Pictured above
Dean Robert M. Ackerman and Wayne Law Assistant Professor Jocelyn Friedrichs Benson at the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting. Professor Benson was honored by Wayne Law with the Donald H. Gordon Award for Excellence in Teaching.
Dear Wayne Law Alumni and Friends,

I am delighted to speak to you as the new Director of Graduate Studies at Wayne Law. Our Master of Laws program offers a vital resource for the Southeastern Michigan region. The program offers three areas of concentration: corporate and finance law, labor and employment law, and taxation. Practicing lawyers complete the LL.M. degree as a means of enhancing their skills through attainment of mastery in one or more of these fields. Students who have just completed their J.D. degree enroll to gain more depth in their chosen area of concentration and to prepare for careers that are perhaps different than the ones they contemplated when charting their course through their J.D. programs. Lawyers who have spent some time in careers somewhat removed from the legal world use the LL.M. program to refresh their knowledge in preparation for a return to a more legal-centric career. All benefit from the breadth of expertise at Wayne Law, from full-time faculty and visitors, who bring practical experience and scholarly insights to their classes, to practicing lawyers from firms throughout the region, who bring real-world experience and practical strategies to the classroom.

As this new year gets underway, we have implemented a number of changes to enhance the program for students. The Master’s Essay Workshop was reformatted to an interactive four-hour workshop collaboration between the Director of Graduate Studies and the new Director of Legal Research and Writing, Anne Marie Burr. The workshop covered the program requirements and provided helpful hints for every step of the process, from developing a topic through researching and writing the essay. Students had opportunities to break into small groups to brainstorm with their peers and to learn more about the resources available to help them through the sure-to-come days of writer’s block. Comments suggest the new workshop format was an astounding success.

Other new ideas to come include (i) a Master’s Forum, in which students will have an opportunity to interact with academics and leading practitioners from the region in the areas of taxation, corporate and finance law, or labor and employment law at invitation-only lunches to discuss a breaking news topic, (ii) a Mentors Program, which will match LL.M. students, particularly those who are at the Master’s Essay stage, with leading practitioners in their field who will act as practice-oriented readers and advisers, and (iii) a Career Possibilities Program, which will investigate opportunities for careers for LL.M. students and provide a networking resource for firms seeking to hire students with more experience and expertise than might be typically found in a J.D. career fair setting.

Please join us as we work on these new ideas. We welcome your input and your interest.

Sincerely,

Linda Beale
Director of Graduate Studies
Associate Professor of Law

LL.M. Program

Are you interested in applying to Wayne Law’s Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program?

The graduate program is offered primarily in the evening on a part-time basis, although full-time curricula combining day and evening courses can be arranged. The degree requirements can normally be met in one year of full-time study or from two to six years of part-time study.

For more information, visit http://www.law.wayne.edu/current/master_laws.html or call (313) 577-0088.
Wayne Law and Smooth Jazz V98.7 recently partnered to host “A Night Out with Wayne State University Law School” on Oct. 6, 2008, at Seldom Blues, downtown in the Detroit Renaissance Center.

More than 85 attendees joined Wayne Law Dean and Professor Robert M. Ackerman and other Wayne Law faculty, students and alumni for cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and live entertainment as they toasted Wayne Law, the Motor City and the future. Featured artists included opener Nikki Andrews, best known for her contemporary-inspired Neo-soul, and headliner Jesse Palter, best known for her unique blend of jazz and pop.

“This event served as a wonderful opportunity for folks to discuss their connections to Wayne Law, as well as learn about the many exciting programs and initiatives currently underway at the Law School,” Ackerman said. “From a new Child Advocacy Clinic and a number of outstanding faculty accomplishments to the future ground breaking on the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights, this is an exciting time at Wayne Law.”

He added, “I have already been impressed by the enthusiastic participation and pride among Wayne Law alumni and friends since beginning my tenure as Dean in May, and am thrilled to be at Wayne Law and in Detroit. I look forward to hosting similar events and to sharing in many future successes with students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends.”

For more information regarding other upcoming events or giving to Wayne Law, please visit law.wayne.edu or contact Wayne Law’s Office of Development and Alumni Relations at (313) 577-3113.

