Celebrating 50 Years in the Law

DR. JOHN E. MURRAY, JR.
Celebrating 50 Years in the Law
It is a special honor to write this welcoming message for a special issue of the Duquesne Law Alumni Magazine dedicated to the golden anniversary of Dr. John E. Murray Jr.’s remarkable career in teaching and scholarship. John Murray hired me for my own first teaching job twenty-seven years ago, in 1982, at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law. At that time, I joined the faculty to set up, and to serve as the first Director for, the Mellon Writing Program. John Murray was the Dean of the Law School, and provided support in every way to make the program successful. More importantly, he was a tireless professor and scholar, who taught classes early in the day to get a head-start on the rest of his colleagues, then returned to his office where he spent the rest of each day writing books, articles, and running a busy Law School without ever seeming to break a sweat. He was an inspiration to everyone in the building.

In 1994, when I came to Duquesne Law School, it was largely thanks to the encouragement of John Murray – who had by this time become President of the University – along with Dean Nicholas P. Cafardi, who had worked alongside John for two decades. During my first months of teaching at Duquesne, I was startled to run into President Murray in the hallway; he was walking at a brisk pace to get to his Evening Division class a few minutes early. Most University Presidents give up their classroom duties because they are simply too busy. John Murray continued to teach at a steady clip, and was widely acknowledged as one of the best classroom performers on the faculty. I remember arriving for a meeting at President Murray’s office to brainstorm about a University-wide program I was organizing, and being surprised to find five law students exiting his office as I entered. I asked if there was an issue with these students: President Murray looked puzzled and replied: “No, I was giving them extra problems to work on in Contracts so they’re really prepared for the midterm exam.” Even while John Murray ran a University, he never ceased being a first-class teacher and a prolific scholar.

Indeed, John Murray’s fifty-year career is living proof that an individual can write complex, theoretical treatises (Murray on Contracts, Murray & Flechtner, Sales, Leases & Electronic Commerce) and influential law review articles (Cornell, Penn, Wisconsin, Vanderbilt, Fordham and Duquesne law journals to name a few) and still be a world-class instructor in the classroom. Dr. Murray’s sophisticated understanding of Contracts and the UCC have produced many beneficiaries; he has shared his abundant knowledge with generations of Duquesne Law graduates, allowing them to compete at the highest possible level. Many of our most prominent graduates are living proof of his unmatched talents as a legal educator.

On a personal note, I owe a debt of gratitude to now-Chancellor Murray for agreeing to co-chair the Interim Advisory Group that is assisting me, in my capacity as Interim Dean, during this challenging transition period. Along with retired Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Baldwin and a prestigious collection of Advisory Group members (see photo), John has stepped up to volunteer his time and remarkable talents strictly for the good of the Law School and the University. Already, his advice and wise counsel have been invaluable in moving the Law School forward in a positive fashion.

Finally, on a related note, I wish to extend my thanks to Dean Don Guter and Associate Dean Vanessa Browne-Barbour, who have been cooperative and helpful in every way as I take on these new duties – along with Associate Dean Nancy Perkins – at a time of great challenge for the Law School. Fortunately, Duquesne University School of Law is led by faculty, alumni and student leaders who care deeply about the future of the institution – just as previous generations of faculty, alumni and students have safeguarded the shining legacy of the school for the past 98 years. As we join together in celebrating the golden anniversary of John E. Murray Jr.’s impressive career in legal education, we can rest assured that there are more great things on the horizon for the legion of dedicated Duquesne Law scholars and graduates who follow, with gratitude and admiration, in his footsteps.

Pictured L-R: (seated) PA Superior Court President Judge Kate Ford Elliott L’78, PA Superior Court Judge Maureen Lally-Green L’74, Honorable Robert J. Cindrich, Chief Western District Court Judge Donetta Ambrose L’70, Honorable Ralph J. Cappy; (standing) Kenneth J. Horoho L’80, Interim Dean Ken Gormley, PA Senator Jay Costa L’89, PA Supreme Court Justice Max Baer L’75, Third Circuit Court of Appeals Judge D. Brooks Smith.

Not Pictured: Co-chairs Dr. John E. Murray, Jr. and Honorable Cynthia A. Baldwin L’80, Western District Court Judge Joy Flowers Conti L’73, Honorable Timothy K. Lewis L’80, PA Senator Jane Clare Orie L’87, Stephen Froboeck L’68, John R. McGinley, Jr. L’68.
Celebrating
As a boy growing up in Philadelphia, Dr. Murray was an excellent student with a great deal of intellectual curiosity. That curiosity led to a Philosophy major at LaSalle University. “I love philosophical thoughts and ideas, thinking of things from every angle,” Dr. Murray said. “In fact, I’ve used philosophical reasoning quite a bit in my law career.” From LaSalle, Dr. Murray attended Catholic University in Washington D.C., where he earned his Juris Doctor, then moved on to the University of Wisconsin, earning a Doctorate degree.

Dr. Murray’s first job in the legal profession was an assistant professor position at Duquesne University from 1959-1964. “Once I got into law school, I knew I wanted to be a professor,” he said. “I loved research and writing, and I enjoyed helping others. Being a professor allowed me to do the things I wanted to do.”

Contrary to what people probably believe, Dr. Murray wasn’t always enamored with contracts. In fact, his Doctorate Thesis was on Trade Regulations Law. “When I showed up for work at Duquesne, the dean said ‘you will teach contracts”, Dr. Murray lamented. “First teaching experiences are traumatic. It takes a tremendous amount of work to become an expert. It was quite an undertaking.”

Following his stint at Duquesne, Dr. Murray accepted a teaching position at Villanova University School of Law at the urging of a friend. He enjoyed the year he spent there and was happy to be back home in Philadelphia, but he knew he eventually wanted to return to Duquesne. In 1965 he did return, first as a professor then as acting dean in 1967. After a brief stay, Dr. Murray went on to a twenty-year career at the University of Pittsburgh as both a professor and the dean of the Law School. In 1984, he took the challenge of returning to the Villanova Law School, this time as Dean, before returning to Duquesne University two years later in a new and more vital role.

Dr. Murray was named President of Duquesne University in 1988 and remained so until 2001. His achievements during his tenure were considerable; increased enrollment, a median SAT score increase of 50 points, a budget surplus, extensive building and equipment upgrades and increased morale of the student body, just to name a few.

Even with his tremendous success, Dr. Murray was eager to return to the classroom. In 2001 he stepped away from the presidency to teach law. That same year, he was named Chancellor.
“You can become a successful person, make a lot of money or anything else you desire, but if you’re not a better person for having attended Duquesne University, then we have failed.”

of the University. “I make recommendations and I speak at various functions. I oversee the university as quietly as I can,” Dr. Murray noted about his role as Chancellor.

As Chancellor, Professor of Law and former President, Dr. Murray has a unique view of the university. “Duquesne University is a special place—different from any other university. We have a diverse student body, and our mission statement, Serving God by Serving our Students, is something that is apparent every day. You can become a successful person, make a lot of money or anything else you desire, but if you’re not a better person for having attended Duquesne University, then we have failed. Ultimately, we provide opportunities for students, but they have to decide for themselves what kind of students and what kind of person they want to be.”

The school’s mission is critical to the law students. The foundation of law is serving others and helping people that are in trouble. At Duquesne, the Spiritan ideologies are in line with these teachings, which adds a special dimension to a Duquesne lawyer that is lacking in other law schools.

After a half century of law, Dr. Murray is enthusiastic and focused as ever on the tasks ahead. “I authored many books and I’ve written numerous treatises and teaching manuals (see sidebar for full list). I love what I do and I plan to do it for as long as I can. As long as I’m effective I will continue to teach and write. Sitting around in retirement would not suit me well, I need intellectual stimulation.”

Everyone has heard the saying, “If you love what you do, it’s not a job.” If that’s true, Dr. Murray has never worked a day in his life. His passion and commitment to his profession has been a beacon to generations of law students.
Dr. John E. Murray, Chancellor of Duquesne University, received the Halo Award from the Angel’s Place Foundation on October 22, 2008. Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Judge Dwayne Woodruff, L’88, and his wife, Joy, MC’d the event. Angel’s Place (formerly Mom’s House) is a total family development program for single, low-income student parents and their children. Since 1984, their primary service has been free child-care and other services including parent education, tutoring, counseling, career counseling, referrals and assistance with practical needs such as food, clothing and societal support. Their goal is to enable student parents to complete their education, secure lucrative employment and become independent, successful members of our community. Dr. Murray has been on their board and one of their champions for over 25 years.

Dr. John E. Murray, Chancellor of Duquesne University, received the Halo Award from the Angel’s Place Foundation on October 22, 2008. Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Judge Dwayne Woodruff, L’88, and his wife, Joy, MC’d the event. Angel’s Place (formerly Mom’s House) is a total family development program for single, low-income student parents and their children. Since 1984, their primary service has been free child-care and other services including parent education, tutoring, counseling, career counseling, referrals and assistance with practical needs such as food, clothing and societal support. Their goal is to enable student parents to complete their education, secure lucrative employment and become independent, successful members of our community. Dr. Murray has been on their board and one of their champions for over 25 years.

Published Books by John Murray

- Murray, Cases & Materials on Contracts (Bobbs-Merrill 1969)
- Murray on Contracts (Bobbs-Merrill 1974)
- Murray, Commercial Transactions (West 1975)
- Murray, Cases & Materials on Contracts (2d ed.) (Bobbs-Merrill 1976)
- Problems & Materials on Sales (with Nordstrom & Clovis, West 1982)
- Murray, Problems and Materials on Secured Transactions (with Nordstrom & Clovis, West, 1987)
- Murray on Contracts (Bobbs-Merrill/Michie-Butterworth Co. 1990)
- Murray, Cases & Materials on Contracts (Bobbs-Merrill/ Michie-Butterworth Co. 1991)
- Sales & Leases (National and International Transactions) (Murray & Flechtner, West 1994)
- Sales, Leases And Electronic Commerce: Problems and Materials on National and International Transactions (Murray & Flechtner, West 2000)
- Murray on Contracts (4th ed.) 2001 (LexisNexis)
- Volume 9, Corbin on Contracts (Third Party Beneficiaries, Assignments, Joint & Several Obligations) (2007)
- Corbin on Contracts–Supplements–From 2002 to Present
Duquesne Alumna Becomes First Woman to be Named Tennessee’s Chief Justice

Tennessee Supreme Court Justice Janice M. Holder, a decorated 1975 graduate of Duquesne University School of Law, was named the state’s first female chief justice.

Justice Holder grew up in McDonald, Pennsylvania, and attended Allegheny College before transferring to the University of Pittsburgh where she graduated Summa Cum Laude with a degree in psychology.

Over the years, Justice Holder held numerous positions in southwestern Pennsylvania, including law clerk, solicitor, and law firm associate, before moving to Memphis to continue her law career. She practiced at a public firm for two years before opening her own private practice. In 1990, Justice Holder was elected judge of the Circuit Court of Tennessee for the Thirtieth Judicial District at Memphis, District II. She held this post until 1996 when she was named Justice of the Supreme Court of Tennessee. She is honored by her current appointment. “I am humbled to be named to this position. I look forward to serving the great people of Tennessee and hopefully opening more doors for women along the way.”

