STEPHEN ROSS
Billionaire alumnus builds legacy through real estate development, philanthropy
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Stephen Ross, ’65, has created a legacy through transformative real estate developments and philanthropy. Above, he and Dean Jocelyn Benson look over the model for his Hudson Yards project. Read the cover story on Page 12.
Letter from Dean Jocelyn Benson

Welcome to the Winter 2015 issue of The Wayne Lawyer. This magazine is filled with the success stories of our alumni, faculty and students, as well as initiatives that are putting Wayne Law in the spotlight.

One such initiative involves significant changes to our tuition and scholarship program, changes that underscore our commitment to providing a high-quality legal education that is affordable and accessible.

Wayne Law has implemented a tuition freeze for all students and an expansion of our scholarship program that together effectively amount to a 14 percent tuition cut for students entering in fall 2015. We also are proud to be offering more private scholarship funds to our students than ever before, as a result of the generosity of many alumni eager to give back to their alma mater.

By stabilizing the cost of tuition and providing more than $1 million in new scholarship opportunities, Wayne Law becomes an even better investment for anyone seeking to obtain an affordable, nationally ranked legal education in a world-class city.

Even prior to these changes, Wayne Law’s tuition was the lowest of any law school in Michigan. Under the new scholarship program, millions of dollars in merit- and need-based scholarships will be provided to help cover tuition expenses, ensuring Wayne Law is the most affordable law school in Michigan.

With flagship programs in civil rights, entrepreneurship and business law, and international legal studies, and expanded opportunities for hands-on learning, mentoring and externships, Wayne Law is rising in prominence. We are increasingly recognized nationally for our quality of programming, extensive alumni network and financial value.

Creating value for students goes beyond affordability. Our location in the heart of Detroit during a transformative time offers students access to hands-on legal experience in areas ranging from corporate law and entrepreneurship to public interest and civil rights that you cannot get at any other law school.

For example, Wayne Law’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights provides groundbreaking programs, including the recently launched Detroit Equity Action Lab, which brings together organizations working in the areas of racial equity, health care, education, food security, safety and housing to address issues of structural racism in Detroit. (You can meet the first cohort of leaders for the equity lab on Page 16.) The equity lab is funded through a three-year, $1.3 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

I hope you will join me in spreading the word about all the exciting news showcased in this issue of The Wayne Lawyer.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Benson
Dean
Wayne Law alumni represent 30% of Top 100 Michigan Super Lawyers; 3 alums in Top 10

Wayne Law graduates represent nearly 30 percent of the Top 100 Michigan Super Lawyers.

Twenty-nine of the Top 100, as named by Michigan Super Lawyers magazine in September, are Wayne Law alumni, more than any other law school’s total.

Three of the state’s Top 10 Super Lawyers are Wayne Law graduates, as well. They are Eugene Driker, ’61; E. Powell Miller, ’86; and Jon R. Muth, ’71.

In addition, 14 of the Top 50 Women Super Lawyers named by the magazine are Wayne Law alumnae.

Super Lawyers is a rating service of attorneys from more than 70 practice areas. The selection process for the lists includes independent research, peer nominations and peer evaluations.

Wayne Law alumni named in this year’s list of Top 100 Michigan Super Lawyers are Joel D. Applebaum, ’83; Daniel Brez, ’82; Eugene Driker, ’61; David F. DuMouche, ’75; Gene J. Eshahi, ’74; Gerald J. Gleeson II, ’95; Seth Gould, ’91; Mark R. Granzotto, ’78; George W. Gregory, ’80; Elizabeth P. Hardy, ’84; Thomas C. Kienbaum, ’68; Lawrence D. McLaughlin, ’77; Bruce A. Miller, ’54; E. Powell Miller, ’86; Jon R. Muth, ’71; Kenneth F. Neuman, ’86; Martha J. Olijnyk, ’99; Michael L. Pitt, ’74; Robert M. Raitt, ’92; Neil S. Rockind, ’93; Carol A. Rosati, ’80; Linda S. Ross, ’88; Mary Massaron Ross, ’90; William A. Sankbeil, ’71; William D. Sargent, ’85; Gerald E. Thurswell, ’67; I.W. Winsten, ’79; Wendy L. Zabriskie, ’91; and Susan Healy Zitterman, ’81.

Wayne Law alumnae named in this year’s Top 100 Women Super Lawyers are Tracy Lee Allen, ’80; Judy B. Calton, ’86; Cynthia J. Haffey, ’97; Elizabeth P. Hardy, ’84; Donna M. MacKenzie, ’04; Anna M. Maiuri, ’92; Patricia M. Nemeth, ’90; Martha J. Olijnyk, ’99; Carol A. Rosati, ’80; Linda S. Ross, ’88; Mary Massaron Ross, ’90; Noreen Slank, ’80; Wendy L. Zabriskie, ’91; and Susan Healy Zitterman, ’81.

Alumni share expertise with law students through speaker series

Eight alumni shared their expertise with students through the Alumni Speaker Series presented by the Dean’s Office in fall semester 2014.

“Labor Law” was the topic Oct. 2. Panelists were James A. Britton, ’07, assistant general counsel, United Auto Workers; Brad Raymond, ’77, general counsel, International Brotherhood of Teamsters; Amy Roemer, ’93, deputy regional attorney, Region 7, National Labor Relations Board, Detroit; and Jack Schulz, ’13, associate attorney, Miller Cohen. Moderator was Michael Nicholson, partner, Nicholson Feldman, and retired general counsel, United Auto Workers.

“Women in the Law” was the topic of the Nov. 5 presentation. Participants were Marjory Winkelman Epstein, ’74, vice president of Vesco Oil Corp. and chair of its Board of Directors; Joumana Kayrouz, ’97, owner of the Michigan Center for Personal Injury and the Law Offices of Joumana Kayrouz PLLC; and moderator the Hon. Marilyn Kelly, ’71, distinguished jurist in residence at Wayne Law and retired Michigan Supreme Court justice.

The series continues with presentations planned in February, March and April.

VIDEOS AND EVENT PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/alumniseries

The 11th annual Mark Weiss Day at Comerica Park on Aug. 1 raised more than $6,000 for scholarships at Wayne Law. At left, Jon Posner, a friend of the late Mark Weiss, shares a moment with Weiss’ grandsons. Looking on is Weiss’ daughter, Polly Weiss. About 115 people attended a pre-game picnic and saw the Detroit Tigers beat the Colorado Rockies at the event to benefit the Mark Weiss Memorial Scholarship Fund. The fund provides scholarships for students and recent graduates who share the same dream as Weiss – a commitment to provide legal aid to the underserved in the community.

MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/weiss2014
Rick Kaplan, former president for CNN – U.S. and MSNBC and winner of 47 Emmys and dozens of other journalism awards, spoke Nov. 19 at Wayne State University. Kaplan, whose experience in TV news spans 40 years of in-depth reporting and producing, presented “The Role of the Media in the 2014 Elections.” The event was presented by the Wayne Law Dean’s Office and WSU College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts Dean’s Office and co-sponsored by the Wayne Law Sports and Entertainment Law Society. From left are Wayne Law Dean Jocelyn Benson; Jack Lessenberry, area head of the Wayne State journalism faculty; Kaplan; and Matthew Seeger, dean of WSU’s College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/kaplan

Dean, 3 alums honored as Esteemed Women of Michigan

Dean Jocelyn Benson and three Wayne Law alumnae – Judge Nanci Grant, ’89; Shirley Kaigler, LLM. ’93; and Judge Wendy Potts, ’77 – were selected as four of 27 Esteemed Women of Michigan 2014.

The Esteemed Women of Michigan program recognizes women who have excelled in their professions, risen above intolerable circumstances, developed the means to help others or have become inspirational figures for the younger generation.

The awards were presented Sept. 29 at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester during a luncheon benefit for the nonprofit Dr. Gary Burnstein Community Health Clinic, the largest free health clinic in Oakland County.

Benson was named dean of the law school in June, after serving as interim dean since December 2012. An expert on civil rights law, education law and election law, Benson is the youngest woman ever to lead a U.S. law school.

Grant was elected to the Oakland Circuit Court in 1996 and appointed chief judge in 2009. She is past presiding judge of the General Jurisdiction Division and past president of the Michigan Judges Association.

Kaigler is a partner with Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss, specializing in probate and trust administration, estate, tax, retirement and business succession planning, as well as elder law, health care proxy and special needs law issues. She is president of the D. Augustus Straker Bar Foundation.

Potts was appointed to Oakland County Circuit Court in 1997 and has been elected to the bench ever since. She served as chief judge pro tempore from 2002 to 2003 and chief judge from 2004 to 2009. She was a magistrate in 48th District Court from 1984 to 1995.

For a longer version of this story, visit law.wayne.edu/esteemed.

Seven alumni recognized as ‘Up & Coming Lawyers’ by Michigan Lawyers Weekly

Seven of the 30 Michigan attorneys honored as 2014 Up & Coming Lawyers by Michigan Lawyers Weekly are Wayne Law alumni.

They are Erin Behler, ’09, of Nemeth Law PC; David C. Hill, ’08, of Kreis Enderle Hudgins & Borsos PC; Chantez Pattman Knowles, ’08, of Consumers Energy; Melissa Demorest LeDuc, ’05, of Demorest Law Firm PLLC; Samantha Jolene Orvis, ’11, of Law Office of Storck & Dinverno; Paul A. Thursam, ’08, of Giarmarco Mullins & Horton PC; and Maya K. Watson, ’07, of Bodman PLC.

“These are legal practitioners who are establishing a name for themselves, go above and beyond, and display the ambition, drive, determination and accomplishments that set them apart among their peers – in their first 10 years in practice,” according to the publication.
Civil rights events highlight Law School’s commitment

A number of special events highlighting civil rights during fall semester 2014 underscored Wayne Law’s commitment to be the premier public-interest law school in the Midwest.

Those events included:

- **Richard Cohen**, president of the Southern Poverty Law Center, offered a lecture Sept. 8 on “The State of Hate and Extremism in America and the Work of the Southern Poverty Law Center.” The event was sponsored by the Dean’s Office.

- The Michigan Civil Rights Commission and Wayne Law’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights presented “50 Years of Justice – Celebrating Civil Rights in Michigan.” The daylong symposium Sept. 19 focused on the past, present and future of civil rights in Michigan. Many former commissioners, as well as various guest and keynote speakers, were featured.

- Wayne Law’s American Civil Liberties Union, Student Chapter, presented “Voters’ Rights: Panel Discussion” on Oct. 30. Speakers were **Michael Steinberg**, ‘89, legal director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan since 1997 and former professor of Wayne Law’s Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Clinic; **Jack Lessenberry**, area head of the journalism faculty at WSU, longtime columnist for the Metro Times and senior political analyst for Michigan Public Radio; and **Jack Schulz**, ‘13, civil rights and labor attorney at Miller Cohen and manager of the largest voter registration effort in Louisiana history.

- A Nov. 3 program honored the 50th anniversary year of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and focused on the history and modern significance of the act. It featured Professor **Peter J. Hammer**, director of the Keith Center; second-year student **Rachel Myung** on behalf of the Women’s Law Caucus; second-year student **Cecil Roberson**, president of the Black Law Student Association; and Distinguished Professor **Robert A. Sedler**, who teaches courses in Constitutional Law and Conflict of Laws and organized the event.

- “Modern Policing and the Community” was the topic of a Nov. 20 panel discussion, which was presented by ACLU – Metro Detroit and co-sponsored by ACLU – Wayne Law Chapter and Keith Students for Civil Rights. Various panelists discussed police methodology, including tactics, weapons and technology from the perspectives of public safety administration, civil libertarians and citizens. Panelists included U.S. Rep. **John Conyers Jr.**, ’58. Moderator was Wayne Law professor **Robert Ackerman**.

EVENT PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/civilrights2014

Program for International Legal Studies hosts distinguished speakers

A group of renowned attorneys and scholars visited Wayne Law as part of a four-event speaker series presented by the Program for International Legal Studies, which is directed by Professor **Gregory Fox**.

On Sept. 4, **Thomas D. Grant** from the University of Cambridge in England presented “International Law and the Independence of Scotland.”

On Oct. 2, panelists **Jack Coe** from Pepperdine University School of Law; **Jeremy Sharpe** from the U.S. Department of State; and **Abby Cohen Smutny** from White & Case spoke on “Current Issues in International Commercial Arbitration.” Moderators were **Fred Acomb** of Miller Canfield in Detroit and Professor **Charles Brower**, who also is of counsel with Miller Canfield in Detroit.

