

Calendar of Events

October 2005

- 17** Inaugural Raynes McCarty Distinguished Lecture in Health Law, "After the Medical Malpractice Crisis," The Union League, Philadelphia (CLE credit offered)

November 2005

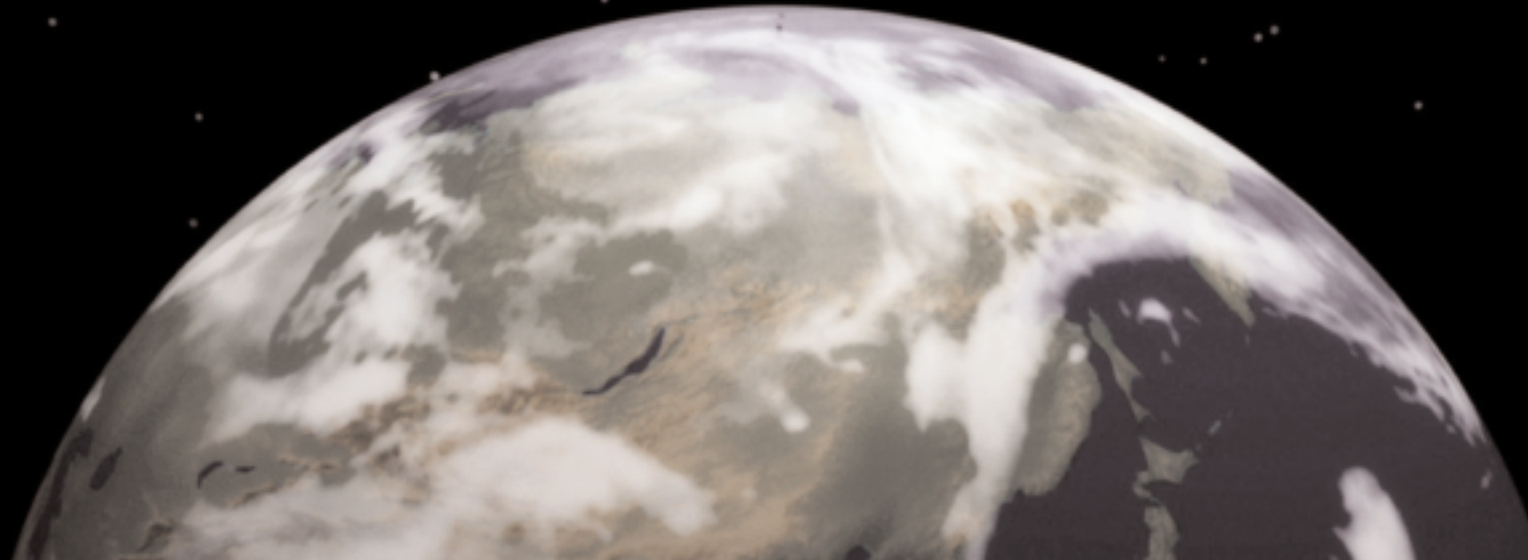
- 9** Delaware County Alumni Luncheon, D'Ignazio's Towne House, Media, Pennsylvania

March 2006

- 25** Philadelphia Alumni Reception, Ritz-Carlton, Philadelphia
- TBA** Long-Term Care Conference, "Regulation and Risk Reduction in Long Term Care Facilities," Health Law Institute, Delaware Campus (CLE credit offered)

April 2006

- 5** Harrisburg Alumni Reception
- 7 & 8** Widener Law Review International Law Symposium, "Envisioning a More Democratic Global System," Delaware Campus (CLE credit offered)



Widener University School of Law
4601 Concord Pike
P.O. Box 7474
Wilmington, DE 19803-0474

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Widener University SCHOOL OF LAW

A MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS • Volume 12 • Number 2 • Fall 2005



**Environmental Law at Widener:
From the Local to the Global**

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



It is my pleasure to introduce this issue of the School of Law Magazine. As you may know, Douglas E. Ray stepped down recently as dean. Our search for a new dean began last spring and will likely be concluded within the next few months. In the meantime, I am honored to be serving as the School of Law's acting dean.

While another article in this issue highlights some of Doug's achievements, I would like to add my own observation. Beyond his intelligence, dedication to legal education, and vision for the law school, three character traits help explain why Doug's deanship was so successful: his personal integrity, his innate sense of fairness, and his modest and calm

demeanor. Doug never let his ego get in the way of moving the school forward, and he invariably deflected attention away from his own achievements toward those of our faculty and students, of whom Doug was—and is—so proud.

One of the advantages of being a large, two-campus law school is the ability to excel in a variety of areas simultaneously. This issue of the magazine focuses on one of those areas, environmental law. Our environmental law program is one of Widener's great strengths. It is also among the best in the nation.

As several articles in this issue demonstrate, the talent and depth of Widener's environmental law faculty is phenomenal. Five members of the fulltime faculty—David Hodas, Jim May, John Dernbach, Serena Williams, and Ken Kristl—write and teach primarily in the environmental area, and several more, including Jean Eggen, John Nivala, Roberta Mann, and Andy Strauss, are active in the field as well. Professor Dernbach, an internationally known leader of the movement for sustainable development, is currently on a public service leave directing the Office of Policy at Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection. Over the years, our faculty and our students have made substantial and important contributions to environmental law scholarship.

Widener's leadership in environmental law is practical as well as academic. Several of our faculty members hold key leadership positions within the environmental law sections of the ABA and other bar organizations and in a variety of environmental advocacy groups. Perhaps most important, our Environmental Law and Natural Resources Clinic fulfills a dual mission of providing our students with invaluable hands-on training in environmental litigation while offering pro bono legal services to environmental and community organizations seeking more effective enforcement of the nation's environmental laws. The clinic works closely with the Mid-Atlantic Environmental Law Center, a public interest law firm housed on our Delaware Campus. Not surprisingly, many of our graduates have embarked on careers in environmental law, and a few of them are highlighted in this issue as well.

This issue also carries our Honor Roll of individuals who have given generously to the law school. To our donors and volunteers, a sincere thank you for enhancing the education of our students.

Michael J. Goldberg
Acting Dean



THE WIDENER LAW FUND

Celebrating
Accomplishments...
Imagining Possibilities



Since its humble beginning in 1971 and the graduation of its first class in 1975, the Widener University School of Law has made remarkable strides. Having started out with modest facilities and borrowed library books, it has grown into a top-notch institution with many impressive accomplishments. Highlights from the 2004–2005 academic year include:

- student teams taking top honors in two national moot court competitions, with one student winning the best oral advocate award.
- the launch of the school's Public Interest Resource Center, offering students opportunities to volunteer legal services to those in need.
- the election of a Widener law student (the third in the school's short history) as chair of the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association.
- the designation of the school as the East Coast Center for the prestigious National Judicial College.

Please help keep the momentum going and make a gift to the Widener Law Fund to ensure even more progress for the future! Your contribution will help enhance student programs, support clinics, expand financial aid, improve library resources and services, and allow the school to attract and retain world-class faculty.

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302-477-2172

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Widener University School of Law

Office of Development

P.O. Box 7474

Wilmington, DE 19803-0474



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School of Law

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University Relations

Executive Editor

Lou Anne Bulik
Assistant Vice President
for University Relations

Managing Editor/Writer

Judith Van Dongen

Contributing Writers

Mary Allen, Jules Epstein,
Russell Hakes, Ken Kristl, James May,
Loren Prescott, Carolyn Steigleman,
Serena Williams

Photography

Mary Allen, Mary Berger,
Davor Photography, Bill Dennison,
Ted Kostans, Judith Van Dongen

Design

Dominic Gazzara

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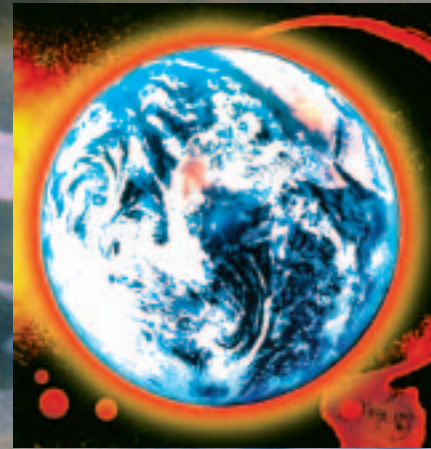
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Global Warming: a Hot Topic at Widener



By Mary Allen

It's things like those sweltering summer temperatures that send Americans heading indoors to malls, libraries, and movie theatres that have John Dernbach concerned. Triple-digit heat indexes in July and August are destined to repeat annually if Americans—and people around the world—don't change the way they live. Dernbach, an environmental law professor on the Harrisburg Campus who is currently on leave directing the policy office at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), has some innovative ideas that combat the myths associated with solutions for global warming.

Dernbach's approach is indicative of the progressive thinking coming out of Widener Law on environmental issues of international proportions. While Dernbach involved law students in an exercise that generated economy-friendly tools for cutting greenhouse gas emissions—which led to an *Environmental Law Reporter* article that turned heads in Washington, DC—international law professor Andrew Strauss sparked a worldwide debate with his idea that nations could be held accountable for their polluting ways in an international court of law. "It's impressive to see the important contributions our talented faculty and students are making on the serious environmental issue of climate change," Acting Dean Michael Goldberg said. "Widener Law School has a voice on this global stage at a time when innovative ideas are vital to our future."

"As you warm the atmosphere, you warm the ocean. As you warm the ocean, water in the ocean expands; hence, sea level rises."

The stakes are high. Carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere when we burn fossil fuels, such as coal and gasoline, and its concentration has been increasing for decades. The higher the concentration, the more of the sun's heat gets trapped on earth instead of radiating out into space, according to Dernbach. The result is an increasing average surface temperature. "As you warm the atmosphere, you warm the ocean. As you warm the ocean, water in the ocean expands; hence, sea level rises," Dernbach said. That can be catastrophic for low-level

islands and detrimental for any coastal area. Climate change also affects agriculture, forestry, the availability of water, and public health—particularly for the poor. "This is not abstract. The risks are real," Dernbach said.

Seizing the Opportunity to Act

As with any high-stakes matter, politics are involved. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change gathered in 1997 in Kyoto, Japan, and generated an international agreement to cut greenhouse gas emissions, known as the Kyoto Protocol. It called for the United States to reduce emissions by seven percent below 1990 levels before 2012. The Bush administration has refused to ratify the protocol, citing concerns about their economic costs.

Bush's lack of support has turned into a real opportunity for states. "One of the things the states see is that if they don't act, they're going to be damaged," Dernbach said, pointing to places like New Jersey and Massachusetts that are especially concerned about their coastlines. Dernbach has been working on energy issues in his post with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. In a state where scientific evidence shows average surface temperatures will increase between 4 and 10 degrees by 2100, he is working to meet a new legislative requirement that commits Pennsylvania to increasing production from its alternative energy sources.

He also took part in a March 2004 symposium "Facing Climate Change: Tools and Opportunities for Pennsylvania," held at the School of Law's Harrisburg Campus. A distinguished panel of speakers and commentators discussed legal and policy tools for dealing with climate change at the state level. Kathleen McGinty, secretary of the Pennsylvania

Department of Environmental Protection, gave the keynote address.

As part of its novel approach to the subject of climate change, Widener has also looked to its students for solutions. An assignment in a 2000 global warming seminar on the Harrisburg Campus led to "Moving the climate change debate from models to proposed legislation: Lessons from state experience," an article published in the *Environmental Law Reporter* that credits the work of 12 of Dernbach's students.

Each student was required to write about a legal tool being used at the state level that was helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Ideas that surfaced included planning and siting



Dernbach has continued to teach on an abbreviated schedule during his time at DEP.

preferences for renewable energy facilities, carbon dioxide limits for new power plants, tax credits, customer choice of electricity providers, and building codes requiring energy efficiency. The students' findings demonstrated that benefits weren't just limited to greenhouse gas reductions. The ideas also led to job creation and technological development and saved money for businesses and people who spent less on energy.

The article contradicted the notion that earth-friendly policies come at great cost to the economy, and was noticed in Washington and beyond. "After the article was published we began to see, for the first time, comprehensive legislation on climate change being proposed and discussed at the national level," Dernbach said.

"It certainly caught my attention," said David Gardiner, an independent environmental consultant who was directing a climate change task force for the Clinton administration when the article was released. The Widener-produced piece was the first he had seen identifying a comprehensive set of tools that could be used to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. "That was groundbreaking in a sense that nobody had laid that out for a lot of people," Gardiner said. "There was an alternative path. There were many we could pursue. That was significant."

Holding Nations Accountable

Following the Bush administration's refusal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, two U.S. senators sponsored the Climate Stewardship Act, a bill that would require carbon dioxide emissions reductions to 2000 levels by 2010. Currently pending before the U.S. Senate, the legislation



will be brought to a vote later this year, according to the senators, John McCain, R-Arizona, and Joe Lieberman, D-Connecticut.

