Decisive Moment

Experienced mentors bring the law to life for students in the clinical program

John Marshall Scholars • Faculty Essay by Brady
Student voice at Commencement

Reminiscing at Commencement about the law school experience was James Jarrett “Jim” Reid, ’00, chosen by his classmates to speak for them.

A native of Newport News, Va., Reid majored in English at the University of Virginia, where he earned four varsity letters in football and was named first team All-ACC and Academic All-ACC. After graduation, he was drafted by the Houston Oilers in the fifth round of the 1994 NFL draft. He played for the Oilers for two seasons, but retired in 1996 after his seventh knee operation.

At Richmond Law, Reid served on the Moot Court executive board as interscholastic chair. He plans to practice litigation with Williams Mullen Clark & Dobbins in Newport News.

A Commencement article appears on p. 2.
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Actual cases, experienced mentors bring the law to life for students in the clinical program
By Rob Walker

"When I made my first appearance in court, I knew this was what I wanted. I found my voice."
-Patti Smith, ’98

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Help shape public policy, says Scott

Put your legal skills to work by helping to make sound public policy, urged Virginia Congressman Robert C. Scott of the 156 degree candidates at the University of Richmond School of Law Commencement on May 6.

Technological change is happening faster than the legal system can keep up, Scott said. As examples, he cited the Microsoft antitrust case, child custody fights over embryos, and the problem of how to tax goods sold over the Internet.

“You have the skills to help us separate sound policy based on logic from short-sighted, poll-tested sound bites,” he said. “You have the social responsibility to use those skills. You must be involved.”

“Poll-tested,” slogan-based legislation has led to difficulties with the criminal justice system, when “adult time for adult crime” has thrust juveniles into adult courts, he continued. It also has caused problems with the death penalty appeals process.

“We need your guidance in developing fair criminal justice systems based on sound policy and constitutional protection, rather than appeals to emotion,” he said. “There’s a difference between what makes good policy and what makes good politics.”

“My challenge to you is to use your excellent legal education and get involved,” he concluded.

The Hon. Robert C. Scott has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1992, representing the third Congressional District of Virginia. A native of Washington, D.C., Scott received his bachelor’s degree from Harvard College and a law degree from Boston College Law School. He practiced law in Newport News, Va., then was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1978, serving until his election to the Virginia Senate in 1983.

Awards for Scott’s legislative efforts have come from numerous organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Alliance of Research Centers for Excellence and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education. He received the President’s Award for Outstanding Leadership from 100 Black Men of America Inc. and has been cited twice for his work with the March of Dimes. Scott received an honorary doctor of laws degree during the Commencement ceremony.

Faculty speaker John G. Douglass, associate professor of law, advised graduates to “somewhere, sometime, somehow, do something unconventional.”

Conventional career advice is presented as a straight line toward a goal, he said, but “no matter how well you plan, unpredictable things are bound to happen.” He presented “one last case before you graduate,” involving a young woman named Dorothy who found herself in the Land of Oz and formed a goal of going to the Emerald City in order to return home.

Dorothy’s story “isn’t really about the Emerald City, it’s about the yellow brick road – the stuff that happened along the way,” Douglass said.

“In the end, a career is not about how far you get or how fast you get there, it’s about the lives that you touch along the way,” he said.

Student speaker James Jarrett Reid offered “observations about what actually goes on in law school.” Coming from diverse backgrounds as first-year students, his class experienced togetherness as they all took the same classes with “everybody pulling in the same direction,” he said. In the second and third years, “our interests began to diverge, but we still made the effort to get together.”

“Now as we graduate, our paths will diverge even further, but I believe we have an obligation to maintain these relationships we’ve cultivated. I believe we’ll remain involved as alumni.” Reid also offered collective thanks from his class to “everybody who supported us. We couldn’t get through this by ourselves,” he said.

“I hope as we go into our various careers, they’ll be as enjoyable as the past three years have been,” he concluded.

Dorothy Wagener
AWARDS AT COMMENCEMENT

Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, Student Trial Advocate Award
Courtney Moates Joyce
International Academy of Trial Lawyers, Student Advocacy Award
Derrick LáMondé Walker
Family Law Award
Aileen Franco Tucker
National Association of Women Lawyers Award
Molly Ann Delea, BW'93
T.C. Williams Law School Scholarship Award
Lisa Taylor Hudson
Cudlipp Medal
Damian Vincent Santomauro

J. Westwood Smithers Medal (results will be announced during Law Weekend Sept. 15-16)
Nina R. Kestin Service Award
Ramona Leigh Jester Taylor
Charles T. Norman Award
Thomas I. Queen Jr.

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION/BUREAU OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS INC. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
Rita Nicole Poindexter
Sarah Jane Rich

ORDER OF THE BARRISTER
Andrew Kurt Clark
Calvin Alvester Edwards Jr.
Lisa Taylor Hudson
Carla Jean-McNeil Jackson
Rita Nicole Poindexter
Thomas I. Queen Jr.
Brian James Schneider
Catharine Thornton Slater
Adam Scott Taylor

MCNEILL LAW SOCIETY
Julia Bonham Adair
Margaret Watt Baker
Sarah Beckett Boehm
Christian Joseph Dobbins
Jeffrey Alan Gregor
Patrick Francis Heinen
Courtney Moates Joyce
Sheri Lynn Liccioni, AW'95
Christopher James Locascio
Brenda Ecelberger Mallinak
Sarah Justin Palmer
Rita Nicole Poindexter

Thomas I. Queen Jr.
Sarah Jane Rich
Damian Vincent Santomauro
Brian James Schneider
Courtney Renee Sydhorn
Michael Russell John Tita

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW ASSOCIATION, PRO BONO AWARDS
Jane Amory Allen
Margaret Watt Baker
Rophenia Lenita Crawley
Richard Rothwell Fuller Jr.
Aileen Franco Tucker

1. Ghada Qaisi, L'00
2. Ramona Taylor, L'00, with associate dean W. Clark Williams Jr.
4. Faculty speaker: John G. Douglass
5. Student speaker: James J. Reid, L'00
FOR THE RECORD

CLERKSHIPS FOR 2000-2001

Julia Adair  
Chief Staff Attorney's Office,  
Supreme Court of Virginia  
Richmond

Thomas Baker  
Justice Cynthia Kinsler,  
Supreme Court of Virginia  
Pennington Gap, Va.

Heather Berlin  
2nd Judicial Circuit  
Virginia Beach, Va.

Sarah Beckett Boehm  
Hon. Blackwell N. Shelley, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia  
Richmond

Calvin Edwards  
Judge Gail Tusan, Fulton County Superior Court  
Atlanta

Sandy Han  
12th Judicial Circuit  
Chesterfield, Va.

Christy Henderson  
12th Judicial Circuit  
Chesterfield, Va.

Lynn Andrews Howard  
Chief Staff Attorney's Office,  
Supreme Court of Virginia  
Richmond

Lisa Taylor Hudson  
Hon. Douglas Tice, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia  
Richmond

Jeff Hunn  
Hon. Jere Willis Jr., Virginia Court of Appeals  
Fredericksburg, Va.

Amie Hunter  
Hon. William R. Shelton, 12th Judicial Circuit  
Chesterfield, Va.

Amy Susan Jones  
Hon. Henry Hudson, 19th Judicial Circuit  
Fairfax, Va.

Courtney Moates Joyce  
18th Judicial Circuit  
Alexandria, Va.

Brenda Mallinak  
Staff Attorney, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit  
Richmond

Amy McDowell  
David Samo, Chief Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Department of Labor  
Newport News, Va.

Sara Palmer  
Hon. James Bradberry, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Norfolk Division  
Newport News, Va.

Rita Poindeexter  
Hon. Richard S. Arnold, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit  
Little Rock, Ark.

Thomas I. Queen Jr.  
Hon. Robert G. Doumar, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia  
Norfolk, Va.

Damian Vincent Santomauro  
Justice Donald W. Lemons, Supreme Court of Virginia  
Richmond

Brian J. Schneider  
Hon. James P. Jones, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia  
Abingdon, Va.

Catharine Slater  
19th Judicial Circuit  
Fairfax, Va.

J. Suzanne Sones  
Hon. M. Langhome Geith, 19th Judicial Circuit  
Fairfax, Va.

Cari Steele  
2nd Judicial Circuit  
Virginia Beach, Va.

Courtney R. Sydor  
Justice Leroy R. Hassell, Supreme Court of Virginia  
Richmond

CLERKSHIPS FOR 2001-2002

Christopher Hoctor  
Hon. Robert G. Mayer, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia  
Alexandria, Va.

15 enter as John Marshall Scholars

The 15 new John Marshall Scholars entering in the Class of 2003 bring the total number of students in the elite scholarship program to 30, according to law school director of admissions Michelle Rahman.

"This year for the first time, we have John Marshall Scholars in all three classes," she says. "Fifteen is the most we have had in a first-year class since the program began in the fall of 1998."

John Marshall Scholars receive merit-based awards of $10,000 a year, renewable each year as long as their grades remain in the top third of the class. In addition, they participate in seminars designed specifically for them and are invited to meet and interact with visiting scholars.

The top scholarship at the University of Richmond School of Law is offered to "the best of the best" applicants, Rahman says. They are selected by a blue-ribbon committee headed by Chief Justice Harry Carrico of the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Among the entering 15 Marshall Scholars, the highest LSAT score is 173 (99th percentile), in contrast to the previous highest LSAT of 171. The highest undergraduate GPA is 4.0.

The new group holds a median LSAT score of 164 (91.8 percentile), compared to last year's median of 163. The incoming scholars' median undergraduate GPA is 3.49, whereas last year the median GPA for the scholars was 3.3.