On Oct. 30, panelists **Michael McMillen** from Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosle LLP in New York; **Gurinder Singh** from Auvera Legal PLLC in New York; and **Vivian Wu** from Baker & McKenzie LLP in Beijing spoke on “Legal Aspects of Investment in Three Emerging Markets: China, India and the Middle East.” Moderator was **Bruce Thelen** from Dickinson Wright in Detroit.

On Nov. 11, **Leila Sadat** from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis presented “A Convention for Crimes Against Humanity.”

VIDEOS AND EVENT PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/international2014

Wayne Law Review Symposium focuses on white collar crime sentencing


Among the 11 panelists and three moderators were **David F. DuMouchel**, ’75, partner with Butzel Long in Detroit; Judge **Nancy G. Edmunds**, ’76, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan; **Peter J. Henning**, Wayne Law professor and a former federal prosecutor; and **Barbara L. McQuade**, U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Opening remarks included those by Dean **Jocelyn Benson**; **Paul Stewart**, editor-in-chief of Wayne Law Review; and Judge **Avern Cohn**, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. The event is made possible through the support of the Cohn Family Endowed Fund.

EVENT PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/lawreview2014
State Bar of Michigan honors Wayne Law alumni, professors

Four of five Champion of Justice Awards presented by the State Bar of Michigan went to Wayne Law alumni and professors. The Unsung Hero Award also went to a Wayne Law alumna.

Susan F. Reed, ’76, won the Unsung Hero Award. Champions of Justice include Brian L. Morrow, ’86; Michael L. Pitt, ’74; Dawn A. Van Hoek, ’94; and, as a group, the members of the plaintiffs’ legal team in the DeBoer et al v. Snyder lawsuit over same-sex marriage. Team members are Adjunct Professor Kenneth M. Mogill; Dana M. Nessel, ’94; Distinguished Professor Robert A. Sedler; and Carole M. Stanyar.

The awards were presented at the State Bar’s annual meeting in September. Wayne Law also recognized these alumni at its annual Alumni Reception.

Reed is a veteran criminal defense attorney and president of the Wayne County Criminal Defense Bar Association.

Morrow is deputy chief of the Juvenile Division of the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office and coordinator for the office’s Teen Court program.

Pitt is a founding member of Pitt McGehee Palmer & Rivers PC and specializes in employment law and civil rights litigation.

Van Hoek is director of the State Appellate Defender Office and past president of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan.

Mogill, who teaches Professional Responsibility and the Legal Profession, is a partner with Mogill Posner & Cohen.

Nessel practices with Nessel & Kessel Law, which has a heavy emphasis on criminal defense.

Sedler, an expert on constitutional law and civil rights, has been educating law students for more than 50 years, the past 36 as a professor at Wayne Law.

For a longer version of this story, visit law.wayne.edu/statebarhonors.

7 alumnae honored as ‘Women in the Law’ by Michigan Lawyers Weekly


They are:

- Lori Grigg Bluhm, ’92, City of Troy
- Melissa N. Collar, ’94, Warner Norcross & Judd LLP, Grand Rapids
- Adrienne D. Dresenic, ’02, The Health Law Partners PC, Southfield
- Ebony L. Duff, ’02, Garan Lucow Miller PC, Detroit
- Julie Gatti, ’95, Law Offices of Julie Gatti PLLC, Mount Clemens
- Lisa J. Hamameh, ’00, Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC, Farmington Hills
- Margaret J. Nichols, ’77, Nichols Sacks Slank Sendelbach & Buiteweg PC, Ann Arbor

Wayne Law’s bar passage rate for first-time takers jumps 5 points for July

Wayne Law’s state bar exam passage rate continues to climb, with 81 percent of first-time test-takers who took the exam in July passing.

The rate is before appeals, so it could be higher once decisions on appeals are made. The 81 percent rate is 5 points higher than Wayne Law’s July 2013 passage rate of 76 percent (after appeals) for first-time takers and higher than this year’s state average of 73 percent.

Wayne Law’s overall July passage rate, which includes those retaking the test, was 74 percent, an increase of 2 points over July 2013 and higher than this year’s state average of 63 percent.

“I’m encouraged by our students’ continued climb in bar passage rates,” said Dean Jocelyn Benson. “I’m pleased to see that our commitment to offer extra support to graduates taking the test continues to show results.”

A Sept. 26 celebration at The London Chop House drew 58 attendees and raised more than $7,500 (with donations still coming in) for the endowed scholarship fund the late James K. Robinson created to help students at Wayne Law. Robinson, a 1968 graduate of Wayne Law who served as the Law School’s seventh dean, died in 2010 at age 66. From left are Robinson’s wife, Marti Robinson; scholarship recipients Frank Moran and Jaron Bentley; and Dean Jocelyn Benson. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/robinson2014
Wayne Law holiday season charity drives help needy

Three different charity drives at Wayne Law during the holiday season had one goal – to help local families in need.

Eight families were helped by Winter Wishes, which aids families who are clients of Wayne Law’s legal clinics. This year’s drive raised $1,370 in monetary donations and about $1,825 worth of donated items, including blankets, coats, gasoline and other gift cards, hats, scarves, shoes and toys.

Winter Wishes began in 2012 as the fall semester capstone project of Wayne Law’s Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic’s designated social work intern.

Kelcey Gapske, the social work intern in the clinic through the Wayne State University master of social work program, led this year’s drive, which also included assisting families in the Law School’s Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic and Disability Law Clinic.

Wayne Law’s Student Affairs office conducted a food drive in late November and early December for Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan.

The goal for the drive had been set at 300 pounds, but students, faculty and staff brought in double that amount of non-perishable food items, which went to Gleaners to be given to those in need.

A third charity initiative, the Battle of the Ugly Holiday Sweater student fundraiser, raised $600 for Detroit families adopted through Matrix Human Services. Wayne Law students, faculty and staff voted through holiday charity donations for which lucky professor would wear a hideous holiday sweater for an entire day of teaching.

Contest winner for the upper-class students was Walter S. Gibbs Professor of Constitutional Law Steven Winter, and winner for the first-year students was Assistant Professor Justin Long. Coordinators for the contest were students Erica Schell and Alexis Shull.

Student groups sponsoring the contest were American Civil Liberties Union, Student Chapter; The Journal of Law in Society; Keith Students for Civil Rights; Student Animal Defense League Fund; Wayne Law Moot Court; Wayne Law Review; Women’s Law Caucus; and Section 1 and Section 2 of the first-year classes.

PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/charity2014

NLRB board member
Nancy Schiffer speaks at Gottfried symposium

Nancy J. Schiffer, board member of the National Labor Relations Board, was the keynote speaker at the 22nd annual Bernard Gottfried Memorial Labor Law Symposium on Oct. 16 at Wayne Law.

The symposium was sponsored by Wayne Law, National Labor Relations Board Region 7 and the State Bar of Michigan’s Labor and Employment Law Section.

The symposium honors the labor relations vision of Bernard Gottfried (1925-1992), who was director of Region 7 of the National Labor Relations Board from 1973 until his death. He taught at Wayne Law for many years.

EVENT PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/gottfried2014

Award-winning labor documentary makes Detroit debut at Wayne Law

Brothers on the Line, an award-winning labor movement documentary about the Reuther brothers – Walter, Roy and Victor – had its Detroit debut Oct. 16 at Wayne Law.

The event was presented by Wayne Law and Labor@Wayne and sponsored by HAP.

The documentary explores the journey of the Reuther brothers, whose 40-year social justice movement under the banner of the United Auto Workers transformed the landscape of the nation. Directed by Victor’s grandson, Sasha Reuther, and narrated by actor Martin Sheen, the film is an in-depth study of the family’s rise from auto plant organizers to international leaders in collective bargaining, civil rights and worker solidarity.

EVENT PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/brothers

Sponsors pose during the fifth annual Evening at the Ballpark with Wayne Law on Aug. 13 at Comerica Park. The event introduced Wayne Law’s rising second-year and third-year students to the Michigan legal community. The 232 people in attendance enjoyed a buffet dinner on a Comerica Park picnic deck while watching the Detroit Tigers beat the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Wayne Law’s Career Services Office organized the annual outing, which was sponsored by 10 area law firms and legal organizations: Butzel Long, Brooks Kushman, Dykema, Gifford Krass, Honigman, Jaffe Raitt, Varnum, Warner Norcross & Judd, Young Basile and the State Bar of Michigan’s Law Practice Management and Legal Administrators Section.

MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/ballpark2014
Wayne Law seeks to expand pilot program offering legal services to veterans

Wayne Law has announced its intent to expand a successful pilot program that provides free legal support to military service members, veterans and the family members of both.

For more than a year, Wayne Law students working under the supervision of experienced attorneys have been assisting veterans in Macomb County. The pilot program, Advocates for Warriors, began as an informal partnership with Macomb County Veteran Services to fill a need for providing free legal support.

“We’re looking to identify local partners to invest in this program so that we can expand it beyond Macomb County to Wayne, Oakland and other counties in Michigan,” said Wayne Law Dean Jocelyn Benson, who is also founder and president of Military Spouses of Michigan.

“It made sense to pilot the program in Macomb County because of its two military bases (Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township and the U.S. Army Garrison – Detroit Arsenal in Warren) and its large concentration of veterans and active-duty service members,” Benson said. “But the need for these services is far beyond one county.”

Michigan’s veteran population is nearly 700,000, yet the state ranked 46th of all 50 states in spending per veteran, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

“As part of the pilot program, Advocates for Warriors also has worked with WSU’s Office of Military and Veterans Academic Excellence to open the program to all WSU students who are service members or veterans, as well as their families.

Grace Cote, a second-year student and veteran who served six years with the Army National Guard, including one tour in Afghanistan, is one of the student attorneys involved.

“In 2009, my brother was critically injured while serving with the Army in Afghanistan, and, in 2010, my father, who had volunteered to serve two tours in Vietnam, passed away from cancer that had developed due to his exposure to Agent Orange. The experiences that my family faced in these two events are the basis of my desire to help build this program,” said Cote, who is a member of the Inactive Ready Reserve.

“I have been the soldier away from home and the veteran transitioning back into civilian life. I have been the family member helping my soldier through the recovery process, but I have also been the daughter listening to the 21-gun salute in honor of my father, my hero. I feel deeply moved to help those who are faced with similar situations, and, as a law student, I feel a great responsibility to use my abilities to serve those who have served our country.”

Cote’s passion drove her this fall to form a new student organization, the Wayne Law Veterans Association, to spread awareness of the legal issues affecting veterans and their families.

The Advocates for Warriors pilot program already has helped veterans and service members to address a number of issues they were facing, Benson said.

“What we need now are partners to assist us in covering costs for supervising attorneys, community awareness programming, expenses incurred by students and attorneys as they conduct business, and court and filing fees for veterans who demonstrate financial hardship.”

For more information about Advocates for Warriors, contact Ashley Lowe, program coordinator, at 313-577-8034 or lawwarriors@wayne.edu.

Watch a video of Dean Jocelyn Benson talking about Advocates for Warriors at law.wayne.edu/veterans.
Members of the Wayne Law Class of 1964 gathered for a three-day 50th Reunion Celebration weekend Sept. 12, 13 and 14. Among the events Sept. 13 were a visit to Rands House (the old law school building) and a dinner at the Detroit Historical Museum. The evening included a toast from WSU President M. Roy Wilson, remarks from Dean Jocelyn Benson and a presentation by Professor Peter Hammer, director of the Law School’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights. Other events included a dinner and baseball game at Comerica Park on Sept. 12; a Detroit Revitalization Tour on Sept. 13; and a Farewell Brunch on Sept. 14 at the Law School. The Class of 1964 Leadership Committee is Garry Carley, Joel Bussell, Elliott Hall, Barbara Klarman, Bernie Mindell and Paul Rosen. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/1964
Members of the Wayne Law Class of 1984 gathered for a 30th Reunion on Oct. 18 at the Detroit Institute of Arts. The evening included remarks from Dean Jocelyn Benson and greetings from Professor John Mogk and Distinguished Professor Robert Sedler. The Class of 1984 Leadership Committee is Camille Cleveland, Michelle Fisher, Kevin Green, Ken Marcus, Anne McAlpine, Pat Nemeth, Gail O’Brien, Rasul Raheem, Bruce Segal, Brian Smith, Larry Talon and John Wallbillich. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/1984
Members of the Wayne Law Class of 2004 gathered for a 10th Reunion on Nov. 29 at the Detroit Historical Museum and Circa Saloon. The evening included remarks from former Associate Professor Larry Mann, ’80. The Class of 2004 Leadership Committee is Adrienne Darr-Surma, Stephanie Hanah-Smith, Johanna Kononen and Rebecca Gensen Weekley. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/2004
Wayne Law Dean Jocelyn Benson visited with Stephen Ross, ’65, on Dec. 8 at his New York City offices. This interview has been edited for space.