Pictured above:
1. Judge Claudia H. Morcom, ’56, and Dean Robert M. Ackerman
2. Theresa L. Blaty, LL.M., ’92, and Edward A. Blaty, ’54
3. Dean Robert M. Ackerman and Janis Ackerman
5. Dr. Edward Klarman and Barbara Klarman, ’64
6. Jason Webber, ’04
7. Howard Hertz, ’76

Wayne Law Dean Robert M. Ackerman, the Law School Board of Visitors, and the Law School Alumni Association will host the 12th annual Treasure of Detroit Gala this spring and need your help choosing this year’s honorees.

Last year, they honored John Collins Jr., ’76, Judge Jessica Cooper, ’73, and Cornelius Pitts, ’64 – all of whom have certainly made their mark in the law and are deeply respected and admired by their peers.

Are you interested in nominating a Wayne Law alum for this prestigious honor? Please contact the Law School Development & Alumni Relations Office at (313) 577-3113 or am2674@wayne.edu.
Wayne Law Presents ‘The Middle East and the Next President: What Direction for U.S. Foreign Policy?’


The lecture, which filled Spencer M. Partrich Auditorium, was sponsored by Wayne Law’s International Law Students Association (ILSA).

Wayne Law Professor, Alumnus Publish Third Edition of Book


According to aspenpublishers.com, “‘Intellectual Property Litigation: Pretrial Practice’ offers up-to-date, comprehensive case analysis and a clear framework for streamlining the procedural requirements and issues involved in resolving patent disputes. [Readers] will find unparalleled analysis of crucial procedures and guiding case law on key phases of pretrial litigation practice including: preliminary injunction, bifurcation, discovery, summary judgment, and more.”

Wayne Law Alumni Selected to Crain’s 40 Under 40

Wayne Law alumni Janis Acosta, ’97, Mary Margaret O’Donnell, ‘98, and Matthew Schenk, ’96, have been named by Crain’s Detroit Business as three of the area’s top business leaders in the publication’s 2008 40 Under 40 feature.

For the past 18 years, Crain’s has honored the best and brightest in Southeast Michigan who have made their marks in business before age 40. More than 400 people were nominated for this year’s 40 Under 40. Crain’s evaluated candidates based on personal achievement and community impact.

Janis Acosta, 39, serves as vice president and general counsel of the International Automotive Components Group North America Inc. in Dearborn, Mich. Her biggest accomplishment to date includes “playing a central role in the 2007 founding and growth of auto supplier International Automotive Components Group North America Inc.” Her current goal is to help her company stay forward-thinking as it continues to grow in a volatile industry.

Mary Margaret O’Donnell, 36, serves as partner at Rader Fishman & Grauer PLLC in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. Her biggest achievement to date is “managing worldwide trademark portfolios in a thriving intellectual-property law practice.” Her current goal is to continue to expand Rader Fishman & Grauer’s trademark practice, particularly for innovative products and services.

Matt Schenk, 36, currently serves as assistant county executive in the Office of the Wayne County Executive in Detroit. His biggest achievement to date is “attracting the $600 million Chrysler L.L.C. Phoenix to Trenton, because it was so meaningful to the local community.” His current goal is to see a renovated and expanded Cobo Center plan approved by the end of the year. He is the son of long-time Wayne Law Professor Alan Schenk.

The above biographical information and photos were taken directly from Crain’s 40 Under 40 section online at http://www.crainsdetroit.com/section/focus. To read more about Acosta, O’Donnell, Schenk and others, visit Crain’s at the above link.

Congratulations to Eugene Driker on being named the 2008 recipient of the Dennis W. Archer Public Service Award

Wayne State University and Wayne State University Law School are proud to salute Board of Governor Chair Eugene Driker, ’61, who continues to raise the bar and make a profound difference in our community.

Wayne Law Alumni and Students Challenge Detroit Public High School Students to Consider a Career in the Law at Coleman A. Young Foundation Event

The program was sponsored by LSAC and hosted by the Wayne Law Admissions Office. Alumni in attendance included: James Britton, ’07, Dandridge Floyd, ’08, Jared Hocker, ’07, and Terrence Thompson, ’08. 3L Brooke Williams (BLSA president) was also present.
Wayne Law Professor Benson Honored for Teaching Excellence

Wayne Law Assistant Professor Jocelyn Friedrichs Benson has been honored by the Law School with the Donald H. Gordon Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The Donald H. Gordon Award for Excellence in Teaching was established by friends of Donald H. Gordon, who served as dean of Wayne Law from 1975 to 1980. It was awarded to Professor Benson at the State Bar of Michigan Annual Meeting in Dearborn on Sept. 18, 2008.

