At the 2008 Treasure of Detroit from left to right:
Dear Wayne Law Alumni,

I officially began my tenure as the tenth dean of Wayne State University Law School on May 13, 2008, after delivering the Law School’s Commencement address the previous night at the Detroit Opera House. I was honored to have been part of that very happy evening and, again, congratulate members of the Class of 2008 on their laudible achievement.

In the weeks that have followed I have immersed myself in all that is Wayne Law and am so appreciative to those who have helped make this transition an easy and pleasant one. I am thrilled to be at Wayne Law and in Detroit, and look forward to sharing in many future successes with students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends.

At this time, I am pleased to announce two upcoming alumni events. They include an event in Grand Rapids at Varnum Law on June 18, and an alumni golf outing on June 20. (Specific details about these events can be found in this publication.) I have already been impressed by the enthusiastic participation and pride among Wayne Law alumni, and look forward to meeting many more of you at such events.

This is truly an exciting time at Wayne Law. As Dean, I am focused on providing the best education and service possible to our students, further enhancing the Law School’s reputation in the local, national and international legal community, promoting cutting-edge, quality programming, and defining and developing the Law School’s role in the greater urban mission of Wayne State University. Through this publication, I hope to keep you abreast of progress, as well as new and exciting initiatives and developments here at the Law School.

Thank you again for your continuing support of Wayne Law. Please enjoy this edition of Raising the Bar.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Ackerman
Dean and Professor of Law

Wayne State University Law School hosted its Commencement Ceremony on May 12 at the Detroit Opera House. The Honorable Maura D. Corrigan was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, and Robert M. Ackerman served as the Commencement speaker. Please enjoy some photo highlights below.
Wayne State University Law School, former Dean Frank H. Wu, the Law School Board of Visitors, and the Law School Alumni Association hosted the 11th annual Treasure of Detroit Gala at the Law School on April 5, 2008. Honorees included John Collins Jr., ’76, Judge Jessica Cooper, ’73, and Cornelius Pitts, ’64. The Special Treasure Honoree was Georgia Clark, long-time director of the Law Library and friend of Wayne Law.

Please enjoy a sampling of photos from the festive evening. More Treasure of Detroit photos can be found online at: http://www.law.wayne.edu/news/photo/pg9.htm#
Former Law School Dean James K. Robinson and his fellow members of the Class of ’68 announced the creation of a Dean’s Challenge Fund – in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Class – at the 2008 Treasure of Detroit. This Fund has been made possible by lead gifts from Tyrone C. Fahner, Elizabeth Hardy and Thomas G. Kienbaum, Ronald L. Piasecki, and James K. Robinson. More than $340,000 has already been raised in this effort to continuously build a successful infrastructure for the Law School. Specifically, funds will support students, faculty and initiatives thought most important by Wayne Law Dean Robert M. Ackerman.

The Class of 1968 is “raising the bar” and challenges other classes to try to match or beat their display of support for Wayne State University Law School in the future. Attention Class of 1969... Are you up for the challenge?
“I think being a good lawyer has a lot in common with being a good writer. You have to be able to communicate with a wide audience of people, be a good storyteller in terms of structure, be willing to fight for what you think is right, and have knowledge of many different subjects.”

- Andrew Maurer, ’08

Many law school students dream of the day when they can walk across a stage, shake hands with the dean, and celebrate the end of one era and the beginning of another. For Wayne Law alumnus Andrew Maurer, that day finally came and went.

Maurer joined 227 fellow classmates in receiving a law degree on Monday, May 12, when the school held its annual commencement ceremonies at the Detroit Opera House. Unlike his fellow classmates, however, Maurer took an alternative mode of transportation across the stage to receive his J.D. degree.

Maurer, who earned a B.A. from the University of Michigan in 2000 and graduated from the Second City Writers Program in 2002, has a disability requiring him to use a wheelchair. But where some people in his situation might see that as an obstacle to a legal education, the tenacious Maurer sees it as a challenge that keeps life interesting.

“Using a wheelchair doesn’t stop me from doing much, but it often causes me to think ‘Geez, how am I going to pull this one off?’” said the Grosse Pointe Woods resident who is a recipient of the Michael L. Pitt and Peggy Goldberg Pitt Endowed Award. “That usually occurred right around exam time! But I think most people have something about themselves that makes them feel that way. Everyone has a little unique challenge to figure out. My challenge includes a wheelchair.”