"This year brings our first international Marshall Scholar, a student from McGill University in Montreal," Rahman says. Other undergraduate institutions represented include the University of Maryland-College Park; Berry College in Mount Berry, Ga.; the College of William and Mary; and the University of Virginia. One new scholar is a University of Richmond graduate, and two had attended Richmond.

"We are especially pleased with the outstanding quality of the John Marshall Scholars who will be joining us this fall," says Dean John R. Pagan. "These talented students had their pick of law schools, and we are flattered they chose Richmond."

Dorothy Wagener
Al-Hibri named humanities scholar

Professor Azizah Y. al-Hibri has been named a Jessie Ball duPont Scholar at the National Humanities Center for the academic year 2000-2001.

Al-Hibri’s research focuses on human rights, especially Muslim women’s rights; Islamic jurisprudence; family law; conflict resolution; and comparative legal theory, especially constitutional issues. Her project will be “The Muslim Marriage Contract in America.”

The National Humanities Center, located in Research Triangle Park, N.C., selected al-Hibri for the fellowship, supported by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund of Jacksonville, Fla. Founded in 1976, the NHC is a private, nonprofit institute encouraging scholarship and promoting the importance of the humanities in American society.

Each year up to 40 scholars selected by peer review go to the center for year-long residencies. Since 1978, the center has hosted more than 700 American and international scholars.

This spring and summer, al-Hibri was a scholar-in-residence at the Library of Congress, supported by a Mednick Fellowship from the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges. Last September, she participated on a panel on “Women in International Law: A Closer Look at the Arab and Muslim World” at the Supreme Court with Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Al-Hibri has made a number of presentations at universities, judicial conferences and congressional committees. She was a participant in Bill Moyers’ The Genesis Series for public television, and has been interviewed on programs on BBC, CNN and PBS.

Al-Hibri has taught at the University of Richmond School of Law since 1992. From 1987 to 1992, she was in general corporate law practice atDebevoise & Plimpton in New York, and previously was a visiting scholar at the Harvard Divinity School and Center for the Study of World Religions.

RECENT STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Student publications
George Salmoiraghi, L’00, co-authored “And the Winner Is...the Albanian Mafia,” which appeared in the autumn 1999 issue of the Washington Quarterly. The article details how Albanian criminal clans have profited from the Serbia-Kosovo conflict and grown in breadth, depth, size and influence.

Salmoiraghi’s co-author was Frank J. Cilluffo, deputy director of the global organized crime program at the Center for Strategic & International Studies. Salmoiraghi had a summer internship as a research analyst for the program, and continues to write on cyber threats.

Adam Taylor and Darren Traub, both L’00, published “Cureton v. NCAA: Scrutinizing Proposition 16 and the Consequences of Its Disparate Impact on Prospective Minority Student-Athletes,” in the Spring 2000 issue of the Sports Lawyers Journal, which is distributed nationally.

Admiralty moot court competition
Edward Dillon and Michael Hancock, both L’01, won the Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition. They also won the Maritime Law Association of the United States Award for writing the best brief.

Hancock won the Chaffe, McCall, Phillips, Toler & Sarpy Award as the best oral advocate in the championship round. The competition was held in New Orleans in March, and the bench for the final round consisted of four federal judges.

Teams from Richmond have now won this tournament three of the last four years, and taken best brief prize five years in a row.

Writing competitions
Ghada Qaisi, L’00, won the American Association of Matrimonial Lawyers Writing Award for her paper, “Religious Marriage Contracts: Judicial Enforcement of Mahr Agreements in American Courts.” Richmond students have won the competition two years in a row.

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New remedies for labor violations

Comments made by National Labor Relations Board general counsel Leonard R. Page during this year's Austin Owen Lecture have led to controversy and perhaps even congressional oversight hearings.

As general counsel, Page has prosecutorial authority over violations of the National Labor Relations Act, which includes the authority to seek remedies for violations from the members of the NLRB, the judicial arm of the agency. He proposed new remedies for violations of the statute during "National Labor Relations Board Remedies: Where Are They Going?" The lecture was held in April at the T.C. Williams School of Law.

"These are controversial, exciting and important times" at the NLRB, Page said before detailing several areas he is focusing on as well as proposals he is considering "to meet the new challenges of the changing workplace."

Page would like to improve effectiveness of notices designed to inform employees of their rights. His proposed model notice will be written in layperson's language and will include information on how and when to contact an NLRB regional office, as well as information in Spanish.

When reinstatement is not feasible, courts sometimes grant front pay, which is a monetary award for loss of anticipated future earnings. Page recommended consideration of front pay as an option. He would also like to see consequential damages as a possible remedy in some cases, which would include all economic consequences that result from an unlawful discharge, such as losing a home or receiving a damaged credit rating.

"Congress chose not to specify the precise remedies that would be available to the board, understanding the board's need for flexibility to meet diverse situations and those which Congress did not expressly envision," Page said in explaining his proposals.

In his speech, Page also discussed the possibility of requiring daily compounded interest on awards, more effective remedies for employer interference with organizing, the requirement that labor unions notify current members of their rights with respect to payment of union dues; and protecting the organizational rights of undocumented aliens.

Page holds a recess appointment as general counsel of the NLRB. He has bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Michigan, and a juris doctorate from the Detroit College of Law. His areas of expertise include the National Labor Relations Act, collective bargaining, plant closings and relocations, arbitration, strikes, lockouts, and the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act.

During the lecture, Page commented that he plans to conclude his 30-year law career when his NLRB appointment ends, and retire to Northern Michigan.

The Austin Owen Lecture was established in 1991 for the Hon. Austin E. Owen, L'50, by his daughter and son-in-law, Dr. Judith Owen Hopkins, W'74, and Dr. Marbry B. Hopkins, R'74.

Laura S. Jeffrey
Trying cases in the media

Everyone knows that "Mary Jones" killed her boss, a well-known congressman, in the parking lot of a federal building. But was the act committed in self-defense after years of sexual harassment and even forcible rape, or was it a cold-blooded murder? Does the location of the killing make it a federal crime? And what about the private conversations between Jones and her lawyer that were taped by a prize-winning journalist?

These were some of the issues surrounding "Trying Cases in the Media: Legal Ethics, Fair Trials and Free Press." The George E. Allen Chair Symposium was held in April at the T.C. Williams School of Law.

Professor Rodney J. Smolla, holder of the George Allen Chair in Law, created the role-playing exercise to pose ethical and legal conflicts, and concluded with a mock trial and moot court appellate arguments.

Experts on legal ethics, constitutional law and journalism participated, including Paul D. Carrington, the Chadwick Professor of Law at Duke University; C. Thomas Dienes, the Patricia Roberts Harris Professor of Law at George Washington University Law School and co-author of Newsgathering and the Law; John G. Douglass, associate professor of law at Richmond; Craig Thomas Merritt, an attorney who works extensively in the field of communications law, with emphasis on defamation; and Steve Nash, associate professor of journalism and journalism program coordinator at Richmond.

The George E. Allen Chair was named for the late Virginia trial lawyer who was the first recipient of the American College of Trial Lawyers’ Award for Courageous Advocacy, in 1965. The chair was established by Allen’s sons, the late George E. Allen Jr., L’36; Ashby B. Allen, R’43; and Wilbur Allen.

Laura S. Jeffrey
Decisive Moment

Actual cases and experienced mentors bring the law to life for clinical program's students

BY ROB WALKER
For some students, law school can become a grinding endurance test, a numbing rite of passage. Surviving with career plans intact is sometimes hard to do.

But at the University of Richmond School of Law, somewhere around second or third year, there comes an opportunity for an experience that revitalizes students, that turns the light on brightly.

By the end of their three years of law school, as many as 75 percent of Richmond students will have participated in one or more of the school's clinical programs, earning credit for work with real cases, and more importantly, learning the challenges and rewarding realities of practicing law on behalf of real clients.

The testimonials for such programs are numerous.

Dr. John R. Pagan, dean of the law school, says he remembers vividly the clinical experiences he enjoyed at Harvard Law School. He worked in a prosecutor's office in Dedham and Stoughton, Mass., where his experience included trying cases. That was a period of hard work, long hours and great excitement, Pagan says.

"I think those were my favorite courses, and overall they may well have been the most valuable because they stimulated my interest in law more than anything I learned in the classroom," he says. "To see what you learn in a classroom applied brings the educational experience alive."

For Kelley Bartges, L'85, who participated in the Richmond program as a student and who now works in it, watching students progress through their clinical experience provides great rewards.

"I love seeing them come in at the beginning of the semester, asking about the books, the requirements," Bartges says. "In about three or four weeks, this transformation takes place. They stop asking about the reading assignments and start asking, 'What can we do about this problem?' You can see them starting to think and act like lawyers."

"One of the great collateral benefits of these programs is how they can bring back to life the enthusiasm students had when they came into law school," says W. Clark Williams Jr., who oversees the clinical program as associate dean for academic affairs. "Sometimes, after a couple of years of learning black-letter law, they become numb to what the practice of law is all about. Law becomes something abstract. The clinical semester is the one that begins to make that training fall into place."

"For the third-year student, it's a wonderful capstone experience. For second-year students, it's a great motivator," Williams says. "In every instance, it creates new energy which they bring into the classroom and carry out into practice."

Take, for example, Patti Smith, L'98, now a partner in her own small firm in Abingdon, Va. (see profile, p. 27). For Smith, the clinical experience revitalized a career choice that had begun to languish.

