

Winter 2008

## Richmond Law Magazine: Winter 2008

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# RICHMOND LAW

Magazine of the University of Richmond School of Law • Winter 2008, Vol. 20, No. 2



## **New faculty excel**

*Teaching, service, and scholarship*

## Dean's letter

### 'A happy combination'



Justice Louis Brandeis once wrote that great lawyers embody a “happy combination of the intellectual with the practical life.” As a practitioner, Brandeis himself epitomized that “happy combination.” He was a

skilled advocate whose work broke new ground by combining insights from science, economics and sociology with sharp legal analysis.

At Richmond, we have a rich tradition of combining the best of those two worlds in this law school. We have one foot in a vibrant city, a state capital with more courts than any city in the nation outside of Washington, D.C. The Richmond community offers a wealth of experienced judges and practitioners who teach a diverse array of subjects and offer critical insights into the lawyer’s “practical life.” Our students benefit immeasurably from the experience and dedication of those lawyer/teachers.

For our students the city also provides a laboratory for honing professional skills and wrestling with the challenges of real problems and real clients in an increasing variety of clinical settings.

We have the other foot in an equally vibrant university, a place where cutting-edge ideas emerge in numbers, colors and sizes as varied as the leaves that drift from the oaks presiding over this campus. In recent years the Law School and its sister schools across the University have developed interdisciplinary courses and symposia in areas from global business

to environmental science, from the study of Islam to the study of politics and leadership. All of us are enriched as a result.

This fall we welcomed Ed Ayers as our University’s new president. It is by design, not happenstance, that so much of his vision for the University aligns so well with the happy combination of traditions and values that shape our law school. The Law School already stands as a leader in combining educational opportunities with community service. Within the last few months, we announced two initiatives that respond to President Ayers’ challenge to “make a difference in the City of Richmond and beyond” through service learning. We added an energetic and accomplished lawyer as our new director of pro bono services. And, with a generous gift from the Lipman Foundation, our new National Center for Family Law soon will open a clinic in the heart of Richmond to serve families and children.

In this issue we celebrate the arrival, in the past two years, of six new members of our law faculty. Their talents are considerable. Better yet, both individually and collectively, they represent that “happy combination” of the intellectual and the practical that continues to be our hallmark.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John G. Douglass'.

*John G. Douglass*  
*Interim dean of the Law School*



## Filmmaker, students speak of Oliver Hill's legacy

When Oliver W. Hill died at 100 in August 2007, his life was celebrated across the nation. Hill was one of the last great warriors from the civil rights era and his legacy endures.

During a September program at the Law School, students who were born years after his legal triumphs delivered touching insights into this remarkable man.

Devin Pope, 2L, and Vivi Suveiu, 3L, were among the Richmond law students who got to know Hill during his final years while working with him and professor Jonathan K. Stubbs on Hill's autobiography.

"I'm 23 and I'm already a little jaded," Pope said. "But he had this sense of hope that seemed almost unreasonable. He believed we could do better. He believed it could happen. He always had this hope."

Even in his 90s Hill was sharp and curious, said Suveiu. "You talked with him for three minutes and you were impressed with his intellect and his passion. He always spoke of how each human had an opportunity to make a positive impact."

A highlight of the program was the presentation of an in-progress cut of the film "Honor Bound: The Story of Legal Warrior Oliver White Hill Sr." Carmela Hamm, the film's producer, presented the documentary



and joined the discussion along with Virginia Sen. Henry L. Marsh III, Hill's longtime law partner.

Hamm said her work on the film is "an opportunity I hold dear, a joy." The film is the first of a series on the civil rights movement and social change in America, said Hamm, a former producer for BET.

The discussion often returned to Hill's character, his integrity, humor, and courage.

In his 90s, at a ceremony where he was being honored by the American Bar Association, Hill rose and lectured the hall full of lawyers about what they should be doing to carry on the fight for justice, Marsh said. "He was impatient. He didn't want to miss this opportunity, and when he was done, they gave him a standing ovation."

Late in his life, Hill approached Stubbs with an idea for a book. "He wanted to write a book for the man in the street about past challenges and failures, denial and reconciliation," Stubbs said. "We began working on that book." Stubbs hopes to complete it soon.

John G. Douglass, the Law School's interim dean, pointed out that Hill's story began at the law school at Howard University. There, Hill and colleagues, including Spotswood Robinson and Thurgood Marshall, learned from professor Charles Hamilton Houston, and, "The legal arm of the civil rights movement was born," Douglass said. "Those of us who live and work in law schools need to take that as a challenge."



Producer Carmela Hamm (left) and scenes from the documentary.

## Justice system braces for climate change litigation

Among its many affects, global climate change could give rise to lawsuits that rival multi-billion-dollar tobacco and asbestos litigation, top environmental lawyers contend.

Four years ago, candidates running for president "were running from the issue," said James Salzman, professor of law and environmental policy at Duke Law School. As presidential campaigns unfold this year, "things have changed," Salzman said. "Climate change and its impact are hot."

Salzman offered his assessment during a panel discussion in November on "Climate Change in the Courts: Litigation, Liability, and the Law." The audience was made up mostly of law students, some of whom are likely to wrestle with related litigation throughout their careers.

Salzman and David Hunter, director of the program on international and comparative environmental law at American University's Washington College of Law, spoke. Noah Sachs, faculty director of the Robert R. Merhige Jr. Center for Environmental Studies, was the moderator.

In his introductory remarks, Sachs pointed out that many questions remain regarding basic issues such as who are the proper defendants and plaintiffs in climate change suits, and how should such litigation proceed? And are U.S. courts equipped to handle suits of this potential

complexity and magnitude?

Since the last presidential election, a lot has happened. Al Gore and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change shared the Nobel Prize for their work on climate change's impact. Corporations like British Petroleum have begun re-branding themselves by pub-



licly setting policies promoting energy savings and alternative energy sources. Venture capital is flowing into develop-

ment of these sources. States and localities have begun imposing "green" standards for development, and even the Bush administration has backed away from a hostile stance toward climate change initiatives.

At the same time, litigation over alleged damages resulting from climate change is bubbling to the surface, with plaintiffs as varied as Indian tribes, states, farmers, and maple syrup producers, and prospective defendants like auto manufacturers, the EPA, and power companies.

Lawyers are looking at various strategies from pursuing human rights violations to nuisance and negligence actions, Salzman said. ▶▶



Salzman (above) and Hunter.

### INTERVIEW

## Justice Carrico interviewed on DVD



In September 2006, Rodney A. Smolla, then-dean of the Law School, sat down in the Moot Court Room with Senior Justice Harry L. Carrico of the Supreme Court of Virginia for a conversation on Carrico's life in the law.

In the 24-minute recording of that conversation, Carrico traces his path from his high school years during the Depression, to his appointment to the bench at age 26, and on to the high court. He would serve on the court for a record 42 years, including 22 as chief justice.

Carrico says the lawyer he admired most was Lewis F. Powell Jr., who went on to the U.S. Supreme Court. "He left you with the most comfortable feeling that whichever way the case came out, from his client's standpoint, it could not have been presented better."

Carrico says the most difficult cases he encountered were death penalty cases. He read every word of every brief in every case because "the word you miss might be the one the case turned on."

Asked how he might describe his jurisprudence, he says, "I'm there to reach the right decision."

Copies of the DVD are in the law library.

## COMMENTARY

## Activist speaks on children, Kobe, JonBenet



Wendy Murphy

Wendy Murphy, a prominent legal scholar and television commentator, spoke to students, faculty, and alumni at the Law School in October about her work as an activist on behalf of women and children.

Murphy, a former prosecutor and author of *And Justice for Some: An Expose of the Lawyers and Judges Who Let Dangerous Criminals Go Free*, began with three things the audience should remember: "First, the truth matters. Second, the presumption of innocence is not a constitutional right. Third, there is no such thing as 'defense at any cost.'"

Murphy discussed two high-profile cases: the Kobe Bryant rape case and the JonBenet Ramsey murder investigation.

In the Bryant case, she pointed out how defense lawyers shifted the emphasis from police testimony describing the alleged rape to the question of the victim's sexual history, which Murphy said was largely irrelevant.

On the Ramsey case, Murphy discussed problems associated with cases where the parents are suspects. Often, she said, prosecuting one parent leads to suspicions about the other and, inevitably, to reasonable doubt.

Murphy's appearance was the Law School's 21st Annual Austin Owen Lecture.

So far climate change litigation is moving slowly, Hunter said, but the first tobacco suits moved slowly, as well, and early on, some were thrown out.

With a dramatic increase in attention to climate change from the scientific community, lawyers are being armed with mounting evidence that may be used in litigation.

"They're getting much better at demonstrating that negative impacts are the result of climate change," Hunter said.

This is a dynamic situation, Salzman said, and a lot of questions remain to be answered.

How will judges handle the prospects of crushing liability? Will the litigation lead, like the tobacco litigation, to creation of some huge liability fund?

At what point in time should likely defendants have known that their activities were contributing to climate change, and what did they do or fail to do to stop the damage?

There are serious questions about the implications of international law suits, Salzman and Hunter agreed. Do American companies want to face trial in foreign courts?

First-year law students are learning the basics of dealing with "this serious, complicated, modern question," Hunter said. "Someone has been damaged and someone should be held liable."

Much of what is going on now in boardrooms, legislative chambers and courtrooms, Hunter said, is consciousness-raising. The question will arise: was this company "a lagger or a leader" when it learned of the threats posed by climate change, and how did it respond? A lot is riding on those decisions.



Dean Smolla speaks at portrait presentation.

## Law alumni present Smolla portrait

The Law School Alumni Association presented a portrait of former Dean Rodney A. Smolla to the Law School during Law Weekend in October.

David W. Shreve, the alumni association's president, presented the portrait to interim Dean John G. Douglass at a luncheon in Smolla's honor. Smolla was joined at the event by his wife, Michele, and their children.

Smolla, who is now dean of the Washington and Lee University School of Law, served as dean of the Law School from 2003-2007. The portrait hangs in the "Deans Gallery" on the Law School's second floor.

## Estrich and Lowry talk politics, race, and gender

Two nationally recognized pundits from opposite ends of the political spectrum spoke this fall about what it will take to be the next president of the United States.

Susan Estrich, columnist, TV commentator, and law professor at the University of Southern California, and Rich Lowry, editor of the *National Review*, discussed "Race, Gender and Politics: A Dialogue on the Left, Right and Center," before a receptive audience at the Modlin Center for the Arts.

The event was the opening night of the Jepson Leadership Forum, co-spon-

sored by the Law School's Emroch Lecture endowment and the WILL program. Sandra J. Peart, dean of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, was moderator.

Lowry, who described himself as "a conservative guy" and a Virginian who finds himself lonely living in New York City, said he was glad to be back in a state "where people used to vote for Republicans."

Estrich, who described herself as "the house liberal" on Fox TV, succinctly described the political calendar to date as "a weird, weird year."

Asked what sort of leadership the nation needs from its next president, Lowry focused on what he sees as lacking in President Bush. That weakness, to a large extent, stems from Bush's failure to hold people accountable, he said. A Washington outsider like former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney or former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani, might best fill that role, Lowry said.

Estrich said the election should come down to terrorism and toughness, and "it's a good thing Hillary Clinton isn't a traditional woman candidate."

Where women traditionally are perceived as weaker in these areas, Estrich

said, Clinton's detractors often say she is too tough. The opposite might be said for another leading Democrat, Barack Obama, whose softer "Kennedyesque appeal worries people," Estrich said.