“I am deeply honored to receive this award,” Benson said. “I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to teach and work with the energetic and inspiring students of Wayne Law, and it means a great deal to me to be recognized in this way.”

Professor Benson joined the Wayne Law faculty in 2005. She teaches courses in election law, education law, race and the law, sports and inequality, and civil procedure. For more information on Professor Benson, please visit http://www.law.wayne.edu/faculty/profiles/benson_jocelyn.html.

Wayne Law Professor Benson Invited to Testify Before U.S. Congress

The United States House of Representatives Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties and the Committee on House Administration’s Subcommittee on Elections requested Wayne Law Professor Jocelyn Friedrichs Benson to testify at a joint oversight hearing on “Federal, State, and Local efforts to Prepare for the General 2008 Election.” The hearing took place Sept. 24, 2008, at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C.

The joint hearing examined the recent controversy in Michigan over allegations that “challengers” observing the election in precincts on Election Day may use foreclosure lists to challenge voters’ eligibility.

Professor Benson’s testimony specifically included a list of recommendations for what Secretaries of State and local election administrators should do, in Michigan and elsewhere, to ensure that no voter is wrongfully turned away from the polls or unfairly threatened, intimidated or disenfranchised on Election Day.

Wayne Law Student Third-Place Recipient in Environmental Law Essay Contest

Wayne Law congratulates third-year student Jim Roush on his recent third-place finish in the State Bar of Michigan’s 7th Annual Environmental Law Essay Contest. The annual contest, sponsored by the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, provides students with the opportunity to express their interest in today’s environmental law issues.

Roush, who earned his undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Michigan in 2005 and currently serves as the president of the Wayne Law Environmental Society, entered the contest primarily due to his interest in environmental law and the potential exposure it would yield in the field, such as being published in the Michigan Environmental Law Journal. Roush’s essay looked at the recent federal ban on incandescent light bulbs. Specifically, it examined the relevant precedent for such a ban, discussed possible Justifications for the ban and suggested changes to improve the law.

According to the State Bar of Michigan, contestants were critiqued on their originality, quality of research, clarity of style, organization and practicality. For questions regarding contest rules and next year’s contest, log onto www.michbar.org/environment/essay.cfm.

23rd Annual Ambulance Chase Raises Funds for Cass Community Social Services

Wayne Law alumni, students and friends assisted a local non-profit in its effort to enhance the local community as the Wayne Law Student Bar Association Board of Governors (SBG) hosted the 23rd annual Ambulance Chase Charity Run/Walk on Oct. 1, 2008.

Each October, the American Bar Association chooses a worthy cause and encourages each ABA-approved law school’s students to support the cause in their local area. Profits for this year’s event once again went to Cass Community Social Services (CCSS), a Detroit-based charity dedicated to making a profound difference in the lives of those in need by providing for basic necessities, including affordable housing, promoting self-reliance, and encouraging community involvement and improvement.

“[Cass Community Social Services] greatly impacts a large number of people in this community,” said Allison Bentley, SBG President. “Our goal was to assist CCSS financially through the Ambulance Chase so that it can continue to reach out to those most in need of help.”

Bentley added, “We ended up raising more than $5,000 again this year.”
G. Ann Baker Named the Recipient of Third Annual Stephen H. Schulman Award

G. Ann Baker with Hugh H. Makens, former Chair of the Business Law Section of the Michigan State Bar


Now Baker has been given what she describes as the “ultimate honor,” having been named the sole recipient of the Third Annual Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award.

Baker, the Director of the corporate division for Michigan’s Bureau of Commercial Services in the state Department of Labor & Economic Growth, received the Schulman Award on Sept. 25 at the State Bar of Michigan’s Business Law Section council meeting.

“The award is based on career achievements and contributions to the Michigan Business Bar,” said Eric Lark, former Chairman of the Business Law Section, a member of the Schulman Award Selection Committee and a senior partner with Kerr, Russell & Weber, PLC in Detroit.

