

# THE DECLARATION

THE MAGAZINE OF THE THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW

SPRING 2007



## The China Connection

An Exchange of Fulbright Scholars and TJSL's New Summer Study Program  
in Hangzhou, China, Have Built a Bridge of Friendship

**Also Inside:** New Clinic Serves America's Veterans

• Our "Talking Head" Alumna • TJSL Grad Seeks the White House



# FROM THE DEAN'S OFFICE

## Dear TJSL Community,

The 2006-2007 academic year has been a very successful year in so many different ways. Probably most significantly, the School's graduates who sat for the February 2007 California bar examination as first-time takers achieved the highest passing percentage in the history of the law school: 62 percent, compared with an ABA California school rate of 61.5 percent. With a renewed commitment to improving the bar passage rates for its graduates, the School has engaged the Bar Secrets® program personnel, Dr. Nancy Johnson and Dr. Dennis Saccuzzo, to work with current law students and graduates to prepare graduates to succeed as first-time takers. The success of the graduates in the last three bar exam administrations demonstrates the impact of this program in helping graduates succeed.

The next academic year will see some dramatic changes in the School. The School is under contract to sell its Old Town property and to lease it back over the next few years as we plan for relocation to new facilities in the downtown area during the 2009-2010 academic year. The availability of facilities, which will be specifically designed for law school use and which will nearly double the amount of space for law school operations, will help considerably in strengthening the quality of the legal education that we will provide to our students and enhance the growing reputation of the School.

The School also has enhanced the academic program by decreasing the size of the first-year course sections to not more than 75 students; by obtaining ABA acquiescence in a new graduate program in International Tax and Financial Services; by applying for membership in the Association of American Law Schools; by strengthening the offerings in the international area by hiring new faculty members and by establishing a summer program in Hangzhou, China, in cooperation with Zhejiang University; and by establishing the School's first live client clinic, in conjunction with the Veterans Village of San Diego.

The past year also has involved a substantial restructuring of the Alumni Association to an organization of which all Thomas Jefferson and Western State San Diego graduates are members, with a larger group of board members representing different graduating classes and geographic areas. The organization has established committees to work with students, faculty members and administrators on various areas of the law school's operations. In this context, I urge graduates to become more actively involved in the life of the School. The Alumni Relations staff members are eager to work with our graduates to find a meaningful involvement that meets the interests of the graduates.

The following pages will tell you even more about the exciting news here at the School. I also invite you to visit the School's Web site at [www.tjsl.edu](http://www.tjsl.edu) for the most current happenings within the TJSL community.

**Rudolph C. Hasl**  
*Dean and President*

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Employers who post job opportunities with or recruit from Thomas Jefferson must agree to comply with the above non-discrimination policy.

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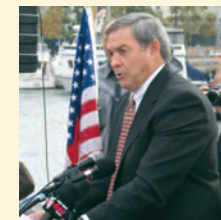
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*The mission of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law is to provide an outstanding legal education for a nationally based, diverse student body in a collegial and supportive environment with attention to newly emerging areas of law, particularly those related to technological development, globalization, and the quest for social justice.*

**THOMAS JEFFERSON**  
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# The China Connection

An Exchange of Fulbright Scholars and TJSL's New Summer Study Program in Hangzhou, China, Have Built a Bridge of Friendship



A group of students and faculty members from Thomas Jefferson School of Law boarded a jet in San Diego in May and traced a path through the sky that is the bridge being built between TJSL and the People's Republic of China: The China Connection.

Their destination was Hangzhou China, where Thomas Jefferson School of Law, in cooperation with one of the most prestigious universities in China, Zhejiang University College of Law, presented a new three-week summer study abroad program. The theme for this inaugural 2007 China program is "International Business: Law and Practice."

"Since China is clearly the nation on the rise, it is of particular importance to Thomas Jefferson School of Law and its Center for Global Legal Studies that we establish meaningful relations with China and its academic community," said Professor Susan Tiefenbrun, who is the director of the Center for Global Legal Studies. "This China Summer Study Abroad Program is designed to make those real connections."

The bridge between China and Thomas Jefferson School of Law is already well traveled in both directions, in an "exchange" of Fulbright Scholars. During the 2006-2007 academic year, Thomas Jefferson hosted Dr. Sun Liu, a Fulbright Scholar from Zhongnan University of

Economics and Law in Hubei Province and his wife, Zizhi Li. Thomas Jefferson Professor Aaron Schwabach was a Fulbright Scholar at Zhejiang University during the summer of 2006.

Hangzhou is widely considered to be the most beautiful city in China. There is a Chinese saying that 上有天堂，下有 杭。(Shang you tian tang, xia you su hang, or "Above there is heaven, below there are Hangzhou and Suzhou.")

Dr. Liu studied with Thomas Jefferson Professor Kenneth Vandeveld, who is one of the world's foremost authorities on international investment law. Dr. Liu is conducting a research project on U.S. foreign investment law and investment treaty practices with the objective of strengthening the investment links between the two countries.

"Dr. Liu's extended presence at Thomas Jefferson gave our students and faculty an outstanding opportunity to learn more about the stunning changes taking place in China today," said Professor Vandeveld. "Dr. Liu's visit also gave us the opportunity to create an enduring link between our two legal communities."

According to Professor Tiefenbrun, who organized and directed the China Study Abroad Program, "It is one of TJSL's most ambitious endeavors to enrich its already superb international law curriculum."





The inaugural program presented law students the opportunity to earn four credits in international law from May 20 to June 9. Thomas Jefferson students took classes along with other American law students and Chinese students who participated in the program.

The program offered four courses to be taught by Thomas Jefferson professors: International Business Transactions with Professor Tiefenbrun, WTO (World Trade Organization) Law and China with Professor Claire Wright, International Environmental Law with Professor Aaron Schwabach and Comparative Employment Law with Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp. Judge Margaret McKeown of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals was scheduled to be a Distinguished Guest Lecturer, among others.

“This is a rare and wonderful opportunity,” said Professor Tiefenbrun.

## “...the most beautiful and luxurious city in the world”—Marco Polo



The Thomas Jefferson students who participated in the program seemed well aware of that prior to departure.

“I am so excited about the opportunity to travel to China,” said third-year student Renee Galente. “When else will I be able to get such a great opportunity to travel to an exotic location, while learning from some of the best teachers?”

First-year student Derek Karpel said: “I’m very excited about the China Program. As China becomes a stronger international force, it’s imperative that Americans begin to appreciate the complexities and beauty of this fascinating country. The program is really going to give Thomas Jefferson students an advantage as China’s influence grows in the global future.”

“I chose to participate in the China Program because of my wonderful experience with the Nice Program last summer,” said second-year student Ashley Hennessee.

The Nice Summer Abroad Program, co-sponsored by Thomas Jefferson School of Law, Hofstra University School of Law and the University of North Carolina School of Law, has been directed by Professor Susan Tiefenbrun since 1993.

Nice “was an amazing six-week program, and I completed courses in International Business Transactions and Comparative Family Law,” said Hennessee. “In China, I will be taking courses dealing with Environmental Law and the World Trade Organization. I am excited to be part of the ‘maiden voyage’ of the new China Program, because I am sure that Professor Tiefenbrun will once again set the precedent for a successful program which will continue in years to come.”

Hangzhou is located in Southeast China, about one hour (150 kilometers) away from Shanghai, the famous, bustling metropolis that is well-known for its shopping and

business opportunities. Visitors to China invariably comment about the extraordinary beauty of Hangzhou. Marco Polo, the noted Italian traveler in the 13th century, described Hangzhou as “the most beautiful and luxurious city in the world.”

Hangzhou is the capital of Zhejiang Province and is full of history, art and tourist attractions. Hangzhou is a scenic delight dominated by the famous West Lake—a favorite spot for honeymooners and romantics. West Lake, a classical example of traditional Chinese landscape, is lush with the natural beauty, elegance, and harmony associated with Chinese culture. West Lake offers luxuriant weeping willows, serenely scented temples and pagodas, art treasures and numerous ideal spots for relaxation.

An ancient city, Hangzhou is one of the birthplaces of Chinese civilization, and one of the country’s six ancient capitals. Today it is a modern city with six state-protected sites containing cultural relics and 58 cultural sites under the protection of the Zhejiang Province.

While in the Hangzhou area, the students in the program have opportunities for optional weekend trips to other cities in China and optional half-day trips to neighboring scenic sites, which abound in the Hangzhou region.

“I hope to be able to soak up some of the ancient culture by visiting pagodas, modern culture by visiting the city and as much international law as my brain can handle,” said Renee Galente.

Fulbright Scholar Schwabach believes the emergence of China is going to be the biggest economic change in the 21st century.

“Thomas Jefferson School of Law is ideally situated to take advantage of the opportunities it will bring,” said Professor Schwabach. “In the past couple of years we’ve been building a solid base on that

side of the Pacific as well, with multiple visits by TJSL faculty and students to law schools and firms in Beijing, Chongqing, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Xiamen—and other places as well—and now with Professor Sun Liu and Zizhi Li spending a year on our side of the ocean. I see this relationship continuing to grow, with TJSL providing an ongoing connection between law students, professors and lawyers in China and the U.S.”

Professor Schwabach and everyone else involved with the program are hoping that the bridge between Thomas Jefferson School of Law and China will not only endure for years to come, but bring great knowledge and friendships to all who cross it.



### TJSL’s Summer Study Abroad Program in Nice, France

For the 15th consecutive year, Hofstra University School of Law, in cooperation with La Faculte de Droit de l’Universite de Nice, Thomas Jefferson School of Law and the University Of North Carolina School Of Law, will host a four-week international and Comparative Law Summer Study Abroad Program in Nice, France this summer. The program was created and organized by Hofstra University School of Law and Professor Susan Tiefenbrun of Thomas Jefferson School of Law has directed the program since its inception in 1993. Thomas Jefferson has been a co-sponsor of the Nice program since 2004.

Twelve students from Thomas Jefferson School of Law participated in last summer’s Nice program. They had a chance to meet 51 other American law students from 17 different U.S. law schools, and greet 15 French students from the University of Nice Law School. In addition to their courses, they spent a day in French court and attended a brown bag lecture series featuring law professors and practitioners of international law, among other events.

### Queen’s University Exchange Program

Thomas Jefferson School of Law has a student exchange program with the Queen’s University Faculty of Law, in Kingston, Ontario. Queen’s is one of the most prestigious law schools in Canada and is where former TJSL Professor Art Cockfield is teaching. Professor Cockfield visited Thomas Jefferson last year to talk about the exchange program and answer questions about Queen’s.

Two students from Queen’s took classes at Thomas Jefferson this spring and two other Queen’s students were at TJSL during the Fall 2006 semester. Several Thomas Jefferson students have expressed an interest in spending a semester at Queen’s.

Canada is a common law jurisdiction and the law school courses at Queen’s are similar in nature to the courses offered at Thomas Jefferson.

More information on the law school can be found at: <http://law.queensu.ca>



# A Letter from Hangzhou, China

From Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professor Aaron Schwabach during his experience as a Fulbright Scholar at Zhejiang University last summer.

Dear Friends,

What surprised me most about teaching in China was not how different it was, but how different it wasn't. The students are part of the new China. The Cultural Revolution was over before they were born; from their point of view, the U.S. Embassy has always been in Beijing (not Taipei), and to get rich has always been glorious. I had come as a Fulbright Senior Scholar to teach a course in international environmental law at Zhejiang University (Zheda) College of Law in Hangzhou, China. Although I'd visited China, and even Hangzhou, before, I'd never taught a course anywhere outside the U.S. I'd been warned that Chinese students would be too shy or deferential to ask questions in class, but language turned out to be a bigger problem than cultural expectations.

By the second class I realized that the half-dozen students who had asked all of the questions were the ones who spoke excellent English, while many of their silent classmates were struggling to figure out what I was saying. I spent a day putting all of the course notes on PowerPoint slides, then copying them to the classroom computer for the students to copy to their flash drives. From then on I displayed the relevant notes on the screen behind me as I taught, and the level of participation improved dramatically.

The students, with their QQ accounts and incessant texting (even during class), are as comfortable with information technology as their U.S. counterparts. I confined my own communications to those old-school stand-bys, e-mail and telephone. I spent an hour or two each evening answering e-mails from students—some in Hangzhou, others back in San Diego.

Like U.S. students, the students at Zhejiang University (and Xinan) are deeply concerned about environmental problems, and often disagreed deeply with me and with each other on what should be done to address them. They expressed worries both about the U.S. withdrawal from the Kyoto Protocol process and the effect of China's economic growth on global greenhouse gas levels. (Of course, in any environmental law class, there's some self-selection bias—students unconcerned about the environment are less likely to take the class.) The students brought a subtly different perspective to almost every question, reminding me that I was there not only to teach, but also to learn.

In addition to teaching international environmental law, I ended up advising Zhejiang University's Jessup moot court team. One weekend I also flew off to deliver a paper at a conference on the World Trade Organization at the Xinan (Southwest) University of Political Science and Law in Chongqing, a thousand miles away, on the Yangtze River not far from the foothills of the Tibetan plateau. Chongqing was utterly different from

Hangzhou. Hangzhou is a city of mostly not-so-tall buildings set among gentle hills and parkland; Chongqing is a city of densely packed skyscrapers built on steep hills along the banks of two rivers, stretching to the limits of vision in every direction. The hills make the buildings seem even taller; my hotel clung to the side of a cliff, with street-level exits at the eleventh, fourth and first floors.

Many of the professors at Xinan and Zheda had visited the U.S., and some had even been to San Diego. I was happy to hear from them that my hometown possessed wonders (the beaches! the Zoo!) to impress even residents of Hangzhou. One—a professor of ancient Chinese law—attended the class. She was a hero to the students because of her role in efforts to save the Tibetan antelope.

Like any tourist in Hangzhou, I enjoyed the food, walked along the shore of the West Lake and marveled at the juxtaposition of ancient temples and luxury-car dealerships. A walk along the lakeshore is a walk through millennia of Chinese history and literature, but the city is not a fragile museum piece; the Ferrari dealership and Papa John's Pizza are just details in another chapter of Hangzhou's story. Surprises lie around every turn. A monument to the Chinese volunteers who fought for North Korea against the "American invaders" lies within a few minutes' walk of a redwood tree planted by Richard Nixon, of all people. An intriguing statue of a highly-stylized bull that I mistook for some piece of modern art turns out to be 3200 years old. The magnificently reconstructed Leifeng Pagoda, familiar to fans of Chinese literature from the legend of Lady White Snake, dominates the south shore of the lake as if it had been there a thousand years—which is only partly true. The current structure—the only wheelchair-accessible pagoda I've ever seen—dates from 2002. The original was built in 975, but burned and was looted by invading Japanese forces in about 1550. Part of the ruined tower stood crumbling for nearly another four centuries, until its final collapse in 1924. The ruin is featured in many paintings and nineteenth-century photographs of the lake, but at the time rebuilding began, no one under 80 had seen it in person.

The most interesting thing about Hangzhou is not architecture or scenery, but people. But I'd have to go on for another three thousand words—I'll try to focus on those stories when I return to Hangzhou for TJSL's summer study abroad program.

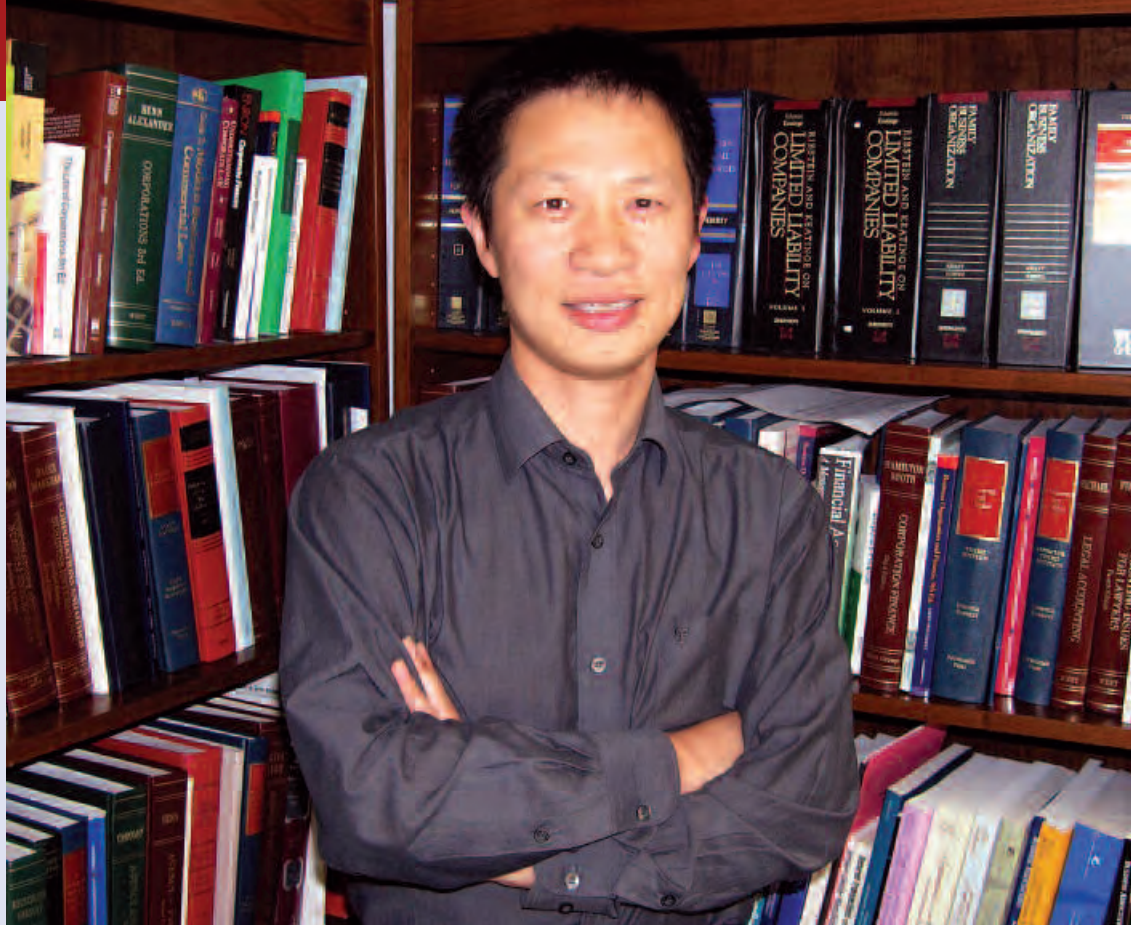
Until then...

Aaron Schwabach





**“The assignment of a Fulbright Scholar gives added credibility to the scholarly work of the faculty here at Thomas Jefferson”**



## Fulbright Scholar Dr. Sun Liu

China’s ambassador to Thomas Jefferson School of Law, as part of the cultural and academic connection between the law school and the People’s Republic, is Dr. Sun Liu, a Fulbright Scholar who requested to do his research at Thomas Jefferson this academic year.

Dr. Liu and his wife Zizhi Li arrived in September and say they’ve had a wonderful and gratifying experience at Thomas Jefferson and in San Diego.

A professor of International Law, Dr. Liu is conducting a research project on U.S. foreign investment law and investment treaty practices with the objective of strengthening the investment links between the two countries.

Dr. Liu, 36, earned his Ph.D. in International Investment Law in June 2001 at Wuhan University, in his home province of Hubei. He is currently Dean of the Department of International Economic Law at Zhongnan University of Economics and Law in Hubei Province.

“The Fulbright Program will give me a chance to have contact directly with the American people and have a direct understanding of U.S. culture and society,” Dr. Liu said shortly after his arrival.

“The assignment of a Fulbright Scholar gives added credibility to the scholarly work of the faculty here at Thomas Jefferson,” Dean Rudy Hasl said. He added, “It is significant that Dr. Liu has chosen to work directly with Professor and former Dean Kenneth J. Vandeveld on important issues involving foreign investment policy applicable to the People’s Republic of China.”

“This is a wonderful opportunity for us,” said Professor Vandeveld, himself a world renowned expert on international investment. “Dr. Liu could have applied to visit at any American law school. That he asked to spend a year at Thomas Jefferson reflects the reputation that we have achieved worldwide in the field of international investment law.”

Professor Vandeveld said that Dr. Liu’s work can have significant impact on economic relations between the United States and China, which is now the fourth largest economy in the world, next to the U.S., Japan and Germany.

“China now receives more foreign investment than any other developing country in the world, but its potential is vastly greater,” added Professor Vandeveld. “The United States, meanwhile, is the largest source of foreign investment in the world today. The potential for further economic cooperation between these two nations is tremendous.”

## Q & A with Dr. Sun Liu



### Why did you decide to come to TJSL?

The Fulbright Program provided me a chance to do research work in the U.S.A. I am a professor of international investment law in China. When I learned that the well-known expert in international investment law, Professor Kenneth Vandeveld, teaches at TJSL, I decided to choose TJSL as my host school for the opportunity to work with Professor Vandeveld.

### What are you studying here?

My research work here focuses on the newest developments of international investment law. Now I have read about 60 articles and some books on this subject and have begun to write something in Chinese on three subjects: the relationship between labour rights protection and international investment law; the relationship between environmental protection and international investment; the relationship between human rights protection and international investment. I also want to study U.S. investment policy and international investment treaties practice.

### Has this Fulbright Scholarship been as academically valuable as you had hoped?

The Fulbright Scholarship has provided me with a wonderful chance to learn the most advanced legal system in the world. It also provides my wife and me a good chance to understand the American people and U.S. culture.

### What kind of experience have you had in San Diego so far?

It is a wonderful experience living and studying in San Diego. My wife and I appreciate the friendship from my colleagues at TJSL. I am satisfied with the research environment TJSL provides for me and we enjoy everyday in this beautiful city and beautiful country!!!

### What have you and your wife enjoyed the most about San Diego?

The wonderful weather and beauty of San Diego and the kindness of the people in the city make us most satisfied here.

### Are there any other comments you would like to share?

I wish to build a bridge of friendship between TJSL and my university in China (Zhongnan University of Economics and Law). I will try to find some chances to invite some professors at TJSL to visit our university and give lectures to Chinese students. I will try my best to introduce some knowledge to China about international law, which I learned here, by writing articles and a book. If I get another chance to come to the U.S.A., I will choose San Diego and TJSL again.