He may not always have known that he wanted to attend law school, but Maurer was always interested in books, movies, and TV shows that featured lawyers. It was a combined interest in writing and law that eventually led him to Wayne State Law School. Well, that and his sense of humor.

“I still joke with friends that I knew I was going to law school the day I got my paycheck from my first professional writing gig,” he said. “But seriously, I think being a good lawyer has a lot in common with being a good writer. You have to be able to communicate with a wide audience of people, be a good storyteller in terms of structure, be willing to fight for what you think is right, and have knowledge of many different subjects.”

Maurer initially applied to Wayne Law based on his uncle’s great experience at the law school and on the more modern facilities offered for those with disabilities. Once there, he also was favorably impressed with the quality of education and the support offered by faculty and staff.

“Wayne Law has a great support system for dealing with the day-to-day stresses of being a student,” Maurer said. “The academic administration was always helpful and accommodating with my disability.”

He adds, “The professors at Wayne Law are truly top-notch. They are widely considered experts – constantly writing books, being quoted in major newspapers, being featured on the radio, winning cases in front of the Supreme Court. The student body is diverse and quite impressive. Just about every class I had was comprised of students from every conceivable background one could imagine. Look at me, for example. I have a disability and Wayne Law has a Disability Law Clinic. What more could you want from a law school?”

Maurer, whose mom, dad and brother are all Wayne State University alumni, hopes someday to be known as the “John Grisham of Wayne Law.” In the meantime, he is finishing work on his second novel, called “With Open Arms,” and is interested in gaining professional legal experience in intellectual property or entertainment law.

Show Your Support

It’s easier than ever to support Wayne State University Law School and its students. Click on the Make a Gift link on the Law School’s website at www.law.wayne.edu or use the form below.

Please indicate a designated fund for your gift:
- The Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights
- The Law School Fund
- Student Support
- Faculty Support
- In Memory of / In Honor of:

Please notify the following person of my gift:

Gift amount $
Wayne Law Review Honors Marian Faupel with the Richard J. Barber Alumni Achievement Award


The Wayne Law Review presents this award annually to an alumnus whose character, integrity, professional achievements, and contribution to the community represent the highest ideals of the Wayne Law Review.

Wayne State University Law School Announces Izumi Family Endowed Scholarship

Wayne Law announced the creation of the Izumi Family Endowed Scholarship to recognize scholastic achievement, encourage continued progress, and provide assistance to students in financing their education at the Law School.

The Izumi Family Fund was originally established by the ninth dean of Wayne Law Frank H. Wu and his wife, Carol (“Debbie”) Izumi, to honor the memory of her parents Shinsuke Edwin and Misao Izumi. It was set up as an independent account of Wayne Law, which had exclusive purpose supporting Law School activities. At the request of Wu and Izumi, the existing Izumi Family Fund has been revised to create the Izumi Family Endowed Scholarship with $125,000 in gifts already received by the university.

For more information, please visit www.law.wayne.edu or contact Mary Hollens via email at am2674@wayne.edu or by phone at (313) 577-4141. You can also visit the Office of Development online at http://giving.wayne.edu/index-makeagift.html.

Wayne State University Hosts ‘Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling: Asian Americans and Higher Education’

Wayne State University, in conjunction with Asian American Heritage Month, held an event titled “Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling: Asian Americans and Higher Education” on May 1, 2008, at the Law School.

The event paid tribute to Asian Americans currently serving in prestigious roles within academia. It offered practical advice on overcoming obstacles and succeeding in higher education from noted Asian American scholars and practitioners including: Dr. Ratna Naik, Professor of Physics, Wayne State University; Dr. Subrata Sengupta, Dean, College of Engineering and Computer Science, The University of Michigan-Dearborn; and Dr. Yuan F. Zheng, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, The Ohio State University.

Bates, Elturk Win Winter 2008 Donald E. Barris Trial Competition


Mock Trial is a co-curricular activity at Wayne Law. Interested students tryout for the program at the beginning of each school year, and participants earn academic credit for conducting two trials each semester. After the second trial, the four teams with highest point totals compete in a semi-final round, and then two teams advance to compete in the final round – the Donald E. Barris Trial Competition. The winners receive a $500 scholarship and are offered a position on the Mock Trial National Team.

