lending and Oil and Gas groups.

Janet K. Meub joined the Pittsburgh office of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP as a senior associate and a member of the Commercial Litigation, Health Care Litigation and Professional Liability Defense practice groups.

2002

A. Bradley Collins moved to Miami to start a second career as an auctioneer. Collins completed the licensing for auctioneering, started the Collins Auction Company, LLC, and is learning the ropes as an auctioneer in and around the Miami area.

Sharon Z. Hall was elected member at ZimmerKinz, PLLC.

2003

Christopher A. Cafardi was named senior counsel at Lynch Weis LLC.


Rana J. Wright was promoted to partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Reed Smith practicing in the area of investment management.

2004

Michael P. Byrne was elected partner of Novak Druce + Quigg and transferred to the West Palm Beach office.

Stephen P. Curry was named partner of Peacock Keller specializing in the firm’s mineral law, oil and gas law and real estate law.

Steven M. Toprani, former district attorney of Washington County, PA, joined Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl in the firm’s Litigation practice group.

2005

Kaylyn Boca was elected partner of Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl.

Heather L. Lamparter of Exco Resources is a member of the executive board of the Marcellus Shale Coalition.
Robert J. Perkins joined the Pittsburgh office of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP as an associate in the Product Liability practice group.

2006
Christopher J. Azzara was promoted to the position of director in the Bankruptcy and Creditors’ Rights group and the Commercial Litigation group with the Pittsburgh office of Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky.


Nicole E. Humes received the 2012 Unsung Hero Award presented by The Legal Intelligencer.

Michelle A. Mantine married Brian Johnson in November 2011.

Carly Fagan Neals accepted a position with First Commonwealth Advisors as vice president/senior trust officer.

Christy G. Rothwell was named an attorney in the intellectual property practice group at Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP.

Nico Scialabba accepted the position of assistant director in the Placement Office at the Florida State University College of Law.

2007
Thomas E. Zahn rejoined Jones Day in the corporate and mergers and acquisitions practice in Pittsburgh.

2008
Nicholas D. Burkett joined the public accounting firm of Malin Berquist in Pittsburgh as a staff accountant.

Evan J. Gascoine joined Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe as a member of the Litigation group at the firm’s Global Operations Center in Wheeling, W.Va., focusing on product liability.

Erin E. McCurdy joined Dick’s Sporting Goods in the company’s legal department.

Carolyn Batz McGee joined Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott as an associate in the firm’s litigation division.

2009
Jeffrey D. Banner partnered with Timothy B. Sechler, L’09, and started the law firm Banner & Sechler in Butler, PA, with a focus on assisting senior citizens and their families with legal and estate planning issues.

Nicholas J. Bell joined Meyer, Unkovic & Scott as an associate in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution group.

Thomas G. Donahue joined Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as an associate in the Litigation Department and Mass Tort Practice Group in the firm’s Pittsburgh office, and was recently appointed by the mayor of Pittsburgh to serve on the Propel Pittsburgh Commission, which advises the mayor and city council on issues related to young professionals.

Donald M. Lewinski joined the Pittsburgh office of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin as an associate focusing on professional liability, commercial litigation and employment law.

Denise L. Romeo, Lieutenant, USN JAGC, was awarded the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. She was previously awarded the Joint Service Achievement Award and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Steven A. Walton joined Rothman Gordon, P.C. as an associate practicing with the Corporate Department and the Marcellus & Utica Shales practice group.

Emily Nenni joined the Asheville, N.C., firm of McGuire, Wood & Bissette, P.A. focusing on all aspects of commercial and civil litigation.

2010
Lisa M. Postlewait accepted a position at KidsVoice in Pittsburgh, PA.

Amie A. Thompson joined Andrews & Price LLC as an associate focusing on the firm’s School and Municipal Law group.

Regina A. Kacenjar joined The Levensten Law Firm, Philadelphia, as an associate practicing in the areas of personal injury law, estate planning and mass tort litigation.

2011
Howard D. Bish received the Gerald K. Gibson Award from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation.

Kaitlin L. Connelly joined Burns White as an associate, focusing in the areas of healthcare and long-term care, litigation and products liability.

Gregory E. Dapper joined Willman & Silvaggio LLP as an associate concentrating on the defense of toxic tort claims, products liability, insurance defense and civil litigation.