*Fulbright Scholar Dr. Sun Liu and his wife Zizhi Li enjoyed visiting California’s beautiful scenery, including San Francisco Bay.*



**Real life.  
Real people.  
Real cases.  
Real results.**



## Serving America's Veterans Through TJSL's New Clinic

Tom D. has been through a lot. He's had a drug problem. He's lived on the streets. He's had brushes with the law.

But one of the hardest things for this Navy veteran was not being able to see his thirteen-year-old son because his ex-girlfriend, the mother of the child, wouldn't allow Tom to visit the boy. Tom wasn't paying any child support and he hadn't seen his son for six years.

Then Tom was referred to the new Veteran's Legal Assistance Clinic (VLAC) set up by Thomas Jefferson School of Law at the Veteran's Village of San Diego. At the clinic, TJSL law students were able to help Tom negotiate affordable child support payments and to prepare him for a mediation hearing with his ex-girlfriend. The result? Tom is now allowed to have supervised visits with his son.

For law student Todd Knode, who spent his last year at TJSL working at the clinic, it was a great experience to be helping a real person with real world problems—and have it turn out successfully: Tom was able to reunite with his son on Christmas Eve.

"We helped him to be able to improve his life," Knode said. "It shows other residents at Veteran's Village that we can help them—that it's not a hopeless situation."

Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD) is a facility, that provides services for needy and homeless veterans of all wars and eras and their families. VVSD provides housing, food, clothing, substance abuse recovery and



*(From left) Todd Knode, Thomas McLaughlin, Joel Matteson, Joana Willert, Professor Steve Berenson and Stephen Hunter at the VVSD.*

mental health counseling, job training and job search assistance. But until Thomas Jefferson's legal clinic started up in the summer of 2006, there were no legal services for VVSD's clients.

"Overall, it's been quite successful," according to the clinic's director, Thomas Jefferson Professor Steve Berenson. For the first semester of operation he recruited a team of five law students to handle legal issues for the Veteran's Village clients under his supervision.

The clinic's first successful case involved a woman who had served as a Navy medic and was barely making it. Nancy T. had successfully completed VVSD's program—and had gotten a job as a nurse's assistant. Since she was making more money than the allowable food stamp limit, the County of San Diego notified Nancy that, according to its records, she owed \$445—allegedly drawn on her account—payable immediately.

It was a huge amount for Nancy and it would have left her destitute.

But Todd Knode took on the case—and immediately found that not only does VVSD carefully manage its clients' food stamp accounts, but that Nancy had not been issued the \$445 worth of food stamps as the county's records had indicated. In other words, the county's records were wrong. The solution was as simple as faxing the VVSD records to the county and the case was dropped.

It was the clinic's first legal victory, modest by some standards, but not by Nancy T's.

For future lawyers like Todd Knode and the other TJSL students working at the clinic, it was their first real taste of what practicing law is like—especially the art of interviewing clients. Knode says the most challenging part of working with Tom D. was getting to the real issues while listening to his clients' rambling life history.

"The great challenge for students is to unravel the web of issues which has formed over time on the streets and in prison," says Professor Berenson. "It takes patience and good listening skills to organize the pieces of the puzzle."

That's exactly what Knode did in laying the groundwork in Tom D.'s child support case. Once Knode determined the issues and did the legal research, the clinic's supervising fellow, Anaheetah Kolah, and Professor Berenson went to the Child

Support hearing ready to argue the case. (Kolah was pinch-hitting for Knode, who had a class at the time of the hearing). But before the hearing, they were able to negotiate face-to-face with Tom's ex-girlfriend and a caseworker from the County Department of Child Support Services. They worked out an agreement on a monthly child support payment that was affordable, given Tom's part-time job.

The next step was preparing Tom for a mandatory mediation hearing to decide the child visitation issue. It went well—his former girlfriend agreed to supervised visits every other week.

That paved the way for Tom's Christmas Eve reunion with his son.

"It's real law," said Kolah. "It's not just three letters—it's real life."

Eighty-percent of the cases the Thomas Jefferson students have worked on at Veteran's Village are related to family law issues—child support, visitation and marriage dissolution. They've also worked on cases involving administrative law—Supplemental Security Income, Food Stamp and military discharge matters. The third category of cases dealt with offender re-entry issues. These types of issues can cause a lot of stress for the veterans center's clients and complicate their successful transition to their post-VVSD lives.

"VVSD really appreciates us," said Knode. "It makes their job easier. And for us, it's great to know we're actually doing something for someone."

Knode says Tom D. acknowledged that he needs to stay clean and sober to take care of his obligations to his son. That's powerful motivation to stay with the program at Veteran's Village and make it work.

What Knode got out of it was an education in how the legal system works in the real world. "It's a lot different than sitting in class and reading a book," he said.

Peggy Hughes, another Thomas Jefferson student who worked with the Veteran's Clinic, thinks the experience is a valuable way to gain practical experience and give back to the community. "It's a great opportunity to serve and learn at the same time," Hughes noted.

TJSL student Joana Willert, who also worked at the clinic during its first semester, explained why the experience was so important to her: "Veterans hold a special place in my heart. Not only are there several veterans in my family, but I am touched by the service they have given our country. Whether drafted or voluntarily enlisted, I feel all veterans deserve a level of respect they sometimes do not receive. The freedoms we enjoy today are directly attributable to the sacrifices made by our veterans, and I welcome the opportunity to make their lives a little easier through this clinic."

Clinic Director Professor Berenson also feels the VLAC rounds out the Veteran's Village program—a program he says he's very impressed with, "especially the commitment of the people who work there, and the 'military' ethic that suggests that all of the residents are in the recovery process together, and that they need to help each other out—just like a soldier wouldn't leave a wounded colleague behind."

Tom D. is one wounded colleague who didn't get left behind and now, thanks to Veteran's Village and the Thomas Jefferson Veteran's Legal Assistance Clinic, his life is turning around.

**"The great challenge for students is to unravel the web of issues which has formed over time on the streets and in prison," says Professor Berenson. "It takes patience and good listening skills to organize the pieces of the puzzle."**





*Jonna M. Spilbor, who graduated from Thomas Jefferson in 1992, is an attorney, columnist and legal analyst who appears regularly as a “talking-head” on MSNBC, CNN Headline News, Fox News Channel, Court-TV and Court-TV Radio whenever there is a legal case of national interest.*

With so many cases making news these days, legal commentators are in constant demand for hosts like Nancy Grace and Greta Van Susteren. Spilbor offers unique, expert and entertaining commentary on the nation’s high-profile legal happenings.

In addition to her frequent TV and radio appearances, Spilbor’s column “Reasonable Doubts” is published in the *Poughkeepsie Journal*, a Gannett-owned daily newspaper. She is also a regular contributing columnist for Findlaw’s Writ (found at Findlaw.com). Her in-depth legal analysis of celebrity criminal cases has been featured nationally in *Variety Magazine*, *The San Francisco Recorder*, the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* and at CNN.com.

In the courtroom, Spilbor has handled hundreds of cases as a criminal defense attorney, and prior to that, also served in the San Diego City Attorney’s Office, Criminal Division, and the Office of the United States Attorney in the Drug Task Force and Appellate units.

Spilbor is a California death penalty scholar whose work has been published in the *San Diego Justice Journal*. In 1998, she also earned certification as a Court Appointed Special Advocate with the San Diego Juvenile Court.

# Jonna Spilbor Thomas Jefferson’s “Talking-Head” Alumna

Although licensed to practice law in three of the nation’s most influential jurisdictions—New York, California and the District of Columbia—Spilbor currently practices primarily in New York’s Hudson Valley.

As Spilbor tells us in her Q & A with *The Declaration*, her role as a legal commentator is something she just fell into after what you might call a “moving experience.”

## *How did you become a legal commentator in the media?*

By accident! When my now ex-husband and I moved from San Diego to New York, he made the moving arrangements with one of many companies that were part of this scam that would put your life on a moving van for one price, and then when they got to the other end, they would demand some outrageous extortionist amount of money to take it off the truck!

We fast became part of a big group of victims who caught the interest of several TV reporters, including Dateline NBC. One Fox affiliate in Florida, where many of these mover con artists were headquartered, wanted to interview me, so they sent me to Fox News in Manhattan for the taping. I was pretty hot under the collar since my whole life was being held hostage by a bunch of thugs to whom I had already paid \$4,000. I guess it showed!

As I was walking out of Studio N, which would later become my home away from home, a Fox News producer came running after me, said I was “great” and asked whether I’d come back in my lawyer capacity to discuss other legal issues. I said, “Twist my arm” and the rest is history! Once I started doing Fox regularly,

other networks started calling. I’ve also been interviewed by Showtime and have been in the running for a couple of “judge” shows (I always thought “Judge Jonna” has a nice ring to it!) And, now I have an agent with a swanky address!

## *Name a few of your most memorable cases.*

I made a name for myself as Dan Abrams’ (formerly of the Abrams Report) sparring partner. We would go toe-to-toe on cases such as the murder of New York City graduate student Immette St.Guillen and the murdered wife of famed attorney Dan Horowitz, to name a few of the more heated debates. It’s tough sometimes to be the media defense attorney on cases that are—by appearances—difficult to defend. There truly is a “pro-prosecution” ideal in this country (which is why Nancy Grace does so well) and anybody who’s not on board with that can quickly become a punching bag. To be a good defense attorney in the media, you’ve got to get good at blocking and jabbing!

## *Do you think the legal analysis and commentary that pervade the media during major cases are having an impact on the cases themselves or on the criminal justice system? Are cases like the Duke rape being tried in the media to the detriment of fairness and justice?*

I do think society’s pro-prosecution ideal does pervade our real life juries, sort of giving them a tacit green light to convict defendants in the absence of sufficient evidence. It’s as if juries have a “well, if he

didn’t do it, who did?” attitude when it comes to their deliberation and decision-making processes, and that’s scary. Take the recent case in your neck of the woods of the Marine Corps wife convicted of poisoning her husband. There was a sheer lack of evidence connecting the defendant to the murder, yet she was convicted anyway.

Duke is the case that finally exposed some of the more common pitfalls of modern-day prosecutorial attitudes. Do you honestly think these three well-to-do defendants are the first ones to be wrongfully accused and then promptly railroaded? No! But thanks to a thorough and aggressive defense team, these cracks were painfully exposed. Duke is the case that should become the catalyst for much needed change, particularly in the way rape and sex crimes are investigated and prosecuted nationwide.

## *Tell us about your years at TJSL.*

I loved law school! And living in San Diego was like living in paradise. I wasn’t one of those students who didn’t take her head out of her tort book, although I had to work (a lot). I had no family nearby, and I had distractions that perhaps kept me from being consumed by my studies (although I did make law review). I passed the bar on the first try, so it all worked out. I also think there is something to be said for those of us who really bust our butts to achieve a goal that others may reach easier. Would I have



gotten straight A’s had I not had to bartend by night and intern by day while trying to maintain my GPA? Maybe. Instead, I walked away with passing grades and a work ethic that keeps it real for my clients and me. They don’t teach “real” on the bar exam. That can only be gleaned by our own individual experiences.

## *Anything else you’d like fellow alumni to know?*

When you least expect it, expect it! Law is my life and media is my passion. Doing what I do now is a perfect combination of loves that may not have happened had my ex-husband hired a reputable mover!

And a few years from now, I’ll be on the *New York Times* bestseller list...wait and see!



# TJSL Alumnus Rep. Duncan Hunter Running for U.S. Presidency

With the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Midway as his backdrop, Thomas Jefferson School of Law graduate and U.S. Representative **Duncan Hunter** ('76) announced last October that he was forming a committee to explore running for president. Then in January, the San Diego congressman formally announced his candidacy for the GOP presidential nomination in 2008.

*“The American people have good character and great hearts. We have great potential. We must continue to be the beacon of world freedom. And we have to share our economic prosperity with more Americans.”*

It was an auspicious moment for Rep. Hunter, as well as for Thomas Jefferson School of Law. TJSL graduates have been highly successful in many arenas, including politics, but never has one run for America's highest office.

Rep. Hunter is running as a Ronald Reagan Republican—a conservative who would be strong on national security, border security and bringing back to America the manufacturing jobs that have been lost overseas. He is a Vietnam combat veteran and recently completed four years as the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

Hoping that his positions will resonate with conservative voters, Rep. Hunter made his formal campaign announcement in South Carolina, which has one of the

earliest primaries in 2008. A good showing there, along with strong showings in the New Hampshire primary and the Iowa Caucuses could help Rep. Hunter shed the image of being a long-shot in the GOP presidential race. In early March, he finished very close to Rudolph Giuliani and John McCain in a South Carolina straw poll, trailing by only a handful of votes.

When we spoke to Rep. Hunter this spring, he was campaigning in New Hampshire and was excited after having just won another straw poll in Arizona.

**Q.** *Why did you decide to run for President?*

**Hunter:** To lead this nation and the American people. We need someone with a background in national security. I served 26 years on the House Armed Services Committee—the past four as chairman.

Over the next five-to-ten years our primary focus will be on national security. We are facing many threats to our security from around the world.

The American people have good character and great hearts. We have great potential. We must continue to be the beacon of world freedom. And we have to share our economic prosperity with more Americans.

**Q.** *What kind of a campaign will you run?*

**Hunter:** A very effective campaign. I just won the straw poll in Arizona (The Maricopa County GOP Straw Poll) over Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich and John McCain—in McCain's own state. And in the South Carolina's Spartanburg County Straw Poll, I was virtually tied with Rudy Giuliani



and John McCain.

I plan on having a lot of direct interaction with voters. I don't have as much money as the other candidates, but the money will follow the message.

I think I have a good chance to win.

**Q.** *What is your main message?*

**Hunter:** Strong national security, enforceable borders and bringing back the high-paying manufacturing jobs we've been losing overseas.

**Q.** *Can you describe your law school experience here at Thomas Jefferson—how it has helped your career and what it means to you?*

**Hunter:** I can describe it in one word: opportunity. I had quit college after two

years and served with the Army in Vietnam. But with the opportunity to go to Thomas Jefferson, all doors opened for me.

The thing about TJSL was that the average age of my classmates was 35, and most of them were working on a second career. They were interesting, with life experiences and I worked side by side with people from every walk of life.

I'll never forget the day I saw my name posted downtown (San Diego) that I had passed the California bar exam. It was December 7, 1976. Then I went right to Sharp Hospital for the birth of my son, Duncan Hunter, Jr., I became a lawyer and a father on the same day! Now my son wants to run for my seat in Congress.

But getting back to Thomas Jefferson. To me, TJSL represents opportunity—the most valuable opportunity afforded any American.

**Q.** *What would you say to our current Thomas Jefferson students about their law school experience and their upcoming careers in law or politics?*

**Hunter:** The key in law is to always make your case. There is a close dynamic between law and politics. When you become a political candidate, you become an advocate for the positions you believe in. To make your case in politics you have to articulate your case and you can draw on your colleagues to do that.

A law degree is the greatest door opener in our society. It can take you to more professions than any other type of degree.

And you should always keep the door open to enter politics.



Thomas Jefferson graduate Rep. Duncan Hunter ('76) at his first presidential campaign event.





## Alumna Christina Wickman & Husband Protect Rights of Consumers

Within a month of being admitted to the California Bar in June 2005, Thomas Jefferson alumna **Christina Wickman ('04)** found herself involved in a major national class-action case against the world's largest collection agency.

Wickman and her husband Steven are partners in the firm Wickman & Wickman, which focuses on protecting the rights of California consumers.

The case in question, *Nutter v. NCO Financial Systems, Inc.*, resulted in a multi-million dollar settlement for the class of consumers whose telephone conversations with NCO collectors had been illegally monitored or recorded without the consumers' knowledge or consent. As part of the settlement, NCO agreed to pay a \$78,000 award to a worthy charitable organization—a *cy pres* award, as these types of settlements are called.

Christina Wickman, a volunteer at the San Diego Legal Aid Society while attending

Thomas Jefferson, effectively advocated that Legal Aid should receive the award to start a new clinic for consumers who can't afford legal services.

The award will fund the Legal Aid's Consumer Economic Development Clinics, which will help "address legal problems which are dragging (consumers) down financially, and keeping them from moving ahead economically," according to Jason Turner, Senior Attorney with Legal Aid and the person responsible for the new project. "We were designated because of our history of providing free legal services to individuals and families."

The Legal Aid Society plans to present the clinics in various communities to educate consumers about issues such as fair debt collection practices, identity theft and consumer law.

"It's extremely rewarding," Christina Wickman said of the opportunity to see part of the NCO settlement go toward helping

consumers who are being illegally threatened and intimidated by debt collectors.

"Collection agencies have been getting more abusive and brash," according to Steven Wickman. He referred to a recent *New York Times* story reporting that, as consumer debt has risen and bankruptcy laws have changed, there also has been an increase in complaints to the Federal Trade Commission about unscrupulous tactics by debt collection agencies.

The Wickmans have seen this type of abuse experienced by San Diego consumers and so has Turner. "We have seen our fair share of threatening letters," he says, "and people are vulnerable to threats because they often don't know their rights. We want people to move ahead economically. Bankruptcy laws are intended to give the debtors a fresh start and not take away their assets."

The Wickmans have been "immensely helpful" to Turner in navigating the bankruptcy code and working on the cases. "They are great people and great mentors," Turner noted. The Wickmans also are among the attorneys who will do *pro bono* bankruptcy work as part of the new program, and Turner says the clinic needs more volunteers.

"Get the message out to your alumni who'd be interested in taking *pro bono* cases," Turner urges. "That would be a big help to us." The San Diego Legal Aid Society can be contacted at <http://www.lasds.org>.

The Wickmans, along with another Thomas Jefferson graduate **Aaron Sansing ('03)**, also have recently settled a class-action suit against a Florida-based collection agency called Medical Data Systems, which has resulted in a *cy pres* award of \$30,000 going to the American Cancer Society. The money is earmarked for the Cancer Society's "I Can Cope Program," which gives financial assistance to people who face huge expenses—and possibly collections—on the bills generated by their treatment. The Wickmans are pleased that the settlement money is being used to help consumers.

"As consumer law attorneys, you strive for immediate benefit to your class members, but you also have the opportunity to create a lasting benefit for a group which has been harmed," Christina Wickman adds.

## Grad Works on Precedent-Setting Case

Four years ago when **Srinivas Hanumadass ('03)** applied for a position with DiCaro, Coppo and Popcke, he wasn't quite sure what the anti-SLAPP statute was (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation). Little did he know that one of the cases he would spend several years working on would eventually go to the California Supreme Court in a novel application of anti-SLAPP.

The case, *Kibler v. Northern Inyo County Local Hospital District* (2006) 39 Cal.4th 192, was a unanimous landmark decision in which the California Supreme Court held for the first time that hospital peer review is protected under the anti-SLAPP statute from premature lawsuits initiated by physicians to circumvent the peer review process. It was basically the first case that Hanumadass started working on when he joined the firm, and he was particularly involved in the research and writing of motions and briefs, and the retaining of amicus briefs, as the case made its way to the California Supreme Court.

As the son of two physicians, Hanumadass always knew that he wanted to do something involving healthcare. But despite his doctor-parents, Hanumadass had never heard the term peer review until he pursued a position as a post-bar law clerk with DiCaro, Coppo and Popcke, an eight-attorney firm with offices in Carlsbad and Aliso Viejo, California. There are only about 10 attorneys in California who focus on the niche area of issues arising from medical peer review, which involves a committee of medical professionals who evaluate standards and practices for patient care, assess physicians' performance, and deal with other hospital issues such as physicians' requests for staff privileges.



The anti-SLAPP statute is contained in the California Code of Civil Procedure §425.16, and it provides for a special motion to strike a lawsuit, which is brought primarily to deter the exercise of constitutional rights to free speech and petition.

According to Hanumadass, these special motions are often referred to as "summary judgment with a nuclear warhead," since defendants prevailing on an anti-SLAPP motion, including any appeal, are entitled to a mandatory award of reasonable attorney's fees.

When asked about the intimidating work of retaining amicus briefs in support of a case, Hanumadass remarked, "If you're inexperienced, you can usually make up for it with a positive attitude." No doubt Hanumadass' enthusiasm and excitement for the case made it hard to resist him.

On the one hand, Hanumadass describes his work in medical defense as being "like war every day" with regular fighting over discovery and lots of motion work. Yet on the other hand he passionately talks about how fun the practice of law is. It's not surprising that he's always been committed to doing litigation.

Hanumadass credits his success at least in part, to his solid mid-western upbringing in Chicago and the practical training he gained while at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. He took both Trial Advocacy and Advanced Trial Advocacy, and also worked for several semesters as an intern for the San Diego Unified Port District. There he gained experience in litigation and also learned about issues arising out of immunities.



Melvin Shaw:

Road Leads Alum to Big Apple



Most of us are familiar with the often repeated mantra: “Life is a journey, not a destination.” But you would be hard put to find someone who has taken to this philosophy with more gusto than 1984 graduate Melvin Shaw.

As he described it, his application to the law school started the education ball going. And he was going to be darn sure that he got in. The former Dean of Admissions Jennifer Keller, who retired two years ago, must have been surprised when, instead of the normal three letters of recommendation per candidate, a grand total of 27 were delivered on Shaw’s behalf. He was not to be denied.

Not even the fact that the law school was unaccredited at that time would slow Shaw down. The solution: work a few years in State and Federal Courts in Indiana until he became eligible to take (and pass) other bars. He would later be admitted to both the New York and Connecticut state bars.

But then, what does a man with wanderlust in his heart and an unquenchable thirst for knowledge go? The big city, of course—Chicago. In the Windy City, Shaw learned

*“You need to approach life with passion and purpose. That is my advice for the new generation of skilled lawyers that are coming out of Thomas Jefferson.”*

and practiced the craft of public affairs with one of the most prestigious PR firms in the world, Burson Marsteller. With a decade of work with Marsteller behind him, it was time to go back to school.

And like everything else he did in life, Shaw attacked it with a passion. What, he reasoned, is bigger and better than Chicago? New York, naturally, and a masters degree in non-profit management and a Ph.D. in Public Health, both from NYU and all sandwiched around another masters in health law from DePaul University.

