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FULLY TRAINED FOR THE PROFESSION

Passion for civic engagement

Active learning

21st-century legal education

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Widener University School of Law Magazine

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“Passion for engagement in the profession and in the community is a defining characteristic of legal education at Widener Law.”

GREETINGS! Each year, as the school year begins, I review the Widener Law Center’s mission, vision and goals. We are dedicated to providing the best learning environment and training for the formation of a well-rounded legal professional. ■ Once again, there is a national discourse in the academy about curriculum and what constitutes the best training for lawyers. The Widener Law Center is dedicated to academic excellence, as demonstrated by our rigorous traditional and innovative analytical instruction in the classroom. We also provide numerous applied skills-building opportunities in seven clinics, through public and private partnerships, and through externships, simulation courses and a multiplicity of *pro bono* projects. While others may be debating how and whether to integrate more skills training and service learning, Widener is demonstrating daily how theory, doctrine, skills and service need not be islands unto themselves, but are interconnected. ■ Passion for engagement in the profession and in the community is a defining characteristic of legal education at Widener Law. For example, at the 2008 graduations, 20 faculty and 65 students were recognized for the 5,963 hours they voluntarily devoted to *pro bono* and public service activities. ■ This issue of *Widener Law* is devoted to recognizing and celebrating our dedication to engagement in the classroom, at the courthouse, in our guild and on the city streets by students, faculty, staff and alumni. The ethos that fuels our commitment to skills-building and service is the understanding that the well trained are called to be at the front of the line in contributing to their communities. Widener believes that lawyers, in the pursuit of justice, in addition to making a good living, should also make a difference. ■

LINDA L. AMMONS, JD
ASSOCIATE PROVOST AND DEAN

A message from the alumni board president



“Pro bono is not limited to legal practice but extends to all aspects of our lives, including our law school. The possibilities for such service are interesting and limitless.”

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS: With the 2008-2009 academic year underway, it is a good time to think about how we can best serve our law school. Time passes so quickly and we are so absorbed in the daily rigors of our law practices that our own graduation may seem like a blur. So let's welcome this new year with a renewed dedication to our law school and a hope that more alumni will contribute their time, energy and resources to propel Widener to new levels of success and recognition. ■ Our commencements in May saw 302 new graduates in Wilmington and 123 in Harrisburg enter the legal world. Their enthusiasm and excitement were contagious and so reminiscent of mine and that of my friends when we graduated. As our newest alumni association members enter a world of law different and more technologically advanced than ever before, it is incumbent upon all of us, as alumni, to continue to support our school in every way possible. Our law school is increasing its bar pass rate with each year. The significant and far-reaching efforts of Dean Linda Ammons, our outstanding faculty and the focus of our Trustees and Overseers in addressing this issue had resulted in a Pennsylvania pass rate of more than 80 percent among first-time takes. ■ The concept of pro bono and volunteerism among lawyers is becoming an integral part of our lives and careers. Pro bono is not limited to legal practice but extends to all aspects of our lives, including our law school. The possibilities for such service are interesting and limitless. Alumni can participate in so many ways; for example, by lecturing in their fields of expertise, serving as mock trial judges, mentoring, fundraising, hosting events and so much more. It is up to you to determine not only how you want to participate but also what will give the most benefit to your school. ■ Substantial participation from our alumni will yield esteem and prestige for our alma mater. Your school wants and deserves your participation! A few hours of your time will make all the difference. Get involved today! ■

STEVEN P. BARSAMIAN '75
PRESIDENT, ALUMNI BOARD

Alumni Association

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SERVICE LEARNING AND LEGAL EDUCATION: A SENSE OF DUTY

Clinical programs,
internships and externships
provide Widener Law
students with numerous
opportunities to practice
community-based law.

By *Dana Harrington Conner,*
Nathaniel C. Nichols and
Thomas J. Reed

[Service learning is not a new idea](#) in legal education. Since the early 1900s, U.S. law schools have sponsored clinical programs that reach out to the greater community to provide desperately needed legal assistance to the poor and the homeless. Law schools were in the forefront of the search for social justice through law in the 1960s and 1970s. From the outset, law school clinics were designed to teach law students how to practice law effectively and compassionately, never forgetting that the primary mission of the legal system is to seek justice for all men and women regardless of race, creed, color, nationality or economic status.

This service learning tradition led Widener University School of Law to start its first clinical program in 1984. Dean Anthony Santoro and Delaware State Bar Association President Susan Del Pesco '75 were moved by the need for additional pro bono legal assistance in Delaware, since existing, over-stressed organizations such as Community Legal Aid and the Legal Services Corporation were having trouble meeting community needs. The law school hired John C. Landis as clinical director and opened the doors of the Delaware Civil Clinic (DCC) in September 1984. DCC law students worked with pro bono Delaware lawyer volunteers such as the late Louis Redding, Esq., serving those who would otherwise have no access to justice.

Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, Inc. (DVLS), the pro bono arm of the Delaware State Bar Association, and the law school joined forces in 1985 to expand pro bono legal services to Delaware residents. In 1997 the school became the hub of Delaware's civil legal services with the creation of the Legal Help Link (LHL), after the Delaware Supreme Court asked Widener Law and all legal aid organizations to develop a system to coordinate the activities of the First State's four pro bono legal service providers: DVLS, Community Legal Aid Society, Legal Services Corporation of Delaware and the Delaware Civil Clinic. LHL is a one-stop centralized intake system that enables a needy person to make one call to determine eligibility for pro bono services from one of the four Delaware legal services organizations. Delaware Civil Clinic interns help answer and screen LHL calls to determine if prospective clients need representation and where they



can best get help. The interns ensure that eligible callers are transferred to the appropriate organization. If the caller is financially ineligible, or the caller's problem is not handled by any of the legal organizations, LHL staff will complete a lawyer referral form for the Delaware State Bar Association.

The Law School added a second clinic for Delaware County, PA, residents in September 1985, designed to represent poor people in civil and domestic relations matters in the Court of Common Pleas. Professor Francis Catania was the first director of the Pennsylvania Civil Clinic (PCC); Professor Nathaniel C. Nichols joined the faculty the next year to open a bankruptcy division in the PCC for those on public assistance who were being hounded by creditors. Professor David Hodas launched the Environmental Law Clinic in 1989 to act as a "private attorney general" to enforce Clean Water Act and Clear Air Act standards in Delaware and Southeastern Pennsylvania.

Professor J. Palmer Lockard started a second Pennsylvania Civil Clinic at the Law School's Harrisburg campus in 1991. This branch of the PCC represents poor persons in landlord-tenant disputes, in domestic relations matters and in consumer credit issues. In 1994, Professor

Judith Ritter became the first director of the Pennsylvania Criminal Defense Clinic, training students to prepare and try misdemeanor cases in Chester County. In 1997, Professor Tom Reed started a pro bono program to assist disabled veterans with VA compensation cases in conjunction with DVLS, which became a Law School clinic in 2006.

The Law School operated seven in-house clinics and four externship programs in 2007-08, designed to meet service learning goals and to afford each law student the opportunity for hands-on practical experience under the watchful eyes of experienced practitioners and judges.

Extern placements with area judges and nonprofit agencies are another service learning pathway that integrates dozens of law students into real-world skills training and useful service to the greater Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania communities. Externship students choose from more than 70 different placements with county prosecutors, public defenders, legal services, the federal government, state legal and county law departments, general counsel offices for private corporations and numerous public-interest law offices. Externs work under the supervision of practicing lawyers, drafting documents, appearing before state courts and learning, first-hand, the essential tools they



STUDENT SERVICE

Widener Law faculty are joined in their commitment to service by our students, who contribute to their communities in countless ways:

- More than 60 graduates of the Class of 2008 earned Pro Bono Service Recognition for having performed at least 60 hours of pro bono service (30 hours for master of laws students) after their first year of law school.
- In the spring of 2008 alone, Delaware students, working through the Widener Law Public Interest Resource Center, volunteered 1,455 hours to a broad range of organizations and initiatives, including the Wilmington Hospital Women's Clinic, Legal Help Link, Habitat for Humanity, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, the Pardons Project, Delaware Volunteer Legal Services, the Martin Luther King Semester of Service and Philadelphia Clean-Up Day.
- Widener Harrisburg students likewise organized and participated in a number of service initiatives, including Phi Alpha Delta's food drive to benefit the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, the Federalist Society's holiday collection for troops, the Black Student BLSA/MLSA blood drive, the SBA/YWCA Charity Child Ornament Tree, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program and the Environmental Law & Policy Society's Litter Cleanup.

will need to become great lawyers. Externship students experience the synergism that occurs when what is learned in the classroom is applied in the practice of law.

Andrei Govorov '08 is an example of this synergism in action. Mr. Govorov was a clinical extern in a county district attorney's office, who took trial advocacy and the externship in the same semester. His trial advocacy professor, a former prosecutor, explained the problem he once faced when attempting to link a defendant to the hit-and-run of a pedestrian who had been rendered a paraplegic. He was able to link the defendant to the crime by using the hood ornament left at the scene, which matched the one that had been on the defendant's vehicle.

Clinical interns and externs master the fundamental lawyering skills spelled out in the 1992 ABA MacCrate Commission Report: problem solving, factual investigation, counseling, negotiation, litigation and alternative dispute resolution, organization and management of legal work, and recognizing and resolving ethical dilemmas.

Widener's clinical programs have achieved some notable successes. The Veterans Law Clinic assists disabled veterans and dependents with VA compensation cases. In 2006, Professor Reed took the case of Reginald Tyler, a Delaware Army National Guard sergeant who discovered he had stomach cancer when his unit was called up for service as part of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2003. Army surgeons removed about half of Tyler's stomach, leaving him with many residuals, the worst being "dumping syndrome." The Army found Sgt. Tyler unfit for further duty due to his cancer, but awarded him no disability. After the *Wilmington News-Journal* spotlighted Sgt. Tyler's unfair treatment by the Army, U.S. Senator Joseph Biden's caseworker, Brian Cunningham '02, put him in touch with Professor Reed and his interns. The Veterans Law Clinic took the case before the Army Board for Correction of Military Records. Professor Reed was able to get a prominent New York physician to review Sgt. Tyler's claim file and write a medical opinion letter demonstrating that he was 40% disabled due to residuals of his stomach surgery. The Army changed its mind and awarded the sergeant disability retirement benefits.

The Law School's clinical programs engage with some of the most challenging legal problems in our society. Delaware Civil Clinic students fight a daily battle to

eradicate violence against women in our society. Pennsylvania Criminal Law interns ensure that those accused of crimes are treated fairly by our system of justice and receive the much-needed representation they deserve. Veterans Law interns protect the rights of veterans. Harrisburg Pennsylvania Civil Clinic students save many individuals from homelessness, while Environmental Law interns work diligently in the courts and our communities to clean up our environment.

Widener Law School clinical students handled 212 cases in academic year 2007-2008, representing more than 10,858 hours pro bono time. Law School clinical students gave legal services worth more than \$1,350,000 to needy individuals in Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. And law students assisted the Legal Help Link in responding to more than 4,500 individuals seeking legal assistance in the State of Delaware in calendar year 2007.

Widener University School of Law clinical students genuinely understand and embrace a sense of duty to give back to the community. Of our graduates' many accomplishments—success with important cases, recognition from their peers and other professional achievements—the one many suggest is the most gratifying is the work they conducted on their first cases as legal interns here at the law school. ■



Dana Harrington Conner is an associate professor at Widener University School of Law and is the director of the Delaware Civil Clinic.



Nathaniel C. Nichols is an associate professor of law and director of clinical programs at Widener University School of Law.



Thomas J. Reed is a professor of law and director of the Veterans Law Clinic at Widener University School of Law.

FACULTY SERVICE

Members of Widener University School of Law's faculty serve the legal profession and the community in numerous and diverse ways. In so doing, they inspire the law school's students to realize the importance of service as an integral component of their own legal experience.

LINDA L. AMMONS

- National Judicial College: faculty member
- ABA Legal Education & Admission to the Bar Section: chair, Curriculum Committee
- AALS: member, Government Relations Committee
- Women Dean's Databank: member, advisory board
- Minority Dean's Databank: member, advisory board
- Jefferson Medical College: senior scholar, Department of Health Policy
- Pennsylvania Department of the Treasury, e-Treasury Blue Ribbon Advisory Commission on Productivity Management: member
- Christiana Care Health System: trustee
- Delaware State Chamber of Commerce: member, board of directors

ANN BRITTON

- Gehenna Solutions: pro bono legal services
- AfricaEducation Sports: pro bono legal services

MARYANN BROWN

- Thorncroft Equestrian Center: volunteer

JOHN J. CAPOWSKI

- Member, committee drafting China's first evidence code

DANA HARRINGTON CONNER

- Delaware Domestic Violence Coordinating Council: member; co-chair, Fatal Incident Review Team
- Delaware State Commission on Family Law: member
- Delaware Volunteer Legal Services: pro bono legal and mentor services
- Delaware Family Court: pro bono appointments and mediator
- Law Day Speaker
- Delaware High School Mock Trial Competition: judge
- Melson-Arsht Inn of Court: member, executive committee, and CLE co-chair

ERIN DALY

- University of Pennsylvania Press: member, faculty editorial board

JULES EPSTEIN

- Pennsylvania Association of Defense Lawyers: member, Board of Directors; organizer and teacher of numerous CLE programs, particularly for capital cases, statewide
- Pennsylvania Bar Institute: organizer and teacher of numerous CLE programs
- Pennsylvania Commission Investigating the Causes of Wrongful Convictions: investigator of causes of wrongful convictions in criminal cases, with a goal of recommending reform and legislation to institutionalize practices that will lead to a lower risk of such erroneous convictions
- National Institute of Justice: participant on NIJ projects involving forensic science, particularly DNA
- Pennsylvania Jury Instructions Committee: member of committee that drafts proposed jury instructions for Pennsylvania criminal trials
- National Judicial College: faculty member, training judges

in capital case law and evidence; designer of programs for training judges and lawyers in capital case litigation