“The community of business lawyers in Michigan is extremely strong and each year we’ve had many worthy candidates,” Lark said. “I think honoring Ann as a state employee recognizes not only her tremendous individual accomplishments but also the value and expertise of the many lawyers around Michigan working in state and local governmental entities.”

The award was named after Prof. Stephen Schulman, who taught a variety of business law courses during a lengthy tenure at Wayne Law. Schulman received the Donald H. Gordon Award for Excellence in Teaching and was chosen by the student body as the school’s Professor of the Year several times. Schulman also was instrumental in the drafting of much of Michigan’s corporate law that still is in place today.

Baker met Schulman in 1985 when working on the Corporate Laws Committee of the State Bar of Michigan’s Business Law Section and admits that she was a bit intimidated by him at first. But that soon passed.

“As Stephen used to say, every word in a statute means something and that is one of the most important things I learned from him,” Baker said. “To receive an award with his name on it is a stunning achievement and makes me feel as if perhaps I have accomplished some of my professional goals.”

This role of division director requires that Baker understand constitutional, administrative and business entity law while working closely with other state agencies to identify solutions for businesses when entity statutes and regulatory acts intersect. She also represents Michigan as a member of the International Association of Commercial Administrators.

One of the reasons Baker was named the 2008 recipient is because of her efforts on behalf of the Business Law Section.

“She has worked diligently with colleagues to provide business lawyers in Michigan practical guidance and workable solutions for many statutory and regulatory issues,” said Daniel Minkus, managing partner of the Birmingham office of Clark Hill PLC and current Chairman of the Unincorporated Enterprises Committee and Programs Director of the Business Law Section.

“Ann has been a tremendous bridge between the State and the practicing business Bar,” said Minkus, former Chairman of the Business Law Section.

The Section established the Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award in 2006, to be presented annually. The award honors Michigan business lawyers who consistently exemplify the characteristics the Business Law Section seeks to foster and facilitate: the highest quality of professionalism, the highest quality of practice, and an unwavering dedication to service, ethical conduct, and collegiality within the practice of law.

Past recipients of the Schulman Award include Cy Moscow, Martin Oetting, Hugh Makens and Jim Bruno in 2006; and Charlie McCallum and Verne Hampton in 2007.

About Stephen H. Schulman:
Schulman had a significant impact on the lives and careers of thousands of students during his tenure at Wayne Law. He taught courses in corporations, business planning, administrative law and more. In addition to receiving the Donald H. Gordon Award for Excellence in Teaching, his students selected him multiple times as the school’s Professor of the Year. Schulman served as faculty advisor and regular contributor to The Wayne Law Review for several decades and was co-reporter for the Business Law Section’s Subcommittee on the Revision of the Michigan Business Corporation Act. Schulman passed away in 2000.

This release appears compliments of the State Bar of Michigan Business Law Section.

Honors Convocation

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Wayne Law Honors Convocation
4 p.m., Friday, Nov. 14, 2008
Community Arts Auditorium
Call (313) 577-3997 with questions.

* Steven Migliore, ’08, and Eugene Driller, ’61, pictured to the left.
Photo Wrap-Up

The Upcoming Election and How to Help Protect the Vote

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24

Featured: Charles Ogletree, Harvard Law Professor and Adviser to Senator Barack Obama

Hosted by: Wayne Law, the Black Law Students Association and the Hispanic Law Students Association

The Justin C. Ravitz Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser Kickoff

THURSDAY, SEPT. 18

Ravitz devoted his life to the practice of law in Detroit, both as an attorney and as a judge in Detroit Recorder’s Court for many years. This event provided a wonderful opportunity to again pay tribute to one of Detroit’s own, reconnect with friends and build a living legacy for tomorrow.