It was in New York that Shaw began his association with the World Health Organization and the United Nations, a relationship that would become his life’s work. He has appeared in more than 25 United States District Courts, as a litigator, or giving expert testimony on legal aspects of international health issues and public health law. Shaw works out of his office on Wall Street and, for when he can carve out some relaxation time, maintains a weekend home in the port town of Naugatuck, Connecticut.

How full is Shaw’s life? So much so that he never found the time to get married and start a family. “I have been blessed to have had a rich, fulfilling life,” he says. “I always had a love for what I was doing. I still do and I think that is the key. You need to approach life with passion and purpose. That is my advice for the new generation of skilled lawyers that are coming out of Thomas Jefferson.”

We

The People – Class Notes

a Bankruptcy law practice based in La Mesa and is a Director-at-large for the TJSJ Alumni Association, and also chairs the food committee for the Alumni Association’s Padre Tailgaters.

**Class of ‘73**

**Walter Donovan** retired as a Brigadier General and senior attorney in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1985. He also served as a Deputy District Attorney for San Diego County for 11 years. Donovan is now retired in Boise, Idaho, where he is a member of the Idaho Bar and engaged in veteran and civic volunteer work.

**Class of ‘76**

**Stephen D. Lucas**, of Lucas & Haverkamp in San Diego, recently prevailed in an eight-year court battle, winning a big settlement for the Fresno Unified School District in an insurance coverage dispute with Coregis Insurance Co. *Fresno Unified v. Coregis*, C037472 (filed June 16, 2006, in 3rd Dist. Crt. Of Appl.).

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker has named **Stephen L. Nelson** a partner in the firm’s San Francisco office. He will cover the firm’s aviation work in California and the West. Nelson has extensive experience in civil litigation, trial and appellate matters. His main practice is in aviation litigation, including general aviation, corporate aircraft and commercial airline claims and military aviation accidents. Nelson also is experienced in medical and legal malpractice, products and premises liability, maritime and admiralty cases, general liability claims, insurance coverage and bad faith litigation. Prior to joining Wilson Elser, he was the COO and General Counsel of Mather Aviation of Sacramento.

**Class of ‘77**

**David Britton** was appointed to the State Bar’s Bankruptcy Law Advisory Commission for a three-year term commencing October 2006-2009. Britton has

**Class of ‘78**

**Mary (Bossey) Sessom** is the Coordinator of the Business and Professional Studies Department at Cuyamaca Community College. She also is the Chair of the San Diego Association of Governments and is the Mayor of the City of Lemon Grove.

**Class of ‘80**

**Richard P. McCann**, has been an unlicensed member of the Las Vegas, Nevada, legal community for the past 26 years. McCann recently joined the law firm of Shook & Stone in Las Vegas as its Director of Litigation. Shook & Stone practices primarily personal injury, medical malpractice, worker’s compensation and social security disability compensation. McCann has added his 26 years of experience in medical and business litigation, as well as the representation of public safety employees such as law enforcement and firefighters in all types of disciplinary and discrimination actions. McCann also was recently appointed by Nevada’s governor as a non-physician member of the Nevada State Chiropractic Physician’s Board.

**Class of ‘81**

**Jude Basile** wins big verdicts in personal injury and wrongful death cases by using a technique called psychodrama to prepare for trial. Psychodrama was developed in the 1920’s and continues to be an effective way to communicate and persuade. Using psychodrama involves role-playing to get to know clients or victims deeply. This helps lawyers who use this technique to connect with the jury on an emotional and rational level when presenting the case. Basile maintains law offices in San Diego and San Luis Obispo.



Bonnie Dumanis is sworn-in to her second term as District Attorney by her father Abraham Dumanis.

**Bonnie Dumanis Elected To State Bar Board of Governors**

San Diego County District Attorney **Bonnie Dumanis (‘76)** has been elected to the State Bar’s Board of Governors.

Dumanis, a former Superior Court Judge, is serving a three-year term on the board for District Nine, which encompasses San Diego and Imperial Counties.

“I’m looking forward to serving on the Board of Governors,” said Dumanis. She went on to say: “I am active in the diversity pipeline project which is attempting to recruit minorities to get into the legal field because the enrollment numbers in law schools have been declining. I am also interested in finding out what is important to the attorneys in San Diego and Imperial Counties and focus my efforts in that direction.”

In November of 2006, Dumanis also was re-elected to a second term as District attorney, and her father Abraham Dumanis was specially deputized as a clerk so he could perform the swearing in ceremony.

A past president of the Lawyers Club of San Diego, Dumanis has also served on the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Bar Association.

**Class of ‘82**

**Kim Cox** recently was elected President of the James Jones Literary Society, Inc. The non-profit corporation honors the work of the late author, who won the National Book Award for *From Here to Eternity*. Cox is an attorney in private practice in San Diego.



# We The People – Class Notes

continued

**Brenda D. Mason** was invited back to her first undergraduate college, now Chapman University in Orange County, to participate in a Homecoming celebration in October 2006. She attended Chapman from 1966-1969. In November 2007, Mason was invited back to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, to record her oral history of the University for the 50th Anniversary to be celebrated during 2007-2008. UNLV is where Mason earned her Degrees, worked as a Community Coordinator for Teacher Corps, and was elected University Regent for five years. On January 10, 2007, Mason was sworn in as one of the two Vice Presidents of the TJSJ Alumni Association with its more than 5,300 members. She previously served as the Secretary of the Alumni Association Board for three years. Additionally, Mason recently was appointed to the Serra Public Library Board for San Diego and Imperial Counties. She also does volunteer work with Lawyer's Club of San Diego.



**Garry Haehnle named Superior Court Commissioner**

Thomas Jefferson School of Law alumnus **Garry Haehnle ('89)** was appointed last August as a Superior Court Commissioner by the judges on the Superior Court bench.

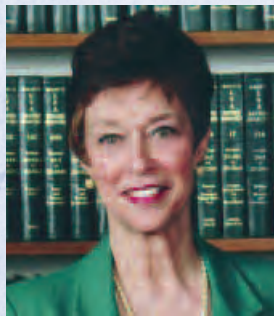
"I am very thrilled by my appointment as a Superior Court Commissioner," Haehnle said. "I feel honored to have been appointed by the judges of the Superior Court of San Diego, many of whom I appeared before in my 16-year career."

Haehnle, who graduated from Thomas Jefferson in 1989, has been a prosecutor with the San Diego County District Attorney's office since 1990. During his time there he distinguished himself prosecuting child abuse cases, many of which were high-profile, newsworthy cases.

Superior Court Commissioners hear traffic and certain misdemeanor cases.

## Class of '83

On March 14th, 2006, the City Commission of Albany, Georgia, appointed **Ralph Scoccimaro** to serve as Municipal Judge for the city of Albany. He will preside over all traffic offenses, such as DUIs, state misdemeanors and violations of city ordinances occurring within the city limits. Four other lawyers from schools such as Florida State University and University of Georgia also competed for the position.



## Class of '84

**Becky Alexander** has been in solo practice since 2002 focusing on Family Law. Her practice also includes working with the City

of Alexandria and the Parish of Rapides, Louisiana, and the corresponding constituents to purchase properties that have been adjudicated to the City and/or Parish for reasons such as tax debtor failure to pay taxes for over three years. Three separate procedures had to be re-written and the necessary ordinances. The work has expanded to other cities and parishes as the adjudicated lists keep growing with more and more properties outside the stream of commerce. It's all part of revitalization goals of both the municipalities and the political subdivisions. In response to the Katrina and Rita catastrophes, Alexander also was part of a group that developed a manual for volunteer attorneys, implemented it and applied it to the countless victims requiring legal assistance.

## Class of '86

**Susan (Lovenworth) Prior** retired from the practice of law after 17 years and is now pursuing her hobby of designing and making beaded jewelry. Prior's business name is Beaded Designs. Her work can be viewed at the Vista Art Gallery.

## Class of '87

**Helen Peters** is the 2007 President of the Contra Costa County Bar Association in Northern California. Her practice has been

limited to family mediation since 2001 to accommodate the birth and nurturing of her son, Paul. Peters is active in the AOC Bench Bar Coalition, as well as in Access to Justice projects within her community.

## Class of '91

**Carla Nasoff** is a trial attorney and president of her own law firm. She is a civil litigator specializing in medical malpractice and hospital litigation. Nasoff was a judicial candidate for seat #36 in 2006. She has been a judge *pro tem* presiding over hundreds of cases, and is a volunteer arbitrator for the San Diego County Bar Association. In addition to his busy bankruptcy litigation and appellate practice in downtown Honolulu, **Bradley R. Tamm** has been appointed to the Disciplinary Board of the Hawaii Supreme Court for a three-year term, commencing August 1, 2006.

## Class of '93

**Jana Logan** of Kirby & McGuinn, A P.C., was named president of the 2007 San Diego Bankruptcy Forum Board of Directors. The San Diego Bankruptcy Forum is a nonprofit organization of professionals working in the areas of bankruptcy and insolvency. Founded in 1989, the organization is dedicated to the promotion of continuing education and social interaction among professionals practicing in this area.

## Class of '94

**Deborah F. Bayus** is currently in her ninth year of law practice as a civil litigator in Carlsbad, focusing her practice on real property issues. She is a director and vice president of the North County Bar Association, past adjunct instructor of civil litigation in USC's Paralegal Program and currently an adjunct instructor of civil litigation at Palomar College. She stays involved with legal affiliations including the Inns of Court, Lawyer Referral Service Panel Member, Youth in Court, Law Week and other programs affiliated with the North County Bar Association.

On January 18, 2007, **Mary V.J. Cataldo** was sworn in for her second term as a member of the Board of Directors of the North County Bar Association.

## Class of '95

**Robin Boren-Coleman Sexton** is a freelance attorney and marketing director for her husband's dermatology practice in Irvine, California.



**Khodadad Darius Sharif** of FINE & SHARIF, APLC, in San Diego, handles cases in the following areas: family law involving custody, visitation and support civil

litigation/business litigation, contract disputes, real estate, estate planning, wills & trusts and construction defect.

## Class of '97



The law firm of Fitzmaurice, Demergian & Palaganas has opened an office in Chula Vista. **Darlene P. Palaganas** operates out of the new South Bay office. She focuses her

practice on business and commercial law and commercial litigation and transactions. Palaganas is a former president of the Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego and current president of the Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego.



## Class of '98

**Gregg P. Miller** is the Director of the Writing Lab and an Adjunct Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson School of Law.



## Class of '99

**Bianca Zahrai** (left) is the Chief Financial Officer of International Alliance in Service Education, a non-profit service learning organization in the San Francisco Bay

Area. She recently attended an invitation-only gathering for Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (right).

## Class of '00

Following a clerkship with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and a brief stint in private practice, **Dave Gold** is now working as a trial attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the U.S. Trustee, in Greenbelt, Maryland.



**Capt. Lisa M. Gorog** has been serving in the Air Force for more than three years and is currently stationed at McChord Air Force Base, Washington. That is, of course,

when she's not assisting with the prosecution of insurgents in Iraq who have committed crimes against American and Coalition Forces. She works as a Central Criminal Court of Iraq liaison officer. Assigned to Task Force 134 for a four-month deployment to Baghdad's International Zone, Capt. Gorog has been able to see up-close the inner workings of the Iraqi justice system. "Working with Iraqi personnel at Central Criminal Court of Iraq to improve the rule of law in Iraq," has been her favorite aspect of the job so far, Gorog said. She never imagined she would be convoying out to a courthouse wearing body armor and armed with an M-9, but she says it has been worth it "to get the opportunity to observe the Iraqi court system and laws, and how an Iraqi criminal case works."



**William Edwards is Bush Appointee**

## William Edwards

('91) has been appointed by President George W. Bush to serve on the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities.

Edwards, who is a Deputy Public Defender with the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office, specializes in the representation of people with intellectual disabilities who are charged with crimes involving the death penalty.

On the presidential committee, Edwards is working with 20 other appointees advising the president on policy and governmental issues concerning people with intellectual disabilities.

"I find it very encouraging that those of us serving on the committee will be able to combine our talents and abilities to look at the issue of people with intellectual disabilities with a new perspective," said Edwards. "Hopefully we will make a collective difference in the lives of people with intellectual disabilities—that's why I'm honored to be appointed."

Helping people with intellectual disabilities has been an interest of Edwards since he was a student at Thomas Jefferson, and he credits the law school with helping to inspire him. "The school did a good job making sure people were prepared to go out and find their area of specialization and make a difference," said Edwards. He also credits 1984 Thomas Jefferson alumnus Kerry Steigerwalt, for whom he clerked during law school, with helping him decide to work on the legal issues of the intellectually disabled.

Edwards was sworn in on September 14 in Washington, D.C.

## In Memoriam

**Peter Jackalus**, Class of 1992, passed away on September 16, 2006. He was the owner of Jackalus Aviation Consultants in San Diego and was a long time member of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Alumni Association.

**Frank Sacca**, Class of 2005, passed away on January 6, 2007.



# We The People – Class Notes

continued



## Randy Grossman Meets President Bush In The Oval Office

"The door opened, and there he was," Thomas Jefferson Alumni Association President and Adjunct Professor **Randy Grossman ('94)** (left) said of his meeting with President George W. Bush in the Oval Office recently. "He was very personable and gracious," said Grossman.

Grossman, a major league baseball agent, was in Washington with his client, Hall of Famer Dave Winfield, and they had set up a visit to the White House West Wing. When the president found out they were coming, he insisted on seeing Grossman and Winfield in his inner sanctum.

They found themselves alone with the president for 15 minutes, and since George W. Bush is the former owner of the Texas Rangers, it's not hard to figure out what they talked about: "Baseball," says Grossman.

As they chatted, the president's chief of staff Joshua Bolten joined them on the couch to talk more baseball.

"It was a surreal experience," Grossman says of his visit. "When I first walked into the Oval Office the president extended his hand and said, 'Hi Randy.'"

Grossman, immediate past-president of the TJSL Alumni Association, teaches sports law at Thomas Jefferson, and once a semester his famous client Dave Winfield makes it a point to visit the class. It is always a highlight for Grossman's students, who get to chat with the Hall of Famer for more than an hour.

on defense contracts, and has major contracts with the U.S. Navy. DeBel will deal with government contracts, subcontracts, U.S. and international import and export regulations, HR issues, leases and intellectual property items.

**Scott Noel** is with The Hartford in Seattle, Washington. He is a staff counsel and handles all construction defect claims.

### Class of '02



**Ann C. Durham**, who is a registered nurse and holds a masters degree in nursing, is currently the Director of the Regional Nursing Education Partnership of San Diego and Imperial Counties for the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Auxiliary. Durham also is serving as a Vice President on the 2006/2007 Board of Directors for the Lawyers Club of San Diego.

**Christopher K. Monelt** opened his own law firm in January 2006 in San Diego. His law firm can be described as a general practice. The firm presently has a caseload involving issues of family law, criminal law, personal injury and civil litigation.

### Class of '01

**Dawn Capp** is the Assistant Director of Employee & Labor Relations at UC Davis, where she manages employee grievances, conducts investigations, responds to outside agency complaints (EEOC, PERB), defends the University in binding arbitrations, drafts settlement agreements, acts as consultant for various labor contracts and supervises staff HR consultants. Capp is Chair of the State Bar's Legal Professionals with Disabilities. She also is very active as a canine advocate and has authored the book, *American Pit Bull Terriers, Fact or Fiction, the Truth Behind One of America's Most Popular Dogs*. She has appeared on Scarborough Country and other TV news programs, and has written and published several articles advocating against breed specific legislation.

**Monte DeBel** has taken a position as Division Legal Counsel of L-3 Communications Titan Corporation, Advanced Systems Division. L-3 Communications, a global corporation with more than 60 business units and 60,000 employees, is a leader in the communications and defense contracting industries. Advanced Systems Division, located in San Diego, focuses

**Lt. Jack Edward Fisher** was sworn in under Article 27(b) of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) as a Judge Advocate on March 3, 2006, by General Sandkuhler, who is the Staff Judge Advocate for the Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. Following a week of basic operation law training, Lt. Fisher reported to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina to begin duty as Trial Counsel.

**Richard L. Helgemo** has transferred from the Bonne Bridges office in Riverside, California, to the Bonne, Bridges, Mueller, O'Keefe & Nichols office in Santa Ana, California. He is primarily practicing medical malpractice defense.

**Kimberli M. P. Smart**, who also is a registered nurse as well as an attorney, has returned to beautiful Southern California and the practice of long-term care defense with the law offices of Wroten & Associates. The firm specializes in the defense of long-term care facilities with some medical malpractice. She also is actively involved in ASHRM (American Society for Healthcare Risk Managers) and DRI long-term care division.

### Class of '03

**Debora Gerads** works for the Department of Justice's Office of Immigration Litigation, handling federal appeals on behalf of the United States before all the federal circuits.

**Magaly Gil** accepted the position of Deputy Public Defender with the Los Angeles County Public Defender in September 2005.



**Christopher M. Martell** has joined Hodgson Russ LLP in the Albany office as a member of the Real Estate & Finance Practice Group. He is representing issuers and underwriters in various forms of financings and municipalities, school districts, municipal authorities, for-profit corporations and nonprofit corporations throughout New York State.

**Marisa Sommerville** has worked in the legal department at Summit Entertainment in Santa Monica, California, since May 2005. She currently is the Director of Business and Legal Affairs. Sommerville deals with talent/literary agents regarding talent/writer/director/producer agreements and coordinates clearance efforts for Summit productions as well as credits. She also reviews and analyzes copyright issues on behalf of Summit's potential IP acquisitions, and compiles chain of title documents on Summit's own properties.

### Class of '04

**Erin Boase** has accepted the Academic Account Manager position with Westlaw in Austin, Texas. She will teach Westlaw classes to law students attending the University of Texas, St. Mary's and Texas Tech.

**Grant H. Charles** has accepted a position with the Duchesne County Attorney's Office in Duchesne, Utah. Charles mainly prosecutes criminal cases in District Court, Juvenile Court and Justice Court, and also assists the County Commissioners with civil matters.

**Bobby Crouch** has been performing his stand-up comedy show around Southern California!

**Francie Funk** and **Kevin Fields** were admitted to the New York bar in October 2006. **Funk** is working at the Law Offices of Madeo & Fasano in New York City practicing immigration law.

**Thomas Kisiel** is a Deputy Public Defender with the San Diego County Alternate Public Defenders Office. He is a dependency attorney working for the Conflict Parent Office.

**Jennifer O'Keefe** has just started a new position as an Assistant District attorney in Boston, which has long been an ambition of hers. Prior to joining the Boston DA's office, Jennifer worked for JRI, a non profit organization in the Health Law Institute in the Boston area, which provides free legal services for low income people with HIV.

**Faith Padgett** recently accepted a position with the law firm of Erickson & Sederstrom in Omaha, Nebraska. She is practicing health, nonprofit and corporate law.



**Franco A. Serafini** recently joined Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP, in Del Mar. His practice concerns intellectual property law (patents, trademarks, trade secrets, unfair competition) and includes both transactional and litigation work, such as filing and prosecution of patent applications, freedom-to-operate and infringement opinions and administrative proceedings.

**Michelle Swift** is in general practice, predominantly working on employment discrimination, family law and some personal injury cases. Swift is a member of the Utah Trial Lawyers, and was a guest speaker on "Medical Records and Tampering" in the fall of 2006. She lobbies for the Utah Nurse's Association at the State Capitol on nursing and employment issues.

**Stephen "Brooks" West II** is now working for the Calwell Practice in Charleston, West Virginia, specializing in environmental law. He passed the New Jersey bar in February 2005, and just sat for the West Virginia bar in February 2007.

### Class of '05

**Darren L. Bean** is a Deputy City Attorney for the City of San Diego working in the General Trial Unit of the Criminal Division. Bean has conducted seven (going on eight) trials as a prosecutor, and plenty of motions and bench trials. He recently won his first civil appeal, reversing a judgement on abuse of discretion in a personal matter (the right to add an exclamation point to his name) in which Bean represented himself *pro per*, the opinion of which is available online at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/nonpub/D048645.PDF>

**Molly Dinan** is living in Germany and recently accepted a position as Of Counsel with the international law firm of Bridgehouse, Rückel and Bolthausen. The firm has offices in Munich, London and Atlanta. She will be working primarily in the Munich office.

**Meghan Hanson** accepted a position at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as Contracts Manager, U.S. Program. She also is enrolled in the taxation LL.M. program at the University of Washington School of Law.

**Rob Hill** is working at Shustak & Partners in downtown San Diego. Hill handles a variety of corporate/business litigation matters.

**Julie Lynn** is currently an associate at Steigerwalt & Associates practicing criminal defense work.

Send us  
your class notes!  
[alumni@tjssl.edu](mailto:alumni@tjssl.edu)



# We The People – Class Notes

continued



### Stephanie Martin Joins CALTRANS

**Stephanie Martin ('05)** was appointed as legal counsel for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 11 in San Diego.

Martin's appointment follows the retirement of long time Caltrans attorney Jeffrey Joseph, who joined Thomas Jefferson School of Law full-time as an associate dean and general counsel, in addition to his teaching duties at TJSL. Martin began her new position at Caltrans on July 17 and will represent the state on cases ranging from accidents to eminent domain.

**Victoria G. Puruganan** is an attorney with Neil, Dymott, Frank, Harrison & McFall. Her practice areas include the defense of professional liability and medical malpractice matters.



**Grace Robles** recently was awarded the Myrna B. Pascual Community Service Scholarship by the Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego. Pascual, an attorney with

the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, has dedicated countless hours of community service to the Filipino American and Pan Asian communities in San Diego over the past 25 years. Robles also was recognized during the ceremony with two engraved awards for serving as the first student board member of Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego and for her leadership and service to Community Law School.

**Shereen L. Rossini** has joined the Gerson Law Firm in San Diego as an attorney. Her emphasis includes commercial real estate financing and business transactions.

**Raymond Y. Ryan** passed the February 2006 bar and is practicing civil litigation with a concentration on products liability, wrongful death and personal injury for Casey, Gerry, Schenk, Francavilla, Blatt & Penfield LLP on a contract basis. Ryan is a member of the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego.

**Brett Schreiber** is with the law firm of Thorsnes Bartolotta & McGuire. His practice areas are personal injury, product defect, construction defect and condemnation for plaintiffs.