"I had almost decided not to practice law," she says. "I had come to the conclusion that it was something I wouldn't enjoy doing. " But when I made my first appearance in court [as a clinic participant] I knew this was what I wanted," Smith says. "I found my voice."

The birth of the clinical programs, most sources agree, dates to the arrival on campus of Robert E. Shepherd Jr. in 1978.

"Some of this kind of work predated me," says Shepherd, a professor of law still teaching at the law school, "but when I came here it was partially to direct the clinical program. We built from some informal field placements that were already being made with the U.S. attorney's office and the Richmond commonwealth's attorney's office, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and some legal aid organizations. It was being handled loosely by individual faculty members."

In some cases back then, students were paid part-timers, and no academic credit was given for the work.

Youth Advocacy Clinic participants Angela "Angie" Cabell, L'01, and Carla Jackson, L'00, with a teen
Under Shepherd's guidance, the placement program expanded to other government and nonprofit groups, and public defender offices. Students were no longer paid for these placements but they did earn academic credit, Williams says.

"Other law schools elsewhere were emphasizing clinical education more strongly, and Richmond wasn't taking sufficient advantage of its geographical strength," Shepherd says. "We realized this was a way of distinguishing ourselves from other law schools in the state. Nowhere else did you have this opportunity to place students with the 4th Circuit, the attorney general's office, city and state agencies, the [Virginia] Supreme Court. "And we realized that this was a way of providing our students with important, practical training while getting them involved in something exciting," Shepherd says.

The law school also was able to take advantage of Shepherd's expertise as a nationally recognized authority on the juvenile justice system. In the early '80s, the first in-house program, the Youth Advocacy Clinic, was added as an opportunity other than the placement program. There, students weren't sent out but had cases brought to them, primarily from juvenile courts in the area that had a pressing need for legal assistance.

In 1990, the law school applied for a federal grant "to enable us to establish a full-time clinic with a director," Shepherd says. With the grant, the in-house program expanded and a second clinic, the Mental Disabilities Law Clinic, opened and the clinic program overall grew more sophisticated, structured and academically intense.
In addition to learning from working lawyers and judges, the clinics provide opportunities for students to develop work relationships with co-workers, supervisors and clients.

Almost unanimously, participants state their belief that the clinical experience should be a required component of the curriculum. It's not, Williams says, simply because students "can't do it all."

"Choosing to do a clinical course is going to be at the expense of something else, and each student has to make choices about how best to get the education they need," he says. "Certainly most of those who do choose a clinic find it to be invaluable."

Each semester the law school holds a general informational meeting to tell students how the clinics operate. Students apply, are interviewed and placed appropriately. Some 32 students are accepted into the Clinical Placement Program, says Margaret Bacigal, administrative director. Eight students go into each of four sections: civil, which places students with government or public interest agencies; criminal, which places them in defense or prosecutorial entities; judicial, which sends them to work with state and federal judges at both trial and appellate levels; and litigation, which includes civil, criminal and judicial placements.

There, the students work for a semester with lawyers and judges, blending the theoretical and practical. The course requires four hours' work a week for each credit hour earned. Students can work for four, five or six credit hours, pass/fail.

In addition to the field experience, students in the placement program must participate in a classroom component taught by Bacigal or an adjunct faculty member. A centerpiece of each student's work is a "reflective journal in which they process their experiences and observations: analyzing events and ideas, critiquing their performance, exploring reactions and feelings, and examining how lawyers and judges reach decisions," Bacigal says. They also keep timesheets and meet individually every other week with their professor in a tutorial-like setting.

"It's very comprehensive and time consuming," Bacigal says. "We give them a chance to integrate theory with practice. They come to realize that sometimes what appears to be the best legal answer is not necessarily the best answer for their clients. They begin to see how relationships and personal considerations influence decision making, and they begin to deal with the ambiguities they are going to confront in practice."

The placement program has four major goals for participants: developing skills, becoming self-directed learners, enhancing their understanding of professional responsibilities including rules for lawyers, and understanding how legal institutions often operate under social, economic and political pressures.

Lawyers and judges who are chosen to supervise the students, called "field instructors," have specialized knowledge in fields of law. They are experienced, have reputations for honesty and professionalism, and are committed to teaching, Bacigal says. "We want the students to gain a broad understanding of what lawyers and judges in the assigned placements really do," Bacigal says. Toward that end, students are given a wide range of legal assignments. They also attend meetings and training sessions, go to crime laboratories, observe autopsies, ride along with police, "anything that provides a greater sense of context for the work they are doing."

Jason Cecil, '02, was placed this summer with Chief Judge Richard D. Taylor Jr. of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. During a recent interview, Cecil said he had just come from a hearing on a murder case in which a child was a witness to a family member's violent death.

"This is experience in the nitty-gritty that is invaluable," Cecil says. "I've seen things I just didn't know about."

Cecil says he sits at the judge's right hand, examining evidence, hearing all the discussions, looking over appellate rulings, occasionally enjoying the opportunity for conversations with the judge about complex cases.

"He lets me see how the entire court system works. I'm there at all levels," Cecil says. "It's a great, diverse experience that has fulfilled everything I wanted."
The two in-house clinics operate from facilities inside the law school and function like a small legal aid operation. There is a conference room/classroom complete with videotape equipment. There is a receptionist on duty, and students can take phone calls there. Each student has a study carrel in the clinic. A maximum of eight students, working in teams of two, participate in each clinic each semester.

"It's a team environment where they spend a lot of time together," says Kelley Bartges, director of the Youth Advocacy Clinic. Adrienne Volenik is director of the other clinic, the Mental Disabilities Law Clinic.

Cases come to the clinics from various sources, and clients visit its offices to work with the students who are guided by Bartges, Volenik and other faculty. In-house clinic students earn six credit hours and devote at least 24 hours per week to clinic work.

Clinic students also meet in classroom sessions for discussions with their teachers and guest speakers. They may hear from a public defender on the role that office plays, from social service workers on what they can do for clients, from representatives of funding systems, and others in the network that deals regularly with the clients the students represent.

"This enables us to help the students find someone with the right expertise when they need help," Bartges says. "We want them to know where to turn for information."

The Youth Advocacy Clinic is on the court-appointed list for several juvenile and domestic relations courts in the area, and it's popular with judges.

Each semester, students come to court regularly on behalf of clients, says Judge Kimberly B. O'Donnell, L'85, of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court. "They always come to court well prepared. They are extremely diligent and committed. I think some of them have done some of the best work I've seen in my courtroom."

Students often work as guardians ad litem for children, dealing with abuse or custody cases. They also may serve as defense counsel for young people who have broken the law. Frequently they find themselves investigating family problems, educational needs, and health issues that may not have been addressed before, Bartges says.

"They have the advantage of small caseloads, so sometimes they can go into things more deeply than an attorney ordinarily could," Bartges says.

"They have the luxury of a very small client base and great supervision, which helps explain why their work is so good," O'Donnell says.

The Mental Disabilities Law Clinic operates in a similar manner, Volenik says. That clinic's clients often are referred by state and local social services agencies, foster care agencies, and mental health institutions. Many come with behavioral and substance problems. And it is equally in demand, taking less than 10 percent of requests for assistance.

Judge Lawrence Janow of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Amherst, Va., says he uses the clinic regularly, "but we try not to call so much that we wear them out and they don't want to hear from us any more."

"For us, this is an incredibly worthwhile enterprise," Janow says. "It's unequivocally a boon to me as a judge. I know Adrienne Volenik is a very professional, very well-organized lawyer who knows the law. That's been the key to the success of these programs. They are run by very good people."
Volienik says the clinic focuses primarily on children with disabilities, and disputes with school systems over educational services. Referrals come from various community agencies and parents.

Cases are selected from the many requests on the basis of the educational experience they promise to offer and on the community's need for the service.

"Sometimes, there's no one else to take the case," Volienik says.

Students investigate mental disabilities and school issues. They conduct interviews, prepare documents, write letters and sometimes appear in court. They may deal with hospitals and other facilities, and work out insurance issues.

Aileen Tucker, L'00, a mother of three children, says her experience in the Mental Disabilities Law Clinic has affirmed what she believed she wanted to do when she entered law school. A recent graduate, she is looking for a place with a small firm where she can work in family practice and with children.

"I feel like once I pass the bar, I can go right on the court-appointed list," she says. "Because of my clinic experience, I think I've learned so much of what I need to know."

The practical value of the clinic experience extends to finding one's place and sometimes a job in the world of law.

Angela "Angie" Cabell, L'01, hopes her experience in the Chesterfield County commonwealth's attorney's office provides her with more than "a great opportunity to get my feet wet," which it is. Cabell, who wants to be a trial lawyer and who tried a case in Circuit Court during her clinical term, also hopes that when the time comes, "someone may remember me from what I did out there. When they see my resume, they'll know who I am. It can set you apart."

"I would not be in the job I'm in today without the clinical program," Judge O'Donnell says. "It connected me with something I love. I found through that experience something I'm passionate about."

The clinic experience carries significant value beyond the practical. Participants also appreciate the emphasis that is placed there on ethics and community involvement.

Because of their chosen focus, the in-house clinics put students to work with children, families and people with mental disabilities. The nature of the cases students see raises their awareness of need, says O'Donnell. She knows the programs well. She works as an adjunct faculty member in the Clinical Placement Program, she sees the students in her courtroom, and she participated in the clinical program when she was a law student.

Williams says professionals like O'Donnell are chosen for both the in-house and placement programs in part because of their capacity to delve into ethical concerns.