If the United States doesn't get moving to cut its greenhouse gases, the country could be called to answer for its environmental impact in an international court of law, says Professor Andrew Strauss. His idea that countries could be held legally accountable on an international level for contributing disproportionately to the global warming problem has gotten considerable attention since he delivered it in a paper in London during the summer of 2001. His paper, commissioned by the New Economics Foundation, explored different ways to bring litigation in international forums to deal with global warming. Radio and television interviews with Strauss followed in the United States and overseas including broadcasts on CNN and the BBC. Later that year, the *New York Times Magazine* devoted a story to Strauss and the topic as part of its "Year in Ideas" coverage. Articles have also appeared in many international publications, including the *International Herald Tribune*, the *Guardian*, and the *Financial Times*. Strauss authored the *Financial Times* piece with Andrew Simms of the New Economics Foundation.

There are few basic principles in law, but if someone does harm to a person, two things should happen, Simms and Strauss wrote in 2002. First, the wrongdoer should stop the offensive conduct, and second, the wrongdoer should compensate for harm done. Under this principle, any country pumping more than its fair share of pollution into the atmosphere could eventually be challenged, they maintained.

Strauss, who further laid out his ideas on global warming litigation in the March 2003 issue of the *Environmental Law Reporter*, has started something of a movement, with several international legal actions now being considered. According to Strauss, litigation could come in several ways. A country might find itself brought before the legal arm of the United Nations, or the dispute resolution mechanism of the World Trade Organization could be called into action. While the legal maneuverings would be complex and unprecedented, concerns are real on the part of small South Pacific nations like Tuvalu, which is in danger of being washed away by rising sea levels, Strauss said.

The news section of the Tuvalu Islands official Web site includes a piece that explains that the nine-island archipelago is the earth's first sover-



Strauss teaches on the Delaware Campus, but travels the world speaking on and studying matters of international law and international environmental law.

eign nation faced with becoming totally uninhabitable due to global warming-related flooding within the next 50 years. Its 11,000 citizens are thus threatened with becoming the planet's first entire nation of environmental refugees. Said Strauss, "Tuvalu is only the tip of the iceberg. The global warming problem threatens to be the most serious environmental

If the United States doesn't get moving to cut greenhouse gasses, the country could be called to answer for its environmental impact in an international court of law.

problem in history. There is no doubt that at least part of the pressure for policy changes, as well as the determination of who should bear liability, will come from courts both domestically and internationally."

Eye on the Future

As the debate continues about what is best for the environment, economies, and people worldwide, Widener Law School will be on the forefront of important ideas. "Our people have demonstrated that they care deeply about this global problem and are working hard to help find solutions for a better world," Goldberg said. To Dernbach, a father of two, there is a personal responsibility to the work, too. "You have to pay attention to the kind of world your kids are going to be living in," he said. **W**

Protecting the World's Flora and Fauna

By Carolyn Steigleman



In a rain forest straddling the South American countries of Amazonia and Caribia dwell a group of people known as the Guahibo. The sanctity and preservation of these indigenous people and their habitat is being threatened by economic development in areas of Amazonia.

The priority for the Amazonian government is alleviating the population pressures in eastern cities and capitalizing on the discovery of gold and tin in the area. The priority for the Caribian government, however, is conserving the rain forest and the rich culture of the Guahibo. Seeing a threat to the biodiversity of the area, the Caribian government petitions Amazonia to cease the economic and development projects threatening the Guahibo and their environment. Is the Amazonian government right to alter the environment to meet economic and population demands, or is the Caribian government right to conserve existing resources at the expense of development?

Widener law professor Andrew Strauss and his coauthors, Burns Weston, Richard Falk, and Hilary Charlesworth, have created this fic-

tional world to explore the real-world threats to biodiversity in the Amazon and elsewhere in the forthcoming fourth edition of their West casebook, *International Law and World Order*.

The term biodiversity is used to describe the variety of life as it exists on earth. It includes the earth's plants, animals, and microorganisms—all contributing to the ecological processes that occur every day in our world. The loss to biodiversity is a result of human population growth and increasing resource demand. Similar to other species, we rely on natural resources to survive. However, humans are far more destructive to other life forms than any other species previously known.

Strauss and his colleagues hope to connect students to the environmental implications and possible legal resolutions of this issue through different scenarios in their casebook. "We have organized our chapters around hypothetical problems to help students learn to apply the law in a real-world context," says Strauss, who spent time as a Fulbright Scholar studying Amazonian tribes in the early 1980s. "What I observed during

my time in the Amazon almost exactly tracks the Guahibo facts as we present them in the casebook."

During the time Strauss spent in the Amazon, the world's largest area of continuous tropical rain forest, companies had discovered oil in the area and funded a pipeline and an accompanying road. The road allowed for landless peasants to resettle and began a process of economic development that had a devastating effect on both the local environment and the native peoples who had lived in the region for millennia.

The threat to biodiversity is not isolated to the Amazonian rain forest. Similar to the Amazon rainforest, Kenya is experiencing a population explosion that is threatening its biodiversity. To a smaller extent, poaching, too, forms a threat to biodiversity in this region. During their stay in Kenya, the students explored the threats to biodiversity in that region through a program that combines classroom learning with safaris and other cultural experiences designed to coincide with course material.

Widener University's Summer International Law Institute in Nairobi, Kenya's capital, has offered students this academic and cultural learning experience since 1988. Nairobi is the world headquarters for the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the regional headquarters for the World Bank and the United Nations Development Program. Students visit these organizations and discover how their legal discussions in the classroom are carried out on an international level.

Professor Patrick Kelly, director of the Nairobi program, is responsible for the School of Law's unique partnership with the University of Nairobi. "I wanted to start the program because I had a similar experience when I was in law school that

changed my life," he says. "I joined the Harvard Africa Volunteer Project in Kenya and taught at the University of Nairobi. I fell in love with Kenya, made many friends, and have been returning ever since."

While in Kenya, students visited the Masai Mara National Reserve in Nairobi, where they walked among giraffe, antelope, gazelle, wildebeest, and other wildlife. "Both the variation among species and sheer number of animals grazing the Mara's Serengeti Plains is jaw dropping," said Brent Vasher, a second-year Widener law student who took part in the Nairobi program last summer.



Students in Widener's Nairobi program witnessed the annual migration of the zebra and wildebeest.

Students explored the role of the legal system in protecting the environment in three classes they took over a seven-week period: International Environmental Law and Trade, International Intellectual Property, and Comparative Constitutional Law. Specific to Kenya, students explored the role of law enforcement as it relates to poachers and prudent land use planning.

While the students at the Nairobi Institute were learning about their environment, Widener law professor David Hodas was across the Indian Ocean in Australia at a conference on biodiversity conservation. The one-week conference was sponsored by the IUCN or World Conservation Union and brought together environmental law researchers from more than 45 countries. Widener University is among a group of the IUCN's founding university members.

Hodas presented his paper on biodiversity and climate change laws to conference attendees and hopes to incorporate material from his fellow attendees' presentations in his classroom teachings this semester. "We collaborated on how to improve existing environmental laws and help developing countries work to establish laws to preserve their ecosystems," said Hodas.

Australia is also the home to another Widener Summer International Law Institute, in Sydney. Professor James May, who has taught there several times, has led student trips to the Great Barrier Reef to study the effects of global climate change, and to Blue Mountains National Forest, locale of some of the world's oldest temperate woody plants. Students have also taken field trips to the Top End in Darwin, to learn about some of the oldest and unique ecosystems in the world. May, who headed Widener's Environmental Resources Law Clinic for 12 years, has litigated a dozen cases to save threatened and endangered species in the Mid-Atlantic region, Florida, and Puerto Rico, and speaks frequently to national audiences about biodiversity issues. ■

Exploring the Complexities of Environmental Justice

By Serena Williams

“Why don’t they just leave?”

That was the question a student asked after viewing a film on the struggle of residents to rid their Chester, Pennsylvania, neighborhood of waste processing facilities. The documentary, “Laid to Waste,” was shown as part of the Environmental Justice Seminar, a course that is among Widener’s environmental law offerings. Through film, role simulation exercises, neighborhood observations, research papers, and case studies, law students explore the concept of environmental justice, a key development in environmental law over the last 20 years.

Environmental justice examines, questions, and challenges policies and practices that can result in negative environmental impacts on communities populated by people of color and by the poor. Initially, the term was associated with protests by communities of color fighting against the siting of landfills, hazardous waste facilities, and industrial plants in their neighborhoods, a movement drawing on the principles of both environmental law and civil rights law. The concept has since expanded to encompass other concerns, including the unequal enforcement of environmental laws, the inequitable distribution of environmental amenities (beach access, parks, open green space), and the composition of—and policy positions taken by—traditional conservation groups.

Chester—the community portrayed in the documentary viewed during the Environmental Justice Seminar—is only a short distance from the School of Law’s Delaware Campus. Home to several toxic and hazardous waste treatment facilities, Chester is typical



asked that crucial question, “Why don’t they just leave?”

The student’s question generated discussion of a wide range of issues impacting environmental justice, many of which were not readily identifiable as relating to environmental law: the availability of affordable housing, the zoning process, the selection of public transportation routes, employment rates, the presence of playgrounds and parks, community aesthetics, and moving and relocation costs. The question inadvertently encapsulated the complexities of environmental justice, described by one environmental law professor as a “political movement, a social phenomenon, and a legal quagmire.” Underlying the question are conflicting viewpoints about

whether environmental disparities even exist and, if they do, what causes underlie the existence of these disparities and who is responsible for correcting them.

Environmental justice has reshaped thinking about environmental law by asking two key questions of the traditional environmental law framework: who bears the burden, and who reaps the benefit of current environmental law, policy, and practice? By studying environmental justice, students learn not only that the answer to the question, “Why don’t they just leave?” is not a simple one, but also that there are a host of questions still left to be asked. **W**

Professor Serena M. Williams teaches a seminar on environmental justice. She served as a commissioner on the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission and as a member of the Kentucky Institute for the Environment and Sustainable Development.

of many areas struggling with environmental justice issues: it is a community of color and low-income households. Chester residents have used numerous strategies in their fight for environmental justice. They have formed grass-roots organizations, written letters to governmental decision makers, made phone calls, and publicized their plight in the media. In at least one instance, they turned to the courts for relief from their environmental ills, pursuing legal action against the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

While viewing the documentary on the Chester residents’ fight, students were stunned by the heavy truck traffic that the residents experienced daily. Upon hearing the noise and seeing the pollution and vibrations from the numerous, heavily loaded dump trucks passing by homes where children were playing and residents were attempting to enjoy an evening on their front porch, one student

Clinic Provides Environmental Defense, Legal Training

By Kenneth Kristl

Small things can have big consequences. Take the Florida scrub jay, a foot-long, blue-and-white bird that has seen its population decline severely as rampant human development has decimated its habitat, Florida’s oak scrub. To save the population from further decline, the Turtle Coast Sierra Club and the Florida Native Plant Society filed a petition with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to change the bird’s designation from a threatened to an endangered species. Despite a mandated 90-day response period, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service did not respond for more than two years. Helped by Widener’s Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic, the petitioners filed suit, and for the Florida scrub jay, the result is hope—a court order requires the agency to review the petition, with a decision due this coming January. For clinic students working on this case, the outcome was an invaluable experience practicing law.

With its partner, the Mid-Atlantic Environmental Law Center (MAELC), the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic provides hands-on learning for Widener law students while defending the environment from Maine to Puerto Rico. Now in its 17th year of operation, the clinic’s focus is first and foremost on the students. Working on actual cases, clinic students practice the very legal skills they will use after they graduate—conducting factual investigations; drafting legal notices, complaints, discovery, and motions; interacting with clients, and formulating case strategy.

Clinic students consistently describe their year-long internship as one of the best experiences they had in law school. “It made me really enthusiastic



Left to right, students Jason Marmon and Carrie Smith work on clean water issues for the environmental law clinic with professors James May and Ken Kristl.

about the law,” said Jennifer Murphy ’02, who—as a staff attorney for MAELC—has continued her involvement with the clinic. It really solidified my choice to become a lawyer.”

The clinic and MAELC jointly handle cases that fall under a variety of environmental statutes, the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and state environmental laws. Some of these cases present the students and supervising attorneys with intellectually challenging issues that are so new or unique that they work on a blank slate, formulating arguments that have never been made before. For example, when BP sought permission under Delaware’s Coastal Zone Act to build a liquefied natural gas terminal on the New Jersey shore of the Delaware River—which is considered part of the state of Delaware—little direct precedent existed. Undaunted, clinic students helped formulate a successful argument to bar the facility by applying recognized principles of statutory construction to the act, thereby placing the terminal squarely within the act’s prohibitions.

The clinic also works to educate the public. Under Murphy’s direction,

clinic students helped develop a MAELC educational program on Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), government-issued limits on the amount of a particular pollutant in a specific water body, and helped present it to more than 20 local groups. The program is to educate groups so they can interpret and comment on TMDLs and get involved in the process of creating and adjusting them.

Like Murphy, other former clinic students remained connected to the clinic long after graduation. Along with Wendy Leary ’98, Albert Greto ’97 serves on the MAELC Board. He provided vital support in the clinic’s appeal of a state permit to dredge Delaware’s Assawoman Canal to make it accessible for power boats. With the help of alumni and the enthusiastic involvement of Widener students, the clinic and MAELC will be forces for environmental good for a long time to come. **W**

Associate Professor Kenneth T. Kristl is the director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic. He also serves on the board of directors of the Mid-Atlantic Environmental Law Center.