When asked about Duquesne University School of Law, Justice Holder reflected back with fondness. “I loved Duquesne. I received a fine legal education there. It’s amazing how often I fall back on things I remember from law school,” she said. Her favorite professors were Dean Scuillo, Ray Sekula and Al Pelaez, and she remembered her favorite past time. “Hanging out at the old Rockwell Hall, sipping coffee. It was a fabulous time in my life, a great place to be. I am proud to be an alumna.”

Justice Holder did not hesitate to offer advice to today’s law students. “Nothing is beyond your reach. Just believe in yourself,” she said.
After many years of untiring effort, the Duquesne University School of Law has finally been able to forge links with two law schools in Ethiopia, namely, the Addis Ababa and Mekelle law schools. We are forging a new partnership with them to assist in their academic needs.

Ethiopia is undergoing major transformation in political, social, and economic fields. The new Ethiopian constitution was written in 1995 and Ethiopia prides itself in being one of the growing democracies in Sub-Sahara Africa. Ethiopia is the “omphalos”, or hub, for African diplomacy and politics. The African Union and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa are headquartered in Addis. Moreover, there are over one hundred embassies and over five hundred non-profit organizations engaged in various developmental activities.

The world is eyeing Ethiopia as she tries to pull herself out of poverty and change her basic infrastructures. As the country undergoes tremendous change, Ethiopia will need help in the legal field. That is why with the help our alumni we want to help bring about the change the country needs. We are partnering with them to help them in the following areas:

- It is common to see empty shelves in most schools and these two schools are no exception. We have been receiving tremendous cooperation from our faculty who are donating their law books. So far, we have been able to ship sixty-six boxes of legal books to both schools with the help of the US Air Force. The Air Force has also agreed to take more books in February. We have also been able to secure HeinOnline, a research tool, for the schools. The faculty and students are very appreciative of this gesture and we are proud to be able to lift their spirit to engage in research.

- We hope to partner with the schools so that our faculty are able to travel to Ethiopia to lecture some areas of the law to be selected by the law schools.

- We are also planning on introducing “case study” method in these law schools. The Ethiopian counterparts have shown great interest in the case study system to help in the accountability and transparency of the courts. The Deputy Chief justice of the Supreme Court of Ethiopia has particularly shown great interest in the method. He has also agreed to facilitate the publication of cases as they are handed down by the Federal Supreme Court.

We paid a visit to these two law schools in the Summer of 2007 and talked to the deans of these law schools and the President of Mekelle University. We held extensive talks with them and they have identified many areas where we can assist. Professor Donald Guter, Professor Kirk Junker and I are planning on visiting these schools in the Spring or Summer of 2009 to sign a memorandum of understanding and to hold talks on bilateral cooperation. The Duquesne Law School has also, in principle, agreed to send Duquesne law faculty to teach in some areas of law and to strengthen their library systems. However, there are some areas where we lack resources. Below, we are outlining some areas where we think our alumni can help:

- Donate books, not older than five years
- Donate money for storage and shipment of the books, purchasing computers, and training of the Judiciary
- Assist in publishing cases handed down by the courts

What we have accomplished is by no means adequate. More needs to be done, but with the assistance of our dedicated Alumni, much can be achieved. Already we have collected many books from our faculty and some law firms in town. We anticipate that we will receive thousands of law books in the coming months.

If you are able to assist the Law School with this partnership, please contact Tsegaye Beru at 412-396-4423.
Duquesne’s Bar Pass Rate Sets a New Record High

by Richard C. Gaffney, Esquire, Director of Bar Services

The faculty, administration, and staff of the Duquesne University School of Law congratulate the Class of 2008 for its outstanding performance on the July 2008 Pennsylvania Bar Examination. Duquesne’s pass rate for first-time applicants was 97.04%, placing Duquesne second among all Pennsylvania area law schools for the second straight year. Duquesne’s first-time pass rate was 8 percentage points higher than the average pass rate for all nine Pennsylvania-reporting law schools and was 18 percentage points higher than the Law School’s historical average for July Bar Exam administrations.

The exceptional pass rate for Duquesne graduates was the product of months of diligent preparation and hard work. Most Duquesne students started seriously studying for the Bar Examination during their final year in school, well before the commencement of the summer bar preparation courses taken by almost all law school graduates. These students took full advantage of the substantial resources that Duquesne provides to help students maximize their bar scores, including a year-long course that includes test-taking techniques for the multiple-choice portion of the Bar Examination and a two-credit spring semester course that focuses on reviewing the substantive law tested on the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) and improving writing skills for the essay portion of state Bar Examinations. In the spring course, students attended lectures reviewing substantive law, participated in weekly multistate-testing, essay-writing and Performance Test workshops, and were afforded opportunities to practice writing answers to numerous mock Bar Exam questions.

These courses are having an impact. Since the introduction of the spring semester Bar Preparation Course in 2006, Duquesne’s first-time bar pass rate has soared from 68.02% (in 2005) to 88.32% (in 2006), 91.39% (in 2007) and 97.04% (in 2008). During this time, the pass rate compared favorably with the eight year period from July 1998 through July 2005, when the rate averaged 74.63%. Our current students are well aware that the exceptional results achieved by the class of 2008 were the direct result of exceptional effort and, while past performance is not a guarantee of future results, they are already working diligently to emulate last year’s success.


In June, Robert S. Barker delivered guest lectures in the Graduate Program in Constitutional Law of the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru on “El Principio de Precendente y su Aplicacion en el Sistema Constitucional de los Estados Unidos” and “La Independencia de la Corte Suprema de los Estados Unidos”. At that time, Professor Barker also presented a paper on “El Federalismo Judicial en los Estados Unidos” to the Committee on Civil Law and Procedure of the Inter-American Bar Association as part of the IABA's XLII Conference in Lima. In August, his book, Constitutional Adjudication: The Costa Rican Experience, was published by Vandeplas Publishing. That same month, his article, “El Control de Constitucionalidad: Una Perspectiva Interamericana”, was published in the Revista Peruana de Derecho Publico.


Donald J. Guter was the subject of an interview by the Virginia Pilot on June 3, 2008 on “Nonprofit group claims Navy uses ships as prisons.” He was also interviewed on June 13, 2008 by Bloomberg News in “Guantanamo Ruling May Roil Obama, McCain with No Alternatives”. He co-authored with Rev. John H. Thomas “Torture is a Test of Our Faith” in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Sunday Forum on July 20, 2008. On September 11-12, he spoke at Mercer University, Atlanta, in the National Summit on Torture: religious faith, torture, and our national soul, on “How the U.S. Military Responded to the Drift Toward Torture” (Paper published by Mercer University Press).

Kirk W. Junker presented a series of lectures on Carbon Trading to law students at Sts. Cyril and Methodius University, Faculty of Law, Skopje, Macedonia from May 13-16. Professor Junker also taught the live portion of International Environmental Law to partner University of Cologne students in Cologne, Germany from May 19-23. From May 31 – June 21, he managed the annual summer program in Dublin and Belfast for Duquesne law students plus law students from five other law schools. On June 26, Professor Junker presented a research paper to the 44th annual meeting of the Inter-American Bar Association in Lima, Peru titled “Programs for Foreign Lawyers and Students Offered by Law Faculties in the USA.” On September 25, he presented a research paper on the European Commission’s new Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulation at “European Union Day,” a symposium organized by Duquesne’s Small Business Development Center. With P. Matthew Roy, ’07, he published the introduction to German Legal Methods (Carolina Academic Press, 2008), a translation of Reinhold Zippelius Juristische Methodenlehre, tenth edition, C. H. Beck, 2006. On October 25, Professor Junker presented a CLE at Duquesne School of Law with Prof. Barker and Adjunct Prof. Williamson on International Law.

Bruce Ledewitz’s new book, Hallowed Secularism: Theory, Belief, Practice, has been accepted for publication by Palgrave Macmillan. The anticipated release date is March 2009. Professor Ledewitz spoke at the Pittsburgh-ACLU Civil Liberties Discussion Group Series on Church and State on May 7th. On May 17, he was interviewed on the subject of court reform by THE BOX: Inside • Outside • On, Commonwealth Foundation for Public Policy Alternatives. Professor Ledewitz was also interviewed by Fox News for a nationally distributed story on religion that was broadcast on September 26, 2008.

Jan M. Levine was one of three panelists offering a presentation titled, “Geek 101: Using Technology Effectively (Without Having to Learn the Difference Between Star Wars and Star Trek),” for 120 session attendees at the July 2008 Legal Writing Institute Conference, held at the University of Indianapolis School of Law.

Frank Y. Liu, along with Dr. Joel Fishman, Dittakavi Rao, and Tsegaye Beru of the Duquesne Center for Legal Information/Allegheny County Law Library, authored the Pennsylvania Legal Research Handbook, a comprehensive and exhaustive guide to Pennsylvania legal information resources.


Under the direction of Alice Stewart, the Low Income Tax Practicum received a 2009 grant award from the Internal Revenue Service. The Practicum has been awarded over $700,000 since its inception in 1998. Additionally, the Securities Arbitration Practicum has been awarded another $50,000 for 2009 from the Pennsylvania Securities Commission with the continued support of the Pennsylvania Securities Commissioner, Tom Michlovic. $250,000 has been awarded to date.

On May 1, Mark Yochum spoke on the ethics panel at the DePaul Business & Commercial Law Sixth Annual Symposium on Ethics and Business (in co-operation with the Commercial Law League of America). He was the featured ethics speaker for the Delaware County Bench Bar Conference in June, and coordinated the annual Eckert Seamans/Duquesne Law School CLE on August 14. Professor Yochum also moderated a panel that included U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judges Fitzgerald, Agresti, and Deller on ethics in bankruptcy for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s 14th Annual Bankruptcy Symposium in Pittsburgh on September 10. On October 18, he presented the CLE “Bankruptcy: The Short Course” at the Law School. Professor Yochum also published On Ledewitz: A Review of American Religious Democracy, 46 Duq.L.R. 311 (2008). ☞
Assistant Professor Susan Hascall received her J.D. magna cum laude from Washburn University School of Law where she served on the Law Journal and on the Native American Moot Court team. She also holds a masters degree in anthropology from Wichita State University, and received her BA in political science from Texas A&M University. Professor Hascall previously clerked for the Honorable Wade Brorby of the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and Chief Judge J. Patrick Brazil of the Kansas Court of Appeals. Before coming to Duquesne, she practiced in the areas of commercial litigation and appellate procedure in Kansas City. Professor Hascall teaches sales and Islamic law.

“I am very pleased to have been appointed to the faculty of Duquesne Law School. I enjoyed teaching Islamic Law this semester, and I look forward to teaching Sales and Leases of Goods in the spring. I am new to Pittsburgh and to Duquesne, but I already feel very much at home here. This is a wonderful vibrant city. The people here are very friendly, and the welcome I have received at Duquesne has been extraordinary. I am honored to have become part of this community.”

Assistant Professor Amelia Michele Joiner graduated from the Duquesne University School of Law cum laude, where she served on Law Review and on the Trial Moot Court Team. Professor Joiner is a member of the Louis L. Manderino Honor Society for Distinguished Achievement in Moot Court Competition. She graduated with a B.A. magna cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining the Law School faculty full time, Professor Joiner was an Adjunct Professor in Trial Advocacy. She was a clerk for the Honorable Joy Flowers Conti of the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar. Professor Joiner was a litigation associate with two of the largest firms in the country, K&L Gates LLP and Reed Smith LLP, where she practiced in the field of Financial Services litigation. Professor Joiner teaches contracts and trial advocacy and coaches the Law School’s Trial Moot Court teams.