"These judges and lawyers are going to join students for discussions of how they weigh and balance just such concerns" in

Clinical placements in the community

Civil placements

American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia Attorney General's Office of Virginia: antitrust and consumer litigation division employment law section mental health and health services section

Central Virginia Legal Aid: student advocacy project domestic violence victim advocacy project

Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Community Tax Law Project

Department for the Aging

Internal Revenue Service, Southeast region

Legal Information Network for Cancer

Medical College of Virginia Hospitals Authority

Refugee and Immigration Services

Southern Environmental Law Center

United States Attorney's Office

Virginia Commonwealth University: Office of the General Counsel

Virginia Poverty Law Center

Virginia State AFL-CIO

Virginia State Bar

Criminal placements

Criminal placements require that students have third-year practice licenses. These placements offer the greatest opportunities to appear in court and try cases.

Commonwealth Attorney's Offices of Chesterfield (adult and juvenile), Henrico, and Richmond (South Side, North Side and juvenile)

United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Virginia

Office of the Public Defender (South Side, North Side and juvenile)

Judicial placements

Supreme Court of Virginia (third-year students only)

Virginia Court of Appeals (two placements)

Circuit Courts of Chesterfield (one placement), Henrico (one), and Richmond (three)

Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts of Chesterfield, Henrico and Richmond (one placement each)

U.S. District Court, Eastern District (two placements)

U.S. Bankruptcy Court (two placements)

United States Magistrate (three placements)
their daily practices, Williams says. "They can show the students first-hand how to recognize ethical issues as they arise. Untrained lawyers may not even recognize some of these issues. They need to see it, think through it, hypothesize, and then they have to make wise choices and decisions. An experienced mentor is invaluable in learning to handle these situations."

Dean Pagan says the strong ethics component in the clinical programs is essential to their success. "Seeing these dilemmas that arise in real life and then going back to class to discuss them with our professors as well as with the lawyers really teaches you important lessons any lawyer should learn," he says.

Bartges says that for students, the opportunity to assume so much responsibility for a child's well-being can only heighten their understanding of the importance of a lawyer's role. For instance, when serving as guardian ad litem, "they go into great depth to understand the child's situation and then they must make recommendations to the court in a child's best interests," she says. "This is really meaningful to students. It's a terrific thing for them to have to do."

The clinical programs also are a fine example of the contributions the University makes to the community, Pagan says. "We are a private university, but this place has a strong public service mission. This is a way of involving our students and faculty in matters of concern and import to the community."

Judge Janow agrees. "They help us make sure that citizens, and often these are children, are treated fairly and appropriately. That's a very valuable service to society."

"It's critical to the community in general and to the legal community more specifically that lawyers be good citizens as well as good attorneys," says Matthew C. Ackley, L'96, now an assistant commonwealth's attorney in Richmond. "Kelley Bartges did a fantastic job of instilling that in us through the program. "They made sure we knew that what we were doing was not just practicing law, but helping people who sometimes were in desperate need of help even before they came to the court's attention," Ackley says. "I go back to speak to the clinics whenever they ask me. That's a great experience for me."

A frequent contributor to Richmond Law, free-lance writer Rob Walker covered the courts and law-related issues for the Richmond Times-Dispatch for five years.
Religious Expression by the State: Divisions in the Supreme Court's Recent Jurisprudence

By Kathleen A. Brady

The complete article from which the following sections are excerpted appeared as "Fostering Harmony Among the Justices: How Contemporary Debates in Theology Can Help to Reconcile the Divisions on the Court Regarding Religious Expression by the State" in the Vol. 75, No. 2, issue of the Notre Dame Law Review (December 1999) 433-577.

"NOWHERE HAVE THE DISAGREEMENTS AMONG THE JUSTICES BEEN AS HIGHLY CHARGED AS IN THE COURT'S RECENT ESTABLISHMENT CLAUSE JURISPRUDENCE REGARDING RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION BY THE STATE."

—Kathleen A. Brady

In his famous Memorial and Remonstrance, James Madison eloquently describes his expectation that the separation of religion and government will produce "moderation and harmony" among different religious sects and promote "forbearance, love and charity" among their adherents. In this statement, Madison is echoing a belief that is common to the leading proponents of religious liberty in 18th-century America.

These leaders envisioned that a careful demarcation of the roles and responsibilities of religion and government and the dismantling of state establishments to support religion would help to diffuse the tensions among the sects by removing one of the chief causes of their animosities. As a general matter, they were certainly correct that state-supported religion was a source of divisions among the sects, and the abandonment of state establishments in 18th- and early 19th-century America has undoubtedly contributed to a lessening of these tensions. However, demarcating the precise boundary between religion and state has proved neither easy nor obvious, and while animosities among the sects have died down with the passing of the most egregious forms of establishment, disagreements among jurists, scholars, and the larger American populace have continued to rage about the proper contours of the relationship between church and state.

Indeed, it is perhaps commonplace to note that the task of giving meaning to the Free Exercise and Establishment Clauses of the First Amendment has been the source of some of the deepest divisions on the Supreme Court. Nowhere have the disagreements among the justices been as highly charged as in the Court's recent Establishment Clause jurisprudence regarding religious expression by the state.

THE COURT'S current jurisprudence in this area began to take shape in 1983 with its decision in Marsh v. Chambers, and since that time, three general positions have emerged among the justices. They include a separationist position, the endorsement approach, and accommodationism. Disagreements among the justices, particularly among separationists and supporters of the endorsement approach, on the one hand, and accommodationists on the other, have often been bitter and intense, and one of the most important sources of disagreement is over which approach is best for religion.

All of the justices defend their position as best for religion, and while their opponents suspect them of disingenuousness and the justices repeatedly accuse one another of hostility to religion or religious liberty, their opinions make clear that each faction does, in fact, care deeply about religion. What they disagree about is their theological assumptions regarding the nature of religious belief, how it is formed and sustained, and what is required for its protection.

Over the past 16 years, the Court has decided four cases directly addressing the scope of permissible religious expression by the state.

THE FIRST OF these cases was Marsh, which addressed the constitutionality of legislative chaplains paid by the state. The plaintiff in Marsh was a member of the Nebraska legislature who objected to the legislature's practice of opening its sessions with a prayer by a chaplain compensated with public funds. In an opinion written by Justice Warren E. Burger, the Court held that the practice of the Nebraska legislature did not violate the Establishment Clause. Justice Burger's opinion reflects an accommodationist approach which he and Justice Anthony M. Kennedy elaborate more fully in later cases. Justice William J. Brennan Jr. wrote a separationist dissent joined by Justice Thurgood Marshall, and Justice John Paul Stevens also wrote a short dissenting opinion.

A YEAR LATER, in Lynch v. Donnelly, the Court decided the first of its holiday display cases. At issue in Lynch was the constitutionality of a crèche which the City of Pawtucket, R.I., included as part of its annual Christmas display. The city's display also included a variety of secular symbols of Christmas, such as a Santa Claus house, reindeer, candy-striped poles, a Christmas tree, carolers, as well as a clown, an elephant, and a teddy bear.

In another opinion written by Justice Burger, the Court found that the inclusion of the crèche in the holiday display did not violate the Establishment Clause. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote a concurring opinion laying out her endorse-
ment approach. Justice Brennan wrote a dissenting opinion re-
reflecting both separationist and endorsement elements, and he 
was joined by Justices Marshall, Harry A. Blackmun and Stevens. 
Justice Blackmun wrote a short dissenting opinion joined by 
Justice Stevens.

TWO ADDITIONAL holiday displays were considered by the 
Court five years later in County of Allegheny v. ACLU. Both dis-
plays were located on public property in the downtown area 
of Pittsburgh. The first was a crèche donated by a Roman 
Catholic organization and displayed on the grand staircase of 
the Allegheny County Courthouse. No other figures or 
decorations were included in the display except for the 
county’s addition of poinsettia plants around the fences sur-
rounding the display and its placement of two small Christ-
mas trees behind each of the two endposts of the fence. The 
second display was a Chanukah menorah placed outside the 
city-county building next to a Christmas tree and a sign salut-
ing liberty. The menorah was owned by a Jewish organization 
but was stored and erected an-
nually by the city.

The Court held that the crèche violated the Establish-
ment Clause but the menorah 
was constitutional. Justice 
Blackmun wrote a part-majority, 
part-plurality decision relying 
primarily on Justice O’Connor’s 
endorsement test. Justices 
Marshall, Brennan, O’Connor, 
and Stevens joined Justice 
Blackmun’s opinion regarding the 
crèche. Justice O’Connor 
joined the judgment of the 
Court regarding the menorah, 
but she disagreed with Justice 
Blackmun’s application of the 
endorsement test and defended 
hers own interpretation in a con-
curring opinion.

Justice Brennan wrote an 
opinion arguing that both dis-
plays were unconstitutional. His 
opinion combined both 
separationist and endorsement 
elements and was joined by 
Justices Marshall and Stevens. 
Justice Stevens also wrote an 
opinion with both separationist 
and endorsement elements, and 
he was joined by Justices 
Marshall and Brennan. Justice 
Kennedy defended accommo-
dationism in an opinion 
dissenting from the Court’s deci-
sion regarding the crèche and 
concurring in the judgment re-
garding the menorah, and he 
was joined by Justices William 
H. Rehnquist, Byron R. White 
and Antonin Scalia.

THE COURT’S FINAL case addressing religious expression 
by the state was Lee v. 
Weisman in 1992. Weisman 
addressed the constitutionality of inviting clergy members to 
deliver prayers at public school graduation ceremonies. 
The accommodationists were di-
vided in Weisman. Justice 
Kennedy wrote the majority 
opinion arguing that the prac-
tice placed impermissible 
coercive pressures on students 
to participate in the prayers. 
Justice Scalia wrote a dissent 
arguing that the prayers were a 
permissible accommodation of 
religion, and he was joined by 
Justices Rehnquist, Clarence 
Thomas and White. Justice 
Blackmun wrote a concurring 
opinion with strong separa-
tionist elements and was joined 
by Justices Stevens and 
O’Connor. Justice David H. 
Souter wrote a concurrence us-
ing the endorsement test and 
was joined by Justices Stevens 
and O’Connor.