Competition finalists Sarah Greene and Kevin McGiness represented the plaintiff in a wrongful death action, and Bates and Elturk represented the defendant utility company. Wayne Law alumna Linda Turek of Sachs Waldman, P.C. judged the event.

Wayne State University Law School to Host Grand Rapids Alumni Event at Varnum Law, June 18

Wayne Law and the Grand Rapids Chapter of the Law Alumni Association are proud to host a special gathering with Wayne Law Dean Robert M. Ackerman on Wednesday, June 18, 2008, at Varnum, Riddering, Schmidt & Howlett, LLP.

The event is open to Wayne Law alumni, students and friends, and will take place from 5:30 – 7 p.m. at Varnum Law, 333 Bridge St. N.W. in Grand Rapids, Mich. It will feature an address by the Dean and recognition of Wayne Law summer associates working in the Grand Rapids area, as well as hors d’oeuvres, cocktails and conversation.

Directions are available at www.varnumlaw.com. Parking is available on levels C and D of the Bridgewater Place ramp, accessible from Bridge and Scribner streets.

Please RSVP to this event prior to June 11, 2008, to Senior Director of Development & Alumni Relations Mary Hollens at (313) 577-4141 or via email at am2674@wayne.edu.

Law Alumni Association and Student Board of Governors to Host Alumni/Student Golf Outing, June 20

The Law Alumni Association and the Student Board of Governors will host the 18th Annual Wayne State University Law School Alumni/Student Golf Outing on Friday, June 20, 2008, at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center in Plymouth. For more details, please see the flier at the end of this publication.
Wayne Law Professor Erica Beecher-Monas was recently selected as a 2008-2009 Fulbright Scholar to China, joining the ranks of a number of distinguished alumni of the program including heads of state, judges, ambassadors, CEOs, Nobel Prize winners and more.

As a Fulbright Scholar to China, Beecher-Monas will be assigned to a yet-to-be-determined city in China, beginning in February 2009. Her role as a Scholar will include participating in open communication and establishing long-term cooperative relationships in an effort to “enrich the educational, political, economic, social and cultural lives of countries around the world.”

Professor Erica Beecher-Monas taught at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law from 1996 until 2005. Her areas of expertise include corporations and evidence. She has been a visiting professor at Florida State University College of Law and at the University of Miami School of Law.

Her work includes articles on the Enron case and on law and science. Her current work-in-progress is “Reality Bites: The Illusion of Science Behind Bite-Mark Evidence.” She has presented papers at conferences across the United States, in Canada, Hungary, and in Austria.

Beecher-Monas received her undergraduate degree in biology from Florida International University, and a Master of Science degree in Anatomy and Biochemistry from the University of Miami. She is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of Miami School of Law (1988) and earned an LL.M. in 1995 and J.S.D. in 2001, both from Columbia School of Law. Prior to beginning her teaching career, she worked as a litigation associate at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson in New York City.

According to the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board (FSB), grants such as the one awarded to Beecher-Monas are made possible through appropriated annually funds by the U.S. Congress, or by contributions from partner countries and/or the private sector.

“Professor Rothchild was nominated for the position by several of his faculty colleagues, and for good reason,” said Wayne Law Dean Robert M. Ackerman. “In addition to chairing a number of vital Law School committees, he is a highly regarded faculty member who brings to the position of Associate Dean a wealth of institutional knowledge and an intense desire to make the most of our Law School’s assets.”

A graduate of Princeton University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Professor Rothchild joined the Wayne Law faculty in 2001. He teaches courses in electronic commerce law, copyright law, international intellectual property law, constitutional law, ancient Greek and Roman law, and privacy law.

Rothchild is co-author (with Margaret Jane Radin, R. Anthony Reese, and Gregory M. Silverman) of “Internet Commerce,” a law school casebook published by Foundation Press, which has been adopted for classroom teaching at numerous law schools.

From 1991 to 2001, Professor Rothchild was an attorney at the Federal Trade Commission’s Bureau of Consumer Protection, specializing in law enforcement efforts addressing Internet-based fraud and online compliance issues. For several years he led the Commission’s international consumer protection program.