**Richard Stevenson** is proud to announce the opening of his own solo law practice in San Diego. He is focusing his practice on representing debtors in consumer bankruptcy cases, as well as other debtor rights matters such as those under the Fair Debt Collection Practices and Fair Credit Reporting Act. Stevenson also is doing estate planning.

**Hector J. Tamayo** has recently opened his own law firm, the Law Office of Hector J. Tamayo. He has a general practice law office with a focus on criminal law and immigration. Being a general practitioner has allowed Tamayo the freedom to work with various clients, including the drafting of shipbuilding contracts for a yacht builder and business-to-business collections. He also is working with larger law firms on litigation projects, including but not limited to complex construction litigation.

**Amelia Yurch** is an associate at the law firm of Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson, & Haluck, LLP. Amelia's work primarily deals with general civil litigation matters, construction defect litigation and a small amount of personal injury. Most recently she assisted in writing a writ of mandamus to the Nevada Supreme Court for one of the law firm's Nevada cases involving personal injuries stemming from construction defects.

### Class of '06

**Omar Iqbal** recently was elected to the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the South Asian Bar Association of San Diego. Iqbal also is a Director at Large on the 2007 TJSL Alumni Association board.

**Andrea Patten's** article, "Will Regulations Keep Tahoe Blue? Searching for Stewardship in Property Law and Regulatory Takings Analysis," has been cited in the 2006 supplement to *Witkin's Constitutional Law* treatise. The Witkin treatise is available at: 8 Witkin Constitutional Law section 1159 (Supp. 2006). Patten's law review note is available at 27 *T. Jefferson L. Rev.* 187 (2004). She is a former executive editor of the *Thomas Jefferson Law Review*.

These Thomas Jefferson School alumni were named Top Attorneys Finalists for 2006 by the San Diego Daily Transcript. **Laurie Axford ('92)** of Gordon & Rees LLP and **Terry Meador ('79)** of Incaplaw in the IP Transactional Law category; **Michael Dullea ('75)** of Old Republic Title Company in the Real Estate & Construction Litigation category; **Rebecca Mowbray ('86)** of Dunk & Associates in the Insurance Law category.

## New Alumni Association Board



The atmosphere was festive in the Courtyard as Thomas Jefferson School of Law held its annual Alumni Association meeting on January 10, 2007 and there was a great turnout of alums, including one who traveled here from Seattle.

The highlight of the evening was the swearing-in of the new alumni board, headed by its new president, **Ruben Arizmendi ('81)**.



Ruben Arizmendi ('81)

President Emeritus **Randy Grossman ('94)** symbolically passed the baton to Arizmendi, who has a very pro-active agenda in his new position.

"I want to see the Alumni Association reach out to our 5,000 plus graduates, who are now all members of the association, and address their needs in ways significant to each of them," said Arizmendi. "I hope that every month more alumni will choose to be active and that they will all come away thinking 'that was great and I can't wait to participate again!' Please email and let me know what you want your alumni association to be. rfalaw@pacbell.net."

### 2007 Alumni Association Board of Directors

#### President

Ruben Arizmendi '81

#### Vice Presidents

Stephen Gardella '98

Brenda Mason '82

#### Secretary

Jackie Walus-Wigle '88

#### Treasurer

Nikki Love '04

#### President Emeritus

Randy M. Grossman '94

#### Directors at Large

David Britton '77

Philip Cohen '83

Robert Colosia '93

David Dufek '97

Mindy Facer '06

Brooke Fredrickson '04

Omar Iqbal '06

Daniel Masters '01

James Mellos III '94

Christopher Nalls '06

Philip Shapiro '85

Richard Stevenson '05

Robert Waller '93

Danuta Tuszyńska '81

(Outside San Diego County)—Riverside, CA

Ralph Tambasco '81

(Outside California)—Indianapolis, IN





*As for the practice of “virtual” teaching via video-conferencing—the message is coming through loud and clear that it is the wave of the future and that Thomas Jefferson School of Law is on the cutting-edge.*

## Video-conferencing Class Links TJSL Students with Students in Alabama

Professor Julie Cromer, who earned her undergraduate degree at the University of Alabama, taught a class at her alma mater this spring without setting foot on its campus. The class is called Lawyers & American Film.

It’s done through the magic of television. Video-conferencing to be exact. Via the video-conferencing hook-up, Professor Cromer can teach her students at Thomas Jefferson and simultaneously teach the class in Alabama to a group of undergraduate students more than 2,000 miles away.

“In many ways, it is no different from having the students live in class,” says Professor Cromer. “The discussions are just as lively, and the students are engaged. It seems a little more difficult to get to know the students, but that can happen in any class.”

“It’s almost like having a teacher right here,” said one of the Alabama students via the video hook-up. “In fact, we’d like to meet her.”

Both groups of students could see and hear each other on a recent Wednesday afternoon, as Professor Cromer’s guest instructor, visiting Professor Richard Weisberg, used a powerful clip from the movie “Judgment at Nuremberg” to stimulate discussion.

Both groups of students watched the clip at the same time—and both groups of students were able to offer their feelings and insights on it—just as though they were in the same room at the same time.

“It’s like they are right in the next room,” said Thomas Jefferson third-year student Steven Weber. “It’s like you can reach out and shake their hands.”

To third-year student Brenda Foster, it’s as if the Alabama students are even closer than that: “It seems like they are right here in the room.”

“It’s very seamless,” said third-year student Andrew Poplin.

“Generally it works well. There are few technical difficulties, and the interaction is real-time,” said Professor Cromer. “Occasionally we will lose a connection, almost always as someone is making a brilliant point. But we laugh about it and start again. The students are very willing to work with me, since this is the first time any of us have used this technology.”

Both groups of students think the video-conferencing works as well as it does because the teleconferencing is in real time.

“That’s the only way it would work,” according to third-year Thomas Jefferson student Jonathan Mraunac.



Professor Julie Cromer

*“It’s like you can reach out and shake their hands.”*

Shelley Baldwin, another third-year TJSL student, says, “It really enhances the class to get the perspective of younger students.”

“The diversity of opinion between students in Alabama and California is very interesting,” said Weber. “I wish more classes were taught like this.”

Hearing comments like that confirms for Professor Cromer that not only is the teaching format working as hoped, but that it also gives something back to her alma mater as well.

“As a graduate of the University of Alabama, I was eager to contribute to the University somehow,” said Professor Cromer. “When I was approached about doing this class for the Honors College, I was enthusiastic to give it a try, though obviously I can’t be in two places at once. The video-conference technology was the perfect solution, and Dean Hasl has been very supportive.”

The class itself lends itself perfectly to the video-conferencing format, since it is dealing with a topic that is media-related.

According to Professor Cromer’s synopsis for the Lawyers and American Film class: “In the twentieth century, film developed first as a novelty, then as a staple of American entertainment and information. As the century progressed, the line between entertainment and information began to blur. As a result, much of the public’s information about the American legal system, lawyers, and laws came from the entertainment industry and its portrayals of the law through the movies. Through this course, we will be examining what messages the public is receiving through movies about the law and lawyers and what, if anything, the legal profession should do to support or counteract those messages.”

As for the practice of “virtual” teaching via video-conferencing—the message is coming through loud and clear that it is the wave of the future and that Thomas Jefferson School of Law is on the cutting-edge.





(From left) Professors Sandra Rierison, Rochelle Dreyfuss and Julie Cromer

## SEVENTH ANNUAL WOMEN AND THE LAW CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

### *“Virtual Women—Emerging Issues in Gender and Intellectual Property Law”*

The more than 100 people who attended Thomas Jefferson School of Law’s Seventh Annual Women and the Law Conference, “Virtual Women—Emerging Issues in Gender and Intellectual Property Law,” learned that there are very real hurdles for women in the intellectual property field—akin to a glass ceiling or a silk curtain.

The conference, held at Thomas Jefferson School of Law on Friday, February 9th, was organized by Thomas Jefferson Professors Julie Cromer and Sandra Rierison and was jointly sponsored by Thomas Jefferson’s Center for Law, Technology and Communications and the Women and The Law Project.

“I was thrilled that the talented *Virtual Women* panelists so vividly demonstrated the interesting and entertaining intersection of intellectual property law and feminist legal theory,” said Professor Cromer.

“Panelists treated audience members to lively multimedia presentations, demonstrating or questioning arguably disparate treatment in diverse areas such as African textiles, well-known trademarks,

massive multi-player online role-playing games, African-American music and internet pornography.”

New York University Law School Pauline Newman Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss was the Ruth Bader Ginsburg lecturer and keynote speaker. Her address, “Girls Just Want to Have Fun: What Can Feminist Theory Tell us About Incentives,” explored the role of women in the scientific world and the incentives or disincentives they face in the production of their intellectual property.

“Professor Dreyfuss delivered a thoughtful lecture,” said Professor Cromer. “It recognized the potentially disparate treatment of women in and by the intellectual property field, cautioned the audience to consider carefully whether any gender-specific impact exists.”

“Why are there any woman scientists at all?” asked Professor Dreyfuss as she described how many women are marginalized or rendered invisible in the scientific profession—and often denied the conventional rewards that their male counterparts enjoy.

Professor Dreyfuss spoke from personal experience. As a former scientist herself, she recounted how she would raise her hand at scientific conferences, never to be called upon. At one such conference, Professor Dreyfuss noticed that another female scientist got called on and afterwards she asked the woman why she had been allowed to ask a question. The woman’s reply? “Because I won the Nobel Prize.”

“Girls just want to have fun,” Professor Dreyfuss said, “but it’s less fun than they thought when they discover that others are making money off their production.” Too often she says, the payoff for women is “just the joy of doing the work” and in some fields—women’s contributions in intellectual property are minimalized.

Professor Dreyfuss also pointed out that the total of patents held by men far outnumbered those held by women.

A number of other issues related to the “Virtual Women” theme were explored in depth in the four discussion panels which rounded out the conference:



Dr. Boatema Boateng

#### **What a Girl Wants: The Theoretical Underpinnings of Gender and IP**

**Doris Estelle Long**, Professor, John Marshall Law School  
“Women’s Art, Women’s Truth: Gender Discrimination and the Battle to Protect Traditional Knowledge.”

**Dr. Carys J. Craig**, Assistant Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University  
“Beyond Authors v. Public: Relational Authors and the Public Interest.”

**Ann Bartow**, Associate Professor, University of South Carolina School of Law  
“Women in the Web of Secondary Copyright Liability and Internet Filtering.”

**Cheryl Preston**, Professor, J. Reuben Clark School of Law Brigham Young University  
“Internet Autonomy and Intimacy.”

#### **Material Girl: The Culture of Gender and IP**

**Dr. Boatema Boateng**, Assistant Professor, UCSD School of Communications  
“It’s These Same Women! Gender, Cultural Appropriation and Intellectual Property Law in Ghana.”

**Kevin J. Greene**, Associate Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law  
“IP at The Intersection of Race and Gender—or, Lady Sings the Blues.”

**Rebecca Tushnet**, Professor, Georgetown Law School Associate  
“My Fair Ladies: Sex, Gender and Fair Use in Copyright.”

**Christine Haight Farley**, Associate Professor, American University, Washington College of Law  
“The Feminine Mystique of Brands.”

#### **She Blinded Me with Science: Gender Issues in Patent Law**

**Dan Burk**, Professor, University of Minnesota  
“Do Patents Have Gender?”

**Michele Goodwin**, Professor, DePaul College of Law  
“Xerox Babies: Race, Power, Private Ordering and Procreative Freedom.”

**Eileen Kane**, Associate Professor, Penn State Dickinson Law School  
“Molecules and Conflict: Cancer, Patents and Women’s Health.”

**Malla Pollock**, Professor, American Justice School of Law  
“Towards a Feminist Theory of the Public Domain, or the Gendered Scope of United States’ Copyrightable and Patentable Subject Matter”

#### **She Works Hard for the Money: From the Practitioners’ Point of View**

**Adrian Pruett**, Partner, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver & Hedges  
“From Dolls to DNA: Building a Career in IP.”

**Mallory De Merlier**, Partner, Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear  
“The Life Work Balance for Practicing Women in IP.”

**Richa Nand**, In-House Counsel, Cytori Therapeutics, Inc.  
“IP Practice From an In-House Perspective.”

All of the panels resulted in thought-provoking and stimulating dialogue and defined the issues that practitioners of intellectual property law are facing and will face when gender is a factor.

Professor Julie Cromer summed up the Seventh Annual Women and the Law Conference this way; “I think that Virtual Women brought together some of the great minds in intellectual property to examine intellectual property law through a pink lens to see what, if anything, changes in its applications.”

## ABOUT THE WLC

Thomas Jefferson School of Law has hosted the annual Women and Law Conference since 2001. The goals of the conference series are: to advance the legal rights of women; promote gender-related scholarly work; share the expertise of the Thomas Jefferson faculty with the wider community; bring academics, jurists and others working on women’s issues to Thomas Jefferson; and facilitate interdisciplinary dialogue.

Until recently, this conference was the only annual event in the West focusing exclusively on gender issues and the law. After her 2003 visit to the law school, Associate Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg greatly enhanced the conference and its keynote address by inaugurating the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture Series, one of only two lecture series in the world that bears her name.

The Women and the Law Project now bestows the prestigious title of the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer on the keynote speaker at each annual conference. The theme of last year’s conference was “Sexuality at Work” and Thomas Jefferson School of Law was honored to have Vicki Schultz, Ford Foundation Professor of Law at Yale Law School, as the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer and keynote speaker. Her presentation was titled “The Sanitized Workplace.”

Other keynote speakers have included: Professor Deborah Rhode of Stanford Law School; Associate Justice Judith McConnell of the California Court of Appeal, Fourth District, Division One; Professor Joan Williams of UC Hastings College of the Law; Professor Martha Albertson Fineman of Emory University; and Professor Kathryn Abrams of UC Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall).



# Noteworthy Guest Speakers Visit TJSL



Justice Scalia



Alan Dershowitz



Hans Corell

Thomas Jefferson School of Law continues to feature the luminaries of the legal and political worlds as guest speakers and scholars at our events.

The Fall 2006 semester began with Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia making his third appearance in recent years on August 28, lecturing students and faculty on constitutional law.

In a lively and animated session, Justice Scalia spoke on separation of powers between the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government within the framework of the U.S. Constitution—which was part of the reading assignment he gave to the Con Law students in the audience. “Get your constitution and read the doggone thing,” Scalia said. The justice also admonished them to read the Federalist Papers and Alexis de Tocqueville’s Democracy in America.

The heart of Justice Scalia’s lecture was about the Doctrine of Standing: “The Doctrine of Standing is central to the separation of powers. It’s one of those restrictions upon judicial action that prevents judicial incursion into principally the executive (branch).”

“The Constitution does not permit allowing just any citizen to sue because the judicial power is the power to decide on a controversy raised by someone who has been harmed,” he added. “That’s the function of the courts: to prevent harm to individuals. That’s what the Doctrine of Standing is all about.”

Justice Scalia is again scheduled to visit the law school in early September of 2007.

Famed defense attorney Alan Dershowitz was the guest of TJSL’s Jewish Student Union at a lecture in November. During his lecture, Dershowitz’ main topic was the case for Israel in the court of public opinion—where he feels the Jewish state is being “demonized” in the media.

On the topic of terrorism, Dershowitz said the mindset of a terrorist is a difficult thing to reverse. “How do you talk a suicide bomber who has been raised in a ‘culture of hate’ out of carrying out his attack—especially if he’s been promised 72 virgins in heaven,” he asked. Dershowitz suggested that maybe the Imams could promise would-be bombers that “all they would get is one 72-year old virgin instead,” which gave the audience a huge laugh.

Dershowitz ended his lecture with a ringing endorsement of TJSL: “I’m a big Thomas Jefferson fan, and now I’m a big Thomas Jefferson Law School fan too.”

Former United Nations Under Secretary General Hans Corell—who was the U.N.’s Chief Legal Counsel—spent two days on campus in November.

The title of Ambassador Corell’s presentation (available at [www.tjsl.edu](http://www.tjsl.edu)) was: “U.N. Reform: Who Needs Reforming the Most—the U.N. or its Members?” In a very frank and pointed lecture, Corell made it clear that for the U.N. to succeed in its mission, “it is imperative that the United States wholeheartedly support the U.N. Charter—especially as a founding member and key architect in the creation of the U.N.”

By way of example, Ambassador Corell cited the United States’ invasion of Iraq as “a clear violation of the U.N. Charter” and added that “The attack on Iraq did not meet the U.N. Charter’s two requirements for aggression against another sovereign nation—self-defense and having the approval of the U.N. Security Council.”

“The U.S. putting itself above the law sends a terrible message to the world,” said Corell. “Many look to the U.S. as a bulwark of the rule of law—if the world’s most powerful state does not scrupulously observe the United Nations Charter, other nations may say ‘why do you expect us to do it when the U.S. doesn’t.’”



Lauren B. Edelman



David Redmon

In November, Professor Lauren B. Edelman gave the first Distinguished Guest Scholar in Social Justice Lecture at a luncheon hosted by the Center for Law and Social Justice. Professor Edelman is a renowned sociologist and the Agnes Roddy Robb Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall).

Professor Edelman presented her talk, “Why Lawyers Should Care About Social Science Research: The Case of Employment Discrimination Law,” to an overflow audience. She focused on a major study she is working on that looks at judicial decisions to see when and under what conditions judges defer to employer practices as evidence of non-discrimination.

In October, prominent Muslim scholar Dr. Ziba Mir-Hosseini visited TJSL to lecture about “Women and Family Law in Iran: Challenging Patriarchy.” She dealt with issues involving women’s rights and Islam. Thomas Jefferson’s Center for Global Studies sponsored the event. Dr. Ziba Mir-Hosseini is a well-known Iranian social anthropologist, with interests in Islamic Law, women’s rights, and rural develop-

ment. She showed clips from her film documentary “Divorce Iranian Style,” which won several prestigious awards.

In February, another filmmaker, David Redmon, appeared at a special screening of his documentary “Mardi Gras: Made in China.” The award-winning film shows the links between the ubiquitous Mardi Gras beads and the female factory workers who manufacture them in China. The contrast between the stark factory conditions and the reveling in the streets of New Orleans is dramatic. The screening was organized the Center for Law and Social Justice.



# Thomas Jefferson Professors Publish New Textbooks

Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors continue to be prolific authors, writing important new texts to critical acclaim.

**Professors Eric Mitnick and Susan Bisom-Rapp** have both recently completed groundbreaking texts in their respective subjects. **Professor Aaron Schwabach** has published two important books—one on environmental legal issues and the other on the internet and the law. **Professor Richard Scott** has also released a supplement to his 2006 book on business law in the European Union.

Professor Mitnick's book ***Rights, Groups and Self-Invention: Group-Differentiated Rights in Liberal Theory***, is the first law

being denied or limited because of your membership in a specific group? These are among the questions that ***Rights, Groups, and Self-Invention: Group-Differentiated Rights in Liberal Theory*** examines.

The work explores the complex subject of group-differentiated rights, or simply, the rights an individual has because of membership in a social or cultural group. Mitnick examines how these rights constitute aspects of members' social identities, and whether this is cause for concern when examined through the prism of liberal theory.

"In its basic form," says Professor Mitnick, "liberal theory is a theory about freedom, and part of that freedom is the individual right to self-invention. A core value of liberalism is the notion that being human means being free to construct your own identity."

With ***The Global Workplace***, Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp and her four co-authors created the first comprehensive law text on international and comparative employment law—and along with it—a new survey

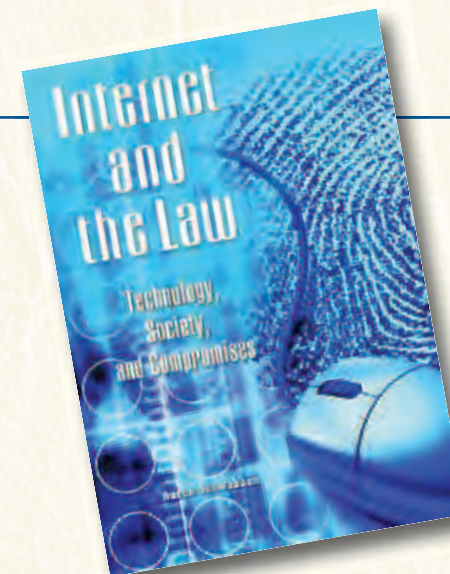
course. The book, which covers the national workplace laws of nine countries and examines labor and employment law regulation by the International Labor Organization and, under NAFTA, the European Union and Corporate Codes of Conduct, fills a significant gap in the existing law school curriculum.

Professor Bisom-Rapp worked with an international team of co-authors to create the text; Roger Blanpain, Professor at the Universities of Hasselt, Leuven, (Belgium) and Tilburg (The Netherlands); William R. Corbett, Frank L. Marist Professor of Law, Paul M. Herbert Law Center of Louisiana State University; Hilary K. Josephs, Professor of Law, College of Law, Syracuse University and Michael J. Zimmer, Professor of Law, Seton Hall University.

"Interest in the transnational aspects of workplace law has grown as labor and employment lawyers increasingly encounter issues implicating the laws of other countries," says Professor Bisom-Rapp. "Yet, until the publication of *The Global Workplace*, there has been no text available for law professors interested in presenting this complex and theoretically engaging subject to their students."

Professor Aaron Schwabach published ***Internet and the Law: Technology, Society and Compromises*** in late 2005.

According to the publisher, "As information technology grows and the Internet's global reach strengthens, it is becoming more difficult to define rules to regulate it. Governments have tried, for various reasons, to restrict Internet content but have not succeeded, in part because the international nature of the Internet makes enforcement difficult. *Internet and the Law* focuses on laws relating to intellectual



property and freedom of expression, and presents information in a clear and concise manner, making it easily accessible to students and others researching the intricacies of Internet law."