Both speakers were very curious about the prospect of a Clinton v. Giuliani race where character issues that have plagued the Clintons likely would turn in Hillary Clinton's favor.

"Nothing can be more embarrassing than what [Giuliani] has to deal with" in a personal life that includes three marriages and estrangement from his children, Estrich said.

"Hillary actually would have an advantage" in that comparison, Lowry said, because she was victimized by similar unseemly behavior by her husband and emerged strongly.

Estrich and Lowry said they remain puzzled at the failure of young people to vote in larger numbers.

Estrich praised the University for its emphasis on civic literacy, which is not a part of most college curriculums.

The blame, however, should be placed on young people, themselves, Lowry said. "They are responsible for voting and participating." ▶▶



Richard Lowry, Sandra Peart, John Douglass, and Susan Estrich.

## AWARD

## Chandler named Law Alumnus of the Year



Ted Chandler

In October, Theodore L. Chandler Jr., '77, was presented with the 2007 Law Alumnus of the Year Award in recognition of his contributions to the legal profession, the greater Richmond community, and the Law School.

Interim Dean John G. Douglass presented the award to Chandler, the chief executive officer and chairman of LandAmerica Inc., during annual Fall Gathering and reunion events at the Law School. Chandler's class was celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Chandler's ties to the University are many. His wife, Laura Lee, graduated from Westhampton College in 1974, and most of her family attended the University. Chandler has been involved with numerous University and Law School groups.

He has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Harry L. Carrico Center for Pro Bono Services, and has given his own time to many worthwhile community activities.

LandAmerica is one of America's top title insurance companies with more than 700 offices and 10,000 agents nationwide.

## AWARD

## Gibson named distinguished educator



James Gibson

In August, the University honored James Gibson, associate professor of law and director of the Law School's Intellectual Property Institute, with a Distinguished Educator Award.

The awards acknowledge a consistent record of outstanding contributions to excellence in education.

Interim Dean John G. Douglass said, "Professor Gibson is a leading national scholar on intellectual property who brings energy and innovative ideas to his field. The Law School takes great pride in professor Gibson's achievement."

In his five years at the Law School, Gibson has demonstrated dedication to teaching, scholarship, and service. Gibson also has shaped the IP institute into a premier center for intellectual property research, study, and action.

Through the National CyberEducation Project housed in the institute, created the "Copyright Roadshow," a program he takes to college campuses to introduce intellectual property issues to undergraduates.

Gibson also helped create a joint venture with Virginia Tech exposing undergraduates with science and engineering backgrounds to law.

Gibson's scholarly work has been published in journals including *Notre Dame Law Review* and *Yale Law Journal*.

Estrich also had some hard words for younger women who are not moving into politics. "I wonder where the farm team is" that will move up when today's leading women move on, she said.

"Younger women are not as ambitious" as young women were a generation ago.

The debate, which was remarkable as much for its cordiality as for its substance, ended with a question about the capacity of any leader to bring the country together. "It's not going to happen," Lowry said. But as demonstrated this evening, "debate can be a good thing" by helping "bleach some of the toxicity out of the system."

In the end, Lowry said, what makes the United States "the greatest country on the planet" is not the economy or military. It is "the extraordinary capacity for self-reflection and correction."

## Coming and going: Richmond law students show promise

This year's first year students, and recent Law School graduates demonstrate Richmond's strengths at attracting and preparing top prospects for legal professions.

For this year's entering class, the Law School saw some 1,900 applicants from 431 universities. The median LSAT score

for 1Ls ranks in the top 18 percent of test-takers over the last three years. The median GPA—3.45—is the highest in the Law School's history.

One reason for the Law School's popularity may be found in a recent issue of *PreLaw Magazine*, which listed Richmond among the nation's "Best Value Law Schools."

At the other end of the spectrum, the class that entered the Law School in 2004, with the highest objective credentials up to that point, had the highest bar passage rate for a graduating class since 1984.

The February 2007 bar passage rate was 90 percent for first-time takers compared with a statewide rate of 66 percent. The rate for first-time takers from Richmond in July was 90 percent compared with 79 percent statewide.

Law School officials attribute much of the recent graduates' success on the bar exam to the Academic Success Program, which was begun in 2000. The ASP offers academic support at the end of students' studies, including a bar exam component designed to prepare them for the exam. Emmeline Reeves, associate professor, is responsible for the program, which focuses on review of substantive material, and instruction on essay writing and test-taking skills.

This year's 1Ls are as diverse a group as they are academically talented.

The class of 2010, includes one PhD, a registered nurse, speakers of Arabic, Chinese, Polish, Hmong, and Korean, and one student who made it halfway through dental school before deciding to switch from teeth to torts.

This year's new law students come from 30 states and the District of Columbia, as well as from Thailand, the former Yugoslavia, India and Nigeria.

More than half are women; 20 percent are minorities. Sixty percent have been out of college for at least a year, and one graduated in 1989.

Political science was the most popu-

lar major followed by English.

The class includes a certified public accountant, former teachers and paralegals, the winner of a National Institutes of Health cancer research training award, and Maryland's Sheep and Wool Princess. One student has performed with the National Symphony, and another has worked on TV shows including "Real Time with Bill Maher."

One common attribute of 1Ls is commitment to community service, from coaching to working in foreign countries, soup kitchens, and hospitals.

## Law School continues community outreach

By Roberta Oster Sachs



Once again, the Law School has been buzzing with activity this fall with speakers, forums, and inter-disciplinary programs across the campus and the community. We continue to expand our efforts to reach out and partner with other schools in the University.

Around campus, law school professors are seen as resources who can convey critical issues in law to the larger community. For example, professors Corinna Lain and Margaret Bacigal participated in two panels for Domestic Violence Awareness Month, co-sponsored by the Richmond Police Department and the Bonner Center for Civic Engagement.

The Law School also co-sponsored the opening event for the Jepson Leadership Forum. The 21st annual Emanuel Emroch Lecture and the University's WILL Program presented a dialogue featuring political observers Susan Estrich and Richard Lowry talking about society, law, and culture in this election year.

Various panels at the Law School addressed hot-button issues of the day including: global warming, the death penalty, victim's rights, children's rights, immigrant rights, and biotechnology.

Professor Shari Motro is teaching the course "Marriage, Money and the Law," which is cross-listed with the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program.

I was pleased to moderate a media panel co-sponsored by the Jepson Leadership Forum and the WILL Program called "Media Messages, Missteps and Inside Stories from Newsrooms and Campaigns." The panel of professionals addressed journalists' responsibilities, and the role of race and gender in the coverage of the presidential campaigns.

To improve our Web presence, we recently launched two new Websites: the National Center for Family Law (<http://law.richmond.edu/ncfl>), and the Robert R. Merhige, Jr. Center for Environmental Studies ([www.law.richmond.edu/merhige](http://www.law.richmond.edu/merhige)).

This is an exciting time for the law school and we look forward to the arrival of our new dean as we continue to expand our horizons.

## FORUM

## Candidates' forum focuses on children



A dozen candidates for the Virginia General Assembly and more than 100 interested listeners gathered at the Law School shortly before Election Day this fall for a forum on issues affecting children.

Among the event's sponsors were the Virginia Poverty Law Center and Voices for Virginia's Children, the Mid-Atlantic Juvenile Defender Center, and the Law School's National Center for Family Law.

Robert E. Shepherd Jr., professor emeritus and the program's moderator, posed three rounds of questions to candidates. Topics ranged from the state's role in providing health care coverage for uninsured children to whether juvenile offenders should be directed toward large juvenile justice facilities or smaller, decentralized facilities and programs.

Candidates' responses emphasized a dominant theme for the evening's discussion — the essential role played by children's advocates and experts, many of them in the audience.

Shepherd concluded the program by emphasizing the importance of advocacy by citizens concerned about juvenile issues. "I've heard Virginia delegates say that 10 phone calls will get their attention" and likely make a difference, Shepherd said.



**Margaret Ivey Bacigal** was interviewed in *The Complete Lawyer*, volume 3, number 5 (Virginia. [thecompletelawyer.com/vol.3/issue5/index.php](http://thecompletelawyer.com/vol.3/issue5/index.php)) on “An Holistic Approach to Legal Education: We help students gain the foundational knowledge and skills they need to be successful lawyers who can apply what they are learning to real life situations.” In the interview, Bacigal describes innovations in the Law School’s curriculum designed to teach students skills that make successful lawyers. She focuses on an holistic approach to legal education that includes experiential and context-based learning. She says the Law School is examining its curriculum and will develop a long-range plan for the curriculum. The Law School’s required four semester skills program is an example. Bacigal also presented “What Is Domestic Violence” as part of a four-part series sponsored by the Law School, the University’s Center for Civic Engagement, and the University Police.

**Ronald Bacigal** lectured for the National Judicial College at a one-week special course on the Fourth Amendment.

**Hamilton Bryson** published “Equity Cases in the Court of the Exchequer 1660 to 1714,” *Tempe, Ariz.: Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies*, volume 313, 2007. The publication is a first edition of 469 manuscript law reports on equity.

**Joshua Burstein**, associate dean for career services, was quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 24, 2007, article “A Stingier Job Market Awaits New Attorneys,” which focused on how the legal sector lags behind the broader economy as law schools proliferate. Burstein also was quoted in the October 2007, issue of *ABA Student Lawyer* magazine in the article “Slow Change for LGBT [lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender] Students,” by Robert J. Derocher.

**David Frisch’s** essay “Chattel Paper, Shakespeare, and the Insoluble Question of Stripping,” was published by the *UCC Law Journal*, 40 UCC L.J. 3 (2007).

**James Gibson’s** article “Accidental Rights” was published in *Yale Law Journal Pocket Part 348*, ([yalelawjournal.org/2007/04/25/Gibson.html](http://yalelawjournal.org/2007/04/25/Gibson.html)). He presented “Reasonableness” to the Virginia

Junior Faculty Forum at the Law School, at Seton Hall School of Law, and at the SEALS conference. Gibson also presented “Copyright, Colleges and the DMCA,” and the keynote address, “Intellectual Property and the University Mission,” at the ResNet 2007 Conference at the University of California at San Diego. He was a panelist at the seventh annual “Symposium on Intellectual Property: Copyright Utopia—Alternative Visions, Methods and Policies” at the University of Maryland Center for Intellectual Property in May. Gibson spoke on “Utopian Visions of Copyright: Tweak, Transform or Opt Out.”

Gibson was quoted in various publications, including “Coupon Hacker Faces DMCA Lawsuit” in *Wired*, Aug. 20, 2007, “Professors Question Copying of Data” in the *Roanoke Times* July 28, 2007, and in “Watchdog for Online Piracy Trains at UCT” in the *Orlando Sentinel*, April 16, 2007. Gibson was mentioned in “Artists and Academia Unite to Promote Copyright and Creativity, Jobs and Economic Growth,” *Intellectual Property Today*, May 17, 2007, and in “Songwriters Help Launch New Copyright Group,” *InfoWorld*, May 17, 2007.

**Melissa C. Goemann** was interviewed on WRVA radio in September on the case of a Richmond teenager convicted in a drunk driving incident that resulted in the death of another driver. Goemann spoke on the transfer of juveniles to the adult court system.

**Mary L. Heen** presented “Politically Controversial Speakers on Campus” at the Tax Policy Colloquium series at Loyola Law School in October in Los Angeles. In September she gave a keynote address on “Academic Freedom and Outside Speakers” at the fall meeting of the Virginia Conference of the American Association of University Professors. Heen also published “The IRS and Politically Controversial Speakers” in the September-October issue of *Academic Freedom and Outside Speakers in Academe*, a publication of the American Association of University Professors.