Jocelyn Benson: Was it an easy transition from practicing law to going into real estate?

Stephen Ross: I had more of an interest in business than I did in practicing law, so that was really a natural progression. I didn’t know at that point that I wanted to have my own company. That came up later, after working in New York for about two years and then getting fired. And I figured, “Hey, I can’t go in another interview, and maybe it’s time to go on my own.” So, things just worked out, very fortunately.

Benson: Tell me about your vision for Time Warner Center and how it came about.

Ross: The city had a proposal for the development of Columbus Circle, where there stood the coliseum, an outdated convention center and an old office building. My offices were on the corner of 58th and Madison, and I looked at it continually … I saw it as probably the best undeveloped site in New York at that time. The economy didn’t necessarily allow for a development of a world-class building, but I thought that’s what needed to be there. I was able to entice Time Warner Inc. to join me and put their corporate offices here, and relocate from Rockefeller Center. And I think the rest is history. … The reception was great and the building was an immediate success.

Benson: Now you’ve got Hudson Yards, one of the most-exciting developments in the city, if not the world, right now. Tell us about your vision for Hudson Yards.

Ross: Every developer, as you grow, wants to do things that are transformative and have a real impact on the city that you’re working with. We saw what the impact of Time Warner Center was. When the opportunity to develop Hudson Yards – which was really like six times the size of Time Warner; we’re up to about 19 million square feet – and really build a new city within New York City in Midtown, that opportunity certainly didn’t go unnoticed. I think what we’ll be developing will be the largest urban development in United States history. But also it will have a real impact as being a sustainable environment and something that other developments will shoot to accomplish in the future.
Benson: So, with that, what can folks developing Detroit learn? What advice can you offer?

Ross: You’ve got to do it one step at a time. Detroit has a lot to overcome. It’s a question of jobs. Just because you want to develop it and you have a place, you have to have an economy that allows something to happen. You’ve got to really get the idea that you have to create jobs within Detroit, and it can’t just be within a 2-square-mile area downtown. It’s got to branch out from that. You’ve got to obviously be able to provide all the services that are needed for people wanting to live and work there: the safety, the education and everything else. Detroit has to focus on infrastructure, and I think you really have to show people that it’s going to be safe to bring them back to the city, create those jobs that are nearby where they live, because that’s today what everything is all about. People don’t want to spend all their life commuting. Detroit – what it’s been through – it’s not going to happen overnight. They’re making a lot of inroads, but it’s going to be a long haul.

Benson: And the power of place making is so great as an attractor to a city.

Ross: There’s no question. You’ve got to create an environment where people want to be. And I really applaud what Dan Gilbert’s doing for Detroit.

Benson: Another Wayne Law alum.

Ross: He’s terrific. He’s doing great things for the city. A lot of people really have got to get behind him and support what’s going on. I hear good things.

continued on Page 14
Benson: What have been some of the challenges and surprises that you’ve seen in owning a team in the NFL? And how has your legal background helped shape your decisions?

Ross: My legal background has really helped me my whole life. It teaches you how to think. It teaches you the differences of when you look at things how to determine what the issues are and how to deal with the issues. I’m very happy with the education that I had. It’s helped me succeed. I guess it was just a lifelong dream to want to own a football team, and, fortunately, I was in the position to do it. And it was Miami, a place where I have a home and where I went to high school. But it has its challenges. It’s nothing like anything else in business you can really equate it to because it’s got its own rules. It’s a lot easier to build a business and to be successful than it is to develop a winning football team. And, certainly, those losses on Monday mornings are very frustrating.

Benson: I know you’ve done some work with issues of bullying. Could you talk about that?

Ross: Last year, we had an incident in Miami with two of our players and bullying. It showcased the lack of respect they had for each other by the way they spoke with each other. ... I have used what happened to us in Miami last year as a lesson and identified an important issue I can have a positive impact on. As a matter of fact, I was in Detroit the day before I was going down to Miami, where they wanted to take my testimony in terms of what I knew about the incidents there. I was with the governor, and I brought the secretary of housing and urban development, and they gave me a tour of Detroit. It really was heartbreaking to see how Detroit had deteriorated from the Detroit that I knew. I really saw a question of racism. And it really had a profound impact. So, I’m putting together a nonprofit where we bring all the leagues in every single sport together. Using sports, how we can change the paradigm of today of how people treat each other. Because athletes are always role models, it doesn’t matter what level that you’re really playing. If you’re a young kid and you’re playing organized ball, you’re a role model to your peers, as well as in the professional levels, all the way through. If we can use that as a way to change the way people deal and treat each other, I think we can have a real impact.

Benson: You’re also very well known for your philanthropy. With all the work that you’ve done and all the investments you’ve made, what impact do you hope to have with your philanthropy?

Ross: I probably started out with the idea that one of the reasons we’re here is to make the world a little better place than when we came here. So, I’ve always believed in giving back. I guess that was kind of engrained when I was a young child growing up in Detroit.

Benson: Your Uncle Max, Max Fisher, is an icon. Can you talk a little bit about your Uncle Max and your recollections?

Ross: He certainly had an impact on my life ... He had an impact on many people's lives, and he was a great, great man. I was very fortunate that he was my uncle, and your parents and grandparents saying, “Be like your uncle,” kind of drove me and probably inspired me. It's probably a lot of the reason I am the way I am today.

Benson: With all those aspects of your work, what else do you hope to be known for?

Ross: I haven't lived my life with a focus on how people might remember me. You have to be happy with yourself, live with yourself and be proud of what you have done. I'm very lucky. I'm living the dream and seeing how I can really have an impact and make the world a better place. And today, I'm 74. I haven't slowed down, and I like to think I'm busy the rest of my life and I can still have a lot of influence. And I'm just getting started.

To watch a video of this interview, visit law.wayne.edu/ross.
Abdallah wins scholarship through bar association

The Michigan Muslim Bar Association awarded a $1,000 scholarship to third-year student Mahde Youssef Abdallah. He earned the scholarship through the association’s essay contest.

Abdallah is an advisory board member of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee-Michigan, a licensed real estate agent and a legal intern with NORMA Group. He’s a member of the Student Bar Association Board of Governors and a senior member of the Student Trial Advocacy Program.

Buster, Sheikh-Walczak win moot court competition finals

Students James Buster and Ameena Sheikh-Walczak won Wayne Law Moot Court’s Arthur Neef Competition Finals on Nov. 18.

The 2014-15 Moot Court team comprises 40 junior members and 33 senior members. All junior members are required to compete in teams of two members for four in-house oral arguments and to write an appellate brief. This year’s problem involved a financial scandal in the fictional city of Wayne. The junior members were to argue on statutory interpretation of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, as well as the applicability of the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act.

Twenty-two judges, including alumni and professors, volunteered their time to the Moot Court program for fall semester.

Coats, Webb to compete in diversity moot court contest

Third-year students Candice Coats and Arius Webb were selected to compete in the American Bar Association Media Law Diversity Moot Court Competition semifinals Feb. 5, 6 and 7 in Scottsdale, Ariz.

The two-member competition team is one of the top four teams in the nation selected for the semifinals based on a brief they researched, wrote and submitted. “The brief is about whether the First Amendment grants a privilege to reporters that allows them to refuse to reveal their confidential sources during civil trials,” Webb said.

Federal court awards scholarship to Kokoszka

Samuel Kokoszka, a second-year student, was awarded the Mark A. Miller Memorial Fund Scholarship by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

The scholarship honors the memory of Mark A. Miller, who was a law clerk to U.S. District Judge George Caram Steeh. The $1,500 award is given to a summer intern who exemplifies Miller’s sense of humor, courtesy, professionalism and passion. Kokoszka was an intern for U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds, ’76.

Kokoszka volunteers as a mentor for incoming students and served as a mentor to high school students from Wayne’s District 5, 6 and 7 in semifinals Feb. 5, 6 and 7 in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Winners named in first transactional competition

Thirty-two students competed Nov. 7 in Wayne Law’s first-ever transactional law competition.

Winners were:

- Negotiations (seller’s counsel) – First place, Whitney Baubie and Emily Decker, and second place, Candice Moore and Lauren Rennert.
- Drafting (seller’s counsel) – First place, Moore and Rennert, and second place, Gino Roncelli and Helen Zaharopoulos.
- Negotiations (buyer’s counsel) – First place, Arius Webb and Alex Bowman, and second place, Robert Clemente and Ian Hickman.
- Drafting (buyer’s counsel) – First place, Clemente and Hickman, and second place, James Brady and Abathar Alkudari.

The live-round competition is part of a one-credit course created and supervised by Assistant Professor Eric Zacks. The competition was coordinated by student and competition chair Justin Hanna.

After weeks of drafting and revising an amendment to a mock stock purchase agreement, the day of the live competition brought the teams together for two rounds of live negotiations with teams on the other side. The 16 judges – including 14 local transactional attorneys, some of whom are Wayne Law alumni – offered feedback after each round.

The first-place winners from Wayne Law’s negotiation rounds will represent the law school at the regional LawMeet in the spring. The first-place winners for drafting will help the negotiation teams prepare for the regional competitions.

PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/transactional2014
Diverse leaders bringing perspectives to Detroit Equity Action Lab

Twenty-seven leaders from local organizations working in different ways for racial equality have come together as the first year’s cohort for Wayne Law’s Detroit Equity Action Lab.

The lab is housed at the Law School’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and is under the leadership of Professor Peter J. Hammer, director of the Keith Center. The lab is made possible by a three-year, $1.3 million grant awarded in July by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

The lab’s purpose is to bring groups working in various areas together to address the issues of structural racism in Detroit.

“There is great need for a resource of this nature in our city,” WSU President M. Roy Wilson said when the grant was announced. “The Keith Center is committed to promoting equality and justice. Local nonprofit organizations can be key drivers in the discussion and mitigation of civil rights challenges, and we are fortunate to have found an ally in this project with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.”

Members of the first cohort for the Detroit Equity Action Lab pose with Judge Damon J. Keith, LL.M. ’56, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit during their first meeting Nov. 1. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/cohort2014

Participants are learning how to build capacity for their organizations to work in racial equity through workshops led by national subject matter experts.

They are identifying long-standing structural racism and creating action plans to promote change, as well as creating policy recommendations and improving awareness about racial equity issues in the community.

Members of the first year’s cohort range in age from their 20s to their 60s and bring a wealth of ethnic diversity to the group, including African American, Arab American, Asian, Caribbean, East Indian American, European American, Latino, Mexican American and Native American.

“Diversity of expertise and perspectives within each cohort is critical to our success,” Hammer said.

Said Dean Jocelyn Benson: “We are ready to create change-oriented projects that impact our community and our city, and we hope to inspire progress throughout the country as well. The Keith Center is thrilled to have the opportunity to begin this work and continue the rich legacy of Judge Keith.”

Detroit Equity Action Lab 2014-15 cohort

- Andrea Brown, Michigan Association of Planning
- Linda S. Campbell, Building Movement Detroit/People’s Platform
- Dan Carmody, Eastern Market Corp.
- William Copeland, East Michigan Environmental Action Council; Word & World; Universidad Sin Fronteras, Detroit campus
- The Rev. Michail T. Curro, Interfaith Center for Racial Justice
- Shamyle Maya Dobbs, Michigan Community Resources
- Rachid Elabed, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services
- Mark Fancher, Racial Justice Project of the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan
- Fay Givens, American Indian Services
- Ponsella Hardaway, Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Strength
- Roland Hwang, Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission
- Guadalupe G. Lara, Consortium of Hispanic Agencies
- Bettie Kay McGowan, Eastern Michigan University
- Jayesh Patel, Street Democracy
- Tonya Myers Phillips, Michigan Legal Services
- Sonia Plata, New Detroit
- Miguel Pope, Mount Elliott Business & Community Association
- Angela Reyes, Detroit Hispanic Development Corp.
- Christine Sauvé, Michigan Immigrant Rights Center
- Sarida Scott, Community Development Advocates of Detroit
- Kim Sherobbi, Boggs Center
- Leslie Smith, TechTown Detroit
- Stacey Stevens, Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion
- Matthew Jaber Stiffler, Arab American National Museum
- Dawud Walid, Council on American-Islamic Relations, Michigan chapter
- Clark Washington, Detroit Action Commonwealth
- Gwendolyn Winston, Michigan Roundtable for Diversity and Inclusion
Wayne Law celebrates donation of Conyers’ papers


The collection, the nation’s first and only collection of African-American legal history, is part of WSU’s Walter P. Reuther Library.