Abigail M. Faett joined the Pittsburgh office of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP as an associate and a member of the Litigation Defense practice group.

Robert E. Gemmill joined Cyron & Miller LLP of Alexandria, VA, as an associate.
Nicholas J. Godfrey joined Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as an associate in the Litigation Department and Mass Tort Practice group in the firm’s Pittsburgh office.

Ryan A. Hauck joined Burns White as an associate of the Workers’ Compensation practice group, focusing on defending employers and insurance companies against workers’ compensation claims.

Alaina R. Hill joined the Sadler Law Firm, a Houston-based firm that specializes in the legal concerns of energy companies.

Allison N. Lachat accepted a position as an associate at the Law Office of Bryan Campbell, Esq.

Chanel P. Maddigan joined the Buffalo, NY, firm of Hodgson Russ as an associate in the Real Estate and Finance practice group.


Katie J. Chenery McGee received the Lynette Norton Memorial Award from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation.

Stacey C. Mikelonis joined Tucker Arensberg as an associate in the firm’s Health Care practice group.

Julie Motheral became an assistant district attorney in the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office.

Casey P. Mullen received the Honorable Joseph H. Ridge Memorial Scholarship from the Allegheny County Bar Foundation.

Christina L. Pro joined the Pittsburgh law firm Babst Calland as an associate in the Business Services group.

David E. Renner accepted a position with Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl in the Pittsburgh office as an associate in the Employment and Litigation practice groups.

Brittany Ann Roof joined the Sadler Law Firm, a Houston-based firm that specializes in the legal concerns of energy companies.

Bridget M. Sedlock joined the Ronald Law Group, LLC of Allison Park, PA, as an associate.

Catherine J. Spafford joined The McDonald Group LLP in Erie, PA, as an associate.

Justin Tuskan joined Keevican Weiss Bauerle & Hirsch LLC as an associate member focusing on banking, corporate law and real estate matters.

Adam J. Ventura joined Andrews & Price LLC as an associate focusing on the firm’s Real Estate, Tax Assessment and Delinquent Tax Collections group.

Rachel A. Wheeler is a law clerk for the Hon. John F. DiSalle Jr. of the Washington County Court of Common Pleas.

Lexington V. Wolff joined Meyer Darragh Buckler Bebenek & Eck as an associate focusing on civil litigation with an emphasis on insurance, product liability, toxic tort and criminal defense work.

Correction: On page 54 of the Fall 2011 issue, the photo of Mark A. Smith, class of 2002, was inadvertently credited Aaron W. Smith, class of 2010.

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following Law School alumni who passed away between Nov. 1, 2011, and April 30, 2012:

Robert M. Friedman, Esq. L’73
Thomas W. George, Esq. L’87
Richard McFadden, Esq. L’76
Edward G. Shoemaker, Esq. L’70
Stuart M. Levine, Esq. L’92
Bruce A. Bilohlavek, Esq. L’88
Joseph P. Manypenny, Esq. L’93
James L. Beck, Esq. L’75

This list is provided through Duquesne University’s Advancement Records Office and may not be complete. If you have information about a Law School alumnus who has passed away this past year and is not listed, please contact the Law Alumni Office at 412.396.5215 so that we may update our records.

SpRiNg 2012
Marcellus Shale: The Impact of The Impact Fee

Ryan P. Sayers, President of the Federalist Society
Mike Rush, Vice President of the Energy & Mineral Law Society

On March 13, 2012, the Duquesne University School of Law Energy & Mineral Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Corporate Law Society and American Constitution Society were pleased to host a highly distinguished panel to talk about the recently passed Act 13, which now governs almost all aspects of the booming shale gas industry in Pennsylvania. The 175-plus members of the Law School, University and Greater Pittsburgh communities had the opportunity to listen to a panel that featured Nicholas J. Deluliis, L’02, president of CONSOL Energy; the Hon. John H. Quigley, former secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; Dr. Kent F. Moors, professor of Political Science at Duquesne University; Mark W. Mekilo, lead counsel and advisor to Pennsylvania Senate Democrats on the issue of Marcellus Shale; and moderator Kevin J. Garber, L’87, a shareholder at Babst Calland and adjunct professor at Duquesne University School of Law and Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences.