**Ann Hodges** spoke in May on “Recordkeeping, Retention and Access—Employment Law Issues,” with **Phyllis Katz, L’82**, to a group of human resource and information technology professionals. In October, she spoke at a seminar on employment and financial issues for cancer patients with **Craig Curwood, L’99**. The seminar was sponsored by the Massey Cancer Center, LINC, and the Financial Planning Association. She published the 2007 professors’ update

to Grodin, Malin and Weisberger’s *Public Sector Employment: Cases and Materials*.

**Corinna Barrett Lain** published “Deciding Death” in *Duke Law Journal* 1 (2007). She also wrote an article for the National Association of Appellate Court Attorneys Newsletter, April 2007, on “How Much does Law Matter?” In October, Lain established and hosted the inaugural “Virginia Junior Faculty Forum” workshop. In August, she gave a presentation on “Trends in Criminal Procedure Law” at the annual Virginia Judicial Law Clerks’ Conference. In September, she taught the criminal procedure update for the Virginia Trial Lawyers’ Association annual criminal law seminar in four locations across the state. She spoke on “Send Lawyers, Guns & Money: Interrogation Under the Fifth and Sixth Amendments” before 120 Circuit Court judges during the annual Judicial Conference of Virginia.

Lain joined a panel for the University’s “True Life” series, which discussed death penalty issues related to the innocence protection movement. She moderated panels for the *University of Richmond Law Review’s* Allen Chair Symposium, “Death Penalty in America: Perceptions, Reflection, and Reform.” She served on a Career Services Office panel on “Women and the Law,” and she

delivered the annual Constitution Day address to the Center for Civic Engagement. Lain conceptualized, organized and hosted a four-part series on domestic violence for October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The series extended to the broader community, involving the Center for Civic Engagement, the Campus Police, and various violence service agencies in the Richmond area.

She participated in a panel on “The Death Penalty: Contemporary Issues in Contemporary Society,” with Scott Sunby, a professor at the Washington and Lee University School of Law, and Paul Marcus, professor at the Marshall Wythe School of Law at the College of William and Mary.

**Shari Motro** presented the paper “Labor, Luck and Love: Reconsidering the Sanctity of Separate Property” in October as part of the Georgia Law faculty colloquium series. The article, which will be published in the *Northwestern University Law Review*, critiques the divide between “labor-generated” and “luck-generated” property in marriage and divorce.

**Kristen Osenga** published “Ants, Elephant Guns, and Statutory Subject Matter” in the *Arizona State Law Journal*. She presented her paper “The Componentization of Information” at a symposium



Left to right: Ron Bacigal, Hamilton Bryson, Joshua Burstein, and David Frisch.



Left to right: James Gibson, Melissa C. Goemann, Mary L. Heen, and Corinna Lain.

sponsored by George Washington University Law School. She also presented the paper at the Software and Information Industry symposium entitled “Feist, Facts and Functions: IP Protection for Works Beyond Entertainment,” at a faculty colloquium at Emory University School of Law, the Seventh Annual Intellectual Property Scholars Conference at DePaul University College of Law, and at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools.

**Emmeline Paulette Reeves** presented work at the 2007 National Academic Assistance Training Workshop in Coral Gables, Fla., and at the Mid-Atlantic Black Law Students Association Academic Retreat in Baltimore.

**Noah Sachs'** piece “Beyond the Liability Wall: Strengthening Tort Remedies in International Environmental Law” was accepted by *UCLA Law Review* and will be published this spring. He also had a book review “The Effluent of Affluence” published in the November/December issue of the *Environmental Law Forum*. The review is of *Deep Economy* by Bill McKibben. Sachs, faculty director of the Robert R. Merhige Jr. Center for Environmental Studies, was in Brussels in November on a European Union-sponsored fellowship.

**Jonathan K. Stubbs** edited the 100th birthday edition of Oliver W. Hill Sr.'s autobiography, *The Big Bang, Brown v. Board of Education and Beyond: The Autobiography of Oliver W. Hill Sr.* (2007 edition). He also published “Tribute in Honor of Oliver W. Hill, Esq.” in *The National Association of Appellate Attorneys Newsletter*, October 2007.

**Peter Swisher's** article “The Insurable Interest Requirement for Life Insurance: A Critical Reappraisal,” which was originally published in 53 *Drake Law Review*, 477 (2006) and reprinted in 55 *Defense Law Journal*, 527 (2006) has also been reprinted in ICFAI [Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India] *Journal of Insurance Law*, 41 (2007). During the past summer, Swisher wrote a 2007 supplement to his casebook *Family Law: Cases, Materials, and Problems*. Swisher also spoke at the Fairfax County Bar Association's Annual Convention and Cruise, Oct. 1-5, 2007, on “The Legal Rights of Non-Traditional Families in Virginia,” with co-speaker **James R. Cottrell, L'77**.

**Carl W. Tobias** has published an essay on Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals terrorism cases in the *North Carolina Law Review*, and an article on local federal procedure in the *Arizona State Law Journal*. He also published articles on federal judicial selection in the

*National Law Journal*, *FindLaw*, the *Baltimore Sun* and *Jurist*. His articles on executive privilege appeared in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Jurist*. Tobias published articles on the dispute over U.S. attorneys in *FindLaw*, *Roll Call*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *The Hill*. He published letters to the editor on the Supreme Court in the *New York Times* and the *New York Times Magazine*, on Jose Padilla in the *New York Times*, and on U.S. attorneys in the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Chicago Tribune*. He was a widely quoted contributor to the debates over judicial selection, U.S. attorneys, driver fees, as well as the Vick and Padilla litigation in numerous newspapers, including the *International Herald Tribune*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Toronto Star*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *USA Today*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Detroit Free Press*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *The Recorder*, *American Lawyer*, *Legal Times*, *National Law Journal*, *Sacramento Bee*, *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *San Jose Mercury-News*, *San Diego Union-Tribune*, *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, *Morning Call* (Allentown, Pa.), *Utica N.Y. Observer*, *Grand Rapids Press*, *Muncie Ind. Star-Press*, *Kansas City Star*, *Jackson Miss. Clarion*, *The Hill*, *New York Sun*, *Newsday*, *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, *Roanoke*

*Times*, *New York Daily News*, *Free-Press* (Burlington, Vt.), *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, *The State*, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, *Birmingham News*, *Toronto Globe & Mail*, *Sioux Falls Argus-Leader*, *Peoria Ill. Journal-Star*, *Las Vegas Review Journal*, *Charlotte Observer*, *Raleigh News & Observer*, *Washington Times*, *Indianapolis Star*, *Norfolk Virginian Pilot*, *Daily Press* (Hampton-Newport News), and *Baltimore Sun*, in on-line publications, including *CongressionalQuarterly.com*, *Wired News* and *Politico.com*, as well as in wire services, including *U.S. News.com*, *Associated Press*, *Reuters*, *Newhouse*, *Gannett*, *McClatchy*, *Cox* and *Bloomberg*.

### Library staff

**Gail F. Zwirner**, head of access services in the law library, spoke at the American Association of Law Libraries' annual meeting in New Orleans in July. She was on a panel in a program titled “A Win-Win Partnership: Legal Editors and Law Librarians.” She and other Virginia law librarians have collaborated with the Virginia State Bar to publish issues of *Virginia Lawyer* magazine featuring reviews of research tools and strategies.

**Suzanne Corriell** joined the law library staff as reference and research services librarian. She also will teach in the legal research

portion of the first-year lawyering skills course. Corriell received her master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Iowa. As a law student, she served as managing editor of the *Iowa Law Review*. She most recently served as a librarian at the University of Iowa College of Law Library.

### Visiting faculty

**Iris J. Goodwin** taught wills and trusts, and property during the fall term. Goodwin was visiting from the University of Tennessee College of Law where she joined the law faculty in 2005. She has a rich background in political theory that contributes to both her teaching and scholarship. Before attending New York University School of Law, Goodwin earned a doctorate in political science from Columbia University, where she was a Chamberlain Fellow and a member of the Columbia College faculty. Goodwin began her legal career as an associate in Sullivan & Cromwell's estates group, and later worked with Bessemer Trust Company.

**Lisa H. Nicholson** will teach corporations, and mergers and acquisitions in the spring of 2008. She is visiting from the University of Louisville Louis D. Brandeis School of Law. Nicholson joined the Brandeis faculty in 2000 following seven years work in private practice in New York City, and with

the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in New York. Her research and teaching interests are in securities regulation and corporate law. She earned her law degree from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at The College of William of Mary where she was assistant business editor of the *William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal*, and vice president of the Black Law Student Association.

**Sean A. Pager** is teaching intellectual property fundamentals, and cultural protection and intellectual property. He is visiting from Seattle University School of Law and previously was a visiting assistant professor at the University of Indiana—Bloomington School of Law. He was also a visiting scholar at the UC Berkeley Center for the Study of Law & Society and a visiting professor at the University of San Francisco School of Law. Pager received his J.D. from UC Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law, Order of the Coif, and an LL.M. in international law from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy.



Left to right:  
Shari Motro, Kristen  
Osenga, Peter Swisher,  
and Carl Tobias.



Left to right:  
Gail Zwirner, Suzanne  
Corriell, Lisa Nicholson,  
and Sean Pager.



## Kimberly Brown wins NAWJ scholarship



Kimberly Brown

The National Association of Women Judges, District 4, honored **Kimberly Adell Brown** last May with a \$1,000 scholarship for winning the organization's annual Equal Access to Scholarship competition. She was selected from more than 20 entrants.

Brown, who graduated from the Law School in May, served as president of the Black Law Student Association. She was active in community service, working with the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and tutoring GED candidates who were on probation or parole.

She is working as a clerk with the Henrico County Circuit Court.

## Recent graduates win U.S. clerkships

The University of Richmond School of Law's class of 2007 has demonstrated unusual potential in many fields. Among them, at least 10

members of the class have been appointed to prestigious clerkships with federal judges across the nation. They are listed below along with the courts and judges they serve:

**Kirk Vogel**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Virginia, Judge Ross W. Krumm; **Melissa Anderson**, U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania, Judge Edwin M. Kosik; **Elizabeth Wilson**, U.S. District Court for Southern West Virginia, Judge Joseph R. Goodwin; **Bob Gallagher**, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina, Judge Malcolm Howard; **Brian Stark**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Virginia, Judge William F. Stone; **Whitney Eaton**, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, Judge Jerome B. Friedman; **Michael Wall**, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, Judge Walter D. Kelley; **Sandy Hausrath**, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, Judge Henry E. Hudson; **Paul Catanese**, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Virginia, Judge Stephen St. John; and **Tommy Strelka**, U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia, Judge James C. Turk.

## Faculty, students present summer research projects

Three students working with Law School faculty produced timely

reports on current issues after conducting research over the summer.

**Catherine Eason**, an undergraduate in the class of 2009, and third-year law students **Capri Miller** and **Lesley McCall**, were engaged in the three-month projects conducted under grants from the University's Center for Civic Engagement.

Miller and McCall worked with law professor A. Benjamin Spencer. They authored a paper, "The Impending Judicial Crisis: How Politics and Indifference Are Destroying Our Federal Courts." The paper examined current political and legal developments affecting judicial independence, compensation, nominations, and confirmations, as well as the federal judiciary's budget.