During a July 18 celebration of the donation, Judge Damon J. Keith, LL.M. ’56, quoted Martin Luther King Jr.: “Cowardice asks the question – is it safe? Expediency asks the question – is it politic? Vanity asks the question – is it popular? But conscience asks the question – is it right?”

Keith said Conyers, who fought for years to have Martin Luther King Day recognized federally, reminds him of that quotation.

“You have lived your time in Washington … in a way that makes all of us proud of you – because it’s right,” Keith told the lawmaker.

Youth Civil Rights Conference brings insight to teens

About 150 students from 12 high schools participated in the fourth annual Keith Students Youth Civil Rights Conference on Nov. 14 at Wayne Law.

The daylong conference brought suburban and urban students together to discuss how race and community impact civil rights. The students shared meals together and discussed the meaning of community, their own roles in a community and the role race and culture play in that community.

The conference increases students’ awareness of what school and community life look like for their peers and uses this awareness as a framework for building community across metro Detroit.

The event was sponsored by Wayne Law’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights and Keith Students for Civil Rights. Wayne Law students and volunteers from community-based organizations led the day’s workshops.

Activist Julian Bond presents Wayne Law’s sixth Damon J. Keith Biennial Lecture on Oct. 23. Because of demand, the event was moved from the Law School’s Spencer M. Partrich Auditorium to the university’s larger Community Arts Auditorium. His presentation, “Under Color of Law,” addressed the role the law has played in encouraging and thwarting the civil rights movement. Bond has been on the cutting edge of social change since the 1960s. He served four terms in the state House and six in the state Senate. The first president of the Southern Poverty Law Center, he also served as chairman of the NAACP from 1998 to 2010. In 2002, he received the National Freedom Award, and, in 2008, the Library of Congress named him a “Living Legend.” In 2009, he received the NAACP’s Spingarn Medal. The lecture series is part of the mission of the Law School’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights to provide education about civil rights to the community and to nurture the next generation of civil rights leaders. Bond’s lecture was sponsored by Comerica Bank.

MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/bond

Savala Nolan Trepczynski, associate director of Wayne Law’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights, talks to Detroit residents during the Sept. 16 Land Forum workshop at Don Bosco Hall’s Community Resource Center. The series of traveling workshops is designed to demystify the process of buying vacant Detroit property and to build a cohort of informed buyers from the community. The forum is an initiative of The Greening of Detroit, LOVELAND Technologies, Michigan Community Resources, the Keith Center and Wayne Law’s Program for Entrepreneurship and Business Law. Other organizations helping with workshops include the Michigan Land Bank, Detroit Land Bank Authority and Wayne County Treasurer’s Office.

MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/landforum2014

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MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/bond
Third-year student Nicholas Klaus, a trained and veteran observer for the National Lawyers Guild, had never found himself in the kind of danger he experienced in November in Ferguson, Mo.

The first time he went to the St. Louis suburb as an official legal observer to report on protests there was in October. Those protests followed a national call to action by some groups to show support for justice in the killing of Michael Brown, an unarmed black teenager shot by white police officer Darren Wilson on Aug. 9. Klaus was accompanied on that trip by first-year students Holland Locklear and Henry Schneider.

“That weekend, I was moved in the showing of solidarity and love that I saw there,” Klaus said.

He went back to Ferguson on Nov. 24, the day a grand jury announced it would not indict Wilson, again to observe for the guild.

“The second time around, it was a completely different experience – and not in a good way,” Klaus said.

He was accompanied on that trip by Curtis McGuire, a Detroit guild staff member and photographer who had been to Ferguson protests on three other occasions.

Guild observers wear neon green hats to identify themselves and are tasked with documenting interactions between police and demonstrators for guild lawyers, who, later if warranted, pursue legal action to protect the rights of protestors.

Klaus, who has served as a legal observer for the guild in dozens of situations, including last year during a contentious election in El Salvador, said, “I’ve never seen anything like what I’ve seen in Ferguson.”

The night of Nov. 24, after the grand jury’s announcement, Klaus and McGuire went to Ferguson’s West Florissant Street. Businesses and cars were set ablaze, guns were firing and the situation was so volatile that firefighters stopped responding to put out fires.

As the night went on, the observers went to Mokabe’s Coffeehouse on Arsenal Street in the Shaw neighborhood of St. Louis. The coffeehouse was sympathetic to the protestors and offered them free beverages and to serve as a place of refuge. When
Klaus and McGuire got there, about 80 protestors were standing on the sidewalk outside the shop and on its outdoor patio.

“The St. Louis police were there, too – about 50 to 80 riot cops,” Klaus said. “They kept telling people to disperse, even though there was no violence. It was just people standing on the sidewalk at about midnight. A law professor went out there and negotiated with the cops to find out where the protestors could be. The cops indicated that if they all moved onto the private patio, everything would be fine. Curtis and I were on the patio right near the sidewalk.”

People began to move off the sidewalk, when Klaus heard a loud noise.

“And it just starts raining tear gas canisters,” he said. “Protestors started running to get inside the coffee shop. I was looking down, and I could see a canister rolling toward the door. I don't know if it made it inside because my eyes were in severe pain, but it was pretty smoky inside. Everybody tried to get out the back, into the alley, and the cops started shooting canisters over the building into the alley. Medics were working on people's eyes, and people were vomiting. Even though they had been experiencing protests in Shaw for months, I don’t know why this particular night they decided to use tear gas.”

McGuire and Klaus waited for about half an hour until they could see again before they tried to leave the area.

“... the most important tool for a legal observer is the eyes,” McGuire said. “Without the ability to see, our ability to witness the unfolding events was strongly inhibited.”

The two observers, still wearing the guild’s trademark green hats, went out the back with a handful of other people and started walking toward the opening of the alley.

“One of the police vans pulled up and started spraying Curtis and I with rubber bullets,” Klaus said. “It was a miracle we weren't hit. We ran and hid. Then, all of the police left. I think they realized they screwed up.”

The two men collected some of the rubber bullets and tear gas canisters from the ground as evidence and returned to where they were staying.

That night, after observing other protests throughout the day, Klaus and McGuire went to the Ferguson Police Department, where a large protest was underway.

“The police were freaking out, and the National Guard was also all over,” Klaus said. “We moved a few blocks away to where a cop car had been set on fire. They were going crazy with the tear gas there. We got out of there. We were trying to make it to our car. The parking lot was more or less empty except for one other vehicle. There were three activists outside of it. The car was being searched and the kids arrested. I walked up with my camera and started asking if I could get the people's names.

“One law enforcement officer pointed his machine gun at my chest and started yelling at me to get out of there, and backed me up to our car ... The end of the barrel was about 6 inches from my sternum. We pulled out of there with machine guns pointed at us.”

The next day – the day before Thanksgiving – a protest was taking place in downtown St. Louis that turned into an occupation of the entrance to City Hall.

Klaus videotaped while police used pepper spray on the demonstrators and made arrests.

Later that day, McGuire and Klaus dropped off their cameras and other evidence they’d collected with a guild office and left for Michigan.

In the aftermath, Klaus said he is hopeful that a fairer justice system can be realized.

“It opens people's eyes to the anger and the rage,” Klaus said. “They've got to ask themselves, ‘What set these people off? What is going on?’ ”

A graduate of WSU with a bachelor's degree in creative writing, Klaus decided to study law so he could best advocate for social justice.

“Litigating civil rights is what I want to do, but now I’m also considering being a human rights worker,” he said.

He chose Wayne Law because of its guild chapter and because of its Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights.

“It seemed to me that Wayne Law was a place where social justice and public-interest law were taken seriously,” Klaus said.

Last year, the guild’s Detroit and Michigan Chapter named him as Outstanding Law Student of the Year. He’s now the national student vice president of the organization.
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Dean Jocelyn Benson and the faculty, staff and students of Wayne Law recognize the individuals, estates, corporations, foundations and organizations who made gifts of at least $10,000 to the Law School during calendar year 2014. Your generosity has enabled the Law School to maintain excellence in scholarship, research and service.

“Through my experience in Wayne Law’s Program for International Legal Studies, I was able to take what I learned in the classroom and bring it to real life, learn from well-respected attorneys from around the world and see just how world-renowned the professors at Wayne Law are.”

— Nora Youkhana
Wayne Law Class of 2015
I am grateful for the opportunities that I have had in my career thanks to Wayne Law. I am proud to give my time and resources as co-chair of the Pivotal Moments Campaign for the Law School.”

David M. Hempstead, ’75

For more information about making an impactful gift, call the Law School Development team at 313-577-4141.
In October, I had the great opportunity to teach for four weeks at the Northwest University of Politics and Law in Xi’an, China.

The course was on international environmental law, and I lectured three times a week, twice to undergraduates interested in environmental law and studying abroad in the United States, and to third-year law students specializing in environmental law. The course offered a background and history of environmental law, as well as discussion of modern statute-based environmental law. During the last week of the course, I focused on international treaties and agreements aimed at addressing water resource management and global climate change.

In addition to teaching at Northwest, I was invited to lecture at Shandong University Law School in Jinan. At Shandong, I delivered a lecture on the history of water management in the Great Lakes region, including a thorough overview of the Great Lakes Compact. My presentation was intended to introduce environmental law professors and students to the Great Lakes Compact and to suggest ways in which Chinese water resources might be managed in a similar fashion.

The students were very interested in learning more about the United States’ history of creating, then attempting to solve and finally solving many environmental problems. The students were intrigued by strict liability as a way to address environmental pollution.

China is looking at ways to increase public participation in environmental decision-making. Public participation in China is still very much a work in progress. I was able to draw on examples of public participation from our Transnational Environmental Law Clinic, and the Chinese students enjoyed learning about Wayne Law students’ efforts to protect and restore the environment. The air quality in Xi’an is very poor, and the students there recognize that they will be the ones tasked with improving the environment and public health outlook for their country.
During the classes at Northwest, we also examined international agreements related to global climate change. The U.S. and China are the two largest emitters of carbon dioxide, and historically our countries haven’t been able to work through our differences to reach consensus on actions to address climate change. Encouragingly, just as my time in China was coming to an end, President Barack Obama and President Xi Jinping announced an agreement for emissions reductions in the U.S. and for China to stop them from increasing by 2030. Hopefully the momentum from this significant agreement will continue to build and will lead to a global climate change accord in the near future.

A good portion of the course material focused on renewable energy. I discussed Michigan’s positive experience with our 10% renewable energy portfolio standard, which requires our utilities to generate 10% of electricity from renewable sources by 2015. The utilities are on pace to achieve the 10% target, and they have been able to do it at far less expense than anticipated. I showed the students graphs illustrating the impressive strides that China is making in solar and wind energy deployment. They were impressed by the significant growth in renewable power in China, and I was surprised that they hadn’t been learning about these positive developments in their environmental law courses.

Before my trip I had a limited understanding of the Chinese legal system. I was pleased to learn more about Chinese environmental law and policy and to share some of my knowledge and experience of our system with Northwest law professors. The students and faculty at Northwest and Shandong were very welcoming and friendly. The students took me on several sightseeing adventures. A definite highlight was visiting the tomb of the Terra Cotta Warriors. The tomb is about an hour drive from Xi’an, and it is certainly an amazing place to visit.

Trip served as part of LL.M. program outreach

During fall semester 2014, Nick Schroeck, a Wayne Law assistant (clinical) professor, spent a month in China teaching at the Northwest University of Politics and Law in Xi’an.

Schroeck, who is director of the Law School’s Transnational Environmental Law Clinic and executive director of the Great Lakes Environmental Law Center, said his visit continued Wayne Law’s efforts to build relationships with Chinese universities and encourage further faculty exchanges.

Wayne Law in fall semester began offering a master of laws degree in U.S. law for foreign law students and lawyers. The goal of the new program is to prepare international students for careers in which a solid grounding in the U.S. legal system is desirable, whether that career is in government work, business, academia or private practice. The Wayne Law program is in response to a growing market of foreign lawyers seeking advanced degrees in U.S. law.