JOHN L. GEDID

- American Law Institute: elected member
- National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws: Pennsylvania commissioner
- Model State Administrative Procedure Act revision project: member, drafting committee, and former reporter
- Pennsylvania Bar Association Administrative Law Section: council member and past chair
- Pennsylvania Bar Association Statutory Law Committee: chair
- Journal of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary: member, board of editors
- Bowman Inn of Court in Harrisburg: master
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court Judicial Independence Commission: consultant

MICHAEL J. GOLDBERG

- Mid-Atlantic Environment Law Center Board of Directors: member
- Association for Union Democracy Board of Directors: member
- Union members: pro bono services

SUSAN L. GOLDBERG

- Delaware HHS Human Subjects Board: member of review board providing federally mandated review for all research projects involving those who receive services from the State of Delaware
- ASK: mentor to and driver of low-income children who are enrolled in after-school co-curricular enrichment activities

RUSSELL A. HAKES

- Uniform Commercial Code Committee, Section of Business Law, American Bar Association: member
- *Annual Survey of Commercial Law*: co-editor

LAWRENCE A. HAMERMESH

- ABA Business Law Section: chair, Committee on Corporate Practice; developer of model forms of documents governing corporate organization and process
- ABA Business Law Section: co-chair, Coordinating Committee for Delaware Business Law Forum, an annual program for transactional lawyers and Delaware judges to meet to discuss current issues in business law
- ABA Business Law Section: member, editorial board of *The Business Lawyer*; reviewer of and commenter on the content and publishability of articles, particularly those relating to Delaware business law
- Delaware State Bar Association: member, Council of the Corporation Law Section, responsible for the annual preparation and review of potential amendments to Delaware's influential General Corporation Law, as well as its statutes governing partnerships, limited partnerships and limited liability companies
- ACLU Delaware: member, board of directors and legal review committee
- ACLU National Board: affiliate representative

STEPHEN E. HENDERSON

- American Bar Association: reporter, Criminal Justice Standards Task Force on Transaction Surveillance
- AALS Criminal Justice Section Executive Committee: member

DAVID R. HODAS

- ABA: Board of Editors, Natural Resources & Environment
- IUCN Academy of Environmental Law: member, board of governors
- Delaware Governor's Energy Advisory Council: chair

LESLIE A. JOHNSON

- ING, Lunch-and-Learn: teacher, Wills and Estates: The Basics

ALICIA B. KELLY

- AALS Family and Juvenile Law Section Executive Board: secretary/treasurer and chair of the section mentor program

J. PATRICK KELLY

- People to People, International, Delaware Chapter: member, board of directors
- Water is Life: member, board of directors
- American Society of International Law – International Economic Section: member, advisory board

MARTIN A. KOTLER

- TALK, Inc.: pro bono legal service
- American Law Institute: member, Consultative Committee – 3rd Restatement Torts

G. RANDALL LEE

- Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers: organizer, second annual meeting

ROBERT JUSTIN LIPKIN

- Planned Parenthood of Nebraska: consultant

NICHOLAS A. MIRKAY

- Delaware Tax Institute Planning Committee: member and presenter
- ABA: member, Section on Taxation, Exempt Organizations and Teach Taxation Committees
- AALS: member, Nonprofit Law and Philanthropy
- AALS: member, Taxation Section
- Food Bank of Delaware: chair, board of directors
- Pro bono legal service: Adoptive Families with Information and Support, Animal Friends Forever, Building Bridges, Delaware Kenya Association, Delaware YWCA, Delmarva Environmental Sustainability Coalition, Food Bank of Delaware, Security on Campus, Wilmington Youth Jazz Band

H. GEOFFREY MOULTON

- Natural Lands Trust: member, board of directors
- American Law Institute: member, Consultative Group, Model Penal Code: Sentencing

WESLEY M. OLIVER

- U.S. House of Representatives: campaign manager

THADDEUS M. POPE

- Philly Spring Cleanup: participant
- Community education on end-of-life planning
- American Society of Bioethics and Humanities: reviewer
- American Society of Legal Medicine: drafter of problem for 17th Annual National Health Law Moot Court competition

**ROBERT C. POWER**

- Unitarian Church of Harrisburg: group discussion leader, Constitutional Interpretation and the Amendment Process
- Performer, musical organizations that give free concerts at local churches, parks, nursing homes and civic fund-raising events such as Special Olympics and walk-a-thons

THOMAS J. REED

- Civil War Round Table of Wilmington, Delaware: pro bono service and past president
- Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route of Delaware: secretary and lawyer for the corporation
- National Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route: lawyer for the corporation
- Pennsylvania Bar Association: member, PBA Veterans and Military Law Committee
- Delaware State Bar Association: member, Veterans and Military Law Committee
- New Castle County, DE, Justices of the Peace: presenter

CHRISTOPHER J. ROBINETTE

- AALS Torts and Compensation Section

MARY ANN ROBINSON

- Baptist Church in the Great Valley: moderator

ANDREW L. STRAUSS

- University of Iowa and Vermont Law, School Climate Legacy Initiative: member, consultant working group
- Citizens For Global Solutions, World Federalist Institute: fellow
- Center for U.N. Reform Education Advisory Board: member

KATHLEEN M. TUREZYN

- Chester Youth court: participant

SERENA M. WILLIAMS

- Walnut Street YMCA: advisor to the Youth in Government Delegation
- ACLU of Delaware Board of Directors: member



THE IMPORTANCE *of* PROFESSIONALISM

Long before the Carnegie Foundation's recent national critique on legal education, Widener Law understood professionalism to be a vital component of how it prepares future attorneys.

By John L. Gedid

A current concern of the legal profession

is lack of professionalism among lawyers. The American Bar Association and most state and local bar associations have formed committees to study the causes of weakening professionalism among lawyers and to attempt to reverse this trend. Recently, the Carnegie Foundation published a study entitled *Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession* (William Sullivan et al, *Educating Lawyers*, Carnegie Foundation, 2007), which concludes that American law schools fail to teach professionalism effectively.

What is lawyer professionalism? The bar journals and law reviews cannot agree on the meaning of this term, and they also fail to consider the basis or source from which professional obligations arise. Only if we understand the basis or source of professionalism will we be able to agree on a meaning of that term.

The Carnegie Foundation in *Educating Lawyers* described the source of legal professionalism:

Law is ... a particularly public profession. [L]awyers ... [are] charged with making the legal system function.... Professions operate within ... explicit contract[s] with society... . In exchange for privileges such as monopoly on the ability to practice, professions agree to provide certain important social services. ... The basis of these contracts is a set of common goals shared by the public and for which ... professions take responsibility. These are public values, and the core of professional privilege is based on the professions' willingness to commit to them.

Law is a “public profession”; it squarely fits the Carnegie exchange contract definition. This concept of exchange has profound consequences for understanding professionalism. It makes clear that our profession has obligations to the public and to the legal system as a whole as well as to our clients. If carried one step further, this analysis can explain obligations that some lawyers occasionally question. For example, as lawyers we have a duty to perform pro bono work because our adversarial system of justice will not operate properly in the absence of counsel. So, as part of our public duty to help assure that our legal system delivers justice, we represent those who cannot afford to pay for an attorney. Thus, pro bono service is not charity, but one of the duties of a public profession.

A definition of professionalism for lawyers must take this social contract between the legal profession and society into account. Many of the general meanings were captured by the American Bar Association’s Model Rules of Professional Conduct in, of all places, the Preamble, which recited: “A lawyer, as a member of the legal profession, is a representative of clients, an officer of the legal system and a public citizen

having special responsibility for the quality of justice.” (*Model Rules of Professional Conduct*, American Bar Association, 2004, Preamble)

How can law schools teach this complex concept? The Carnegie Foundation Report concludes that American law schools have failed to teach professionalism effectively, but the authors of the Report admit that they don’t know how that task can be accomplished!

Widener Law School has some suggestions and solutions to cure the professionalism gap. Widener Law many years ago adopted a curriculum that was calculated to teach *professional skills*—lawyering—as well as traditional formal legal analysis. Teaching professional skills necessarily involves students in learning professionalism.

Since its founding in the 1970s, Widener Law included professional skills training in its curricular offerings. In doing so, Widener was to some extent “swimming against the tide,” because this was many years before those practices became fashionable in the legal academy.

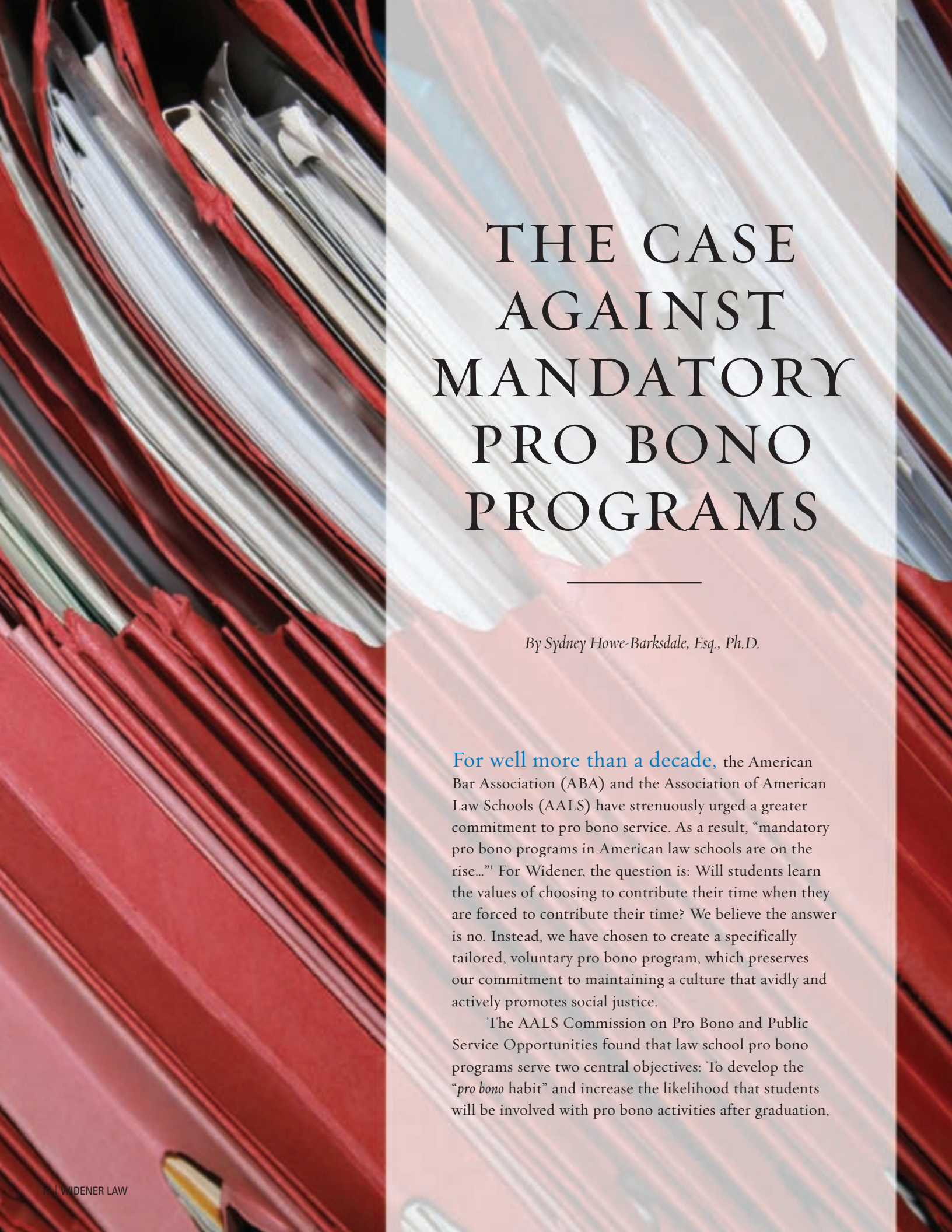
We made extensive use of clinics, externships and internships, and simulations. For example, we were one of the first schools to use the National Institute of Trial Advocacy total immersion model in our Intensive Trial Advocacy Program. By imitating the behavior of lawyers in these simulations, students learn expected professional behavior from the supervising bench and bar.

In our clinics, students work on cases for real clients with lawyer educators. Our students observe models of professional practice and are held to standards of professional behavior in the client work that they perform. Widener has also for many years made substantial use of externships and internships, where students work on real problems under the tutelage of judges and lawyers. In all of these activities, they absorb and are held to standards of professionalism. Finally, Widener Law has for many years included pro bono work by students as a professional obligation of novice lawyers.

The Widener mission continues to be producing not only graduates skilled in legal analysis and strategy but also professionals skilled in lawyering. That has been our educational goal since our inception. Our alumni are professionals. ■



John L. Gedid is Vice Dean of the Harrisburg Campus, Director of the Harrisburg Campus’s Law and Government Institute, and Professor of Law.



THE CASE AGAINST MANDATORY PRO BONO PROGRAMS

By Sydney Howe-Barksdale, Esq., Ph.D.

For well more than a decade, the American Bar Association (ABA) and the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) have strenuously urged a greater commitment to pro bono service. As a result, “mandatory pro bono programs in American law schools are on the rise...”¹ For Widener, the question is: Will students learn the values of choosing to contribute their time when they are forced to contribute their time? We believe the answer is no. Instead, we have chosen to create a specifically tailored, voluntary pro bono program, which preserves our commitment to maintaining a culture that avidly and actively promotes social justice.

The AALS Commission on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities found that law school pro bono programs serve two central objectives: To develop the “*pro bono habit*” and increase the likelihood that students will be involved with pro bono activities after graduation,

and to enhance the educational experience. Widener University School of Law recognizes the importance of both objectives, especially the second. But the latest evidence questions the long-term effectiveness of mandatory programs.² Widener University School of Law hopes to impress on our students that purposeful recognition of humanity in legal work and a conscious commitment to social justice are equally important objectives for new graduates of any law school. Reflection on these values is lost in a mandatory program.