“I am so honored to have been chosen to serve as a member of the Duquesne University School of Law faculty. As a Duquesne graduate, I am keenly familiar with why this university is so special. The lawyers who leave Duquesne are among the best in the country. Each one has been encouraged and nurtured to strive for excellence. Each one has a different way of approaching legal and ethical issues. To be selected to serve on a faculty, whose purpose is to educate great legal minds, is truly an honor.”

Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Writing Julia M. Glencer holds a B.A. summa cum laude in English from Carlow College and a J.D. magna cum laude from The Dickinson School of Law. She spent five years as a judicial law clerk, serving the Hon. Joseph F. Weis, Jr. and the Hon. D. Michael Fisher, both on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and more recently, the Hon. Joan Orie Melvin on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. Professor Glencer also practiced law for five years with the national law firm of K&L Gates LLP, where she concentrated in appellate litigation and governmental affairs. Professor Glencer has co-authored briefs filed before all three Pennsylvania appellate courts and various federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

“I am thrilled to be at Duquesne Law School, teaching a subject that I love and know to be absolutely critical to the sound development of new lawyers. Duquesne’s legal writing program provides students with challenging, real world assignments and the opportunity to work closely with the writing faculty to improve their reading, writing and organizing skills – skills that practicing lawyers consistently describe as being underdeveloped, yet so very important to the profession.”
Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Writing **Erin R. Karsman** is a magna cum laude graduate of the George Mason University School of Law, where she was winner of the school’s upper-level moot court competition as well as a national moot court competition. Professor Karsman is the recipient of the Virginia Trial Lawyer’s Association Student Advocacy Award for Excellence in Trial Advocacy. During law school, Professor Karsman was a teaching fellow in George Mason’s legal writing program. She also taught appellate writing as an adjunct Professor at George Mason. Before going into teaching, Professor Karsman was an associate at the law firm of Smith Pachter McWhorter in Vienna, Virginia, where she focused on government contract issues. Professor Karsman is the co-author of “Strayhorn v. Raytheon E-Systems: Determining the Government’s Share of Taxes, Sales and Use Tax Refunds to Federal Contractors,” which appeared in the Fall 2006 edition of the Public Contract Law Journal. She is a member of the bars of Virginia and Washington, D.C. Professor Karsman holds an undergraduate degree from Washington and Lee University.

“I am delighted to be a part of Duquesne Law School’s legal research and writing faculty. Duquesne’s comprehensive legal writing program provides students with the opportunity to develop skills essential to the practice of law in the context of resolving substantive and complex legal problems. Duquesne’s students are exceptionally bright and diligent, which makes coming to work each day an absolute pleasure.”

Assistant Professor of Legal Research and Writing **Tara Willke** attended Southern Illinois University after serving four years on active duty in the United States Air Force as a Command Post Crew Commander. Professor Willke received her undergraduate degree summa cum laude in 2000 with a major in History and minor in Political Science. She earned her J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2004, where she graduated magna cum laude and was elected for membership in the Order of the Coif. While at the University of Pittsburgh, Professor Willke served as the Senior Managing Editor of the Law Review and was a Teaching Assistant for Legal Research and Writing. After graduating from law school, Ms. Willke was a litigation associate with the Pittsburgh law firm of Babst, Calland, Clements & Zomnir, P.C., where her practice included commercial, construction, and environmental litigation, as well as other types of complex litigation matters. She is currently a member of the Pennsylvania Bar.

“I feel so fortunate to be given the opportunity to teach at Duquesne and in a writing program that understands and emphasizes the skills that are essential for practicing law. Our students are given challenging assignments, and in the process of completing them they learn not only how to research and write, but they also learn the importance of meeting deadlines and striving to exceed expectations.”
Professor Ken Gormley named Interim Dean

Ken Gormley has served as a professor of law on Duquesne's faculty since 1994 and is also associate vice president for interdisciplinary scholarship and special projects for Duquesne University. He is the immediate past-president of the Allegheny County Bar Association. Before coming to Duquesne, Professor Gormley taught at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and was director and founder of the Mellon Writing Program in legal research and writing. He earned his B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh summa cum laude and his J.D. from Harvard Law School.

Professor Gormley’s expert opinion has been sought in the U.S. Congress and the Pennsylvania Senate, where he has testified on wiretapping, obscenity law, presidential pardons and the independent counsel law. Professor Gormley’s current book project on the Clinton-Starr investigation is scheduled to be published by Crown Publishers (a division of Random House) next year. His book, Archibald Cox: Conscience of a Nation, won the 1999 Bruce K. Gould Book Award for best publication relating to the law.

Professor Nancy D. Perkins appointed Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

A professor in Duquesne’s School of Law since 1993, Professor Nancy Perkins has taught courses in property, environmental law, environmental justice, Pennsylvania administrative law and administrative process, as well as advanced legal research and writing. She has served as vice chair of the Sustainable Pennsylvania Program for the Pennsylvania Consortium for Interdisciplinary Environmental Policy and as a member of the Executive Council of the Environmental Law Section of the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Professor Perkins has authored numerous articles for law reviews and journals nationwide, and co-authored a report submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection by the Sustainable Pennsylvania Program of the Pennsylvania Consortium for Interdisciplinary Environmental Policy. She has served Duquesne law students in various roles, including as advisor to the Duquesne Law Review, coach of the National Environmental Law Moot Court Team, faculty advisor to the Duquesne Law School Environmental Law Society, and as advisor to the Women’s Law Association and the Student Bar Association.

Prior to coming to Duquesne, Professor Perkins taught at Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad Law Center. She also has practiced law with firms in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Professor Perkins is a member of the Florida Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, she received her J.D. from Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Broad Law Center and her B.A. from Mount Holyoke College with high honors.
LAA President’s Message

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the 2008-2009 President of the Duquesne Law Alumni Association. The importance of our alumni cannot be overstated. You – WE – are important to Duquesne Law School. The Law School, its students, and its faculty continue to ask for our views, involvement and voices. I hope you will remain or become engaged with the Law School in the coming years.

Thank you to those who took part in this past year’s alumni activities, both in and outside of Pittsburgh, to those of you who responded with nominations for the Alumni Awards and the Board of Governors and Officers, as well as those of you who participated in various events involving students at the Law School. Your efforts and enthusiasm are appreciated. I hope many of you will also respond in support of the ongoing efforts and priorities at the Law School. I know each of us has particular interests and reasons that encourage us to give back to the Law School, which has given us so much.

Throughout this edition of The Duquesne Lawyer, you’ll read articles about students, faculty, and alumni. Look at the groups of alumni who gathered at various events throughout the year, and gain a sense of the growth of the Law School when reading about programs, faculty, and student achievements. There is much to be proud of as a Duquesne Lawyer. I hope that seeing and reading about these things will inspire you to reach out to the Law School, to classmates, and students. It is important for the students to realize the careers and paths Duquesne Law School graduates have taken, inspiring them to pursue their hopes and dreams. Your contact with students now will help them realize the opportunities – and responsibilities of the alumni they will become.

I thank all of you for allowing me to serve as the LAA’s President for 2008-2009.

Mary-Jo Rebelo

Board of Governors
2008 – 2009

Officers
Mary Jo Rebelo, L’88
President
Gino F. Peluso, L’80
President-Elect
F. Christopher Spina, L’81
Vice President
Eric J. Zagrocki, L’92
Treasurer
Hon. Michael E. McCarthy, L’84
Secretary
John P. Goodrich, L’87
Immediate Past-President

Governors
Jane M. Carlonas, L’91
P. Brennan Hart, L’73
Jessica M. Jurasko, L’04
Anthony T. Kovalchick, L’02
Patrick J. Loughren, L’97
Michelle A. Mantine, L’06
Philip J. Murray, L’88
Hon. Debbie O’Dell-Seneca, L’77
Jennifer Staley, L’02

Trustees of the Scholarship Fund
Interim Dean Ken Gormley
Vanessa Brown-Barbour, L’93
Mäny Emamzadeh, L’92
John E. Hall, L’69
Joanne Sciullo Huber, L’86
Matthew Loughren, L’96
Mary Jo Rebelo, L’88

Left to right: Goodrich, Zagrocki, Staley, McCarthy, Kovalchick, Murray, Spina, Rebelo, Peluso, Mantine
From the Director of Law Alumni Relations

Dear Friends:

Did you know that the number of active Duquesne University Law Alumni is nearly 7,000? This number includes men and women whose law degrees have taken them across the United States and around the world in all areas of the law and beyond. We are proud of all of our graduates as they exemplify the law school’s mission of serving the public as the highest form of law.

Since becoming your director, I have been impressed by the tremendous outpouring of support the alumni have provided to the Law School community. Your commitment strengthens our school and allows our students to excel in such programs as legal research and writing and moot court. I am confident that you will continue to be a great source of support to your Law School as it continues to cultivate lawyers who care about the welfare of the people.

Your Law Alumni Association is made up of an energetic and dedicated group of individuals committed to your Law School. The DLAA supports student events throughout the year, and hosts alumni receptions in several states. Membership in the DLAA is only $30 and provides benefits such as discounts on CLE classes here at the Law School. Please join today!

I look forward to meeting all of you and seeing you at the annual Reunion Dinner on April 24. I welcome your ideas, thoughts, questions, and concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (412) 396-5215 or deborj@duq.edu.

Best Wishes,

Jeanine L. DeBor
Annual Reunion Dinner
Pittsburgh — April 25, 2008

Over 240 alumni enjoyed an evening of reminiscing and entertainment at the 57th annual Reunion Dinner at LeMont Restaurant, Pittsburgh. Entertainment was provided by “No Bad JuJu”.