Wayne Law also offers master of laws degrees in corporate and finance law, labor and employment law, and tax law.
Wayne Law launches independent, apprentice-model law firm

A new, independent law firm hatched by Wayne Law will help new attorneys move forward and assist Detroit entrepreneurs with growing their businesses and being part of the city’s economic comeback.

The nonprofit firm, Wayne Alumni Law Group, has offices at TechTown, WSU’s research and technology park and business incubator, and is staffed by four new associates, all Wayne Law graduates: Rula Aoun, ‘14; Christopher Banerian, ‘14; Henry Ibe, ‘14; and Bonnie Smith, ‘13.

“Wayne Alumni Law Group is a financially self-sustaining, business strategy and legal services firm, which leverages its apprentice model of post-graduate legal training to provide discounted services to Detroit-area entrepreneurs,” said firm Director Eric Williams, an assistant (clinical) professor at Wayne Law.

Aoun will be beginning a fellowship as a Collins Family Scholar. The other three associates will be paid through the firm’s client business.

The firm charges its clients for work done, but the billing is about half of what most firms in the area charge, said Williams, who worked on the plan to create the incubator firm. Attorneys from Bodman PLC and Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss PC worked pro bono with Wayne Law to establish the incubator firm, which is overseen by a board. Board members are Williams; Dean Jocelyn Benson; Assistant Professor Eric Zacks; John Walus, ’04, of Warsh Alpert & Alpert; and Wayne County Circuit Judge Edward Ewell, ’85.

Smith is excited about being able to use her work with the new firm as a patent lawyer to help start-up companies grow, and, in turn, positively impact our surrounding community,” she said.

The new nonprofit law firm is part of Wayne Law’s Program for Entrepreneurship and Business Law, of which Williams is also the director.

“We saw two distinct needs,” Williams said. “One was to increase the amount of on-the-job learning opportunities for graduates. Second was a need to assist entrepreneurs in Detroit with the planning and legal services that are an essential component of a successful business. We put those two ideas together and came up with a nonprofit law firm that trains lawyers to work with entrepreneurs.”

The apprentice model will see associates mentored through a six-month, structured program.

“During that period, associates will be guided through every aspect of creating and managing a successful, modern law practice,” Williams said. “At the completion of the initial training, associates will begin a year-long guided apprenticeship, working closely with established attorneys to learn the substantive law relevant to startups while becoming familiar with the participants and subtleties of Detroit’s entrepreneurial ecosystem.”

Collins Family Fellowship supports new graduate in law group work

John Collins, ’76, and his wife, Lynn Collins, ’78, wanted to give back to their alma mater. For them, the perfect fit was the Program for Entrepreneurship and Business Law and its new Wayne Alumni Law Group.

As a member of the Law School’s Board of Visitors and corporate counsel for AlixPartners in New York City, John always has been interested in the legal aspects of business. The couple was excited to support the law group with a gift of $50,000, especially because the group is poised to help startups achieve success in the Collins’ hometown of Detroit.

In the group’s first year, Rula Aoun, ‘14, will receive $20,000 from those funds in the form of the Collins Family Fellowship. The money will support her work as an associate with the group.

For more information, email Williams at eric.williams@waynealumnilawgroup.org. To learn how you can support the program, email Denise Thomas at deniselei@wayne.edu.
Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic fights for human rights, trains students

Detention. Torture. Rape. Seekers of political asylum have faced incomparable violence at the hands of their own governments. “These individuals have come to the United States seeking relief from persecution in their home countries for things we consider basic freedoms: political opinions, sexual orientation, advocacy for women’s rights or simply being a member of an ethnic minority,” said Assistant Professor Rachel Settlage, who supervises the Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic at Wayne Law.

It is exceedingly difficult to obtain political asylum here, a years-long process requiring an application that can grow to 400 pages. And yet the clinic – created in 2010 and run by six to 12 students under Settlage’s supervision – has won most of its cases.

“Immigration law is matched only by tax law in complexity. So, it’s the best feeling in world to win a case, because it’s very hard to win,” Settlage said.

Many of the clinic’s clients are referred by the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center and by Freedom House in Detroit, which provides shelter and resources for activists whose governments have tried to stop them from advocating for democratic change and human rights.

Settlage explained that these individuals usually come to America legally on tourist or student visas with no intention of going home. They arrive with very little in the way of resources, and the clinic steps in to help them stay.

Through most of the legal process, clients aren’t authorized to work in the United States, and so most cannot afford legal aid. They live in shelters like Freedom House, with friends or family, or are homeless.

“That’s one of the reasons this clinic is so important,” Settlage said. “These cases require so much time and effort, it’s difficult to find attorneys to take them pro bono. Most asylum seekers are indigent, and the clinic fills the gap for legal services.”

One of the special issues Settlage and her students face is the language barrier. They have represented clients from countries around the world, the majority in Africa.

“Some speak only Lingala, Swahili, Kinyarwanda and the like. Volunteer interpreters help us communicate.

This provides a very unique student experience.”

The clinic handles 15 to 20 cases a year. Wayne Law students, under Settlage’s supervision, act as attorneys, representing clients, making decisions, handling client contact and court cases.

“Our clients are truly amazing. They have survived things most of us can’t even imagine,” Settlage said. “It’s a real privilege to help the individuals in these circumstances.”

Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic named in nation’s top 15 innovative clinics

Wayne Law’s Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic was recognized by preLaw magazine as one of the nation’s top 15 most-innovative law school clinics.

Wayne Law was the only Michigan law school represented on the list. The Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer Clinic was ranked in the top 15, while 10 other clinics were recognized as runners-up.

The magazine sought nominations from law schools nationwide. Nominations from more than 76 law schools were reviewed. The magazine evaluated clinics for innovation in subject matter, structure or community served.

The clinic is a medical-legal partnership that offers students training in practical lawyering skills while providing an invaluable service to low-income cancer patients living in the metro-Detroit area. The areas of law in which the clinic provides assistance include employment, housing, insurance, long-term benefits and public benefits.

Kathryn Smolinski is director of the clinic.
Howard Hertz has blended his love of music with his love of the law into a thriving legal practice—but he didn’t start out with that in mind.

In fact, the Wayne Law alumnus had no idea there even was such a thing as entertainment law when he graduated in 1976. Now, he’s been one of Eminem’s attorneys for nearly 20 years.

Hertz has been into music since he heard Elvis sing “Hound Dog” on the radio as a child, but being a musician was never his goal.

“I thought I was either going to be a lawyer or a child psychologist,” Hertz said.

He studied psychology at Wayne State as an undergrad and began working at the Wayne County Juvenile Defender Office while a law student.

His interest in entertainment law was piqued in the late 1970s when his wife, Wendy, introduced him to a songwriter who needed help negotiating a music publishing contract.

Joel Martin was the music publisher on the other side of the negotiating table from Hertz and the songwriter during that first deal.

“He thought I had done a good job representing my friend,” Hertz said.

Martin started to refer people to Hertz, who by then had done a few major record label deals on his own and was also representing author Elmore Leonard. Through Martin, Hertz got involved with George Clinton and the Romantics. He helped the Bass Brothers form FBT Productions and their publishing company, Eight Mile Style.

In 1995, Hertz helped FBT sign a young rapper named Marshall B. Mathers III, aka Eminem, whom Hertz continues to counsel for personal matters and his foundation. Other famous musical folks he’s represented include Marilyn Manson, Sippie Wallace and Jack White of the White Stripes.

Hertz has been an active volunteer on the boards of the Detroit Music Awards Foundation, MusiCares, the Sphinx Organization, the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences (Grammy Awards) and WSU’s College of Fine, Performing & Communication Arts Board of Visitors. He also was a member of the Michigan Film Advisory Commission and an adjunct professor at Wayne Law and University of Michigan Law School.

Right now, he’s particularly excited about one of his clients, the Detroit Institute of Music Education. Dan Gilbert, another Wayne Law alumnus, is involved in awarding students scholarships. The institute is excited to work with the new generation of Detroit performing musicians in a college-accredited program.

“I sometimes say, very tongue-in-cheek, that I majored in psychology in undergrad, worked at the public defender office handling murder cases and then I went into entertainment law, so it was a natural progression,” Hertz said with a grin.

For a longer version of this story, visit law.wayne.edu/hertz.

Love of music led alumnus to discover entertainment law
Tony Paris, ’07, fights for workers’ civil rights every day.

He’s the lead attorney at Detroit’s nonprofit Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice and a member of the National Executive Committee of the National Lawyers Guild.

“The Sugar Law Center has a long-standing relationship with the National Lawyers Guild, and our namesake, Maurice Sugar, was a founding member of the NLG and the first general counsel of the United Auto Workers from 1937-46,” Paris said. “Sugar and the fledgling UAW recognized that legal changes did not often come from the top down but actually from the direct action of organizers, employees, activists, protestors, community groups and all those involved in civil disobedience . . .

“These people in the streets, fighting to have their message heard and to exercise their power, have historically been a huge part of every important social justice movement, and they deserve the best protection and representation.”

Paris grew up on the east side of Dearborn, just outside the Detroit city limits. He did his undergraduate work at Adrian College and wanted to be in Detroit for law school.

“Wayne State felt like coming home again,” Paris said. “The best part about Wayne for me was the professors and progressive-minded students who are now my colleagues in the struggle. Internships and clinics were also very important. That’s where I met a lot of my mentors and actually how I was first able to work at Legal Aid and Defender of Detroit and eventually found the Sugar Law Center.”

Paris views workers’ rights cases as civil rights cases and has represented victims of racial, sexual and gender discrimination.

“My greatest satisfaction comes in watching the heroic fights my clients go through, not just during the case, but what they had to endure while on the job . . .,” he said. “For them to fight through that every day at work – and then to have the perseverance to see a case through with all of the ups and downs that can bring – it’s satisfying and inspiring to even know these people and to fight to tell their stories.”

Paris wants law students to understand that there’s more to the law than just learning it and applying it to the facts.

“The law is living and breathing and just waiting to fulfill American promises and dreams,” Paris said. “Our job is bring the law to justice. And the law isn’t necessarily just what it says today but also what it should say tomorrow.”
Sometimes, even if you don’t win the civil rights lawsuit you’re litigating, you further justice anyway, said Alice Jennings, ’78.

Take the ongoing class-action lawsuit, Lyda et al v City of Detroit, Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, over the residential water shutoffs in Detroit. The city in 2014 began a mass shut-off campaign, cutting off water to thousands of residents whose accounts were delinquent.

Jennings – a partner in the Detroit law firm of Edwards & Jennings PC – is one of the co-lead plaintiffs’ attorneys in the suit, doing the work pro bono. A federal judge in September ruled that he found no constitutional right to water service. The case is being appealed to U.S. District Court, but already it has made a difference, Jennings said.

“By fighting the fight, by filing that lawsuit with due process and equal protection counts, there were substantial things that occurred, substantial improvements. They started giving a seven-day notice before shutting off someone’s water. Before, a contractor was just sweeping through the neighborhoods and shutting off water with no notice. The commercial accounts were treated differently and preferably. Because of international media attention to the case, the disparate treatment became known worldwide.”

It was at Wayne Law that Jennings first became politically active for civil rights.

She is a founding member of Detroiter Working for Environmental Justice and, in the mid-1990s, was co-lead counsel, pro bono, with attorneys from the Sugar Law Center in a lawsuit regarding an incinerator in Flint.

The agreement, called the first of its kind, prevented tons of lead particles from entering the atmosphere. Jennings was honored with the Flint NAACP Award for her work in the case.

After decades of working as a civil rights attorney, she believes more than ever in advancing the cause of social justice through the law.

“When you like something and you’re good at it – really, that’s the life,” she said.

“I would say civil rights litigation and human rights litigation is probably the most rewarding if your essence is to care. It’s not for the weak of heart. But we do justice sometimes just by fighting the good fight. Sometimes the victory is in the fight itself because people have stood up and taken a position against discrimination. In the Detroit water case, 26 lawyers, all pro bono, came together to say, ‘This is not right. I can’t stand by and watch.’”
Employment lawyer spices up legal life with gourmet cooking

Attorney Nick Roumel was enjoying Greek food before he could talk, and cooking it – and other dishes – with expertise by the time he earned his degree from Wayne Law in 1984.

“Senior year (as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan), I got a job in a French restaurant and worked my way up from clumsy busboy to waiter, doing tableside cooking and wine service. From there, I worked in catering and other restaurants before, during and after law school,” Roumel said.