Choosing to engage in pro bono service may provide students with their only direct knowledge of how the legal system serves (or fails to serve) the poor. Reflection on their service may link substantive issues discussed in doctrinal courses, and involvement in public service can provide opportunities for students to learn legal skills, explore alternative career options, develop professional contacts, and become involved in their communities. When making the decision to work for social justice, however, students learn to see humanity. This recognition will likely inform their practices and in a concrete way teach substance about the client's role in the decision-making process and the attorney-client relationship.³

Modeling a culture of commitment to social justice is what is required to foster a student's conscious commitment. The AALS emphasizes the influence of the dean and faculty on the culture of any law school, especially in encouraging student enthusiasm for public service. Using a dual standard, mandatory requirement for students with no requirement for faculty may send mixed messages and may discourage the integration of pro bono service and related issues in the general coursework.

At Widener Law, the working premise is that pro bono service is de facto legitimate and should be connected to as many aspects of the students' experiences as possible. Faculty are deeply engaged in public service and helped initiate many new service opportunities, including the Martin Luther King Semester of Service. Dean Linda Ammons enjoys highlighting these accomplishments and has included statements of praise in her Commencement address, at faculty and staff meetings, and in other open

forums, publicly telling all involved that their work was valued and important in the culture of Widener University School of Law. The Dean's commitment creates a standard of inclusion of "*pro bono publico* consciousness" in the traditions of Widener Law and models the kind of behavior expected by all at the law school.

This culture of commitment is one way Widener Law addresses the needs of the "whole Widener Law student." Many of our students are first-generation and find themselves between the worlds of their families and their profession. These students express a strong need to connect with populations that have traditionally been underserved by the legal profession. At Widener Law, the concept of pro bono service is not limited to voluntary, free legal services to indigent clients. For us, public service encompasses unpaid nonprofit work, as well as community development activities, because it may allow some of our students to serve their home communities in ways we may not imagine. ■

¹ Storrow & Turner, *supra* note 1, at 493.

² Granfield's study (2007), *supra* note 4, at 1376, 1379, indicates that there is no greater chance of instilling the pro bono habit using a mandatory pro bono service requirement than not requiring pro bono service. Granfield surveyed 474 practicing attorneys who graduated from three law schools with mandatory requirements. Despite the fact that 75% felt generally satisfied with their pro bono placements (including level of supervision, variety of placements to choose from, level of responsibility and opportunity for client contact), only half of the respondents believed that their law school pro bono experiences made them any more committed to doing pro bono as a practicing attorney.

³ Widener School of Law Ad Hoc Committee on Public Service Certification, Public Service Certification Program Proposal, 1, 2 (2004).



Dr. Howe-Barksdale is director of Widener Law's Public Interest Resource Center and is a Professor of Legal Methods and Public Interest Law.



ERIN DALY



MICHAEL DIMINO



JILL FAMILY



ANDREW FICHTER



ALAN GARFIELD



WESLEY OLIVER

LINDA L. AMMONS received the Leadership Award from the Delaware Network of the American Council on Education's Office of Women in Higher Education in April. Dean Ammons has been on the faculty of the National Judicial College in Reno, NV, since 1993, and was recognized by the College for 15 years of dedicated service. She is serving as the chair of the Curriculum Committee of the American Bar Association's Section of Legal Education & Admissions to the Bar and is serving a three-year term on the Government Relations Committee of the Association of American Law Schools. She is also a member of the advisory boards of the Women Dean's Databank and the Minority Deans' Databank. In 2007, Dean Ammons was named a senior scholar in the Department of Health Policy at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. Also that year, she was appointed by Pennsylvania State Treasurer Robin Weissmann to the e-Treasury Blue Ribbon Advisory Commission on Productivity Management and was named a trustee of the Christiana Care Health System of Wilmington. In 2008, she was named to the board of directors of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce.

JOHN CAPOWSKI presented to the faculty of law at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) in Sydney, Australia, on China's existing judicial process and the Chinese effort to establish the country's first evidence code. Professor Capowski was in Sydney teaching Comparative Civil Procedure in Widener's international program with UTS. He also spoke to the faculty at the Law School's Wilmington campus on China's judicial system and the efforts to reform the system.

ERIN DALY presented "Constitutions in Transition" at the International Studies Association's annual conference in San Francisco as part of a series of panels on transitional justice.

JOHN C. DERNBACH presented "Achieving Early and Substantial Greenhouse Gas Reductions Under a Post-Kyoto Agreement" at the ABA Standing Committee on Environmental Law's National Spring

Conference on the Environment, held in Baltimore. He participated in a State Department-sponsored speaking trip in July to Kazakhstan, where he talked with government officials, nongovernmental organizations, media and students about climate change and sustainable development.

MICHAEL R. DIMINO, SR., appeared on a panel on judicial accountability at the Notre Dame Law School. He also appeared on a panel at a Fordham Law School symposium that included Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer and former Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. The subject was judicial independence and accountability.

JULES EPSTEIN received the President's Award for Distinguished Service from the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Professor Epstein also planned and taught capital case CLE programs for the Pennsylvania Association of Defense Lawyers in April and for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute's (PBI) Annual Criminal Law Symposium in May; he planned and taught a program on federal habeas litigation with PBI and judges of the United States District Court of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in June. Professor Epstein continues as faculty for the National Judicial College, and will be teaching Advanced Evidence and other courses in November. He is also helping the NJC plan capital case trainings for Pennsylvania. Professor Epstein is working on a National Institute of Justice workgroup designing training materials for defense counsel in cases involving forensic DNA. He remains active in the Pennsylvania commission investigating wrongful convictions.

TONYA M. EVANS-WALLS was recognized by *Writer's Digest*, which named her website, www.literarylawguide.com, as one of the "101 Best Websites for Writers 2008," and by *ForeWord*, which awarded her book *Contracts Companion for Writers* the Bronze Award in its 2007 Book of the Year Awards-Reference category. Professor Evans-Walls also presented "Legal Matters that Matter to Writers" at the Annual Colorado Independent Publishers Association College in Denver in March.

JILL E. FAMILY presented “A Broader View of the Immigration Adjudication Problem” at the Summer Scholarship Lunch Series on Widener Law’s Harrisburg campus in June, and “Immigration Judicial Review Waivers” to the Law & Society Annual Conference in Montreal on May 30. She was a discussion leader, responding to the paper “Fitting Punishment,” by Professor Juliet Stumpf, at the Immigration Law Teachers’ Workshop in Miami in May.

ANDREW J. FICHTER presented papers at the Drexel Law Symposium, at Temple Law School and at the Health Law Teachers’ Conference. He was also a panelist at the Widener University School of Business Administration and Healthcare Leadership Network, on the topic of “Physician Apology Laws.”

ALAN E. GARFIELD’S article “Finding Shared Values in a Diverse Society: Lessons from the Intelligent Design Controversy” was accepted for publication by the *Vermont Law Review*. Professor Garfield also co-authored an amicus brief filed in the Supreme Court by the Jewish Social Policy Action Network in a free speech case, *Summa v. Pleasant Grove*, which will be argued this fall. The amicus brief reminds the Court to consider the Establishment Clause implications of a city’s decision regarding religious monuments in a public park. In May, Professor Garfield was a speaker for the Delaware Historical Society Signature Series. He spoke about issues pertaining to separation of church and state.

RUSSELL A. HAKES gave a presentation at the “Introduction to Strategic Planning” panel at the Associate Deans’ Conference of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar in Denver in June.

LOUISE L. HILL presented a one-hour, live, national telebroadcast on ethics, sponsored by the National Business Institute, earlier this year. The title of the program was “Changing Technology and Attorney Client Privilege.” During Professor Hill’s presentation, she addressed how changing technology

brings ethical dilemmas, distinctions between confidentiality and privilege, the impact of globalization on these matters, and to whom and to what the privilege attaches. Following her presentation, Professor Hill entertained questions on her material from the national audience.

J. PATRICK KELLY delivered “Naturalism in International Adjudication” at the Duke Law School symposium entitled “Public and Private Law in the Global Adjudicative System.” The *Duke Journal of Comparative and International Law* is publishing the article based on this paper. Professor Kelly has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the International Economic Law Interest Group of the American Society of International Law (ASIL). At the ASIL Annual Meeting earlier this year, Professor Kelly spoke on “Legal Education in Kenya” as part of a panel on International Legal Education Initiatives in Africa.

KENNETH T. KRISTL presented “New Jersey v. Delaware: Is the War Finally Over?” at the 144th Annual Meeting of the Delaware Historical Society in May. His presentation addressed the 300-year-old dispute over the New Jersey-Delaware border and the recent United States Supreme Court opinion upholding Delaware’s right to regulate a liquefied natural gas terminal on the New Jersey side of the Delaware River. Professor Kristl and the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic hosted a mock oral argument to help the State of Delaware prepare for the Supreme Court and attended the oral arguments in November 2007.

G. RANDALL LEE received the 2008 Fidelis Award from the Saint Thomas More Society of the Diocese of Harrisburg. Previous winners include Supreme Court litigator William Ball, former Pennsylvania Governor Robert Casey and former U.S. Senator Rick Santorum. The award was created to recognize uncompromising commitment to the Catholic faith, unyielding interest

in justice, and steadfast dedication to the ideals of Saint Thomas More. The award was presented by Society President Lora Kulik, Bishop Kevin Rhoades and Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll. Professor Lee also presented two Continuing Legal Education programs for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute’s Real Estate Lawyers’ Conference in Philadelphia, on “Too Great an Expectation: Does Charles Dickens Demand Too Much of Today’s Lawyer?” He presented CLEs for PBI in Mechanicsburg, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, on “Robert Coles and a Lawyer’s Pursuit of Professionalism: Embracing Wisdom in an Information Age,” organized a CLE panel for PBI and the Pennsylvania Bar Association Professionalism Committee, and spoke at a Bioethics and Law Conference at Franciscan University.

JULIET M. MORINGIELLO taught a one-day course, Electronic Commerce, at the 45th Academy of American and International Law, at the Center for American and International Law in Plano, TX. The annual Academy gives lawyers and judges from around the world the opportunity to study American and international legal and business institutions.

WESLEY M. OLIVER spoke on “The Role of Portland, Maine, in Reshaping the History of Search and Seizure” at the University of Maine Law School.

ROBERT C. POWER led a breakout session on the application of the Constitution outside of U.S. territory at the Association of American Law School’s mid-year Session on Constitutional Law.

CHRISTOPHER J. ROBINETTE will have his symposium essay “Peace: A Public Purpose for Punitive Damages?” reprinted in an edited volume from AMICUS Books entitled *Punitive Damages – A Critical Perspective*. He also organized a highly successful and well-received first national symposium on “CrimTorts,” held on the Harrisburg campus.

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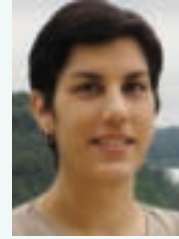
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STARLA J. WILLIAMS joins the Widener-Harrisburg faculty as a legal writing professor. Professor Williams earned a master of law degree from Georgetown

University Law Center and a bachelor of arts degree in government from Georgetown University. She received her JD from Duquesne University School of Law and was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1991. She has served as a judicial clerk for Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court and in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania. While in private practice, Professor Williams represented birth parents in dependency proceedings before the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County – Family Division. She presents at national conferences on the topics of adoption, subsidized permanent legal custodianship, kinship foster care and racial disproportionality in the child welfare system. She has authored several articles and newsletter publications on child welfare law and policy reform.

JENNIFER LEAR joins Widener-Harrisburg as a visiting legal writing professor. Professor Lear is a graduate of the College of William & Mary and George Washington University Law School (*cum laude*). Following graduation, she practiced at the Washington, DC, law firm Crowell & Moring LLP, then returned to GW to teach legal research and writing as an adjunct professor. From 1997 to 2007, she was a writing consultant, developing and conducting courses for attorneys, paralegals, LLM candidates, business professionals and secondary school students. Most recently Professor Lear served as an adjunct professor at Widener-Harrisburg and at Elizabethtown College.



DIONNE E. ANTHON joins Widener-Harrisburg as a legal writing professor. Professor Anthon earned a BS in economics from the Wharton School of the University of

Pennsylvania, an MBA from Georgetown University and a JD from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where she served as a production editor of the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* and was elected to the Order of the Coif. Following graduation from law school, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Christopher C. Conner of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Professor Anthon is the author of *Unconventional Decisions: Challenging the Use of Hotel Taxes in Convention Center Projects*, 7 U. Pa. J. Const. L. 533 (2004).



THADDEUS M. POPE joins Widener Law as an associate professor of law. He assumes the tenure-track position after spending the 2007-2008 academic year on the Delaware

campus as a visiting assistant professor. Professor Pope holds both a law degree and a Ph.D. from Georgetown University. Prior to his arrival at Widener in 2007, he was an assistant professor of law at the University of Memphis. Professor Pope also has worked in private practice as an associate at Arnold & Porter LLP in Los Angeles and has clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit. He teaches and writes in the areas of health law, bioethics and torts, and his classes will be a part of the program offered by Widener's nationally ranked Health Law Institute.

Events

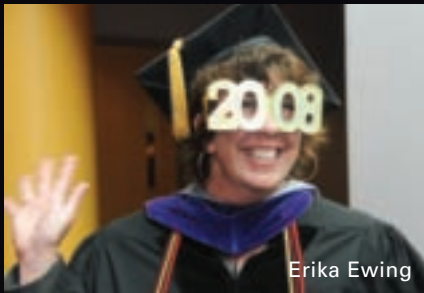
Commencement 2008

The 34th graduating class of Widener University School of Law's Delaware campus received diplomas in a ceremony on the school lawn on May 17. The 302 graduates heard remarks from the Hon. Theodore McKee, judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, who was given an honorary degree. The class also heard from extended-division valedictorian Christofer K. Bates and regular-division valedictorian Janine L. Hochberg.