The gavel is passed: DLAA President Mary-Jo Rebelo, Alumni Director Jeanine DeBor, and Immediate Past President Jack Goodrich, L’87

Terri Byrnes, Rebecca Lafferty L’00, Hon. Kelley Streib, L’92
Norma Caquatto, L’79 and Garry Nelson, L’82
Mary-Jo Rebelo, L’88, and Carol Starr Hesz, L’90
For his outstanding career as a personal injury attorney, Tom Kline received the Distinguished Alumnus Award by the Law Alumni Association. Jon Perry was the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award for not only his notable legal career as a trial lawyer but also for his work in the community as the founder of “Pennies from Heaven Keeping Families Together.” Rob Marino, a long time friend of the Law School community, received the Meritorious Service Award. Congratulations!
Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Annual Meeting in Hershey, PA — June 4, 2008

Hon. Debbie O’Dell Seneca, L'77, and Hon. Bonnie Brigance Leadbetter, Chief Judge of the PA Commonwealth Court

Hon. Donetta Ambrose, L'70 (recipient of the PBA ADR Special Recognition Award) and Hon. Maureen-Lally Green, L'74

Jerry Eisenberg L’84 and Jesse Torisky, L’85

Bill Costopoulos L’71 and Karen Balaban L’78

David Alexander L’05 and Terry Wright L’89

Hon. Donetta Ambrose, L’70 (recipient of the PBA ADR Special Recognition Award) and Hon. Maureen-Lally Green, L'74
The Carol Los Mansmann Award for Legal Writing Excellence was given to 12 law students for outstanding appellate brief writing during their first-year appellate arguments. The awardees are: Colleen Aracri, Caleb Bissett, Danielle Collins, Keith Fisher, Jaimie George, Ryan Hauck, Stephanie Henry, Jennifer Homer, Andrew King, Brandy Lonchena, Aaron Ludwig, James Thornburg.
Pittsburgh Fall Reception (continued)
Alumni Scholarships

The Law Alumni Association provided scholarships to three second-year evening students at the top of their class. Pictured L-R are DLAA President Mary-Jo Rebelo, Kelly Jerabek, Justin Martinchek, Aaron Ludwig, and Scholarship Trustee Chair Mäny Emamzadeh, L’92.
Olive & Twist – October 16, 2008

Catherine Pober ’07, Darlene Wood ’06, Jacki Mirowitz ’07

Assistant Dean Ella Kwisnek ’91 and Marie Batz ’07

Beth Tibbott ’07, Valerie Harper (Registrar), Dana Richardson ’07

Nicole Scialabba ’06 and Lisa Gaiser ’06
Washington, DC — November 6, 2008

Nancy Pirt '79

Professor Margaret Krasik '76 and John Noel '86

Nina McDermott '06 and Brad Breslin '07

Frank Carr '69 and Jeff Prather '99
DLAA Immediate Past President Jack Goodrich, L’87, addresses the students.

Dean Guter congratulates Chiomo Azi, L’08.
Duquesne University School Of Law
Class Of 2008, June 1, 2008
Governor Richard Thornburg delivered the keynote address as follows:

Members of the Class of 2008 of the Duquesne University School of Law:

It is an obvious point of pride for me to return this morning to my hometown of Pittsburgh, truly “America’s Most Livable City,” and join you in observing the finale of your formal legal education. From here on, the classroom will be history and experience will become your teacher, and a demanding one at that. I want to extend my warmest congratulations to all of you graduating today. You are, of course, the principals in this exercise, but here are the amici curiae—your spouses, families and loved ones who have supported your dedication and hard work toward attaining this law degree. For them a rousing cheer is certainly in order.

Hodding Carter, former spokesman for Jimmy Carter’s State Department, unburdened himself some years ago on the subject of commencement addresses. He noted that:

“If the speakers are even moderately self-aware, they know they are irrelevant and are therefore blessedly brief. If they are so fatuous as to believe that the students assembled hang in fascinated rapture upon their every word, they will be unbearably long.”

Somewhere between these two extremes must lie a happy medium. And I am bold enough to try to strike it this morning…indeed, I am here and I have no choice.

Allow me to begin with some bits of reminiscence. This is a repeat performance for me at Duquesne Law School commencement. Over thirty years ago, on Sunday, June 5, 1977, before many of you were born, I was privileged to speak to that year’s graduates.

Imagine 1977. There was no such thing as the Internet, no iPods, no Facebooks or YouTubes. Cell phones were cumbersome and in short supply. The Cold War was at its height and, proof that some things never change, we faced an energy shortage as gasoline prices rose to new highs…. and all of this was prior to the Three Mile Island nuclear accident which sounded the death knell for an energy source once thought to be “too cheap to meter”!

Let me go back even further to my own law school commencement in 1957 (from the other law school)—a time when Pittsburgh had only four black-and-white television channels and there was no such thing as LEXIS or WESTLAW to aid in our legal research. It was during that classroom experience that I first developed my respect for the Rule of Law and my fascination with the courtroom which were to form such an important part of my life. Then as now, substantial challenges awaited our generation—in large part deriving from the unfinished agenda of those who preceded us.

As you embark on your legal careers, you enter equally exciting and very demanding times. Times of anticipated success and accomplishment, to be sure, but also times of rapid, kaleidoscopic change in our social, political and economic landscape—all of which makes it difficult to know today, where you may end up tomorrow.

That may be disconcerting to many of you. And, unfortunately, I can offer little useful advice on setting a career path and sticking to it. In fact, I may be one of the worst people to talk to on the subject in that, since my own law school graduation, my career has been somewhat akin to that of an itinerant peddler.

Following more of a circuitous, unmarked trail than any clear career path, I have been, successively: a corporate lawyer, a federal prosecutor, a high-level bureaucrat in the Justice Department, a governor of this great commonwealth, an academic of sorts, attorney general of the United States, the ranking American at the United Nations and now, as you may know, a so-called “Washington lawyer.” My family still says to me, with good reason, “what do you want to do when you grow up?”

So if you were hoping to hear a commencement speaker who could give you firm and unwavering advice on a game plan for the future…you are listening to the wrong guy.

On the other hand, for those of you who might otherwise be troubled by uncertainty, I hope my experience can serve as some consolation and help you to understand that any lack of clarity you may be experiencing now stems from the wealth, not the paucity, of opportunities that your legal education offers you.

Given the existence of such uncertainty, however, and perhaps particularly because of it, I think it is important to address some of the specific challenges to law and lawyers which exist in today’s world.

Historically, lawyers have not fared well, in either literary or the popular sense. Shakespeare’s admonition in HenryVI, Part II, to “kill all the lawyers” is not taken literally these days. But it does cause mild murmurs of near approval when coupled with observations that many of our problems seem to come from having “too many lawyers and not enough good ones” —present company, I am sure, excepted!

As lawyers, we must realize that we each have a vital stake in the integrity of our legal system and must conduct ourselves accordingly in the practice of the law. Our inspirations must always be to achieve excellence in our professional endeavors, and this demands great care and precision…far more tedium than theatrics.

When I was an active trial lawyer, I became acutely sensitive to the image the public received of our profession from television and the movies—not media of great subtlety!

Contrary to the images conveyed by such dramatic fare, most effective litigation is carried out not through courtroom histrionics, but by legal craftsmen who—like all other good lawyers—carefully prepare and try their cases so as to extend the frontiers of the law on behalf of their clients and the public.

My greatest satisfactions as a prosecutor came, in fact, not from jailing racketeers and corrupt officials through courtroom legerdemain, but from fashioning legal arguments such as those which extended the application of environmental laws against industrial polluters of our local rivers. Or later, as attorney general, in contributing to the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, designed to end discrimination against 54 million citizens with disabilities and help to move them closer to the mainstream of American life.
I hope that as lawyers you will similarly seek to extend the law for the public good—whether you serve as prosecutors or defense counsel, as tax lawyers or civil rights advocates, or in whatever practice you choose. You, and the nation, will be the beneficiaries of such a commitment.

But what about challenges to you as individuals? I see them as complex and demanding, but ultimately, of great promise. First, I would strongly suggest that you give over some part of your quest for individual self-fulfillment—for financial security, professional distinction, for prominence in whatever field you choose—toward seeking to bring a piece of the American dream to those who long for justice and equal opportunity.

Life is not just about getting and keeping in either the material or the personal sense. There is much more. To the extent that you commit yourself to sharing your talents, your resources, your care and your compassion with others, then to just an extent, I suggest, will you grow in your own sense of self-esteem and inner peace.

Some of you, I expect, will find careers in public service, as I have. A future governor, senator or president may be among you. But holding high political office is not the only—nor necessarily the most important—constructive form of citizen involvement. Indeed, more meaningful governance often takes place at the local level than in the rarefied atmosphere of our state capitols or in Washington, D.C.

And, as many of you already know from personal experience, our tradition of volunteer activity constitutes one of the unique strengths of this nation. Community volunteers in the United States make a special contribution, in ways unknown and alien to most of the world, toward the welfare of those who are most vulnerable in our society. What a fitting challenge for graduates of a law school founded on the premise Salus Populi Suprema Lex, “The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.”

Finally, let me share with you some of the concerns that I have about the law today—my “short list” of misgivings about our current system of justice in America.

First, I must take note of the tensions which inevitably arise during times of war and emergency which test the limits of our government’s allegiance to the civil rights and civil liberties of all its citizens. During times such as these, when our nation is threatened by terrorists who have no respect for the lives of innocent citizens, let alone for their own lives, it is natural for law enforcement and intelligence agencies to push the envelope when it comes to attempting to thwart these subversive activities and to protect our citizenry. Indeed, it has been so since our nation’s beginning. This makes it all the more important that we maintain the carefully constructed balance established by our constitution between individual rights and national security. So long as we adhere to the rule of law and so long as our courts sit in final judgment on such questions, I have no fear that we will relinquish this truly unique characteristic of our free society.

Second, we must continue to work to ensure adequate competent counsel, in both criminal and civil proceedings, for all Americans, regardless of their ability to pay, if we are to truly guarantee equal justice under the law. Years ago, Judge Learned Hand admonished, “Thou shalt not ration justice,” but that is precisely what we do when we deny our citizenry adequate lawyering in the adjudication of their rights. Moreover, honoring the right to counsel makes good economic sense as well, particularly in criminal cases. Shortcomings in this endeavor truly evidence a “pay me now or pay me later” characteristic when convictions are reversed on appeal and costly new trials awarded because of inadequate representation in the first place.

Third, I suggest that it is long since past the time that we should remove the selection of Pennsylvania judges from the partisan political process. To require candidates for the bench to solicit and spend ever-increasing levels of campaign contributions to fund ever more clever television spots is not only demeaning to them, but to the legal process itself. Substituting a merit selection system of appointments for the current random political process, often governed by name or locale identification or bogus “issues,” would be a great step forward in our state, one of the last which still elects all of its judges in partisan contests.

Fourth, because I have spent about one-half of my professional career in federal law enforcement, it may surprise you that I am concerned about the current over-federalization of our criminal laws. Part of the problem is the Congress’ seeming response to nearly every “issue de jour” by the passage of a new federal law. Another contributing factor is that we have no federal criminal code as such, merely an accumulation of laws randomly-enacted over 200 years plus of legislative activity, now encompassing, at last count, over 3,000 separate offenses, which include 232 prosecuting theft and fraud, 215 against false statements, 99 against counterfeiting and forgery and 96 against property destruction. Fully 78 different terms in Title 18 alone are used to describe the mental state necessary for criminal culpability. And the list goes on. This can be mischievous in the extreme since it provides ambitious and sometimes politically-motivated prosecutors with the opportunity to single out prominent individuals for prosecution on bases other than serious culpability. And this runs contrary to our concept of “equal justice under law.”

Finally, we need some common sense reforms in our civil justice system. Law suit abuse has become a justified target for critics throughout our nation. Excessive punitive damages in the hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars. “Junk science” litigation pitting hired guns for plaintiffs and defendants against one another to the bewilderment of lay jurors. The abuse of class action suits which, more often than not, produce prodigious fees for the lawyers and peanuts for the plaintiffs. The Supreme Court, Congress and various state legislatures have recently begun to stir in response to these excesses. But it has often been a “two steps forward, one step back” kind of proposition deserving a much more sustained effort if true reform is to succeed. Perhaps the recent criminal convictions of prominent class-action plaintiffs’ lawyers will spur such a renewed effort.

You, I am sure, will develop your own laundry list of appropriate reforms; some, no doubt, vastly different from mine. And we must all be mindful of the admonition of the late Arthur Vanderbilt, Chief Justice of the New Jersey Supreme Court, that “legal reform is no sport for the short-minded.” But it is important to frame these issues and pursue these goals, as lawyers, utilizing the special insights we gain through our day-to-day practices.