Today, on topics from baklava to back wages, Roumel is an expert.

He’s a partner with Ann Arbor law firm Nacht Roumel Salvatore Blanchard and Walker PC and focuses his practice primarily on employment, civil rights and labor law. He also writes a food column for the Legal News and food features from time to time for Current Magazine in Washtenaw County. And he cooks.

He cooks for his family, friends and co-workers. He cooks as a guest chef for local foods-centered nonprofit Selma Café once in a while, and he donates his services cooking private dinners for auctions to benefit charities.

His food fixation helps him keep his life in balance and deal with stress.

“I think it’s essential, because my job is so stressful I could probably work at it every waking minute,” he said. “Writing my food column has led me to have some great conversations with fellow lawyers and even judges. Through these conversations, I learn about what my colleagues do for balance in their own lives, whether it’s cooking, music or running.”

Still, for a great thrill, going to trial with a case is hard to beat, Roumel said.

“There is nothing as satisfying as winning a jury trial …,” he said. “I am gratified to help people cope with the loss of their jobs in any way I can and to hear their success stories down the road.”

As a student, Roumel worked for Wayne Law’s Free Legal Aid Clinic, where he met his wife, Gail Altenburg, ’86.

“There is no question that working in the clinic made me a better lawyer. It also gave me an interest in serving indigent clients,” he said.

“I still approach practicing law from a legal services mentality, helping clients to the extent I can regardless of their ability to pay.”

MORE ONLINE
For a longer version of this story, visit law.wayne.edu/roumel.
Sheila Cummings, ’02, is an expert on election law.

Since January 2013, she has served as Oakland County’s deputy clerk and register of deeds. From 2009 until she took that position, she was the Democratic legal counsel for the Michigan House of Representatives, counseling lawmakers on election law, campaign finance issues and a variety of other legal issues.

As a law student, she didn’t see herself in that role.

“In fact, when I was in law school, I was not even aware that a job such as legal counsel for the state House existed,” Cummings said. “The advantage of a law degree is the variety of jobs available. When I graduated, I knew I was interested in a combination of law, policy and politics. Working in and around elections has afforded me the opportunity to make a career out of the combination of those passions.”

While she was working as an associate with Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss PC in Detroit, the House Democratic Caucus recruited her for her first stint as Democratic legal counsel. She went on to become a staff attorney for NARAL Pro-Choice America and a senior advisor for the National Women’s Law Center, both in Washington, D.C., before returning to Michigan to serve as the House majority counsel.

Now, as a deputy clerk overseeing elections, she works on a legislative committee that advocates for election law reform, including online voter registration and no-reason absentee voting. The committee also advocates for changes to Michigan election law to make absentee voting easier for first-time voters.

“Voting is a fundamental right, and instead of discouraging and disenfranchising voters, we should be striving to make voting easier and more accessible for all eligible citizens in Michigan,” Cummings said.

Legislation to change Michigan election law to allow voters to request an absentee ballot for any reason (not just for the restricted justifications currently in law) has been introduced in every legislative session for almost 20 years, and has yet to pass, she said.

“Legislative changes are needed to allow for better participation in the voting process and to keep up with the changing technologies surrounding elections,” Cummings said. “The most satisfying aspect of overseeing elections is seeing people participate in democracy and having their voices heard no matter where they fall on the political spectrum.”
A Business Law class in high school helped Homayune Ghaussi, ‘01, overcome a fear of public speaking and awakened the soul of a litigator.

Afghan native works to help bring stability to his homeland

Part of what drew Homayune Ghaussi to becoming a lawyer was the way war altered the course of his life.

Ghaussi, ’01, was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, where his father, who had earned a master’s degree in the United States, held a high-level government position.

“We were still living in Kabul when the Afghan communist coup happened, but we were lucky enough to leave before the Soviet invasion,” said Ghaussi, who is a partner with Warner Norcross & Judd LLP in Southfield and has a diverse litigation practice handling complex commercial matters.

He was a second-grader in 1979 when his father took a job with UNESCO in Khartoum, Sudan, and the family moved there.

“We were in Sudan, the Soviets invaded Afghanistan,” Ghaussi said. “This made it virtually impossible for us to return. My father’s brothers and sisters lived here in Detroit, so we immigrated to Michigan in 1981.”

Ghaussi has never been able to return to his native land, which has been the site of violence and unrest for decades. He is working to help change that.

“Since the Taliban left in 2001, I have looked for such opportunities,” he said. “I was introduced to the Afghan Public Private Partnership for Justice Reform by an associate in our office whose sister worked with the program through the U.S. State Department.”

He got involved and was named to the 15-member board of the Friends of the Public Private Partnership, a nonprofit group established by then-Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in 2007. The organization promotes the rule of law in Afghanistan and offers master of laws scholarships and other training programs to Afghan lawyers to better enable them to strengthen the justice system in their nation.

“I truly believe in this program because I believe it is essential for the future of Afghanistan that Afghan people themselves be able to establish some type of rule of law within the country, through which they can provide a framework for society to thrive and grow,” Ghaussi said.

He is happy to see elections taking place in Afghanistan, he said, despite the controversies that have arisen.

“I hope I can see Afghanistan return to the life I knew as a child there – without constant worry of war and bombings,” Ghaussi said. “I’ve always found myself attracted to the idea that the pen is mightier than the sword. We should change our lives and the lives of those around us through persuasion rather than violence. This is part of why I became a lawyer.”

MORE ONLINE
For a longer version of this story, visit law.wayne.edu/ghaussi.
Labor law attorney Jack Schulz, ’13, is pretty sure his application to the Michigan State Bar was among “the most laughable of all time.”

“They had to get criminal background checks and driving records from 16 states, and I had more than 35 different jobs and more than 40 different housing situations,” he said.

Schulz, after getting a degree in political science from Michigan State University, worked as a political organizer. He planned and carried out campaigns, voter registration drives, ballot initiatives and other programs in states that included Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont and West Virginia.

“It became apparent that the working American is getting the shaft countrywide,” Schulz said. “One of the most frustrating things about organizing is that you do so much, and then, at the end of the day, you’re trying to motivate legislators and attorneys to do new policies. I got sick of watching other people not do what I wanted to happen. I wanted the tools to be the person who jumps in and does that.”

He knew he had to go to law school to get those tools and chose to attend Wayne Law.

“I got here and from the beginning I decided I was going to live in the city where the action was. I love Detroit.”

Schulz, who still lives in Detroit, works for labor law firm Miller Cohen and is energized about using his skills as a labor attorney on behalf of workers.

“I can’t believe that I get paid to participate in the fight for workers’ rights,” Schulz said with a grin. “I get to make a living fighting for the working man.”

For a longer version of this story, and for a brief Question & Answer report with Jack Schulz, visit law.wayne.edu/schulz.
Blanche Cook joins faculty, researches sex trafficking

New Assistant Professor Blanche B. Cook joined the law faculty in fall 2014.

For 8½ years, Cook was an assistant U.S. attorney in Nashville, Tenn., specializing in large-scale drug and sex-trafficking prosecutions. Before she joined the U.S. Department of Justice, she clerked for Judge Damon J. Keith, ’56, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. She also worked as an associate with Miller Canfield in Detroit from 1996 to 2000 and with Seyfarth Shaw in Chicago.

Her most-recent research is on specific aspects of sex trafficking and its prosecution.

Charles Brower earns 2 professional honors

Professor Charles H. Brower II was listed for the first time in the global edition of Who’s Who Legal: Arbitration 2015.

Those listed are chosen through at least four independent peer nominations, followed by a worldwide process of media reviews and peer interviews. Brower is one of only 120 people listed from the United States and only two from Michigan.

Brower, who is of counsel with Miller Canfield in Detroit, also was elected and invited to become a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Fellows are selected on the basis of peer nominations. No more than one-third of 1 percent of lawyers registered in any jurisdiction may be fellows at any given time.

Peter Hammer honored by 2 civil rights groups

Professor Peter Hammer was honored at The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee Michigan Office’s 12th annual Guardian of Justice Judges Night Dinner.

He was honored “for being a tireless advocate for the voiceless and the marginalized and for constantly advancing constitutional values of justice, equality and tolerance for all.”

Hammer, director of Wayne Law’s Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights, also was honored at the ACLU of Michigan’s celebration of the Bill of Rights ratification “for his work improving access to true justice for all members of society.”

Julia Qin presents at World Trade Organization

Professor Julia Qin gave a presentation at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, commenting on its Appellate Body’s decision in the China – Rare Earths case.

The event, attended by government representatives from major countries and World Trade Organization legal staff, was part of the “Talking Disputes” program organized by World Trade Institute Advisors and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development.

Qin also holds a three-year joint appointment as a professor at Tsinghua University Law School in Beijing.

Law center appoints Jocelyn Benson to board

Dean Jocelyn Benson was appointed to the Southern Poverty Law Center Board of Directors.

Founded in 1971, the center in Montgomery, Ala., is internationally known for tracking and exposing the activities of hate groups and for launching lawsuits to fight hate and bigotry and seek justice for the most vulnerable members of society.

Rachel Settlage’s book focuses on crime victims

Assistant Professor Rachel Settlage is co-author of a new book written to help those who work with noncitizen victims of crime.

Immigration Relief: Legal Assistance for Noncitizen Crime Victims, published by the American Bar Association, was co-authored by Settlage, Elizabeth Campbell of the University of Michigan and Veronica Thronson of Michigan State University. Settlage directs Wayne Law’s Asylum and Immigration Law Clinic.

The book is intended to serve as an introduction to the range of immigration remedies available to vulnerable populations involved with law enforcement and the criminal justice system, states its introduction. It is a resource for attorneys, legal assistants, social workers, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges or anyone else who works with noncitizen victims of crime.
**1960s**

**Eugene Driker**, ’61, was awarded the Julian Abele Cook Jr. – Bernard A. Friedman FBA Civility Award for 2014 by the Federal Bar Association’s Eastern District of Michigan Chapter. Driker and his wife, Elaine, also were honored in October with the George W. Romney Award for Lifetime Achievement in Volunteerism. Driker is a founding member of Barris Sott Dunn & Driker PLLC.

**Sheldon Winkelman**, ’63, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in real estate law.

**Peter Maceroni**, ’65, retired as judge of Macomb County Circuit Court after 24 years on the bench.

**Michael Maddin**, ’65, of Maddin Hauser Roth & Heller PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in real estate law.

**Brian Einhorn**, ’67, was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court bar. He is president of the State Bar of Michigan and practices with Collins Einhorn Farrell. He also was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015. He was recognized in legal malpractice law – defendants, personal injury litigation – defendants, product liability litigation – defendants, and professional malpractice law – defendants.

**Mark Hauser**, ’67, of Maddin Hauser Roth & Heller PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in real estate law.

**Fred Mester**, ’67, addressed the Inter-American Committee, the judicial arm of the Organization of American States, in Washington, D.C., on the issue of mandatory life sentences without parole for juveniles in light of the 2012 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Miller v. Alabama. Mester, with several other Michigan judges and attorneys, was involved with a petition drive advocating for the court’s decision to be retroactive for minors sentenced to life without parole in Michigan. Mester, a retired Oakland County circuit judge, works with various city administrations on community issues.


**Roger Cook**, ’74, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in litigation and controversy – tax, tax law.

**M. Richard Knoblock**, ’74, retired as judge of 52nd Circuit Court in Huron County. He held the seat for 36 years.

**Donald Sanderson**, ’74, retired from the 2B District Court bench. He had held the seat since 1978.

**James Fisher**, ’76, was named by Gov. Rick Snyder as one of 15 appointments to the newly created Indigent Defense Commission. Fisher, previously chief judge of Barry County Circuit Court, will chair the commission. He is an attorney with Law Weathers. He will represent members submitted by the Michigan Judges Association.
Lawrence McLaughlin, ‘77, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in litigation – real estate, real estate law. He also was named co-chair of the International Council of Shopping Centers 2015 U.S. Law Conference and will serve as chair of the conference in 2016. He is chair of Honigman’s Real Estate Department.

Margo Nichols, ‘77, of Nichols Sacks Slank Sendelbach & Buiteweg celebrated the firm’s 20th anniversary.

Alan Valade, ‘77, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in tax law, trusts and estates.

Nancy Diehl, ‘78, was named by Gov. Rick Snyder as one of 15 appointments to the newly created Indigent Defense Commission. She is retired as trial division chief of the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office and represents members submitted by the State Bar of Michigan.