The 17th graduating class of Widener Law's Harrisburg campus received diplomas on May 18 in a ceremony at The Forum, located in the Capitol Complex. The 123 graduates heard remarks from the Hon. Roger Gregory, judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, who was given an honorary degree. Valedictorian Michelle Lynn Groleau also addressed the class.

Widener University President James T. Harris III encouraged students from both campuses to be HEROes, or *honorable, engaged, respectful* and *open* to new ideas. "To the class of 2008, I know you possess the skills to be great attorneys and great leaders. When you face a difficult decision as an attorney, think of the definition of a hero," he said.

Dean Linda L. Ammons told the graduates that as attorneys, they are leaders. "Lawyers have the awesome responsibility to change lives," she said. "May your lives be filled with health and joy. May your careers prosper and take you to places you can only dream of."



Erika Ewing

The Hon. Theodore McKee, judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit



Graduate Khuram Zaman and family



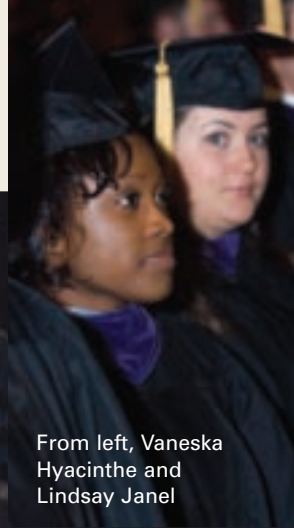
Delores Williams, left, and Patricia Winston

HARRISBURG COMMENCEMENT

The Hon. Roger Gregory, judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit



Graduate Amy B. Quimby sings the national anthem, while Dr. David W. Oskin, chairman of the Widener University board of trustees, and Widener President James T. Harris III listen.

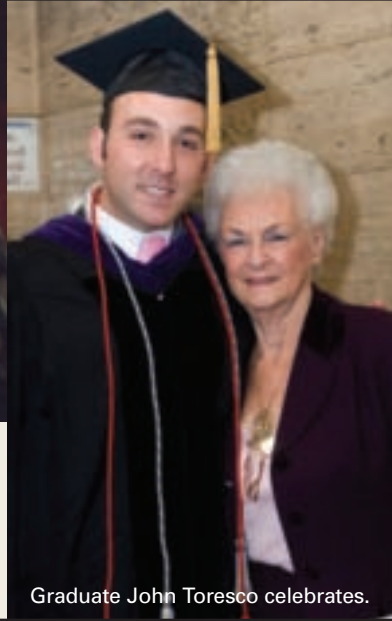


From left, Vaneska Hyacinthe and Lindsay Janel

Law Dean Linda L. Ammons addresses the Harrisburg graduates.



Professor Michael J. Cozzillio accepts the Harrisburg campus outstanding faculty award.



Graduate John Toresco celebrates.

DELAWARE COMMENCEMENT



Associate Professor Paul L. Regan accepts the Delaware campus outstanding faculty award.



Graduate Christina A. Gonzales and family

Campus Events



From left, Delaware Supreme Court Justices Carolyn Berger, Randy J. Holland and Henry duPont Ridgely



FIRST ANNUAL JUDGES' DAY INCLUDES ORAL ARGUMENTS IN FRONT OF DELAWARE SUPREME COURT

The Delaware Supreme Court visited the Delaware campus on April 8 to hear oral arguments in two cases, including a criminal matter argued by Widener Law alumni attorneys. The school used the occasion as the impetus for creating Judges' Day, a new annual event that brings in jurists from the region to teach classes, meet with faculty and spend time getting acquainted – or reacquainted – with the school. Jurists closed out the inaugural Judges' Day with a reception hosted by Dean Linda L. Ammons.

Middle: Deputy Attorney General Kevin M. Carroll '06 argues a point before a panel of the Delaware Supreme Court, while his opposing counsel, Assistant Public Defender Robert M. Goff, Jr. '88, listens.

Bottom: From left, Judges Christopher S. Sontchi and Mary F. Walrath, both of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware; Judge Maurino Rossanese, Jr. '75, of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas; Law Dean Linda L. Ammons; Delaware Justice of the Peace Chief Magistrate Alan G. Davis '99; Delaware Family Court Judge Patricia Tate Stewart '80 and Judges Joseph R. Slight and Jan R. Jurden, both of the Delaware Superior Court.



RENDELL SPEAKS AT HARRISBURG'S DEAN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM

The Harrisburg campus hosted the second annual Dean's Leadership Forum on Diversity March 17, with this year's focus being diversity in state government. Pennsylvania Gov. Edward G. Rendell talked about the importance of state government supporting minority- and women-owned businesses, his appointment of the Commonwealth's first chief diversity officer, Trent Hargrove – who also spoke at the forum – and his belief that Pennsylvania is fighting an important battle over the viability of the economy. Other speakers included Pennsylvania Rep. Thaddeus Kirkland, chairman of the Legislative Black Caucus; former Philadelphia Mayor John Street; former Washington, DC, Mayor Anthony Williams; and Pennsylvania Treasurer Robin L. Wiessmann.

Pennsylvania Gov. Edward G. Rendell



Former Washington, DC, Mayor Anthony Williams, Widener Law Dean Linda L. Ammons and former Philadelphia Mayor John Street



Professor John G. Culhane taught the students a course on torts.

“SUMMER CAMP” AT WIDENER LAW

Twenty-eight undergraduates from across the country were at Widener Law’s Delaware campus in June to attend the inaugural JURIST Academy, a two-week, summer camp-style program designed to introduce undergraduates from historically underrepresented populations to the idea of law school and a legal career. The participants took part in daily law classes set up just for them, in such subjects as torts, criminal law and legal writing. They also visited a law office and the Philadelphia District Attorney’s and Public Defender’s offices; discussed law school admissions and costs, extracurricular activities, and balancing law school with other responsibilities; and took a daily LSAT prep class, culminating in an LSAT practice exam.

Funded by E.I. duPont de Nemours & Co., Morris James LLP, Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, the Delaware State Bar Association’s Multicultural Judges and Lawyers Section, Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP, Saul Ewing LLP and BlueCross BlueShield of Delaware, the JURIST Academy was coordinated by the school’s Public Interest Resource Center, under the direction of Sydney Howe-Barksdale.

Top left: The program included a field trip to sponsor Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, where students heard from attorney and former judge Joshua W. Martin.

Top right: Alumnus Evan Liu, who holds both an MD and a JD, was a featured lunchtime speaker.

WIDENER HARRISBURG HOSTS FIRST-EVER NATIONAL “CRIMTORTS” CONFERENCE

About 75 people gathered on Widener’s Harrisburg campus on February 25 for the first national conference on “Crimtorts,” the expanding middle ground between criminal and tort law. A host of distinguished academics and legal experts explored the novel concept, which represents the blurring line between tort law and the criminal law principles of punishment and deterrence. Associate Professor Christopher J. Robinette organized the symposium, which was sponsored by the *Widener Law Journal*.



From left, Byron G. Stier, Associate Professor of Law at Southwestern Law School; Jeffery O’Connell, the Samuel H. McCoy II Professor of Law at the University of Virginia School of Law; Widener Law Associate Professor Michael R. Dimino Sr.; and Frank J. Vandall, Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law

AN ACTIVE SPRING FOR WIDENER LAW

Both campuses had spring semesters active with symposia. “The Delaware General Corporation Law for the 21st Century” was held May 5 on the Delaware campus and marked the first time the school webcast a program live from the Ruby R. Vale Moot Courtroom. More than 400 people took part in person or over the Internet. Other symposia included “Living with climate change: Legal challenges in a warmer world” on April 18 in Delaware, and “Crimtorts” February 25 in Harrisburg.

Left: Lindsay Wiley of the Center for Law and the Public’s Health at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins universities spoke at the Delaware campus symposium on climate change.



Campus Events

Competition winners Laura Tepich and Jonathan Squires



VALE MOOT COURT COMPETITION TURNS 20

The 20th Annual Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition closed Sunday, March 30, with the team from the University of Miami School of Law edging out the Mercer University School of Law team to win top honors. Delaware Supreme Court Justices Jack B. Jacobs and Henry duPont Ridgely, retired Justice Joseph T. Walsh, Delaware Court of Chancery Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons, and this year's competition distinguished scholar lecturer, Brian G. Cartwright, Esq., served as the bench for the final round. Cartwright, general counsel for the Securities and Exchange Commission, delivered a speech titled "The role of the states – foreign and domestic" during the competition weekend. Students from 23 law schools around the country took part.

Bottom left: Front row: Laura Hinson, J.C. and Sarah Howell, Laura Tepich, Jonathan Squires, Dean Linda L. Ammons; back row: Chris Featherstun, Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons, Justice Henry duPont Ridgely, Brian G. Cartwright, Esq., retired Justice Joseph T. Walsh, Justice Jack B. Jacobs, Eric Littlefield



Lawrence A. Hamermesh and Brian G. Cartwright

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES CONVERGE ON HARRISBURG

The law school welcomed more than 120 administrative law judges and other legal professionals from around the nation to Harrisburg when it hosted the mid-year meeting of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary in June. The event, "Keystones of Justice," was centered at the Harrisburg Hilton Hotel, but the law campus hosted the group for a reception one evening. Conference presenters included administrative law judges, academics, Commonwealth Court judges and Dean Linda L. Ammons. Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Thomas Saylor gave the event keynote address. Widener's Law & Government Institute, directed by Vice Dean John L. Gedid, was instrumental in bringing the meeting to Harrisburg.

From left, David Brunke, president of NAALJ, Stephen Wise, president-elect of NAALJ, Widener Law Dean Linda L. Ammons and Widener Harrisburg campus Vice Dean John Gedid. Brunke and Wise are administrative law judges in Texas and Iowa, respectively. Wise teaches with Dean Ammons each year at the National Judicial College in Reno, NV.





Dean of Students
Ann Fruth '92 (center)

HARRISBURG LUNCHEON WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Prior to the John Gedid Lecture in February, alumni, faculty and guests joined local high school students at Widener-Harrisburg for a special luncheon. Harvard Law Professor and Harrisburg native Kenneth Mack served as the luncheon's keynote speaker.



DUPONT DIVERSITY PIPELINE PROJECT WELCOMES WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOLERS

A group of juniors from Howard High School in Wilmington spent part of their day on the Delaware campus April 7 through the DuPont Diversity Pipeline Project, hosted by the law school and the Legal Education Institute. The students took a campus tour, participated in mock law and paralegal classes, met with law students and professors, had lunch and listened to a panel discussion about law school. The program was made possible through a generous donation from DuPont.

Top left: Ernest Tuckett, Esq., of DuPont (left), Dean Linda L. Ammons and law student Troy Riddle, who helped organize the event

Right: Troy Riddle, at podium, moderated the panel discussion.

Bottom left: Law students Jordana Frankel and Lindsay Heslin spoke to the high school students.



Alumni Events



HARRISBURG ALUMNI RECEPTION

Left: From left, Eric Kniskern, Kelly Thompson and Lea Ann Heltzel, all of the class of 1999

Right: Professor James Diehm (center) enjoys the company of former students Billie Jo Matelevich-Hoang '06 and Leo Dunn '07 at the annual Harrisburg Alumni Reception held at Appalachian Brewing Company in May.



NEW JERSEY BAR ASSOCIATION ALUMNI RECEPTION

In May, Widener University School of Law hosted an alumni reception in conjunction with the annual meeting of the New Jersey Bar Association. The event was held at the Taj Mahal Hotel and Casino and was attended by more than 35 New Jersey-area alumni.

From left, Angela Kosar '99, Professor Louise Hill, Kevin McCann '75 and Jerold Rothkoff '93



Students joined alumni for a February 21 networking reception in Lancaster.



Richard Alloway '02, Stacia Ritter '01, Vice Dean John Gedid and Eugene DePasquale '02, network during the Widener Law reception at the Pennsylvania Bar Association Annual Meeting on June 4 in Hershey, PA.

DEAN AMMONS VISITS FLORIDA

Widener Law alumni gathered in West Palm Beach, FL in April, at the home of Esther and Richard Zaretsky, both from the class of 1975. Alumni enjoyed the opportunity to talk with other alumni in the Florida area.



WIDENER WOMEN'S NETWORK WELCOMES DEAN LINDA L. AMMONS

On Wednesday, June 4, 2008 the Philadelphia Chapter of the Widener Women's Network welcomed Dean Linda Ammons as the guest speaker at their networking luncheon. Dean Ammons shared with the group her perspective on effective leadership.

The event was sponsored by Miriam Benton Barish '92 at her law firm Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman & Smalley at their Philadelphia office.

Top: Kathy Good '82 (left) and Sylvia Bruni-Carroll '03 take a moment to network at the Widener Women's Network luncheon.

Bottom: Dean Linda Ammons addressing the group on the subject of leadership.



CECIL COUNTY ALUMNI RECEPTION

Alumni from eastern and central Maryland gathered at a reception in March to meet with Dean Linda Ammons, who shared with them the wonderful things that are happening at the law school. The event was held at the Gail Piazza Gallery and Studio in Elkton. Bruce Hemphill '84 hosted the event.



Alumni gather in Elkton, Maryland

Alumni Events

WIDENER WOMEN'S NETWORK WELCOMES CATHERINE N. HARRINGTON '88

On Wednesday, January 9, 2008, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Widener Women's Network welcomed Catherine N. Harrington '88, as the guest speaker at their networking luncheon. Cathy addressed the topic of "Legal Life in an All Women's Law Firm." The event was hosted by Miriam Benton Barish '92, an attorney at Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman & Smalley in Philadelphia, PA. (l-r) Annette Ferrara '94, Cathy Harrington '88, Vivienne Crawford '77, Barbara Moleah '77, and Sylvia McCullough '02.



Dean Linda Ammons and Michael Aiello '94



Dean Linda Ammons brought greetings from the Law School to alumni at a New York reception hosted by Michael Aiello '94 in June, at Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP.