BUILDING A CAREER IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

By Judith Van Dongen

It has been only six years since the world's population passed the six-billion mark and we're well on our way to the seven-billion mark, which is projected for 2014. With this rapid growth has come an increasing awareness of the impact of human development on the environment. This is where environmental lawyers come into play. Environmental law helps to mediate among competing interests. If designed wisely and implemented effectively, environmental law can promote a sustainable society that offers economic prosperity, environmental protection, and social equity.

Environmental lawyers are critical players in this enormous project. They draft statutes and regulations and represent the vast array of actors who implement them and are regulated by them. Whether in private practice, in government, in public interest settings, or as in-house lawyers for corporations, environmental lawyers provide the skills and knowledge to help their clients, their communities, the nation, and the world achieve an environmentally friendly, sustainable society.

Those in government help their agencies develop policy, draft legislation, promulgate and enforce regulations, and prosecute and defend agency actions in courts and before government agencies. Those in the nonprofit sector often represent public interest groups, sometimes prodding the government for more aggressive enforcement, sometimes taking on an enforcement role themselves. And those in private practice and corporate positions assist their clients in preparing and filing for licenses and applications for approval



Jennifer Murphy '02 (above left) recommends that students who want to pursue environmental law gain administrative law clerking experience.

before certain activities may occur and represent clients' interests as administrative lawyers, litigators, and lobbyists.

In many respects, environmental law careers are fairly comparable to other aspects of legal practice. In terms of compensation, explained Assistant Dean Lea Nora Ruffin, director of the law school's career development office, "You have to look at it in terms of where you practice environmental law. If you are doing public interest work, then that will place you in a public interest salary range. If you're in the private sector, the possibilities run the full gamut of private sector salaries."

For the majority of those working in the nonprofit and government sectors, though, their passion for the environment—not salary—is their main motive. "It's hard to put words on working to protect special places and magnificent resources around the country," said Blaine Phillips '94, who works as the Delaware director for the Conservation Fund. "There are sacrifices that you make by signing up for a nonprofit career, but—at least in my mind—the rewards far outweigh those," he added. Gary Hepford '97, an assistant council for the south central regional office of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, and Jennifer Murphy '02, a staff attorney at the Mid-Atlantic Environmental Law Center, based on the law school's Delaware Campus, both agree, feeling that they are "always on the right side of the issue." Lesley Schaaff '93, who works for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), specifically likes working for the government because she gets to walk a middle ground. "We protect

the environment, but we also try to balance the interests of industry in terms of the costs and benefits of regulations. I find that very satisfying," said Schaaff, the director of the Regulatory Analysis and Policy Division in the EPA's Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation.

Murphy also enjoys working in environmental law for another reason as well. "It's usually a very collegial environment where a lot of things are done and actually settled before you go to trial or get very far in a case. There is a lot of respect among the sectors for each other. I don't necessarily think that's true of other disciplines." As far as drawbacks to pursuing an environmental law career, recent graduate Toni Flora '04 mentioned the relative scarcity of positions in the Harrisburg area, where she lives. She indicated that this is due partly to the nature of this field of law. "I think the people are very passionate about what they do. Once they get in an environmental position, they don't leave," she said. However, the limited offering of hometown jobs did not hold her back from pursuing an environmental law career. As the program manager for the Harrisburg office of the Clean Air Council, doing outreach, advocacy, and education relating to environmental issues, she feels fortunate to be in a position where she can "help promote the cause and get information out to people who would not otherwise get it."

For students seeking careers in environmental law, Widener alumni offer three tips. First, get as much specialized knowledge as you can. Gary Hepford, who was an engineer before embarking on his legal career, explained, "In environmental law—

probably more than in other areas of law—the technical issues dovetail with the legal issues." The fact that administrative law is now a required course at Widener also helps, because so much of environmental law is a specialized form of administrative law. For this reason, according to Murphy, "any administrative law clerking would be terrific."

Second, get involved. "I found that the most important thing is to get involved in environmental law in whatever way you can," said Flora. "Volunteer with an environmental organization; when you have to write a paper that isn't directed to a specific topic, write on environmental law; take a course in environmental law; do an independent study in environmental law." The more you're involved in environmental law, the better your chances are of getting that ideal job, because, Flora said, "you need to show an interest to get you ahead of the game."

Finally, and perhaps most important, according to Schaaff, "Get out there and network and offer your services to people." This approach worked well for her. "I ended up doing an internship for EPA. The people that I met there put me in contact with the consulting firm that I worked for and then brought me back to EPA when the agency started hiring." **W**

Where Constitutional Law and Environmental Law Intersect

By James May

Is it constitutional for a city, say Wilmington, Chester, or Harrisburg, to condemn homes along an historic riverfront for economic development? For Delaware to forbid a New Jersey company from off-loading liquefied natural gas on the Delaware River? For Pennsylvania to prohibit trash imported from New York City? For New Jersey to prohibit from its waters giant, spill-prone single-hull oil tankers bearing foreign flags bound for Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania? For

the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to force local businesses to comply with national air and water quality requirements? For the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to forbid farmers on Maryland's Eastern Shore from fencing their property because it might harm the mating patterns of an endangered frog? For states to sue the U.S. Government to have it reduce emissions that contribute to global warming? For people of color to get a federal court order to address the disproportionate

impact of a state's land use policies? What does the U.S. Constitution have to say about all this?

Widener Law School is on the forefront of an emerging field of law that explores the intersection between constitutional law and environmental, natural resources, and land use law. From environmental enforcement and compliance to real estate and urban redevelopment, it matters to you.

Thirty years ago, constitutional issues rarely arose in environmental law.

Nowadays, nearly two in three federal environmental, energy, and land use cases are decided on constitutional grounds. In the 300 federal environmental cases decided in the last 18 months, constitutional issues arose in nearly 200. These 200 cases involved 18 different types of constitutional questions, including the extent to which courts can hear environmental cases (standing and mootness), the president can keep policy information secret (executive privilege), and the degree to which federal courts can

regulate activities that are historically or arguably intrastate in nature (commerce clause), delegate congressional prerogatives (non-delegation doctrine), impel states and state officials to follow federal environmental policies (preemption, property, and spending clauses; and the Tenth and Eleventh Amendments), search and seize (Fourth Amendment), and compensate for conversion of private property for public use (Fifth Amendment), or address environmental issues under the due process, property, spending and general welfare clauses.

Constitutional environmental law is also emerging in practice at the state, local, and international levels. Two dozen states and 70 foreign countries have constitutional provisions that address the environment and natural resources. The intersection of constitutional and environmental law influences other areas of law, including real estate, land use, public policy, civil procedure, workplace safety, tax, and international law. In short, it's a good bet that a random case in environmental law could decide or be decided on a principle of constitutional law, thus making it an essential field to alumni, students, faculty, and the communities we serve.

Transition in the Supreme Court makes it all the more likely that the Constitution will continue to play an essential role in environmental law. In particular, Justice O'Connor's retirement may lead the Court to revisit the Rehnquist Court's notions of federalism, separation of powers, and property rights. For instance, last term the Supreme Court decided that the Fifth Amendment allows the government to "take" private property for the "public use" of economic redevelopment. In *Kelo v. New London*, No. 04-108 (June 23, 2005), the Court by a 5-4 majority upheld a

decision by the City of New London, Connecticut to condemn 15 homes in the Fort Trumbull neighborhood for the sole purpose of furthering economic redevelopment around a planned pharmaceutical research facility. The decision allows governmental officials to condemn private property for the purpose of increasing tax revenues and promoting economic development. In *Lingle v. Chevron*, 125 S. Ct. 2074 (May 23, 2005), the Court held in another 5-4 opinion that it is not appropriate for a court to inquire into whether use of eminent domain authority under the Fifth Amendment "substantially advances" legitimate state interests, as it would when examining state action under the due process clause. Just these two opinions reverberate in daily decisions made about urban redevelopment, smart growth, water and air quality, preservation of open spaces, traffic, schools, crime, and environmental, land use, and energy policies.

Our faculty often publish and speak about the intersection of constitutional and environmental law. We've examined the constitutional dimensions of environmental citizen suits, the extent of constitutional protections for the environment under state and international law, whether states have constitutional standing to combat global climate change, and whether the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution provides a basis for addressing the disproportionate effect of environmental policies on communities of color (See page 14). We plan to continue to monitor and report about developments in the field. **W**

Professor James R. May directed the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic from 1992 to 2004. He has served as chair or vice chair of various committees and task forces of the American Bar Association's Section on Environmental, Energy, and Resources.

Faculty Publications in Environmental Law

Below is a representative sample from the nearly 100 books, book chapters, and articles related to environmental law that have been published by the School of Law's full-time faculty.

Erin Daly
New Hurdles for Environmental Justice Plaintiffs, 17 NAT. RESOURCES & ENV'T 18 (2002).

John C. Dernbach
ed., *STUMBLING TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY* (2002).

Natural Resources and the Public Estate, in *THE PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION: A TREATISE ON RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES* (Ken Gormley et al, eds., 2004).

Making Sustainable Development Happen: From Johannesburg to Albany, 8 ALB. L. ENVTL. OUTLOOK 173 (2004).

Citizen Suits and Sustainability, 10 WIDENER L. REV. 503 (2004)

Achieving Sustainable Development: The Centrality and Multiple Facets of Integrated Decisionmaking, 10 IND. J. GLOBAL LEGAL STUD. 247 (2003).

Sustainable versus Unsustainable Propositions, 53 CASE W. RES. L. REV. 449 (2002).

and the Widener University Seminar on Global Warming, *Moving the Climate Change Debate from Models to Proposed Legislation: Lessons from State Experience*, 30 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,933 (2000).

The Unfocused Regulation of Toxic and Hazardous Pollutants, 21 HARV. ENVTL. L. REV. 1 (1997).

Jean M. Eggen
Toxic Torts in a Nutshell (1995, 2d ed. 2000).

Toxic Torts and Causation: The Challenge of Daubert After the First Decade, 17 NAT. RESOURCES & ENV'T 213 (2003).

David R. Hodas
et al., eds., *ENVIRONMENTAL COSTS OF ELECTRICITY* (1990)

Sustainable Development and the Marrakech Accords in THE LAW OF ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (A. J. Bradbrook et al, eds. 2005).

Energy, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, in ENERGY LAW AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (A. J. Bradbrook et al, eds 2003).

State Law Responses to Global Warming: Is it Constitutional to Think Globally and Act Locally?, 21 PACE ENVTL. L. REV. 53 (2003).

Standing and Climate Change: Can Anyone Complain About the Weather?, Symposium on Global Warming, 9 J. TRANSACTIONAL L. AND POLICY 451 (2000).

NEPA, Ecosystem Management and Environmental Accounting, 14 NAT. RESOURCES, ENERGY & ENV'T 185 (2000).

Enforcement of Environmental Law in a Triangular Federal System, 54 MD. L. REV. 1552 (1995).

Kenneth T. Kristl
and Jennifer T. Nijman,
Coordination of a Large Environmental Permitting Effort, 16 NAT. RESOURCES & ENV'T (2001).

Roberta F. Mann
On the Road Again: How Tax Policy Drives Transportation Choice, 24 VA. TAX REV. 587 (2005).

Tax Incentives for Historic Preservation: An Antidote to Sprawl?, 8 WIDENER L. SYMP. J. 207 (2002).

Waiting to Exhale?: Global Warming and Tax Policy, 51 AM. U. L. REV. 1135 (2002).

James R. May
Discharges from Historic Mining Properties: Asserting and Defending Citizen Suits Under the Clean Water Act, 50 ROCKY MT. MIN. L. INST. 23-1 (2004).

The Availability of State Environmental Citizen Suits, 18 NAT'L RES. & ENV. 53 (2004).

The Rise and Repose of Assimilation-Based Water Quality, Part I: TMDL Litigation, 34 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,247 (2004).

Now More Than Ever: Trends in Environmental Citizen Suits at 30, 10 WIDENER L. REV. 1 (2003).

Where the Water Hits the Road: Recent Developments in Clean Water Act Litigation, 33 ENVTL. L. REP. 10,369 (2003).

Of Development, daVinci and Domestic Legislation: The Prospects for Sustainable Development in Asia and its Un tapped Potential in the United States, 3 WIDENER L. SYMP. J. 197 (1998).

and Maya K. Van Rossum, *The Quick and the Dead: Fish Entrainment, Entrapment, and the Application of Section 316(b) of the Clean Water Act*, 20 VT. L. REV. 373 (1995).

John F. Nivala
The Landscape Art of Daniel Urban Kiley, 29 WM. & MARY ENVTL. L. & POL'Y REV. 267 (2005).

Preservation is Process: The Designation of Dream Garden as a Historic Object, 8 WIDENER L. SYMP. J. 237 (2002).


Saving the Spirit of Our Places: A View on Our Built Environment, 15 UCLA J. ENVTL. L. & POL'Y 1 (1997).

Andrew L. Strauss
The Legal Option: Suing the United States in International Forums for Global Warming Emissions, 33 ENVTL. L. REP. 10185 (2003).

From Gattzilla to the Green Giant: Winning the Environment Battle for the Soul of the World Trade Organization, 19 U. PA. J. INT'L ECON. L. 679 (1998).