Steven Howell, ‘78, of Dickinson Wright PLLC was awarded the Barbara J. Rom Award for Bankruptcy Excellence from the Federal Bar Association, Eastern District of Michigan Chapter.

Robert Kaplow, ‘78, of Maddin Hauser Roth & Heller PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in tax law and trusts and estates.

Ashley Lipson, LL.M., ‘78, is the author of a new book, Courthouse Use and Misuse of Mathematics, Physics and Finance: Cases, Lessons and Materials, released by Carolina Academic Press. Lipson is a professor at the University of La Verne College of Law in California.

Gary Rogers, ‘78, of Fraser Trebilcock was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015. Rogers was recognized in bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights/insolvency, reorganization law and litigation – insurance.

Monika Holzer Sacks, ‘78, of Nichols Sacks Slank Sendelbach & Buiteweg celebrated the firm’s 20th anniversary. She was named president of the Michigan chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers for 2013-14 and is a founding member of the Collaborative Practice Institute of Michigan.

Lawrence Murphy, ‘79, of Honigman was selected for inclusion The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in commercial litigation.

Susan Patton, ‘79, of Butzel Long was named a fellow, Health Care Law Section, State Bar of Michigan.

I.W. Wisten, ‘79, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in appellate practice, bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation.

1980s


Noreen Slank, ’80, of Collins Einhorn Farrell PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in appellate practice, insurance law.

John Willems, ’80, of Miller Canfield was awarded the 2014 John Hensel Award by the State Bar of Michigan’s Arts, Communication, Entertainment and Sports Section.

Gregory DeMars, ’81, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights/insolvency and reorganization law litigation – real estate, real estate law. He is with Honigman.

Susan Grant, ’81, retired as judge of 77th District Court in Big Rapids. She had served the court as judge since 1996.

Scott Mandel, ’81, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation, insurance law and litigation – antitrust. He is with Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC.

David Marmon, ’81, was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Marmon, an attorney at Hoffert & Associates, received the Deloitte & Touche Award for the best paper in the area of taxation.

Stuart Sherr, ’81, was appointed mayor pro tem of Bloomfield Hills. Sherr is vice president of Sherr Development Corp. and has been a Bloomfield Hills city commissioner since December 2012.

Steven Chester, ’82, rejoined Miller Canfield as senior counsel in the Energy, Environmental and Regulatory Group. He most recently served as deputy assistant administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, he was director of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Sandra Glazier, ’82, received an Award of Appreciation from the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan for her presentation on “The Intersection of Probate and Family Law – Postmortem” at the 2014 Mid-Summer Seminar.

Lee Hornberger, LL.M., ’82, an arbitrator and mediator, was honored with the George N. Bashara Jr. Award by the State Bar of Michigan’s Alternative Dispute Resolution Section.

continued on Page 36
Peter Kellett, '82, was re-elected chairman and chief executive officer of Dykema for a second three-year term, starting Jan. 1, 2015.

Thomas Wilczak, '82, of Pepper Hamilton LLP was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in environmental and litigation – environmental.

Thomas Allen, '83, was added as partner in the Atlanta office of Burr & Forman LLP. Allen joined the firm’s Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section.

Raymond Henney, '83, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in commercial litigation, litigation – mergers and acquisitions, litigation – regulatory enforcement (SEC, telecom, energy), litigation – securities. He is with Honigman.

Russell Linden, '83, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – management.

Samuel Stahl, '83, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in corporate law, mergers and acquisitions law.

Jonathan Borenstein, '84, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in real estate law.

Phillip Erickson, '84, of Plunkett Cooney was selected for the inaugural list of Leading Lawyers in Michigan for Leading Lawyers magazine.

Robert Labe, '84, was selected to become a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Only 1 percent of lawyers nationwide are selected. Labe is a partner with Williams Williams Rattner and Plunkett PC of Birmingham.

Kenneth Marcus, '84, a partner in the Health Care Practice Group of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, was named to the class of fellows for the State Bar of Michigan Health Care Law Section. He also was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in health care law.

Patricia Nemeth, '84, LL.M., '90, founder of Nemeth Law PC, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – management, labor law – management and litigation – labor and employment. Her firm was recognized as a tier-one firm by U.S. News and World Report and Best Lawyers in the 2015 list of Best Law Firms in employment law – management. She also was selected to join the board of directors of the Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit.

Rasul Raheem, '84, LL.M., '03, hosted the National Bar Association Commercial Law Section Executive Committee’s Fall Planning Retreat in September in Detroit. He is senior vice president and assistant general counsel for Bank of America and president of the D. Augustus Straker Bar Foundation.

Mark Stern, '84, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in appellate practice, bet-the-company litigation, commercial litigation.

Diane Akers, '85, received the ninth annual Stephen H. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award from the State Bar of Michigan Business Law Section. Akers is of counsel to Bodman PLC.

Linda Burwell, '85, formed National Employment Counsel PLLC. The firm was recognized as tier-one by U.S. News and World Report and Best Lawyers in the 2015 list of Best Law Firms in employment law. She was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – management, labor law – management, and litigation – labor and employment. She also was selected as a Leading Lawyer in employment law: management and labor law: management and named a 2015 DBusiness Top Lawyer.

John Gustafson, '85, was appointed as a U.S. bankruptcy judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division. He was sworn in by the Hon. Vernelis K. Armstrong, '60, U.S. magistrate judge for the Northern District of Ohio, Western Division.

Michael Indenbaum, '85, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in litigation and controversy – tax, tax law.

William Sargent, '85, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – individuals.

Michael Sheehy, '85, of Plunkett Cooney was selected for Leading Lawyers in Michigan for Leading Lawyers magazine.

Holli Targan, '85, a partner at Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss PC, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015.

Michael Blum, '86, of Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – management and labor law – management.

Judy Calton, '86, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights/insolvency and reorganization law. She also was elected treasurer of the Business Law Section Council of the State Bar of Michigan.

Jerry Dorsey IV, '86, was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to the 15-member Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children. Dorsey is chief of trials and litigation for the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office.

Lynn Gandhi, '86, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in corporate law, litigation and controversy – tax, tax law.
Kay Standridge Kress, ’86, of Pepper Hamilton LLP was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in bankruptcy and creditor debtor rights/insolvency and reorganization and litigation – bankruptcy. She also was elected to a three-year term as chair of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the Business Law Section of the American Bar Association.

Nancy Nawrocki, ’86, one of fewer than 100 attorneys in the United States with an advanced master of laws degree in elder law, changed the name of her Brighton-based firm to Nawrocki Center for Elder Law, Special Needs & Disability Planning PLLC.

Mark Sadoff, ’86, founded MJS Legal of Paris, a law firm concentrating on assisting companies in their international operations. Previously, he was general counsel of Saint-Gobain Building Distribution and Saint Gobain Isover.

Anne Yantus, ’86, wrote an article, “Sentence Creep: Increasing Penalties in Michigan and the Need for Sentencing Reform,” published in the spring issue of the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform. She is managing attorney of the plea unit of Michigan Journal of Law Reform. She is a member of The Wayne County Bar Foundation.

Kathy Browne, ’87, is expanding her conservation education and beautification efforts for 2015 in the downtown Plymouth area through her landscape design firm, Divine Redesigns LLC. Her demonstration planter can be seen on Forest Avenue in front of the Open Dohr shop from May through October.

John Forrest, LL.M., ’87, has joined Butzel Long. He focuses his practice in the areas of franchise and distribution law, commercial contracts and business planning and corporate law.

Patrick Karbowsk, ’87, was elected to membership of McDonald Hopkins LLC, a business advisory and advocacy law firm.

Jean Shtokal, ’87, of Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in international trade and finance law.

Eileen Slank, ’87, of Nichols Sacks Slank Sendelbach & Buiteweg celebrated the firm’s 20th anniversary.

Joyceyn Ward, ’87, was hired as a staff attorney in the Legal Aid and Defender Association Inc.’s Civil Law Group.


Linda Ross, ’88, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in health care law, information technology law.

Theresa Asoklis, ’89, of Collins Einhorn Farrell PC was the Best Lawyers’ 2015 Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants Lawyer of the Year in metro Detroit.

Miriam Blanks-Smart, ’89, was appointed to a four-year term on the Executive Committee of The Institute of Continuing Legal Education, the education provider of the State Bar of Michigan. She is manager of administrative hearings at the city of Detroit’s Department of Administrative Hearings, or “blight court.”

Donald Campbell, ’89, of Collins Einhorn Farrell PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in ethics and professional responsibility law.

Pauline Doohan, ’89, joined concentrated solar power developer SolarReserve as the company’s vice president and general counsel.

Melissa Jackson, ’89, of Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC was selected for inclusion The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – management.

Gary Peters, ’89, was elected to the U.S. Senate.

Michael Witzke, ’89, joined the Detroit office of McDonald Hopkins as a member in the firm’s Private Client Department.

1990s

Thomas Boyd, ’90, was named by Gov. Rick Snyder as one of 15 appointments to the newly created Indigent Defense Commission. Boyd is chief judge of the 55th District Court and represents members submitted by the Michigan District Judges Association.

Lori Buiteweg, ’90, of Nichols Sacks Slank Sendelbach & Buiteweg celebrated the firm’s 20th anniversary. She is president-elect of the State Bar of Michigan for 2014-15.

Michael Gadola, ’90, was appointed to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Gov. Rick Snyder. He fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge William Whitbeck.

Mary Massaron, ’90, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in appellate law and for the inaugural list of Leading Lawyers in Michigan for Leading Lawyers magazine. She is with Plunkett Cooney.

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Julie Robertson, ’90, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in health care law, insurance law.

Stuart Sherman, ’90, was elected mayor of Birmingham by his fellow commissioners.

continued on Page 38
Jeffrey Woolstrum, '91, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in environmental law, litigation – environmental.

Cameron Evans, '92, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in employment law – management, litigation – labor and employment.

Scott Sirich, '92, was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in construction law and litigation and for the inaugural list of Leading Lawyers in Michigan for Leading Lawyers magazine. He is with Plunkett Cooney.

Megan Bonanni, '93, a partner with Pitt McGehee Palmer & Rivers, has been named to the Michigan Association of Justice Executive Board for the 2014-15 term.

Paul Delacourt, '93, was named special agent in charge of the FBI’s Honolulu Division.

Michelle Harrell, '93, of Maddin Hauser Roth & Heller PC was appointed to the Board of Directors of Living Arts.

Neil Rockind, '93, founder of criminal defense law firm Neil Rockind PC, is one of only 200 attorneys in the nation to complete a scientific forensics course by the American Chemical Society, qualifying him to explain the science of gas chromatography in DUI ethanol-based cases. He also is a contributing author for the book Michigan Model Criminal Jury Instructions by the Institute for Continuing Legal Education.

Elizabeth Stafford, '93, was appointed as a U.S. magistrate judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Kimberly Yapchai, '93, received a 2014 First Chair Award for Top Assistant General Counsel. In addition, she joined Whirlpool Corp. as senior counsel and global director, ethics & compliance.

Laura Brownfield, '95, joined the Trusts & Estates Practice Group of Plunkett Cooney.

Rebecca Davies, '95, of Butzel Long is co- instructed a nine-week Human Resources Certification and Exam Prep Program at Walsh College’s Novi campus.

Gerald Gleeson II, '95, a principal in Miller Canfield’s Litigation and Dispute Resolution, has been elected as a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. Membership in the college cannot exceed 1 percent of the total lawyer population of any state or province.

Anna Budde, '96, joined Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn as a partner in its intellectual property department in Ann Arbor.

Richard Finch, '96, was named as an administrative law judge with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System. He is formerly of Hardy Lewis & Page PC and Lacey & Jones LLP.

Marcy Ford, '96, of Trott & Trott PC was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in mortgage banking foreclosure law.

William Maze, '96, was elected president of Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan. Maze is a criminal defense attorney with offices in Livonia, Royal Oak and Romulus.

Patrick Conlin Jr., '97, of Keusch Flintoft & Conlin PC was elected to the Washtenaw County Circuit Court.

David Jacob, '97, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in real estate law.

Thomas Schehr, '97, was elected president of the Eastern District of Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association for 2014-15. He is the leader of Dykema’s Financial Services Litigation Practice Group.

Marc Seyburn, '97, joined Barris Sott Denn & Driker PLLC as a member of its tax and estate planning department.

Jonathan Block, '98, of Honigman was selected for The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in real estate law.