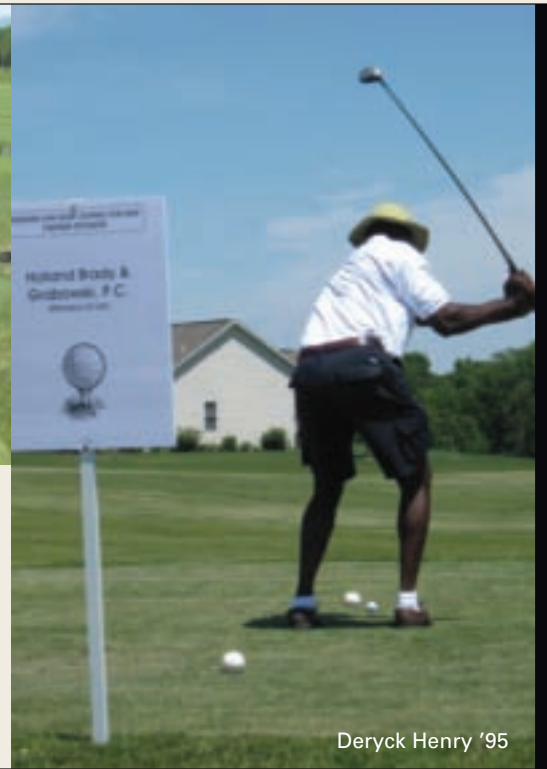
Guests at the Philadelphia Alumni Reception had an opportunity to bid on items at a silent auction in March.

Left: From left, Louis Arnold '75, Gregory Sciolla '75, Steven Barsamian '75 and Don Erlandson '75

Bottom right: From left, Norman Millard '02, Brian Faulk '02, Perry DeMarco, Jr. '02, James Halligan '02 and Joseph Turchi '02



Edmond Olivieri '04



Deryck Henry '95

2008 HARRISBURG ALUMNI & FRIENDS GOLF OUTING

The Second Annual Harrisburg Alumni & Friends Golf Outing for LRAP was held in June.

Featured in the middle photo, the winning foursome, by just one stroke, was (l-r) John Logan '06, Sarah Brown '05, Jan Budman '06 and Justice Michael Eakin.



JUDGES RECOGNIZED IN DELAWARE COUNTY

The Delaware County Alumni Chapter hosted a reception that recognized judges from the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania. The judges were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for the distinction and honor that they bring to the bench and bar.

From left, Judge Barry Dozor '75, Judge Paul Panepinto '76 of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia, Judge James Nilon '78, Dean Linda Ammons, Judge George Pagano, Judge Gregory Mallon '77 and Judge John Capuzzi '88, district justice

NEW JERSEY ALUMNI CHAPTER RECEPTION

The New Jersey Alumni Chapter hosted a reception in January to congratulate recently admitted members of the New Jersey Bar and to provide an opportunity for first-year New Jersey resident law students to network with alumni. The event was held at the DoubleTree Guest Suites in Mount Laurel, NJ. From left, Jessica Boyer '10, Nicholas Tyler '10 and John Cirrinicione '07.



Alumni at the January New York City Hilton networking social engaged in lively conversation and enjoyed meeting fellow Widener Law alumni who practice in the greater New York area.



Risa Vetri Ferman (left) and Michelle Henry

Crime Fighters

Pair of Widener women earn nods for DA slots

Suburban Philadelphia welcomed two new district attorneys last January who have much in common: Both are Widener Law grads and are women with ambitious agendas that include doing more for child abuse victims.

Montgomery County voters elected Risa Vetri Ferman, a 1992 Delaware campus graduate, as their district attorney in November 2007. Bucks County's 12 judges voted in January to install 1994 Harrisburg campus graduate Michelle Henry to the district attorney's job there after Henry's boss joined the bench and the position became vacant.

Both women said Widener helped put them on the path to success.

Ferman enrolled in law school looking for a degree that would help her serve the family retail jewelry business – until she landed a summer internship at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Philadelphia. That experience, and her time working with Professor Francis J. Catania, Jr., in a family law clinic, were her two best at Widener, she said.

The internship convinced her she wanted a career in prosecution; Catania's clinic had practical benefits. "I had the opportunity to put into practice what I learned in the classroom," she said.

Henry knew in high school that she wanted to be an attorney. She looks back fondly on the practical experience she gained working in the Harrisburg Law Clinic under Associate Professor J Palmer Lockard II, the rigorous Intensive Trial Advocacy Program and the inspiration she drew in a criminal procedure class taught by Professor James W. Diehm, a former U.S. attorney.

"I really enjoyed that," Henry said. "I liked his war stories."

Both women are now heading the offices where they have spent their entire prosecutorial careers. Henry's staff numbers more than 80 employees, including 31 assistant district attorneys. They prosecuted more than 9,000 adult cases in 2007. Ferman is the first woman to be district attorney in her county, where she oversees a staff of 132 full-time employees, including 41 assistant district attorneys. They open about 10,000 new adult cases annually.

Henry and Ferman both said their agendas include streamlining the process child abuse victims go through when cases are prosecuted. Ferman also wants to do more to prevent elder abuse, and Henry wants to address the link between drug and alcohol abuse and crime. Both women said their jobs bring great personal satisfaction.

"For me, it's about being able to get justice for the victims," Henry said.

"It's not just a job," Ferman added. "It has been a tremendously rewarding way of life."

SERVICE IN ACTION

Practicing in a variety of capacities, Widener Law alumni continue to serve their profession and their communities long after graduating.



In May, **James J. Veneruso '75** was named Most Socially Conscious Attorney by the Westchester County Bar Association and the *Westchester Business Journal*. The award recognized his service to a number of charitable and professional organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, which recently awarded him its American Dream Award; Heartsong, Inc., which provides

music and art therapy for children with disabilities, Greyston Foundation, Yonkers Partners in Education, and the Columbian Lawyers Association of Westchester, which last year presented him with its Distinguished Service in Law Award.

"We are fortunate to be engaged in a noble profession," said Mr. Veneruso, of Griffin, Coogan & Veneruso, P.C., of Bronxville, NY. "Service to others is the key factor to being an attorney and not simply 'practicing law.'"



Everette L. Scott, Jr. '94, a Philadelphia sports and entertainment lawyer and certified NFL and NBA agent, founded the nonprofit organization Stars for a Cause, Inc., which recruits celebrities to help local education initiatives. Mr. Scott is also a board member of Urban Promise, Inc., a multifaceted ministry serving at-risk children and families in Camden, NJ, and

he finds time for Widener Law, serving on the Dean's Minority Alumni Advisory Committee.

"I've seen the value of how service plays out in our community," said Scott, of Spector Gadon & Rosen, in Philadelphia. "One of our responsibilities—and I learned it at Widener, where as a student I was impressed with the community involvement of the alumni—is to make a mark on the community and the profession."

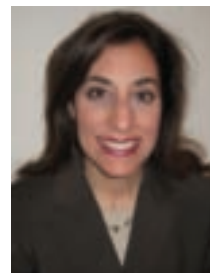


Hon. Paul P. Panepinto '76, judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia, is the state chairman for the Do the Write Thing Essay Challenge for Pennsylvania. The program encourages seventh- and eighth-grade students to combat youth violence and drug abuse in their communities by writing about their own personal experiences and by suggesting

ways to overcome these problems. Judge Panepinto, who has been involved with the program for 10 years, assists with every

aspect of the program, including recruiting and training volunteers, some of whom are Widener Law alumni and students.

"Violence is everywhere, and the DtWT Challenge emphasizes a personal commitment from our youth to stop the violence," he said. "The children are able to discuss firsthand experiences with violence and offer inspiring solutions that I hope can be utilized by future generations."



Lisa J. Cappolella '91 received a pro bono award from the Pennsylvania Bar Association in May. Previously she received a Distinguished Service Award for her service to the Legal Access Project from the Montgomery Bar Association in 1998. Over the years, she has been actively involved in the Montgomery Bar Association, where she sat on the board of

directors, and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. She also served on the boards of Victim Services Center of Montgomery County and the Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund.

"Although I originally became involved in these activities to contribute to the community, and I found the experiences very fulfilling, there were rewards I did not anticipate," said Ms. Cappolella, a solo practitioner in Pottstown, PA. "These experiences enhanced my ability to look at issues from different perspectives with increased insight. They also expanded my horizons, added a new dimension and provided more balance and perspective to my career."



P. Kevin Brobson '95 received the Dauphin County Bar Association's Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year Award at its annual membership meeting in January in Harrisburg and is a 2008 Pro Bono Award winner of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He chairs both the Dauphin County Bar Association's Steering Committee on Pro Bono Service and

the board of directors of JumpStreet of the Capital Region.

"On pro bono and community service, everyone in our profession knows we have a responsibility, but not everyone has the motivation," said Mr. Brobson, a shareholder at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney. "My suggestion is be creative. Think outside the box. Find new and different ways to volunteer or provide pro bono service, and you will find your motivation."

Health Law, Pro Bono Programs Earn Honors



Professor John G. Culhane

U.S. News & World Report's 2009 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools," published in April, listed the law school's health law program as among the nation's 10 best, continuing the school's near-constant presence among the elite health law programs singled out by the newsmagazine in recent years.

"The health law faculty and the whole Widener community are gratified that the excellence of our Health Law Institute continues to be recognized," said Professor John G. Culhane, director of the institute. "We are continuing to move forward. Health law is a vast and fast-changing field, and our institute is energized by leading scholars, enthusiastic lawyers and health-care providers, and our deep and diverse student population. Working together, we're developing new initiatives and programs and will keep striving to make even better connections with the legal and broader communities in this important area of the law."

Widener's Health Law Institute, located on the Delaware campus, was formally established in 1989

and fosters health law education within the J.D. and four graduate health law programs. The institute last year added a joint-degree program with Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, focused on public health law.

"Widener has worked hard to build a first-class program, and this recognition is a welcome vote of confidence," Law Dean Linda L. Ammons said.

In May, the Pennsylvania Bar Association recognized Widener Law with a 2008 Pro Bono Award. The honor was formally given to Associate Professor Nathaniel C. Nichols, director of

the law school's clinical programs, but it recognized the unpaid, public service done by Widener students Troy Riddle, Nicholas Papademetriou, Kristina Rutsky, Shana Pinter and Sheera Gartzman.

The students visited senior centers in Upper Darby, Chester, Lansdowne and Ridley Township, PA, during the fall 2007 semester. There they spoke about debt collection and interviewed senior citizens for possible representation by the Pennsylvania Civil Law Clinic, which is on the Delaware law campus and overseen by Professor Nichols. The award carried his name because of his contact role with the clinic.

Career Development's Ruffin Named NALP President-Elect



LEANORA J. RUFFIN, Widener Law's Assistant Dean for Career Development, is the new president-elect of the National Association for Law Placement (NALP), and will serve as president for a year beginning in April 2009. NALP is a nonprofit organization, comprising legal employers and law schools, which is dedicated to facilitating legal career counseling and planning, recruitment and retention, and the professional development of law students and lawyers.

Ms. Ruffin, who earned undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Pennsylvania, has been with Widener Law's career development office for 10 years and has served as assistant dean since 2000.

TRIAL TIPS

Structure in Direct Examination Wins Cases

By J Palmer Lockard II

Every semester, I get the opportunity to

watch as students in the Civil Law Clinic represent clients for the very first time in evidentiary hearings. Almost without exception, the students who do an excellent job of representing their clients conduct a strong direct examination of their chief witness. Strength in this portion of the case can outweigh weaknesses elsewhere. After many years, I believe that I have a sense of some common features of strong direct examinations. One such feature is that a strong direct examination is well structured.

In the context of direct examination, the structure exists not only in the overall examination (usually characterized by a chronological presentation), but also in the individual questions addressed to the witness. Each question leads to the next in a way that is easy for the listener to follow. While this format sounds simple, it is often difficult to achieve in practice. Two issues are likely to create problems for the attorney in organizing the internal structure of the direct examination. First, new attorneys often follow a script when conducting direct examination. Such a script isn't necessarily written; it can be memorized. In either case, the result can be the same: Because these attorneys follow a script, they don't listen to the witnesses' answers, and their questions, at least to a listener without the benefit of the script, don't logically follow from the answers.

A second issue arises from the attorney's familiarity with the witnesses' testimony. Because the attorney conducting the direct examination already knows the substance of the testimony, she can easily jump from one topic to another without jeopardizing her ability to follow that testimony. For a listener with less familiarity with the case, however, those topics may not be logically related, making the testimony difficult to understand. For instance, in an automobile accident case, the attorney questioning the witness may jump from testimony describing the accident scene directly to testimony regarding injuries without an intervening narrative of the accident itself. Such testimony will make sense to the attorney who is already familiar with the facts surrounding the accident, but the listener who is unfamiliar with the case will often have difficulty following the witness.

Both of these problems can be alleviated by a simple strategy: The attorney must listen to the witness and use the witness' answer in formulating the questions. The suggestion that the attorney actually listen to the witness' answers has been repeated *ad nauseum*, apparently without significant effect, as trial advocacy instructors continue to send the message. However, there seems to be less explicit emphasis on using the witness' answer as a basis for questioning. That is unfortunate.



Consider the example of the witness who, under questioning, jumps from the description of the accident scene to testimony regarding injuries. The unfortunate but typical questioning might be as follows:

Q: Where were you on the morning of July 17th?

A: I was at the intersection of Main and Front streets in Mayberry.

Q: Can you describe that intersection?

A: Yes. Front Street runs in a north-south direction, while Main Street runs east-west. There's a traffic light at the intersection with a turn arrow for traffic on Front Street turning left into the eastbound lane on Main Street.

Q: What injuries did you suffer as a result of the accident?

A: My wrist was broken and I got bruises on my legs.

You may find it incredible that any attorney would make such a jump in questioning, but it happens. However, if the attorney simply used the witness' responses when creating questions, the problem could be avoided. Instead of jumping from the scene of the accident to the injuries, the attorney who uses the witness' response is forced to ask about what happened at the scene. The witness' answer describes the intersection. It contains information about the intersection, but nothing about injuries. If the attorney used the information in the answer to create the next question, the attorney would be forced to ask a question about the intersection, possibly something along the lines of "Was there any traffic in the intersection?" That structure would be much easier to follow.