From this day forward you will each make your own contributions—as lawyers and caring citizens—and they will demand your very best. Moreover, as advisors and counselors to individuals and institutions alike, you will frequently have a role to play as the “conscience” of your clients. Moreover, as advisors and counselors to individuals and institutions alike, you will frequently have a role to play as the “conscience” of your clients. And this will also require that you apply your own sound values and standards to the resolution of their problems.

But for all these challenges, you have been well prepared. Your law school has fulfilled its stated goal “to facilitate the development of purposeful character, intellectual accomplishment, emotional and social maturity and professional efficiency.” You may now enter upon a professional career that can bring further pride to you, your family, your professors and your community.

Members of the 2008 graduating class of the Duquesne University School of Law: We salute you, and we wish you well. In welcoming you to this honorable profession, I am driven to repeat that oft-quoted, if somewhat hackneyed observation of Harrison Tweed, one-time President of the Association of Bar of the City of New York, who said long ago:

“I have a high opinion of lawyers. With all their faults, they stack up well against those in every other occupation or profession. They are better to work with or play with or fight with or drink with than most varieties of mankind.”

May it ever so be! ☞
Excerpt from SBA President’s Commencement Speech

I’ve watched all of us grow from somewhat uncertain first year law students into true counselors of the law. I know that when clients come to us for advice, we will be ready to provide them with the best legal counsel available because that is what Duquesne Law has trained us to do. We have taken rigorous courses, difficult examinations and challenging trial competitions all in preparation for our life beyond law school. I have witnessed our self confidence grow and mature. I have so much faith in all of my friends sitting before me that I know no matter what obstacle or task comes our way, we will face it with the same kind of perseverance and determination that we’ve used to tackle our studies at Duquesne Law. What we have accomplished here makes me excited about our future, because I know we will do remarkable things in our lives.

Amie Mihalko, L’08
1962
Edward G. O’Connor received the St. Thomas More Society Award in Pittsburgh.

William F. Manifesto was appointed to the Allegheny County Criminal Procedural Rules Committee.

1969
Rodney W. Fink was inducted into the Jewish Sports Hall of Fame of Western Pennsylvania.

John E. Hall became a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

1970
Hon. Donetta W. Ambrose received the 2008 Conflict Resolution Award presented by The Mediation Council of Western Pennsylvania, and the PBA Alternative Dispute Resolution Special Recognition Award for her commitment to promoting the practice of alternative dispute resolution in Pennsylvania.

Philip T. Ciprietti has been recertified by the New Jersey Supreme Court as a Civil Trial Attorney.

1973
Edward J. Linky was appointed as a visiting Research Scholar to the City University of New York Graduate Center in the Ph.D. program of Environmental Studies.

Ira Weiss received the President’s Award for Distinguished Career Achievement from the Pennsylvania School Board Solicitor’s Association.

Mark A. Willard was appointed chair of the Lex Mundi Law Firm Technology Committee.

1974
Samuel W. Braver was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Board of Governors for a three-year term.

1975
Ann L. Begler received the Special Achievement Award for her work with alternative dispute resolution and her effort in revising the rules of the PBA Lawyers Dispute Resolution Program.

Glenn P. Schillo was elected to the board of directors of The Mediation Council of Western Pennsylvania.

Bradford S. Smith became a member of the Board of Directors responsible for restructuring and long-term strategy of Tropicana Entertainment Holdings, LLC.

1977
David Breen was elected to the board of directors of The Mediation Council of Western Pennsylvania.

David H. Dille joined Dapper, Baldsare, Benson, Behling & Kane, P.C. as a shareholder concentrating in the practice areas of workers compensation and occupational disease litigation.

Jerry J. Garguilo was elected Justice of the New York State Supreme Court.

Hon. Debbie O’Dell Seneca taught a course for the National Judicial College on Courthouse, Courtroom & Personal Security for Judges in Charleston, SC.

1978
James Abraham joined Pietragallo, Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti LLP in the firm’s business group.

Karen Balaban received the PBA Special Achievement Award for cultivating development of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, the charitable affiliate of the association, during her three-year tenure as president of the Foundation. She was also elected president of the Susquehanna Appalachian Trail Club.

Paula J. Barton recently returned from a three year assignment as Deputy Legal Adviser at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations and other International Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. She is back with the Legal Adviser’s Office of the State Department and serving as Office Director of the section of the Office that advises the Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

1979
Robert J. Marino became a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Patricia Walter Ray was a recipient of the Duquesne University “Heart, Mind, and Spirit” Award, which acknowledges Duquesne University alumni who are living the Mission of the University: “To Serve God by Serving Students.”

1980
Hon. Cynthia A. Baldwin received an honorary doctoral degree at the Duquesne University Commencement ceremony on May 2, 2008. She was also this year’s recipient of the Carol Los Mansmann Award by the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Women in the Law Division.

Carol A. Behers has been elected Secretary of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation.

Kenneth J. Horoho received the PBA Special Achievement Award for his work as co-chair of the PBA Legislative and Governmental Relations Committee and for leadership in preventing a state sales tax on legal services. In addition, Ken was named to the inaugural Irish Legal 100, honoring the leading attorneys of Irish heritage in America.

Martin P. Sheehan was elected as Secretary of the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees.

1981
Joan Ellenbogen is the managing partner of CrawfordEllenbogen, L.L.C., which was honored as Employer of the Year by the Pennsylvania Federation of Business and
Philadelphia, the oldest professional medical organization in the United States.

1983
Hon. Kim Berkeley Clark received a Wings Award of Excellence from the Urban League of greater Pittsburgh during the 10th Anniversary celebration, and was elected to the Board of Trustees of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

Nathaniel Ehrlich has been elected to the Board of Directors for the Professional Athletes Foundation.

Thomas Giotto was elected to the Board of Directors of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney for a three-year term.

Carol Ann Michaels joined Harpo Productions as Senior Counsel.

Suzanne Belot Norton was appointed to serve as Workers’ Compensation Counsel for the City of Maumee, OH.

Henry M. Sneath has been named Second Vice President of DRI, the Voice of the Defense Bar.

1984
Thomas E. Reiber was appointed to the board of George Junior Republic, a private, nonprofit, residential treatment facility for delinquent and dependent boys aged from 8 to 18.

Melaine Shannon Rothey was appointed to the Allegheny County Bar Foundation Board of Trustees and to the Pennsylvania Bar Association family law council.

Michael Slinger joined Widener University Law School as associate dean for information services and technology, director of the Legal Information Center, and professor of law.

1985
John M. Giunta joined Cipriani & Werner in the litigation group.

Marie Milie Jones was inducted into the Duquesne University Century Club of Distinguished Alumni.

Francis A. Muracca II joined Jones Day as a partner working with the worldwide private equity group.

John Pion has been re-elected to the Trucking Industry Defense Association Board of Directors for a third term. (PHOTO)

Charles J. Porter was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.


Hon. Joseph K. Williams was appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County.

1986
Sally G. Cimini was elected to the board of directors of The Mediation Council of Western Pennsylvania and chair of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution committee, and was appointed to the Allegheny County Personnel Board for a three-year term.

Kevin K. Douglass was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.

Steven Franckhauser joined Feldstein Grinberg Stein & McKee PC as an associate in the firm’s business litigation practice group.

1987
John P. Goodrich was named to the inaugural Irish Legal 100, honoring the leading attorneys of Irish heritage in America, and attended the reception and award ceremony at the Irish Consulate in New York City in November.

Maureen P. Kelly was honored by the Penn State Dickinson School of Law Women’s Law Caucus as the fourteenth recipient of the annual Sylvia H. Rambo award.

Senator Jane Clare Orie was honored with a 2008 Champions of Choice Award by the REACH Foundation.

1988
John A. Bass was elected to the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County.
1989

Eric Borgia attained Board Certification in Real Estate Law.

Senator Jay Costa Jr. was appointed to the Carnegie Library board of trustees for a two-year term.

John P. Sieminski joined the Warrendale office of East Resources, Inc. as General Counsel.

Terrence D. Wright and Gwendolyn Jean Latta married March 7, 2008. Terry also celebrated 35 years of service to our country in the Army, the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve.

1989

Joseph H. Bucci was elected to a second term on the Board of Directors for the Associated Builders & Contractors Inc. of Western Pennsylvania.

1990

Bernard C. Caputo was elected to the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County.

John P. Sieminski joined the Warrendale office of East Resources, Inc. as General Counsel.

Susan Fagan-Weber was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.

John G. Wall was elected to the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County.

1991

Mary Margaret Boyd obtained a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Waynesburg University in May 2008.

Hon. Mary Grace McAlevy was appointed Judge of the Navy-Marine Corps Court of Criminal Appeals in Washington, D.C.

Mark B. Peduto was elected to serve a two-year term as State Advocate for the Pennsylvania Knights of Columbus.

Wrenna Watson was named Secretary of Camp Fire USA Western Pennsylvania for 2008-2009.

Starla J. Williams joined the faculty of Widener University Law School as a legal methods professor.

1992

Lori Breen joined the Pittsburgh office of O’Brien, Rulis & Bochicchio as an associate in the areas of worker’s compensation and employment law.

Jeffrey J. Bresch joined the Watson Institute’s board of directors.

1993

Tina O. Miller was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.

Ann E. Rice joined the United States Steel Corporation in the special litigation group and will concentrate on asbestos matters.

1994

Stephen Del Sole was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.

Sandra Miho was named co-chair of the tax, estates and benefits group of Eckert Seamans Cherin and Mellott LLC.

Gerri V. Paulisick formed Boyer Paulisick & Eberle in Butler, Pa. with alumna Kristen Batson Eberle (L’02) specializing in family matters.

1995

Kristen M. Del Sole was reappointed to the Orphan’s Court Procedural Rules Committee of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

Hon. Tom Flaherty was named to the board of directors of Camp Fire USA Western Pennsylvania for 2008-2009.

Paul Hooper became the vice president and general counsel with the Butler Health System.

Mary P. Murray was appointed to the Minor Court Rules Committee and served as chair for the Special Court Judges Rules Committee.

Nicola Henry-Taylor was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee and became the first chair of the newly formed ACBA Minority Collaborative Committee.

1997

Dana L. Bacci was elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Mt. Lebanon Montessori School.

Annette Calgaro was elected treasurer of the Society for Contemporary Craft.

1998

Sherry K. Adelkopf is on the panel of critical readers selected to edit the ninth edition of Black’s Law Dictionary.

Kimberly Behling joined Fox Rothschild Pittsburgh Office as a partner.

Timothy S. Burns was elected Chairperson-Elect of the Young Lawyers Sections of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

Kathryn M. Kenyon was elected a partner of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, LLP.
Brian Lawton joined Smith Butz LLC as a partner focusing in the areas of corporate and financial services.

Charles F. McElwee and John D. Waclawski were elected shareholders in the law firm of Dickie,McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

1999

John W. Burns was elected shareholder in the law firm of Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote, P.C.

John F. McCabe was appointed the Senior Vice President of the Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum Trust, Inc.

Nathan J. Prepelka elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division as Treasurer.

Brian H. Simmons and his wife Renae celebrated the birth of Ava Grace, 7 lbs 2 oz, 20 inches.