Also in late 2005, Professor Schwabach published ***International Environmental Disputes: A Reference Handbook***. The book offers an intensive investigation of past and present achievements and

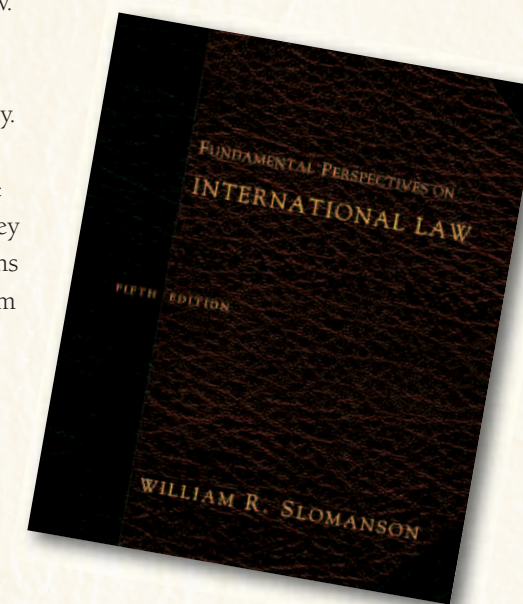


failures in international environmental law.

According to the publisher: "Global warming. Species extinction. Over consumption of resources. Loss of biodiversity. Underground aquifer contamination. Overgrazing. Environmental problems are plaguing our planet. If left unchecked, they can cause enormous harm. Can the nations of the world join together to conquer them before it's too late?"

*International Environmental Disputes* is a thought-provoking examination of the world's most pressing environmental problems and the attempts to remedy them through international law. From the dumping of ash in the Danube and the disposal of waste in western Africa to the effects of the Everglades sugar industry, the work explores such topics as the role of the United Nations, the debate over sustainable development, environmental ethics, bio-piracy, and radioactive material in space satellites.

The book covers issues such as treaties on the ozone layer, global climate change, and the Kyoto protocol. A chapter devoted to the United States discusses the international environmental impact of its economy. Biographical sketches introduce readers to a diverse cast of characters including a New Guinea tribal elder and a Japanese TV personality."



Professor Schwabach's latest book, ***Intellectual Property***, was scheduled for release in June 2007.

Early in 2007, Thomas Jefferson Professor Richard Scott and three co-authors published ***The Law of the European Union, Vol. 2: Economic Law and Common Policies***. It is a supplement to the original volume of the same name, published in 2005.

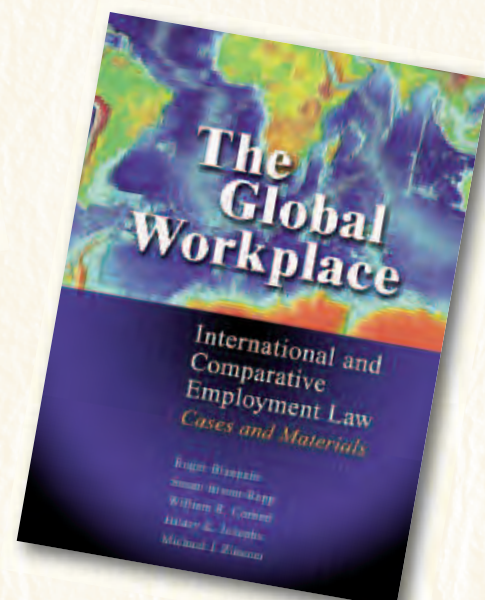
Professor Scott's co-authors are Professors Alain Levsseur of the LSU Law School, Arnoud Raynourd of Toulouse University, and Melchior Wathelet of University de Louvain-La-Neuve et Liege and former Judge at the European Court of Justice.

It was favorably reviewed in the *Revue des Droits de la Concurrence* (I-2007) by Prof. Jean-Yves Cherot of the University Paul Cezanne, Aix-Marseille.



book to examine conflict between group-differentiated rights and the individual right to self-invention.

What groups do you belong to in society? What special rights do you have because you are a member? Who decides your individual or group identity in society? Are your individual choices





# New Faces at Thomas Jefferson



**Jeff Joseph**  
Associate Dean and  
General Counsel

Distinguished local attorney Jeffrey Joseph has been named Associate Dean and General Counsel at the

Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Joseph will serve as counsel for the law school and its board of trustees. In addition, Joseph will continue to be an Adjunct Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson, teaching a course on civil procedure. Joseph recently retired as Deputy Chief Counsel for the California Department of Transportation where he had served since 1992. He also served as a Principal Attorney in the Special Prosecutions Unit of the California Attorney General's Office as well as a Deputy Attorney General in the Criminal Division. "His practice, experience and connection to the School of Law over so many years make him an excellent choice for this position," said Thomas Jefferson Dean Rudy Hasl. After earning his B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley, Joseph received his *juris doctor* degree from the University of California at Davis. He has been an adjunct professor at Thomas Jefferson since 1990. Joseph is very active in the San Diego legal community, and will help the Thomas Jefferson School of Law maintain its high profile within that community.



**Eniola Akindemowo**  
Professor of Law

Professor Eniola Akindemowo brings to Thomas Jefferson School of Law experience in several areas, including e-commerce, internet law and comparative commercial law, with an emphasis on consumer protection, electronic payments regulatory policy, and anti-terrorism financing law and policy issues. Professor Akindemowo is the author of the first substantive book on information technology (IT) law to have been published in Australia. She is also the co-author of another book *E-Commerce and the Law*, as well as a sought after national and international conference speaker. Immediately prior to joining Thomas Jefferson, Professor Akindemowo was a member of the law faculty of Monash University in Australia where she was also an Associate Director of the Center for Law in the Digital Economy (CLiDE). Her teaching interests have included contracts, payment systems, commercial law, IT law, comparative computer law and electronic financial transactions law. As an instructor at Thomas Jefferson, Professor Akindemowo's courses include Contracts, Payment Systems and e-Commerce Law.



**Jinsook Ohta**  
Visiting  
Assistant  
Professor

Jinsook Ohta joined the faculty at the Thomas Jefferson

School of Law as a Visiting Assistant Professor during the Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 semesters. Professor Ohta earned her *juris doctor* degree at New York University School of Law, and her undergraduate B.A. degree at Yale University. She did employment litigation with the firm of O'Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles and then with Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton in San Diego. At Thomas Jefferson, Assistant Professor Ohta taught Legal Writing and Employment Law.



**Neill T. Tseng**  
Visiting  
Assistant  
Professor

Neill Tseng, also joined the faculty at Thomas Jefferson

School of Law as a Visiting Assistant Professor for the Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 semesters. Professor Tseng received his *juris doctor* degree *cum laude* from Harvard School of Law, and graduated *cum laude* with a B.A. in Economics, with distinction, from Yale College. He came to Thomas Jefferson from the law firm of Cades Schutte, LLP, in Honolulu, Hawaii. At Thomas Jefferson, Assistant Professor Tseng taught Law & Economics and Legal Writing.

## FACULTY UPDATES

**Professor Steve Berenson** has published two articles: *Institutional Professionalism: Realizing the Virtues of Civic Professionalism*, 109 W. VA. L. REV. 67 (2006) and *Creating Workplace Solutions for Women Attorneys: Report of the Lawyers Club of San Diego Balance Campaign*, 28 T. JEFFERSON L. REV. 449 (2006). He also made presentations at the Legal Writing Institute's biennial conference at Atlanta and the Mountain West Regional Clinical Conference at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas.

As editor of the *Journal of the Association of Legal Writing Directors* (J. ALWD), published by Thomson-West, **Professor Linda Berger** edited and produced the Fall 2006 Rhetoric & Argumentation issue. Professor Berger was invited to participate in the Mercer Law Review symposium in November 2006. Her article titled *Of Metaphor, Metonymy, and Corporate Money: Rhetorical Choices in Supreme Court decisions on Campaign Finance Regulation*, 58 MERCER L. REV. 949 (2007) will be published later this year. In June 2006, Professors Berger and Berenson presented a session on *Leaping from the Peer: Peer Reading and Writing Groups in Action* at the Biennial National Conference of the Legal Writing Institute. In February 2007, Professor Berger served as a member of the ABA site evaluation team for John Marshall Law School in Atlanta. She is scheduled to present a paper called *Metaphor and Narrative in Family Law Disputes* at a Legal Storytelling conference in London in July 2007.

**Professor Susan Bisom-Rapp's** new co-authored casebook, *The Global Workplace*, was published in January by Cambridge University Press. The book is the first law school text on international and comparative employment law. Professor Bisom-Rapp also spoke in January at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. Her presentation, *Thinking About ADR and Litigation Prevention as Techniques to Meet the Challenges of Employment Discrimination*, was part of a panel jointly sponsored by the AALS Sections on Alternative Dispute Resolution and Employment Discrimination Law, and will be published as an essay in the EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY JOURNAL. In March she traveled to Modena, Italy to speak at a conference, The Global Workplace, inspired by her book and hosted by the University of Modena's Marco Biagi Foundation. Her paper will be published in the Italian journal DIRITTO DELLE RELAZIONI INDUSTRIALI.

**Professor Julie D. Cromer** recently presented the paper *How on Earth Terrestrial Laws Can Protect Geospatial Data* to the National Remote Sensing and Space Law Center in Oxford, Mississippi. The paper is scheduled to be published in the spring issue of JOURNAL OF SPACE LAW. During the spring semester, Professor Cromer taught Thomas Jefferson's first class using video-conference technology (see pages 26-27). The course, Lawyers in American Film, integrated University of Alabama Honors College undergraduates and Thomas Jefferson students to discuss the impact of movies on the legal profession.



**Professor Marjorie Cohn** was elected president of the National Lawyers Guild, which was formed in 1937 because the American Bar Association would not admit people of color. She gave presentations about U.S. foreign policy and human rights at conferences in Paris, Havana, New York, Washington D.C., San Francisco and San Diego. In addition to her weekly radio appearances on WBAI (Pacifica) in New York, Professor Cohn was interviewed by several local and national radio stations. Her articles regularly appeared on AlterNet, Counterpunch and Commondreams. Professor Cohn's commentary covered the legality of the Iraq war, mistreatment of prisoners at Guantánamo, the death penalty, the Military Commissions Act, the National Security Agency's warrantless surveillance program, televising trials, and criminal liability of Bush administration officials in connection with the war on terror. Her new book, *Cowboy Republic: Six Ways the Bush Gang Has Defied the Law*, was published in June by PoliPointPress.



**Professor Deven Desai** presented *Property, Persona, and Publicity*, which builds on the theoretical investigation started in *Confronting the Genericism Conundrum* (co-authored with TJSL Professor Sandra Rierson and which he presented at the IP Scholars August 2005 conference hosted by Cardozo School of Law), at the Michigan State IP Roundtable. The article focuses on a paradox: the emails, blogs, social network pages and videos that constitute the bulk of online creation fall within the intellectual property regime; yet, because they are online, they are not under the creator's direct control. The paper applies economic, property and rhetorical theory to examine the implications of this problem. The paper finds that property, persona and publicity interests offer arguments supporting creators' and heirs' access to and control over the creations but that current analysis conflates these interests such that creators and heirs exert more control over their work than is theoretically justified, thus leading to society being denied the access it needs for historical and other purposes.

**Professor Julie Greenberg** continues to work on issues related to gender identity. During the last year, she published three articles on the subject and was asked by New York University Press to publish a book, which will be called *Sex Matters: Intersexuality, Transgenderism and the Law*. Professor Greenberg was voted a finalist in the *San Diego Daily Transcript's* "Top Attorneys in Academics" for 2006. She also received the "Friend of the Community" award from the Tom Homann Law Association, the San Diego GLBT bar association. This summer, she will be a visiting scholar in England at Keele University and the University of Kent as part of the Research Centre for Law, Gender and Sexuality. During the past year, Professor Greenberg spoke on panels

at the annual Association of American Law Schools meeting, the annual Lavender Law Conference, and the San Diego County Bar Association.

**Professor K.J. Greene** spoke at numerous conferences in 2006, including twice before peers in academia at the Association of American Law School's panels on art law and copyright law in Washington, D.C., at the AALS annual meeting, and the mid-year AALS meeting on Intellectual Property in Vancouver, Canada. He also made presentations on intellectual property and contract issues at TJSL's scholarly conference on reparations, the California Western Law People of Color Conference, the International Law Association in New York and before the National Contract Management Association. This January, he spoke on IP issues at an AALS section meeting hosted by Georgetown University. He also appeared on Fox 6 News discussing the blues, copyright law and reparations, on the KPBS Radio Program "These Days" and in the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* speaking about motion picture contracts and lawsuits targeting the film "Borat." His book chapter *What the Treatment of African-American Music Artists Can Teach About Copyright Law* appeared in print in INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND INFORMATION WEALTH: ISSUES AND PRACTICES IN THE DIGITAL AGE 385 (2007) by Peter K. Yu. Professor Greene's law review articles on motion picture copyright infringement and copyright and black music were cited favorably by some of the leading scholars in the intellectual property field, including Roberta Kwall, Arthur Miller, Paul Goldstein and Keith Aoki.



Five Thomas Jefferson School of Law professors were named to the San Diego Daily Transcript's list of Top Attorneys for 2006, those attorneys considered to be the best and brightest in San Diego's legal arena as determined by their peers. They are:

**Professor Linda Berger**  
**Professor Marjorie Cohn**  
**Professor Julie Greenberg**  
**Professor Marybeth Herald**  
**Professor Ken Vandavelde**

TJSL's professors were among 13 Academics finalists selected from among the three ABA accredited San Diego law schools. Please join the Thomas Jefferson School of Law administration in congratulating the above finalists as well as the other Thomas Jefferson professors and adjunct professors who deserve recognition for making the list of nominated semi-finalists in the Academics or other categories. They are:

**Professor Samuel Bettwy**  
**Professor Julie Cromer**  
**Professor A. Thomas Golden**  
**Professor Maureen Markey**  
**Professor Richard Muir**  
**Professor Sandra Rierson**  
**Professor Aaron Schwabach**  
**Professor William Slomanson**  
**Professor Ben Templin**  
**Professor Robert Young**

**Professor Marybeth Herald's** recent work focuses on constitutional law, gender, and social psychology. Professor Herald is publishing an article titled, *Deceptive Appearances: Judges, Cognitive Bias, and Dress Codes* in the UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO LAW REVIEW. She also presented research on these issues at the Lavender Law Conference in Washington, D.C. in 2006. *The San Diego Daily Transcript* recently named her a "Top Attorney in Academics." Her current work in progress is titled *Bottled Happiness: Confronting Prescription Drug Advertising and the Desire to Believe* to be presented at the International Academy of Law and Mental Health Conference in June 2007.

**Professor Anders Kaye** recently published his article *The Secret Politics of the Compatibilist Criminal Law* in the KANSAS LAW REVIEW. His next article explores some of the ways situationist psychology threatens moral and criminal responsibility. He continues to think about the broader problem of constitutive moral luck and criminal punishment.

**Professor Linda Keller** co-chaired the TJSL conference, "Taking Reparations Seriously," featuring experts on reparations from government and academia. She also presented her paper, *Seeking Justice at the International Criminal Court: Victims' Reparations*, forthcoming in the THOMAS JEFFERSON LAW REVIEW. She recently completed a book chapter on *Using International Human Rights Law in U.S. Courts: Lessons from the Campaign against the Juvenile Death Penalty*, in COMPETING PARADIGMS: CHILDREN, RELIGION, AND HUMAN RIGHTS (Martha Fineman & Karen Worthington, eds., forthcoming 2007). Her latest presentations include remarks on international law in U.S. courts (TJSL Challenges for Children's Rights conference); interrogation standards for terror

detainees under international law (Chapman symposium conference); and using Google for international research (Legal Writing Institute).

**Associate Dean and Professor Eric Mitnick** recently published a book titled *Rights, Groups, and Self-Invention: Group-Differentiated Rights in Liberal Theory* (Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate, 2006). The book is the first comprehensive treatment of the increasingly common and controversial group-differentiated form of right, which are legal rights that vest in individuals in virtue of their membership in some social or cultural group. Professor Mitnick's most recent article, *Law, Cognition, and Identity*, is forthcoming this spring in Volume 67 of the LOUISIANA LAW REVIEW. This article describes how insights from work within the fields of social and cognitive psychology can shed light on the ways in which legal institutions influence our social and cultural identities. Professor Mitnick will be presenting this paper at the Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, to be held this spring at the Georgetown University Law Center.

**Professor Sandra Rierson**, along with her co-author Professor Deven Desai, presented *Confronting the Genericism Conundrum* at the 2005 Works-in-Progress Intellectual Property Colloquium (Washington University School of Law and Saint Louis University School of Law, co-hosts). The paper argues that the genericism doctrine has strayed far from its roots, which are in consumer understanding in the marketplace and enhancing competition, such that expressive, speech interests are now negatively impacted. Professors Rierson and Desai offer that the doctrine should focus on the mark's ability to act as a source identifier for the consumer in commercial contexts so that

trademark owners may enjoy the full benefits of a mark's source identifying function while simultaneously creating a space in which the public may enjoy full use of a term without fear of reprisal by mark owners. The article will appear in Volume 28 of the CARDOZO LAW REVIEW.

In December, two major articles by **Professor Arnold S. Rosenberg** were published. *Where to File Against Non-U.S. Debtors: Applying UCC 9-307(c)[Rev] to Foreign Filing, Recording and Registration Systems*, 39 U.C.C. L.J. 109 (2006), is a 175-page analysis of foreign laws that govern the perfection of non-possessory security interests in personal property and whether they satisfy the "Equivalence Test" of Revised Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. The article was published by Thomson West in the UCC LAW JOURNAL, a peer-reviewed journal edited by Penn State law professor Louis Del Duca. The other article, *Better Than Cash? Global Proliferation of Payment Cards and Consumer Protection Policy*, 44 COLUMB. J. TRANSNAT'L L. 520 (2006), was reprinted by a peer-reviewed journal, the CONSUMER FINANCE LAW QUARTERLY REPORT, at 60 CONS. FIN. L.Q. REP. 426 (2006). He also was a contributor to the December 2006 edition of THE LAW OF ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS, a treatise published by Matthew Bender and available on Lexis. Professor Rosenberg's one-year term as Co-Chair of the State Bar of California UCC Committee ended in October 2006. He and other Committee chairs were honored by the Business Law Section of the State Bar at the State Bar Annual Meeting in Monterey in September. Professor Rosenberg will be on a panel on law and religion at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting in Berlin, Germany this July. He will present a paper titled *Motivational Law*.



**Professor Aaron Schwabach** has had an eventful year as a prestigious Fulbright Scholar at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China (see page 6), as the author of several published works and as the father of a new baby boy. He completed *Intellectual Property: A Reference Handbook* (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, forthcoming in 2007) and entries on *Internet Filtering at Libraries and Free Speech, America Online*, and *The Internet and Intellectual Property* for the ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES (Paul Finkelman ed., Routledge 2006). He also found time to further explore the magic of Harry Potter and recently had a co-authored article on *Harry Potter and the Law* published in the TEXAS WESLEYAN LAW REVIEW. His other recently published Harry Potter work is *Harry Potter and the Unforgivable Curses: Norm-formation, Inconsistency, and the Rule of Law in the Wizarding World*, 11 ROGER WILLIAMS U.L. REV. 309 (2006). Soon to be published is *Harry Potter and the Unforgivable Curses*, a chapter in THE LAW & HARRY POTTER, (Jeff Thomas ed.; Carolina Academic Press, forthcoming in 2007). The highlight of the year for Professor Schwabach and his family was the arrival of Daniel Hanqing Schwabach, born on January 19, 2007.

**Professor Steve Semeraro** has been working on an article addressing the antitrust implications of the fees that banks issuing credit cards charge to merchants that accept the cards. More than a dozen law suits attacking these fees as price fixing agreements have been filed throughout the country and consolidated by the Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation. The potential damages are said to exceed the after tax profit of the entire U.S. banking industry. His paper, which he presented at the 7th Annual Loyola Antitrust Colloquium in April, was the first major

legal and economic analysis of the issues raised in this multi-district proceeding. In addition, Dean Semeraro's article, *Enforcing Fourth Amendment Rights Through Federal Habeas Corpus*, appears in the most recent addition of the RUTGERS LAW REVIEW.

**Professor William Slomanson** is traveling the globe this year, with presentations in Moscow, Miskolc (Hungary), Boston, and Istanbul. He will be unable to teach this summer in Kosovo, where he is a visiting professor, because of a publishing commitment with co-authors at Hastings College of Law. He was recently honored by the San Diego Public Library, after publishing his eleventh book. He has published two new editions of the *American Society of International Law UN21 Newsletter*, hosted by Cornell Law School. He quips that the citations to his various books and articles have just earned him membership in the "700 Club."

**Professor David Steinberg** recently published the article, "Restoring the Fourth Amendment: The Original Understanding Revisited" in Volume 33 of the HASTINGS CONSTITUTIONAL LAW QUARTERLY. Professor Steinberg currently is working on a new article, titled *Sense Enhanced Searches and the Irrelevance of the Fourth Amendment*. Professor Steinberg has been interviewed by San Diego television and radio stations about the Mount Soledad Cross, the conviction of Cynthia Sommer in the poisoning death of her Marine husband, and several other criminal law and constitutional law stories.

**Professor Ben Templin** published two articles on Social Security reform. "Full Funding: The Future of Social Security" appeared in the JOURNAL OF LAW & POLITICS and a commentary response appeared in the CORNELL LAW

REVIEW'S symposium issue on Social Security. He also spoke three times at conferences on teaching with technology—most recently in February 2007 at the Third International Contracts Conference held at South Texas College of Law. In addition, he gave a poster presentation on PowerPoint pedagogy at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools in Washington, D.C. He also was appointed the chair of the Scholarship Development Committee for the Legal Writing Institute, a professional organization with more than 1,300 members. TJSL students voted to give Professor Templin the 2006-2007 Golden Apple Professor of the Year Award for required subjects.