Serena M. Williams
Sustaining Urban Green Spaces: Can Public Parks Be Protected Under the Public Trust Doctrine? 10 S.C. ENVTL. L.J. 23 (2002).

In Search of Neighborhood Nightmares: The Duty of Builders and Developers to Disclose Off-Site Environmental Conditions, 12 J. NAT. RESOURCES & ENVTL. L. 1 (1997).

The Anticipatory Nuisance Standard: One Common Law Theory for Use in Environmental Justice Cases, 19 WM. & MARY ENVTL. L. & POL'Y REV. 223 (1995). 

Recent Environmental Law Course Offerings

- Energy and Public Utility Law
- Environmental Law
- Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic
- Hazardous Wastes and Substances Law
- International Environmental Law
- Land Use Planning
- Natural Resources Law
- Ocean and Coastal Law
- Regulation of Toxic and Hazardous Substances
- Seminar: Climate Change
- Seminar: Constitutional, Environmental, and Land Use Law
- Seminar: Environmental Justice
- Seminar: Law and Sustainability

Trial Advocacy Corner Witness Impeachment: Its Art and Rationales

By Jules Epstein

Witness impeachment is the high drama of courtroom litigation. It places the lawyer in the starring role and brings into sharp focus the veracity and accuracy of the witness. However, impeachment's potential is often lost because the lawyer fails to understand the governing law and impeachment's design and strategies. Here are some suggestions for improving impeachment skills:

1. Have a [good] purpose—

Impeachment for the sake of impeachment usually hurts the client's cause. Consider the lawyer confronted with the witness's testimony that he saw the accused go around the corner, heard a gunshot, and then saw the defendant return putting "something" into his pocket. Counsel cross-examined as follows:

Q: Sir, today you say you saw my client put "something" in his pocket, correct?

A: Yes.

Q: Isn't it true that at the first hearing you said, and I quote, "he came back around the corner and put a gun in his pocket." You said that, didn't you?

Eliciting an inconsistency that is more harmful than the courtroom testimony is an all-too-typical occurrence.

2. Determine the "why" of impeachment—Impeachment may serve any number of purposes: to show the witness to be dishonest; to make the witness appear mistaken; and/or to have the jury credit as true a prior statement. Identifying the applicable purpose(s) will determine the tone of the examination, the form of the questions, and the applicable rules of evidence.

3. Know your hearsay exceptions—If you want the jury to credit the prior statement, it must

be nonhearsay (an admission of a party opponent, a prior inconsistent statement under oath, a prior consistent statement predating the alleged reason for fabrication, or a statement of identification, see Rule 801(d), Fed.R.Evid.) or meet a hearsay exception (e.g., an excited utterance or business record).

4. Use only leading questions—

Leading questions, the *sine qua non* of cross-examination, are especially critical in witness impeachment. Beyond form, the questioner must never pass the penultimate (the witness's acknowledgment of the inconsistency) to the ultimate (rubbing the witness's nose in the inconsistency). Doing the latter ("So sir, you agree now that you have said different things") will only lead to an explanation response that may in fact justify the inconsistency or dilute its impact. Stop at the acknowledgment and hammer the inconsistency in the closing argument.

5. Study character impeachment and case-specific impeachment—

Be familiar with the impeachment of a witness's character (Rules 608 and 609) and case-specific impeachment (bias, prior inconsistent statement, independent proof of conflicting facts).

6. Exploit the rules of evidence with atypical impeachment—

Many jurisdictions permit the following modes of impeachment: using prior dishonest acts for cross-examination (Rule 608(b)); using reputation or opinion evidence to establish the dishonest character of the challenged witness (Rule 608(a)); proving the witness's lack of personal knowledge (Rule 601); and using all available impeachment for hearsay declarants (Rule 806 permits impeachment of a hearsay declarant the same as if the witness had appeared at trial).


7. Be on the cutting edge—Go to national decisional law for developments regarding impeachment

(and its evil twin, witness bolstering). Here are some recent examples:

- A prosecutor's argument that police would not lie because they would be risking their jobs is improper, as it is without record support and constitutes impermissible bolstering. *Spain v. State*, 2005 Md. LEXIS 179 (Md. 2005).
- Asking a testifying defendant "Well, are you saying that the other witness was lying?" is impermissible impeachment and improper opinion evidence. *People v. Zambrano*, 124 Cal.App. 4th 228, 238-243 (Cal. Ct. App. 2004).
- The answer "I don't remember" may be an inconsistent statement, permitting impeachment with a prior statement. *State v. Amos*, 658 N.W.2d 201 (Minn. 2003).
- In criminal cases, the confrontation clause guarantees the right to extensive bias impeachment of cooperating witnesses. *United States v. Chandler*, 326 F.3d 210 (2003).

8. Be visual—Impeachment is a study in contrast. i.e., what was said and/or written previously differs (hopefully drastically) from the in-court testimony. On cross-examination, identify these differences. On a blackboard or chart, list the in-court testimony in one column; as the impeachment progresses, use the second column to document each contradiction as it is established by close-ended questioning. Here, seeing is disbelieving.

What's the lesson? Impeach wisely, and well.

Jules Epstein, visiting professor of law and faculty co-advisor to the Moe Levine Trial Advocacy Honor Society, is a former criminal defense attorney and the recipient of the 1999 Roscoe Pound Foundation "Award for Excellence in Teaching Trial Advocacy as an Adjunct Professor of Law." 

Commencement 2005: Graduates Encouraged to Give Back, Do More

A total of 503 graduates received their degrees from the Widener University School of Law at ceremonies held in Delaware and Harrisburg. The 14th graduating class of the Harrisburg Campus celebrated in a May 22 ceremony at The Forum, in the Capitol Complex. The 30th graduating class of the Delaware Campus held its ceremony May 21 on the campus lawn.

The 360 Delaware graduates heard remarks from Harold Hongju Koh, dean of the Yale Law School and the Gerard C. and Bernice Latrobe Smith Professor of International Law.

Koh previously served as assistant secretary of state for democracy, human rights, and labor, and he advised former U.S. Secretary of State Madeline

Albright. During his address, he told the students they will be measured by their work and their character. He urged them to put their families first, never to let their skills exceed their virtues, and to stand for something in life. Lawyers who give back more than they have been given will be true success stories, he said. "Lawyers matter. Good lawyers matter more," Koh said.

The 143 Harrisburg graduates heard remarks from Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice J. Michael Eakin. Eakin was elected to the Supreme Court in 2001 after serving six years on the Pennsylvania Superior Court bench. He is a former Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, district attorney and a graduate of Dickinson School of Law.

Eakin—whose court opinions occasionally written in rhyme and verse have attracted international attention—said the people he sees in the profession who are happiest are those who volunteer beyond what is expected of them. "Be of service to your profession. Do more," he told the graduates.

In a send-off message befitting his lighthearted spirit, Eakin played his harmonica and sang about graduating from law school. Associate Professor John J. Capowski accompanied him on guitar. Eakin said the performance was intended to send a message: "Take work seriously. But don't take yourself too seriously." **W**



Members of the class of 1975 who came back to process



Dean Douglas Ray and President James T. Harris III



Jules Epstein recipient of outstanding faculty award



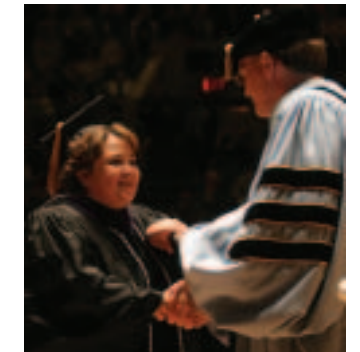
James Diehm recipient of outstanding faculty award



J. Michael Eakin commencement speaker



Robert John (R.J.) Brasko Valedictorian



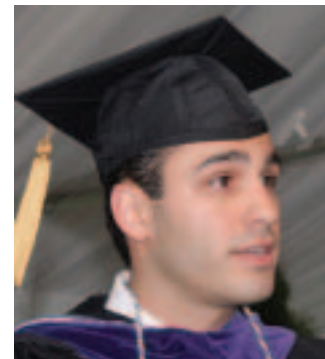
Tina Orndorff



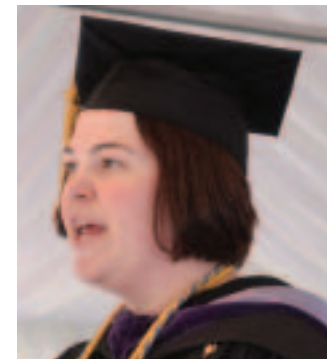
Harold Hongju Koh commencement speaker



Timothy Bussen



Nick Orloff valedictorian, extended division



Christie Giusti valedictorian, regular division



Michael McHale and young friend



From left to right: Chioma Abara, Peter Aguado, and Olunmi Akinpelumi



Joshua Berman and Latisha Bernard



Dana Jafarian center



Baltazar E. Rubio and father



Jacqueline J. Shafer hugs Dean L. Semer



Jason Hageman and father



Trevor Porembra, center



Fred Arensmeyer

Commencement Awards and Honors

Delaware Campus

Valedictorians

Regular Division: Nicholas M. Orloff
Extended Division: Christie L. Giusti

Achievement Awards

The Honorable Helen S. Balick Award
Leslie Heilman

Howard M. Berg Award
Sarah Ilana Fried

**William J. Conner Memorial Award
for Administrative Law**
Monté Terrell Squire

**Judge J. Cullen Ganey
Criminal Law Award**
Jeremy John Kobeski

**Nicole “Nikki” Cullison
Memorial Award**
Lou Ann Blake

**The Honorable Joseph W. deFuria
Commencement Award**
Christopher J. Cabott

Graham Foundation Award
Jennifer Stonerod

Reed Hamilton Memorial Award
Deborah Ellen Ballantyne

**Zelda K. Herrmann
Memorial Cup Award**
Rosalynda M. Michetti

**International Academy of Trial
Lawyers Student Advocacy Award**
Brian David Gondek

Lindsay Law Library Award
Emily Marie Vanderweide and Michael
Patrick Donohue

**Most Promising
Civil Litigator Award**
Noelle Lynn Palazzo

Outstanding Student Service Awards
Juda Babuschak, Deborah E. Ballantyne,
H. Joshua Burg, Kathy J. Bloom,
Christopher J. Cabott, Islanda L.
Finamore, Julia N. Fisher, Corinne Foley,
Sarah I. Fried, Joseph S. Grubb, James G.
Lare, Morris F. McAdoo, Noelle L.
Palazzo, Mona A. Parikh, Jennifer C.
Peruso, Baltazar Rubio, Jennifer C.
Stonerod, Alissa L. Van Horn

Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association,
**James J. Manderino Award
for Trial Advocacy**
H. Joshua Burg

**Alexander V. Sarcione Jr.
Memorial Award**
Jessica Marie Holmes

**The Jerry Shields
Environmental Award**
Brian Cleghorn

**Wapner, Newman, Wigrizer &
Brecher Award**
Brian David Gondek

**Dean Arthur A. Weeks
Outstanding Service Award**
Christopher J. Cabott

E. John Wherry Jr. Award
Robert Thomas Lynch

**William J. and Ella C. Wolf Prize
in Real Property Law**
Thomas C. Rentschler

President’s Award
Suzanne D. Montgomery

Dean’s Award
Christie L. Giusti

**The following students have
qualified to become members of the
national honor society Phi Kappa Phi:**
Brian D. Gondek, Christie Giusti, James
G. Lare, Monté Squire, and Vincent
Thomas

Harrisburg Campus

Valedictorian

Robert J. Brasko

Achievement Awards

**ALI-ABA Scholarship
& Leadership Award**
Sarah J. Brown

**American Academy
of Matrimonial Lawyers Award**
Kristen B. Gaddis

**American Bankruptcy Institute
Medal of Excellence**
John A. Vizontine

**James S. Bowman
American Inns of Court Award**
Cory A. Iannacone

**Dean Anthony J. Santoro
Outstanding Service Award**
Leonard P. Vigna

**Dean of Students Pro Bono
Service Award**
John A. Davidson

Distinguished Service Award
Andrew J. Gonzalez

John A. Fillion Memorial Award
Amanda L. Snoke

Legal Research and Writing Award
Amanda I. Figgs

**Moot Court Honor Society
Outstanding Executive Board Member**
Sarah J. Brown

Most Promising Civil Litigator Award
Ehsan F. Chowdhry and
Jason F. Hageman

Outstanding Clinical Advocacy Award
Timothy E. Gates

**Outstanding Law & Government
Student Award**
Adrienne J. Stahl

**Trial Advocacy Honor Society
Outstanding Executive Board Member**
Paul R. Ruffolo


E. John Wherry Jr. Award
Jill Straub

**Widener Law Journal Award for
Distinguished Legal Scholarship**
Cory A. Iannacone

**Widener University School of Law
Outstanding Service Awards**
Charles A. Beyer, David W. Drescher,
John M. Hamme, Nicole M. Kleber,
Erin C. Lentz, La Toyin R. Rollins,
Paul R. Ruffolo, Michael J. Weniger,
LaToya C. Winfield

Valedictorian Award
Robert J. Brasko

President’s Award
Ann L. Martin

Dean’s Award
Cory A. Iannacone 



School of Law Partners with The National Judicial College




Widener University School of Law has formed a relationship with The National Judicial College (NJC) to serve as its East Coast center. The NJC is the nation’s leading judicial education and training institution and is located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno. As a result of the agreement with Widener, NJC programs will be offered on the school’s Delaware Campus, making them particularly convenient for judges in the eastern United States.