He served as Chairperson of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s Consumer Protection Guidelines Project, which developed guidelines for controlling fraudulent and misleading conduct in electronic commerce. He also served as a member of the U.S. delegation to the OECD’s Committee on Consumer Policy, and of the U.S. delegation to the International Marketing Supervision Network.

From 1998 to 1999, he was engaged in research and writing as a Fellow at the University of Chicago Law School, where he received the Victor H. Kramer Foundation fellowship. From 1987 to 1991, he was an associate in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Bredhoff & Kaiser, representing labor unions and pension plans. He was a law clerk for The Hon. Arlin M. Adams, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, from 1986 to 1987.

Wayne Law officially announced the appointment of Associate Professor John Rothchild as Associate Dean of the Law School in the beginning of April. Professor Rothchild will assume his new responsibilities upon the departure of Associate Dean David Moran early this summer.

“[Professor Rothchild] is a highly regarded faculty member who brings to the position of Associate Dean a wealth of institutional knowledge and an intense desire to make the most of our Law School’s assets.”

– Robert M. Ackerman, Dean and Professor of Law

New Associate Dean John Rothchild
Professor Laura Bartell's article ‘From Debtors’ Prisons to Prisoner Debtors: Credit Counseling for the Incarcerated’ was just published in 24 Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal 15 (2008).

Her article "Staying the Serial Filer – Interpreting the New Exploding Stay Provisions of Section 362(c)(3) of the Bankruptcy Code" is scheduled for publication in the forthcoming volume of the American Bankruptcy Law Journal published by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges.

She continues to serve on the Editorial Board of the American Bankruptcy Law Journal, and on the Board of Directors of the American Board of Certification, a national organization that certifies bankruptcy and creditors’ rights lawyers.

Professor Linda Beale gave a presentation to BC Tax Colloquium on March 27, 2008, called "Tax Patents: At the Crossroads of Tax and Patent Law."

She will also soon be published in the Illinois Journal of Law, Technology & Policy (forthcoming 2008).

Professor Stephen Calkins spoke during the “hot topics” portion of the ABA’s Antitrust Law Spring Meeting. His presentation helped pack the ballroom.

Professor Paul Dubinsky served as a judge in the international rounds of the Jessup Moot Court Competition in Washington, D.C.

In March, his op-ed "What the Fall of Eliot Spitzer Says About Us," appeared in the Christian Science Monitor.

In April, he was awarded a University Research Grant to pursue a project on the intellectual influence of the U.S. Supreme Court on the constitutional courts of young democracies.

Professor Gregory Fox has been invited to be part of a group of experts convened by the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva to consult on a new project on the international law of occupation. The group’s first meeting will take place in late May.

He gave a talk on "The Object and Purpose of Treaties" at the Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law in Washington on April 12, 2008.

Professor Noah Hall’s article on “Political Externalities, Federalism, and a Proposal for an Interstate Environmental Impact Assessment Policy,” was published at 32 Harvard


Professor Peter Henning spoke at the 21st Annual Corporate Law Symposium at the University of Cincinnati College of Law on March 14, 2008. The Symposium was “The Dysfunctional Board: Causes and Cures,” and his talk was “Board Dysfunction: Dealing with the Threat of Corporate Criminal Liability.”

Professor Michael McIntyre has been appointed as Consultant to the chair and co-reporters of the UDITPA drafting committee, which is preparing a new version of the Uniform Division of Income for Tax Purposes Act, adopted in 1957. The goal is to have a new draft approved by the Uniform Law Commission and then adopted by state governments. UDITPA is an important model code that provides the basis rules governing the taxation of corporations by state governments. The position of Consultant is uncompensated public service.

He also published a short piece, titled “Coming Soon – A UN Code of Conduct on Tax Evasion?”. It appears in 4/1 Tax Justice Focus 1-2 (2008), available online at http://www.taxjustice.net/cms/upload/pdf/TFJ_4-1_Doha.pdf. The article discusses the efforts of the UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation to develop a code of conduct to discourage government cooperation with international tax evasion and abusive tax avoidance. Professor McIntyre presented a report at the 2007 meeting in Geneva of the UN Committee in which he made the case for adoption of a code of conduct. He also served as interim chair (now as member) of the UN Committee’s subgroup on Information Exchange, which has been charged with the task of preparing a draft code of conduct.

Professor Dana Roach recently celebrated a $25,000 gift from the AT&T Foundation to the Damon J. Keith Collection.