Vicente Fox
Globalization and Immigration

FRIDAY, SEPT. 12

From left to right: Albert Dib, ’80, and Vicente Fox

From left to right: Jason Ravitz, Berna Ravitz, Anthony Ravitz and Katherine Cockrel

Bill Goodman

From left to right: Claude Chapman, Patty Stamler and Jay Yasso.
**Marx Lecture Series in Dispute Resolution:**

“Astride Two Worlds: Lawyers and Other Professionals in Dispute Resolution”

**MONDAY, OCT. 20**

Featured: Wayne Law Dean and Professor Robert M. Ackerman

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**The Fourth Keith Collection Biennial Lecture**

**THURSDAY, OCT. 23**

“The 2008 Presidential Election, Race and the Future of Civil Rights”

This event featured Constance L. Rice, civil rights activist, attorney, NPR commentator and co-director of the Advancement Project

Hosted by: The Damon J. Keith Law Collection of African-American Legal History

Sponsored by: Comerica Bank

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**Marc R. Poirier Lecture**

“The Cultural Property Claim Within the Same-Sex Marriage Controversy”

**TUESDAY, OCT. 21**

Featured: Marc R. Poirier, Seton Hall Professor of Law
Oct. 13 Op-ed by Professor John Mogk: City needs angels, and a better plan on abandoned houses

Devil’s Night has been renamed Angel’s Night in Detroit, but it remains a blow to the city’s image throughout the world. And no fires need to be lit for damage to be done. Just the need for the city to organize to prevent arson does damage. Even though the city has not in years seen burning at the epidemic level of past Devil’s Nights, the lingering impact of this destructive “tradition” represents a continuing failure of Detroit government.

Nowhere else on the globe does a city marshal thousands of volunteers each year to prevent citizens from lighting up the sky with burning buildings. Imagine the impression Detroiters would have of London and Paris or the “rogue cities” of Havana and Tehran if their leaders felt that the population would torch the city on the eve of Halloween every year.

The world does not understand that the buildings at risk are thousands of abandoned structures in a city with a level of property abandonment that is unknown elsewhere in the world. The image for many is that Detroit is either heavily crime-ridden or that the working class feels so hopeless and oppressed that people are burning down their own and neighboring homes.

Preventing arson on Angel’s Night is heralded as a major test of leadership for the city’s mayor. This emphasis could not be more misplaced. The true test is whether the long-standing abandoned building crisis in Detroit can be eliminated.

While the origin of Detroit’s late October trouble can be traced to the 1930s, when pranksters threw eggs at doorsteps, festooned trees with toilet paper and soaped windows, HUD’s flawed subprime mortgage crisis of the early 1970s, causing widespread property abandonment, laid the groundwork for its dramatic change. HUD drastically loosened credit standards and, with unemployment rising, low-income buyers were sought to purchase homes with no down payments in the city’s declining housing markets.

Within 18 months, foreclosures and abandonment in Detroit’s older neighborhoods skyrocketed and continued for years. By the end of the ’70s an aggressive program by the city to control abandonment -- at that time reaching 1,000 homes a month -- should have been instituted, but was not. The failure to control abandonment contributed to the collapse of housing values in many neighborhoods, and an increase in fires that peaked at 800 on Devil’s Night in 1984.

Still no effective solution was implemented. Thereafter, abandonment continued at a rate of 4,000 homes a year for the next two decades with the city’s demolition program floundering in a feeble attempt to solve the problem.

More recently, the situation has become much worse. In 2007, a massive foreclosure and abandonment crisis hit the nation, impacting the city for a second time. While Detroit should have been prepared, it was not, and the crisis is now growing with many more neighborhoods facing rapid decline. Community development corporations (CDCs), the frontline of Detroit’s modest neighborhood development efforts, lack the resources, staffing and legal authority to take control of the burgeoning crisis.

A Neighborhood Restoration Corporation is needed with the financial capacity, power and administrative ability to work with strengthened neighborhood CDCs and the private sector to coordinate and implement an effective city-wide program to stabilize good neighborhoods.

When a crisis of abandonment and decline faced the city’s downtown in the 1970s, Detroit’s leadership promoted the formation of the Detroit Downtown Development Authority and Detroit Economic Growth Corp. to address the problems. These two organizations and their partners have supplied the capacity and resources necessary to launch a major recovery of downtown. Detroit’s neighborhoods need the same type of organizational response and commitment.

Organizing thousands of volunteers with hot coffee, T-shirts and pins to patrol city streets on a few nights is not the major challenge facing new Mayor Kenneth Cockrel Jr. The test is, rather, eliminating abandoned houses throughout the city and the further collapse of neighborhoods that they will bring.