Trial attorneys often get caught up in the excitement of cross-examination and closing argument. However, the truth is that most cases are won through cogent direct examinations. Structuring that examination is a basic first step to winning the case. ■



J Palmer Lockard II is Associate Professor of Law at Widener's Harrisburg campus and director of the Harrisburg Civil Law Clinic.

Class Notes

1975

The Honorable Susan Del Pesco was elected a public member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists at its 56th Annual Clinical Meeting, held in May.

Sanford E. Koepfel was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao to the Department of Labor's 2008 Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans, also known as the ERISA Advisory Council. The 15-member council advises the labor secretary on policies and regulations affecting employee benefit plans governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. Mr. Koepfel is vice president of legislative and regulatory affairs for Prudential Retirement with Prudential Financial, Inc.

Costas S. Krikelis was elected to a one-year term as president of the Rotary Club of Brandywine. He is responsible for leading the club's participation in community and international service projects while recruiting new members. After serving as managing shareholder of the Wilmington office of RatnerPrestia, Mr. Krikelis is now serving as counsel to the firm. Before entering private practice in 1992, Mr. Krikelis retired from the DuPont Company after 27 years in research and development.

1980

Stephen E. Simmons, of Rehoboth Beach, DE, who retired in 2004 as staff counsel for the Boy Scouts of America, was selected by the Town Commissioners and has been appointed by Delaware Governor Ruth Ann Minner and confirmed by the state senate to be an alderman in the Town of Dewey Beach.



Bernard W. Smalley, Sr., a shareholder at Anapol Schwartz Weiss Cohan Feldman & Smalley P.C., Philadelphia, received the Thurgood Marshall College Fund's Award of Excellence. The award is given to distinguished African-Americans nationally who exemplify professional and civic excellence. Honorees share Justice Marshall's concern for civil rights and his passion for justice, and serve as role models for student leaders at the 47 public historically black colleges and universities and six black law schools to which the fund provides merit scholarships and programmatic support. Mr. Smalley concentrates his practice in medical negligence, pharmaceutical management issues,

defamation, class actions, products liability, commercial litigation and other personal injury matters. Mr. Smalley currently chairs the Girard College Committee of the Board of City Trusts, is a board member of Wills Eye Health Systems and serves as president of the Wynnefield Overbrook CDC, a community development corporation in partnership with Saint Joseph's University.

1982

Raymond N. Scott, Jr., was named principal at Fish & Richardson P.C., Wilmington. Mr. Scott, in the firm's litigation group, will continue to focus his practice on complex intellectual property litigation involving electrical, computer and medical technologies.



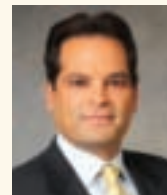
Robert T. Szostak joined the law firm of Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg and Gifford, Lansdale, PA, in spring 2008. Mr. Szostak's plan is to continue building a legacy of leadership and success in a broad spectrum of civil litigation that includes medical malpractice, defamation, product liability and commercial matters with respected colleagues.

1984

Hugh J. Burns, Jr., Chief of the Appeals Unit for the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, participated in a mock oral argument on the issue of whether the state statute authorizing the death penalty for the rape of a child constitutes cruel and unusual punishment under the Eighth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The program was held at Widener Law's Wilmington campus in March and was sponsored by the Moot Court Honor Society.

Charlene Davis was named a finalist for Lawdragon's "500 Leading Lawyers in America" list. Ms. Davis is a director at The Bayard firm in Wilmington and focuses on bankruptcy/creditors' rights and commercial litigation. She represents creditors, creditors' committees, trustees and debtors in many large bankruptcy cases. Ms. Davis is a federal litigator and former assistant U.S. Attorney.

1985



Todd Berkey, a partner at Edgar Snyder & Associates, Pittsburgh, was named a 2008 Pennsylvania Super

Lawyer, awarded to the top five percent of lawyers statewide. This is the fourth consecutive year that Mr. Berkey earned the honor, which is based on more than 20,000 votes from attorneys throughout Pennsylvania who nominated the best lawyers they personally observed in action. In addition to his 2008 Super Lawyer honor, Mr. Berkey has also been BV Rated by Martindale Hubbell.

Henry L. Doner participated as a member of the plaintiff's litigation group that settled the largest construction personal injury case in New Jersey history. Mr. Doner is a senior partner with the law firm of Doner & Castro, P.C., one of 11 firms representing claimants throughout the litigation. Mr. Doner's practice is in the area of workers' compensation and third-party personal injury claims.

1986

Glenn L. Blackwell left his position as Senior Counsel, Operations, of Houston-based Quanta Services to accept a position as managing attorney for a major power plant construction project at Kansas City Power & Light in Kansas City, MO. Mr. Blackwell and his wife, Asena, have relocated from Oxford, PA, to Kansas City.

Joel L. Frank, a partner with Lamb McErlane, PC,

in the litigation department and chairman of the firm's executive committee, was also named managing partner. Mr. Frank concentrates his practice in commercial and civil litigation and personal injury law. He is a board member of the Chester County Bar Association and Chester County Chamber, the Chester County Community Network and the Republican Committee of Chester County, and is a volunteer on behalf of the Support Center for Child Advocates. Mr. Frank was also named Solicitor for the Chester County Police Chiefs Association. He was recognized as a Pennsylvania Super Lawyer in 2007 for the third consecutive year. Mr. Frank resides in West Chester with his wife and twin children.

David A. White has joined the Wilmington law firm of McCarter & English, LLP, as a litigation partner. Mr. White, a Delaware Superior Court commissioner, served seven years on the Superior Court.

1988

Robert M. Goff, Jr., State of Delaware Public Defender's Office, and Kevin M. Carroll '06, State of Delaware Deputy Attorney General, argued on opposing sides of a first-degree robbery case in April, when the Supreme Court of Delaware heard oral arguments on the Widener campus.

ATTENTION, ALUMNI

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 (digital 300 dpi or hard copy).

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

Or use our handy online form at law.widener.edu/go/notes.aspx

Catherine Nora Harrington was selected to receive the Widener University School of Law 2007 Alumna of the Year Award. Ms. Harrington is a founding member of Harrington & Associates and was a former assistant district attorney in Philadelphia.

Mr. Weiss had the fastest time among prosecutors for door intrusion and the highest score for firearm accuracy. He has an extremely high trial conviction rate and has prosecuted many homicide and major crimes cases during his 17-year career.

1989

Jonathan L. Gordon was given the Criminal Trial Attorney Achievement Award by the Essex County Bar Association at its 2008 awards dinner.

Michael Weiss, a trial team supervisor with the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, graduated from the 33rd class of Top Gun, an intensive training course for gang and narcotic investigators and prosecutors sponsored by the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice.

1990

Domenick C. DiCicco was named chief claim counsel of Zurich Financial Services' North American Commercial Division. Mr. DiCicco will be responsible for managing Claims' legal operations in Zurich's Schaumburg, MD, and Baltimore offices. He has 18 years of insurance experience and is an Asbury Park, NJ, native.

Class Notes

Kathleen W. Geiger, with Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, Wilmington, was recommended as a leader in her field in the 2008 edition of *Chambers US: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

1991



Michael J. Berkowitz, a partner at the Philadelphia-based intellectual property law firm of Caesar, Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotiw, Ltd., was elected to the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association.

Martin S. Coleman joined the regional defense litigation law firm of Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin in its King of Prussia, PA, office as a shareholder in the workers' compensation practice group.

Jeffrey A. Wothers, managing partner with Niles, Barton & Wilmer, LLP, was appointed chair of the Carroll Hospital Center Board of Directors' Risk, Audit & Compliance Committee. The committee advises the board on issues associated with risk for the hospital. Mr. Wothers was recently recognized by *Super Lawyers* magazine in its 2008 listing of the top

five percent of attorneys in Maryland. His litigation practice focuses on property insurance law, related first-party insurance matters, insurance coverage and commercial litigation. He resides in Carroll County and is admitted to practice in Maryland, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia.

1992

Pacifico S. Agnellini has joined Cooper Levenson as a partner in the tax, business and gaming law practice groups. Mr. Agnellini concentrates his practice in the representation of businesses in all aspects of gaming law as well as real estate, transactional, tax and financing matters. He is admitted to the New Jersey and Pennsylvania bars, to the New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania U.S. District Courts and to the U.S. Tax Court.



Alfred J. Carlson, a partner with the firm of Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson, was elected co-chair of the Philadelphia Bar Association Workers' Compensation Section. The Association's Workers' Compensation Section was established in 1995 to

address the specialized needs of lawyers practicing workers' compensation law. Mr. Carlson has been a litigator of Pennsylvania workers' compensation cases since 1992, lectures extensively on workers' compensation matters and has authored numerous articles on the subject as well. Mr. Carlson also served as the legislative liaison for the Philadelphia Bar Association's Workers' Compensation Section.

Claire M. DeMatteis was named a partner with Stradley, Ronon, Stevens & Young, Wilmington. Ms. DeMatteis is co-chair of the firm's government and public affairs practice group and focuses her practice on government affairs in Delaware and Washington, DC, specializing in legislative and regulatory lobbying, as well as business development representing Fortune 500 companies, universities, medical centers, nonprofits and privately held firms.



John P. Dogum, a partner with Martin, Banks, Pond, Lehocky & Wilson, Philadelphia, served as faculty with several leading attorneys in the field for a Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers

Association's Continuing Legal Education Seminar entitled "Liens & Subrogation." Held in November 2007, the program covered issues in subrogation matters including maximizing a client's personal injury recovery, special needs trusts, attorney liens and the new DPW rules that affect all personal injury awards. Mr. Dogum has limited his practice to Pennsylvania workers' compensation since 1992.



Arnold M. Preston, Preston Entertainment, Los Angeles, was the petitioner in *Preston v. Ferrer*, heard by the U.S. Supreme Court on January 14. On February 20, the Court, in an 8-1 decision, ruled in Mr. Preston's favor, holding that when parties agree to arbitrate all contractual issues, the Federal Arbitration Act supersedes state laws giving primary jurisdiction to another judicial or administrative body.

Kevin R. Shannon, with Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, Wilmington, was recommended as a leader in his field in the 2008 edition of *Chambers US: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

1993

Patrick H. Higgins joined the national law firm of Eckert Seamans Cherin and Mellott, LLC, Philadelphia. Mr. Higgins' practice will primarily focus on evaluating, building, maintaining and enforcing market exclusivity in the drug-discovery industry. Since 1993, Mr. Higgins has handled the evaluation, development, enforcement and defense of IP rights and regulatory exclusivity for a range of pharmaceutical companies and other clients.

David S. Kogos is a law instructor at Advanced Technologies Academy in Las Vegas.



Mark A. Sullivan, a Dilworth Paxson LLP international lawyer, participated as an instructor at Temple University's Small Business Development Center workshop series designed to educate export business leaders who handle their companies' exports. As an associate of the international law group, Mr. Sullivan concentrates his practice in the areas of export compliance law, international trade law, customs law and international taxation. Mr. Sullivan is a resident of Thorofare, NJ.

Linda L. Lasocha Wilson with Marshall, Dennehey, Warner, Coleman & Goggin, Wilmington, was named a shareholder of the firm. Ms. Wilson is a member of the firm's workers' compensation department.

Rafael X. Zahralddin joined the firm of Elliott Greenleaf as the managing shareholder in the Wilmington office. The office specializes in the representation of multi-national corporations and small and medium-sized businesses in all Delaware courts, prepares Delaware opinion letters and provides counsel and drafting on a variety of transactions involving Delaware law.

1994

Michael J. Aiello, a partner with Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, New York, was named on *Crain's* 40 Under 40 Alumni list.

Donald F. McGahn, Jr., was nominated by President George W. Bush to be a member of the Federal Election Commission for the remainder of a six-year term expiring April 2009. Mr. McGahn, who resides in the District of Columbia, currently serves as the managing member of McGahn & Associates, PLLC. Earlier in his career, Mr. McGahn served as an attorney at Patton Boggs.

Gina R. Rubel, President/CEO of Furia Rubel Communications

of Doylestown, PA, was awarded the Public Relations Society of America Philadelphia Chapter 2007 DeAnn White Achievement Award for Community Spirit at the annual Pepperpots in December 2007. She joined forces with 20 authors to promote their books, including her own new work, *Everyday Public Relations for Lawyers*, at the 8th Annual Philadelphia-Area Writer's Night at the Willow Grove Barnes & Noble in January 2008. In addition, she organized and moderated a multicultural media programming event, Getting to Know Philadelphia's African-American Media, on behalf of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Bar-News Media Committee, which she chairs.

1995



Alena C. Gfeller was elected a partner of Murtha Cullina LLP, Hartford, CT, effective January 2008.

William M. Kelleher joined the firm of Elliott Greenleaf as a shareholder in the Wilmington office. The office specializes in the representation of multi-national corporations and

small and medium-sized businesses in all Delaware courts, prepares Delaware opinion letters and provides counsel and drafting on a variety of transactions involving Delaware law.



The Lopez triplets proudly sport their Widener Law bibs!

Kenneth J. Lopez is proud to announce the birth of his triplets, Alexa, Tessa and Livia Lopez.

1996

Charles A. Bruder, with Norris McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A., Bridgewater, NJ, co-authored a chapter entitled "Perspectives for Management and Executives on Structuring and Negotiating the Package: It's Not Just About the Dollars" for a book entitled *Inside the Minds: Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Client Strategies* for Aspatore Books, a Thomson Business Publisher. Mr. Bruder concentrates his practice in the areas of employee benefits and executive compensation. He is a frequent lecturer in the area of employee benefits and has previously published articles in *The Exempt Organizations Tax Review* and the *New Jersey*

Class Notes

Law Journal. Mr. Bruder is a co-chair of the firm's executive compensation and employee benefits group. Additionally, he was named co-chair of the firm's executive compensation and employee benefits group.