2000

Ryan R. Smith joined the firm of Feldstein Grinberg Stein & McKee in the personal injury/medical negligence department.

2001

Robert S. Bootay III was elected President of Pleasant Hills Borough Council in 2008 and was appointed as a member of the Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics Board of Trustees in 2007.

Jamie L. Flaherty was selected for the 2008-2009 class of Allegheny County Bar Leader’s Initiative.

Leslie A. Goldstrom Jr. was selected for the 2008-2009 class of Allegheny County Bar Leader’s Initiative.

Patricia E. Raschiatore and her husband, Chip Doherty, celebrated the birth of a baby boy, P.J.

2002

John A. Biedrzycki III is now affiliated with Palkovitz Law Office and the Traffic Law Center LLC, concentrating his practice is the areas of criminal defense and personal injury.

Kristen Batson Eberle formed Boyer Paulisick & Eberle in Butler, Pa. with alumna Gerri V. Paulisick (L’94) specializing in family matters.

Jill A. Flemming joined United States Steel Corporation’s commercial department.

Andrew Kwiatkowski and his wife, Kelly, celebrated the birth of a baby girl, Keira Elise.

Meghan Jones-Rolla was elected to the Women in the Law Division Council for the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Lt. Elizabeth A. Rosso became an instructor at the Naval Justice School in Newport, RI.

Andrew Sysak and Michael Pfeuffer recently opened a restaurant in Market Square, Pittsburgh, called MixStirs Café. Mike is the full time operations director of the restaurant and Andrew works for the firm Andracki Law Offices, P.C. in the area of insurance litigation.

2003

Jennifer Callery was named vice president of the board of directors of Preservation Pittsburgh for a one-year term.

Rocco E. Cozza was promoted to General Counsel of Ness North America.

Hope Guy was elected to the Young Lawyers Division Council for the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Eric Jobe joined the Cook Law Group as a senior associate attorney with experience in the areas of criminal defense, civil litigation, family law matters, general and complex litigation and privacy law compliance.

Mariah L. Lewis joined the Pittsburgh office of Eckert Seams Cherin & Mellott, LLC as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Division practicing in the Labor & Employment group.

Marla N. Presley is chair-elect of the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division.

Melissa Ruggiero completed her dissertation, Establishing the Rule of Law in the Republic of Macedonia after the 2001 Conflict, as a part of her LLM in Human Rights and Criminal Justice (Cross Border), a joint program between Queen’s University Belfast and National University of Ireland, Galway.

Ashley Howsare Wissinger married Chad A. Wissinger in May 2008.
2004

Kelton M. Burgess accepted an associate position in the Construction Litigation practice group of Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith in their San Francisco office.


Joni L. Capelli joined Goldsmith & Ogrodowski LLC as an associated attorney and legal assistant in its admiralty and maritime, commercial, insurance coverage and personal injury litigation group.

2005

Megan M. Coulter joined the Pittsburgh office of Meyer Darragh Buckler Bebenek & Eck.

Sara J. Flasher was elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Judiciary Committee.

Ryan O. Hemminger joined Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl focusing in government relations law and litigation.

Lisa A. Klingensmith accepted a position in the Pittsburgh office of Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C. as an associate in the Environmental Health and Safety Services Group. (PHOTO)

2006

Kristine Fritz is a law clerk for the Honorable Robert R. Beezer, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Lisa M. Gaiser was selected for the 2008-2009 class of the Allegheny County Bar Leader’s Initiative.

Mariah L. Lewis joined the Pittsburgh office of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Division practicing in the Labor & Employment group.

Justin M. Lovich joined Burns, White & Hickton, L.L.C. in the Worker’s Compensation group.

Geoffrey W. Melada received a second place and an honorable mention award from the Pittsburgh Black Media Federation’s 2007 Robert L. Vann Awards for the publication of his articles, “Lawyers Guilty of Doing Good” and “Generation to Generation.”

Christine A. Saunders joined Metz Lewis LLC as an associate focusing on commercial litigation.

Nicole Scialabba was selected for the 2008-2009 class of Allegheny County Bar Leader’s Initiative.

2007

Christopher Bennett received an LLM in Taxation at Boston University and is employed by RSM McGladrey Inc. as a Senior Associate in the International Tax Services department.

Robert A. Bracken joined the Pittsburgh office of White and Williams LLP as an associate in the Commercial Litigation Department.

Ryan L. Dansak joined the law firm of Paul J. Gitnik & Associates to help build its estate planning, real estate, and business law practice. Dansak is also an adjunct professor of legal writing and case analysis at Duquesne University’s Paralegal Institute.

Jacqueline F. Mirowitz was hired as an associate in the Pittsburgh office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP and was elected to the Women in the Law Division Council for the Allegheny County Bar Association.

Carl Walker Metzgar was elected PA State Representative for the 69th district.

Joseph J. Pricener accepted a position with the United States Steel Corporation in their environmental department.

Suzanne Rohrig joined Burns, White & Hickton LLC as an associate in the worker’s compensation section of the litigation group.
Beth M. Tibbott joined The Cook Law Group concentrating in the areas of criminal law, general civil litigation and business development.

Casey D. White was hired as an Assistant District Attorney for Allegheny County.

Kimberly W. Young accepted an associate attorney position with Burns, White & Hickton, LLC.

2008

Narlu Castellano joined MultiServ Division of Harsco in the office of General Counsel.

Matthew D. Haydo was named corporate associate at Hull McGuire, P.C.

Jennifer Johnson joined Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl LLC focusing on estate planning and administration and employment law.

Erin E. McCurdy is an associate with Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir.

James D. Miller joined Meyer Darragh Buckler Bebenek & Eck as an associate in civil defense litigation.

Ryan J. Miller was promoted to associate with The Webb Law Firm focusing on patent, trademark and copyright matters.

Michael A. Troiano joined the Law Offices of Garrett T. Ogata in Las Vegas, NV as an associate.

Christopher J. Watson joined Geraghty + Associates as an associate.

Peter S. Wolf joined Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti as an associate in the commercial litigation practice group.

Jenye M. Woodruff joined Tucker Arensberg as an associate in the insolvency and creditors’ rights department.

We want to hear from you!

Please contact the alumni office at lawalumni@duq.edu or 412-396-5215 with your recent achievements, recognition and advancements.

We are pleased to announce that a tremendous number of Duquesne University Law Alumni have been selected as Pennsylvania SuperLawyers and Rising Stars. As our space here is limited, we have posted these alumni on our Website (www.law.duq.edu).

The Law School has formed a Judicial Tradition Committee to assist us in honoring our alumni who are committed to serving the public through the judiciary. In order to ensure our records are accurate, please contact us if you are currently serving or have served on the judiciary.

Congratulations!

60-year practitioners
Elizabeth Bailey L’47
Andrew L. Gleason L’40

50-year practitioners
David J. Armstrong L’56
Hon. Gustave Diamond L’56
S. Louis Farino L’58
Rita Kelly L’57
Martin Lubow L’57
Samuel Oppenheim L’55

In Memoriam

It is with deep sadness that we list the following Law School Alumni who passed away between April 1, 2008 and November 30, 2008:

Gay B. Banes, L’44
David W. Brandon L’81
Allan L. Fluke, L’68
Dr. Lois M. Golden, L’59
Albert A. Hilton, L’59
Patricia Henry Kwacz, L’88
Albert J. Laban, Jr., L’72
Joseph M. McDermott, L’85
Jeffrey O. McGeary, L’69
Regis C. Nairn, L’50
Salvatore Panepinto, L’72
Frank E. Reilly, L’73
Victor J. Sullivan, L’74
Wendy T. Weil, L’82
Lucille N. Wick, L’80
Jean Witter, L’76
Mark A. Yajko, L’83
Terry K. Young, L’69

Duquesne University’s list is provided through Advancement Records Office and may not be a complete list. If you have information on 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.
In the Spotlight: **Turahn L. Jenkins, L ’04**

Turahn Jenkins was surprised to discover how much he loves being in the courtroom. This former Allegheny County assistant district attorney is now going into private practice, and he reflects on his Duquesne law experience with our alumni director, Jeanine DeBor.

Tell us a little bit about yourself.
I was born and raised in Monroeville, PA. I went to Gateway High School and IUP where I majored in Criminology. I have 3 older sisters. I live in the Sheraden section of Pittsburgh with my wife, Di’Ray. No kids yet.

Why did you want to become a Duquesne Lawyer?
There was no single reason for me going to law school. It wasn’t a childhood goal or aspiration; someone suggested that I apply. I applied and didn’t get accepted the first time, so I took an LSAT prep course to increase my score. I wanted to stay in Pittsburgh, so I applied to Duquesne. Additionally, Duquesne’s reputation speaks for itself.

How would you describe your legal experience as an African-American?
I didn’t know any black attorneys prior to going to law school, which was somewhat intimidating. I was only one of 4 blacks in my graduating class. In my practice as an assistant district attorney, I’ve had people tell me that they have never seen a black DA. As a law student, I took advantage of externships. I clerked for Judge Robert Cindrich in federal court, and Judge Maureen Lally-Green (L’74) in Pennsylvania Superior Court. I talked to as many lawyers as I could. I watched as many trials as I could. I studied abroad in China. I just maximized my law school experience.

What led to your career as a criminal trial lawyer?
After law school, I worked as a law clerk in the public defender’s office. When I became licensed, I applied to the DA’s and PD’s offices. My preference was to remain in the PD’s office—they never thought that I would leave! At the time, I was working three jobs and just trying to stay afloat. However, the DA’s office hired me first. I never thought that I would be doing this type of work. I never thought that I would enjoy being a trial attorney as much as I do.

Describe your most memorable case.
That would be my first jury trial. It was my supervisor’s case, but he had a scheduling conflict. It was an attempted homicide. It started as a fistfight inside a bar down in the Strip District, which led to my victim being shot multiple times outside as he tried to leave. The police lost the surveillance tape of the events inside the bar. None of the civilian witnesses showed up for the prosecution. The judge gave me a hard time, and the defense attorney had me on the run. He did a good job of establishing reasonable doubt due to the lack of witnesses and the police losing a vital piece of evidence. It was like watching something out of a comedy show. The jury went out for about a day and half before they found the defendant guilty. I was happy for my victim and his family. It was also a huge confidence booster. After fighting back and forth with that lawyer during trial and getting yelled at by the judge in front of the jury, I felt I deserved that conviction. Not only that, the victim was a likable guy. After that trial, I felt like I could try a case anywhere.

Aside from moving to private practice, what else do you have in mind for the future?
Actually, I’m thinking about taking a photography course soon.

Making a Difference Through Giving: A Gift for the Common Good

A substantial gift from the estate of a Duquesne University School of Law alumnus will be used to encourage graduates of the law school to enter public service by providing loan repayment assistance.

The William B. Billock Loan Repayment Assistance Program, a $1.4 million endowment fund, will provide approximately $70,000 for annual debt relief to Duquesne law school graduates who pursue careers in nonprofit public interest law or in local, state or federal government. The Estate of William Billock, a 1938 law school graduate and vice president of Gulf Oil Corp., will encourage our students to enter public service. “The Billock Loan Repayment Assistance Program will encourage more law graduates to pursue careers in public service law by helping them pay off their loans,” said University President Charles Dougherty. “It will strengthen our public service and government agencies, benefit the people whom these organizations serve, and allow our law students and recent alumni to follow their hearts.”
On November 11, Attorneys from Eckert Seamans sponsored and presented “Professionalism in the legal Profession”.