**Professor Susan Tiefenbrun** has delivered many lectures throughout the United States on the rise of human trafficking as a contemporary form of slavery. She was the keynote speaker for the Women's Commission Rally at UCSD in 2006 and organized an international conference on Women's Rights in the International Arena at the University of Nice Law School last summer. She was invited by the Kroc Peace and Justice Center to interview Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Shirin Ebadi, in September. In October she organized a law and literature panel at the American Branch of the International Law Association where she is a member of the Executive Committee. In late 2006 she was a visiting professor and lecturer in France, teaching International Trade in French. She continues to direct TJSL's Center for Global Legal Studies, and recently organized lectures by Professors Ziba Mir-Hosseini, Karima Bennoune and David Kennedy. She also organized this spring's Symposium on Children's Rights in the International Arena and presented on the use and abuse of child soldiers. She was invited to be a Distinguished Guest Lecturer at the University of Michigan Women and Gender

Series and at a Conference on Child Sex Trafficking at Suffolk Law School, and as a Distinguished Guest Lecturer at UCSD in April. She continues to be the Director of the University of Nice Summer Abroad Program, and successfully organized and directed a new exclusively TJSL summer program in Hangzhou, China. She also is engaged in organizing a year abroad exchange program with Exeter University School of Law in England. Professor Tiefenbrun has organized two panels on law and literature for an international conference in Wales this July, where several of the TJSL professors will participate. Most importantly, she has signed a contract with North Carolina Academic Press to write a casebook on women and international human rights law.

**Professor Ellen Waldman** has been active speaking on mediation and bioethics topics in a number of forums including: the UCSD bioethics seminar series, the Sharp Hospital and Kaiser ethics committee trainings, the AALS annual meeting, Cardozo Law School symposium on restorative justice and the Ohio State University Law School's dispute resolution conference. She continues to direct TJSL's Mediation Program, now active in two courts in the county, and received funding from the San Diego Bar Foundation to sustain and expand the students' dispute resolution activities in the community. Her most recent law review publication is coming out this spring on the ethics of disclosure in assisted reproduction. She is at work on a book tentatively titled *Practical Ethics for Mediators*.

The MISSISSIPPI LAW JOURNAL featured **Professor Richard Winchester's** latest article in the publication's Fall 2006 issue. Titled *Working for Free: It Ought to be Against the (Tax) Law*, the article ranked as one of the top ten most downloaded tax

law articles when it was first released in electronic form. The article later appeared on another more selective list that ranks the top five most downloaded tax articles each week. Professor Winchester presented the paper as a work in progress at two scholarly conferences prior to its release. He introduced it in January of 2006 at the Mid-Atlantic People of Color Conference hosted by American University Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C. He later presented it in April of 2006 at the Western Law Professors of Color Conference held at California Western School of Law in San Diego.

**Professor Claire Wright** recently had a chapter accepted for publication in *Toward a New Cultural Exemption in the WTO*, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers (forthcoming, Spring 2007) Her book chapter is titled *Multiculturalism and International Law: Essays in Honor of Edward McWhinney*, and is edited by Sienho Lee & Jacques-Yvan Morin. Professor Wright also has spoken at several union events in Hollywood and Burbank over the last several months, advocating that the unions contribute to a legal fund. The fund would pay for the drafting of a petition to be filed with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative requesting that a WTO case be brought to challenge the film subsidies being provided to Hollywood producers by Canada and other countries. Sufficient funds have now been raised, and at any time the film workers plan to file this petition. Many of the legal arguments underpinning this claim were set out in her article *Hollywood's Disappearing Act: International Trade Remedies to Bring Hollywood Home*, published in June 2006 at 39 AKRON L. Rev. 739.



Following a year long sabbatical, **Professor Ken Vandavelde** returned to the classroom last fall as a full-time member of the faculty after 11 years as dean, teaching two sections of Constitutional Law. A major highlight of his sabbatical was participating with his daughter Jenny in a 58-mile bike ride in 107 degree heat though Death Valley to raise money for research to cure juvenile diabetes. The TJSL community was the single largest source of contributions, both in used cell phones and cash, and helped Jenny to raise \$11,100 for juvenile diabetes. They plan to do it again in October! Professor Vandavelde's research currently focuses on international investment law. In March 2006, he was invited by the United Nations to be one of three speakers to address the Commission on Investment, the U.N.'s highest policy making body with respect to international investment law. In October, he lectured in two programs in Mexico sponsored by several international organizations to train lawyers from other countries in the arbitration of international investment disputes. The United Nations recently published his monograph *Investment Provisions in Economic Integration Agreements*, as well as a second monograph that he co-authored with Ambassador Roberto Echandi of Costa Rica, *International Investment Arrangements: Trends and Emerging Issues*.



# BAR SECRETS

If you ask Nancy Johnson and Dennis Saccuzzo the secret behind their Bar Secrets® program, they'll tell you it's helping students learn to integrate the concepts of the law and apply them under stress.

It's no secret that the California Bar is the most difficult of all of the bar exams in the United States. In fact, it's about twice as hard as any other state's bar exam.

It's also no secret that some view it as a sort of hazing of would-be attorneys—a horrendous three-day endurance test, designed to break down the bar-takers psychologically.

In many cases it does just that. However, the Bar Secrets program at Thomas Jefferson not only helps bar takers to memorize, integrate and apply the exam material but to teach techniques to avoid the kind of test-anxiety and stress that can cause a student to crash and burn on the bar.

"It (the bar exam) requires incredible sustained focus and unrelenting concentration—It's exhausting," says Nancy Johnson, an attorney and psychologist who co-created the Bar Secrets program with Dennis Saccuzzo, also an attorney and psychologist.

The mission of Bar Secrets is to raise Thomas Jefferson's bar pass rate using a new system to help the students to learn the law and apply it on the exam.

"We've taken the backbone of the law and have organized it to fit the way the brain works," says Johnson. Her partner, Saccuzzo, says that means categorizing the information in the same way the brain is organized.

"The basis of it is the encoding-retrieval relationships," says Saccuzzo. "The way the information is put in is the best indicator of how it will be retrieved."

The basic premise is taking complex

sets of facts and organizing them into an integrated whole. "We have extracted the structure of the law for them," Saccuzzo adds. "The core secret is to allow people to have all of the information they need to pass the bar in their active memory—by expanding the human active memory. We can add memory. Our system is like buying more memory from the computer store."

Of course, it's not that easy with the human brain. New pathways have to be developed, according to Saccuzzo and Johnson.

Saccuzzo says he learned the secret of expanding the memory from the late Belgian Chess Grandmaster George Koltanowski. "He had an incredible short-term memory," Saccuzzo says. "He took the thousands of possibilities on the chess board and turned them into key patterns in his mind."

That's the basis of Bar Secrets: to be able to remember the key patterns and easily retrieve them, since we can't "Google" our brains to find information like we can on our laptops.

"The average human mind can actively work with only four concepts at once—even a so-called expert in any field," says Johnson. "What separates the expert from the novice is how those concepts are integrated."

"In Bar Secrets—we integrate multiple concepts into one concept," according to Johnson. "We help students get those concepts into active awareness and hold on to them."

"We are building the mental framework," says Saccuzzo. "We give them anchor points so they can take in complex information and file it in the mind as they go for easy retrieval." It's *association-repetition* as an integrated concept.

The Bar Secrets system is based on cues. One thing provides a cue to something else. Students memorize cues which open doors to other cues. Memory failure is a lack of proper cues.

In terms of inputting the information to the brain, Saccuzzo and Johnson have the students use several learning modalities for each concept: Have them see it, hear it, write it and type it.

Something else that Saccuzzo and Johnson bring to Bar Secrets is the human touch. They take a genuine interest in each student individually. They even encourage bar-takers who are a day or two into taking the exam and think they're blowing it, to call them for a pep talk. "We want them to call us," Johnson says.

Saccuzzo and Johnson find that when they help students calm their stresses and adjust their focus, many of the students who thought they were blowing it wind up doing well.

Recent bar passers like TJSL alumnus **Don Nguyen ('06)** wholeheartedly endorse Bar Secrets. "I would definitely say that I benefited from the program immensely," says Nguyen. "One of the biggest benefits was that the Bar Secrets program provides you with an outline of the most essential information needed about each particular subject area...and it organizes it in such a way that helps recall."

Another TJSL alumnus, **Hector Tamayo, ('05)** says the techniques he learned in Bar Secrets worked well for him. "Having taken it once before, I realized that relaxation and stress control were one of the key issues in my initial failure," says Tamayo. "The entire Bar Secrets program emphasizes techniques of memorization that are relatively less stressful and 'easier' than traditional approaches; thus making recall of learned material much more efficient and available during the real exam."

The law school's investment in Bar Secrets—which helps keep down the costs for participating students—is already paying off.

The first group of TJSL Bar Secrets students to take the bar (February 2006) did well: there was a nine percent increase

in TJSL's bar pass rate for first-time takers. The July 2006 pass rate was thirteen percent higher than July 2005, before the Bar Secrets program began at TJSL.

"We are extremely excited about the Bar Secrets program," says Thomas Jefferson's Associate Dean Steve Semeraro. "We have seen modest, but marked, improvement in the first two bar exams for which our students have had access to the program."

"More importantly, however, the interaction between our faculty and Dennis Saccuzzo and Nancy Johnson will ultimately strengthen our academic program in ways that go beyond bar results," according to Dean Semeraro.

Johnson has just taken over TJSL's Academic Success Program and she and Saccuzzo have designed a fully integrated program designed to work with the students on their academic skills from the time they are accepted until the time they pass the bar exam and beyond. Saccuzzo and Johnson also have created a Bar Secrets program for TJSL alumni who are bar re-takers.

"Bar Secrets is more than just passing the bar," says Johnson. "It's about gaining skills to succeed in the profession."

That's no secret.

## TJSL's Bar Pass Rate Tops State Average

Sixty-two percent of the Thomas Jefferson graduates taking the California Bar Examination for the first time passed the February 2007 test, exceeding the statewide ABA law school's first-time taker pass rate of 61 percent.

This marks the third successive administration of the California bar for which TJSL's first-time bar pass rate has increased.

"We are extremely pleased with this high level of achievement by our TJSL graduates," said Dean Rudy Hasl. "We are definitely moving in the right direction."

The law school's new bar preparation program, Bar Secrets®, showed a significant positive program effect, according to Associate Dean of Academic Affairs Steve Semeraro.

"Students who took the full Bar Secrets program passed the bar at a rate more than 16 percentage points higher than those who did not participate in the full program," said Dean Semeraro. "Presumably, if all of our TJSL students had taken the full Bar Secrets program, TJSL's pass rate would have exceeded the pass rate for all California ABA schools by a comfortable margin."

"Congratulations to all who have been working with our students and graduates, but especially to our successful graduates," said Dean Hasl.

"We have reason to celebrate in anticipation of even better results in the future."

### New Bar Re-Taker's Program Available for TJSL Alumni

Wish you could have access to a program like Bar Secrets when you re-take the bar exam? Now you can.

Dr. Dennis Saccuzzo and Dr. Nancy Johnson, who created the successful Bar Secrets program, are offering a Bar Re-Taker's Program through Thomas Jefferson School of Law. It is designed for law school graduates who are repeating the California bar or out-of-state attorneys taking the California bar for the first time.

The program is free for TJSL alumni who have taken Bar Secrets or any prior repeater's program. There are fees for TJSL alumni who have not taken Bar Secrets or graduated from other law schools.

The Re-Taker's program utilizes the same strategies as Bar Secrets to help bar-takers expand their memories and learn how to integrate the concepts of the law and apply them under stress.

The course also includes the Bar Secrets three-day intensive workshop on the bar's new California subject areas. No other bar preparation program has such a thorough and intensive program on the new subjects as Bar Secrets. The workshop is available whether or not graduates sign up for the full course.

For more information TJSL's Bar Re-Taker's Program and the New Subjects Workshop, contact Professor Gregg Miller at 619-297-9700 Ext. 6903 or by e-mail at: gmiller@tjssl.edu







# CLEO Summer Institute

## TJSL Hosts Academic “Boot Camp”

Thomas Jefferson School of Law was looking for a few good men and women—and they found them in the hand-picked group of 48 pre-law students who attended the CLEO Summer Institute at TJSL last summer. It was a six-week “academic boot camp” for the CLEO Scholars who all were hopeful of starting law school in the fall of 2006.

CLEO, the Council on Legal Education Opportunity, is an American Bar Association-affiliated organization that supports diversity in legal education, and its annual summer institute program is a way for students to “jump start” their legal careers. Thomas Jefferson was one of two law schools in the country to host the CLEO program this

summer—and the first California law school to host the program in 12 years.

Condensed into the six weeks was a semester’s worth of first-year law school experiences. The challenges. The stress. The successes. The tears. The friendships. The chance to network with some of the top members of San Diego’s legal profession.

“Intellectually I came into CLEO knowing that it would be demanding, but I trusted myself to stay committed and to keep reality in perspective when things got hard,” said CLEO scholar KaSandra Rogiers, who started the University of Wisconsin Law School in the fall of 2006. “I found that our ‘dry run’ was actually

pretty challenging work from the first day to the last.”

When the scholars arrived in early June, it was Assistant Dean Beth Kransberger who coined the term “academic boot camp.”

“You have inspired us,” a very proud Dean Kransberger told the CLEO Scholars at their graduation. “You challenged the assumptions of who you are and who you aren’t. It is vitally important to the future of our country that you become lawyers.”

“I said six weeks ago that CLEO would be a transformative experience,” said Thomas Jefferson Dean Rudy Hasl in his closing remarks to the students. “Others will struggle mightily to gain some of the insights you already have.



Take advantage of it. Turn that insight into what it takes to succeed in law school.”

At the start of the CLEO Summer Institute, 12 of the 48 students had yet to be accepted into a law school. After the program, 100 percent of the students had been accepted to law schools—and many of those who hadn’t been accepted are now attending top ten or top twenty law schools. “That’s phenomenal,” said Dean Kransberger of CLEO’s success rate.

For each scholar, CLEO was a life-changing, career-changing experience.

Kevin Thompkins, who is attending Northern Illinois University College of Law, said “I think that the CLEO program has a lot to offer, especially to a non-traditional student like me, a student who is older than the average first-year law student.”

“I think CLEO is a wonderful opportunity, and a tool that would prove to be useful for an incoming law student—regardless of what circumstances, skills and past experiences that student comes from,” Thompkins added.

Two of the CLEO scholars decided to enroll at Thomas Jefferson—a source of pride and satisfaction to the professors involved with the program. First year TJSL student Rogi Sanchez said, “The CLEO

experience was phenomenal. It truly provided me with a head start on academics and what to expect from law school. Because of CLEO, I was able to learn and experience this beforehand and not during my first weeks of law school.”

The other CLEO Scholar who enrolled at Thomas Jefferson, Kai Hutson, feels CLEO gave her “the foundation to read cases and to understand the elements of law.”

During her first semester at TJSL, Hutson learned that “it’s important to be self-empowered. Take ownership of your law school experience and get feedback from your professors early on.” One way to do that, she says, is to take practice tests from the start of each semester and give them to your professors to read.

KaSandra Rogiers summed up her experience this way: “The emotional sup-

port that Beth Kransberger, Tim Spearman and the entire CLEO family provided was really the key that gave me the assurance and the comfort to be as calm and as confident as possible. As I go into law school, this assurance is really going to be my fuel to make it through the toughest days. Having had this support network formed by CLEO, I think we all now stand a great chance against these challenges.”

The CLEO scholars, many of whom forged what promise to be lifelong friendships, have scattered in more than 40 different directions—each of them having a more realistic idea of what to expect at law school—having had more than just a taste of first-year law school at Thomas Jefferson. They’ve also had a taste of something else that will stay with them through law school—the taste of success.



CLEO Scholar Erick Tyrone.





# ¿Lost In Translation?

*Alumnus and Adjunct Professor Ruben Arizmendi is hoping to create an entirely new legal language in Spanish—a new Spanish legalese—through which U.S. attorneys, both native and non-native Spanish speakers alike, can communicate effectively with their clients and other Spanish-speaking attorneys.*

If you use the term “probate” when speaking with an attorney or client who speaks only Spanish, you’re likely to get a blank stare—¿Qué es eso?—the equivalent of “huh?”

That has happened to business and estate attorney Ruben Arizmendi, a 1981 graduate of Thomas Jefferson School of Law and its new Alumni Association President.

Probate is a rather important term in his practice.

But something was getting lost in translation.

If he tried to use the Spanish word “probar”—from the Latin root “probare”—the attorney or client might think, “does he mean to taste or to prove?” There’s no literal translation. But if Arizmendi were to say “juicio de sucesorio”—the Spanish-speaking lawyer would know exactly what he meant.

Realizing that attorneys and clients are often not understanding each other, Arizmendi volunteered to teach a Wednesday night class titled “Spanish for Legal Professionals” at his alma mater, Thomas Jefferson, last fall.

Arizmendi says verbatim translations “are often meaningless or absurd.” Words that are spelled or sound nearly the same in two languages (cognates) are often false or misleading. For example, if you say “deposition,” a Spanish-speaker might think you mean “deposición”—that you want to depose a ruler. Even the term “corte” for court is not entirely accurate since the more commonly accepted terms among Spanish-speakers is “tribunal” or “juzgado,” says Arizmendi.

Another example of the problem: “Discovery” is an everyday term in American law, where each side of a lawsuit or criminal proceeding can examine the other side’s evidence, documents and witness list. If Arizmendi were to use the literal translation “descubrimiento” to a Spanish-speaking attorney, he would probably get more blank stares. But if he were to say “investigación formal,” a light would go on in the attorney’s mind.

More than 95 percent of Arizmendi’s clients are Spanish speakers, but being a



**Ruben Arizmendi ‘81**

Spanish speaker himself is no guarantee that his clients will understand the American legal system concepts he’s speaking about unless he uses the proper legal terminology in Spanish.

In Arizmendi’s estimation, this is a growing problem in California where the Latino population also is growing, and he says there’s a mish-mash of “Spanish legalese” being used in Southern California—a kind of legal “Spanglish.”

One example of that is the use of “seguranza” for insurance company, instead of “compania de seguros,” the proper Spanish term.

Why are legal terms so different in Spanish-speaking countries? Arizmendi says it is because those countries have a legal system based on the Napoleonic System and their terminology is not derived from Latin as is the American system—which is based on English Common Law.

His course is open only to Thomas Jefferson students now, but eventually Arizmendi would like to offer the class to a wider group of legal professionals in San Diego.

Arizmendi is hoping to create an entire new legal language in Spanish—a new Spanish legalese—through which U.S. attorneys, both native and non-native Spanish speakers alike, can communicate effectively with their clients and other Spanish speaking attorneys.

In other words, so nothing is lost in translation.



# New Faces in Career Services

## MEET THE NEW CAREER SERVICES TEAM

The career center has undergone a lot of changes over the past year and we invite you to learn more about us.

### Laura A. Weseley

*Assistant Dean for Career Services*

Dean Weseley joined the Career Service Office in July 2006 after spending five years as the Associate Director of Career Service at Loyola Law School, where she developed, supervised and organized career/counseling programs aimed at connecting students with career services and employment opportunities. Prior to that, Dean Weseley spent two years as the Assistant Director of Career Services and Professor of Trademark Law at Pepperdine University School of Law. She graduated from Brooklyn Law School and is a member of the California, New York and Connecticut State Bars. Before transitioning into academia, she worked for two boutique intellectual property law firms in Los Angeles and New York as a trademark/copyright attorney and eventually opened her own practice.

**What can we offer you?** We are available for counseling on career and professional development issues such as marketing and rainmaking, as well as assistance with career transitions.

**What can you do to help?** We encourage you to post job opportunities with us, and/or to partner with us on events and programs. **YOU ARE AN INSPIRATION** to the students of Thomas Jefferson, so let them meet you.



(From left) Laura A. Weseley, Beverly K. Bracker and Karen Werve Grant

### Beverly K. Bracker

*Associate Director of Career Services*

Beverly Bracker has been a part of the Career Services team since July 2001 and is involved in all aspects of career advising and efforts to enhance legal career opportunities for students and graduates. She attended the University of Iowa College of Law where she was an Associate Editor for the *Iowa Law Review*. She practiced law for eight years with several small firms in the San Diego area, primarily doing business litigation and transactions, real estate, probate, estate planning, personal injury and construction defect. During her transition to academia, she tutored local law students and recent graduates in legal writing and bar examination preparation, and she also earned a Professional Certificate in Career Counseling from UCSD.

### Karen Werve Grant

*Assistant Director of Career Services*

Karen Grant joined the Career Services team last September. After graduating from California Western School of Law, she worked for a local family law firm, Beatrice L. Snider, APC. In 1999, she opened her own private family law practice, the Common Ground Family Law Center. The law is her second career. Prior to law school, she analyzed business operations as a management consultant for both private and government sector employers.

# New Faces in Development and Alumni Relations

## MEET THE NEW DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS TEAM

We invite all of our alumni to become better acquainted with our team members because we are here to make sure that your continuing relationship with TJSJ is an involved and rewarding one.

### Karen Goyette

*Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations*

Thomas Jefferson School of Law is pleased to announce that Karen Goyette has joined the school as the Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations. Goyette will be working with Dean Rudy Hasl and the law school's Board of Trustees to develop and implement a plan to increase the financial, alumni and community support for the school's long range plans. She has extensive experience in fundraising for educational and cultural groups, strategic planning, communications and marketing. Positions she has held include president of Goyette Associates, a fundraising firm, as well as Development Director of the San Diego Repertory Theater. As Director of Strategic Initiatives/Special Projects at the San Diego Workforce Partnership, she led the formation of a regional consortium of business, education, government and labor leaders to identify skill shortages and address workforce issues. "This is an exciting time to be part of the Thomas Jefferson team as we create more opportunities for growth and excellence," said Goyette. "I look forward to collaborating with and supporting our alumni, boards of directors, faculty, staff, students and community members," she added.



(From left) Rene Rojo, Karen Goyette (seated) and Marjorie Antoine.

### Marjorie Antoine

*Director of Alumni Relations*

Marjorie Antoine, Director of Alumni Relations, is a 2004 graduate of Thomas Jefferson School of Law. While attending law school she was a member of the Moot Court Society, Treasurer of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, extern for both Federal and Superior Court judges, and a student representative for Westlaw. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and Marketing from New Mexico State University. As Director of Alumni Relations she is responsible for the creation and management of programs that meet the needs of our diverse, busy alumni. Her challenge is to match those needs with those of the school, developing a larger base of involved alumni who provide both professional and financial support. She will also work to build relationships with current students before they become alumni.