Lesley McCall (left) and Capri Miller

As part of their research, the students drafted a questionnaire for U.S. District Court judges in Virginia and members of the Richmond-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. As a result, they argue for recognition of the judicial branch as an indispensable element of our political system worthy of commensurate respect,

funding and freedom from Congressional influence. The paper is available at <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1018672>.

Eason's project was "An Analysis of the Distribution of Costs and Possible Social Justice Implications of Global Warming in the Richmond Metro Area."

Working with law professor Joel Eisen, Eason focused on three likely significant effects of global warming in Richmond:

The potential for increased flooding risks for the James River due to sea-level rise; the redistribution of tree dominance in forest ecosystems; and the potential for increased ground level ozone pollution.

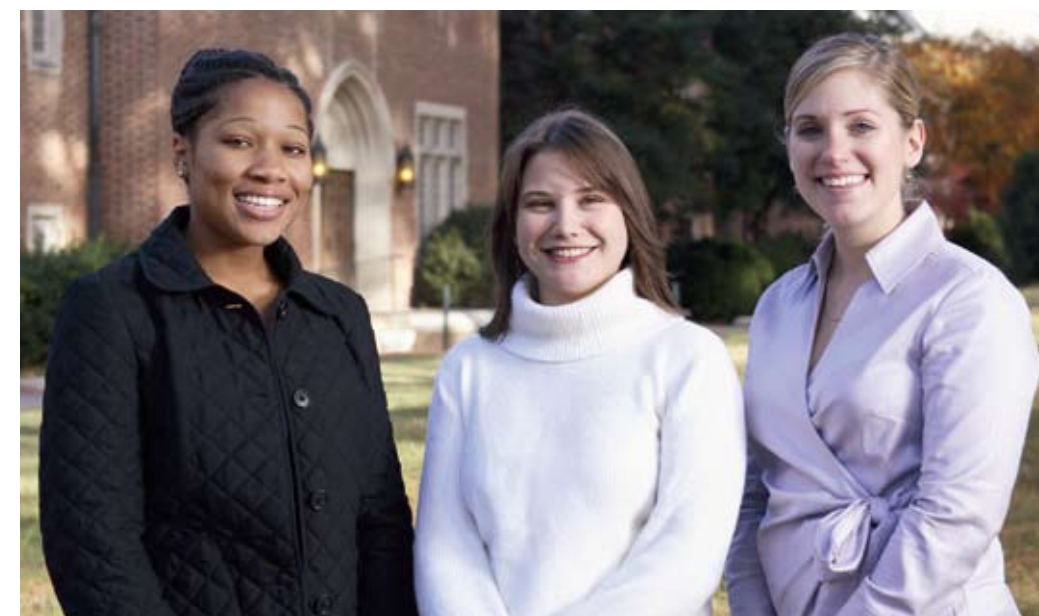
Using a variety of data sources and performing analyses, she determined that "there may be environmental justice issues centered on susceptible populations."

Her paper is available at <http://engage.richmond.edu/projects/current.htm>.

## Richmond law students earn fellowships

In its first year in Virginia, Equal Justice America underwrote 16 fellowships for law students to provide legal services to the poor across the state. Of the 16, seven were awarded to students at the Law School, more than from any other school in Virginia.

Equal Justice America, which has put more than 1,700 law students to work with legal assistance organizations over 14 years, this year established and funded Virginians for Equal Justice to extend the program into the state. It brought in small contributions from more than 250 Virginia lawyers to get the pro-



(From left) Christina Parrish, Vanessa Keasler, and Danielle LaCoe were among the students who earned legal aid fellowships.

gram started here.

As a result, law students provided more than 6,000 hours of free legal services over the summer to Virginians who might not have been able to afford the help, according to Dan Ruben, executive director of EJA.

The Richmond students earning fellowships and the agencies they served were: **Kara Glascoe**, Rappahannock Legal Services, Tappahannock; **Vanessa Keasler**, Blue Ridge Legal Services, Harrisonburg; **Danielle Laco**, Legal Aid Justice Center, Petersburg; **Christina Parrish**, Rappahannock Legal Services, Fredericksburg; **Devin Pope**, Legal Aid Justice Center, Richmond; **Naomi Ryan**, Central Virginia Legal Aid Society, Charlottesville; and **Whitney Watson**, Legal Aid Justice Center, Richmond.

The other fellowship winners came from George Mason University (three), Liberty University (one), the University of Virginia (four), and Washington and Lee University (one).

Nationally, EJA supported

about 170 students from 44 law schools working for 96 organizations in 18 states. More than \$400,000 was raised in 2007 from lawyers across the country for the summer fellowships.

## Law School teams top competition

Two teams from the Law School scored early-round successes in the ABA Labor and Employment Competition.

**Chris Johnson**, **Jeannine Panzera**, **Ashleigh Ward**, and **Buckley Warden** made up one team; **David Gluckman**, **Matt Haynes**, **Dave McGill**, and **Alexandra Williamson**, the other.

Both teams made the semi-finals from a field of 16. The Johnson, Panzera, Ward, and Warden team won the regional competition and will compete in January in nationals in Chicago.



# New faculty excel

Teaching, service, and scholarship

By Richard Foster

In the last two years, the School of Law has hired six talented young faculty who embody Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.'s ideal to "live greatly in the law."

Consider assistant professor Noah Sachs, an international environmental law expert who has visited and studied some of the world's environmental hot spots, from Ukraine's Chernobyl nuclear disaster site to China's Three Gorges Dam. Or take Tara Casey. Before becoming the school's new director of pro bono services, she received awards and accolades for her volunteer work as chair of the Richmond Bar Association's pro bono committee.

"One of our principal goals in recent years has been to recruit dynamic new faculty members," says John G. Douglass, interim dean of the Law School. "We've had terrific success in bringing talented lawyers into the world of teaching law, and we've been excited to see the energy and innovation they've

brought to our faculty, both in their teaching and research.”

All six of the new faculty members hired over the past two years are less than a decade out of law school, yet they’ve already begun to distinguish themselves in the classroom and with publications in top law journals.

“They’re coming from top-notch schools and they’re doing top-notch scholarship,” says veteran law professor Ronald J. Bacigal. “They’re a tremendous catch for us. They’re taking the school to a new level.”

The publication record of the newcomers and their colleagues on the junior faculty at the Law School compares favorably with the record of their peers at Yale, Harvard, Virginia, Duke, and Georgetown. Articles by Law School junior faculty have recently appeared in the *Yale Law Journal*, *University of Chicago Law Review*, *Duke Law Journal*, and *Notre Dame Law Review*, and two



When Tara Casey heard that the Law School was seeking a director of pro bono services, she could hardly believe her luck. “It was everything I had done in my prior work,” she says. “I almost felt like this job description was written for me. I couldn’t pass it up.”

Casey, who joined the faculty this fall, received the Richmond Bar Association’s Pro Bono Award for exemplary pro bono service in 2005. She chaired the Richmond Bar’s Pro Bono Services Committee, and oversaw the creation of educational pamphlets used to explain the legal process for domestic relations matters such as custody, child support and domestic violence. The Richmond YWCA honored her in 2007

more will appear in upcoming issues of the *Northwestern Law Review* and *UCLA Law Review*.

Three of the six newcomers are experts in the rapidly advancing field of intellectual property law, which has been “a major addition to our curriculum,” notes Douglass. “Intellectual property is such a dynamic, growing area both in terms of the legal profession and the international economy.” More and more students will find opportunities to practice intellectual property law, and the Law School is determined to become a leader in the field.

Bacigal added that the pioneering scholarship of the young faculty benefits students in the classroom. He believes that this love of scholarship is reflected in his new colleagues’ work and lives. “The more you love learning,” Bacigal says, “the more that enthusiasm comes across in the classroom.”

as one of 10 recipients of its Outstanding Women of Achievement Awards.

As a former assistant U.S. attorney, Casey defended the federal government in civil cases such as medical malpractice suits and immigration disputes. The New Jersey native taught first-year law classes as an adjunct professor at UR prior to joining the faculty. She graduated from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis.

In her new position, Casey will help law students find opportunities to serve the community, particularly focusing on family law in cooperation with the University’s Center for Civic Engagement and its Richmond Families Initiative. That’s of special interest to Casey whose first child, a daughter, was born this spring. Her husband, Alan, is a doctor who teaches at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Despite the common perception that many law students’ first priority is making money, Casey finds today’s law students also want to use their legal expertise to help others, with aspirations of being like Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. “With that knowledge and expertise also comes an obligation,” she says.

“For many people, service becomes a habit. If you regularly volunteer, you can’t imagine your life without volunteering,” Casey adds. “And if you inculcate that habit in law students, you’re likely to graduate a population of lawyers who have that habit of service within them.”



Christopher Cotropia is an associate professor of law and a member of the Law School’s Intellectual Property Institute. He is excited about the University’s interest in the burgeoning field of intellectual property law (IP). Cotropia notes that UR’s commitment to IP exceeds most schools – UR has three full-time professors devoted to the field, while many other top law schools rarely have more than one.

And the field is only going to become more relevant, he says.

“As we move into this information economy, most companies’ assets are intangibles” such as their brand, know-how, or a particular technological design.

Jessica Erickson joined the law school faculty this year as an assistant professor in the area of corporate law. “Our students are interested in corporate law and anxious for more offerings in this area,” Erickson says. “It is exciting to be part of the Law School’s efforts to grow this part of its curriculum.”

Erickson recognizes that some students can be nervous about tackling corporate law, but she hopes to show them the excitement and “human drama” behind the disputes. “Corporate law is a fascinating area once you understand the underlying business issues and the personal motivations behind the cases.”

Erickson joined the law faculty after spending nearly four years at Hunton & Williams, where she specialized in corporate governance and securities litigation. Her work at Hunton & Williams included representing Freddie Mac in the wake of the company’s \$5 billion restatement of earnings in 2003. She graduated magna cum laude from Harvard Law School where she was editor-in-chief of *The Harvard Journal of Law &*

Therefore, Cotropia says, “It’s essential for most attorneys to have some understanding of intellectual property law.” For instance, a corporate lawyer aiding in a merger might need to consider trademarks, patents, and copyrights when determining a company’s market value.

Cotropia, who joined the faculty in 2006, is on leave this fall to conduct research into improving patent quality. “There are patents being issued on inventions that should never have gotten a patent to begin with,” explains Cotropia. That can cause problems in the marketplace when corporations receive 20-year exclusivity awards for advances that arguably may not rise to the level of patentable advances in technology.

Cotropia contributed to an amicus brief in the prominent 2006 U.S. Supreme Court case *KSR Int’l v. Teleflex*. The case considered the issue of obviousness in deciding patent disputes.

A Dallas native, Cotropia graduated from the University of Texas School of Law. His IP interests were sparked as an undergraduate where he earned his bachelor’s of science degree in electrical engineering and computer engineering from Northwestern University. Prior to joining the faculty, he was an associate professor of law at Tulane University’s School of Law.

Cotropia and his wife, Dawn-Marie Bey, have two daughters.



*Technology.*

Erickson’s research focuses on the interplay between different types of corporate lawsuits. Currently, she is researching derivative suits—actions brought by shareholders to protect a corporation’s interests, particularly when there is alleged wrongdoing by the corporate leaders. Erickson is conducting a study of approxi-

mately 150 derivative suits filed in federal court. She is examining these suits, she says, to determine “whether these suits benefit the corporations on whose behalf they are brought and whether these suits help deter corporate misconduct.”