Professor Brad Roth’s 2004 Leiden Journal of International Law article, "Retrieving Marx for the Human Rights Project," is being republished twice this year in separate collections on Marxist political and legal thought, both due out in the Spring of 2008. A slightly revised version of the original article will appear in Susan Marks, ed., International Law on the Left: Revisiting Marxist Legacies (Cambridge University Press, 2008), and the original version will be reproduced in Susan Easton, ed., Marx and Law (Philosophers and Law Series) (London: Ashgate Publishing, 2008).

His new article, "Just Short of Torture: Abusive Treatment and the Limits of International Criminal Justice," is due out this spring in the Journal of International Criminal Justice (vol. 6, no. 2, 2008), published by Oxford University Press.


Professor Robert A. Sedler’s paper entitled, “The Constitution, the Courts and the Common Law” was recently listed on SSRN’s Top Ten download list for Political Institutions: Law & Courts.


He published “The Michigan Supreme Court Diminishes the Right to Trial by Jury in Civil Cases.” Available online on SSRN.


He spoke to the Wayne Law Chapter of the Progressive Organization for Women’s Rights on March 26, 2008, discussing “What If Roe Fell?”

He served as a panelist to discuss “The Roots of Altruism and Moral Courage,” at a Conference on “What Motivates Altruism” at the Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills on April 4, 2008.

To view faculty accomplishments online, visit http://www.law.wayne.edu/faculty/faculty_Accomplishments.html.

To view Wayne Law faculty quotes in the media, visit http://www.law.wayne.edu/Professors_in_news.html.
The Alumni Association and Career Services –

A Partnership for Success!

Many alumni wonder how they can give back to the Law School. Assisting students in their professional development is an excellent way to do so.

Please consider volunteering in one of the following capacities. The time commitment is small – the opportunity to shape a future is enormous.

Mentor: Your contact information will be included in our password-protected online Mentor Directory. Students may contact you to ask career-related questions. They will not ask for a job. Students will be counseled to be respectful of your time, and mindful that you are a busy professional juggling numerous responsibilities.

Speaker: The Career Services Office offers students the opportunity to meet practicing attorneys and hear about their practice and career path. It’s a great way to increase your (or your employer’s) visibility and presence on campus.

Mock Interviews: Attorneys conduct mock interviews on campus or at their offices.

You are one of the Law School’s most valuable assets. Take this opportunity to become involved in the WSU Law School community. You will make a difference.

___ Yes, I’m interested in becoming a mentor.
___ Yes, I’d like to volunteer to speak at a Career Services program on a topic of my choosing.
___ Yes, I’m interested participating in the mock interview program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Phone Number: ______________________ E-mail: ____________________________

Please fax or email your completed form to the Career Services Office at 313-577-9800 or lawcareers@wayne.edu.
Sheldon Winkelman, ’63, a partner in the Real Estate Department of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, has been elected President of the Michigan Housing Council for a one-year term. Winkelman has more than four decades experience working on a wide variety of commercial real estate and financing transactions with an emphasis on government-assisted housing. His other areas of practice include: Gaming and Hospitality; Tribal Sovereignty and Development; Affordable Housing; and Government Assisted Financing. Listed in the 2008 edition of The Best Lawyers in America, as well as 2007 Michigan Super Lawyers, Winkelman has authored several articles on market rate and affordable housing that have been published in the Michigan Bar Journal and the Journal of the Real Estate Section of the Michigan Bar Association.

Jim Nelson, ’66, and his wife Jean were recently awarded the 2008 Distinguished Service Award by the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce.

Judge Peter D. Houk, ’69, former Ingham County Circuit Court Chief, addressed the annual State Bar of Michigan’s Negligence Law Section Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, on May 4, 2008. Judge Houk is a shareholder with Fraser Trebilcock Davis & Dunlap P.C. and was one of three former judges asked to participate in a panel discussion on Alternative Dispute Resolution by Mediation and Arbitration.