Show Your Support

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

Name__________________________
Address __________________ State__________ Zip__________
Phone______________ State__________ Email_________

Payment information (Please make checks payable to Wayne State University)
Credit Card Type__________ Exp.__________ Card #__________
Name as it appears on card________________________

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

Please notify the following person of my gift:

Gift amount $________________________

O Please contact me to learn more about the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights.
O Please send me more information on planned giving opportunities.

Fund Office: Code Law and Print
Dean Robert M. Ackerman served as the keynote speaker at the Labor and Employment Law Section Meeting of the State Bar of Michigan on Sept. 18.

He spoke to the Southfield Rotary Club on Sept. 25.

He served as the keynote speaker during the Stanley “Hank” Marx Lecture Series in Dispute Resolution on Oct. 20.

Professor Jocelyn Friedrichs Benson testified at the joint oversight hearing on “Federal, State, and Local efforts to Prepare for the General 2008 Election” at the request of the United States House of Representatives Judiciary Committee’s Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties and the Committee on House Administration’s Subcommittee on Elections on Sept. 24 in Washington, D.C.

Professor Kingsley Browne was a guest on “Work with Marty Nemko” (KALW-San Francisco, NPR) on the subject of his book “Biology at Work.”

Professor Paul Dubinsky has been selected as a national reporter for the 2010 conference of the International Association of Comparative Law. The conference will bring together comparative law scholars from around the world for a full week of meetings and presentations in Washington, D.C. to be held in July 2010 and hosted by a consortium of three U.S. law schools: American University, Georgetown, and George Washington. Professor Dubinsky’s report will appear in the conference proceedings and in a supplement to the American Journal of Comparative Law. IACL conferences are held every four years. The 2010 conference is the first to meet in the United States in several decades.

Professor Lance Gable published an article titled “HIV/AIDS, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and the Law,” in the October issue of the American Journal of Public Health, along with co-authors Lawrence O. Gostin and James G. Hodge, Jr.

He also was interviewed by Jack Lessenberry on Michigan Public Radio on the issue of the Michigan Medical Marijuana ballot initiative.

Professor Noah Hall was quoted in the ABA Journal in an article titled, “Gulp: Litigation Won’t End the Battles Over Depleted Water Resources in Several Regions of the United States,” by Kristin Choo (September 2008) (http://www.abajournal.com/magazine/gulp/).

He was quoted in a popular book published by the University of Michigan Press, “Great Lakes for Sale: From Whitecaps to Bottlecaps,” by Dave Dempsey.

Professor John Mogk wrote an op-ed in the Detroit Free Press titled “City needs angels, and a better plan on abandoned houses.” It is available online at http://www.freep.com/article/20081013/OPINION02/810130307 and is also featured in this month’s Raising the Bar.


Professor Robert Sedler did a presentation for the Humanities Center Brown Bag Colloquium Series, “Politics, Religion, and Constitutional Values” on Sept. 16.

On Oct. 2, he gave a speech, “The Ball’s in Your Court: The President’s Influence on the Supreme Court and the Federal Courts,” to the National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section.


To view more faculty accomplishments, please visit law.wayne.edu/faculty/ today.
Professor Alan Schenk taught at the University of Pretoria in South Africa as part of the Africa Tax Institute. He was also there to teach tax administrators from about 14 African countries about Value Added Tax, as well serve as technical advisor for the International Monetary Fund, assisting the tax services in South Africa and Botswana with the drafting of a new tax act – the Tax Administration Act.
Michael R. Kramer, ’68, of Bloomfield Hills, partner with Dickinson Wright PLLC, was recently appointed to the Oakland University Board of Control by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to represent the general public for a term expiring Aug. 11, 2016. He succeeds David T. Fischer Sr., whose term has expired. The Oakland University Board of Control is the governing body for the university. The Board oversees the conduct of the university’s affairs, has control of the university’s property, and has the ability to fix tuition and other fees, appoint and/or remove personnel, and determine compensation to be paid for services and property.

George W. Gregory, ’80, of George W. Gregory, PLLC, was recently elected Secretary of the Probate and Estate Planning Section of the State Bar of Michigan. He has been a member of the Probate and Estate Planning Section Council since 2003 and was Treasurer for the year 2007-2008. Gregory is a fellow of the American College of Estate and Trust Council, and is a frequent lecturer on estate planning and tax topics.