Garber started the discussion by providing the audience a brief overview of Act 13. First, the new act creates an “impact fee” that is levied in fixed amounts against the gas industry; furthermore, this fee will be collected by the counties, not by the commonwealth’s treasury. Second, the act prevents local municipalities from passing zoning plans that preclude the drilling of shale gas wells or deny companies access to their leased property. Finally, the act requires an expanded system of well pad spill containment and the disclosure of the chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process.
Following Garber’s introduction, Mekilo discussed the process by which Act 13 passed and, in his opinion, some of the flaws in the law. One such provision, in his opinion, is that the local municipalities collect the impact fee before sending a percentage to the state. It appears that this provision is designed to ensure that local governments see the money instead of it being sent to the General Fund in Harrisburg; however, it is also apparent, according to Mekilo, that the act is treading new, uncharted territory.

Next, Quigley told the audience that Pennsylvania is fortunate to have the Marcellus Shale beneath more than two-thirds of the commonwealth. However, he tempered this optimism by cautioning that we do not want Pennsylvania to repeat the past by allowing the oil and gas industry to cause extensive environmental damage like other industries. Quigley enumerated a list of environmental concerns that he does not feel are addressed by Act 13, but he added that, overall, this act is a start.

After Quigley, Moors offered his international perspective on the shale gas market around the world, a perspective not often mentioned in the Marcellus debate. Moors began his remarks by stating that some foreign governments, like Poland, are looking to Harrisburg for their regulation schemes because Pennsylvania “is the grand old daddy” when it comes to this issue. Moors also addressed the innovations that are coming over the next few years with regard to natural gas. He stated that natural gas will be replacing a substantial amount of the coal power plants going offline, that compressed and liquefied natural gas will be the next fuel source for automobiles, and that the United States is going to be able to export liquefied natural gas at a premium to foreign markets. All of these innovations are going to cause the demand of natural gas to rise, but he cautioned, as Quigley did, that we must keep in mind the costs to the affected localities.

The final presentation of the event came from the president of CONSOL Energy, Nicholas Deluliis. Deluliis began by stating that Pittsburgh is viewed as the capital of Appalachia and that blue collar jobs are a way of life in the region. He drew the crowd’s attention to the oft-forgotten aspect of the Marcellus debate: the thousands of jobs, many paying six figures, which have been created by the development of shale gas. He is concerned that the real issues with energy are moving away from science and facts and being replaced by politics and fiction. Deluliis noted that “all energy has an impact” on the environment and cited examples such as the fact that wind energy kills more migratory birds than all the fossil fuel plants combined.

At the conclusion of the panelists’ remarks, Garber started the question-and-answer session by asking the panel, on behalf of the law students, “Where are the jobs?” The students were pleased to hear all of the panelists agree that the area of shale gas and energy law is expanding exponentially, resulting in current and future employment opportunities.

This event was made possible by the Allegheny County Bar Association and a grant from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation through the Federalist Society.

Duquesne School of Law's Public Interest Law Association (PILA) held its annual Silent Auction March 21, 2012, in the Law School Lounge. The event attracted the best of the Law School community as students and faculty engaged in friendly competition to place bids on a variety of donated items from local businesses as well as dinner or lunch with several faculty members. The “big ticket” items for the live auction included Penguins, Steelers and Pirates tickets along with several autographed Steelers items.

PILA's Silent Auction is the largest event of the year, and the members spent many hours soliciting local businesses, law firms and alumni for donations, with 100 percent of all the proceeds going directly to funding public interest scholarships that make it possible for students to take uncompensated positions at public interest organizations.

PILA would like to thank all of the alumni, faculty and students who made this year the biggest auction yet. If you would like to learn more about PILA or make a donation for next year’s auction, please contact Robin Connors at 412-396-6186 or connorsr@duq.edu.

Jaime Fillippi, Brandon Herring, Marika Stettner and Brandon Keller
For the fourth year in a row, a team of second-year law students—Jason McConnell, Erica Lombardo, Nicholas Marsilio and Juliana Cutruzzula—won the regional American Association for Justice (AAJ) mock trial competition in Pittsburgh March 2-4. They then competed in the AAJ national competition in Las Vegas on March 22. Duquesne’s other team of Clancy Boylan, Sarah Bronder, Colin Esgro and Kristine Robinson also earned a spot in the semi-finals with teams from Dickinson/ Penn State and Drexel; Duquesne defeated Drexel to take the win. The teams were coached by Professor Amelia Michele Joiner.