Though such suits are being filed more often, “that doesn’t mean they’re doing much to solve the



**M**elanie Holloway has a great deal of wisdom and practical experience to impart to students about intellectual property law—she worked as a transactional IP attorney for nearly seven years at McGuireWoods.

Focusing on IP protection and enforcement, as well as software and technology licensing, Holloway represented Fortune 500 clients such as Circuit City and Dominion Resources with technology procurement and mergers and acquisitions. She was also co-chair of the Women’s Leadership Forum for the Richmond region. In 2007, Holloway was named a Virginia Rising Star by *Super Lawyers Magazine*.

A 2000 graduate of the Law School, the Southwest Virginia native is enjoying working alongside her for-

**K**risten Osenga always wanted to be a professor, just not necessarily a law professor.

“I went to school thinking I would be an engineering professor, actually, and that didn’t work out quite the way I thought it would,” says Osenga. She holds a B.S.E. in biomedical engineering from the University of Iowa and a master’s degree in electrical engineering from Southern Illinois University.

When Osenga realized that engineering professors spend more time managing grants and doing research

problems,” she says. “There is a sense and a hope that the increase in shareholder litigation is going to prevent future scandals such as the ones that occurred at Enron and WorldCom, but I think the reality has not been what people expected.”

Erickson and her husband, Doug, have a daughter and a son.

mer professors like Ronald Bacigal and Associate Dean W. Clark Williams Jr.

Holloway will be directing the Intellectual Property Institute, expanding the IP curriculum, as well as advising student organizations, and continuing to develop a partnership with Virginia Tech to attract science and engineering students to the practice of law. She will also be teaching computer law.

As a parent of two young daughters, Holloway thinks it’s important for those about to embark on law careers to consider how they can be fulfilled professionally without sacrificing their personal lives.

“When you’re in law school, you have grand ideas about what it’s going to be like to practice law,” says Holloway. “This generation now entering law school and the workplace has a very different perception of the work/life balance. I think they have an appreciation for quality of life. They recognize this is their one shot, that making a great living and working 90 hours a week is not necessarily going to be fulfilling.”

Holloway believes today’s students are more likely to consider a path that will allow them to augment law practice with something they are passionate about, leading them to more fulfilling careers. Both her father and husband, Mark, are teachers, and Holloway is delighted to continue this tradition. By joining the Law School this fall for a one-year appointment, Holloway is doing something she loves and spending more time with her family.

in the lab than working with students, she decided to become a patent attorney. The field appealed to her because “you still get to think about science and math, but you also get interaction with people. It’s a nice mix, and it’s exciting, too, because you’re representing big companies you’ve actually heard of.”

After a two-year stint as a visiting assistant professor at the Chicago-Kent College of Law, Osenga joined the law faculty here as an assistant professor in fall 2006.

“I really like working with students,” Osenga says.

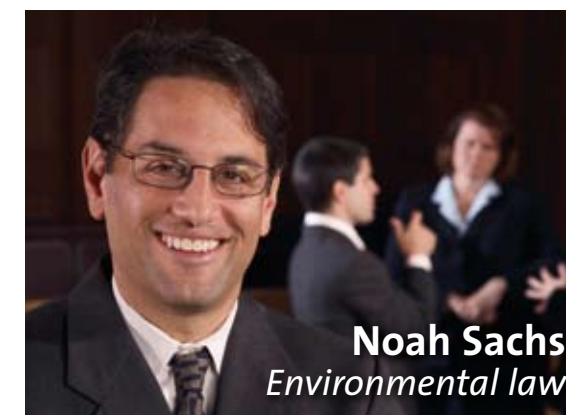
“I like talking with them in and out of class, both about law and their futures. I like to walk into class and tell them we’re going to learn something exciting today. Teaching in specialized areas like intellectual property, the students are very self-selecting. They’re there because they want to learn that subject. It’s not as hard to get them excited about learning as it would be if it were a general subject.”

Osenga, who speaks frequently at conferences across the country on topics such as the effects of patents on scientific research, enjoys the opportunity to spend more time thinking and conversing about patent law. She and her husband, Matt, also an attorney specializing in patent law, “talk about it at dinner,” she admits. They have two daughters.



**I**t takes a special dedication to environmental law to take a field trip to the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. But Noah Sachs, assistant professor and faculty director of the Robert R. Merhige Jr. Center for Environmental Studies, visited Chernobyl in 2006.

When Sachs attended a 20th anniversary research conference in Ukraine commemorating the nuclear disaster, he was teaching international environmental law on a fellowship at Harvard Law School. “I did a lot of research before I went about how dangerous it



was,” Sachs admits with a laugh. “The most damaging radiation decays pretty quickly after an accident. I did wear a [surgical] mask, though.”

An avid world traveler who has been to the Three Gorges Dam in China, Vietnam, India, Russia, and Nepal, Sachs has seen firsthand how the rapid development in Asia is generating choking air pollution and polluted water supplies. “Over the long term, China and India are the drivers of global warming and other

global-scale environmental issues,” Sachs said.

The 1999 Stanford law graduate recently had an article accepted by the *UCLA Law Review* that examines the role of tort law in addressing trans-boundary environmental damage.

The article explores the obstacles to litigating international environmental disputes and proposes reforms for responding to environmental problems such as oil spills or climate change. He presented the article at the prestigious Yale/Stanford Junior Faculty Forum in May 2007.

Sachs is also examining the European Union’s environmental law and how it impacts U.S. businesses. The European Union awarded him a prestigious fellowship to travel to Brussels in November to meet with EU environmental officials.

“While in the ’70s, the United States was the world environmental leader, it looks like the center of gravity has shifted to Europe,” Sachs says. “The EU has taken some bold steps in areas like waste cleanup, waste prevention, climate change, and chemical regulation.”

Sachs aims to impart his passion for fieldwork to his students. Last fall, he took students to a power plant in Chesterfield County. “I thought it was important for students not just to learn about environmental law, but to see how all these laws interact at a facility that provides a lot of Virginia’s energy,” he says.

This fall, Sachs launched the first website for the Merhige Center for Environmental Studies: [www.law.richmond.edu/merhige](http://www.law.richmond.edu/merhige).

Sachs’ wife, Roberta Oster Sachs, is the Law School’s associate dean for external relations. They have two children. ■



# STATE OF THE FAMILY

## National Center for Family Law launches ambitious agenda

By Rob Walker

The National Center for Family Law debuted in September with a symposium that drew overflow crowds to discuss the law, research, and social policies that affect families and children.

Virginia's first lady, Anne B. Holton, who has spent her legal career advocating for children, applauded the center for bringing together "some of the best minds in the nation in fields related to family law."

Holton, a former juvenile and domestic relations court judge, joined about 150 lawyers, judges, law school deans and professors, mental health professionals, social services workers, and others who came to campus from as far away as California for the three-day symposium titled "State of the Family 2007."

While the symposium served as a high-profile kickoff, the center is being built on the Law School's longstanding strengths in education, research, and community outreach on behalf of children and families.

"We expect the center to become a leading resource, a clearinghouse for information and experts, for legislators, academicians, and practitioners who are looking for solutions to challenges facing children and families," says Adrienne E. Volenik, the center's acting director. "This will be a place where people can turn for models of excellence, best practices, and for support in facing these complex, important issues."

And, she says, the center "will provide learning experiences and service opportunities for students, faculty, and alumni, extending our ability to train lawyers in this area."

The center opened its doors with the announcement of a grant from the Lipman Foundation that will help it reach into the Richmond community—an extraordinary and underserved client.

The \$651,000 grant will help fund a multi-service, interdisciplinary clinic that will provide direct legal services, along with psychological care, counseling, and

social services to low-income children and their families.

Plans call for the clinic to be located in urban Richmond where it will partner with the Richmond Families Initiative, a joint venture of the Law School and the University's Center for Civic Engagement. It also will engage the services of the Department of Psychology and School of Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University. Pro bono services will be provided through the families initiative, and the Law School's Harry Carrico Pro Bono Center may join it downtown.

The combined resources of these entities "enables us to extend our outreach into the community in this complex area of great need," Volenik says.

The center also will draw expertise from its board, which includes 34 lawyers, judges, scholars, teachers, and others.

"This is a field that requires multidisciplinary knowledge," says Edward D. Barnes, L'72, chair of the board and a 36-year veteran of family law practice. "There's so much more to it than the law. And it has such an impact on us as a society and as human beings."

The faculty has approved a curriculum that will enable law students to pursue a concentration in family law beginning in the spring of 2008.

The Law School also hopes to use the center to establish stronger bonds with the undergraduate faculty and students, Volenik says. It will involve faculty whose research is related to the wide range of work the center is undertaking.

"There are wonderful people on the undergraduate faculty who are working on issues related to the family in education, psychology, and anthropology," and other fields, Volenik says. "We'd like to be able to promote their work and to support their efforts, as well."

The center also may help develop a course on the role of family in society that could be offered to undergraduates, Volenik says.

The Law School's Juvenile Law and Policy Clinic, which focuses on legislative issues, will be enlisted "to take what we learn and apply it to the legislative arena," Volenik says. The national center will attempt to harness this synergy to benefit all the participants.

Barnes says response to the symposium demonstrates how far this field of law has progressed in recent years. "It is getting a lot more attention in the courts and legislatures," he says. Issues like same-sex marriage, elder law, child placement and custody, and welfare have moved forward on the public agenda.

In her remarks at the symposium, Holton described family law as an increasingly complex subspecialty within the law that often demands attention from someone "who does this close to full time. You've really got to know this stuff."

Virginia, Holton said, usually does well by its young people, but it is not doing well enough for older children. Many of those between ages 12 and 18 are placed and left in the care of social services agencies, particularly in group homes and residential facilities that cost \$50,000 or more a year per child. "We are overusing congregate care," she said. Having government as the parent "is never going to be the best way to care for children who in many cases have been through the equivalent of what soldiers see in war."

At 18, they will "age out" of care without family contact, incapable of caring for themselves and at high risk of winding up homeless, incarcerated, on welfare,

**Having government as the parent "is never going to be the best way to care for children..."**

— Anne B. Holton



or in mental institutions, Holton said. "It's shocking."

Speakers also discussed the roles of culture and religion on families, and they spoke of transformations that have taken place in the American family throughout history.

"The symposium was more successful than we imagined," Barnes says.

The center is likely to hold similar events every year or two.

The symposium was approved for continuing legal education credits, and Volenik hopes it will become more than a center for professional training.

"We want it to be more of a mix of academicians and practitioners because that's where the creative ideas come from," she says. "There were instances in this year's symposium where academics presented ideas that practitioners were skeptical of. That led to considerable discussion that was helpful to us all. It's a wonderful way to test ideas outside the academic realm." ■

# A Summer at Cambridge

Law students experience  
the legal world across the pond

By Joan Tupponce

Punting on the river  
Cam through historic  
Cambridge, England.

For more than 30 years, Richmond law students have crossed the Atlantic to study in Cambridge, England. They absorb British culture, rub shoulders with leaders like former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and study law with distinguished English and American professors.

Not every student at the Law School makes the trip, but for those who do, it is an enlightening experience that can shape careers and lives.

"It was the way I wish we could study law all the time," says Wenzel Cummings, 2L, who completed the program last summer. "I was able to dig into the study of law in a way that I can't here. It was a chance to absorb myself in the courses."

Students at the Law School have been participating in the summer foreign study program since 1973 when it began in Canterbury, England. In 1978, the program moved to Queens College of Cambridge University. Two years later, it moved to its current location at Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Founded in 1584, Emmanuel is ranked by the Tompkins Table 2007 as the best college for academic performance

among Cambridge University colleges.