THE SEPARATIONIST strain in the Court’s jurisprudence ap-
ppears in all of these cases. Like 
the separationists in the found-
ing era whom they draw upon for historical support, the 
separationists on the Court view religion and government as two 
separate “spheres” or “func-
tions” which should not be 
permitted to “interfere” with 
each other or be “mixed” to-
gether. The separationists also 
frequently invoke Thomas 
Jefferson’s famous metaphor of 
a “wall of separation” between 
church and state and they re-
peat the statements of Madison, 
Jefferson and the Baptist 
separationists that religion will 
thrive better when church and 
state are kept strictly separate.

THE SECOND APPROACH that the justices have used for 
evaluating religious expression 
by the state is the endorsement 
test. Justice O’Connor was the 
first to articulate this approach 
in her concurrence in Lynch, and 
she has elaborated upon 
this approach in a number of 
later cases. For Justice 
O’Connor, the purpose of the 
Establishment Clause is not to 
make a complete separation 
between religion and govern-
ment. In a country with large 
numbers of religious people, 
the interests of church and state 
will frequently intersect, and 
the Establishment Clause does 
not preclude government from 
recognizing the role that reli-
gion plays in the lives of 
Americans and taking it into 
account in making laws and policy.

What it prohibits is making 
endorsement test and separationism 
afford too narrow a scope for 
religious expression by the 
state. The Establishment Clause
the central role that religion plays in American society is permitted as long as the government does not coerce individuals to participate, engage in proselytizing or give direct aid to religion in such a degree that it in fact "estabishes a [state] religion or religious faith, or tends to do so." Permissible acknowledgments include "celebrating" the religious as well as the secular aspects of the holiday season with the type of displays in Lynch and Allegheny.

THE DISAGREEMENTS
among the justices regarding religious expression by the state result, in large part, from the fact that the justices have differing ideas about how religious faith is fostered and sustained and, thus, different ideas about what position best protects religion.

For the separationists on the Court, the confidence that religion will thrive best where it is kept separate from government can be explained in part by a recurring tendency to understand religion in individualistic terms. Like the separationists in the 18th century, the opinions of the Court's separationists are laced with statements that suggest an individualistic understanding of religion. Separationists see no harm where religious expression is removed from the government sphere. Religion and religious communities will thrive on their own. The state's role is to protect independent religious choices and to permit individuals to build and support religion on their own.

"THE DISAGREEMENTS RESULT, IN LARGE PART, FROM THE FACT THAT THE JUSTICES HAVE DIFFERING IDEAS ABOUT HOW RELIGIOUS FAITH IS FOSTERED AND SUSTAINED AND, THUS, DIFFERENT IDEAS ABOUT WHAT POSITION BEST PROTECTS RELIGION."

—Kathleen A. Brady

For accommodationists, religion is something deeply communal in nature, and they believe that it will be harmed, not helped, if it is separated from the state in a private sphere. In Allegheny, Justice Kennedy argues that government acknowledgment and recognition of the central role that religion plays in American life is not only a natural reflection of the religiosity of its citizens, as well as a pervasive part of American history and traditions, but also essential for the survival of religion.

If government expression can acknowledge only the secular, the removal of symbols and language with religious meaning from the government sector will "send[] a clear message of disapproval" of religion.25 The harm to religion will be especially great where there is a large public sector. As the "modern administrative state" expands to occupy an ever-growing place in the lives of its citizens, "it is difficult to maintain the fiction that requiring government to avoid all assistance to religion can in fairness be viewed as serving the goal of neutrality."25 Removing religion from government expression will not, in Kennedy's view, serve to strengthen its independence and authority, but rather to unfairly weaken its influence and role in American life.

For supporters of the endorsement test, religion is viewed as something deeply pluralistic in character. The protection of religion requires a respect for this deeply pluralistic nature of religion and the fair and equal treatment of all religious adherents as well as those without religious commitments. Official messages approving of religion over nonreligion or endorsing one particular sect over another would not be fair to dissenters who are entitled to equal standing in the political community.

The endorsement test, by itself, is not about separating religion from government, though separationists who have adopted the endorsement approach also embrace separation as a distinct and independent value. Nor is the endorsement test about preserving religion from the demeaning influences of a secular state, though it may also mean that for its strict interpreters. Rather, it is about treating all members of the American political community equally.

All of the justices have important insights regarding the nature of religious belief. While the different factions on the Court tend to emphasize different aspects of religious belief and, thus, different requirements for its protection, all identify something important about religion which their opponents tend to overlook. [The concerns of all the justices and the divisions among them] can be reconciled by an approach that focuses on protecting and accommodating robust private religious expression in the public sphere rather than on accommodating religion through governmental expression.

Where sufficient opportunities for private religious expression in the public sphere exist and religious individuals and groups take advantage of these opportunities to participate actively in public life, religious language and symbols will remain an integral part of public life without the dangers associated with government interference in religious matters and the unfairness associated with government endorsement of religion.

The success of this vision depends in part on the willingness of religious individuals and communities to enter into dialogue and debate in the public sphere, but it also depends upon sufficient opportunities for private religious speakers to voice their opinions on an equal basis with nonreligious speakers. Where the state operates speech fora available for public use, religious speakers must be guaranteed equal access to these fora on the same basis as nonreligious speakers. Government should also be encouraged to open up additional avenues for debate, and courts should give deference to these efforts to accommodate private religious expression so long as these fora are available to believers and nonbelievers.
like on an equal basis and the state shows no favoritism to
ward religious expression.

Robust private religious expression in the public sphere is not
only the best way to balance the
concerns of all of the jus-
tices, but it also has significant advantages over religious
expression by the state. It is in
living one's faith by expressing
and sharing one's views with
others and seeking to explain
and justify what one believes in
public dialogue and debate that
religious freedom in the public sphere is not
just a static reflection of the reli-
gious beliefs of Americans, but it is also part of the dynamic
process by which religious
traditions grow and develop in
interaction with each other and
the larger culture.

It is in this living process of
expression, interchange, growth
and development that religious
traditions are best preserved
and their most important contri-
butions to American public life
are made.

Kathleen A. Brady is an assis-
tant professor of law at the Uni-
versity of Richmond School of
Law, teaching the areas of
law and religion, and wills and
trusts. In 1998-99 she was a
Fellow in Law and Religion and
lecturer in law at Emory Univer-
sity School of Law in Atlanta.

Emmeline M. Paulette has been
nenamed the first assistant
professor for academic success at the
University of Richmond School of
Law. The goal of the new aca-
demic success program is to
help students reach their aca-
demic potential and to ensure
that all graduates are fully pre-
pared to meet the challenge of
the bar examination.

Overall, the Virginia bar pas-
sage rate for Richmond graduates
is "strong, but we are continuing
to strive for improvement," says
Kristine Marzolf, associate dean. In
July 1999, for example, 78.7 per-
cent of first-time test takers from
Richmond passed the Virginia bar
exam. This number was 3.6 per-
cent higher than the statewide
average. Since 1990, Richmond
first-time test takers have beaten the
statewide passage rate 32 out
of the past 41 exams, or 78 percent
of the time.

More than 130 law schools
throughout the United States
have some form of academic
support programs, according to
Marzolf. Among them are law
schools at UCLA, the University
of Pennsylvania, Wake Forest,
William and Mary, and Hastings.

Paulette comes to Richmond
with a bachelor of arts degree
in foreign affairs and psychology
and a juris doctor, both from the
University of Virginia. She gradu-
ated in the top 15 percent of her
law school class, and served on
the editorial and managing
boards of the Virginia Journal of
Social Policy and the Law. She
volunteered as a tutor for middle
school and high school students,
and also counseled victims of
domestic violence.

Paulette most recently was a
staff attorney for Piedmont Legal
Services in Charlottesville, Va.,
where she counseled and repre-
sented low-income clients in
civil litigation including domestic
relations, landlord-tenant dis-
putes and consumer cases. She
previously was an associate with
Huntton & Williams in Rich-
mond, where she practiced
securities and complex commer-
cial litigation.

She has completed intern-
ships at the office of the
commonwealth's attorney for the
City of Richmond, the Maine
Civil Liberties Union, and the
District of Columbia Mediation
Service.

"I have always had an inter-
est in teaching and counseling
in an academic setting," Paule-
ette says. "I look forward to
working with Richmond's law
students to help them reach their
academic potential."

Laura S. Jeffrey
Associate professor Azizah al-Hibri contributed chapters to several books including "Islamic Constitutionalism and the Concept of Democracy" for Border Crossings: Towards A Comparative Political Theory; "Is Western Patriarchal Feminism Good for Third World/Minority Women?" in Is Multiculturalism Bad for Women; and "Islamic Law and Muslim Women in America" for One Nation Under God. She also contributed an article, "Islamic and American Constitutional Law: Borrowing Possibilities or a History of Borrowing?" for the University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law.

Al-Hibri also was co-director of the 90th American Assembly, "Religion in Public Life" in March at Columbia University. She spoke on "How Public Policies Affect Women Who Influence Religious Institutions" for Core Connections: Women, Religion and Public Policy, in October at Harvard University.

Professor Ronald J. Bacigal wrote 2000 supplements to Manual for the Trial of Capital Cases in Virginia and The Admissibility of Evidence in Virginia. He also contributed to the Report of the Jury Reform Task Force, which was published by the Judicial Council of Virginia.