Former Maryland Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend speaking to the Law School on October 10th about Voter Fraud issues.

Dallas County District Attorney Mike Ware, Chief, Special Fields Bureau, was a guest of the Criminal Law Society on December 3.

On November 11, Attorneys from Eckert Seamans sponsored and presented “Professionalism in the Legal Profession”. L-R: Christopher R. Opalinski, Jacob C. Mccrea ’04, Eric J. Zagrocki ’92
The student run *Duquesne Business Law Journal* is in the midst of its greatest expansion yet. For the first time since its inception eleven years ago, the *Journal* will be producing two issues, one this December and the second in April 2009. These issues will feature articles from legal practitioners, professors of law, and writings by the *Journal*’s student staff members. The fall issue will feature articles from Duquesne Law Adjunct Professor Antonio Lordi, as well as an article by Scott Mollett, an associate attorney at Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett. The spring issue will likely be the *Journal*’s most impressive issue to date, featuring a forward written by Duquesne’s own Dr. John Murray, as well as articles from seven professors of law who assisted in drafting revisions to the Uniform Commercial Code’s Article 2. This list of impressive authors, which includes decorated professors from Cornell Law School, University of Oklahoma Law School, William and Mary Law School, among others, will focus their writings on where UCC Article 2 is headed in the future and state why or why not certain portions of the current UCC should be changed. These are certainly issues of great concern to practitioners, especially since they have not yet been written on to any great extent.

The *Journal*’s staff is also hoping to become more integrated with Duquesne Law alumni, past *Journal* members, and practitioners in the business-law community. Eventually, the *Journal* is seeking to provide its student-members with information on the many careers that alumni have pursued in business-law areas, as well as providing opportunities for the students to meet with alumni and current practitioners. Essentially, the *Journal* hopes to provide its members with the information and opportunities to pursue a successful career in the many fields of law that intermingle with business, in part by opening the lines of communication between its members and Duquesne Law alumni.

From an internal standpoint, the *Journal* has increased its membership to nearly forty students, with the goal to continue to increase its membership in the future. As a result of a tougher admissions process, including a write-on competition and interview, the *Journal* is comprised entirely of students who are interested in and aspire to practice in a business-related field of law ranging from intellectual property to bankruptcy to commercial litigation.

To help improve the students’ practical skills, the *Journal* has also increased their writing requirements by mandating each member to research and draft a casenote as a junior member and a comment or legal survey during their second year on the *Journal*. As a result, the members are becoming aware of current hot-topic issues in business-related areas of law, as well as improving their research, writing, and editing skills.

The overall purpose of this growth is twofold: first, to provide the legal community with a strong legal resource that can provide its readers with useful and high-quality knowledge; and second, to provide its student-members with as many benefits as possible. As a *Journal* that requires prospective members to voluntarily show interest and take the initiative to become involved, the key focus going forward is pursuing every avenue that can provide its members with a benefit, including opportunities to enhance their practical skills, as well as to provide opportunities to meet alumni and practitioners who are already doing what the students aim to do.

For more information on the *Duquesne Business Law Journal*, and to read archived articles or inquire about subscriptions, please visit the *Journal*’s new website: [www.duquesneblj.com](http://www.duquesneblj.com). The *Journal* members also welcome any questions or advice that you may have to offer to its members, and can be contacted by email at [www.duquesneblj@hotmail.com](mailto:www.duquesneblj@hotmail.com).
Message from the SBA President

On behalf of the Student Bar Association, I would like to thank the Duquesne Law Alumni Association for their dedication to our law school. The DLAA has played a major role in the success of Duquesne, and our alumni are a great resource to the student body. The leadership of Mary-Jo Rebolo and the Board of Governors has presented many opportunities for students to get to know the alumni, and our students are participating in alumni events all over the country. Our alumni also help coach our nationally recognized and successful trial advocacy teams.

The student body has already engaged in many events this year with the help of the alumni. The alumni initiated the incoming class at orientation with a great presentation of what the students should expect of law school. The alumni also hosted a celebration at the school for the Class of 2008 for their outstanding bar passage rate of 97%. The students would like to thank the alumni for participating in all of our events and providing us with a lunch break before the start of finals.

For the second year, law students had a presence at the Wheelchair Grand Prix which is hosted by Variety, the Children’s Charity. This event raises money for youth with disabilities in the Pittsburgh Area. Duquesne students also raised nearly $8,000 from the annual Katie Westbrook Race. This money helps fund the Trial Advocacy Scholarship and a portion of it also goes to UPMC for cancer research. Your generous donations help keep Katie’s dream alive.

Because of the alumni presence, current students are eager to join the DLAA once they graduate. The students know Jeanine DeBor and Estelle Feltovich of the alumni office, and they have done an outstanding job making the alumni visible from orientation to graduation. Jeanine and Estelle’s presence in the law school allows for a direct and strong relationship with the alumni.

The students appreciate all that you do for the school, and we look forward to becoming Duquesne Lawyers.

Brandon Neuman, 3D
President, Student Bar Association

“Because of the alumni presence, current students are eager to join the DLAA once they graduate.”

Third year law student Casey L. Slotter was honored with the Allegheny County Bar Association’s Law 2007 Law Student Pro Bono Award on September 24 for her work with Neighborhood Legal Services Association in Pittsburgh. She is pictured with Professor Mark Yochum and Law Alumni Director Jeanine DeBor, who were both inducted as Allegheny County Bar Foundation Fellows on the same night.
Duquesne University School of Law’s mock trial teams capture Two National Championships and One Regional Championship

An unheard of and unprecedented accomplishment!

On Saturday, November 1, 2008, one of Duquesne Law’s Mock Trial Teams was awarded the trophy that is presented each year to the winner of the National Tournament of Champions. Within nine days, another of the Law School’s Trial Advocacy Teams won the championship at the Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition. Then, just a week later, the Law School’s third Trial Advocacy Team won the Regional Championship at the ABA Labor and Employment Law Mock Trial Competition in Chicago, Illinois. This undefeated record is both unheard of and unprecedented.

The Tournament Of Champions

Each year, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), and LexisNexis, sponsor the Tournament of Champions Mock Trial Competition. This year’s competition was held at the University of Maryland School of Law, which won the Tournament in 2006.

Sixteen law schools from across the country with the top rankings in mock trial competition (based upon a three-year achievement in nationally recognized trial competitions) are invited to compete. This “Sweet 16” of trial powerhouses compete head-to-head for 3 days before over 150 judges consisting of members of the trial bench, appellate bench, accomplished trial practitioners, and former attorneys general (both state and federal). After the final round with South Texas School of Law which stretched into Saturday evening, the Duquesne team was awarded the championship trophy.

This year’s team members were Lisa Barnett, Megan Lehman, Brock McCandless and Linda Obioha, who was awarded Best Advocate. The team was coached by Professor S. Michael Streib, Professor Amelia Michele Joiner, Michael Gianantonio (L’02), Peter Giglione (L’02), and Michelle Mantine (L’02).

By virtue of this win, Duquesne University School of Law will host the competition in 2010. The trophy will reside at the Law School for the next year until it is taken to the competition in New York City in 2009, where the best team will again be determined.

The Buffalo-Niagara Invitational Trial Competition

In yet another astonishing achievement, on November 10, 2008, the Duquesne Law Trial Advocacy Team captured another national championship by defeating Akron School of Law in the final round of the Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition. Thirty schools competed in this event (including eight from the Tournament of Champions), which is the largest invitational trial tournament in the country, attracting schools from all over the nation. Duquesne advocated their way to the top of the pool.

This year’s team members were Kelly Kaufold, James McGraw, Alicia Nocera, and Adrienne Sadosky who also won Best Cross Examination in the preliminary round and Best Advocate in the final round. The team was coached by Professor S. Michael Streib, Professor Amelia Michelle Joiner, Michael Gianantonio (L’02), and Peter Giglione (L’02) and the assistant coaching team of Professor Bruce Antkowiak and J. Richard Narvin (L’74).
“The Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial Competition is the largest national invitational competition in the country, hosting more than 30 law schools from around the country,” said Professor Joiner. “The organizers of the competition have consistently invited highly skilled and competitive law schools to compete in the competition. As such, the skill level of the student advocates is remarkable.

“Our team was comprised of a group of the hardest working students with whom I have ever worked. They fought through seven tough rounds of trials against many highly qualified teams. While each of the teams was impressive, they repeatedly complimented the Duquesne advocates. The hard work, dedication and graciousness exhibited by the Buffalo-Niagara Mock Trial team are to be applauded."

ABA Labor & Employment Law Trial Competition

Over the weekend of November 14-16, 2008, a team of four more Duquesne Law students won the prestigious American Bar Association Labor and Employment Regional Trial Moot Court Competition in Chicago, Illinois. The team members of Megan Arrington, Emily Fullerton, Tara Fertelmes, and Michael Watson are third year students who were competing for the Law School for the first time in their careers.

Thirteen teams participated in this competition, which was held at the Dirksen Federal Courthouse in Chicago. It was presided over by some of the finest judges and litigators in the field of Labor and Employment law nationally. The Duquesne Team defeated the University of Illinois in the final round of the competition to advance to the National Championship to be held in Chicago January 24-25, 2009, where they will face teams from seven other regions.

The team was coached by Professors Bruce Antkowiak, Marla Presley (L’03), Ann Schiavone (L’03), and attorney Peter McClanahan (L’02). The Director of the Trial Advocacy Program is Professor S. Michael Streib. Professor Antkowiak commented:

“The ABA Competition is one of the most challenging in the country. The judges are all experienced, top flight labor and employment attorneys from major firms and government offices around the nation. The level of competition was as high as I have ever seen it. The team from the University of Illinois, which we faced in the final round, was as skilled a team as I have ever seen in any trial competition. For our team, comprised entirely of students who have never competed for the Law School before, to prevail in this was a truly remarkably achievement attributed to the dedication of our competitors. They have earned my enduring respect.”

“It was an honor just to get the invitation to compete,” said Professor Streib. “Every trial at this competition is like a Super Bowl. There are no easy wins. To be named the best is astounding. I am incredibly proud of our team, which held up better than me.”

Congratulations to the students, faculty and coaches of each team for these outstanding accomplishments and their continued contribution to the prestige and success of Duquesne Law School!

Contributed by:
Professor S. Michael Streib
Professor Amelia Michele Joiner
Professor Bruce Antkowiak
Jeanine DeBor
Benjamin Steinberg
Student Briefs

Teisha S. Smith-Harrison (3D) was the recipient of the distinguished Peggy Browning Fellowship. The Peggy Browning Fund is a non-profit corporation established in memory of Margaret A. Browning, a prominent labor attorney, and provides law students with diverse and challenging work experiences fighting for social and economic justice. Only 41 fellowships were offered nationwide this year. Teisha spent her 10-week fellowship with the Community Justice Project in Pittsburgh.

Adrienne Sadosky (4P) was elected conference chair for the Northeast Region of the newly formed National Women Law Students’ Organization. The new organization for female law students was created at a leadership summit of Ms. JD, a national nonprofit organization.

