John G. Douglass

New dean welcomes “this time of great possibility”
Dean’s letter

‘Thank you’

This year marked a dozen graduation ceremonies since I joined the law faculty in 1996. From my new perspective as dean, I had the special privilege of shaking each hand, returning each smile, and seeing eyes light up while each graduate hoisted a hard-earned diploma in the direction of admiring family and friends. As the graduates filed past, there was little time for conversation. Still, one by one and with striking consistency, virtually every one paused and said, simply, “Thank you.”

I was surprised at first, but I shouldn’t have been. A quick look at the faculty and staff seated around the Robins Center made it easy to see where the “Thank you’s” from the Class of 2008 were directed. To the research librarian who stayed late on a holiday to help unearth a critical source. To the professor who directed an independent study project with the faith and persistence to turn the paper into a publication. To the housekeeper who spent each weekend making things presentable for Monday morning. To the IT technician who saved an Evidence exam from evaporating off a balky hard drive. To the clinical professor who listened patiently after that first court appearance didn’t go as smoothly as planned. To the administrative assistant who prepared hundreds of letters for clerkship applications. To the career services counselor who helped find that contact for an interview in Boston. To the ladies in the Admissions Office for—well—for everything.

In these weeks after graduation, we’re planning for the coming year and beyond. We aim to continue our impressive progress with specialized centers in intellectual property, environmental law, and family law. We plan to add new strength in international education and to forge interdisciplinary partnerships with faculty across the University. In the fall, we will open a new law clinic in the heart of Richmond to provide hands-on, client-centered learning experiences for our students while serving families with critical needs for legal services. In sum, we aim to provide a legal education that prepares our students for an increasingly diverse and specialized legal profession. But while we aim to create opportunities that are international in scope, the “Thank you’s” of our graduates remind us of our fundamental mission and our greatest strength. Richmond offers a legal education that is personal in its scale. Our students, faculty, and staff work together and learn together: face to face and elbow to elbow. We don’t plan to change that.

Thank you to the Class of 2008 for reminding us of what we do best. We educate the best lawyers and the best citizens one at a time.

John G. Douglass
Dean of the Law School
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John Grisham speaks out for innocence institute

Best-selling author John Grisham raised serious questions about the legal system in an appearance at the Law School in April.

From the time most defendants step into court, their prospects for a fair trial are uncertain, Grisham said. Most are poor and poorly educated, and many will confront a well-armed prosecution with inadequate support.

Thousands of innocent people are in jail today, Grisham said, many of them convicted as a result of deliberate misconduct by police and prosecutors.

Grisham came to campus at the invitation of the Law School’s Institute for Actual Innocence. Mary Kelly Tate, the institute’s director, introduced him as “a witness with force and reach only a handful of people in the world can achieve.” Tate presented Grisham with the institute’s first Leadership and Advocacy Award.

Grisham began with a description of his progression from small-town lawyer, “a gunslinger without much ammunition,” to big-time writer of popular fiction.

He was inspired to write by stories he had heard in courtrooms and from lawyer friends, he said. His first novel, A Time to Kill, grew out of testimony in a gruesome rape trial. His second, The Firm, began as a tale told by a talented law school friend who was recruited by a firm in Kansas City. After a recruiting visit, he told Grisham “he had a strange feeling that once you joined the firm you could never leave.”

But Grisham’s focus before an audience made up mostly of law students was his only non-fiction book, An Innocent Man.

Before writing the book, Grisham said, “It had never crossed my mind that the system could screw up that badly. Now I go to a lot of innocence project fundraisers” where the challenge “is convincing a lot of comfortable white people that there are a lot of innocent people in prison.”

“Until you’ve sat with an innocent man in prison and heard his story, you don’t know what it’s like,” Grisham told the students.

Grisham said wrongful convictions arise from a variety of factors including sloppy police work, prosecutors “who don’t always play fair,” evidence elicited from “snitches,” junk science and fake experts, and false confessions that seem to carry enormous weight.

A convergence of those factors sent Ron Williamson to death row in the case Grisham described in An Innocent Man.

There are heroes in some of these cases, Grisham said. For Williamson, there were lawyers who presented a powerful brief in a habeas corpus appeal, a law clerk who read it, and a federal judge who acted on it as Williamson sat on death row with an execution date approaching. The Innocence Project in New York handled the new trial that resulted in Williamson’s release.