Professor W. Wade Berryhill wrote Structuring Commercial Real Estate Workouts: Alternatives to Bankruptcy and Foreclosure; with Joel Eisen, associate professor of law. Berryhill also wrote the 2000 supplement to Real Estate Closings, and taught during the summer at the Judicial Institute in Charlottesville, Va.


Brennen also participated in a panel discussion in August on tax policy and charities at the Southeastern Conference of the Association of American Law Schools in Capitiva Island, Fla., and spoke on property-tax exemption for charities in June at the Urban Institute Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy in Washington, D.C. He also served on panel discussions of "Constitutional Law: From Plessy to Adarand and Back to Plessy" during the Mid-Atlantic People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference at Widener University School of Law in Wilmington, Del.; and "The Treasury's Public Policy Power: Identity, Politics and Other Contexts" at the American Bar Association Section of Taxation midwinter meeting in San Diego, Calif.

Professor Hamilton Bryson contributed chapters to Samuel Dodd's Reports and Virginia Civil Procedure, and was editor of Virginia Circuit Court Opinions.


Rodney Smolla, Allen Chair Professor of Law, spoke on "Privacy, Paparazzi and the Press" in July in London at the annual meeting of the American Bar Association. Other speaking engagements included "The First Amendment Rights of Librarians" at the 2000 Indiana Library Federation's annual conference; "The Book Made Me Do It!" at the Virginia Festival of the Book in Charlottesville; and "Recent Developments in Constitutional Law" for the 2000 Judicial Institute and New Judges Training for the Virginia Supreme Court.

In August, the FX Cable Network aired an original made-for-television movie, "Deliberate Intent," based on Smolla's book of the same title.

Professor Jonathan K. Stubbbs was editor of The Big Bang, Brown v. Board of Education and Beyond: The Life Story of Oliver W. Hill Sr., which was written by Hill and published by 4-G Publishers.

Professor Peter N. Swisher wrote "A Realistic Consensus Approach to the Insurance Law Doctrine of Reasonable Expectations" for Tort and Insurance Law Journal.

Deborah Tussey, visiting assistant professor of law, gave a presentation on "Emerging Technology: The Internet and Commercial Transactions" at a meeting of the Old Dominion Bar Association in February. She also served on an advisory committee on law and technology for the Virginia Joint Commission on Technology and Science.

Sally H. Wambold, head catalog librarian, is treasurer for the southeastern chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. She also chairs the American Association of Law Librarians public relations committee and online bibliographic services committee, and the Virginia Association of Law Libraries preservation committee.

Professor Michael Allan Wolf spoke on "Practice, Policy and Pedagogy in a Mandatory Environmental Law Course" in June during the third international conference of the Israel Society for Ecology and Environmental Quality Sciences in Jerusalem. He also wrote "Environmental Slogans for the New Millennium" for Environmental Law Reporter, and contributed chapters on the 15th and 19th amendments to Civil Rights in the United States.
PARTNERSHIP

Initiative supports scholars

A group of John Marshall Scholars in April 2000

Of the $4.5 million raised to date for the University of Richmond School of Law Top-Tier Initiative, nearly $2.5 million is earmarked for scholarships, enabling Richmond Law to attract some of the region’s most competitive applicants. Since fund raising began in earnest for the Top-Tier Initiative 20 months ago, the statistical profile of the student body has steadily improved.

The first-year class that enrolled in 1999 had the highest median undergraduate grade point average in the law school’s history: 3.18, compared to 3.07 in 1998. Likewise, the median LSAT scores of the 1999 entering class moved up from 156 (71.1 percentile of all test takers in the nation) in 1998 to 157 (74.3 percentile) in 1999.

Strengthening the academic profile of each new class are the students selected for the John Marshall Scholars Program, the hallmark of the law school’s merit-based scholarship program. John Marshall Scholars receive merit-based awards of $10,000 per year for each of their three years, provided they remain in the top third of their class (see article, p. 4).

A number of leadership donors to the Top-Tier Initiative have chosen to underwrite John Marshall Fellowships with gifts of $30,000, and serve on the selection committee chaired by Chief Justice Harry Carrico of the Virginia Supreme Court.

Donors who wish to underwrite scholarships may do so in one of two ways. A donor may choose to establish an endowed scholarship by creating a permanent, named fund that generates income to be awarded to the recipient. The University’s “payout” from endowed funds is approximately 5 percent of the market value of the corpus.

Donors who wish to see a larger, more immediate impact from their gifts might choose to have the University award the full amount of the scholarship gift outright; for example, a gift of $30,000 over three years would fully fund a John Marshall Scholar.

The Top-Tier Initiative has seen both types of gifts, and both are of critical importance in moving the law school into the ranks of the top 50 law schools in the country. For further information about the John Marshall scholarship program or the Top-Tier Initiative, contact Anne DuBois Jacobson, director of development and major gifts at the University of Richmond School of Law. She may be reached at (804) 289-8023 or ajacobso@richmond.edu.

Scenes from the fifth annual 1870 Dinner

At the fifth annual 1870 Dinner, held in the Jepson Alumni Center in April, alumni and friends heard from Congressman Thomas J. Bliley Jr. (R-Va.).

The 1870 is named for the date of the founding of the T.C. Williams School of Law as a department of Richmond College. Members of the society give $1,000 or more annually to the law school.

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PARTNERSHIP

1 Thomas W. Williamson Jr., L'76, and Edward H. Starr Jr., L'79
2 Louis A. Mezzullo, L'76; Brig. Gen. Walter W. Regier, L'49; and Congressman Thomas J. Billey Jr.
3 Judi Mezzullo with Mr. and Mrs. Jack P. Fine, R'44 and L'49
4 Peter D. Eliades, L'84, and Russell C. Williams, L'84
5 Michael B. Ballato, L'80
6 Philip S. Lamar, L'72, and Suzanne Lamar with J. Waverly Pulley, R'68 and L'72
This year for the Law School Association was marked by the association board’s completion of its campaign commitment for support of the law school in the Top-Tier Initiative. We are pleased that the commitment has been fulfilled, as it frees up monies that can be allocated elsewhere, and we thank alumni for your continued support.

The completion of the campaign commitment led us to reflect on the importance of leadership and vision by previous deans. Therefore, a committee headed by incoming president Olin Melchionna, L’74, of Roanoke, Va., is working to commission a portrait of former Dean Joseph Harbaugh, whose tenure at the law school came at a pivotal time in our history. Among accomplishments of his era were major additions to the building which created the Moody Entrance Plaza, the Moot Court Room, the expanded Muse Library with the study carrels, and the wired, larger classrooms. The painting of Dean Harbaugh will complement the collection of other past deans’ portraits.

One of our own leaders was recognized recently by the University. Congratulations to George Varoutsos, R’69 and L’73, the recipient of the 2000 Distinguished Alumni Award for the Law School this past May (see p. 23). George is a past president of the association board, a judge in the Arlington Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts, and a loyal friend of the law school.

The Law School Association, in conjunction with the Young Grads Council, is an important part of the law school community. The board of directors of these two groups represent you and work to plan events throughout the year, to provide guidance to the administration, and to assure that our law school continues as an institution that positively impacts legal education.

As president of the association, I remind you of your commitment to support the alumni association. We are here as a guiding force for our alma mater and our more than 4,300 alumni. The law school remains a resource to more than 1,000 alumni who work and reside in the Metro Richmond area.

For those of you beyond Richmond, we encourage you to keep in touch with what is happening at the law school. You may have an opportunity to hire our graduates, encourage a student to apply, or seek out our faculty for their thoughts on a particular case. The relationship you maintain with our law school is one that you can count on for a lifetime.

Sincerely,
Peter D. Eliades, L’84
President, Law School Association

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**LAW WEEKEND SCHEDULE SEPT. 15-16, 2000**

**Friday, September 15**

**TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM**
Sessions on business method patents, consumer privacy and UCITA
Moot Courtroom, T.C. Williams School of Law
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**FALL GATHERING**
Jepson Alumni Center
6-8 p.m.

**Saturday, September 16**

**GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALUMNI**
Coffee with the Dean and the Annual General Meeting of the Law School Association
Faculty Study, T.C. Williams School of Law
9:30 a.m.

**TAILGATING AND FOOTBALL GAME**
Home game against the University of Massachusetts
University of Richmond Stadium
12:30 p.m.

**CLASS REUNIONS**
Jepson Alumni Center
6:30 p.m. Cocktails
7:30 p.m. Dinner
Alumni of the University of Richmond Award for Distinguished Service

The Hon. George D. Varoutsos, R’70 and L’73, is a judge in the Arlington County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Virginia. He was appointed to the bench in 1998.

Previously, Varoutsos was associated with Varoutsos, Koutoulakeos, Arthur and Dolan and then his own firm, where he specialized in civil and criminal litigation. He has served as president of the Arlington County Bar Association and volunteered on numerous bar committees. He also was president of Richmond’s Law School Association, and recently established a $25,000 scholarship for the University of Richmond School of Law. He is married and has one daughter.

Tradition of Excellence award

Ebb H. Williams III, R’61, L’64 and a member of the Board of Associates, has received the Virginia State Bar’s 14th annual Tradition of Excellence Award. The award is presented annually by the general practice section to an attorney who has dedicated time and effort to activities that assist the community while improving the standing and image of general practitioners.

Pro bono award

Phyllis C. Katz, L’82, has received the annual Pro Bono Publico Award from the Richmond Bar Association. She received the award for her work with Legal Information Network for Cancer, the organization she founded to help cancer patients through business issues associated with prolonged medical treatment.