Robert A. Berlow, ’71, has joined the law firm of Taubman Nadis & Neuman, P.C. as of counsel to the firm. Berlow concentrates his practice in the areas of business and commercial real estate law with a particular focus on commercial real estate development and leasing. Berlow is a former partner of Dykema Gossett where he practiced for nine years. At Dykema, he served as chairperson of the firm’s Retail Practice Group. Prior to that, Berlow was executive vice president, chief administrative officer and general counsel of Perry Drug Stores, Inc., a publicly traded retail drug store chain which was later acquired by Rite Aid. In 2008, Berlow earned a listing in The Best Lawyers in America and, for more than 15 years, has been listed in Who’s Who in American Law and Who’s Who in America.

Lou Kasische, ’71, was recently featured in an article in the Detroit Free Press, featuring a courageous story about his choice to turn back while climbing Mt. Everest due to a harsh storm that was approaching, which left four dead.

Joan Mahoney, ’75, a professor and former dean of Wayne State University Law School, was recently featured in Crain’s Business Detroit in an article highlighting her as the first woman lawyer to join Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn L.L.P. (also in 1975).

Howard Hertz, ’76, of Bloomfield Hills-based Hertz Schram, PC, was among the selections of Michigan Super Lawyers in the 2007 issue of Law & Politics. This is the second consecutive year that he has received this honor. Hertz, who formed the law firm of Hertz Schram PC with Bradley Schram in 1979, specializes in entertainment law and is the lead attorney of the firm’s Entertainment Practice Group.

Walter J. Piszczatowski, ’76, of Bloomfield Hills-based Hertz Schram, PC, was among the selections of Michigan Super Lawyers in the 2007 issue of Law & Politics. This is the second consecutive year that he has received this honor. Piszczatowski is a highly experienced and well-known litigator, specializing in white collar criminal defense and forfeiture law in both state and federal court. He has a particular expertise in representing high profile individuals, including members of the entertainment and sports industries in both criminal and civil matters.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced restructuring of the office’s Criminal Division and the accompanying appointment of several Assistant United States Attorneys (AUSAs) to management positions within the office. Jennifer Gorland, ’85, was formally appointed to serve as the chief of the Criminal Division, effective June 2, 2008. Gorland has served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for more than 20 years. As chief, Gorland will supervise an associate chief, along with the office’s efforts in the areas of General Crimes, Economic Crimes and Controlled Substances.

Linda Burwell, ’85, a partner with Detroit-based employment law firm Nemeth Burwell, P.C., led a national webinar entitled, “Employee Handbooks: Spotting Mistakes and Omissions Your Employees Can Use Against You,” on March 12, 2008. The webinar was hosted by a national publisher of newsletters, booklets, and manuals targeted to top management, human resource directors, personnel managers, front-line managers, and supervisors at small-to-medium sized firms. Webinar participants included human resource executives and those with HR responsibilities and hailed from throughout the United States.

James E. Spurr, ’81, a principal in the Kalamazoo office of Miller Canfield, was recently appointed to the Michigan Commission on the Commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 by Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Kenneth F. Silver, ’83, of Bloomfield Hills-based Hertz Schram, PC, was among the selections of Michigan Super Lawyers in the 2007 issue of Law & Politics. This is the second consecutive year that he has been received this honor. Silver is primarily responsible for the firm’s Real Estate and Probate Administration Practice.

Patricia A. Stamler, ’83, of Bloomfield Hills-based Hertz Schram, PC, was among the
Calvin J. Sterk, '86, of Smith Haughey Rice & Rogge has joined the firm as of counsel in the Grand Rapids office. He will focus his practice on appellate litigation, primarily in the area of workers’ compensation.

Sheryl L. Toby, '86, co-leader of the Dykema’s Bankruptcy and corporate restructuring practice group, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI). An ABI member since 1986, Toby is a program chair of ABI’s Central States Bankruptcy Workshop and has served as a co-chair on ABI's Commercial Fraud Task Force Committee. She will serve a term of three years on the 60-member Board of Directors.

James L. Allen, '88, a principal in the Troy office of Miller Canfield, recently authored “Michigan Foreclosure Practice,” a chapter of The Law of Distressed Real Estate, published by Thompson West, December 2007. Allen practices in Capital Markets Lending, a part of the firm’s real estate group. He concentrates his practice in representing lenders in all phases of commercial real estate workouts and foreclosures, primarily in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana.

David M. Thoms, '88, a principal in the Troy office of Miller Canfield, was recently re-elected as secretary of the board of directors of the Visiting Nurse Association of Michigan. Thoms is a principal in the Personal Services Group and co-leader of the Nonprofit and Charitable Organizations Group. He concentrates his practice in estate planning and tax, non-profit organizations, business entity planning and tax, succession planning, and real estate.