The foreign study program was designed to give students an opportunity to live and study in England, as well as to learn about the English common law system, the foundation for much American law.

Professor Daniel T. Murphy, who served as the program's director from 1984 to 2005, first participated in the program in 1979 as a faculty member. "I had been involved in international business when I was in practice, so it was an area of interest to me," Murphy says.

Richmond professors continue to teach in the program along with members of the Cambridge faculty. As a result, "Our students are instructed by one of the best law faculties in the country," Murphy says.

For Kalisse Anderson, L'04, her participation in the program in 2002 gave her an advantage in the job market, which helped her establish her practice in financial law for DLA Piper in Vienna, Austria. The Cambridge experience stood out on her resume, and "it enhanced the things I could talk about when I was interviewing overseas," she says. "People were impressed."

With classes meeting just four days a week, many

students take advantage of the long weekends and short distances to travel. "The weekend trips were great," Sarah Minner, L'09, says. "We went to Malta, Edinburgh, Scotland, Ireland, and London. The experience has definitely made me more interested in traveling. In terms of my career, it gave me a broader base of legal knowledge that I would only be able to get by studying in another country."

Richmond law students take up to three courses out of the five that are offered. Courses include European Union Law, Comparative Public Law of the United States and the United Kingdom, International Law, Legal History, and a fifth that changes from year to year. Last summer, Richmond law professors Corinna Barrett Lain and Ronald C. Bacigal taught the fifth course, Criminal Procedure.

"The Legal History course focused on the general development of law in England and examined the subjects of property, torts, and contracts," explains Nathan Castle, 2L, who attended last summer. "It was interesting to see how these areas developed into what we recognize today."

A small number of undergraduate students from the University's Jepson School of Leadership Studies also participate in the summer program.

"This past year we had seven or eight take our Legal History course and one course from a school of leadership studies professor" who traveled to England with the group, notes Timothy Coggins, associate dean for library and information services and the program's director.

Leadership studies professor Gary L. McDowell, a longtime friend of Baroness Margaret Thatcher, helped arrange a private reception for students to meet and talk with her.

The program usually begins in July and lasts five weeks, ending in mid-August. This past summer, 48 students participated. "The program continues to be very successful even though the exchange rate isn't favorable," Coggins says.

Sean Sullivan Kumar, L'05, wanted to participate in the program in 2003 because of its reputation. "I had heard wonderful things about it from professors and past participants," he says. "I was also interested in studying abroad."

Kumar, like other participants over the years, found the teaching style different than in America. "It's more lecture-based than Socratic," he explains. "I learned a lot about the European Union and international law in general. It was also interesting to pick up on the professors' attitudes toward the U.S. and American students. One often talked about his love for the United States and then offered to trade Prime Minister Tony Blair for President Bush."

Cummings found that he preferred the lecture-based classes. "I felt like they were more efficient, that they covered more ground," he says. "I also enjoyed the extracurricular activities, like meeting Margaret Thatcher at a private reception. We all got to talk to her. It was an invaluable experience, one of the highlights for me."

"Lady Thatcher likes to talk with the students to ask their opinions about legal systems," Coggins says. "Our students are fascinated by Lady Thatcher's stories, many of them about her good friend 'Ronnie' Reagan."

One day during the program students traveled to London for a tour of Middle Temple, one of the Inns of Court, professional associations to which all barristers must belong. The building sits across the street from the Royal Courts of Justice where

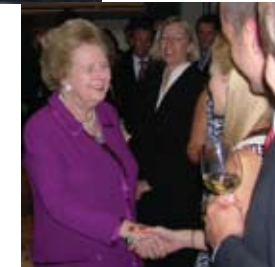
students can view a trial in process.

"A couple of years ago our students watched while Mia Farrow testified in the Roman Polanski libel suit," Coggins recalls.

"We encourage students to go to the Royal Courts of Justice because it's one of the landmarks in London. You walk in the door and immediately feel reverence for the justice system."

The cultural aspects of the summer study program were as valuable to some students as the classroom experience. "We got to sit and talk with the locals," Cummings says. "I even got into a debate about health care."

Castle agrees, "This experience had a tremendous impact on both my studies and me personally. I will probably never be an international lawyer, but I have developed an understanding of the English legal system that may be useful in the global marketplace." ■



Kimberly Lane and Sarah Minner (top) enjoy the sights in Bath. Jeannine Panzera and Chris Johnson (bottom) and other students met Margaret Thatcher (center) at a private reception.

# Women Power

When Devon Cushman, L'03, joined the Hirschler Fleischer firm in 2005, she was quickly drawn to the Women's Initiatives Network there. "I came from a smaller firm, and we didn't have anything like this," she says.

The network, better known as WIN, has a strong Law School component. Eight of its 20 members and many of its leaders are alumnae.

At a time when women are moving in increasing numbers into power roles in professions including the law, groups like WIN provide opportunities for mentoring, networking, and

for rainmaking, Cushman says. "We literally invite hundreds of people to our events so they turn out to be terrific places for us to build relationships and develop clients. These types of events appeal to women."

Established in 2004, WIN also offers its members opportunities for professional enhancement.

"We want to facilitate the development of women attorneys at the firm and to foster their promotion into leadership positions," says Courtney Moates Paulk, L'00, one of the network's leaders. "We also want to identify and

In-house initiative promotes women attorneys

By Joan Tupponce

discuss issues of importance to women at the firm."

To meet these goals, WIN holds monthly meetings for members at the firm, as well as three or four external marketing events a year. "Our monthly meetings focus on helping people in their careers, and on issues that affect women professionals," Paulk says. The external events include women from a variety of professions. "We want to learn how to market ourselves more effectively," says Paulk.

In addition to Paulk and Cushman, the Richmond WIN contingent includes Lindsey Chase, L'05, Jacqueline Hedblom, L'04, Raelenne Haerberle, L'97, Carrie O'Malley, L'96, Lisa Goodwin, L'94, and Anita Vaughan, L'83.

Goodwin joined the firm pre-WIN, in 2001, and she works part-time in order to devote time to one of her children who has had serious health problems. She says the network has been an asset from the beginning, professionally and personally.

"Some of the programs have been fantastic," both for their content and for bringing the lawyers into contact with prospective clients, she says. The audiences at the events include a few men and many non-lawyers.

"This is another place where women can meet and do business," she says. "Making rain is an issue for every lawyer," and women still have fewer opportunities than men who benefit from longstanding networks.

"I play golf but I probably don't get invited as often as some of the guys," she says with a laugh.

Internally, WIN offers a forum for discussion of issues more specific to women, such as how law firms treat women who want time at home with children as they move along the track to partnership.

"There are these issues that we discuss among ourselves that we then bring to the attention of the firm as a whole," Goodman says. The results have been positive. "The firm has been very supportive and they listen to our concerns. It's made a difference."

While she prefers to be seen as a lawyer rather than as a woman lawyer, Goodwin says there is now and will continue to be a place for groups like WIN.

"I don't think we should be looking for reasons to feel we are different, not equal," she says. But for now, "WIN does take on some questions that are pretty specific to women, and it certainly gives us another opportunity to do business. I'm glad to have it."

(From left) Jacqueline Hedblom, L'04, Courtney Moates Paulk, L'00, Lisa Goodwin, L'94, and Devon Cushman, L'03, outside Hirschler Fleischer's Richmond offices in the old Edgeworth tobacco warehouse.

The first event Cushman participated in was a discussion of the best seller *Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell, led by Marge Connelly, chief operating officer of Wachovia Securities. The discussion took off. "The conversation had its own life," Cushman says. "That was a sign of success. There was enthusiasm and momentum."

Non-lawyers who participate in WIN events speak highly of the programs and their organizers.

As managing editor of *Virginia Business* magazine, Paula Squires is invited to dozens of special events, many of which she can't attend. But when she received an invitation from WIN, she marked it as a "must."

Philanthropist Doris Buffet, the sister of billionaire Warren Buffet, was speaking about entrepreneurial philanthropy. That topic tied into a *Virginia Business* project highlighting the philanthropic endeavors of Virginia's wealthiest citizens. "I didn't know that Doris Buffet lived in Fredericksburg until I got the invitation," Squires says. "I knew then that I was going to the forum."

Squires was so impressed with the program—Doris Buffet landed on *Virginia Business's* cover—that she agreed to serve on a panel for the group's next event. The topic: "Modern Media: Getting to Newsworthy in a Fully Connected World." The forum was held on campus at the Jepson Alumni Center.

From the beginning, the panelists were involved in planning the event, Squires said. "They set up a conference call and we brainstormed about what this audience of mostly professional businesswomen would want to know about the news media. What I enjoyed most about the WIN panel was the collaborative process."

Roberta Oster Sachs, the Law School's associate dean for external relations and a former network TV news producer, also served on the media panel.

The issues discussed included equal pay, the role of women in media, changing trends, and how the media shapes public policy. "We had some high-brow discussions about the role of women in the media," and how women are portrayed in the media, Oster Sachs says. She enjoyed "hearing professional women respectfully disagree with each other. It was exciting, especially because our alums took the initiative to create this program."

Hedblom and Cushman were co-chairs for the event. "Media impacts everyone," Hedblom says. "We thought it would be pertinent to the jobs and careers of our guests."

Based on the feedback from those who attend, WIN is striking the right chord, Paulk says. "They enjoy coming, and I have a new client as a direct result of a WIN event." ■

## Virginia lawyer hopes year in Iraq makes a difference

In November, **Joseph Mott** was preparing to go to Tikrit, Iraq. “It’s Saddam’s hometown and the original hotbed of the Sunni insurgency, so it should be interesting and challenging,” he wrote from Baghdad, one month into what promises to be an interesting and challenging year.

Mott, L’82, an assistant U.S. attorney in Roanoke, Va., is serving as a resident legal advisor with a Department of Justice detail called a provincial reconstruction team. The PRT program sends teams of experts, most of them civilians, into that war-torn country to help shore up the institutions of a democratic society. There are experts in specialties from the Department of Agriculture, USAID, in economic development, and various engineering professions.

The legal advisors work with Iraqi judiciary, police, prisons, juvenile facilities, and lawyers groups to develop a properly functioning legal system. “The broad mandate,” Mott says, “is to promote the rule of law.”

Within days of his arrival in September, Mott was named acting justice attaché when the sitting JA returned the United States. The day the JA left, the FBI sent a team into Iraq to investigate the Blackwater shooting incident, and Mott found himself in the middle of that high-profile event.

As acting JA, Mott serves as



**Mott (right) with commanding Gen. David Petraeus.**

liaison with Medhat Mahmood, the chief judge of the Iraqi Supreme Court and head of its High Judicial Council, which is similar to the Office of U.S. Courts. He also works with U.S. agencies in Iraq, including FBI, U.S. Marshals, DEA, and ATF. “It involves a lot of meetings,” he says.

Mott’s first impressions of the judicial system in Iraq are of a system that “faces serious challenges. Violence, corruption, and sectarianism make it difficult for the system to function.” Prisoners are not brought to trial in a timely manner, the violence makes achieving transparency in the system difficult, and there is no functional reporting of court statistics so evaluating the system is difficult.

Being a judge in Iraq requires a great deal of courage, he says. His own work requires a willingness to develop partnerships with Iraqis.

Why, at age 55, would the married father of four take a career turn to a war zone? “It’s complicat-

ed,” Mott said in an interview with the *Roanoke Times*. Much of his motivation stems from family history, he said. Though Mott never served in the military, his father, Charles D. Mott, was a naval aviator who served with the famous Flying Tigers on the eve of World War II, and went on to a career in the Navy. His sister served 20 years in the Army, and both of them and Mott’s mother are buried in Arlington National Cemetery, “so I feel like I was in the military.”