Emilie Bryan Ridge (3E), was awarded a summer research scholarship with the Animal Legal and Historical Center of the Michigan State University College of Law. Emilie was one of six law students nationwide to be chosen for this award.

Third year day student Logan Fisher and James Miller, L’08, along with Heather Heidelbaugh, Esquire, authored the academic article Protecting the “Integrity of the Polling Place: A Constitutional Defense of Poll Watcher Statutes” to be published in the forthcoming issue of the Harvard Journal on Legislation.

2008 Entering Class Profile

Enrolled:
Day  160
Evening  60

Average Test Scores:
LSAT:  154
GPA:  3.5

41 students are from out of state: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Virginia, Wisconsin, West Virginia.

The Admissions Office would like to thank the following people for taking time to represent the Law School at various recruitment events: Jane Carlonas, L’91, University of Scranton; Josh Fuchs, 3E, University of Pittsburgh; Adam Perza, L’02, University of Delaware; John T. Trant, L’69, Notre Dame.
Gaining Fame and New Names: How Duquesne Law Review Is Expanding Its Influence

By: Logan S. Fisher, 3D, Executive Editor & Joseph A. Valenti, 3D, Editor-in-Chief

There is one thing you should know about Duquesne Law Review: We’re going places! What started out as a modest law journal for a small, regional law school has grown into a top-notch publication, attracting the best of the legal community to submit articles for publication. Duquesne Law Review (“DLR”) is the flagship journal of the Duquesne University School of Law. We are entirely student-run and publish scholarly works by legal professionals and academics four times annually. We currently boast subscribers all around the world, including virtually every law school in the United States and Canada. Just a cursory look at the cover of any of our issues reveals at least one world-renowned legal scholar. What is equally impressive is that DLR currently receives two to three unsolicited submissions from prominent legal scholars a day!

The law review was recently honored when U.S. Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito agreed to pen the introduction to Volume 46, published last year. Volume 46 was dedicated to the life, career, and achievements of the Honorable Carol Los Mansmann, former Associate Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals, 3rd Circuit (and former Duquesne Law School alumna), who passed away from breast cancer in 2002. Judge Mansmann was one of only three women in her Duquesne Law School graduating class of 1967, and it was a privilege for us to have the opportunity to honor her life and her many achievements. “I am very honored to be able to contribute this introduction to the issue of the Duquesne Law Review dedicated to commemorating the work of my wonderful former colleague, Carol Los Mansmann,” wrote Justice Alito. Justice Alito and Judge Mansmann served together on the 3rd Circuit from 1990 until her untimely death in 2002.

In a way, it is only appropriate that Justice Alito penned the introduction to Volume 46, as he set the tone for what turned out to be a fantastic volume of DLR. Indeed, Volume 46’s pages are filled with the words of numerous highly-regarded legal scholars. In the first issue of Volume 46, many of Judge Mansmann’s friends and former colleagues wrote reflections and personal tributes about her life and jurisprudence: 3rd Circuit Chief Justice Emeritus Ruggero R. Aldisert, Federal District Judge Joy Flowers Conti (L’73), former Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Justice Cynthia Baldwin (L’80), and 3rd Circuit Judge D. Michael Fisher, to name just a few.

A subsequent issue of Volume 46 featured an article by Donald L. Korb, current Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service. Mr. Korb wrote a revision of Mitchell Rogovin’s (Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, 1965 – 1966) monograph, The Four R’s: Regulation, Rulings, Reliance, and Retroactivity: A View from Within, which has served generations of tax practitioners as a guide in interpreting communications issued by the Internal Revenue Service.

DLR is currently hard at work on Volume 47, which will be published this academic year. Volume 47 promises to contain as many—if not more—notable jurists as Volume 46. The Editors are building on DLR’s existing relationships while also making dramatic efforts to develop new contacts in the legal field. One of the issues in Volume 47 will address “Separation of Powers in the Americas . . . and Beyond.” This issue will join two previous International Symposium issues produced by Volume 43 and Volume 45. Former Venezuelan Supreme Court Justice and current Columbia University Law School professor Dr. Allan R. Brewer-Carias is certain to appear in DLR for the third time. Third Circuit Judge Hon. D. Brooks Smith and Canadian Chief Justice John D. Richard are expected to be returning writers as well. New Symposium participants include a former Costa Rican Supreme Court Justice, the current Solicitor General of Panama, and a top official who formerly served the Mexican President. DLR receives more requests for reprint licenses for articles in its two existing International Symposium issues than any other two issues combined. The newest issue in the International Symposium trilogy promises to be the most sought DLR issue yet.

As always, Volume 47 will also contain a Pennsylvania Issue. This year’s issue will focus on the jurisprudence of retired Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Ralph J. Cappy. Third Circuit Judge Thomas M. Hardiman will undertake a detailed analysis of Justice Cappy’s famed opinion in Commonwealth v. Edmunds, 586 A.2d 887 (Pa. 1991). Current and former colleagues of the former Chief Justice are expected to undertake additional analyses of his other opinions and offer insight into their working relationships. DLR’s ever-expanding base in Pennsylvania will come together to make this tribute issue a success on both a local and national level.
DLR’s two remaining issues will have a national focus. Agreements have already been made to feature articles on land use, pharmacy, and family law. Recently, we secured an author agreement with Alan Gura. Mr. Gura wrote the principal brief and argued the recent “D.C. gun ban” case, District of Columbia v. Heller, 554 U.S. ___ (2008), before the U.S. Supreme Court this past spring. We are extremely fortunate to have such a high profile attorney writing for us this year. We will be reprinting his brief with his comments on the various arguments and why they were chosen.

DLR is still reviewing other submissions and welcomes all readers to send an article or a Letter to the Editor for consideration. Writings can be submitted in three ways: (1) e-mail a Word document file to duquesnelr@gmail.com, (2) visit the DLR website at www.duquesnelawreview.com, or (3) send a hard copy to Duquesne Law Review, Duquesne University School of Law, 600 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15282.

The reputation of DLR is intertwined with the reputation of Duquesne Law School. DLR relies heavily on our subscribers, and we invite you to subscribe. To receive all four issues of Volume 47 of Duquesne Law Review immediately upon publication, please send a check for thirty dollars ($30.00) made payable to Duquesne Law Review to:

Duquesne Law Review Attn: Managing Editor Duquesne University School of Law
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282

Students, faculty, and alumni participated in the annual Katie Westbrook race on October 11. Nearly $8,000 was raised for cancer research in memory of Katie Westbrook, a 12-year old girl who dreamed of going to law school. Her mother, Beth, in photo above, addresses the students.

The Environmental Law Society beautified the Law School’s façade on Halloween. Pictured l-R are Jillian Elko (3D), Benjamin Johns (3D), Christine Allen (3E).
Every day we are learning of new layoffs and hearing rumors of law firms closing shop; regardless of the state of the economy, however, certain fundamental job search principles will remain effective. Thus, the Career Services Office (CSO) is focusing on those fundamentals. From polished presentation in person and on paper, to dedicated preparation for interviews, to skilled communication in networking, the Career Services Office is working through individual counseling and programming to prepare our students to find employment. Certainly, there are fewer opportunities than in prior years and there are certain practice areas that are not thriving; however, those who are flexible and consider alternate routes to their career goal will achieve success.

In fall 2008, the CSO conducted its usual slate of programs including Interviewing Skills, Judicial Clerkships, Beyond Fall Recruiting, First Year Orientation, and Government Careers. The CSO also hosted two new programs. The first program, entitled Women & Interviewing, was held in conjunction with the Women’s Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania and featured women partners who provided advice on succeeding in the interviewing process. The second program, entitled The Fundamentals of Networking, featured speaker Donna Gerson. Following a presentation, students attended a networking reception with alumni. The students found this format of learning about the skill and then having the opportunity to practice it to be very beneficial. All student participants received business cards to assist them in their networking efforts.

In spring 2009, the CSO is planning to hold its second annual practice area table talk event. Alumni from small to mid-size firms in various practice areas will be asked to spend approximately two hours at the Law School to discuss their practice areas with students. We are conducting the program as we did last year in the format of speed networking, with each attorney spending approximately 5 minutes with a small group of students and then meeting a new group of students. A brief reception follows.

The CSO will also host its annual mock interview program in the spring. Attorneys may elect to conduct mock interviews with students either at their firms or at the law school. Each alumni volunteer generally conducts two to four thirty minute mock interviews.

If you would like to participate in either the Practice Area Table Talk or Mock Interview Program, please contact me at 412-396-6279 or kwisnek@duq.edu for more information.
Jodi Ann Gill (L’99) was hired as the Coordinator of Student Organizations. Prior to coming to Duquesne, Jodi served as Department Chair for the Paralegal Studies and Criminal Justice programs at Brown Mackie College in North Canton, OH. She is an adjunct professor of legal studies for Kaplan University’s online program and has guest lectured on numerous legal issues in higher education. Jodi served on the Executive Advisory Board and as a contributing writer for the Council on Law in Higher Education (CLHE) Student Affairs Law and Policy Journal and is currently serving a three-year term on the National Association for Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Journal Board. She received her B.S. cum laude from Tulane University and her Ed.S. in Higher Education Administration from Kent State University. Jodi is a volunteer for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Before becoming Supervising Attorney for the Community Enterprise Clinic, Norma Caquatto (L’79) served as construction manager for an organization offering HUD loans and bonding assistance to small and disadvantaged business owners rehabilitating and developing properties in Pittsburgh’s distressed neighborhoods. Norma also advised a local Community Development Corporation and represented senior citizens at Legal Services for the Elderly in the areas of Bankruptcy, Landlord/Tenant, Domestic Relations, Guardianship, and Consumer Protection matters. Additionally, she clerked for the now retired PA Superior Court Judge Justin M. Johnson and also for then Chief Judge Judith K. Fitzgerald of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Norma has volunteered for the Women’s Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh, the Scholarship Committee of the Pittsburgh Job Corps Community Relations Council, and the Scholarship Committee of the Greater Pittsburgh Business and Professional Women (2005-present). She also served two years as a Director of the Hill District Federal Credit Union.

On November 12, Tracey McCants Lewis, L’00, assistant director of clinical education, moderated “Journey to the Bench: A Diverse Perspective”, a panel of minority judges who discussed their former legal careers and journey to the bench. The program was sponsored by The Allegheny County Bar Association Diversity Collaborative, which is comprised of the Young Lawyers Division, Women in the Law Division, the Homer S. Brown Law Association, the Hispanic Attorneys Committee, and the Asian Attorneys Committee.

Jeanine L. DeBor, Director of Law Alumni Relations, was elected to a three-year term of the Council of the Women in Law Division of the Allegheny County Bar Association (ACBA) and was appointed to the ACBA’s Finance Committee. She wrote “What Else Can You Do with a Law Degree (The Versatile Juris Doctor)” for the ACBA Lawyer’s Journal and the Pennsylvania Bar Association Women in the Profession’s Voices and Views.
Annual Reunion Dinner
April 24, 2009, The Grand Hall at the Priory

The first-year appellate oral arguments will be held on March 28-29, April 4-5, and April 18-19. We are again looking for alumni to sit as judges of oral arguments delivered by our students in support of appellate briefs prepared in our Legal Research & Writing Program. If you would like to serve as a judge, please contact Kaitlynd Kruger and Grace Remington, our student coordinators, at dmqmootcourt@gmail.com. We hope many of you will join us for this important event!