Karen Del Vescovo was a winner of the *Philadelphia Business Journal's* 2008 40 Under 40 Award. This program recognizes 40 individuals under the age of 40 who are proven performers in their respective industries and communities.

Stephanie L. Hoover was named vice president of human resources for Sheetz, Inc., Altoona, PA. Ms. Hoover brings seven years of Sheetz experience to the position, as she began her career there as manager of human resources for CLI Transport, Sheetz' dedicated fuel carrier. In 2007, Ms. Hoover took on the additional role of leader of the Brand Strategy Department and became a member of the Sheetz Strategic Planning Team, responsible for the long-term planning for the company. She is a native of Johnstown, PA.



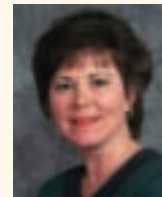
Kimberly Gandy Jinks is the co-chair of the Women Lawyers Committee of the Mercer County Bar Association for 2008 for the second year in a row. Ms. Jinks initiated the county-wide Peers Mentoring Peers program in 2007 and continues to manage that program. A sixth-year associate at Markowitz Gravelle, LLP, in Lawrenceville, NJ, she concentrates her practice on divorce mediation and family law. Ms. Jinks resides in Ewing Township, NJ, with her husband and two sons.

Christopher M. Miller was selected as a Pennsylvania Rising Star for the third consecutive year. *Law & Politics* magazine performs the polling, research and selection of Rising Stars in a process designed to identify outstanding Pennsylvania lawyers who have demonstrated superior professional potential. Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, chosen by their peers as being among the top five percent of state-wide attorneys, nominate the best up-and-coming attorneys who are age 40 and under or who have been practicing 10 years or less. Mr. Miller was honored in the December 2007 issue of *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* — Rising Stars

Edition. Mr. Miller, a resident of Collier Township, PA, is an Edgar Snyder & Associates attorney in Pittsburgh.

Craig J. Wolfson, of Rosicki, Rosicki & Associates, P.C., was awarded the 2007 Advocate of the Year Award by the Long Island Association and Long Island Working Partnership. Mr. Wolfson is the director of human resources for the firm, which is located in Plainview, NY, and received the award for his commitment to the hiring and advancement of individuals with disabilities.

1997



Susan M. Gordon was named a shareholder of the firm Stevens & Lee. Ms. Gordon focuses her practice in health-care issues, including HIPAA compliance and other regulatory matters, such as fraud and abuse and reimbursement issues.

Amy M. McLaughlin was elected a director at Dinse Knapp & McAndrew, a business and litigation law firm with offices in Burlington and Plattsburgh, NY. Ms. McLaughlin joined the firm's employment law and litigation groups in 1999 and helps employers maintain compliance

with federal and state laws that regulate the employment relationship while simultaneously achieving the needs of the business.

1998



Maryanne Starr Garber, with Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, was made counsel in the firm's Berwyn, PA, office. Ms. Garber is a member of the environmental practice group and concentrates her practice in zoning and land use law, assisting clients with the siting and permitting of complex facilities and controversial developments. She also litigates a variety of environmental matters in state and federal courts, as well as before the Pennsylvania Environmental Hearing Board.

Kimberly L. Gattuso joined the firm of Potter Anderson & Corroon, Wilmington, as director of associate development and recruiting. In this newly created role, Ms. Gattuso will serve as a resource for the firm's associates and oversee professional development initiatives including training, evaluations and associate life at the firm. She will communicate with associates

regarding firm information and policies, work assignment and work satisfaction issues, and other topics of interest to associates. In addition, Ms. Gattuso will work closely with the firm's hiring partner to direct all aspects of the firm's recruiting program. Ms. Gattuso also will oversee the summer associate program and the hiring of lateral associates.

Lesley D. Lawrence retired in January 2008 as the Wilmington Branch Librarian with the U.S. Court of Appeals Law Library. Mr. Lawrence worked for the courts for nearly 19 years.

Paul D. Santangini was appointed a Deputy Attorney General by Anne Milgram, Attorney General for the State of New Jersey, in December 2007. Mr. Santangini works in the Office of the Insurance Fraud Prosecutor, Division of Criminal Justice, prosecuting violations of New Jersey's various criminal laws as they relate to insurance fraud.

David J. Scaggs became a shareholder in the Granger Firm, Paoli, PA. Mr. Scaggs concentrates his practice in the areas of residential and commercial real estate transactions and litigation. He also teaches real estate courses at Montgomery County Community College and has lectured for the Pennsylvania Bar

Institute and the National Business Institute on real estate matters.

James D. Schultz joined Cozen O'Connor's Philadelphia office as of counsel in the subrogation and recovery department.

1999



Nicole T. Donoian was promoted to shareholder in the Flaster Greenberg law firm, Cherry Hill, NJ. Ms. Donoian concentrates her practice in all areas of family law and has significant experience in divorce cases involving alimony, child support, child custody, parenting time, grandparent's rights, division of assets and pre-nuptial agreements. She is a barrister member of the Thomas S. Forkin Family Inns of Court, whose mission is to foster excellence in professionalism, ethics and legal skills for judges, lawyers and law students.

James M. Kron was named Counsel at Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP in Wilmington. Mr. Kron practices in the firm's litigation group, focusing primarily on toxic tort, product liability, breach of contract, and automobile lemon law defense. Mr.

Kron is a member of the Intellectual Property Section of the Delaware and American Bars, and the Defense Research Institute.

U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Murphy spoke at the Democratic National Convention in Denver in August, leading a tribute to active-duty military personnel and their families. Congressman Murphy's presentation focused on a range of topics including providing adequate mental healthcare for veterans, how to shift foreign policy, and the future for Iraq and Afghanistan. Prior to his election, Murphy served in the U.S. Army's 82nd airborne division in Bosnia and Iraq.



Mark R. Owens, with Barnes & Thornburg LLP, was elected a partner in its Indianapolis office. Mr. Owens is a member of the firm's finance, insolvency and restructuring and business departments. Mr. Owens focuses his practice on business, commercial, bankruptcy and creditors' rights issues, including workouts and loan restructurings; representation of secured and unsecured creditors, creditors' committees, preference defendants, lessors and landlords in bankruptcy cases; repossessions and

general collections; and Uniform Commercial Code issues.

Frank J. Spanitz with Duane Morris LLP, Allentown, PA, was promoted to partner. Mr. Spanitz concentrates his practice on assisting clients in procuring domestic and foreign utility and design patents, developing patent portfolio strategies, trademarks and licensing. He is currently an adjunct professor at Lehigh University's Graduate Business School, where he teaches intellectual property law to MBA students.

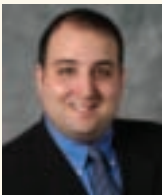
Max B. Walton, with Connolly, Bove, Lodge & Hutz, Wilmington, argued an original jurisdiction case on behalf of the State of Delaware before the U.S. Supreme Court in the fall of 2007 and prevailed. The decision, *State of New Jersey v. State of Delaware*, No. 134 Original, was outlined in *The New York Times*.

2000

J. Wesley Kocsis was certified as a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum in 2007. Forum membership is limited to attorneys who have won million- and multimillion-dollar verdicts, awards and settlements, and fewer than 1 percent of U.S. attorneys are members. Mr. Kocsis is a member of Kocsis Law Office, Athens, PA.

Class Notes

Josette DelleDonne Manning was appointed by the Delaware Attorney General's Office as the chief prosecutor for New Castle County. Ms. Manning, who was recognized as Deputy Attorney General of the Year in 2006, will oversee the day-to-day management of the agency's New Castle County felony trial unit, drug unit, misdemeanor unit and sex crimes unit.



Joseph P. Santoro was elected to partnership in March with Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP, Philadelphia. Mr. Santoro focuses his practice on real estate matters and serves a wide range of institutional, private and public-sector clients, including developers, lenders, property owners, brokers, contractors, landlords, tenants, asset managers, REITs and other investors.

2001



Dominique Grenier opened her own law firm in Philadelphia, specializing in

lemon law and auto breach of warranty cases. Ms. Grenier practices in both Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Patrick M. McKenna, senior associate with Gawthrop Greenwood, West Chester, PA, was elected to the Board of Directors of Safe Harbor of Greater West Chester. Safe Harbor of Greater West Chester is an independent, nonprofit organization providing food, shelter, friendship, counseling and recovery opportunities to homeless men and women in Chester County, PA. Mr. McKenna joined Gawthrop Greenwood in 2004 and focuses on municipal law, land use, real estate and business litigation.

Michael P. Migliore, with Stradley Ronon in Philadelphia, was appointed a member of the Board of Directors for Boys & Girls Club of Delaware.

Alex J. Mili, Jr., was appointed by the Court of Chancery as Chief Deputy Register of Wills for New Castle County, DE. The court-appointed chief deputy serves as a liaison between the Court of Chancery and the New Castle County Register of Wills Office.



Julie C. Panaro, an associate with Richards, Layton & Finger in Wilmington, was named the first chapter president of CREW Network, a professional women's commercial real estate organization, with chapters in approximately 60 cities. The Delaware group has 45 members, all of whom have at least two years of experience in commercial real estate.

2002

Richard L. Alloway won the Republican primary for Pennsylvania's 33rd Senate District in April. Mr. Alloway is a former district magistrate judge in Franklin Township, PA.

Rachael L. Baturin was named of counsel with the law firm of Baturin & Baturin, Harrisburg. Baturin & Baturin is celebrating its 90th anniversary of providing legal services to the Greater Harrisburg area. The firm was founded in 1917 by M.S. Baturin, and today five family members representing three generations are active in the practice of law.



James J. Merkins was appointed to the Zoning Ordinance Amendments Steering Committee in Springfield Township, PA. This appointment recognizes Mr. Merkins for his dedication and service to the township, where he currently serves as a member of the Planning Commission. At Blank Rome, LLP, Mr. Merkins concentrates his practice on a wide variety of complex litigation matters and dispute resolution, focusing on commercial, corporate and mass torts litigation. In addition to his law practice, he is active in local politics, where he serves as a committeeperson for the Springfield Township Republican Party and as the immediate past chairman of the Delaware County Young Republicans.

2004

Ashley H. Auerbach joined the law firm of Chiumento, McNally & Shockley, LLC, in Cherry Hill, NJ, as an associate attorney.

Christopher A. Iacono, a litigation associate with the firm of Pietragallo Gordon Alfano Bosick & Raspanti, Philadelphia, was selected to be a member of the board of directors of the

Widener University School of Law Alumni Association.



James A. Schmidt opened a boutique firm in Tampa, FL, to handle a variety of transactional and litigation matters with an emphasis on real estate. Additionally, his new position as of counsel with the law firm of Brewer Perotti Martinez-Monfort, PA, and his previous experience as a CPA and in real estate development complement the transactional and litigation strengths of Brewer Perotti Martinez-Monfort and enable him to offer clients a broad range of services with personalized attention. Mr. Schmidt was recently named to the National Taxation and Finance Committee for the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties and was published in the December 2007 issue of *Commercial Investment Real Estate Magazine*.

Korab R. Sejdiu is working in the Republic of Kosovo for Bering Point, Inc., a contractor of the United States Agency for International Development. Mr. Sejdiu is working on a project for Economic Management for Stability and Growth, which supports various institutions

in Kosovo, including training judges, lawyers and students on core commercial laws and serving as the legal advisor to the president of the Republic of Kosovo.

2005



Amy E. Lansberry, an associate with the Harrisburg firm of Skarlatos & Zonarich LLP, was elected first vice president of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the Labor and Employment Relations Association, which provides a forum for professionals in labor and employment relations to share ideas and learn about new developments, issues and practices in the field. Ms. Lansberry concentrates her legal practice in employment law and civil litigation.



Captain William A. Obringer is currently serving a 15-month tour of duty with the 4th Infantry Division as part of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate for Multi-National Division,

LAW REUNION 2009: VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR CLASS REUNION COMMITTEE!

The Widener Law alumni office is in the process of forming committees for classes celebrating a milestone reunion in 2009 – classes of 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999 and 2004.

To volunteer, please contact Nancy Ravert, Associate Director of Alumni Relations (Delaware campus alumni), at 302-477-2191 or nmravertward@widener.edu, or Ashley Barton, Assistant Director of Alumni & Development (Harrisburg campus alumni), at 717-541-3974 or anbarton@widener.edu.

Visit <http://law.widener.edu/Gateway/Alumni.aspx> in the upcoming months for more details, registration information, class pages and more.

Baghdad. Capt. Obringer is an operational and international law attorney working out of Camp Liberty, Iraq.

Jennifer Stonerod, with the office of the New Jersey Prosecutor, was honored as the recipient of the Widener University School of Law's Outstanding Recent Alumni Award in 2007. This award is presented annually to a recent graduate who shows enthusiasm and dedication as a community leader and provides invaluable service to the school of law.

US LLP in Philadelphia, and Ms. Cantor-Burns is an attorney at Weltman, Weinberg & Reis, also in Philadelphia.

Kevin M. Carroll, State of Delaware Deputy Attorney General, and Robert M. Goff, Jr. '88, State of Delaware Public Defender's Office, argued on opposing sides of a first-degree robbery case in April, when the Supreme Court of Delaware heard oral arguments on the Widener campus.

Bryan D. Cutler, a candidate for re-election to the 100th Legislative District, Pennsylvania State House of Representatives, competed in the Timberman 70.3 Half-Ironman Marathon, held in Gilford, NH, in August. The race consisted of a 1.2-mile swim, 56 miles of bicycling

2006

Michael L. Burns IV married **Jill A. Cantor** in November 2007. Mr. Burns is currently a patent attorney at DLA Piper

Class Notes

and a 13.1-mile run. Mr. Cutler also announced that his campaign website, <http://www.electbryancutler.com>, was open and that his campaign had made a conscious decision to take “green initiatives” to reduce the environmental impacts of campaign signs.