Grisham called on his audience to become involved in innocence projects that are “underfunded and overwhelmed.” But true reform is not likely to come, he said, until “we finally execute the wrong person and DNA shows it. Then we’ll see change.”

Grisham discusses wrongful convictions.
Judge tells graduates to value friends and family

U.S. District Judge Henry E. Hudson told 162 graduates of the University of Richmond School of Law that their top priority in life should be building relationships with the people you love. Everything else is secondary.

Speaking at the Law School's commencement in May, Hudson said the full realization of what counts in life might come late, but graduates should chart their personal goals and keep on track. "Achieve incremental progress," he said.

He advised graduates to set priorities in life, not to sacrifice quality time with their families, and to develop a network of professional friends. "Who you know can be one of your greatest assets," he said.

Hudson told the new lawyers to develop reputations for honesty, civility, and integrity.

Clinton Davis of Chester, Va., spoke on behalf of the graduating students. He praised the families who sacrificed to help each student reach this day. "Today can be seen as a family achievement," he said.

A number of awards and honors were presented during the ceremony. Evan Miller of Sanger, Calif., received the Charles T. Norman Award, given to the best all-around graduating student. She also won The T.C. Williams Law School Scholarship Award, presented to the student who made the most significant contributions to overall legal scholarship.

Two students won the Nina R. Kestin Service Award, presented to students who have contributed most significantly to the school, the community, and the legal profession. They are Erin Murphy of Great Falls, Va., and Amanda Reid of Snohomish, Wash.

The Cudlipp Medal, presented to the class member who had the highest cumulative grade point average at the end of the second year, went to Jeff McMahan Jr. of Cadillac, Mich. The winner of the J. Westwood Smithers Medal, presented to the graduating senior who has the highest cumulative grade point average for three years, will be announced in the fall.

Online gambling pros and cons

Students and panelists joined in lively debate over the pros and cons of online gambling in March during a symposium hosted by the Richmond Journal of Global Law and Business.

The program "Online Vice: Legal Issues in Online Gambling" ended with speakers staking out positions at opposite ends of the booming global industry.

The U.S. government's prohibition of online gambling is costing millions of dollars in lost taxes, and thousands of jobs, proponents of legalization contended. It forces the United States into conflict with nations that allow Internet gambling, while pushing Americans onto the black market.

Its opponents argued this huge and growing industry brings potentially addictive, destructive activity into every office, living room, and classroom in America. It has the potential to destabilize governments and suck money out of the legitimate consumer economy.

"It's all about money, money, money," said John Kindt, University of Illinois business professor. Charles Nesson, Harvard Law professor, and Andrew Woods, executive director of the Global Poker Strategic Thinking Society, said poker is a "powerful teaching tool" that can help teach risk assessment, strategic thinking, and geopolitical assessment.

(From top) Judge Hudson, Clinton Davis address graduates.
Bork hearings ‘undermined confidence’

Terry Eastland

Three former officials from the Reagan administration convened at the Law School in April for the 20th anniversary of the contentious confirmation hearings for Judge Robert Bork’s nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

As a result of those hearings, the word “bork” entered the lexicon, meaning “to attack viciously a candidate or appointee, especially by misrepresentation.”

Another result has been the injection of politics and “theater” into subsequent hearings, “undermining confidence and faith in the process,” said Eugene Hickok, a former Justice Department official.

John Bolton, whose nomination in 2005 for the post of U.S. ambassador to the United Nations stirred controversy, joined the discussion by phone. He was assistant U.S. attorney general at the time of Bork’s nomination.

The White House failed to see the “political army” maneuvering to challenge Bork, Bolton said.

Terry Eastland, publisher of The Weekly Standard, said Supreme Court nominations since Bork “have become extremely important political issues” that spark campaigns by both sides.

The University’s student chapter of The Federalist Society sponsored the program.

Comey hopes to preserve reservoir of trust

James B. Comey, a former federal prosecutor who rose to the second highest position in the U.S. Justice Department, was presented the Law School’s highest honor, the Green Award, in April.

Comey, principal counsel to Lockheed Martin Corp. and a former adjunct professor at the Law School, accepted the honor with a moving speech on justice, politics, and public trust.