Robert W. Stevenson, ’82, has joined Caesar Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd. as Counsel. He will be a member of the firm’s Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Team, Mechanical Engineering Patent Team and ANDA Patent Litigation Team. Stevenson has practiced patent prosecution and patent and trademark litigation (including ANDA matters) for over 25 years in both corporate and private law firm settings. He has extensive experience with intellectual property matters involving the pharmaceutical, chemical, mechanical (medical device) and biotech industries.

Peter Van Hartesveldt, ’89, joined Nossaman in Washington, D.C. as a Partner and as part of the firm’s recently expanded public policy law practice. He came to the firm directly from the House Ethics Committee where he served as Acting Deputy Chief Counsel, Director of Advice and Education.

Andrew A. Ayar, ’03, has joined the Strobl & Sharp P.C. team as an associate in the firm’s corporate, real estate and estate planning practice areas. He serves clients on simple and complex federal estate and gift tax planning and preparation. He is also a member of the State Bar of Michigan, the Florida Bar, the Chaldean Bar Association and the Oakland County Bar Association.

April L. Neihsl, ’06, an associate for attorney Julie I. Fershtman, was elected to the State Bar of Michigan Representative Assembly. The assembly is the State Bar of Michigan’s final policy-making body of lawyers and judges across Michigan. Neihsl focuses her law practice in the areas of insurance defense and commercial litigation. She is also of Counsel to Zausmer, Kaufman, August, Caldwell & Tayler.

CONGRATULATIONS WAYNE LAW ALUMNI!

Congratulations to 58 Wayne Law 2008 Michigan Rising Stars!
To view list online, click here or visit: http://www.law.wayne.edu/news/news/Michigan%20Rising%20Stars2008%20_2_.pdf

Congratulations to 378 Wayne Law Michigan Super Lawyers!
**Upcoming Wayne Law Events**

**Black Law Students Association Panel**  
Monday, Nov. 10, 2008  
12:15 p.m.  
Room 1515

**“The Private Practice of Climate Change Law in Michigan”**  
Speaker: Mark Bennett, partner of Miller Canfield and head of the firm’s Climate Change Practice Group  
Host: The Environmental Law Society  
Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008  
12:15 – 1:15 p.m.  
Room 2261  
Free and open to the public, and limited refreshments provided.  
Contact Jim Roush at jim.roush@gmail.com with questions.

**Panel Discussion: “How I Got My Summer Job”**  
Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2008  
12:15 p.m.  
Barris Lounge  
For more information, please call Career Services at (313) 577-3967.

**Michigan Intellectual Property Law Association (MIPLA) IP Panel**  
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008  
5-6 p.m.  
Room 1550  
For more information, send an email to WIPSA at ASJerome@gmail.com.

**Refugee and International Human Rights Law Society**  
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008  
12:15 p.m.  
Room 1545

**Moot Court Arthur Neef Final**  
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008  
6 – 8 p.m.  
Michigan Hall of Justice  
Supreme Court of Michigan  
Please RSVP to mootcourt@wayne.edu.

**Black Law Students Association Forum**  
Featuring: Detroit Mayoral Candidate Freman Hendrix  
Thursday, Nov. 13, 2008  
12:15 p.m.  
Room 1515

**Free Legal Aid Clinic – Elder Law Workshop**  
Friday, Nov. 14, 2008  
2 – 7 p.m.  
Rooms 2269, 2261, 2255, 2249, 2247  
Please contact Laura Smith at laura.smith@detroitflac.com with any questions.

**Wayne Law Honors Convocation**  
Friday, Nov. 14, 2008  
4 p.m.  
Community Arts Auditorium  
Call (313) 577-3997 with questions.

**Resume and Cover Letter Writing Workshop**  
Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008  
12:15 p.m.  
Room 1515  
For more information, please call Career Services at (313) 577-3967.

**Resume and Cover Letter Writing Workshop**  
Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008  
5:15 p.m.  
Room 1515  
For more information, please call the Career Services Office at (313) 577-3967.

For a more comprehensive and updated list, please visit www.law.wayne.edu. If you have an event you’d like to add to our calendar, please send an email to kcopenhaver@wayne.edu.