Duquesne University second-year law students Kaitlyn Kacsuta and Ginevra Ventre won first place at the 2nd annual National Energy and Sustainability Moot Court Competition hosted by the West Virginia University College of Law’s Moot Court Board March 18-20. Kacsuta and Ventre, who were coached by fellow law student Andrew Stiffler, defeated a team from Louisiana State University Law School in the final round.

Earlier in the semester, our teams made another outstanding showing at the National Trial Competition Regional Competition Feb. 17-19 in Philadelphia. The second-year team of Timothy Scelsi, Jaime Hicton and Michael Rush were semi-finalists, losing to the eventual division winner and winner of last year’s competition, Drexel. The team faced Rutgers, Pitt and Penn in earlier rounds. The second-year team of Nicole Onda, Nicholas Woodman-Borsuk and Michelle Ross also made a very strong showing, facing Villanova, Seton Hall and Rutgers. The teams were coached by A. Michael Gianantonio, L’02, and Kelli Ann Giles, L’10.

Eighteen teams from across the country participated in the competition, and the Duquesne team argued both on and off brief seven times over three days before being declared the winner. The team received a plaque and a $1,000 scholarship in recognition of their outstanding appellate advocacy skills. Kacsuta and Ventre also received an award for writing the third-best brief.
Gunners, a duo consisting of current 3Ls Brandon Keller and Rory Driscole. Before the show began, the tavern had filled to capacity with those supporting the cause. Over $1,000 in individual donations was made by those who enjoyed the show. On March 9, the Duquesne Italian-American Law Society sponsored “Legge Con Brio,” an event that featured musical performances from Chancellor John E. Murray, Adjunct Professor Antonio Lordi, current 2Ls Ginevra Ventre and Michelle Ross and the band Mandolistini Italiani. The semi-formal event featured food, drinks and a silent auction and raised nearly $1,800. Finally, on March 26, the Women’s Law Association and Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity teamed up with the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division to host a networking event at Bricolage Theater with musical entertainment from Joy Ike. The proceeds from this event were included in the Panucci’s Promise fund.

The success of these events far exceeded students’ expectations, and more than one therapeutic chair will be donated in Peggy Panucci’s memory. In addition, the students formed a committee that plans to continue the Panucci’s Promise fundraising efforts in support of cancer treatment.

Panucci’s Promise

Duquesne Law students established “Panucci’s Promise” in memory of Peggy Panucci, mother of 2L Brian Panucci, who passed away from breast cancer in the fall. Various student organizations worked toward the common goal of raising sufficient funds to donate a therapeutic chair to the chemotherapy treatment center at Women’s Cancer Center at Magee-Womens Hospital of UPMC. The chair will benefit local women in treatment by providing comfort during their most difficult times.

Peggy may have never attended Duquesne University School of Law, but she had a positive impact on the Duquesne University community. She was a mother to many, a source of warmth and strength and the ultimate hockey mom, who loved to bake and took care of everyone around her. Peggy was treated for five years at the Magee-Womens cancer center. Even after death, the spirit of Peggy Panucci continues to bring out love and strength in those who are willing to lend their hand to help others in need.

The effort began in February with a bake sale by International Law featuring tasty treats prepared by students and a Valentine’s Day basket raffle with donations from Chestnut Ridge Golf Resort and Conference Center, La Bella Bean, Big Burrito Restaurants, the Wine Loft, East End Brewing Company and many others. Those two events raised over $1,500. On Feb. 17, the Blind Pig Tavern hosted an event starring the City Paper’s 2010 Best Pop/Rock Band: Mace Ballard and the
Woman of the Year

Each year, the Duquesne University Women’s Law Association recognizes two Duquesne Law Alumni members who demonstrate leadership and a dedication to their community and the people around them. These two individuals are presented with the Woman of the Year award and Recent Graduate Woman of the Year award at annual reception. This year was no exception.