“Some of it’s patriotism, as corny as that sounds.” He’d like to “make some measurable difference in [helping develop] an ordered society.”

Mott is likely to remain in Tikrit until his term is up in October 2008, though he will have a couple of breaks when he can return to the United States. His wife, Sharon Burnham, is also an assistant U.S. attorney in Roanoke.



# CLASS NOTES

Class news, alumni profiles and events



Richmond Law magazine is looking for information on alumni to include in Class Notes. If you have news or if you would like to gather and send news of your classmates, please contact us at [LawAlumni@Richmond.edu](mailto:LawAlumni@Richmond.edu) or Law Alumni, University of Richmond School of Law, University of Richmond, VA 23173, (804) 289-8028.

## 1960s

At its 117th annual summer meeting last July, the Virginia Bar Association named several Law School alumni Life Members, which recognizes at least 40 years of membership in the association. They are: **S.D. Roberts Moore, L'61, Thomas F. Betz Jr., L'63, Charles E. Duke, L'63, and Robert W. Mann, L'64.**

**S.D. Roberts Moore, L'61**, has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America* list for 2008. Moore, who works for Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore in Roanoke, Va., was singled out for his practice in personal injury litigation.

**The Hon. Glen A. Tyler, R'63 and L'67**, and Mrs. Tyler were honorary chairs of the 2007 Shore Memorial Hospital Ball, which was held Sept. 22 at the Eastern Shore Yacht and Country Club.

## 1970s

**Virginia Howitz Hackney, L'70, and Harrison Hubbard Jr., L'71**, have been named trustees for Westminster Canterbury Management Corp.

**Charles L. Williams Jr., L'70**, has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America* list for 2008 in the field of environmental law. He practices with Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore in Roanoke, Va.

**David E. Boone, L'75**, has been selected as a Virginia Super Lawyer in the field of criminal defense by *Law & Politics* magazine. Boone also was named to Virginia's Legal Elite by *Virginia Business* magazine. He is an attorney at Boone, Beale, Cosby & Long in Richmond.

**Gregory B. Robertson, L'76**, has been named chair of the Children's Museum of Richmond board of directors.

**Bruce C. Stockburger, L'76**, was named a 2007 Virginia Super Lawyer by *Law and Politics* magazine. Stockburger also has been named to *The Best Lawyers in America* list for 2008, for his work in leveraged buyouts and private equity law, tax law, and trusts and estates. He is with Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore in Roanoke, Va.

### Key to Abbreviations

School of Arts and Sciences.....	A
Robins School of Business.....	B
School of Continuing Studies.....	C
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.....	G
Graduate School of Continuing Studies.....	GC
The Richard S. Reynolds Graduate School of the Robins School of Business.....	GB
Honorary degree.....	H
Jepson School of Leadership Studies.....	J
University of Richmond School of Law.....	L
Richmond College.....	R
Westhampton College.....	W

**Robin Robertson Starr, L'79**, has been elected to the board of directors of the National Federation of Humane Societies.

## 1980s

**Douglas D. Callaway, R'77 and L'80**, is chairman of the Corporate Counsel Section of the Virginia State Bar and was named as a member of Virginia's Legal Elite by *Virginia Business* magazine. Callaway is senior vice president and senior litigation counsel for Wachovia Securities LLC.

**Cham Light, L'80**, is president of the Southern Memorial Foundation Inc., which operates the Old City Cemetery in Lynchburg, Va. He also serves as president of the Lynchburg Historical

(From left) Kitty Maddox, Arlene Paris, Milton Maddox, L'58, Leonard Paris, R'58 and L'62, a guest with Jim Wilson, L'87, Georgia Stolte, L'87, Scott Stolte, L'87, and Teri Miles, L'87 enjoy Law Weekend festivities.



## ALUMNI PROFILE

## Law education works in international arena



In the strict sense of the word, Robert A. Parker, L'87, hasn't been a lawyer for years. He's traveled the world, hammering out business deals on six of the seven continents.

Through all this, Parker says, "My law education was always valuable. Every transaction resulted in a legal document. In every case, I had to be able to think logically, prepare, organize, all in the context of the law. That's what law school taught me."

Today, Parker lives in London with his British-born wife (an attorney) and their children, one born in England, the other in Qatar. He is senior vice president for Global Real Estate for ExxonMobil, managing a team responsible for projects in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union.

"In a lot of these places, when we came in, there was not a clear, codified system of law," Parker says. "There were no property rights, no contract rights."

Worse yet, there were no hotels in places like Kazakhstan in 1991. "I had to sleep at an old Soviet hospital. It was horrible. And you wouldn't believe the food," he says.

In law school, Parker found he enjoyed negotiations and business, and he wanted a job that involved both, as well as international travel. "You have to be curious and have a sense of adventure to make something like this work."

Parker's first job was with a Washington, D.C., law firm, Miles and Stockbridge, lobbying primarily on health care issues. Then he joined the Trammell Crow Co., a large, real estate development firm with projects all over the United States.

In 1990, he went to work for Mobil Land Development, one of the largest land developers in the nation at the time. "I traveled all the time and I loved it," he says.

The international landscape was changing rapidly, opening opportunities in unexpected places. Parker joined Mobil's International Oil and Gas Negotiators team and tackled large projects in the former Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, Africa and the Middle East. London became home.

He landed in places like Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Russia, and Algeria working to secure rights to develop and produce oil.

In 2000, Parker moved to Qatar to negotiate large gas sales agreements where he remained during the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and the invasion of Iraq. In 2003, he moved back to London and his current job, but he still travels frequently.

Parker says that at the highest level of international business he finds many leaders like himself who are not lawyers but who have law degrees. It's no surprise.

"I'm continually broadening my perspectives," he says, "but the foundation is what I learned in law school." Combined with a passion for work and travel, his education has taken Parker places he never expected to go.

By Rob Walker

Foundation. Light is an attorney with Nationwide Mutual Insurance.

**Mary G. Commander, L'81**, a family law attorney in Norfolk, Va., and volunteer since 1995 for the Community Mediation Center of Southeastern Virginia, has been presented with the Virginia State Bar's first Family Law Service Award. The award recognizes individuals and organizations that give freely of time, talent, and energy to advance family, domestic relations, or juvenile law.

**Ernest P. "Rusty" Gates Jr., L'81**, recently joined the law firm CowanGates PC in Richmond. As a member of the firm's litigation team, he practices criminal, traffic, personal injury, and family law. He also focuses on commercial and residential real estate, and estate planning.

**Linda Rigsby, L'81**, retired in July 2006, as deputy general counsel of SunTrust Bank after 21 years. After enjoying 10 months of leisure, including a month in Asia, she joined Williams Mullen PC as director of client relations-financial services industry. She is a member of the audit committee of Bon Secours Richmond Health Systems and the board of directors of Commonwealth Catholic Charities.

**Steven E. Farrar, L'82**, a litigation shareholder at Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann PC, was elected vice president of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel. The FDCC is an international organization whose members include defense counsel in private practice, in-house corporate and insurance counsel, and non-attorney executives.

**Thomas A. Louthan, L'83**, is president of the Winchester-Frederick County Bar Association. An attorney practicing law in Winchester, Va., he is a substitute district court judge.

**The Hon. A. Ellen White, L'83**, chief judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts in Rustburg, Va., was elected to the board of trustees of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges during the organization's meeting in July 2007.

**Joseph D. McClusky, L'84**, has joined Jackson Lewis.

**Kimberly O'Donnell, L'85**, has retired from the bench after 13 years as judge in the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. O'Donnell is moving to her old family home in Floyd County, Va., where she intends to write, garden, and probably teach.

**William J. Benos, L'88**, wrote "Life After the Death of Immigration Reform: Is It Business as Usual for Contractors?"

The article appeared in the July/August issue of *The Virginia Bar Association News Journal*, [www.vba.org/julaug07.pdf](http://www.vba.org/julaug07.pdf). Benos heads the immigration group at Williams Mullen.

**Jeffry C. Burden, L'88**, was named the National Development Volunteer of the Year with the Arthritis Foundation.

**Mark R. Graham, L'89**, of Abingdon, Va., was named the 2007-2008 chair of the State Board for Community Colleges, which is the governing body for Virginia's 23 community colleges. He is managing director at Boucher, Hutton & Graham PC.

**Kimberly Harris Ramsey, L'89**, has been named community vice president with the Junior League of Richmond.

## 1990s

**John T. Eads III, L'90**, was selected senior partner for Kopka, Pinkus, Dolin and Eads, an insurance defense firm with offices in Chicago, Detroit, and Indianapolis. Nominated as a Michigan Super Lawyer in 2006 and 2007, he also was recognized as a fellow in the Michigan State Bar Foundation and was selected by the online lawyer rat-

ing service *Lawdragon 3000* as a five-star attorney.

**The Hon. Lauri DiEnno Hogge, L'90**, is a judge in the Norfolk Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. She and her husband, **Raymond L. Hogge Jr., L'88**, live in Norfolk, Va., with their three children: Katie, 13, Lee, 10, and Christopher, 5.

**Victor Narro, L'90**, published the article "Educating Immigrant Workers for Action" in *Labor Studies Journal*, Volume 32 Number 1, March 2007, <http://lsj.sagepub.com>. The article focuses on plans for a new Immigrant Worker Resource Center and on immigrant rights. Narro, project director at the UCLA Downtown Labor Center, wrote the article with Kent Wong, director of the UCLA Labor Center. Narro also was featured in the PBS documentary "Made in L.A.," which follows three Latina immigrants working in sweatshops in Los Angeles as they work to win basic protections for workers like themselves.

**Niall A. Paul, L'90**, an attorney with Spilman Thomas & Battle, is ranked in 2007 Chambers USA. Chambers USA is an organization that interviews, critiques, and then ranks attorneys throughout the United States for a variety of practice areas. After receiving excellent rankings, Paul was named a leading lawyer in West Virginia in labor and employment law, and litigation.

Send your news!  
Write to LawAlumni@  
Richmond.edu or Law Alumni,  
University of Richmond Law  
School, University of Richmond,  
VA 23173.

**Margaret A. Nelson, L'87**, was appointed by the Supreme Court of Virginia to serve a three-year term as an at-large member of the Bar Council of the Virginia State Bar. She also is co-vice chair of the Access to Legal Services Committee. An attorney in private practice in Lynchburg, Va., she is secretary of the board of directors for the Virginia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, vice president of the board for the Lynchburg Symphony Orchestra, and an advisory board member for the Law School's Institute for Actual Innocence.



Members of the class of '97 and their families enjoy a picnic at Meadow Farm Museum.

**Gerald C. Canaan II, L'91**, has been elected director at Hancock, Daniel, Johnson & Nagle PC.

**Paul D. Hux, L'91**, is a shareholder with the firm Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen.

**Judi Chartier, L'92**, practices labor law in Chicago. She is with the firm Katz Friedman.

**Christopher G. Kulp, L'92**, has been elected partner at Hunton and Williams in the firm's public finance group.

**Alicia R. Zatcoff, L'94**, is the real estate project development manager in the City of Richmond's Real Estate Services Department. She administers projects involving the city's real estate portfolio and coordinates public and private development initiatives.