The agreement results from the success of an NJC program titled “Electronic Discovery,” which was held on Widener’s Delaware Campus in January 2005 and attracted 34 judges from six states. The Corporate Counsel Technology Institute—an arm of the law school that was

established to become the major legal technology resource for the corporate law community—helped conduct the seminar. Wilmington attorney and institute chair Richard Herrmann said that future NJC programs at the law school will continue to build on that technology expertise. “This relationship is a wonderful opportunity for both Widener and The National Judicial College. The School of Law’s location is perfectly situated on the East Coast, providing easy access to judicial education for hundreds of judges. We look forward to seeing student interaction with those judges,” Herrmann said.

The announcement drew praise from the legal community. “This relationship of the National Judicial College and Widener University School of Law is good news for the judiciary in the east,” said Delaware Supreme Court Justice Henry duPont Ridgely, who served as an instructor during the NJC program held at

Widener in January. “I know from my own experience the quality of the programs that both the NJC and Widener have offered in the past,” he continued. “Some judges for a variety of reasons have been unable to attend courses in Nevada, where the NJC is located. With this new relationship, they will have the benefit of having excellent judicial education and professional development courses closer to home.”

The NJC has been charting a course for the nation’s judiciary since 1963 by offering courses focused on judicial proficiency, competency, skills, and productivity. The college has awarded more than 70,000 professional judicial education certificates since its founding and houses the National Tribal Judicial Center and the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Courts and Media. More information on the NJC’s programs and services can be found at www.judges.org. 



Widener Law Student Elected to Top ABA Post


Second-year law student Vicki Goodman, of the school’s Delaware Campus, has recently been elected chair of the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association. The second-largest division within the ABA, the Law Student Division has more than 50,000 members from the nation’s 191 ABA-accredited law schools.

As chair, Goodman represents the interests of the nation’s law students

as she leads the division’s 22-member Board of Governors in setting and implementing its agenda through the 2005–2006 academic year. The post requires much travel, including meetings of the ABA in Chicago and around the country and trips to Washington, DC, to lobby members of Congress on issues of importance to the ABA and law students. That work includes a pending bill that would make modest-pay careers in public service more feasible for students who graduate with significant loan debts.

“It is my honor to serve as the chair for the ABA Law Student Division,”

Goodman said shortly after her election. “I look forward to serving law students throughout the country, and will do my best to represent them and the Widener University School of Law.”

Goodman, 25, is a full-time law student. She came to Widener after working nearly two years as director of the Muscular Dystrophy Association in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, which raised \$1.8 million under her leadership. She is the third Widener student to hold the national post. Alumni Alan Levin ’80 and Michael Morton ’85 also served as chairs. 

Students Secure Second National Moot Court Victory



Mancini



D'Emilio



Bright

After a Widener team won the Tulane Mardi Gras Invitational National Sports Law Competition in February, another Widener team secured the school's second national victory this year. In April, a three-person Moot Court Honor Society interscholastic team took top honors at the August A. Rendigs Jr. National Products Liability Moot Court Competition in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Coached by Professor Jean Eggen, the team included second-year law students Kent Mancini, Matthew D'Emilio, and Kevin Bright. Widener law student Sarah Fried, vice president

of the school's Moot Court Honor Society, also helped coach the team.

Arguments at the competition turned on a complex, fictitious case between a man who suffered a debilitating leg injury while using a muscle heat-therapy device and the manufacturer he sued for product liability. The University of Cincinnati College of Law sponsored the event, which attracted 24 student teams from 20 law schools.

All three of the Widener law students collaborated on their team brief in advance of the competition and all three argued during the early rounds

of the competition. The trio beat the team from Pepperdine University College of Law in the quarter finals and the University of Wisconsin Law School in the semifinals, which was judged by eight state Supreme Court justices from six states.

The trio bested the team from the University of California Hastings College of the Law in the final round, which was held at the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati on April 9. D'Emilio and Bright argued in the final round, which was judged by an impressive 12-judge panel made up of federal appeals court jurists from around the country. "They handled themselves very well under a barrage of questions from the final panel of judges from the U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals," Eggen said. "They were very knowledgeable on the issues and very cool under pressure. I'm proud of their accomplishments." **W**

Harrisburg campus recognized for work benefiting victims

The good work of Widener students who spent more than seven years writing, revising, and advocating for a bill in the Pennsylvania Legislature that helps protect victims was lauded during a press conference held on the Harrisburg Campus August 25.

A distinguished panel of speakers, including the Honorable Katie True, R-Lancaster County, explained to the 35 people in attendance how the Address Confidentiality Program allows participants to use a legal substitute address on important documents, like driver's licenses.



Rep. Katie True explained the significance of the bill.

Widener Law Associate Professor John J. Capowski said many of the more than 15 of his students who worked drafting different versions of the legislation have gone on to careers in public service. One works as a supervising prosecutor in Dade County, Florida, and another is a magistrate judge in Arizona. Several more work as prosecutors and public defenders in the Pennsylvania area. "The effect of their work with the legislation on the careers they have had has been extraordinarily helpful," Capowski said.

Continued on page 23.

Law Grad Leads Others to Self-Sufficiency



Jacques Ferber stands in front of Von Louhr Apartments in Philadelphia. Renovated by AchieveAbility in 1990, the building contains 25 apartments and received a Fannie Mae Maxwell Award, which recognizes the best affordable housing developments in the country.

Jacques Ferber never dreamt he would end up battling homelessness when he graduated from the law school in 1983 and began interning at the firm now known as Hecker Brown Sherry and Johnson LLP. The job led to an of-counsel post, and eventually he turned to real estate development. However, the lucrative employment opportunities that came with his credentials—he was a certified public accountant before enrolling in law school—weren't enough to stop the lure of public service after he got a taste of it.

Ferber, the married father of two teenage boys, is executive director of

AchieveAbility, formerly known as Philadelphians Concerned about Housing. He leads the nonprofit organization in its mission to help single-parent, low-income, formerly homeless families improve the quality of their lives and achieve self-sufficiency. Under his leadership, AchieveAbility received the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce's Nonprofit Organization of the Year Award in late 2004. In addition, United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania named Ferber "Agency Executive Director of the Year for 2003".

AchieveAbility buys and rehabilitates vacant and dilapidated

houses in West Philadelphia, then rents them to people referred to the organization by other social service outlets. The organization provides far more than housing assistance to people who need a transition between homeless shelters and independent living. "The linchpin of the program is education," Ferber said. Participants must earn, at minimum, an associate's degree while living in the home and holding a job. A bachelor's degree is preferred, and AchieveAbility knows it can take some people as long as 10 years to get it.

Participants are also required to develop personal goal plans with the

help of social workers. They actively track their own progress with charts that measure a variety of factors—from financial, employment, and parenting gains to the way they've maintained their homes and their families' health to what they are giving back to society. The house acts as a stable space for families to execute their goal plans. "Our job is to be their support system," Ferber said. AchieveAbility has placed families in about 150 houses, with the occupants paying rent based on their earnings. It is hoped that, over time, their earnings will rise so they can afford market rates when they leave the houses.

Ferber's early accounting work got him involved in low-income housing as a lucrative tax shelter. That began shaping his opinion that poverty problems will not be solved by just developing homes. Skills are needed too, he believes. So when he was invited to join AchieveAbility's board in 1985, he accepted, and when the executive director left in 1991, Ferber found himself leading the national search for a replacement. He knew the organization needed someone with a unique set of skills: property development and management, fundraising, and social services. Eventually he realized he had the appropriate skills for the position. He offered to take the job for two years. That was 14 years ago.

Had someone told Ferber decades ago that this is what he'd be doing now, "I would have said 'You're crazy,'" he laughs. But he remains content with the career he made. "I've done a lot of things," he said, "and this is more fulfilling than anything I've done." **W**

Harrisburg Student Finds 'Family' at Widener



When Dionne Wiggins arrived in Harrisburg two years ago, she wasn't just getting a new address, she was starting a new life. The single mother of a girl who was then only two years old, Wiggins moved to central Pennsylvania to attend Widener and pursue her long-time dream of becoming an attorney.

With her daughter, Taylor White, Wiggins left behind most of her family in the Queens section of New York City and moved to a town where she knew no one. She doesn't regret any of it. "I wanted to show my daughter that even if it's the hardest thing to do, and it seems impossible, you can do it," Wiggins, 30, said. Her can-do approach has impressed people on the Harrisburg Campus. "She has such a positive attitude about everything," said Elizabeth Simcox, dean of

students. "I can call on her at any time for assistance with programs and students."

Wiggins credits Simcox for helping her stay in school when she began to doubt herself. After Wiggins spent the first year working, studying full time, and trying to be a good mom to Taylor, Simcox helped her adjust her course schedule to an evening-division pace. With course adjustments and extra studies over the summers, she will graduate within three years, in May 2006. This past summer she spent taking classes, working part time for Westlaw, and clerking full time for

Smigel, Anderson & Sacks, LLP, in Harrisburg. This semester she is leading the Women's Law Caucus, the Black Law Students Association, and the Minority Law Students Association.

Wiggins chose Widener over Dickinson School of Law. A Widener tour and meetings with students and Eric Kniskern, Harrisburg admissions director, made her feel comfortable. She felt that getting into law school was tough. "Widener took a chance on me, and I appreciate it. I try to give back as much as I can," she said. Kniskern said admitting Wiggins was a smart move on Widener's part. "Dionne brings such a strong motivation to learn and to succeed at the law school that I think she has motivated others to reach higher," Kniskern said. "She sets a great

example, not just to her daughter, but to all the young people she speaks with who are seeking higher education. She represents both herself and Widener well."

For the last two years, Wiggins' nearest relative has been her mother, who was a two-and-a-half-hour drive away in Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania. She made up for geographic challenges in new ways, though. "I came out here with no family and ended up getting this huge adopted family," she said of her Widener friends. This past summer, her mother relocated to the Harrisburg area, which is where Wiggins wants to stay after school. Having a particular interest in children's issues, she hopes to one day work full time in a public interest job or in a private sector career that allows her time to devote to public interest work, too. "I think people forget that being a lawyer is providing a service to help people, not make a lot of money," Wiggins said.

People who knew her back in her high school days, when she was occasionally in trouble for fighting, are surprised to hear of the path she has taken. Wiggins is proud of where hard work, faith in God, and a commitment to her dreams have taken her. A year ago she became the first Widener student to receive the Robert N.C. Nix Jr. Scholarship, named for the former chief justice who was the first African American to ascend to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. It was given at a joint meeting of the Dauphin County Bar Association and the Harrisburg Black Attorneys Association. "Just because you start off one way doesn't mean that's where you have to end," she said. **W**

Corinne Foley: Law Student and Public Servant



A public interest fellowship made possible by a Philadelphia-based law firm has helped one student experience firsthand the satisfaction of using the legal profession to help others. First Lieutenant Corinne Foley, 23, spent 10 months working for the Philadelphia Bar Association's Homeless Advocacy Project, where she helped attorney Michael Taub with the association's veterans' law program.

It was a fitting post for Foley, who was in the Army ROTC program while getting her undergraduate degree at Widener University. "She was very passionate about the work," Taub said. "The clients really took to her. They could sense her passion."

Foley's efforts on behalf of homeless veterans involved interviewing clients

and helping them make cases for service-connected benefits. Often that meant researching soldiers' records and working to demonstrate their eligibility. She recalled fondly the matter of one Gulf War veteran who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder.

With the help of Foley's research, the project made a successful case for the veteran, getting him \$90,000 in government benefits. "He went from living in shelters to being able to afford his own apartment," Foley said. Taub said Foley's work was critical to making the case. She studied unit diaries and maps of unit advancements to prove where the veteran was and what he experienced, down to incidents of hostile fire. "It really clinched the case," he said.

Made possible by a generous gift from the law firm of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, Foley's public service work involved about 10 hours a week from August 2004 to May 2005. She said she was impressed with the efforts of School of Law administrators, such as former dean Douglas Ray, who made it a priority to secure financial gifts in support of public service work. She is also grateful to LeaNora Ruffin, assistant dean for career development, who helped place her in the job. "They do make opportunities available," Foley said.

Ruffin said she talked with Foley about her background and then researched opportunities that would match Foley's military background and interest in veterans' rights. The concentrated effort took her in several directions before she landed Foley in the ideal position. "We were very pleased with the way Corinne's experience worked out. It's satisfying to see a situation like this, where everyone wins, with Corinne gaining valuable skills and making a difference for homeless veterans in the process," Ruffin said.

Foley has a busy year ahead. She is starting a Military Law Society on the Delaware Campus and is the law school's representative to the American Bar Association's Law Student Division. She is also hoping to become part of the law school's Veterans Assistance Program—a legal clinic in which students represent disabled veterans and their dependents before the Department of Veterans Affairs and some federal courts. She may try to continue her association with Taub's office through the school's clinic experience. Foley spent this past summer working at the Army Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps office in Fort Eustis, Virginia. After she graduates this academic year, she hopes to fulfill her active duty responsibilities—which were deferred so she could attend law school—working for the JAG Corps.