Katz is an attorney with Sands, Anderson, Marks & Miller. She developed the idea for LINC after her own successful fight against cancer. In 1994, she enlisted the aid of Ann C. Hodges, professor of law at Richmond, to help educate lawyers about the business needs of cancer patients. Two years later, she formed LINC. The organization, which is located at the University of Richmond School of Law, comprises about 50 volunteer attorneys serving more than 300 cancer patients annually. In each of the last three years, Katz has donated more than 650 pro bono hours to LINC.

Katz previously was director of the Virginia Department of Employee Relations Counselors and an assistant attorney general. Her legal specialties include employment, civil rights, disability and constitutional law.
Ralph L. "Bill" Axselle Jr., L'68, has been elected to the board of directors of the Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen, Va.

Lewis T. Stoneburner, L'76, co-authored an article, "Professional Negligence Law: Putting an end to expert witness proliferation in professional negligence cases." It was published in the winter 1999-2000 issue of The Journal, a publication of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association.

Richard B. Chess, L'77, is a real estate account manager at Winstar for Buildings, a unit of Winstar Communications Inc. Winstar provides fixed-base, wireless broadband communications.

Richard Cullen, L'77, a partner with McGuire Woods Battle & Boothe, has been appointed to direct the firm's government investigations practice.

Grant S. Grayson, L'77, and Bruce E. Arkema, L'79, have been elected to the board of directors of Cantor, Arkema & Edmonds.

John C. "Jack" Gould, L'78, has become associated with Marks & Harrison. He had served as the Hopewell, Va., commonwealth's attorney for 15 years.

Beth L. Kaufman, L'78, was elected to the executive committee class of 2004 for the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. She is a partner with Schoeman Updike & Kaufman.

Bruce M. Marshall, L'78, an attorney with Durrette, Irvin & Bradshaw, was elected vice president of the firm's board of directors.

Roy M. Terry Jr., L'78, is chairman of the bankruptcy practice group of Durrette, Irvin & Bradshaw.

C. Thomas Ebel, L'79, has been appointed president of the board of directors of Sands Anderson Marks & Miller. He chairs the business, finance and real estate practice group of the firm, which has offices in Richmond and Radford, Va.

Susan Hazelwood Buffington, L'80, is vice president of operations for Porter Realty Co. in Richmond.

Stephen D. Busch, L'80, has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the Delta Waterfowl Foundation, an international conservation organization. He is a partner with McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe.

Walter V. Powell, L'54, spent the spring semester on a faculty exchange at Shanghai International University in China. Powell is a professor of government and law at Slippery Rock University in Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Nancy, have eight grandchildren.

Jay J. Levit, L'58, has received the chair's award for outstanding contributions to the labor relations and employment law section of the Virginia Bar Association. Levit is a founder of Levit, Mann and Halligan, formerly Levit and Mann, with offices in Richmond and Ashland, Va.

Ebb H. Williams III, R'61 and L'64, received the Virginia State Bar's tradition of excellence award in June. (See Notables, p. 23.)
Earl H. McClenney Jr., L'80, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Commonwealth Council.

Victor A. Shaheen, R'77 and L'80, has earned the designation of certified relocation professional from the Employee Relocation Council. He is a principal with the law firm of Shaheen & Shaheen.

Julia D. Tye, L'80, has retired as assistant attorney general in the office of the attorney general in Suffolk, Va.

Barbara Mode Rose, L'81, has been appointed by Virginia Gov. Jim Gilmore to the Virginia Public Building Authority. She is deputy county attorney in Hanover County, Va.

William Rand Cook, L'82, was elected vice chairman of the board of directors of Hanover Bank in Virginia.

Richard Gates, L'82, is the co-founder of the Trust Company of Virginia, which was named to The Rising 25, a Richmond Times-Dispatch list of the fastest growing, privately held companies in the Richmond area. Also on the Rising 25 list was the Whitlock Group, which was founded by John D. Whitlock, L'82.

As a judge in the Chesterfield Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court in Richmond, Frederick G. Rockwell III, L'79, occasionally witnesses first hand the success of the University of Richmond School of Law clinical placement program, when students and alumni of the program try cases in his courtroom.

Rockwell, who has been a field instructor and adjunct faculty member with the clinical placement program since 1994, wishes such a program had existed when he was a law student 20 years ago.

“It offers [students] an opportunity to have hands-on practical experience,” he says, “to see criminal and civil law up close and get a sense for actually representing clients. I don’t know if you can give them that experience in a classroom setting. I wish I’d had it.”

Rockwell, an undergraduate of Randolph-Macon College, entered the University’s law school after working as a juvenile probation officer in Hanover County, Va., for two years. Although he had always intended to become a lawyer, he says the experience solidified the decision.

Upon graduation, Rockwell, who grew up as an “Army brat,” entered the U.S. Army JAG Corps and was stationed in Fort Wainwright, Alaska. He and his wife, Lisa LeBourdais Rockwell, returned to Richmond three years later, with Rockwell taking a position with the Chesterfield commonwealth attorney’s office, where he worked for nearly five years. He next moved on to private practice, specializing in family and criminal law until he was appointed to the Chesterfield County bench in April 1994.

“I never really thought about [being a judge] until later in private practice,” he says. “It just doesn’t seem like a real possibility when you’re a young lawyer. Judges all seemed old and wise, and I didn’t know if I fit into those categories.”

Rockwell may not be old, but as adjunct faculty for the clinical placement program, he is able to share with his students the wisdom he has gained throughout his varied law career. “I start at the beginning of the criminal process, introducing the students to the practice of criminal law,” he explains. “They are all placed in different prosecutors’ and attorneys’ offices, and the class gives them a chance to talk about what they’re experiencing.”

Rockwell says that while many students see criminal law as “romantic,” “Sometimes their [clinical] experience disabuses them of that notion.”

Rockwell enjoys getting back to the law school campus and becoming involved with students. “It gives me a feeling of continuity with the profession,” he says.

In addition, teaching in the clinical program has helped to make his adjustment from attorney to judge easier. “It was difficult at first to make the shift,” he says. “You’re used to being an advocate for your client and then you become a judge, and you can’t do that anymore. I really liked being in the courtroom as a lawyer, and I miss that still. That’s why the clinical program is great. I can still have some contact with that through the students.”

— Jessica Ronky Haddad, AW'93
CLASS ACTIONS

Phyllis C. Katz, L'82, has received the Bar Association of the City of Richmond's Pro Bono Publico Award for founding Legal Information Network for Cancer. (See Notables, p. 23.)

Lavinia James Vaughn, G’80 and L’83, was recently elected a shareholder in the Tampa, Fla., firm of Carlton Fields, where she practices real estate and commercial transactions.

Karen M. Adams, L’84, is president-elect of the Henrico County Bar Association. She is with the Henrico County attorney’s office.

Benjamin W. Emerson, R’73 and L’84, has been elected secretary of the board of directors of Sands Anderson Marks & Miller. He is a member of the firm’s local government practice group.

Patricia A.L. Nunley, L’84, has been promoted to assistant general counsel at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

Thomas M. DiBiagio, L’85, is a partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Dyer Ellis & Joseph. He practices in the areas of white-collar defense and commercial litigation.

Carolyn Lavecchia, L’85, of Richmond, with Williamson & Lavecchia, has been elected chairman of the board of directors of the Virginia Treatment Center for Children.

Richard Tyler McGrath, L’85, has been appointed by Virginia Gov. Jim Gilmore to the board of the Miller School of Albemarle. He is an attorney with Kane, Jeffries, Gayle and McGrath.

Lynne T. Porfiri, L’85, is the co-author of Law and Mental Health Professionals: Virginia, which was published by the American Psychological Association. The textbook is one in a series of state-specific books to assist mental-health professionals facing legal issues. Porfiri practiced law in Richmond before moving to Chicago and most recently, Boston.

James C. Cosby, L’86, has joined Cantor Arkema & Edmonds as a partner and director. He will practice in the areas of commercial litigation and arbitration, representing clients in securities and financial services, real estate development, and construction and technology industries. He is an adjunct assistant professor of law at Richmond, and previously was an associate and partner with Maloney, Huennekens, Parks, Gecker & Parsons.

Dawn Bonham DeBoer, L’86, has been elected a partner at the Richmond law firm of Mays & Valentine. She is a member of the firm's business and commercial litigation practice group.

Karen Lebo, L’86, of Richmond, is a member of the board of directors of the Virginia Treatment Center for Children. She works in the attorney general’s office.


Dana B. Sykes, L’86, has been named senior counsel at Hamilton Beach/Proctor Silex, where she will be responsible for corporate and commercial issues. She previously was with Reynolds Metals.

Steven M. Kramer, L’87, has joined the Washington, D.C., office of the international law firm Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy. He will focus on the representation of electric utility and natural gas companies on matters subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He has practiced energy and related regulatory law for more than 10 years, and previously was with Fulbright & Jaworski.

Michael G. Phelan, L’87, has been elected to the board of directors at the Richmond law firm of Cantor, Arkema & Edmonds.

Alexander L. Taylor Jr., L’87, is vice president of the Richmond chapter of the Old Dominion Bar. He is an assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Frank G. Uvanni, L’87, was accepted as a life member by the National Registry of Who’s Who. A civil trial lawyer in state and federal court, he is an associate with Zwerdling & Oppleman.

Sharon Maitland Moon, L’88, and her husband, “J,” have a daughter, Mary Maitland “Mattie” Moon, born Jan. 21, 2000.