Student leaders, law alumni and community professionals came together on March 28, 2012, at a reception to honor Assistant Dean Ella Kwisnek, L’91, and Kathryn Cooper, L’08, an IP lawyer who practices at Beck & Thomas, P.C. Dean Ken Gormley gave a very gracious introduction of Kwisnek as he commented about his long-time friend and co-worker. Similarly, Jeanine DeBor, director of Law Alumni Relations, introduced Cooper in a way that allowed everyone in the room to appreciate her intelligence and gentle nature even more.

Winners for this award must be alumni of Duquesne University School of Law and have made a difference to the community and to those around them. The Woman of the Year must have graduated from the Law School more than five years ago and the Recent Graduate Woman of the Year must have graduated between two and five years ago. Each fall, Law School students nominate outstanding women for consideration by the committee. Once the final ballot has been published, the students vote on the list of nominees and a winner in each category is chosen.

DeBor and Kwisnek Lead Two Largest Regional Women’s Bar Groups

Jeanine L. DeBor, Esq., director of Law Alumni Relations and Development, is serving as chair of the Women in the Law Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA). The division includes more than 1,600 members, including all female members of the ACBA. Its mission is to provide a forum to deal with problems and obligations that affect female members of the ACBA and to advise the ACBA of the needs and opinions of its female members.

“It is a great honor for the Law School that Jeanine has been elected to serve as the chair of the Women in the Law Division,” says Dean Ken Gormley. “The WLD has been a driving force for positive change within the legal community of Western Pennsylvania. The position of chair is particularly important, because (among other duties) she sits on the board of governors of the Bar Association and helps to shape policy, always mindful of the importance of ensuring gender equality and opening doors for the growing number of women entering the legal profession. We are proud of Jeanine’s singular accomplishment in achieving this position of trust and importance.”

Assistant Dean Ella Kwisnek is serving a two-year term as co-president of the Women’s Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania (WBA). The WBA, which has more than 300 members, is a non-profit professional organization dedicated to promoting opportunities for women in the legal profession and equality in the courts. Dean Gormley is “equally pleased that Ella has assumed the position of co-president of the WBA. This organization, too, has made enormous contributions to the bench and bar of this region for nearly a quarter-century.”

“Duquesne Law School has a 100-year tradition of serving others while playing a leadership role in advancing the profession,” Gormley says. “We are proud that two of our top Law School administrators have been selected for these important positions, further solidifying the link between Duquesne University School of Law and the practicing bar. Their efforts will help pave the way for even greater opportunities for our female graduates in the future.”
Animal Law Society and Health Law Society

On March 12, 2012, the Animal Law Society and Health Law Society co-hosted four-legged furry friends from Perfect Fit Canines for a session of de-stressing and learning to kick off Health Law Week at the Law School. Both organizations were aware of recent studies acknowledging the social and therapeutic benefits of animal interaction with students under stress from their studies. The interaction with the service dogs offered the law students a welcome break from studying and provided them with an opportunity to relax with the four-footed companions.

Labrador service dogs Sebastian, Sophia and new addition Oliver visited the law students alongside their trainers and co-founders of the organization, Susan and Jim Wagner. Perfect Fit Canines is a non-profit organization in Southwestern Pennsylvania devoted to enriching the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum by providing service dogs specially trained to fit the individuals’ needs.

Black Law Students’ Association

On Feb. 20, the Black Law Students’ Association (BLSA) held its annual Soul Food Sampler as part of its activities commemorating Black History Month. This year, in a nod to the diversity within its membership, there were selections of Caribbean, African and Latin flavors. The event was a roaring success with more than 100 attendees enjoying the delicious selections provided by Quik-It, Royal Caribbean, Patron Mexican Grill and Tana.