Harrisburg campus recognized for work benefiting victims *(Continued on from 20.)*

Judith Yupcavage, public policy and information manager for the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, which initiated the idea for the legislation and

worked with Capowski's students and others to bring it to fruition, expressed gratitude "for giving us access to the resources and bright minds of John and his students."

It is hoped the legislation will prevent assailants from locating victims of sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence who have moved to new, safe locations. **W**

Doug Ray Steps Down as Dean after Six and a Half Years of Substantial Achievement



June 30, 2005 marked the end of an era at the Widener University School of Law when Douglas E. Ray stepped down as the dean of the School of Law and vice president of the Law Center of Widener University. Dean Ray—under his reassumed role as Professor Ray—will remain at the School of Law to continue his distinguished career as a scholar and teacher of the law.

Ray began his tenure as dean in January of 1999. “He walked into this job during a periodic ABA accreditation inspection, which is a very complex process that’s enough to put any dean to the test,” recalled Chip Prescott, vice dean of the law school’s Harrisburg Campus. “But he proved early on that he was a quick study,” Prescott continued. Not only did Ray manage to guide the school through the completion of the accreditation process in expert fashion, he also dealt effectively with the complicated two-campus issues raised by the ABA. This was just the first of many challenges Ray faced. “In every

case, he managed them well and left the School of Law stronger and healthier,” observed Russ Hakes, vice dean of the law school’s Delaware Campus.

His years of service as dean have been marked by remarkable progress on many fronts: applications to the school doubled to more than 3,800; credentials for incoming students improved each year; and the bar pass rate of graduating students improved significantly. He also expanded academic support programs and initiated a voluntary bar readiness program, which have contributed to these achievements.

What’s more, Ray significantly expanded the intellectual environment within the School of Law by adding two institutes. Since its founding, the law school has maintained strong ties to Delaware corporate law. It publishes the *Delaware Journal of Corporate Law*, hosts the Annual M. Francis Pileggi Lecture Series, sponsors the Ruby R. Vale Corporate Moot Court

Competition and the associated Distinguished Scholar Lecture Series, and regularly hosts corporate law symposia. “We had all these strengths, but it took the vision of Doug Ray to unite them with our Master of Laws in Corporate Law and Finance into the Institute of Delaware Corporate Law,” said Hakes. Similarly, the Harrisburg Campus had developed close ties with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as it developed its programs in law and government. Ray helped to translate that emphasis into the Law and Government Institute, which offers certificate programs in state administrative procedure, environmental law, and legislation. “Together with the certificate programs offered on the Delaware Campus in corporate law and health law, and on both campuses in trial advocacy, the certificate programs developed during his deanship help cement Widener’s reputation as a dynamic law school able to excel in several areas simultaneously,” said the law school’s acting dean, Michael J. Goldberg. In addition, Ray added a fourth international summer program in Venice, Italy, to the already existing programs in Nairobi, Kenya, Sydney, Australia, and Geneva, Switzerland.

Upgraded facilities and expanded resources also mark Ray’s tenure as dean. He began his deanship as a major addition to the Law Building on the Delaware Campus was nearing completion and continued with improvements to the physical plant on both the Harrisburg and Delaware Campuses. Ray also focused considerable attention and resources on instruction. For example, he prioritized classroom renovations that allow faculty to take advantage of the latest in technology. Under his leadership,



School of Law Dean Douglas Ray (center) is flanked by Delaware Supreme Court Justice and Board of Overseers member Randy J. Holland (left), and Widener University President James T. Harris III (right).

the School of Law has been actively expanding not only its technological resources, but also its academic offerings around technology and the law, most recently launching the Widener Technology and Law Center.

In addition, scholarly opportunities for students increased during Ray’s tenure when the *Widener Journal of Public Law*, published by the students on the Harrisburg Campus, changed its name to the *Widener Law Journal* and expanded in scope from a specialty symposium journal to a general law journal publishing unsolicited articles and essays from all fields of law in addition to symposia. Shortly thereafter, the *Widener Law Symposium Journal*, which joined the *Delaware Journal of Corporate Law* on the Delaware Campus in 1996, also became a general law review under its new name the *Widener Law Review*.

Ray’s devotion to scholarly advancement of the law has been evident throughout his deanship. His leadership was key in establishing the endowed Ruby R. Vale Professorship in Corporate and Business Law. Ray regularly stressed the importance of faculty scholarship and actively encouraged faculty to take time to research, write books and articles, present papers and become active in academic and professional organizations. “Under that guidance, many faculty members gained national and international recognition,” said Hakes. During his last year in office, Ray created an award given in recognition of excellence in scholarship, which the university’s president, James T. Harris III, has announced will bear Ray’s name in future years.

Ray also made major strides in improving relations with the bench,

bar, and community. This year the School of Law entered into an arrangement whereby the Delaware Campus will become the East Coast center for the National Judicial College. His many programs and countless hours of personal involvement have left Widener Law with a much stronger relationship with the bench and bar of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey. In addition, his initiatives have resulted in the establishment of the Public Interest Resource Center on the Delaware Campus—a program that encourages students to engage in pro bono work in their community—and a parallel Public Service Initiative on the Harrisburg Campus. “These promise to be among his most important contributions to the School of Law,” Prescott offered. The School of Law also expanded clinical opportunities for students to render service to the community by operating the Truancy Mediation Clinic in Harrisburg and adding the Veterans’ Assistance Program on the Delaware Campus.

“All members of the Widener Law School community, as well as members of the bench and bar who have had the opportunity to work with him, have the greatest respect for Dean Ray and for his commitment to legal education and to the principles of justice,” noted Goldberg. “We are indeed fortunate to have him remain as a member of our community,” Prescott said. ■

Distinguished Scholar Awards

Professor Michael J. Cozzillio was



awarded the Distinguished Scholarship Award at Widener's Harrisburg Campus for his recent book, *Sports and Inequality*, co-authored

with Delaware Campus Professor Robert Hayman. A graduate of the Catholic University of America School of Law, Cozzillio served as associate attorney for Venable, Baetjer & Howard in Baltimore from 1973 to 1975 and as associate attorney and partner for Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, from 1975 to 1979 and from 1979 to 1984, respectively. He also served as assistant professor of law at Catholic University from 1984 to 1990 before joining the Widener faculty in 1990. Cozzillio teaches contracts; sports law; labor law; and race, gender, and sports. **W**

Professor Robert Justin Lipkin



received the Distinguished Scholarship Award at Widener's Delaware Campus for his recent article, "Federalism as Balance," which was published

in the *Tulane Law Review* in 2004. Lipkin has a JD from the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law and an MA and PhD in

Philosophy from Princeton University. Prior to joining Widener (then the Delaware Law School) in 1985, he clerked for the Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. The first recipient of the H. Albert Young Fellowship in Constitutional Law, Lipkin teaches constitutional law and a variety of seminars in jurisprudence, constitutional theory, theories of free speech, crises in American democracy, the jurisprudence of multiculturalism, theories of judicial reasoning, and law and philosophy. **W**

Professor John G. Culhane was



awarded the Distinguished Scholarship Award at the Delaware Campus for his recent article, "Tort Compensation and Two Kinds of Justice,"

which was published in the *Rutgers Law Review* in 2003. Culhane also holds the title of lecturer at the Yale University School of Public Health, where he teaches public health law. After receiving his JD from Fordham University School of Law, Culhane clerked for the Honorable Joseph M. McLaughlin, Eastern District of New York, Brooklyn, from 1982 to 1983, served as associate attorney for the New York firm of Cahill, Gordon & Reindel from 1983 to 1986, and was the Bigelow Teaching Fellow and Lecturer and instructor at the University of Chicago from 1986 to 1987. He joined the faculty at Delaware Law School in 1987.

Culhane teaches and writes in the areas of torts, public health law, advanced torts, HIV/AIDS and the law, and family law, particularly as it relates to the rights of same-sex couples. **W**

PROMOTIONS

Susan M. Raeker-Jordan was



promoted from associate professor of law to professor of law. Raeker-Jordan, who joined the faculty at Widener's Delaware Campus in

1990 as a legal methods instructor—became an assistant professor in 1993, and was promoted to associate professor on the Harrisburg Campus in 1996. Upon receiving her JD from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1988, she served as associate attorney for Lord, Bissell & Brook in Chicago, Illinois, from 1988 to 1990.

Admitted to practice in Illinois, Raeker-Jordan teaches and writes in the areas of torts, civil procedure, disability law, products liability, and capital punishment. **W**

Judith L. Ritter was promoted from associate professor of law to professor of law. Ritter joined the Widener faculty as an associate professor in 1994 and currently serves as director of the Criminal



Defense Clinic at Widener's Delaware Campus. She holds a JD from Georgetown University Law Center and previously served as staff attorney for the Legal Aid Society of Nassau County, Mineola, New York, from 1979 to 1986; clinical staff attorney at Rutgers-Newark from 1986 to 1990; associate counsel for the Community Service Society of New York in New York City from 1990 to 1993; and visiting associate professor of law at Hofstra University from 1993 to 1994. Ritter is admitted to practice in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and teaches and writes in the areas of criminal law, criminal procedure, and post-conviction remedies. **W**

NEW FACULTY

Michael J. Hussey was awarded a



full-time, tenure-track faculty position as an assistant professor, beginning in the 2005–2006 academic year. Hussey served as visiting assistant professor of

law on the Harrisburg Campus during the 2004–2005 academic year.

After earning a JD from Saint Louis University School of Law, he worked as an associate with Mathis, Marifian, Richter & Grandy in Belleville, Illinois, before joining Husch & Eppenberger in St. Louis, Missouri. For four years, he was on the board of directors of Bicycle Works, serving as president for three years. Hussey teaches federal income taxation, business organizations, wills & trusts, and estate planning. **W**

Jill E. Family joined



Widener's Harrisburg Campus as associate professor of law. She is a high-honors graduate of Rutgers University School of Law, where she served as a

member of the *Rutgers Law Journal*. She also holds a master's in public policy from Rutgers and a bachelor's in history from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to coming to Widener, Family clerked for U.S. District Court Judge Stephen M. Orlofsky in Camden, New Jersey; worked in private practice with Dechert, LLP, in Philadelphia; and clerked for Third Circuit judge Morton Greenberg. She teaches civil procedure, administrative law, and immigration law. **W**

Christopher J. Robinette joined



Widener's Harrisburg Campus as a visiting associate professor of law. He came to Widener from Temple University School of Law, where he served

as Abraham L. Freedman Fellow and Lecturer in Law following completion of his LLM in Legal Education. He received his JD from the University of Virginia School of Law and holds a BA in Government and Philosophy from the College of William and Mary. Before enrolling in the LLM program at Temple, Robinette practiced law in Charlottesville, Virginia, with Trembley & Smith. He teaches torts, evidence, and professional responsibility and jurisprudence. **W**

Nancy G. Neslund joins Widener's



Harrisburg Campus as a visiting associate professor of law following seven years as a member of the full-time faculty at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New

York. She is a graduate of Columbia University School of Law, where she served as Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. She also holds a BA in Economics from Willamette University and an LLM from New York University. Neslund teaches federal income taxation, business organizations, and wills and trusts. **W**

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Dear Alumni and Friends:

Your alumni association has been busy organizing regional receptions, the golf outing, and the upcoming Alumni of the Year awards, as well as increasing participation on the association's executive council. I was overwhelmed at the response to my recent request to the classes who are not represented on the council. Letters were sent to alumni from the classes of '77-'80, '82-'83, '85, '87, '94-'95, '97-'98, '01, and '04, resulting in a mountain of résumés from excited alumni

wanting to join. I am thrilled that so many alumni are interested. Thank you to all who have responded!

The campaign for the Alfred Avins Special Collections Library is approaching its goal of \$250,000. More than 150 alumni have pledged and given in excess of \$170,000. We need to receive the additional \$80,000 from alumni and others who want to join in this tribute as soon as possible to honor Alfred Avins, the founder of our law school. A plaque depicting Dean Avins is near completion and will be placed outside the Avins Special Collections Library. John Wetzel '75 and I have been actively seeking pledges. We are truly in a "now or never" situation and ask all alumni to step forward today with a pledge or a gift.

We hope you enjoyed the 30th anniversary celebration at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia on Friday, October 7. Marking the 30th anniversary of the graduation of the law school's first class, the celebration was attended by graduates from many other classes as well. The fantastic venue and the presence of former deans and faculty contributed to make this a truly memorable night.

Dean Douglas Ray stepped down from the deanship in July and, after a sabbatical, he will return to academia. We thank Dean Ray for all that he has accomplished and for leading our school to new heights in his six-year tenure. He was a true leader to all constituencies of Widener law, from administrators to faculty to students to alumni. At his "retirement" party in June, administrators and faculty shared their tremendous respect and admiration for Dean Ray and his leadership. We wish him and his family only the very best in the future and will await his return to teaching. Good luck and thank you, Dean Ray!

Sincerely,

Steven Barsamian

Widener Alumni Admitted to U.S. Supreme Court Bar



The United States Supreme Court admitted a group of 48 Widener alumni, shown here on the steps of the Supreme Court, to its bar on Monday, May 23, 2005. Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Anthony M. Kennedy, and Antonin Scalia joined the Widener group at a reception after the ceremony.