Emily A. Minns, '89, has joined Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP's Oakland County office as a Partner in the Real Estate Department. Minns joined Honigman from Butzel Long, where she practiced real estate law as a senior attorney.

90s

Kathleen Gatti, '91, an attorney with Detroit employment law firm Nemeth Burwell, P.C., recently made a presentation entitled, “Hiring and Firing Within the Law,” to human resource professionals at a seminar sponsored by the American Society of Employers in Southfield. The presentation provided an overview of the laws applicable to hiring and firing, practical advice on what employers can and cannot do before and after extending an offer of employment, do’s and don’ts for discharging employees, and guidance on how employers can best protect themselves from lawsuits. While in Law School, Gatti

served as an Assistant Editor and Associate Editor for The Wayne Law Review.

Steven M. Ribiat, '91, Butzel Long attorney and shareholder, was recently inducted into the Litigation Counsel of America (LCA) at the Spring Conference and Induction of Fellows in Miami.

Wendy Zabriskie, '91, co-chair with the banking practice group of Bodman L.L.P. of Troy, was recently recognized in Crain's Detroit Business as an exceptional woman of law for representing financial institutions in structuring, negotiating and documenting commercial and real estate loans, often multimillion dollar transactions on multilose projects.

Karen Seder, '92, partner with Liss, Seder & Andrews P.C. of Bloomfield Hills, was recently recognized in Crain's Detroit Business for being an exceptional woman of law by handling a caseload of clients consisting of people who are comatose, quadriplegic or severely brain injured from automobile accidents.

Robert McWhorter, '93, was recently elected a partner at Nossaman. He is Co-Chair of the firm's Financial Services Practice Group and is based in Sacramento. He has more than 14 years of experience handling complex contested civil litigation, bankruptcy matters, and healthcare law. He represents troubled companies, individuals, and secured creditors in Chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcy proceedings and litigates matters involving contracts, business torts, lender liability, commercial transactions, and real estate litigation. As a healthcare attorney, he represents hospitals, physicians and other licensed health care professionals in administrative proceedings involving medical staff credentialing, licensing and regulatory disputes. He currently serves as the President of the Administrative Law Section for the Sacramento County Bar Association.

Ann Marie Uetz, '93, partner and trial attorney with Foley & Lardner L.L.P. of Detroit, was recently recognized in Crain’s Detroit Business for being an exceptional woman of law by doing such things as training other Foley lawyers for high performance before, during and after trials and conducting six training sessions a year with the help of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy to prepare new lawyers with practice trying cases.

Antoinette Pilzner, '95, shareholder and attorney with Butzel Long of Ann Arbor, was recently recognized in Crain’s Detroit Business for being an exceptional woman of law by doing such things as running programs for the Society for Human Resources Management, for both the Ann Arbor and Detroit chapters, and being appointed to the Advisory Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Benefit Plans, the Labor Department’s highest level nongovernment advisory panel on employee benefits.

David W. Williams, '96, has been named partner at the firm Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer, & Weiss P.C.

Kurt M. Brauer, '98, has joined Warner, Norcross, & Judd L.L.P. as a partner. Brauer concentrates his practice in environmental law and litigation with an emphasis on environmental compliance and regulatory matters, brownfield and other economic development incentives and complex real estate.


00s

Thomas W. Cronkright, '00, was recently recognized in the Grand Rapids Business for his creation of Sun Title. Sun Title has seen tremendous growth in the first two years. Sun Title is currently licensed in five states, with a license pending in a sixth, and it plans to use the mobile closing as the model for statewide and national expansion.

Lawrence Duthler, '00, was recently recognized in the Grand Rapids Business for his creation of Sun Title. Sun Title has seen tremendous growth in the first two years. Sun Title is currently licensed in five states, with a license pending in a sixth, and it plans to use the mobile closing as the model for statewide and national expansion.

Adam Kutinsky, '00, was promoted to principal at Kitch Drutcharas Wagner Valitutti & Sherbrook. He concentrates his practice in the areas of title litigation, liability and property insurance, creditor’s rights, and commercial litigation.