Arthur V. Shaheen, L’88, has been re-elected by the lawyers of Henrico County to serve an additional three-year term on the Virginia State Bar Council. He is a principal with Shaheen & Shaheen, where he focuses on personal injury litigation for both plaintiffs and defendants, and family law.

David M. Caudill, L’89, is president of the Goochland County Bar Association in Virginia. He is an attorney in private practice.

Julie D. McClellan, W’87, L’90 and GB’90, and her husband, Greg Beckwith, R’86 and G’89, have a son, Gregory M. “B.J.” Beckwith Jr., born March 21, 2000. They also have a daughter, Brittany, 2.

Lori Goode Ward, L’90, and her husband, Ed, have a son, Nolan Matthew, born March 17, 2000. They have two other children, Benjamin, 6, and Caroline, 3.

Eric A. Harris, L’91, has been appointed regional legal adviser for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, covering a 22-state region headquartered in Atlanta.
Nancy L. Quinn, L’91, has established a law firm, Kanady & Quinn. Her practice will focus on all aspects of family law including divorce, custody, support, and equitable distribution and adoption. She previously was with Barnes & Batzli.

Eileen N. Wagner, L’91, was awarded the outstanding service award from the Richmond chapter of the American Association of University Women. She has her own law firm in Richmond.

Wyatt S. Beazley IV, L’92, has become a shareholder with Williams, Mullen, Clark & Dobbins. He practices in the capital formation section of the business department, where he focuses on corporate and health-care law.

Scott Bemberis, R’89 and L’93, and his wife, Stephanie Grana Bemberis, W’90 and L’93, have a daughter, Nicole Elaina, born Jan. 27, 2000.

Carey Williams Getis, L’93, and her husband, Joel, R’88, have a daughter Susanna Rachel, born March 27, 2000, and an older daughter Elizabeth, 3.

When Patricia E. Smith, L’98, was a teacher with Virginia Beach public schools, she constantly encouraged her students to seek out new challenges. In 1995, Smith followed her own advice and entered the University of Richmond School of Law after a 10-year career in education. During her three years at Richmond, she crossed paths with two of her former high school students.

"I thought I wanted to study law so I could represent school boards and that kind of thing," Smith remembers. "But when I got into it, I realized that I was most interested in family law." Smith’s experience with Richmond’s Mental Disabilities Law Clinic helped her come to this realization. She got involved with the clinic during her third year, and says the experience was the best part of her law school education.

“It gave it all a practical aspect,” she says. “Instead of just a case in a book, it was cases with real people.”

Smith found that many of the clinic’s cases dealt with juveniles, a group she had much experience with through her work as a teacher. In addition to helping clients develop individual education plans to address their special-education needs, Smith says the clinic helped juveniles respond to criminal charges.

“These kids have problems communicating and understanding what’s happening,” she says. “We played an important role as their advocates.”

Her first case, which she tried in front of Richmond’s circuit court, dealt with a new guardianship law. “The judge had never heard a case that dealt with the new law before,” she says. “It was exciting to be a law student doing that.”

Not only did that first case allow her to test uncharted legal waters, it also helped her land a part-time job. After the hearing, the opposing attorney offered her a job as a law clerk with Carpenter & Woodward, P.C., providing litigation support in family law matters.

Smith also believes her involvement in the clinic helped her to get her first postgraduate law position. “When I met the woman I am now partners with, we immediately recognized we had the same focus, which was to practice law not for money but to make a difference in the world,” Smith says. “It was my clinical experience that got me the interview and that allowed me to practice [law] as soon as I was licensed.”

Today, as a partner with Bradford & Smith, P.C., in Abingdon, Va., Smith focuses on child custody and support, divorce, criminal defense and guardianship cases in three Southwest Virginia counties. Recently, she has acted as a mentor for a young man who had been a client at the Mental Disabilities Law Clinic.

“I like being able to keep that connection with the clinic,” she says. “I think it’s an excellent program not just because of the benefits to students, but because of the benefit to the community. It helps our law school be a contributing member of the community and not just a school located in Richmond.”

— Jessica Ronkey Haddad, W’93
CLASS ACTIONS

Keith N. Hurley and Peter A. Koort, both L'92, have formed Hurley & Koort in Richmond. Hurley practices in criminal defense (in state and federal courts), civil litigation, personal injury, wills, workers' compensation and Social Security disability. Koort practices in the areas of real estate, creditors' rights and collections, wills, trusts and civil litigation.

Christopher McKenna, R'88, L'93 and GB'93, and his wife, Carolyn, have twin sons, William Greene and Brendan Collins, born April 6, 2000. They also have an older son, Christopher Jr., 2.

John T. Pendleton, L'93, has joined the law firm of Gottesman & Hollis in Nashua, N.H.

Alex Skirpan, L'93, has been named president-elect of the board of governors of the Virginia Association of Administrative Law Judges and Hearing Officers. He is with the State Corporation Commission.

Margie Smither, L'93, has been elected to the board of directors of the Legal Information Network for Cancer. Other board members include C. Randolph Sullivan, L'93.

Jeremy Sohn, L'93, and his wife, Khrista, have a son, Cole Porter, born March 25, 2000.

Vinceretta Taylor Chiles, L'94, opened her own law practice in Richmond. The general practice firm emphasizes employment law, criminal defense, personal injury and collections.

Mark Dellinger, R'91 and L'94, and his wife, Jane Noyes Dellinger, W'92, live in Roanoke, Va. He is an attorney at Gentry, Locke, Rakes & Moore, and she is a sixth-grade teacher.

Sharmaine Bradham, L'95, lives in Philadelphia and is the Equal Employment Opportunity officer for Swarthmore College.

Julie Schucht Whitlock, L'94, and her husband, Kevin, have a son, Matthew Woodrow, born March 10, 2000.

John F. Carroll IV, L'95, has joined Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex Inc. as counsel, with responsibilities for intellectual property including patents, copyright and trade-secret law.

Stephanie P. Karn, L'95, has joined McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe as an associate in the labor and employment department.

Jeffrey S. Shapiro, L'95, has joined McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe as an associate in the labor and employment department.

Allison L. Held, L'96, has been elected to the board of directors of the Legal Information Network for Cancer.

Andrea Wurtzel, L'96, is a member of the advisory council for the Legal Information Network for Cancer.

Todd D. Anderson, L'97, has joined the law firm of Sands Anderson Marks & Miller. He is an associate in the health-care practice group, focusing on medical malpractice defense and civil litigation. He previously was associated with Heilig, McKenry, Fraim & Loller in Norfolk, Va.

David B. Cummings, L'97, has been promoted from crime analyst to program manager of the Richmond Police Department. His duties include helping the department obtain state and federal accreditation, writing department directives, and conducting internal research projects. He and his wife, Elizabeth, have a daughter, Annelise Seabrook, born Dec. 7, 1999.

Michael Horvath, L'97, is counsel for the Liberty Mutual Group in Boston. He concentrates on international mergers and acquisitions.

Kristine Dalaker Kraabel, W'92 and L'97, moved to Singapore and works as an associate in the law firm of White & Case. Her areas of practice include capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, and debt restructuring in Southeast Asia.
Eric Link, R'89 and L'97, is working for Penguin-Radio, an Internet start-up company. He previously worked for the House Committee on Commerce.

Neil Richman, L'97, and his wife have a son, Zachary, born Jan. 19, 2000.

Chyrrea Sebree, L'97, has been promoted to counsel for E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. in Wilmington, Del. She will continue to practice patent law, and has assumed the position of future chair for DuPont's minority counsel conference. She has been with the company since 1998.

Robert W. Shinn, L'97, who is with CSX, has been elected to the board of directors of Theatre IV.

Janet D. Collins, L'98, has started her own law firm in Richmond, Janet D. Collins, PLC.

Douglas E. Lamb, L'98, has joined the Richmond law firm of Mays & Valentine as an associate, with a concentration in public finance.

Perry W. Miles IV, L'98, has joined McGuire Woods Battle & Boothe as an associate and will serve with the products liability group.

David P. Buckley, L'99, has joined McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe as an associate in the real estate and environmental group.

Robyn S.T. Carlson, L'99, has joined McGuire Woods Battle & Boothe as an associate. She will serve with the tax and employee benefits group.


Robin R. Cooke, L'99, has joined McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe as an attorney in the intellectual property group. She previously was with Studio Ubertazzi in Milan, Italy.


Michelle C. Lam, C'96 and L'99, has joined Shaheen & Shaheen as an associate practicing in the areas of civil litigation and family law.

Dana W. Traynham, L'99, is a staff attorney for the Department for Rights of Virginians with Disabilities, focusing on the protection and advocacy of individuals with mental illness.

Sheri Liccioni, AW'95 and L'00, is an associate in the Richmond law firm of McGuire, Woods, Battle & Boothe.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall term begins</td>
<td>Aug. 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall honors convocation</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>At noon in the Moot Courtroom</em></td>
<td>Sept. 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Weekend: Fall Gathering and reunions</td>
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<td><em>For detailed schedule, see p. 22</em></td>
<td>Sept. 15-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall break</td>
<td>Oct. 16-17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarship luncheon</td>
<td>Nov. 28</td>
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<td>Fall term ends</td>
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**Class Actions**

**Deadlines:**
- Dec. 1 for spring issue
- June 1 for fall issue

**E-mail:** LawAlumni@richmond.edu

**Fax:** (804) 287-6516

**Telephone:** (804) 289-8028

**Mail:**
- Class Notes Editor
- Richmond Law
- University of Richmond
- School of Law
- University of Richmond
- Virginia 23173
MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
Sandy Han and Kathryn "Katie" Snyder, diplomas in hand, congratulate each other.
See Commencement article on p. 2.