Dean Douglas Ray (left) and Deborah McCreery, assistant dean for development/alumni relations (right), talked with United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia (center).

Golf Outing— May 16, 2005

Blessed by perfect weather, the 12th Annual Alumni and Friends Golf Outing at the Radnor Country Club provided a good time for all 86 golfers in attendance.



The winning foursome (*pictured, from left to right*) consisted of Neil Ahern, Andrew Blau, Michael Brenner, and Jeffrey Solar '85. Second place went to Rocco Imperatrice '80, Tom Carnwath, Carl Pierce, and Pat Sullivan. Thad Kim, a second-year law student, won the longest drive contest. The straightest drive contest was won by Paul Busty, and Steve Carabases '93 won the closest-to-the-pin contest.

The golf event raised \$3,000 for the law school's Loan Repayment Assistance Program, which provides grants to graduates who have chosen careers in public interest law.

*Widener law would like to thank the following sponsors for their support: ARAMARK, Eugene A. Bonner, Rich Budney '94, Darlene Bunitsky, Center City Reporting, Chadds Ford Winery, Club Craft, Declaration of Invitations, Michael G. DeFino '75, Delaware Paralegal Associates, Robert R. DeLong '99, Dilworth Paxson LLP, DuPont Country Club, Enterprise, Exclusively Legal Inc., Harry's Savoy Grill, Hotel DuPont, Legacy Planning Solutions, Maron & Marvel, Cecilia McCormick '91, Murphy Ford Company, Michael and Marion Newbold '85, Office Depot, Otto's BMW, Michael Paul & Associates, Ritz-Carlton Philadelphia, Robert Half Legal, Rothberg & Federman, Student Loan Express, and Visiting Angels. **W***

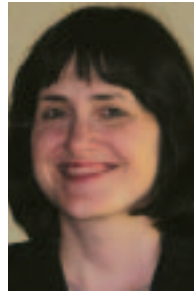
New Development/Alumni Relations Staff

The Widener University School of Law recently welcomed two additions to its development/alumni relations staff.



Rosemary Pall is the new director of the Widener Law Fund. She is a graduate of the Columbus School of Law of The Catholic University of America. Previously,

Rosemary worked in development and alumni relations for Holy Child Academy in Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania, and as an attorney in private practice. **W**



Mary Ann Jordano '89 joined the school as assistant director of development and alumni relations for the Harrisburg Campus. Bringing her unique perspective as a

Widener law graduate to the position, she will coordinate special events and serve as the contact person for Harrisburg Campus alumni and other alumni residing in the area. Previously, Mary Ann worked as a judicial clerk and in private practice. **W**

Harrisburg Alumni Reception Held in April

On April 6, 2005, Widener University School of Law hosted the Harrisburg Alumni Reception at the Harrisburg Hilton & Towers in downtown Harrisburg. The event drew a number of alumni, who appreciated the chance to renew friendships and network with their peers.

The next Harrisburg Alumni Reception will be held April 5, 2006. Please save the date and plan to attend. **W**

Commemorate the 30th anniversary of the first graduating class by purchasing Delaware Law School (DLS) memorabilia!



	Choice of Size/Color	Quantity	Price	Total
DLS gray long-sleeved hooded sweatshirt (replica of original, logo as pictured)	Size: M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___		@ \$45 =	
DLS ceramic coaster set (as pictured)	N/A		@ \$40 =	
DLS hat (one size fits all, stone color with blue lettering)	N/A		@ \$25 =	
DLS short-sleeved T-shirt (white or gray with blue seal)	Color: Size: M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___		@ \$25 =	
DLS long-sleeved T-shirt (white with blue seal)	Size: M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___		@ \$35 =	
DLS golf shirt (stone color)	Size: M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___		@ \$50 =	
Set of 4 DLS coffee mugs (blue with gold seal)	N/A		@ \$50 =	
Shipping and handling (per item)			@ \$ 3 =	
TOTAL OF ORDER				

Limited quantities available – Order Now!

Make checks payable to: Widener University School of Law
 Payment method: ___check ___ credit card Total due _____
 Credit card number: _____ MC ___ Visa ___
 Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

Send order with payment to:

Widener University School of Law
 Office of Alumni Relations & Development
 4601 Concord Pike, Geesey House
 Wilmington, Delaware 19803

CLASS NOTES



1975

Michael G. DeFino has been reappointed to a second term on the Delaware County Board of View.

1976

Francis J. Clifford, a 2002 recipient of the School of Law's Outstanding Service Award, has recently been appointed to the Alumni Association Executive Council. He practices real estate and environmental law in the Office of the General Counsel of the Air Force in Arlington, Virginia.

1977



James F. Kilcur, a partner and vice chair of Saul Ewing's Labor, Employment, and Employee Benefits Practice Group, recently addressed the National Academy of Arbitrators in Atlanta, Georgia. During his

address, he discussed factors that may influence an arbitration case and various advocacy techniques to achieve successful results.

1978

Edward J. DiDonato was appointed to and served on the U.S. Magistrate Judge Selection Panel. He has also served on two U.S. bankruptcy judge selection panels. DiDonato's firm, DiDonato & Winterhalter, PC, limits its practice to bankruptcy law. He is married, has three children, and resides in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania.

1980

Eugene A. DiPrinzio of the Wilmington, Delaware, firm of Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, was recognized as a leading practitioner in the real estate field by the 2005 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

Halvor L. Harley III was recently hired by Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management to head the Los Angeles regional office.

Alan B. Levin, chairman and CEO of Happy Harry's, Inc., has been named to a two-year term on the board of directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The 115-member board meets three times a year to set the chamber's policy and strategy.

Honorable Jeffrey S. Roth was appointed as municipal court judge for Manalapan Township in Monmouth County, New Jersey, in January 2005.

Howard P. Rovner of Rovner, Allen, Rovner, Zimmerman & Nash in Feasterville, Pennsylvania, has been nominated by Governor Edward Rendell to serve the remainder of the term of magisterial district judge Stephen Silverman, who passed away in December 2004. The vacant district court seat covers Lower Moreland, Bryn Athyn, and parts of Upper Moreland, Pennsylvania.

1981

Timothy J. Snyder, a partner with Young Conaway Stargatt and Taylor, LLP, of Wilmington, Delaware, has been included in the 2006–2007 edition of the National Register's *Who's Who in Executives and Professionals*.

1982

Kevin F. Brady has joined Connolly, Bove, Lodge & Hutz, LLP, as of counsel in the Corporate and Commercial Litigation Group. He will be working in the firm's Wilmington, Delaware, office.

Michael M. Ledyard spoke at the American Bankers Association Capital Markets Seminar held in April in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Mark V. Oddo, a partner in the law firm of Flynn & Associates, PC, of Marlton, New Jersey, took the oath of office as the 79th president of the Camden County Bar Association in May 2005. He will serve a one-year term.

1983

Richard D. Orlow became director and Audit Committee chairman of First Resource Bank, a community bank located in Exton, Pennsylvania. First Resource Bank caters to businesses, professionals and individuals in Chester County.

1984



Donna Lee Williams has been named the new director of government and industry affairs for AAA Mid-Atlantic. A former insurance commissioner for the state of Delaware, she resides in Dover, Delaware.

1985

Matthew I. Hirsch recently served as chair of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). He is also currently on several national committees for AILA and has become active in advocacy and education on immigration issues. For the past 13 years, Hirsch has taught immigration law at Widener University School of Law as an adjunct professor. He and his wife and three children live in Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.

1986

Richard A. DiLiberto Jr., a partner with Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, has been elected president of the Delaware Trial Lawyers Association for the 2005–2006 membership year.



Joel L. Frank, a partner at Lamb McErlane, PC, of West Chester, Pennsylvania, has been appointed to the Pennsylvania Federal Judicial Nominating Commission.

William L. O'Day has joined the Wilmington, Delaware, firm of Woloshin, Lynch, Natalie & Gagne, PA, as an associate. He will practice primarily in personal injury, domestic relations, and bankruptcy.

CLASS NOTES



Francis G.X. Pileggi (right) received a proclamation from the governor of Kentucky, Ernie Fletcher, appointing him as a Kentucky colonel, the highest honor awarded by the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels is a charitable organization that supports worthy causes.



1987

Robert Omrod was named senior vice president of ACE INA in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Martin S. Weisberg has joined Kaplin Stewart Meloff Reiter & Stein, PC, as a partner in its Haddonfield, New Jersey, office. He concentrates his practice in creditors' rights, mortgage and tax lien foreclosure, and bankruptcy.

James S. Yoder, counsel in the Wilmington, Delaware, office of White & Williams, has been appointed as a panel mediator and arbitrator by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in the District of Delaware. Yoder is counsel in the creditors' rights practice group of the business department.

1988

Barbara J. Gadbois was named director of the Consumer Protection Unit of the Office of the Attorney General for the state of Delaware. She became a deputy attorney general in 2004.



Andrew M. Hladio has opened an office in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. Hladio is currently an assistant public defender in Beaver County, a solicitor for the Ambridge Water Authority, a solicitor

for Homewood Borough, and a solicitor for the Beaver County Historical Research and Landmarks Foundation. He previously served as solicitor for the Beaver County Bicentennial Committee; president of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Western PA District; and legal director of the Ambridge Area Jaycees.

Derek R. Layser of Layser & Freiwald, PC, was a course planner and presenter for a Pennsylvania Bar Institute continuing legal education course titled "RX: Medication Error Liability." The course discussed the legal liability for medication errors of pharmacists in retail and hospital settings. Layser was recently named by *Law & Politics* as a "Pennsylvania Super Lawyer" for plaintiffs' personal injury-medical malpractice, which was published in *Philadelphia Magazine*. It was the second consecutive year that he received this honor.

Mary B. Matterer, an intellectual property practitioner, left Blank Rome's Wilmington, Delaware, office to join Morris, James, Hitchens & Williams, LLP, as a partner.

1989

Timothy R. Lawn was admitted as a member of the Raynes McCarty Trial and Appellate Lawyers firm, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Raymond McGarry and Matthew S. Wynn '91 have started a boutique litigation firm, Wynn McGarry, LLC, in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. They will practice in the areas of commercial and employment litigation and workers' compensation defense.

Michael G. Sabo has joined the firm of Rawle & Henderson, LLP, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

1990

Girard J. Mecadon was married to Christa Ann DeVizia on August 13 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Mecadon is a general practitioner with a law office in Pittston, Pennsylvania.

James K. Noel is a member of the business counseling group of McNeese Wallace & Nurick, LLC, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He was formerly with Solove & Noel, which recently merged with McNeese Wallace & Nurick.



John B. Whalen Jr. has joined the estates and trusts group of Lamb McErlane, PC, of West Chester, Pennsylvania.

1991

Kathleen (Cellucci) Clemmensen has joined LandAmerica Commercial Services in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as assistant vice president for business development.

Matthew S. Wynn and Raymond McGarry '89 have started a boutique litigation firm, Wynn McGarry LLC, in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. They will practice in the areas of commercial and employment litigation and workers' compensation defense.

1992

Miriam Benton Barish, a partner at Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman, and Smalley, PC, was a speaker at the seminar "Indoor Mold: Construction, Health & Legal Issues" held in June at Rutgers University.

Craig E. Bennett married Kathleen J. Garrity on June 10, 2004 in Branford, Connecticut. They live in Richmond, Virginia.

Jeffrey L. Dashevsky, an attorney with Dashevsky, Horwitz, DiSandro, Kuhn & Novello, PC, and a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Board of Governors, has been appointed to the Young Lawyers Division's 2020 Committee. He was also reappointed to the Judicial Selection and Retention Committee and the Pennsylvania Bar Association's House of Delegates.



Lisa Abramson Goldstein, president of Rainmaker Trainers, offered the course "Top Ten Tips to Becoming a Rainmaker" in July at The Union League in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Richard S. Rudolph was promoted to vice president and counsel at the Philadelphia Stock Exchange.

Regina Foley Tatlonghari, an associate with Raynes McCarty Trial and Appellate Lawyers, has been named a "Young Lawyer on the Fast Track" by *American Lawyer Media*.

1993

W. Christopher Componovo was elected vice president of the Board of Governors for the Delaware Trial Lawyers Association for the 2005-2006 membership year.



Scott B. Cooper, a partner in the Harrisburg law firm of Schmidt, Ronca & Kramer, PC, has been named the 2005 George F. Douglas Jr. Amicus Curiae Award honoree by the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association.

Given to one trial lawyer in Pennsylvania each year, this award recognizes outstanding accomplishments in brief writing and oral argument before Pennsylvania's highest courts. As an Amicus volunteer,

Cooper files briefs and presents arguments on behalf of Pennsylvania consumers on such issues as auto insurance law, medical malpractice, and workers' compensation.

Kelly R. Lewis is the new president and CEO of the Technology Council of Central Pennsylvania, located in Harrisburg. Lewis represented Monroe and Pike Counties in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives from 2001 to 2004 and was the Monroe County controller from 1996 to 2000.



Frances R. Roggenbaum has joined Cozen O'Connor's Insurance, Corporate, and Regulatory Group and is a senior member of the firm. She focuses her practice on the corporate, transactional,

and regulatory aspects of the insurance industry.