### Rene Rojo

*Coordinator for Development and Alumni Relations*

Rene Rojo, the Coordinator for Development and Alumni Relations, was born in South-central Los Angeles, but has resided in San Diego for 15 years. He has a B.A. in Sociology from the University of San Diego. His work in USD undergraduate admissions included extensive interaction with diverse groups of prospective students and their parents. He also has broad-based computer experience, including database management. He is fluent in English, Spanish and American Sign Language. Current responsibilities include managing both the alumni and donor database and the Online Community, which serves 5,000 plus alumni. Ensuring that we have the technological ability to communicate effectively with all alumni is a key component of his role and one that is necessary to grow our support base. He will also serve as a liaison with student groups from orientation to graduation.

**What We Promise You:** We will help you stay connected to other alumni and we will provide opportunities for professional growth through networking, the Online Community, our MCLE programs and by showcasing your successes. We will always strive to find ways to serve you better in all stages of your career. You are the role models, mentors, employers and inspiration for our students and your fellow alumni. **We are proud of you** and urge you to stay involved.

Visit our Web site: [www.tjsl.edu](http://www.tjsl.edu)





Vera Valdivia (standing, sixth from left,) and her staff at Dewey Elementary received national recognition with the Blue Ribbon School award.

## Vera Valdivia—“Superwoman” Full-time Principal and Mom, Part-time Law Student

If you were to call Thomas Jefferson part-time law student Vera Valdivia “Superwoman,” you would be pretty close to the truth.

Valdivia, who entered TJSL in Fall 2006, is not only a law student, but the principal of a San Diego’s Dewey Elementary School. That’s not all—she also is raising six children as a single mom!

Her first semester at Thomas Jefferson, Valdivia made the honor roll with a perfect 4.0 GPA.

To top that off, Valdivia and her school were honored in November by U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings as part of the “2006 No Child Left Behind—Blue Ribbon Schools Program.” Valdivia was flown to Washington, D.C. to receive the award personally from Secretary Spellings.

“What is exciting about being selected as a National Blue Ribbon School is that the selections are made based on academic student achievement from public and private schools,” Valdivia said. “I think that should

speak for PUBLIC education!” Typically, the unassuming and modest Valdivia says the award really belongs to her teachers.

Full-time mother and principal. Part-time law student. How does she do it all? “I have a very good support network,” she acknowledged. Her two grown daughters live next door to her and their very active participation makes it possible for Valdivia to successfully juggle her three major roles.

Of the children in Valdivia’s home, two are biological, two are adopted from the African nation of Liberia and two are foster children from San Diego who she is in the process of adopting. She is also in the process of adopting two babies from Haiti.

“I love children,” says Valdivia. “That’s a big part of the reason she decided to go to law school, she adds. “As a principal you have a limited impact on children. With a law degree I can have a higher degree of influence and effect more positive change. I’m very passionate about international children’s rights.”

In fact, Valdivia, who lived in Liberia as a child, has returned there numerous times as an adult to work with children who were orphaned by that country’s brutal civil war.

At Thomas Jefferson School of Law’s “Challenges for Children’s Right’s Symposium” in March 2007, Valdivia gave one of the most powerful and heart wrenching presentations of the conference, showing a series of haunting photos she took in Liberia of child soldiers—boys and girls who are trained killers holding automatic weapons while laughing. Her images also showed the ravages of child starvation.

Valdivia is grateful for the opportunity to attend Thomas Jefferson. “It has a real sense of community,” she says. “You get so much support that you can’t help but succeed. The professors bend over backwards to make sure you succeed. What other law schools would do that?”

Valdivia herself is bending over backward to help her students at Dewey Elementary to succeed. Thomas Jefferson’s Assistant Dean



for Admissions, Financial Aid, and Student Counseling Services, Beth Kransberger, was very impressed when she was “Principal for a Day” at Dewey in March.

“As I walked into Dewey, it is an elementary school as it is meant to be,” says Dean Kransberger. “The halls are quiet, the joy is near the surface for all and in each room, the teachers are engaged in innovative learning processes with very high expectations for the kids. And as we visited each class, every child lights up and waves to ‘Miss V.’”

The majority of the students at Dewey are from active-duty military families, which creates a lot of challenges for the school, not the least of which is the tremendous yearly turnover of students.

Dean Kransberger is awed by how Valdivia handles the responsibilities she has taken upon herself. “She is quite simply humble and extraordinary. I feel privileged to call her my friend and fellow educator. If we all engaged as fully as she does as a citizen of planet earth, I am convinced there would be no poverty or strife. She is indeed Mrs. Albert Schweitzer.”

Valdivia’s career is all the more impressive when you realize the road she has traveled. Her parents were Cuban and Cuban-French, who went to Europe in search of freedom. Valdivia, who was born in Germany, came to

“Even if I’m tired, my self-discipline kicks in and I just do it,” she notes. “If I didn’t, I would fall behind.” It would be hard, though, to imagine her falling behind anyone.

If you ask Vera Valdivia if she is indeed Superwoman, she says: “Definitely not. I’m just me. If I were Superwoman, my laundry would be done and my house would be clean.”

### Dewey Elementary School Achievements:

2006-2007 & 2007-2008

Title I Academic Achievement Award School

Dewey is one of the few schools in the San Diego area that has received this award two years in a row.

Urban School of Excellence—Finalist

One of 18 other urban schools in the nation to receive this recognition.

2006 National Blue Ribbon School

Dewey is the only San Diego City school to receive this National, U.S. Department of Education Award.





## Publication Success: Journals Feature Articles by TJSL Students & Grads

A number of prestigious law journals around the country have accepted for publication articles by Thomas Jefferson students and recent graduates.

Thomas Jefferson third-year student **James Binnall's** article: "He's On Parole... But You Still Can't Come In: A Parolee's Reaction to *Randolph v. Georgia*" will be published in the *Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy* (Georgetown Law School) this spring. Binnall wrote about a parolee's waiver of his/her Fourth Amendment constitutional right against unreasonable searches—and he wrote from personal experience.

That experience was four years of hell, spent in a Pennsylvania prison cell after Binnall was convicted of DUI in a fatal accident in 1999—an accident that took the life of his best friend in college.

"It was an important article to write," says Binnall. "To take out my personal experience would be to short-change the article."

Binnall has another article in the pipeline: "They Released Me From My Cage... But They Still Keep Me Handcuffed: A Parolee's Reaction to *Samson v. California*." It is scheduled for publication this spring in *The Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law*, a peer review run by preeminent criminal law scholar Joshua Dressler.

This article focuses on "suspicionless searches," where parolees are subject to police searches without probable cause. Again, it's based on personal experience. Binnall says that the practice of these searches, as described in *Samson v. California*, "don't promote reintegration of parolees into society—they hinder it."

Third-year, part-time student **Susie Lorden's** article "The Law of Unintended Consequences: The Far-Reaching effects of Same-Sex Marriage Ban Amendments," published in the *Quinnipiac Law Review* in October 2006, found that an Ohio law to ban same-sex marriage had some serious side-effects—it meant that unmarried heterosexual couples were no longer subject to domestic violence (DV) laws.

The new law is being challenged in the Supreme Court of Ohio, and if it is upheld, then Ohio law won't recognize any form of co-habitation other than marriage between a man and a woman. Lorden is confident that the Ohio court will strike down the law—the justices heard oral arguments in the case in early December 2006.

**Kelley Tiffany**, a December 2006 graduate, will have her article "Cheering Speech at State University Athletic Events: How Do You Regulate Bad Spectator Sportsmanship?" published in *Tulane University's Sports Law Journal* in the Spring 2007 issue.

The question she addresses: Can you yell anything you want to at an athlete during a sports contest and be protected by the First Amendment?

In her article, Tiffany states that "trash talking runs rampant at most sporting events today." As a student at UC Santa Barbara, she couldn't help but notice how some people in the stands at sporting events acted "like complete idiots."

Tiffany became worried that the escalating shouting and the profanity was a precursor to violence between athletes and fans—and her fears were realized in November 2004 when Ron Artest of the Indiana Pacers went

into the stands during a game against the Pistons in Detroit and touched off an infamous brawl between Piston's fans and Pacers players.

In her article, Tiffany makes an argument for "limited conduct-based restriction on speech directed at players and coaches when there is the potential for riot."—also arguing that "the restriction must be consistent with permissible limits" on the regulation of free speech.

The article suggests that "Courts should allow certain limited regulation on speech falling outside the scope of those areas that are already restricted, such as true threats and fighting words, in order to combat the disruptive consequences that flow from spectator behavior."

"Some people think they can yell anything at athletes—even profanity or personal remarks," Tiffany says. "That's not cool."

**Adam Jaffe**, a Spring 2006 graduate, will have his paper "Tragedy of the Ocean Commons: International Ocean Pollution Law and Mitigation Solutions" published in an upcoming issue of the *International Journal of Maritime Law & Commerce*. The article grew out of a paper Jaffe did for Professor Aaron Schwabach's class on International Environmental Law—long one of Jaffe's passions.

Jaffe found that the problem of ocean pollution is not only a serious global issue, but that international regulation to curb it is "sorely lacking."

Like the others, Jaffe is excited to have his work published in a legal journal, noting that he's "quite proud that it's publication quality."

Thomas Jefferson third-year student **Michael Dye's** paper on human rights abuses of women in Qatar will be published this summer in the *University of Detroit Mercy Law Review* in its annual Religion & Law Symposium issue. The focus of the 2007 issue will be women and Islam.

"I was extremely pleased to have received an offer of publication from the University of Detroit's Mercy Law Review's annual Religion and the Law symposium issue," said Dye. "I believe the tiny nation of Qatar represents a new model of progressive thinking in the Middle East, and even a tiny country can make a world of change. Hopefully this article will contribute to a better understanding of this unique country situated on the Arabian Gulf, and stimulate discussion on ways replicate its efforts throughout the region."





## Competitive Teams Build Solid Records



*Thomas Jefferson's Moot Court Team with the Roger J. Traynor Trophy*

This year, a Thomas Jefferson team won the prestigious Roger J. Traynor Moot Court Competition and received an award for Best Oralist.

Two teams from Thomas Jefferson also made the quarter-finals of the Luke Charles Moore Memorial Moot Court Competition at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

This year's teams built on a solid record of success in previous years. A Thomas Jefferson team won the prize for the Best Memorial (brief) in English at the 2006 Annual Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C., marking the third time in four years that a Thomas Jefferson team has won in that category.

### Moot Court Team

The Moot Court Team competes in appellate advocacy competitions. The students are evaluated on the persuasiveness of their written briefs and oral advocacy by judges and practitioners.

This year, a Thomas Jefferson team won the presti-

### ADR Team

The ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution) Team competes in negotiation, mediation and client counseling competitions. Experienced lawyers judge the students' abilities to resolve disputes outside the traditional litigation process. Thomas Jefferson teams have reached the finals of numerous regional competitions and competed at the national level quite successfully.

This year, teams from Thomas Jefferson placed second and third in the ABA Representation in Mediation Regional Competition in Washington, D.C. Three teams from Thomas Jefferson competed in the ABA Regional Negotiation placing just out of the final four.

This year's solid record followed a spectacular 2006. Three ADR teams from Thomas Jefferson took first, second, and sixth place at the American Bar Association Western Regional Negotiation

Competition. The top two Thomas Jefferson teams went on to the national competition in Chicago, capturing fourth and fifth place in the nation. The Thomas Jefferson ADR team finished in first place at the California State Bar Environmental Negotiation Competition, marking the fourth time in five years that Thomas Jefferson has finished first or second in that competition and the second time in three years that Thomas Jefferson finished first.

### Student Receives Prestigious Burton Award For Legal Achievement



*Dean Rudy Hasl and Jennifer Siverts*

Jennifer Siverts, a 2006 Thomas Jefferson *cum laude* graduate, became one of only 15 law students across the nation to receive the highly competitive and highly coveted Burton Award for Legal Achievement for 2006.

Siverts was selected from a pool of candidates nominated by law school deans across America. Each law student nominee was judged on a published law review note. Siverts won for her article "Punishing Thoughts Too Close to Reality: A New Solution to Protect Children From Pedophiles," published in the Spring 2005 issue of the *Thomas Jefferson Law Review*.

"We are extremely proud of Jennifer's great accomplishment and the tremendous honor she brings to our law school," said Dean Rudolph C. Hasl. "To be recognized as one of the top law student writers in our nation is an immeasurable achievement

when you consider that Jennifer competed against the best students from the highest ranked law schools."

Siverts was flown to Washington, D.C. last June for an elaborate award ceremony and dinner in the Great Hall of the Library of Congress. She was presented with an inscribed crystal obelisk to commemorate her status as one of the top 15 law student writers in the nation.

The Burton Awards Program is in its seventh year, having been founded in 1999 as a volunteer, not-for-profit academic organization dedicated to rewarding effective legal writing and hailed as one of the premier awards programs in law. The program, run in association with the Library of Congress and its law library, honors law students as well as partners in law firms who use "plain, clear and concise language in their legal writings and avoid archaic, stilted legalese."



*Thomas Jefferson's Mock Trial Team in Salt Lake City*

### Mock Trial Team

The Mock Trial Program allows students to compete in simulated trials while being evaluated by judges and practitioners. Students examine witnesses, lodge objections and argue to a jury.

The TJSL Mock Trial Team swept past 16 teams on February 9-10 to become semi-finalists at the Texas Young Lawyers Association West Coast Regional Trial Competition. This year's intense competition was held in Salt Lake City, Utah where 24 teams entered the competition. Among the law schools that competed were Cal Western, Chapman, Southwestern, Pepperdine, the University of San Diego, UCLA and Loyola.

Thomas Jefferson also took first place and the title of Champions at the ABA Labor & Employment Law Competition in Los Angeles.

The Thomas Jefferson Mock Trial Team has done very well in recent regional and national competitions. In 2006, the team took second place at the National Criminal Justice Trial Advocacy Competition in Chicago, sweeping past 22 teams from other law schools.



*Anna Romanskaya, Steve Howland and Alyssa McCorkle*

## Students Named to National ABA Positions

Three Thomas Jefferson School of Law students were selected last fall at the American Bar Association's National Convention in Hawaii to serve in prestigious positions within the ABA.

Alyssa McCorkle was elected as a National Delegate to the ABA Law Students Division, just one of three law students in the country to serve as national delegates. Steve Howland and Anna Romanskaya were named as Lieutenant Governors of the Ninth Circuit of the Law Students Division, which includes Southern California and Hawaii law schools.

"We've put Thomas Jefferson on the map," said McCorkle, then a third-year student who saw the three positions as an effective way of not only representing the law school at the national level, but also giving law students a greater voice within the ABA. "I didn't do it alone. Anna and Steve and I worked as a team."

Thomas Jefferson is "known by the ABA as a highly participatory school," said Steve Howland, who served during his third year. "We show up, and we work hard."

Howland has been lobbying for Loan Repayment Assistance Programs (LRAPs). "This is the perfect opportunity," said Howland. "I've studied political science and

worked in political campaigns as well as interning with the Connecticut legislature."

LRAP is also McCorkle's top priority, and she lobbied on behalf of LRAP on Capitol Hill in April on "ABA Day" on the hill.

What motivates McCorkle is a concern that law students are graduating with too much debt—an average of \$60-80 thousand in student loans to repay, which makes it difficult to make ends meet, especially for those who take positions in public law.

"That could result in a shortage of quality people in the District Attorney's and Public Defender's offices," McCorkle said.

Anna Romanskaya, who also just finished her third-year, felt excited about her appointment as a Lt. Governor because of her strong interest in the field of public law. "I am able to meet many like-minded people and help spread ideas and communication about what public interest is," says Romanskaya, who served as president of TJSL's Public Interest Law Foundation chapter. "This was a perfect position for me because I really am a cheerleader for public interest and I love getting people involved."



## New Students Bring Diversity, Interesting Backgrounds to TJSL

By Beth Kransberger, Assistant Dean for Admissions, Financial Aid and Student Counseling Services

This academic year the Law School has welcomed two new incoming classes of students—our Fall 2006 and our Spring 2007 incoming classes. We are thrilled with the quality, maturity and experiences that both classes have brought to TJSL.

On August 16th, the Law School welcomed its 36th first year class of 222 full time students and 26 part-time students. They range in age from 20-52 years old, with a median age of 27; 120 members of the class have been away from undergraduate experience more than two years and thus are bringing strong working-world experience to the TJSL community. They come from 121 different undergraduate institutions, including 60 from the famed

*“These classes have made substantial contributions to the TJSL community already, as they bring their intellects, life and work experiences and unique perspectives to their studies and the co-curricular learning environment.”*

University of California system. Within the UC system, UC Santa Barbara continues to be the strongest feeder school, followed by another large chunk from our wonderful partner to the east, San Diego State University. The gender breakdown of the class is nearly 50/50, and we’re pleased to welcome several gay and lesbian law students.

At least 10% of the class self-identified as a first generation college student, a group that Associate Dean Steve Semeraro shared,

with great impact, that he belonged to as well. The class also contains six active duty or retired military personnel. As a group, the class hails from 31 states and 18 different countries by birth, including Argentina, Armenia, Bosnia, Brazil, Egypt, India, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Syria, South Africa, Poland, the Philippines, Mexico, Iran, Israel, Guam and the good old U.S. of A. We are proud to say that the class also contains 37% students of color, which includes one of the largest classes of Black/African American law students (including 10 Black/African American men) in the state of California. We also welcomed four sibling pairs, interestingly enough, as well as a set of identical twins, just to give the first year faculty an added extra challenge. Many members of this class are fluent in at least one other language, including American Sign Language, Korean, two dialects of Chinese, French, Japanese, German, Portuguese, Bengali, Farsi, Greek, Arabic, Hebrew and Tagalog, a fact which allows us to become a real resource for translating support for the San Diego legal community. Finally, we also have two Peace Corp alums and an extraordinary multiplicity of religious traditions represented in the class.

The Spring 2007 class is similarly highly experienced and talented. We wrapped what has become known

as the “warm TJLS embrace” around 82 new students, from 26 states, 11 countries and 44 undergraduate institutions. A number come to us with graduate degrees and undergraduate majors from art to engineering. The class contains 40% students of color, and 14% are first generation college students. Nine-percent of the class are retired military, from all branches of service; three are certified pilots; 20% are parents; and eight have substantial entrepreneurial backgrounds and are small business owners, which makes them delighted to take advantage of the flexibility of our part-time program. Nearly half of our 82 students are bi- or multilingual and a number have been Division I student athletes.

These classes have made substantial contributions to the TJSL community already, as they bring their intellects, life and work experiences and unique perspectives to their studies and the co-curricular learning environment. If you come on campus, please take time to stop and chat with them in the Courtyard or the Café—we think you’ll share our excitement about them as well!



(From left) New students Steven Rolling, Justin Hannart and Lennie Alzate at Spring 2007 Orientation

## Sports Law Symposium

The Fifth Annual Sports Law Symposium “Legal Champions in Sports” held February at the Hall of Champions in Balboa Park featured a provocative discussion of the issue of steroid use by professional athletes. The conference was organized by the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Sports Law Society.

Keynote speaker David Cornwell, former NFL General Counsel, challenged many of the premises which underlie the conventional wisdom that steroid use gives users an unfair competitive advantage and is harmful to the health of the athlete.

Cornwell is the president of DNK Cornwell, which provides legal representation and consulting services to professional athletes. Cornwell represents Charger line-backer Shawne Merriman, who agreed to a four game suspension for testing-positive for a banned substance—which Merriman says came from a dietary supplement. Under the NFL’s banned substances policy, athletes are responsible for any substance they ingest—knowingly or not.

“The focus on steroids (in pro sports) is absurd,” said Cornwell, as he tried to stimulate debate on the subject. “We blindly accept that steroids are bad for sports...and athletes are tested more than any other class in society. Now we’ve created a new class—athletes.”

Cornwell dissected the National Football League’s steroid policy, which states, among other things, that “Players use steroids for the purpose of becoming bigger, stronger and faster than they otherwise would be.”

Using the law school experience to draw a parallel to professional athletes, Cornwell asked whether the use of caffeine by law students to stay alert “gives them an unfair competitive advantage over other students. It’s the same rationale the league uses.”

Cornwell pointed out that he is “not arguing in favor of steroids, but I’m arguing for a better premise for banning steroids.”

The conference attendees also heard

from a panel made up of baseball player agents Barry Axelrod and Bob Teaff, along with San Diego State Assistant Athletic Director Jennifer Daniels and Michael McCann, an Assistant Professor of Law at Mississippi College School of Law, who has represented troubled former Ohio State running back Maurice Clarett.

Clarett unsuccessfully challenged the NFL’s draft rules requiring draft picks to be at least three years past their high school graduation date, and later wound up going to jail on criminal charges before his pro career could get off the ground. Professor McCann gave an insider’s view of Clarett’s legal situation—which ultimately resulted in Clarett getting into trouble during the year he sat out football while his playing status situation was being resolved.

Encinitas lawyer Barry Axelrod, who has been called the “agent for the good guys” because he represents players such as Ken Bagwell, Craig Biggio and the Padres’ Jake Peavey, talked about how he became a sports agent—“by accident and by luck, I fell into it.”

Axelrod says today’s sports agent has to be as concerned with his client’s image as with the contract terms: “I tell my clients that real privacy has ceased to exist...you’re under the microscope at all times.”

Sports agent and La Jolla attorney Bob Teaff compared sports law to other practices often “described in anatomical terms.”

He told the audience that to be a sports agent you have to use good lawyering skills and put the passion of a fan aside for the “objectivity you need to practice law.”

Another panel at the symposium was focused on the lucrative field of licensing



Barry Axelrod

and sponsorship in sports. The panelists included Joanna Tsai, the General Counsel at Hang Ten and 2002 alumna of Thomas Jefferson; Chris Whitson, the General Counsel of the National Hockey League’s Nashville Predators; and Michael Bernstein, the Senior Corporate Counsel of the Upper Deck Company.

They discussed the ins and outs of sponsorship and endorsement deals and what types of law courses to take to prepare for that type of practice. The consensus is that having a firm grounding in business law in addition to a well-rounded legal education is a good foundation.



David Cornwell

As in past years, this year’s sports law symposium was well-received by the nearly 50 attendees.

“In my opinion, the conference was a success,” said conference co-organizer Brenda Foster. “We could not have asked for a more experienced or a more informative panel.”