Christian Legal Society

Each holiday season, the Christian Legal Society participates in the Angel Tree Program, which connects parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts. This year, more than 30 gifts were delivered to children on behalf of their parents who are in prison.
CSO Update

Maria D. Comas, L’00, Director of Career Services

In addition to meeting with students for individual counseling sessions and providing traditional group programs about legal resumes and Symplicity—our electronic job portal—the Career Services Office (CSO) continued to partner with student organizations to fashion programs of interest to these groups. The CSO participated in the inaugural Health Law Wellness Week in March 2012. As a culminating event to the Health Law Society’s programming, we had a Health Law Speed Networking Event, bringing together students and attorneys working the private, public and government sectors of this field. The event reached capacity within a day of publicizing it to the students, and was, by all accounts, a success. We extend our appreciation to the attorneys who joined us for the first of what we hope will become an annual event: Antonio A. Comas, L’02, Michael A. Comber, L’98, Peter D. Giglione, L’02, Marcus S. Graham, L’08, Rhonda G. Hartman, Rebecca J. Maziarz, L’01, Amie M. Mihalko, L’08, Max P. Petrunya, L’10, Susan M. Seitz and Phil Zarone.

The CSO continued its exclusive walk-in hours for 2012 graduates this semester in efforts to create or continue dialogues with these students as they continue to search for their post-graduation jobs. The CSO will sponsor a Bar Exam Study Break for them during the summer months as they study at the Law School for the bar exam. While their focus should be the bar exam during this time, we will do this as a reminder that they are encouraged to call upon the services of this office when they are ready to focus again on their job-search efforts.

To assist students with interviews for summer associate, internship or entry-level associate positions, the CSO coordinated our annual Mock Interview Program, where students had the opportunity to practice their skills with attorneys and recruiters at local law firms. In addition to offering candid remarks about their mock interviews, the students also received feedback about their resumes from these individuals: Alisa N. Carr, Shannan Noe Cerrone, Lauren M. Crossett, Kelly K. Iverson, L’09, Judy Muller, Kenneth J. Nolan, L’80, David E. Renner, L’11, Doneld G. Shelkey, L’02, Terry A. Shulsky, L’98, Christopher P. Smith Jr., L’01, Steven M. Toprani, L’04, John G. Wall, L’90, and Allison D. Warden, L’09.

We were pleased to offer a program for students interested in learning more about becoming a judicial law clerk. “A Day in the Life of a Judicial Law Clerk” featured a panel of current and former clerks who explained their responsibilities and discussed the application processes of the various courts. Panelists included Nicholas J. Bell, L’09, Ellen M. Burns, L’08, and Katharine L. Platt, L’11.

In addition to the networking opportunities available to students through the Alumni/Student Mentor Program, two additional organized networking events were offered. We were invited to participate in the inaugural Law Night hosted by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, which brought together law students and attorneys for a reception and symphony concert. Students also attended the Women’s Bar Association speed networking event at the Law School. This annual event is popular among the students and is designed to foster connections with experienced attorneys who work in various practice areas, including Sarah L. Andrews, L’06, Katherine R. Byrne, L’87, Anna Ciardi, Jennifer L. Edmiston, Alexa Forte, Carol Hesz, L’90, Meghan E. Jones-Rolla, L’02, Rebeca Linz, Tina O. Miller, L’93, Sharon M. Profeta, L’79, Christina Gill Roseman, L’93, Amanda Rubio and Chad Shannon, L’03.

Two staples of the CSO programming, our Practice Area Lunch & Learn Series (PALL) and Solo & Small Firm Practice Series (SSFPS), continued to draw positive responses from the students. The sessions in these series are intended to give students an opportunity to hear about practitioners’ experiences in various practice areas or settings. The PALL series featured Danielle M. Bacco, L’05, criminal defense, Mark D. Harley, immigration law, Dawn M. Porto, L’05, financial planning, Brian D. Walters, L’96, in-house counsel, and Joseph R. Williams, L’09, family law. The SSFPS featured Gregory W. Bevington, L’01, Kathleen M. Charlton, L’08, and Nicola Y. Henry-Taylor, L’96.

If you would like to participate in either of these series, please contact me at comas@duq.edu or 412-396-6279 for more information.
With the return of tens of thousands of U.S. servicemen and women from Iraq and Afghanistan, among other locales, American society today faces problems not experienced on the same scale since the post-Vietnam era. From the diagnosis and treatment of traumatic brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder to the retrieval and identification of human remains to the challenges of returning to civilian life in a time of economic and political turmoil, the issues facing American military veterans in 2012 are legion.