Every day, U.S. attorneys stand up in courts and say, “I represent the United States government,” Comey said to a full house at the Jepson Alumni Center. “People believe what you say, whatever you say, because in hundreds of cases before that in hundreds of courtrooms your predecessors have made a promise and kept it.” That promise, Comey said, was “to do the right thing.”

By honoring their word, lawyers representing the government have built “a reservoir of trust” that is passed on “by people you never met and from you to others.”

All it takes is one person “to knock a hole in that dam and deprive everyone of that reservoir,” Comey said. “Always, always do the right thing.”

In introductory remarks, Dean John G. Douglass said that when he accepted appointment as dean of the Law School this spring, he was pleased to find that one of his first responsibilities was to select the Green Award recipient.

Comey was “a simple choice for me,” Douglass said. He and Comey have been friends and colleagues since the early 1990s in private practice, as teachers at the Law School, and as federal prosecutors.

Douglass lauded Comey for the way “he served his clients, the way he served the public, the way he served the rule of law.”

Comey earned praise for his work at the Justice Department during controversies that arose during his service there.
under former Attorney General John Ashcroft. He has been willing to speak the truth "even when the chips might not fall where you'd like," Douglass said. He had the courage "to uphold the rule of law when others might seek shortcuts," and "he had the courage to say 'no,' even to his own client, when that was what the rule of law required."

He presented the award to Comey for his objectivity, integrity, and courage, "qualities we recognize as the heart of excellence in our finest lawyers, judges, and public servants," Douglass added.

In his remarks, Comey referred to a certificate he gave to each assistant U.S. attorney who came to work for him during his years in New York. He carried those words with him to Washington, he said.

The certificate stated that a prosecutor must be committed to absolute integrity and fair play, to candor and fairness in dealing with adversaries and courts, to careful preparation, and not making assumptions or leaving anything to chance, and to never proceeding with a case unless convinced of the correctness of one's position on the guilt of the accused.

**Symposium examines ethical issues from Guantanamo to markets**

Neal K. Katyal found himself before the Supreme Court of the United States, challenging President Bush on a case that focused on ethics, leadership, and the law, and he won.

Katyal, professor of National Security Law at Georgetown University, delivered his thoughts on that carefully watched case, *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, and the ethical questions it raised as part of an all day symposium on March 5 on the "Ethical Challenges of Leadership."

The Donchian Symposium, which was funded by the Richard Davoud Donchian Foundation, drew a standing-room-only crowd to the Jepson Alumni Center. More than a dozen leaders examined contemporary ethical issues in government, business, and the law. They touched on topics including corporate environmentalism, ethics in the "sub-prime" age, and morals and markets, as well as the psychology of ethics, and the role ethics should play in careers and lives.

The Jepson School of Leadership Studies, the Robins School of Business, and the Law School sponsored the program.

In *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, the court found that military commissions set up by the Bush administration to try Guantanamo detainees violated the Geneva Conventions and the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Katyal said the principle at stake could be traced in U.S. military history to George Washington's victory over the British at Trenton, after which Washington stated that the prisoners should be treated with humanity.

President Lincoln reinforced that idea during the Civil War arguing that you are more likely to win a man to your cause when treat him properly.

During the Spanish-American war, President Theodore Roosevelt, referring specifically to water boarding, said

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**AWARD**

**Online safety; writing award**

Rick Klau and Kristina Davidson

The explosive growth of online social sites like MySpace and Facebook has led to a web of conflicts linked to the Internet that center around access, privacy, and security.

A law professor, an assistant attorney general who specializes in computer crime, and representatives of Google, and News Corporation, owner of MySpace, came to campus in April for a symposium on the subject. The Law School's Intellectual Property Institute and the Richmond Journal of Law and Technology (JOLT) sponsored the event.

Among the panelists was Rick Klau, '96, who works in strategic partner development at Google. (See story, page 25.) Klau founded JOLT as a student.

Klau said that while business and government seek to help control dangerous conduct on Internet sites, the best defense is for parents to teach their children safe behavior. "You don't want to outsource this responsibility," he said.

Klau recently established a writing contest at JOLT and announced its first winner at the symposium. Kristina Davidson, 2L, won for her article "Digital Rights Management."
This year’s Allen Chair symposium focused on “Immigration in the 21st Century: Perspectives on Law and Policy.”