Justin R. Peruski, '03, has joined Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP in its Detroit office as an attorney in the Insurance Department. Peruski joins Honigman from Butzel Long, where he began his career in...
corporate law and represented both national and international clients.

**Teri Dennings, ’05**, whose specialty areas include labor and employment litigation, was promoted to senior associate at the Kitch Firm. Dennings has also been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of Turning Point Macomb. Turning Point’s mission is to provide programs and resources that enable victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and homelessness to regain control of their lives.

**Shawn G. Jappaya, ’05**, has joined the Detroit office of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP as an attorney in the Tax Appeals Department. Jappaya joins Honigman from the Detroit office of Ernst & Young, where he worked as a senior in International Tax.

**Suzanne M. Miller, ’05**, has joined Butzel Long as an associate attorney based in the firm’s Bloomfield Hills office. Miller practices in the area of tax planning and controversy and general corporate law.

**Kuryakin C. Rucker, ’06**, has joined The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio, as a field negotiator. He is responsible for negotiating labor agreements for all of the company’s unionized retail locations and commerical tire centers. Before joining Goodyear, Rucker was a Labor Relations Specialist in the Cleveland, Ohio, office of The Dominion East Ohio Gas Company, where he provided labor relations support for more than 1,200 bargaining unit employees throughout the state of Ohio.

**Samuel Saks, ’05**, has co-authored a book with Michael G. Brook titled “Contemporary Issues in Family Law and Mental Health,” which offers a practical and original discussion of issues in family relations and the law. The forward to the book was written by Wayne Law Professor Ralph Slovenko.

**Heather Joy Thompson, ’05**, was sworn in as a member of the 138th Class of the Department of State’s Foreign Service. Deputy Secretary of State, John Negroponte, conducted the ceremony. The ceremony was held on April 18, 2008 at the Harry S. Truman State Department Building in Washington, D.C. In July, she will begin a two year assignment in Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Gurinder J. Singh, ’07**, an associate in the Detroit office of Miller Canfield, was recently elected to the executive committee of The Indus Entrepreneurs Organization (TiE) Detroit Chapter. She practices in the firm’s Corporate and Securities Group.

Submit your alumni updates and accomplishments to Kristin Copenhaver, Law School Communications Director, at kcopenhaver@wayne.edu!
ALUMNI/STUDENT GOLF OUTING

The Law Alumni Association and the Student Board of Governors invite you to join them for the
18th Annual Wayne State University Law School Alumni/Student Golf Outing
Friday, June 20, 2008
Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center
8768 North Territorial Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-7272
www.foxhills.com

11 a.m. Registration/Lunch
1 p.m. Shotgun Start

Price per person ($160 for Alumni Association members, $170 for Non-Association members, and $100 for students) includes 18 holes of golf with cart, drink tickets, a buffet lunch, dinner complete with an open bar, and a gift bag. The Golf Outing is limited to the first 144 golfers - so reserve your foursome today!

Questions? Call Joyce Clark at (313) 577-2161 or email her at ag9789@wayne.edu. Please make checks payable to the WSU Law Alumni Association and direct them to Joyce Clark in WSU’s Alumni House located at 441 Ferry Mall in Detroit, MI 48202.
(Visa, MasterCard and cash are also accepted.)

Registration deadline:
June 13, 2008

Portions of the proceeds from the golf outing will benefit the Law Alumni Association Fund and New Lawyer Skills Seminars for students and recent grads!

Grow!USA to Assist AmeriCorps Michigan Service Scholars at Plymouth Art Fair Educational Booth

Kathy Browne, ’87, founder of Grow!USA is pleased to announce that the 5-year-old Michigan non-profit will be able to assist AmeriCorps Michigan Service Scholars this year through Grow!USA’s educational booth at the Plymouth Art Fair.

“Our inception in 2004, Grow!USA has been blessed with tremendous success in its community efforts,” Browne said. “We’re delighted to be able to give back once again by helping Michigan Service Scholars obtain their scholarship money through community service hours at our Plymouth Art Fair booth.”

The acclaimed Plymouth Art Fair is in its 29th year and anticipates 300,000 attendees for its July 11, 12 and 13, 2008, event.

For more information about Grow!USA’s educational programs, please visit www.grow-usa.org.

Grow!USA to Assist AmeriCorps Michigan Service Scholars at Plymouth Art Fair Educational Booth

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