Matthew P. D’Emilio joined Old Capital Law Firm, New Castle, DE, as an associate.

Jacquelyn S. Goffney was sworn in as an assistant district attorney by Delaware County, PA, Court of Common Pleas Judge Chad F. Kenney.

Suzanne D. Montgomery joined Post & Schell’s casualty department in the Philadelphia office.

Jennifer Patone-Cook joined the law firm of Bifferato Gentilotti, Wilmington, as an associate and focuses her practice in the commercial bankruptcy and toxic tort areas.

Geoffrey F. Sasso joined White and Williams, LLP, as an associate in the litigation department and will practice in the firm’s Paramus, NJ, office. Mr. Sasso is a member of the life, health and disability, and insurance fraud practice groups. His practice areas include life and disability insurance law, insurance fraud, personal injury defense, coverage disputes and construction defect litigation. Originally from Newtown, PA, Mr.

Sasso currently resides in the Chelsea section of Manhattan with his fiancée, Dorothy Walsh.

Brett N. Tishler joined White and Williams, LLP, as an associate in the subrogation/property department in the firm’s headquarters in Philadelphia. He practices exclusively in the field of insurance subrogation. Born and raised in Northeast Philadelphia, Mr. Tishler resides in Haverford, PA, with his wife.

2007



Thomas A. Cushane, a retired New Jersey police officer, was named general counsel to the New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police Labor Council, a subsidiary of the 17,500-member Fraternal Order of Police New Jersey State Lodge. The FOP Labor Council handles labor relations matters on behalf of its police-officer members. In addition to his appointment within the Fraternal Order of Police, Mr. Cushane announced the formation of the Cushane Law Firm, LLC. The Washington Township, Gloucester County, NJ-based practice will focus on representing police officers and other public-

and private-sector employees in labor, employment, disciplinary and criminal matters.

Christopher Fleming joined the firm of Leonard, Sciolla, Hutchison, Leonard & Tinari, LLP, as an associate in the Philadelphia office. Mr. Fleming’s practice is focused on business matters and civil litigation.

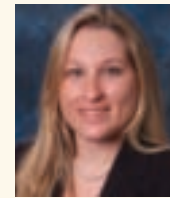


Stephanie A. Kobal was named a new associate of Tallman, Hudders & Sorrentino, Allentown, PA. Ms. Kobal’s focus is on general civil practice, with an emphasis on real estate law.

Samuel T. Lehew joined the law firm of David J. Gorberg and Associates, PA, as an associate attorney in its Philadelphia office. In this position, Mr. Lehew will focus on New Jersey and Pennsylvania lemon law litigation.

Eifion Phillips joined the Fish & Richardson P.C. Wilmington office as an associate in its patent prosecution group. Dr. Phillips will focus on patent prosecution for the firm’s life sciences clients. Previously, he was an associate at Drinker, Biddle & Reath LLP and a medicinal chemistry team leader at AstraZeneca.

Dr. Phillips is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.



Christine A. Pinto joined the Marlton, NJ-based law firm of Parker McCay as an associate. Ms. Pinto will concentrate her practice in the areas of mortgage default services, residential mortgage foreclosure, creditors’ rights, residential real estate, real estate title litigation and bankruptcy law.

Christopher M. Price joined the Perry County, PA, prosecutor’s office as assistant district attorney. Mr. Price formerly worked in Dallas with child protective services.

Thomas A. Uebler became associated with the Wilmington firm of Richards, Layton & Finger.

Deceased

1976 G. Lester Corwin II

1978 Trudi Willcox Wood

1980 Joseph A. Vail

1981 Diane C. Sheeler Pagliei

1982 Brett K. Kates

1983 Jon A. Larkin

1989 Stuart E. Sklut

Five Named to National Advisory Council

Widener Law's National Advisory Council recently welcomed five new members, Michael J. Aiello '94, Miriam Benton Barish '92, Mitchell Gurwicz '95, James J. Maron '85 and Capt. Robert P. Taishoff, USN JAGC '89.



MICHAEL J. AIELLO is a partner in Weil Gotshal's New York office, and a member of the firm's mergers and acquisitions practice. His primary areas of practice include business combinations (mergers, acquisitions and securities), and he has counseled clients on corporate governance issues. In early 2007,

Mr. Aiello rejoined Weil Gotshal, having started his legal career in 1995 as an associate of the firm.

Mr. Aiello was selected as one of *Crain's New York Business* "40 Under 40" honorees for 2008. In 2005, he was named one of the *National Law Journal's* "40 Under 40" for his work in the mergers and acquisitions area. He was recognized in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 in *Chambers USA - America's Leading Lawyers for Business* as a leader in the field of mergers and acquisitions.



MIRIAM BENTON BARISH, of Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman and Smalley, P.C., is the Philadelphia chair of the Widener Women's Network. She concentrates her practice in product liability, including defective machinery, flammability matters, asbestos litigation and toxic torts, such as lead paint,

mold contamination, Benzene and other chemical exposure. Her practice also includes motor vehicle matters, premises liability including premise security liability, and other personal injury matters.

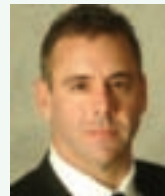
Ms. Benton Barish has been a strong advocate in the development of laws protecting the rights of women. She has actively litigated premises liability cases regarding the safety and security of women and helped win a landmark verdict in the first case of its kind – a wrongful death case arising from the negligent premises security of two women.



MITCHELL GURWICZ is a third-generation principal of Max Gurwicz Enterprises, a Northfield, NJ-based real estate development company that has been shaping the commercial and residential landscape of Atlantic City and South Jersey for more than 50 years. The company is currently

developing several single-family home communities, hotels, condominiums and retail spaces. In addition, it manages several commercial operations, including the prestigious Harbor Pines Golf Club in Egg Harbor Township, NJ.

Mr. Gurwicz is active in the South Jersey philanthropic community, and in addition to being an active volunteer, he is also a board member of several organizations and charities. Currently he is the Chairman-Elect of the Shore Memorial Hospital Foundation Board, the Treasurer of Jewish Family Services and the Chair of the South Jersey Federation's Community Leadership Enrichment Program.



JAMES J. MARON leads Maron Marvel Bradley & Anderson, P.A.'s national practice in complex litigation, which targets mass toxic tort and environmental litigation. His current and historic performance has set the stage for the firm's strategies and path forward.

For almost 20 years, he has successfully represented Fortune 500 and mid-cap companies, resolving thousands of highly sensitive matters.

Mr. Maron co-founded the firm, combining a unique blend of legal, financial, business and technological experts. His vision and focus are to integrate the best lawyers in the country using technology to maximize productivity and efficiency. Mr. Maron has pioneered software applications that synthesize legal risk and management and was instrumental in the development of the firm's integrated national counsel model to synergize and optimize the talent from multiple law firms.



CAPT. ROBERT P. TAISHOFF is Director of the Appellate Defense Division at the Navy and Marine Corps Appellate Review Activity. He has served with the U.S. Navy since his commissioning as an ensign through the Judge Advocate General's Corps Student Program in 1987. Capt. Taishoff's assignments include

service as deputy of the Office of the Special Assistant for Transformation, Executive Officer TSO NE, deputy director and director of the Office of the Judge Advocate General Appellate Government Division, legal department head on board *U.S.S. George Washington* and many other positions in the government and military legal sectors.

Capt. Taishoff's awards include five Meritorious Service Medals, a Joint Commendation Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals, a Navy Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, a Meritorious Unit Commendation and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. He holds an LLM in litigation and alternative dispute resolution from George Washington University.

By the Book

Widener Law alumni and friends find success writing more than legal briefs.

Attorneys and legal scholars publish an extraordinary number of pieces, though in most cases such writing is limited to briefs and scholarly submissions. But in the mold of John Grisham and Scott Turow, a handful of alumni and faculty from Widener Law have ventured beyond legalese and into the world of mainstream books.



Joe McGovern '87 had written more than 70 book chapters and trade magazine articles by the time he sat down to write his first novel. An environmental law attorney at Parker McCay P.A. in Marlton, NJ, he surveyed the written landscape of the early 2000s and saw a glut of non-fiction books on global warming and the Kyoto Protocol. He had already been thinking about a fictional piece, and it

dawned on him that he had both ideas for characters and the legal know-how on the subject matter.

"I sort of just mashed them together," he said.

After three years of writing and rewriting, McGovern finished *The Kyoto Protocol*, a thriller involving scandal, politics, murder and suspense, which Dorrance Publishing Co. published in 2006. The project helped McGovern, a fan of such classic writers as James Joyce, John Steinbeck and Ernest Hemingway, educate his readers about global warming while also entertaining them. "That is my purpose, and that is the consistent feedback I get from people who've read it," he said.

McGovern currently is shopping a second manuscript, *The Lazarus Witness*, to publishing houses. It is a sequel to *The Kyoto Protocol* and the product of lessons learned. He worked on the second book for at least an hour a day, six days a week, never lost his flow and completed it in a year.

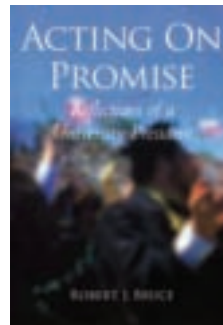


Equally gripping yet true, Thomas F. Liotti '76's *Judge Mojo* (iUniverse, Inc., 2008) describes the ordeal he and his family underwent after a judge suffering from bipolar disorder went off his medication and set about trying to ruin the life of the high-profile criminal defense attorney.

Liotti writes of how the simple dispute between him and Judge B. Marc Mogil – who began referring to himself as "Judge Mojo" – blew up into a dangerous obsession on the part of the jurist, who threatened Liotti and his family, cyberstalking them and pursuing him through bar associations.

Mogil's behavior remained unchallenged, in spite of such claims as being a concert pianist and possessing the ability to fly fighter

jets, until at last he was ousted from the bench and disbarred. Only then did the true extent of the judge's mentally impaired judgment become revealed. Liotti weaves his own awful experience with facts from the record and historical examples to artfully illustrate the danger of judicial misbehavior.



Robert J. Bruce assumed the presidency of Widener University during a pivotal time in the institution's history. Only nine years removed from its transformation from a small military school to a comprehensive university, Widener was still finding its niche and engaging in all of the administrative work that such a search entailed.

In his new memoir, *Acting on Promise: Reflections of a University President* (Polyglot Press, Inc.), Bruce, now the university's president emeritus, discusses the issues and dilemmas he faced in guiding that transition – and offers advice for all university presidents, regardless of where their institutions may find themselves.

"You don't always have to be the brightest person in the room," Bruce writes. "If you are, don't let them know right away; presidents surround themselves with individuals who are as smart, or smarter than they are, for they make you look good!"

Proceeds from *Acting on Promise* benefit the Robert J. and Judith G. Bruce Endowed Scholarship Fund at Widener. The scholarship is awarded to a sophomore who demonstrates outstanding academic achievement as well as financial need.



Last but certainly not least, U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy, a Widener Law alumnus and veteran of the Iraq War, published *Taking the Hill: From Philly to Baghdad and the United States Congress* (Henry Holt and Co.) early this year. A chronicle of his rapid rise from Northeast Philadelphia to Capitol Hill, the book has been praised by such varied observers as conservative talk-radio host Michael Smerconish, Sen.

John Kerry and Democratic presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama, who calls Congressman Murphy "one of the brightest stars in the next generation of American leaders."

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1978	18.1%	1995	6.2%
1979	17.3%	1996	5.1%
1980	21.0%	1997	7.3%
1981	17.9%	1998	3.8%
1982	13.0%	1999	7.0%
1983	14.9%	2000	6.4%
1984	13.4%	2001	5.3%
1985	12.0%	2002	6.8%
1986	12.7%	2003	7.0%
1987	10.0%	2004	4.8%
1988	11.6%	2005	7.0%
1989	9.8%	2006	4.5%
1990	10.0%	2007	9.5%
1991	9.0%		

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Online: law.widener.edu/giving.aspx

Calendar

OCTOBER 2008

- 6 Overseers' Reception for First-Year Students
- 8 Harrisburg Class Agent Luncheon
- 10 Annual Francis G. Pileggi Distinguished Lecture in Corporate Law, featuring Prof. Eric Talley, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, Delaware Campus
- 18 Pennsylvania Bridge the Gap Program, Delaware Campus
- 30-31 Visiting Scholars in Residence in Corporate Law, featuring Prof. Steven M. Davidoff, Delaware Campus

NOVEMBER 2008

- 5 Delaware County Chapter Event
- 13 Wilmington Class and Firm Agent Breakfast
- 14 Philadelphia Class and Firm Agent Breakfast
Veterans' Law Symposium, Harrisburg Campus
- 17 Annual Raynes McCarty Distinguished Lecture in Health Law, Philadelphia and Delaware Campus
Delaware Bar Passers Reception, Delaware Campus
- 18 Pennsylvania Bar Passers Ceremony and Reception, Harrisburg

DECEMBER 2008

- 3 Pennsylvania Bar Passers Reception, Philadelphia

JANUARY 2009

- 7 Alumni and Friends Reception, AALS Annual Meeting, San Diego
- TBA Widener Women's Luncheon Meeting, Philadelphia
- TBA New Jersey Alumni Chapter Event

FEBRUARY 2009

- 22 Widener Law at the Opera
- 23 Lincoln 200th Birthday Celebration, Delaware Campus
- TBA Widener Law Journal Symposium

MARCH 2009

- 16 Dean's Diversity Leadership Forum, Harrisburg Campus
- 19 Philadelphia Alumni Reception
- 30 Delaware County Chapter Event

For a complete and up-to-date calendar, please see law.widener.edu/go/events.aspx

Join Dean Linda L. Ammons at the Opera!

Opera: Turandot (Puccini)
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2009
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Brunch: 12:30 p.m.
Price: \$150 per person
Place: **Brunch** XIX Nineteen Restaurant
Opera The Academy of Music,
Broad and Locust Streets, Philadelphia

For more information, contact Nancy Ravert Ward at 302.477.2191.



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School of Law

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