1994

Daniel Bencivenga, formerly with Williams, Cuker & Berezofsky, has joined Raynes McCarty Trial and Appellate Lawyers in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Nicholas M. D'Alessandro Jr. joined Lamb McErlane, PC, of West Chester, Pennsylvania. He concentrates his practice in civil and criminal matters, with an emphasis on commercial and

civil rights litigation.

Mark K. Emery and his wife, Catherine A. Boyle, welcomed twin boys, Nathan and Ryan, in October 2004. Mark is the owner of The Law Offices of Mark K. Emery and is a special referee with the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. Cathy is a partner in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, firm of Meyers, Desfor, Saltzgeber, & Boyle.

Lisa B. Goodman of Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor in Wilmington, Delaware, was recognized as a leading practitioner in the real estate field by the

2005 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

Gina Rubel is president of Furia Rubel, an integrated strategic communications firm based out of Perkasie, Pennsylvania. The Delaware Counsel Group recently named her company a public relations agency of record and Rubel as its chief communications officer.



David J. Shannon has been named the chair of Leonard & Sciolla's Intellectual Property and E-Commerce Group located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Shawn P. Tucker has joined Wolf, Block, Schorr, and Solis-Cohen, LLP, in Wilmington, Delaware, as a partner in the Real Estate Practice Group. He is a former Delaware deputy attorney general.

1995

John Coulby III has been elected as a partner with Collier Shannon Scott, PLLC, in Washington, DC, where he practices in the Intellectual Property Group.

John G. DeSimone was installed on June 10, 2005, as the 2005-2006 president of the Gloucester County Bar Association located in Woodbury, New Jersey. He serves the interests of approximately 265 members.

Daniel D. Haggerty was recently elected partner at Weir & Partners, based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He concentrates his practice in commercial litigation, bankruptcy, and transactional matters.

Scott A. Holt of Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor in Wilmington, Delaware, was recognized as a leading practitioner in the employment field by the 2005 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

Heather D. Jefferson, partner with The Delaware Counsel Group, LLP, presented on two panels regarding Delaware law issues at the 2005 Spring Meeting of the American Bar Association's Section of Business Law.

CLASS NOTES



Arthur D. Kuhl joined the Wilmington, Delaware, office of Reger Rizzo Kavulich & Darnall, LLP. He focuses on insurance defense litigation, subrogation, commercial transactions, and collections.

Thomas C. Zipfel and his wife welcomed a son, Owen, in October 2004.

1996

Charles A. Bruder joined Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus, PA, of Somerville, New Jersey, as an associate. He focuses his practice on income tax planning, wealth and succession planning, and retirement planning.

M. Blake Cleary has become a partner in the firm of Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP, in Wilmington, Delaware.

Julie S. Dvorak, manager of Pro Se Services in Wilmington, Delaware, will represent Delaware at a national summit in Chicago that deals with the future of self-represented litigation.

Stephen J. Labroli, an associate at Leonard, Tillery & Sciolla in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, recently gave a presentation to the Montgomery County Bar Association's Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Section regarding a successful in rem order he obtained against a serial bankruptcy filer.

G. Scott Walters has joined Smith, Currie & Hancock, LLP, in Atlanta, Georgia, where he will be practicing construction and environmental law.

1997

Adam Apatoff has founded Apatoff Peters, a Maryland firm designed to counsel businesses and individuals on technology, tax, corporate, and estate planning matters.



Stephen P. DeNittis has received an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell, which identifies a lawyer with very high to preeminent legal ability and very high ethical standards. DeNittis is a shareholder in the firm of Shabel & DeNittis, PC, in Marlton, New

Jersey. He concentrates his practice in the areas of class actions, consumer fraud, complex tort, and personal injury litigation.



Vincent T. Donohue, a partner in the business law practice of Lamb McErlane of West Chester, Pennsylvania, has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Chester County Historical Society.

Jason E. Fisher has become a partner at Lerch, Early & Brewer, located in Bethesda, Maryland.

Kristen L. Goddard married Courtney A. Hartman on August 7, 2004, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

George T. Lees III has become a member of Bifferato Gentilotti Biden of Wilmington, Delaware, heading the firm's Insurance Defense Department.

Daniel M. Lieberman was promoted to partner at the Lancaster firm of Barley Snyder, LLC. He concentrates his practice in workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, and general employment law.

Barbara C. Morrow has joined the Civil Litigation Department of Mallon & Blatcher in Media, Pennsylvania. Her practice will focus in the areas of casualty, products liability, and professional liability defense.



Lauren A. Tulli has been named a member of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, firm of Cozen O'Connor, where she concentrates her practice in the areas of arson and fraud defense, casualty defense, and insurance

coverage. Tulli previously served two federal clerkships in the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona.

Lisa Ann (Nelson) Vandenberg has been appointed as a court commissioner for the State of Arizona Superior Court in Phoenix. A court commissioner is a judicial officer charged with expediting and/or resolving matters that arise in the superior court. Prior to her appointment, Vandenberg served for three years as a staff attorney for the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Christine Zaccarelli was awarded the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Civil Legal Aid Attorney of the Year Award on May 4, 2005. She has been a staff attorney at Legal Aid of Southeastern Pennsylvania's Chester County Division since November 2002. She practices primarily in the areas of family law, bankruptcy, and social security disability.

1998

Paula M. Jones has joined McCarter & English in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as an associate concentrating her practice in estate planning, tax planning, and trust and estate administration.

Michael Seward presides as a domestic relations hearing officer in the Court of Common Pleas of Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. He was appointed to the position in 2003. Previously, he served as an assistant public defender in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.

Derrick W. Whetzel became a partner with the firm of Miller & Earle, PLLC, of Elkton, Maryland.

Patricia A. Widdoss has joined Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor as its first director of associate development. She will be involved in hiring and training new associates and will run the summer associate program and in-house continuing legal education.

1999

Alan G. Davis of Milton, Delaware, has been appointed by Governor Ruth Ann Minner to become chief magistrate of the Justice of the Peace Courts, the entry level to Delaware's court system. He serves as minority counsel in the state House of Representatives and is an associate attorney with the Georgetown firm of Henry Clay Davis III.



Christopher M. Galusha and his wife, **Alyson Sobel Galusha**, welcomed a son, Christopher Michael Jr., on December 28, 2004.

Robert J. Klug has joined the occupational disease and toxic tort practice of Motley Rice, LLC, of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.

Robert A. Mancini was recently promoted to chief deputy district attorney of the Office of the District Attorney for Bucks County, Pennsylvania. In addition to being the chief of the narcotics division, Mancini has prosecuted all types of major felonies for the last several years. In November 2004, he litigated his first capital murder case before a jury. During the last few years, Mancini has been an adjunct professor at Bucks County Community College, teaching history and criminal justice. He expects to complete his master's degree in humanities this summer.

Heather Mayer has joined the Somerville, New Jersey, law firm of Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, PA, as a financial analyst. A resident of Rockaway, New Jersey, Mayer previously worked as director of finance at the Stevens Institute of Technology.

Patrick J. Murphy, a former judge advocate for the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, recently joined Cozen O'Connor's Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, office as an associate in its commercial litigation practice.

Marlo Pagano-Kelleher was named a member at Cozen O'Connor in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She concentrates her practice in commercial and intellectual property litigation.

Janine A. Pavalone joined Vaughan Duffy & Connors of Exton, Pennsylvania, as an associate, concentrating her practice in insurance defense litigation.



John Patrick Rieder has accepted a position as assistant professor of law at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

2000

Robert K. Beste III has become associated with the firm of Smith Katzenstein Furlow, LLP, of Wilmington, Delaware.



Angela Y. DeMary recently participated on a panel before an audience of some 75 Cumberland County High School students during an annual Cumberland County College program titled SOAR (Seeking Out Alternative

Routes), which assists high school students in the exploration of career options. DeMary is an attorney with the law firm of Capehart Scatchard in Mt. Laurel, New Jersey.

Major Andrew Hutz is currently on active duty with the U.S. Army. He has been mobilized with the 42nd Infantry Division, New York Army National Guard, serving at the Forward Operating Base Speicher in Tikrit, Iraq. He is on military leave from his civilian job as law clerk to the Honorable Jeffery A. Smith.

Tiffany Geyer Lydon and her husband, Jason, welcomed their first child, son Cormac, on May 2, 2005. Tiffany continues to work as an associate at Ashby & Geddes in Wilmington, Delaware.

Jamie M. Magnani recently joined the law firm of Donovan Hatem, LLP, in Boston, Massachusetts. As an associate in the firm's Professional Practice Group, she represents architects, engineers, accountants, lawyers, and financial advisors.

Scott T. Rotkowitz was married on October 16, 2004, and is currently employed with Investment Property Exchange Services (IPX1031), a qualified intermediary performing 1031 like-kind exchange services.

2001

Nathan S. Henriksen is an attorney-advisor with the U.S. Department of Justice, Board of Immigration Appeals, in Falls Church, Virginia. He previously was an associate in the general practice firm of Menges, McLaughlin, Cunningham & Kalasnik, PC, in York, Pennsylvania.

Richard J. Hollowell has joined Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fires & Newby, LLP, as an associate. He concentrates his practice on the representation of insureds and self-insureds in the defense of general liability matters.

Ashley Mancinelli is currently working as the director of legal services for Heartly House, Inc., in Frederick, Maryland. She provides pro bono assistance in obtaining civil orders of protection and peace orders, as well as representation in a limited number of divorce and custody cases. Heartly House is a nonprofit organization in Frederick County that has been serving survivors of domestic violence, rape, and sexual assault for the past 25 years.

Christopher J. Schmidt received an LLM, with distinction, from Georgetown University Law Center.

Matthew R. Shindell has joined the firm of Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP, located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Renee T. Waskovich White is a night-shift emergency room nurse at Community Medical Center. She is also of counsel to Gluck & Allen, LLC, focusing on insurance subrogation. In addition, she serves as an adjunct instructor at Ocean County College for the Department of Business Studies, teaching Introduction to Nurse Paralegalism. Renee is married to Brian White '95 of Kelly, Nolan & White, LLC, in Brick, New Jersey, and is the mother of Thomas, 4, Reagan, 2, and Sean, 1.

CLASS NOTES



2002

Margaret F. England has joined the Wilmington, Delaware, office of Eckert Seamans. She practices in the litigation department.

Lisa Maria Riether and **Matthew Warren Ritter** of Bridgeton, New Jersey, have announced their engagement. Riether works as deputy attorney general for the state of New Jersey. Ritter is an attorney at Ritter Law Office. They have planned a November 5 wedding ceremony.

Christopher A. Selzer has joined McCarter & English, LLP, as an associate in the firm's Wilmington, Delaware, office. His practice focuses on transactional and commercial litigation in all Delaware courts.

Tracy Cabbage Stoehr has become an associate with the law firm of Rawle & Henderson, LLP, in Marlton, New Jersey.

Brian L. Ware joined Commerce Bank in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, as chief compliance officer. He oversees all of the bank's regulatory compliance and banking law functions.

Robert B. White III, who is an assistant deputy public defender, received the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award from the New Jersey State Bar Foundation. The award was given for his work at the McKinley Community School in New Brunswick, where he taught a 10-week, after-school law apprenticeship as part of the Citizen Schools project.

2003

Donald J. Bowman Jr., a former police detective, joined Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor in Wilmington, Delaware. He concentrates on bankruptcy and corporate restructuring.

Chaneta G. Brooks has joined the firm of Casarino, Christman & Shalk, PA, in Wilmington, Delaware, as an associate.

Heather L. Durrant joined the law firm of Villari Brandes & Kline. She will concentrate her practice in the areas of medical negligence and complex personal injury litigation.

Jeffrey Peter Hauck has been promoted to sergeant with the Bethlehem Township Police Department.

John A. Macconi Jr. has joined the firm Casarino, Christman & Shalk, PA, in Wilmington, Delaware, as an associate.

2004

Marie E. Aragona was recently sworn in as an assistant district attorney for Delaware County in Media, Pennsylvania.

Kimberly Albert Cannon married Rob Cannon on October 2, 2004. She has passed the Virginia Bar examination and has joined Smith & Greene, PLLC, as an associate in the firm's Fairfax, Virginia, office.

Jenel Marraccini Cantore has joined Gibley and McWilliams, PC, in Media, Pennsylvania. She will be practicing civil defense.

Robert C. Kay was named hospital compliance officer in May 2005 for Hahnemann University Hospital.

In Memoriam

Laurence John "Jack" Adams '90, MD, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, died on May 8, 2005 at the age of 78. After a long career practicing and teaching neurosurgery, he attended Widener, obtaining a JD. Combining his broad medical background and years of medical experience with his legal training, he went on to serve as a consultant on medical and legal issues. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite Swartz Adams, five sons, three daughters, and sixteen grandchildren.

Franklyn H. Kushner '86 of Boynton Beach, Florida, died October 24, 2004, at the age of 82.

Wanted: Class Notes

Class Notes invites alumni to write to the Development/Alumni Office with news of interest. If your name has not appeared recently in Class Notes, take a moment to share some news about yourself for an upcoming issue. If you wish, include a photograph with your information.

Name _____

Class Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Indicate: Home Work

Your news or comments

Write to: Alumni Office
Widener University School of Law
P.O. Box 7474
Wilmington, DE 19803-0474

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www.law.widener.edu