In consideration of the complex blend of medical, legal and public policy questions prompted by this topic, the Cyril H. Wecht Institute of Forensic Science and Law has selected Post-Combat Problems in the 21st Century as the theme of its 12th Annual Conference. Scheduled for Nov. 7-8, 2012, in the Power Center Ballroom, the program will convene experts in wide-ranging disciplines such as psychology, DNA analysis, anthropology, occupational therapy, domestic abuse and criminal law.

“At this time in our nation’s history, we could think of no more important subject to address than this,” says Institute Director Dr. Frederick Fochtman. “Moreover, we are happy to be part of a broader-based University effort this fall involving the schools of Nursing and Leadership and Professional Advancement to educate the general public and relevant professional groups about a host of issues facing our veterans.”

Fall Programs to Include Prescription Abuse Seminar, National Judges Conference

After a spring series that featured seminars on child abuse reporting, new uses of neuroscientific evidence and “Shaken Baby Syndrome,” among other topics, the Institute is also pleased to announce its first Forensic Fridays seminar of the fall 2012 season—a full-day program on Sept. 7 about the prescription medication abuse epidemic affecting communities from Pittsburgh to Hollywood and beyond.

Featuring Fochtman, a pharmacist and former chief forensic toxicologist for the Allegheny County Coroner’s Office; Dr. Bruce Dixon, former director of the Allegheny County Health Department; and Dr. Cyril Wecht, whose forensic pathology expertise has been sought on cases such as the drug-related deaths of Whitney Houston and Michael Jackson, this seminar will address everything from systemic pharmaceutical dispensation problems to the mechanisms of accidental death in prescription abuse cases. (Please check the Institute’s website for the date and location of this event, as well as for announcements about the other fall seminars.)

Also this fall, the Institute is pleased to be partnering with the School of Law to host a segment of the annual meeting of the National Association of Metropolitan Courts, consisting of president and administrative judges from every major urban area and some of the largest state court systems in the United States.

Scheduled for Oct. 9 in the University’s Power Center Ballroom, the conference will feature presentations by Wecht and famed criminalist Dr. Henry Lee, as well as lectures on conviction integrity and various criminal justice reform issues.

“The NAMC being the premier judicial organization of its kind, we are honored to have been asked by the current chairperson, the Hon. Donna Jo McDaniel, president judge of Allegheny County, to create the educational component for this program,” says law professor and Pennsylvania Innocence Commission member John T. Rago. “These judges are opinion makers, and this program gives us a wonderful opportunity to showcase Duquesne before a genuinely national audience.”

Established in fall of 2000, the Wecht Institute collaborates with the University’s schools of Law, Nursing, Natural and Environmental Sciences, Liberal Arts, Education, Health Sciences, and Leadership and Professional Advancement, as well as other academic institutions throughout the region, to create and support multidisciplinary courses of degree and non-degree study pertaining to the vast reach of the forensic sciences in today’s society. Through its conferences, seminars, workshops and publications, the Institute seeks to engender in its participants a multidisciplinary approach to the application of science to the law in our collective search for truth and social justice. To learn more about the Institute or to add your name to our email list, please visit www.duq.edu/forensics or contact us at 412-396-1330 or wechtinstitute@duq.edu.
Save the Date for the Following Law Alumni Receptions!

- September 20 – New York City
- October 11 – Washington, DC
- October 18 – Pittsburgh, PA

“BEST LAWYERS”
DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW

2012 Top Rated Lawyers:
DEAN KEN GORMLEY
(Constitutional Law); Associate Dean Jane Campbell Moriarty (Scientific/Expert Evidence and Professional Responsibility); and Professors Nicholas P. Cafardi (Non-Profit and Corporate Law); Joseph Sabino Mistick (Criminal Law and Public Policy); Al Peñez (Contracts and Administrative Law); and S. Michael Steele (Torts and Litigation).

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
has 100 years of experience in training the finest practicing attorneys in Pennsylvania. We produce great lawyers because our faculty members are among the most talented professionals in their fields, as recognized by their own peers.

At Duquesne Law School, we expect our graduates to achieve the highest levels of excellence—as leaders in law firms, corporations, non-profits and public service—because we expect excellence of ourselves.

Congratulations to the many DUQUESNE LAW ALUMNI recognized as Pittsburgh’s Top Rated Lawyers!

WWW.DUQ.EDU/LAW