**Robert Edley Jr., L'96**, is treasurer of the Richmond chapter of the Old Dominion Bar Association.

**Carlos LeMont Hopkins, L'96**, is vice president for the Richmond chapter of the Old Dominion Bar Association.

**Christopher A. Jones, L'96**, is a partner in the bankruptcy section of Whiteford, Taylor & Preston in Falls Church, Va.

**Harris L. Kay, L'96**, has joined Henderson & Lyman in Chicago. Kay has an extensive securities litigation and regulatory background, as well as commercial litigation experience. He has represented securities industry clients, financial institutions, and corporate entities in federal and state courts, and before arbitration panels. He was an adjunct professor at the Law School.

**Carrie Hallberg O'Malley, B'91 and L'96**, is a partner with Hirschler Fleischer. She practices in the commercial real estate and finance section in the firm's office in Fredericksburg, Va. She was named to *Virginia Business* magazine's Legal Elite in 2006, and in 2007, was recognized as a Super Lawyers Rising Star by *Law and Politics Magazine*. She was co-chair of the first annual Legal Food Frenzy food drive sponsored by the Virginia Bar Association, Fredericksburg chapter. O'Malley also is president of the Fredericksburg chapter of the University of Richmond Alumni Association.

**Jacqueline May Reiner Ford, L'97**, is an attorney at Bowen, Champlin, Carr, Foreman & Rockecharlie. Her practice focuses on criminal and civil litigation, and general business counseling.

**Michael Christopher McCann, L'98**, has been elected partner at Hunton and Williams in the firm's business practice group.

**Jennifer Hawkins McCarthy, L'98**, is a partner at Williams Mullen in the firm's real estate section.

**Elizabeth Everett Cherkis, L'99**, is principal with Wright, Robinson, Osthimer & Tatum.

**Mary Beth Long, L'99**, and her husband, James, welcomed their first child, Ada Hilliard, on Aug. 1, 2007. In October 2007, Long opened VA Family Law, PLC, in Richmond.

**Susan Childers North, L'98**, has joined LeClair Ryan as a partner in the labor and employment group.

**Bernard Gregory Pike, L'99**, is an associate in the intellectual property group at Troutman Sanders.

**Henry I. Willett III, L'99**, has been elected partner at Christian & Barton.

## 2000s

**Vicki Sinsel Horst, L'00**, has joined Parker, Pollard & Brown as an associate in business law, and commercial and residential real estate.

**Todd C. Hoyle, L'00**, and **Faisal S. Qureshi, L'00**, formed Chaplin, Qureshi & Hoyle, which has two offices in the Richmond area. The firm focuses its practice on real estate transactions, civil and commercial litigation, estate planning, and business services.

**Deborah Barfield Williamson, L'01**, is the first full-time executive director of the Virginia Network of Nonprofit Organizations.

**Ben Barlow, L'03**, joined the office of general counsel at the National Security Agency.

**Michael A. Culpepper, L'03**, is president of Commercial Real Estate Services in Virginia Beach, Va.

**Paul W. Emigholz, L'03**, and his wife, **Natalie Cook Emigholz, L'04**, of Newport News, Va., welcomed a daughter, Virginia Anne, on Nov. 6, 2006. She joined sister Sara Hope, 3. Paul is an associate in the

workers compensation practice group at Sands, Anderson, Marks & Miller and is an adjunct member of the firm's business, finance and real estate practice group. Natalie is employed by Moore & Moore in Gloucester, Va.

**Charles R. and Krista Mathis Samuels, L'03**, who met in law school, are married and practicing law in Richmond. He joined Clarke & Prince as a member, and she has opened her own firm, Krista Mathis Samuels, Attorney at Law.

**Lisa Ashworth Seward, L'03**, is assistant county attorney in Hanover County, Va.

**Joshua N. Cook, L'04**, is a member of the business litigation group at Burns & Levinson, a Boston-based firm. His primary areas of practice include securities law, contract law, litigation and arbitration.

**Robert Brent Rawlings, L'04**, has been named a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and is board certified in health care management. He is an attorney at McGuireWoods in the firm's health care department.

**Lauren MacKenzie Thomas, L'04**, has joined Williams Mullen as an associate in the firm's real estate section.

**Edwin E. Wallis III, L'04**, is an associate with Glassman, Edwards, Wade & Wyatt in Memphis, Tenn. His practice focuses on civil and commercial litigation.

**Michelle Elizabeth Funk, L'05**, has joined Charny, Charny & Karpousis as an associate in the divorce and family law group.

**Joseph Townzen Rezabek, L'05**, has been named associate with Wright, Robinson, Osthimer & Tatum.

**Sean Roche, L'05**, and **Rebecca Signer, L'06**, were married Aug. 25, 2007, in Washington, D.C. Members of the wedding party included **Patti Moody, L'06**, **Ryan Frei, L'05**, **Sean Kimar, L'05**, and **Kevin Snyder, L'05**. **Andrea DelMonte, L'06**, was among the guests.

**Graham B. Rollins, L'05**, has been named associate with Wright, Robinson, Osthimer & Tatum.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

### Rebecca Huss protects dogs in Vick case



**Rebecca J. Huss, L'92**, a professor at Valparaiso University School of Law, recently was named guardian/special master of the dogs in the highly publicized civil forfeiture case involving football star Michael Vick.

Huss, a nationally-recognized authority on animal law, worked to determine the future of some 48 dogs, most of them pit bulls, that were seized in raids on property Vick owned in Virginia. Vick and others entered guilty pleas in connection with the operation of a dog-fighting ring based on the property.

"As someone whose academic endeavors focus on the legal status and value of animals in our lives, I am honored to represent the interests of those at the heart of this case, the dogs," Huss said upon accepting the appointment by the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. "The U.S. Attorney's office did an excellent job negotiating the plea agreement so that the interests of the dogs can be considered in this matter.

"My goal, and the court's goal, is to find the best possible future for the dogs, and the humans and other animals with which those dogs would come in contact." Huss declined further comment, citing the ongoing nature of the case.

Huss joined the faculty at Valparaiso in 1999, after practicing corporate law and later working with a major pharmaceutical firm's animal health division.

She has published extensively in the field including *Rescue Me: Legislating Cooperation Between Animal Control Authorities and Rescue Organizations*, and *Recent Developments in Animal Law*.

In the Vick case, 53 dogs were found on the property. Four have died, and Vick agreed to forfeit all interests in the others as part of his plea agreement.

In October, Huss was joined by representatives from the American Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the Bay Area Doglovers Responsible about Pit Bulls in interacting with the dogs to determine their futures. Huss traveled to Virginia on numerous occasions to work with the dogs and to talk with animal control officers and caretakers for the animals. Each dog in the case was evaluated individually to determine its future.

In December, Huss recommended that 47 of the dogs could be placed with rescue organizations, and found many would be eligible for adoption by the public.

Jay Conison, dean of the Valparaiso law school said, "We are all very proud that Professor Huss is assisting in this case. Valparaiso law places a high value on our faculty lending their expertise."

*By Rob Walker*

## Save the date!

Make plans to attend the 36th Annual Estate Planning Seminar for Professionals on Wednesday, May 21, 2008. Registration begins in Spring 2008. Go to <http://law.richmond.edu> for more information.

**Brian R. Pitney, L'92**, has been named secretary for the Children's Museum of Richmond board of directors.

**William R. Wagner, L'92**, is a partner with Baker & McKenzie LLP in New York City.

**Brian J. Goodman, L'93**, is the legal affairs and compliance coordinator for the Virginia Retirement System.

**Edward F. Rockwell, L'93**, is director of legal services for HP Services. He has relocated from Milan, Italy, to Palo Alto, Calif.

**Cullen D. Seltzer, L'93**, published "In Defense of the 9th Circuit: Why the Federal Appeals Court from the 'Left Coast' Doesn't Deserve Its Bad Rap," July 26, 2007, in the online magazine *Slate*. ([www.slate.com/id/2170477/](http://www.slate.com/id/2170477/))

**Christopher Campbell Booberg, L'94**, is an associate at the Joel Bieber Firm. His practice focuses on personal injury cases and job injuries.

**Sarah Johnson Hallock, L'94**, has been named secretary of the Children's Home Society of Virginia.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

## Firm commitment brought opportunity for success



Ashley Keesee Tunner, L'95, had a good idea where she was going when she finished law school, but she didn't know how quickly she would get there.

She had studied under venerable professor Robert Shepherd, a national figure in the world of family law and child advocacy. She had worked with professor Kelly Bartges in the Law School's Youth Advocacy Clinic. She had practiced in Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts before mentors like

Judge Kimberly B. O'Donnell, L'85.

In 2006, she stepped up to the bench as a judge in Richmond's Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. "I was as ready as anyone could be," she says. "I knew the players, the system, the agencies, the procedures. Still, I thought it would be another five to 10 years before there was a chance I'd be appointed to the bench. Becoming a judge is a life-altering experience."

There was a slight delay. Tunner, who is married to William W. Tunner, L'95, was nine months pregnant when she was appointed and took maternity leave before hearing her first case. The family now includes two children.

A native of Tifton, Ga., and a graduate of Hollins University, Tunner entered law school not knowing why she was there, but she quickly found herself focused on advocacy, particularly for children.

After law school, she applied to public defender's offices around the state and the first offer came from Portsmouth. Tunner spent three years there. "The office was full of young lawyers. It was a great time to develop friendships and camaraderie," she says. "And Portsmouth at the time had a lot of crime, so I worked on a variety of cases."

She moved from Portsmouth to the public defender's office in Richmond, where she was deputy in charge of juvenile court.

Ten years later, Anne Holton stepped down from the bench when her husband, Tim Kaine, was elected governor of Virginia. Tunner filled the opening.

"It was challenging to go through the selection process, but I decided to seize the opportunity," she says.

She now works daily with children and families who find themselves at critical junctures in their lives.

"It's important that I talk to the child so he knows what is going on. I am very conscious of looking the young person in the eye and using language he can understand," she says.

Tunner intends to stay on the job for a while. "When you find an area you have passion for, you need to pursue that," she says. "I have classmates who have left the profession or who have jumped from one firm to another trying to find a fit. I was lucky. I found what I cared about and stayed committed to it."

*By Rob Walker*

**Robert Temple Ryland IV, L'05**, has been named associate with Wright, Robinson, Ostheimer & Tatum.

**Dontae Bugg, L'06**, has joined Bremner, Janus, Cooke & Stone as an associate. He specializes in criminal and domestic law.

**Brandon Rash, L'06**, has joined the intellectual property firm Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner as an associate in Washington, D.C.

**Donel Davis, L'07**, and his wife, Amy, have a son, Donel Alexander. He was born Sept. 10, 2007.

**Christopher Harrison Roede, L'07**, has joined Poyner & Spruill LLP as an associate in Raleigh, N.C.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Williams S. Goode, L'40**  
July 29, 2006

**G. Mason Connell Jr., L'52**  
November 25, 2007

**Thomas A. Williams, L'52**  
December 1, 2006

**William W. Coppedge, L'57**  
April 30, 2005

**James A. Harper, Jr., L'57**  
October 12, 2007

**Elden Allamong, L'59**  
March 14, 2007

**David S. Antrobus, L'62**  
October 01, 2007

**Carleton D. Powell, L'67**  
August 23, 2007

**Bruce E. Welch, R'67 and L'73**  
September 2, 2007

**Jane Siobhan Glenn, L'83**  
November 20, 2007

**John Kent Shumate Jr., L'01**  
August 30, 2007

*John Shumate's classmates have established a trust for his daughter. Donations can be made to: The Madeline Sydney Shumate Trust, Attn: Angela Schettine, 319 W. Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23220.*