Michael McCue, '98, is working on a doctorate at Michigan State University and is researching for his dissertation the experiences of law students and recent law school graduates with mental illness.

Thomas Kabel, '99, of Butzel Long has been admitted as a fellow of the American College of Mortgage Attorneys. He is chairman of the firm’s corporate and real estate departments.

Daniel Villaire Jr., '99, joined Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC. He concentrates his practice in employment law and litigation.

2000s

Michelle Crockett, '00, rejoined Miller Canfield as director of professional development. She also has resumed her labor and employment law practice.

Thomas Cronright II, '00, is co-owner, founder and CEO of Sun Title, which was recognized on Inc. Magazine's Inc. 5000 list of the fastest-growing private companies in the country.

Lawrence Duthler, '00, is co-owner, founder and president of Sun Title, which was recognized on Inc. Magazine's Inc. 5000 list of the fastest-growing private companies in the country.

Todd Fracassi, '00, of Pepper Hamilton LLP was selected for inclusion The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in environmental and litigation – environmental.
Rachel Helton, ’00, was elected to a six-year term on the Trenton school board.

Sarah Lincoln, ’00, was elected to a six-year term as a 37th Circuit Court judge. She previously was assistant Calhoun County prosecutor. She is the first woman elected to the court in more than 50 years.

James Maceroni, ’00, was elected judge of Macomb County Circuit Court to fill the seat of his retiring father, Peter Maceroni, ’65.

Derek Meinecke, ’01, was appointed chief judge of the 44th District Court. Meinecke won election to the court in 2012.

Ruth Swartout Tyska, ’01, worked with two other local artists to create a sculpture, “Just Listening,” of a contemporary Lady Justice for exhibition at the 2014 ArtPrize art competition in Grand Rapids.

Adrienne Dresevic, ’02, hosted an American Bar Association webinar on the federal Anti-kickback Statute. She is a founding shareholder with the Health Law Partners PC.

Jordan Bolton, ’03, a partner in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group of Clark Hill PLC, was honored as the Pro Bono Attorney of the Year by the Legal Aid and Defender Association.

Elise Iafrate, ’03, has joined Rain BDM, a business development and marketing consultancy in Bloomfield Hills for law firms and professional services.

Mary Mansfield, ’03, was recognized for the pro bono service she provided to Legal Aid and Defender Association Inc.’s clients in 2014. Mansfield is a partner in Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP’s Trusts and Estates Practice Group.

Scott Weston, ’03, has been elected to partner at Cooley LLP in California. He is a member of the firm’s patent counseling and prosecution practice.

Allison Bach, ’04, a partner at Dickinson Wright, was named as one of six Top Young Lawyers by DBusiness magazine for 2014.

Craig Scheuern, ’04, has become a shareholder in Quinn Law Group PLLC based in Novi. He joined the firm in 2005.

Matt Szalach, ’04, has joined the Intellectual Property Department at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP as a partner. He is a member of the firm’s Patent Practice Group in its Bloomfield Hills office.


Stephen Dunn, ’05, of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC was named by Crain’s Detroit Business to its 2014 Class of “40 Under 40.”

Stephen Ravas, ’05, joined the U.S. Department of Commerce, Office of Inspector General, as an investigative attorney.

James Reid IV, ’05, received the Oakland County Bar Association’s 2014 Distinguished Service Award. He is a shareholder at Maddin Hauser Roth & Heller PC.

Corey Beaubien, ’06, co-authored an article, “Patent Eligibility and Medical Diagnostic and Treatment Methods-Principles to Apply,” published in BNA’s Patent, Trademark & Copyright Journal in September. He is a shareholder at Reising Ethington PC.

Benjamin Glazebrook, ’06, has joined Plunkett Cooney’s Transportation Law Practice Group.

Klint Kesto, ’06, was honored with the State Leadership Award by the Arab American and Chaldean Council. Kesto, the first Chaldean elected to serve in the Michigan House of Representatives, has represented the city of Wixom, Commerce Township, a portion of West Bloomfield and the Village of Wolverine Lake since 2012.

Joel Bowers, ’07, was elected a partner in the South Bend office of Barnes & Thornburg. He is a member of the firm’s Environmental and Litigation Departments.

Gary Francis, ’07, of Plunkett Cooney was selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America 2015 in labor law – management.

Kreuza Gjezi, ’07, has joined Southfield-based Jaffe Raitt Heuer & Weiss PC as an associate in the firm’s immigration and litigation department.

Tanya Juarez-Lundberg, ’07, has been admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court bar. She focuses her practice at Collins Einhorn Farrell on the defense of professional liability claims.

Anthony Paris, ’07, and the band Blue Pontiac performed songs written by attorney-activist Maurice Sugar in the 1930s and other songs as well as telling some stories Oct. 17 at Lefty’s Lounge in Detroit in conjunction with the North American Labor History Conference at WSU. Paris is lead attorney with Detroit’s nonprofit Sugar Law Center for Economic and Social Justice.

Steven Migliore, ’08, a partner in the Corporate Department of Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP, was appointed president-elect of NEXTGen Detroit. Migliore is also a member of the NextGen executive board.

continued on Page 40
**Alumni notes continued**

**Stanley Pitts**, ‘08, a partner at Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP in the firm’s Labor and Employment Department, was recognized as a Man of Excellence for 2014 by the Michigan Chronicle.

**Robert Riley**, ‘08, filed an amicus brief on behalf of the National Association of Counsel for Children to help convince the Michigan Supreme Court to strike down the “one-parent doctrine” that had allowed family courts to remove a child from custody of both parents when only one had been found guilty of abuse or neglect. He is an attorney with Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP.

**Michael Taylor**, ‘08, was confirmed as mayor of Sterling Heights to serve out the term of **Richard Notte**, who died in October. Taylor first was elected to the council at 2009 when he was 26 – the youngest person to be elected to the council in the city’s history. He was re-elected in 2011 and 2013 with the highest number of votes, earning him the mayor pro tem position. Taylor is a senior attorney with the Mount Clemens-based law firm of Davis Burket Savage Listman Brennan.

**Aimee Jachym**, ‘09, rejoined Miller Canfield as an associate in the Kalamazoo office. Jachym was previously with Miller Canfield’s Corporate Group from 2009-11, before spending two years in South Korea serving as president and chief administrator of Korean Kids and Orphanage Outreach Mission, a nonprofit she founded in 2007. Upon returning to the United States in 2013, she was a commercial contracts manager for Parker Hannifin Corp.’s Aerospace Group Hydraulics Systems Division in Kalamazoo.

**2010s**

**Michael McCandlish**, ‘10, joined Bejin VanOphem & Beineman PLC. He focuses his practice in intellectual property law.

**Deborah Fisch**, ‘11, a legal researcher with the Program for Sexual Rights and Reproductive Justice at the University of Michigan Medical School, is vice president and chair of the Research and Advocacy Committee of the new Birth Rights Bar Association.


**Rachel Sisco**, ‘11, was named associate general counsel and head of the litigation department for HealthCall of Detroit. Previously, she was a trial attorney at Bowman and Brooke LLP.

**Caroline Gersch**, ‘12, joined Traverse City firm Brandt Pezzetti Vermetten & Popovits.

**Chelsea Zuzindlak**, ‘12, joined Honigman as a staff attorney in its Business Immigration Practice Group.

**Kaitlyn Cramer**, ‘13, joined Zausmer Kaufman August & Caldwell PC as an associate.

**Katharine McCarthy**, ‘13, joined Giarmarco Mullins & Horton PC as an associate in the firm’s Municipal Litigation Group.

**Elizabeth Gotham**, ‘14, joined Honigman’s Labor and Employment Department in the firm’s Detroit office.

**Erick Hosner**, ‘14, joined Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC in Royal Oak. He concentrates his practice in tax, corporate finance, and mergers and acquisitions.

**Tanzania Jaysura**, ‘14, had a unique swearing-in to the practice of law. Michigan Supreme Court Justice **Bridget Mary McCormack** administered the oath to Jaysura via video conference, so Jaysura wouldn’t have to leave her military post in California. Jaysura is a judge advocate with the U.S. Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton.

**Maryam Karnib**, ‘14, joined Honigman’s Real Estate Department in the firm’s Detroit office.

**Emily Mayer**, ‘14, joined Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss PC as an associate in the firm’s litigation practice group.

**Kaitlyn Morin**, ‘14, joined Warner Norcross & Judd LLP.

**Suzanne Sutherland**, ‘14, joined Hilger Hammond PC as an associate attorney.

**Patrick Tully**, ‘14, joined Warner Norcross & Judd LLP.

**Courtney Williams**, ‘14, joined Warner Norcross & Judd LLP.

**In memoriam**

We respectfully remember the following members of the Wayne Law community and acknowledge their passing with sorrow.

**Thomas D. Allen**, ‘83

**George Bedrosian**, ‘59

**Anthony Lee Boothby**, ‘57

**Norton Cohen**, ‘59

**Irving Dworkin**, ‘49

**Farrell E. Elliot**, ‘55

**Kenneth J. Fiott**, ‘58

**John S. Gannon**, ‘61

**Monte R. Geralds**, ‘63

**Louis Gordon**, ‘58

**Hon. Lysle G. Hall**, ‘58

**Michael G. Hidalgo**, ‘74

**Thomas D. Jones**, ‘70

**Raymond Joseph**, ‘52

**Joseph H. Larson**, ‘54

**Hon. Claudia House Morcom**, ‘56

**Patrick D. Murphy**, ‘71

**Sherwin Schreier**, ‘60

Former Adjunct Professor **Michael Shpiece**

**Jack C. Straley**, ‘54

**Barbara Sutherland**, ‘83

**Roni Tischler**, ‘96

**Harold E. Wallace**, ‘69

**Eloise Williams**, ‘78

**Karen J. Williams**, ‘80

**Wayne Yashinsky**, ‘70
For the class of 2017’s oldest member, 72-year-old **Thomas Roth** of Northville, past experience with WSU led him to choose Wayne Law.

“I taught in the Psychiatry Department at WSU Medical Center, and I was very impressed with the quality of scholarship,” Roth said. “My wife graduated from Wayne and remembers her days there as very positive.”

Why the challenge of law school for the senior citizen who holds a doctorate in experimental psychology from the University of Cincinnati and has spent his career doing sleep research and sleep medicine?

Roth has served as an expert witness in several legal cases dealing with accidents where drivers fell asleep at the wheel and as an expert in patent cases dealing with sleep promoting. And he’s served as a consultant to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and to industry involving new medications. All of those experiences deepened his lifelong interest in law. He plans to use his scientific background in some manner of legal practice.

For **Amy Huang** of Farmington Hills, studying law synchs with her intense interest in promoting social justice.

She grew up in Chicago, holds a master’s degree in secondary education from the University of Southern California and participated in Teach for America for two years helping students at Detroit’s Mumford High School learn math as well as life skills to help them succeed.

“I hope to continue my impact in Detroit,” Huang said. “The revitalization movement is an exciting moment in history for the city, yet there is so much more work to do. I carry with me the stories of growing up in Detroit that my students have so generously shared with me.”

Incoming first-year students, as well as some faculty and staff, from Wayne Law participate in a service project Aug. 21 at the Michigan Urban Farming Initiative in Detroit. The service project was part of the Law School’s Orientation Week events for first-year students. MORE PHOTOS: law.wayne.edu/urbanfarming2014

**BY THE NUMBERS**

| CLASS SIZE | 119 |
| AGE RANGE | 21-72 |
| MEDIAN LSAT | 75/50/25 percentile | 160/156/152 |
| MEDIAN GPA | 75/50/25 percentile | 3.53/3.29/2.99 |
| GENDER | 41% female 59% male |
| MINORITY | 16% |
| UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOLS REPRESENTED | 33 |

Undergraduate majors pursued: Biology, biomedical, business management/administration, chemical engineering, chemistry, communications, criminal justice, economics, electrical engineering, English, environmental sciences, family relations/child development, foreign languages, history, humanities, interdisciplinary studies, international relations, international studies, journalism, liberal arts, literature, marketing, mechanical engineering, music, philosophy, policy studies, political science, pre-law, public affairs/services/administration, psychology, religion/religious studies, social sciences, sociology, urban studies/regional planning
Save the date

Wayne Law Golf Outing

Monday, June 8, 2015

Country Club of Detroit, Grosse Pointe Farms
Proceeds benefit scholarships
Register: law.wayne.edu/golf
For more information:
Matt Cunningham
mc10@wayne.edu
313-577-0749