## Integrity Counts



“The Honorable Patricia Garcia, presiding. Please be seated.” What Judge Patricia Garcia and 16 other Superior Court judges were presiding over, were tables of attorneys, law students, law school alumni and staff at the Lawyer’s Club of San Diego January luncheon, including a contingent from Thomas Jefferson.

At least one judge presided at each table and described their own path to attaining the bench and the impact a judicial appointment has on one’s personal life. The attendees heard directly from the judges what they value in a trial attorney: integrity.

“I was pleasantly surprised to hear from the judge and the experienced attorneys that hard work and honesty are still the most important elements of being a well-respected lawyer,” remarked first-year Thomas Jefferson law student Miles Kosanovich.

The judges felt that every court appearance is important, as is a student’s behavior during externships, whether paid or non-paid, because a lawyer’s reputation is built

over time. Honesty, integrity and being prepared for court makes good impressions on judges.

“The pointers I received were invaluable because they helped motivate me to continue doing my best in school and to do my part to insure that the legal

profession operates properly once I am a practicing attorney,” remarked first-year student Arthur Obolsky.

Further discussion led to the topic of how personal lives have changed as a judge. Often it is difficult, but mandatory in some situations, to give up social relationships with attorneys the judge worked with in the past, because they may come before the judge in their courtroom. Being a judge requires one to be impartial and fair.

Personal safety issues were also discussed. Being aware of their surroundings and taking threats seriously is an important part of keeping themselves and their families safe. Aside from these personal issues, the career choice of being a judge is very rewarding and allows them to feel they are contributing positively to society.

Second-year student Susan Tinsky commented, “Prior to attending this event, I had given some thought about working as a judicial extern. Now I am seeking employment with a judge through the school’s externship program.”

### Student, Graduate Selected For Internships with Yugoslavia War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague

One current Thomas Jefferson School of Law student and one recent graduate have been selected for prestigious internships with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) based in The Hague, Netherlands.



Second-year TJSL student **Cindy Nesbit** will serve her internship this summer.

“This is such an incredible honor,” said

Nesbit. “I think this will be a truly invaluable experience.”

Nesbit is not positive what type of law she wants to practice yet, but right now, she is most interested in either international human rights or international environmental law.

“Ultimately, I’d love to work for the UN so I feel like this internship is a great stepping stone,” she says.



Thomas Jefferson graduate **Michael Lee** (’06) started his internship with ICTY in March 2007.

“It is an incredible opportunity,” said Lee, who added that he’s been working toward a career in international human rights law.

Lee is interning in The Office of the President, Judge Fausto Pocar, who is the Chief Judge of the Tribunal. Most of Lee’s work will center on legal research and writing briefs for the court.



(From left) Professor Ben Templin, Alumnus of the Year Phil Shapiro and Professor Joe Bodine

## Awards Presented at Barrister’s Ball

The Annual Barrister’s Ball, hosted by the Student Bar Association (SBA), was held on Saturday, February 3, at the Bahia Hotel on Mission Bay. The most anticipated event of the evening was the presentation of the awards, recognizing TJSL’s exceptional staff, faculty, students, and alumni. SBA president Alexis Scott presented the awards thanking everyone for their support of the ball.

The first Golden Apple award went to Professor Ben Templin for the required course category. After receiving an extended standing ovation, Professor Templin modestly accepted his award, saying it was “his privilege” to teach at TJSL and that he owes the award to his colleagues and his students.

Next, Professor Joe Bodine was presented with the Golden Apple award for an elective course. Scott praised Professor Bodine, for his valuable service to first-year students and his goal to maximize their success.

Scott then presented the Staff Member of the Year Award to Julie Garrett of Student Services, who Alexis said “puts students first and it shows.” Garrett thanked the students and said, “This is a great honor for me. You students are the light of my life.”

The Alumnus of the Year award was given to Phil Shapiro, class of 1985. Shapiro is presently the chair of the Solo & Small Firm executive committee of the

State Bar of California, as well as a former president of TJSL’s Alumni Association. In addition, Mr. Shapiro is a partner in his law firm, Shapiro & Clamon. During his acceptance speech, Shapiro recognized his niece, Dana Chapnick, who is a first-year student at TJSL, as well as some of his former professors, including Thom Golden and William Slomanson. Shapiro concluded his speech by recognizing former TJSL Dean Ken Vandeveld for helping the school triumph through difficult times in becoming an ABA-recognized school. He added, “And now, Dean Hasl will take you to the top.”

Professor Marjorie Cohn had the privilege of announcing the final award of the evening. The Charles T. Bumer Civil Libertarian Award is named after the late Charles “Ted” Bumer, who was a prominent San Diego criminal defense attorney and member of the National Lawyers Guild (NLG). This annual award, is given to the TJSL student who best personifies the ideals to which Bumer devoted his life. The recipient of the award is chosen



Staff member of the Year Julie Garrett

by Bumer’s two daughters—one of whom is Elizabeth Bumer, a 1983 TJSL alumna—and the NLG. This year, two candidates received the award: Vince Hall and James Binnall. Vince works full-time as a lead spokesperson and strategist for Planned Parenthood. He accepted his award and noted that, “Whether you’re a Democrat, Republican or Libertarian, you can’t have too much freedom.” Professor Cohn also presented Binnall with his award. Binnall is a parolee-rights advocate who has spent his life trying to keep others from making the same mistakes he did. When accepting his award, Binnall said, “My road to law school was a long one that wouldn’t have been possible without help from several people.”

(From left) James Binnall, Professor Marjorie Cohn, Vince Hall



Visit our Web site:  
[www.tjsl.edu](http://www.tjsl.edu)





*Student Ann Ngo, ImanusT Founder*

It may take you a minute to realize that ImanusT is actually the word tsunami spelled backwards.

First-year Thomas Jefferson law student Ann Ngo carefully chose the reverse orthography as the name of the non-profit organization she founded because the mission of ImanusT is to try to reverse the lingering after-effects of tragedies such as tsunamis, earthquakes and floods long after they fade from the headlines and the world starts to forget the victims.

“It’s crisis reversal,” Ngo said. “We want to help people who have been forgotten by the media—people still in need of help a year or two later.”

The inspiration to create ImanusT came in the aftermath of a letter that Ngo wrote to all of her friends and family to raise money for the victims of the 2005 tsunami in Asia. The letter resulted in \$1,100 in donations which she gave to UNICEF. More importantly, Ngo realized she could use her talents to start her own organization.

ImanusT works through other crisis relief organizations which have a direct impact on the victims of tragedies to “help them get back on their feet.” The goal is to make sure 100 percent of the money they raise goes to those people

## ImanusT: TJSL Student Helps the Forgotten Victims

who need help in re-building their lives. Since ImanusT is an all-volunteer organization, overhead costs are minimal.

Ngo graduated from USC with a Master’s Degree in strategic public relations, and she’s using those skills to implement media outreach tactics that position crisis victims back into the media limelight.

“ImanusT reminds and convinces the media to write stories about crisis victims encouraging people to help,” she said.

For Ngo, the first year of law school and running a small organization such as ImanusT is a balancing act—but one she says is worth the effort.

“This is how I relax,” Ngo said. “It’s my hobby. It’s my release.”

She hopes to use her law degree to help build ImanusT into a national, even international organization.

“I have so much passion for this,” Ngo said. “It’s very fulfilling. And I’m so lucky to have a passion that helps people.”

**To visit the ImanusT Web site go to:**  
**[www.crisisreversal.com/howtohelp.php](http://www.crisisreversal.com/howtohelp.php)**



*TJSL students and staff at Monarch School*

## Thomas Jefferson Students Take on Monarch School Project

On Sunday November 12, nine Thomas Jefferson School of Law students joined Professor Judybeth Tropp and Externship Coordinator Angie Valdiconza at TJSL’s first “Done in a Day” Project with the Monarch School in Downtown San Diego.

Monarch provides an accredited education to homeless and at-risk kids while caring for basic needs such as healthcare, food, clothing and personal hygiene.

The TJSL group started bright and early and was able to clean and restore the school’s courtyard, kitchen, laundry room and reception area.

The volunteer coordinator from Monarch was especially thrilled as this was the first group of volunteers to ever come onto campus to roll up their sleeves to improve the campus for the students who attend.

“Your team did such an amazing job cleaning our campus,” said Monarch volunteer coordinator Kristen Shea. “The Monarch staff was so happy when they came in and saw the school on Monday.”

According to Professor Tropp: “We got so much accomplished in a very short period of time and everyone left feeling very pleased that we made a tangible impact on a true quality of life issue for the Monarch School Community. We hope that this will be the first of many such projects with Monarch and we hope to entice as many students, faculty and staff along for the fun.”

## Thomas Jefferson Students Hold Day of Fun for Sudanese Refugee Children.

Students from Thomas Jefferson School of Law spent a day in mid-October with children from the Sudanese Refugee Network tutoring program, playing games and learning teambuilding skills, as well as building friendships! TJSL students served as important role models for the children, who are adjusting to a new life with many different challenges.

The Sudanese Refugee Network supports families displaced from their homeland and helps them to adjust to all aspects of life in San Diego.



*Student Josh Larson with Sudanese refugee children*

“Thomas Jefferson School of Law is committed to focusing on children at risk in our communities,” said Christie Edwards, the event’s main organizer.

“These Sudanese children come from a war-torn country whose government is perpetuating genocide on its people. They have been separated from their homes and their families, so the students of TJSL are committed to making the transition to life in the United States, with a new language and a new culture, as easy as possible.”

The event was organized by the Student Bar Association (SBA), along with the International Law Society (ILS). The SBA’s Community Service Committee was co-chaired this year by Christie Edwards and Nichole Denton. Edwards also was president of ILS.



*Student Christie Edwards and a new friend.*

## Fall '06 and Spring '07 SBA Blood Drives

The Student Bar Association’s Red Cross Blood drives continue to be successful as Thomas Jefferson students roll up their sleeves and donate their precious lifeblood.

Fifty-five pints of blood were donated during the Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 blood drives.

The spring blood drive, held one day before Valentine’s Day was called “Give Blood, Get Loved,” and featured Valentine’s gift bags and a drawing for gift certificates for dinner and flowers.

“I’m pleased that TJSL students have taken the initiative to help the community, the Red Cross and to save lives,” said the SBA’s Nichole Denton, the co-chair of the Blood Drives. “I’m really proud of our students.”



*Student Alex Schulz donates blood*



SUMMER 2006—SPRING 2007  
EXTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS

20th Century Fox Entertainment  
2nd Chair Services (Jury Consulting)  
ACCESS, Inc.  
Aguirre Law Group  
Air Force JAG (Luke Air Force Base)  
Allen Barron  
Alternate Public Defender  
Alternate Public Defender (Juvenile Division)  
Alternate Public Defender (Criminal Division)  
Alverson, Taylor, Mortensen & Sanders (Las Vegas, NV)  
Appellate Defenders, Inc.  
Arnold Schwarzenegger’s Re-election Campaign  
Avatar Legal  
Bankers Hill Law Firm (Litigation and Worker’s Comp)  
Berman and Riedel, LLP  
Beverly Hills Sports Council  
Blazier, Christensen, Bigelow and Virr (Austin, TX)  
Bremer, Whyte, Brown & O’Meara (Newport Beach, CA)  
Bronx County District Attorney (NY)  
Brownwood, Chazen & Cannon  
California Attorney General, Criminal Division,  
Department of Writs, Trials and Appeals  
California Attorney General’s Office, Correctional Law Division  
California Innocence Project  
Casa Cornelia Law Center (Immigration)  
Casas Law Group, P.C.  
Catalyst Law Group  
Catholic Charities  
CE Smith (Corporate Litigation)  
Centro Nicaragense de Derechos Humanos (Nicaragua)  
Children’s Law Center (Los Angeles, CA)  
Clark County Superior Court (Las Vegas, NV)  
Colorado Secretary of State’s Office, Elections/HAVA Division  
Commercial Real Estate Association of San Diego  
Compliant Company  
Cordoba Agency of Natural Resources  
Daley & Heft  
Department of the Navy  
Deputy Navy Inspector General  
for U.S. Naval Surface Forces Pacific  
Disability Rights Legal Center  
District Judge Dana Sabraw, U.S. District Court  
Doane, Levinson & Liljegren (Personal Injury)  
Don Buchwald & Associates  
Douglas E. Barnhart, Inc.  
Edmunds D. Edelman Children’s Court  
Equal Employment Opportunities Commission  
Elder Law & Advocacy  
Elmore Patent Law Group  
Employee Rights Center  
Employee Rights Law Group (Fairfax, VA)  
Encore Sports & Entertainment  
Enforcement Section (San Francisco, CA)  
ESPN’s “Jim Rome is Burning” show and “ESPY Awards”  
(Hollywood, CA)  
ESRI (Redlands, CA)  
Family Law Facilitator

Fay & Lawler  
(Estate Planning, Trusts, Probate, Elder law, Taxation)  
Federal Defender  
Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Lowey  
(International Immigration Law Firm)  
Getz & Associates  
Grimes & Warwick (Criminal Defense)  
Haglund Law Group  
Hasenstab & Associates  
Heugly & Heugly (Utah)  
Hoeflinger & Jordan (Denver, CO)  
Hon. Patrick McGrath, Rensselaer County Court (Troy, NY)  
Housing Rights Center (Los Angeles, CA)  
Iler & Iler (Personal Injury)  
Independent Film & Television Alliance (Entertainment)  
Invitrogen (Bio Tech)  
IT&E International  
Judge Jennifer Togliatti, Eighth Judicial District Court  
(Las Vegas, NV)  
Judge Michael Salvador,  
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
Judge Ronald Domnitz, San Diego Superior Court  
Justice W. Scott Bales, Arizona Supreme Court (Phoenix, AZ)  
Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear (Intellectual Property)  
Lassen County District Attorney’s Office (Susanville, CA)  
Law Office of A. Stephen Rocha  
Law Office of Benjamin Sanchez (Litigation)  
Law Office of Brian Burkett (Litigation)  
Law Office of Bruce Wilson  
Law Office of Chad Engbrecht (Corporate/Transactional)  
Law Office of Dugan & Rader (Family Law)  
Law Office of Ellis Rubin  
Law Office of Erwin Bautista (Immigration)  
Law Office of Gary Quackenbush (Tax)  
Law Office of Gittel Gordon  
Law Office of James Bentson (Litigation/Real estate)  
Law Office of Jane Conners (Litigation/Appellate)  
Law Office of John F. Anderson  
Law Office of Kane Handel (Litigation/Estate Planning)  
Law Office of Laurie Clark Viviano  
Law Office of Linda Cuny-Smith (Litigation/Estate Planning)  
Law Office of Linda Pollack  
Law Office of Lisa Kay Baughman  
Law Office of Mark-Robert Bluemel (Criminal Defense)  
Law Office of Maxwell Agha  
Law Office of Michelle Hasenstab  
Law Office of Neil Emory (Immigration)  
Law Office of Patrick Hennessey (Litigation)  
Law Office of Raymond Contreras (Real Estate/Property)  
Law Office of Robert A. Waller, Jr.  
Law Office of Rodney T. Herring  
Law Office of Ruben Arizmendi (Immigration/Litigation)  
Law Office of William Burgener  
Law Office of William Matthews (Litigation/Personal Injury)  
Law Offices of Beatrice L. Snider  
Law Offices of Craig A. Sherman  
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Thomas Jefferson students  
learn practical skills in  
the classroom, which they  
can put to use as externs  
in the public and private  
sectors while earning  
academic credit.

Law Offices of Mele & Ros, APC  
Law Offices of Michael A. Feldman  
Law Offices of Richard G. Freed  
Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia  
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Liberty Lawyers  
Los Angeles Public Defender’s Office  
Louie Stettler & Liebherr  
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McCarthy & Holthus, LLP  
Mediator, Small Claims Court  
Mirowski & Associates  
Moore, Lewis, Schulman & Moore  
Multiple Conflicts Office, County of San Diego  
Naumann, Levine & Silldorf, LLP  
Navy JAG  
Neil, Dymott, Frank, Harrison & McFall  
New Line Cinema (Entertainment)  
NuVasive  
Office of Independent Review (Commerce, CA)  
Office of the Attorney General (Las Vegas, NV)  
Office of the Presiding Judge, Superior Court of California,  
Los Angeles County  
Office of the Public Defender (Santa Cruz, CA)  
Orange County Public Defender’s Office  
Parker McMakin Law Group (Richmond, VA)  
Phillips and Pelly  
Planned Parenthood of San Diego and Riverside Counties  
Presiding Judge, Yuma County Superior Court (Yuma, AZ)  
Protection & Advocacy, Inc. San Diego  
Protection & Advocacy, Inc. Los Angeles  
Racial Disparities Project at the Defender’s Association  
(Seattle, WA)  
Roanoke Public Defender  
Rowe, Allen & Mullen, LLP  
Sacramento District Attorney’s Office  
San Diego City Attorney’s Office (Civil Division)  
San Diego City Attorney’s Office (Consumer Protection)  
San Diego City Attorney’s Office (Criminal Appeals)  
San Diego City Attorney’s Office (Criminal Division)  
San Diego City Attorney’s Office (Domestic Violence)  
San Diego Coastkeeper  
San Diego District Attorney (Dead Case Division)  
San Diego District Attorney (Gang Prosecution)

San Diego District Attorney’s Office (Criminal Division)  
San Diego District Attorney’s Office (Cold Case Homicide)  
San Diego Film Festival  
San Diego Gulls (Sports)  
San Diego Public Defender, Main Office  
San Diego Public Defender, North County Office  
San Diego Superior Court  
San Diego Unified School District, General Counsel  
San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program  
San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Domestic Violence Clinic  
San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Immigration Program  
Sempra Energy  
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Sony Online Entertainment  
State of California, Department of Social Services  
Steigerwalt & Associates  
Stephenson Worley Garratt Schwartz Garfield & Prairie  
Strategic Real Estate Services  
Superior Court of Arizona, Maricopa County (Phoenix, AZ)  
The Kennedy Law Firm  
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Thomas & Associates  
Thorsnes Bartolotta McGuire  
Tiffany & Bosco (Phoenix, AZ)  
U.S. Army JAG (Kaiserslautern, Germany)  
U.S. Attorney’s Office (Milwaukee, WI)  
U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental and  
Natural Resources Division, Environmental  
U.S. Department of State (the Middle East)  
U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs  
in the Office of Iraqi Politics  
U.S. Department of State, Office of Civil Rights (Washington, DC)  
U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission  
U.S. Magistrate Judge Leo Papas, U.S. District Court  
U.S. Magistrate Judge Ruben Brooks, U.S. District Court  
U.S. Marine Corps JAG (MCAS Miramar)  
U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission  
(Denver, CO)  
United Auburn Indian Community (Sacramento, CA)  
Voices for Children  
Ward & Thorn  
Whatcom County Public Defender’s Office (Bellingham, WA)  
YWCA Domestic Violence Legal Clinic





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*Frank R. Mead '00,  
Shareholder,  
Tiffany & Bosco, P.A.,  
Phoenix, Arizona 62*

## Why I Stay Connected *by Frank Mead '00*

"I decided to attend Thomas Jefferson School of Law because of the school's talented professors who are truly excited about teaching the law. I felt electricity in the air when I visited the campus that I did not sense at other law schools. The professors, administrators and staff work hard to produce lawyers who are prepared to practice law after graduation. I'm proud of my legal education and the relationships that I forged at Thomas Jefferson.

I decided to stay active as an alumnus at Thomas Jefferson because of the leadership and the vision for the school's future. Our present Dean and the administration remain committed to continuously improving the educational experience that students at Thomas Jefferson receive. This includes an emphasis on practical skills that a new lawyer needs to succeed in the fast-paced legal world. As a result of these efforts, Thomas Jefferson produces lawyers that have the academic and practical foundations to hit the ground running after graduation. This is one of the reasons why the Arizona law firm for which I work interviews and hires summer associates and associates from Thomas Jefferson.

Finally, any organization—whether it's a corporation, small business, law firm or law school—is defined by the people who work there. Thomas Jefferson is unique in that it has assembled a dedicated group of law professors, administrators and staff who deeply care about educating and preparing students to have the confidence to practice law. Whether you're a 1L working with the Career Services staff to formulate a plan for landing your first internship, a 2L working with Student Services on an important club or student government issue or a 3L preparing for graduation and your first job, the people who make up Thomas Jefferson School of Law are dedicated to the success of each law student.

Thomas Jefferson is a special place. That's why I've stayed connected as an alumnus by participating in alumni events and mentoring law students. I strongly encourage prospective students to visit the school and meet the people who make it such a special place to learn the law."

# Make a Gift – Invest in the Future

Tuition and fees do not cover the costs of providing quality education that is both innovative and accessible. Meeting that goal requires investors who are committed to education and who want to see their dollars have the most impact.

Your gift will allow us to:

- Provide cutting-edge programs that reflect today's global society
- Expand educational opportunities by providing more scholarships
- Fund special projects
- Attract and retain the finest faculty

Whatever your stage of life, there are ways to contribute. Please choose one that is meaningful to you.

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**Thomas Jefferson School of Law  
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2121 San Diego Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92110**

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To make an online gift by credit card please go to <https://alumni.tjsl.edu/efr/index.asp>

### PLANNED GIVING

Legacy gifts are a wonderful opportunity to invest in the future. You can influence the quality of education and shape our future leaders. If you wish to discuss options that suit your needs please contact [kgoyette@tjsl.edu](mailto:kgoyette@tjsl.edu).

### MATCHING GIFTS

You may qualify to have your gift matched by your firm or company. If this applies, please enclose the appropriate forms from your employer with your gift to the school.

## Donor Recognition Levels

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## IRA Charitable Rollover Your window of opportunity closes December 31, 2007

The Pension Protection Act is a unique tax incentive. It allows individuals 70½ years of age or older to transfer gifts directly from their IRA accounts to a charitable institution without having to recognize the assets as income.

Whether you give the maximum of \$100,000 or any other amount, we urge you to seize this tax saving opportunity and benefit Thomas Jefferson School of Law.

For additional information, contact Karen Goyette in the Development and Alumni Relations Office at 619-297-9700 x1491 or by email at [kgoyette@tjsl.edu](mailto:kgoyette@tjsl.edu).





## Next Issue:

- Plans for a New Downtown Campus
- Our New Graduate Law Program
- TJSL's Criminal Defense Attorneys

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