Linda Chavez, a nationally syndicated columnist and television commentator, delivered the keynote address to an enthusiastic crowd at the April event. She acknowledged the controversy surrounding immigration issues and called for Americans to approach those issues with open minds.

“Immigration is an issue that has inflamed passions,” Chavez said. “Unfortunately, there has been more heat than light generated by this passion.”

A panel discussion followed, featuring Leticia Saucedo, a professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Law; Michael Hethmon of the Immigration Reform Law Institute; Tim Frelich of the Legal Aid Justice Center; Robert Redmond Jr. of the Virginia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; and Andrea Rahal of McCandlish Holton. Christopher Nugent of Holland & Knight was moderator.

“Immigration is not a left-right issue,” Saucedo said. “You have people who are from all sides of the political spectrum who are on all sides of this issue.”

The symposium was sponsored by the University of Richmond Law Review and the International Law Society.

there was no place for torture by the U.S. Army, Katyal said. And U.S. adherence to “humanitarian norms” and ethical leadership is written into numerous treaties that have been ratified by Congress.

Hamdan, a man from Yemen with a fourth-grade education, asked Katyal when the two met at Guantanamo “why I would represent him,” Katyal said. “My parents came to this country from India because they knew that here they could be treated fairly. Not perfectly but fairly.” All persons, not just all citizens, are entitled to this right, he said.

Hamdan sued the president of the United States and won, Katyal said, “That says something truly remarkable about our country.”

Law School jumps in U.S. News’ rankings

The University of Richmond School of Law this year achieved its highest position since U.S. News & World Report magazine began ranking the nation’s top 100 law schools in 2004.

The Law School rose from 77th to 68th (tied with four others) in the chart. In comparing law schools, the magazine considers a variety of factors including peer assessment, assessment by lawyers and judges, undergraduate grade point average, LSAT scores, acceptance rates, student-faculty ratio, employment at and after graduation, and bar passage rates.

The undergraduate GPA of students in the middle 25 percent to 75 percent of the entering class at Richmond ranged from 3.23 to 3.66. LSAT scores for that group ranged from 158–162.

Almost 85 percent of Richmond graduates passed the bar compared with 74 percent overall. More than 72 percent were employed at graduation, and 95 percent were employed nine months out.

Students, lawyers serve through pro bono project

The Law School has joined the Virginia Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Division in its Protective Order Project.

The project connects attorneys and law students working pro bono with low-income and no-income clients seeking protective orders in Richmond in domestic violence cases. Because of the nature of domestic violence relationships, many victims are unable otherwise to obtain legal support to help with these proceedings.
Through the project, the young lawyers division hopes to help these clients obtain protective orders to ensure their safety.

Beginning this fall, law students will be paired with bar association attorneys working pro bono to represent clients in these cases. Law students will participate in client interviews, draft necessary court documents, and join in hearings.

News from centers, institutes, and clinics

By Roberta Oster Sachs
Associate dean for external relations

The Law School's outstanding centers, institutes, and clinics continue to offer real world experience, a challenging academic curriculum, and public policy programming that serves the entire community. Here are a few highlights:

The Judge Robert R. Merhige Center for Environmental Studies hosted two major speakers. John Lain, a partner at McGuireWoods, spoke on the regulatory and liability issues surrounding storage of greenhouse gases to prevent climate change, and Jacob Scherr, senior attorney at the Natural Resources Defense Council, spoke on NRDC's Biogemis program, which uses litigation and advocacy to save important ecological areas in the Western Hemisphere.

The Intellectual Property Institute hosted a panel on issues surrounding social networking sites. The institute also launched a lunchtime lecture series featuring prominent legal practitioners from law firms, government, and Fortune 500 companies.

The Harry Carrico Center for Pro Bono Service began its inaugural year with a series of projects that involve student volunteers including: a legislative pro bono project that provides bill tracking and analysis on predatory lending; and a monthly immigration law clinic. As part of the Richmond Families Initiative, law students provide family-centered services for low-income clients seeking a no-fault divorce, and students help victims of domestic violence who are seeking protective orders. Law students also facilitate pro bono representation of veterans in appeals for claims.

In its second year, the Institute for Actual Innocence is partnering with the Innocence Project at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law on a Virginia DNA case. The institute has increased student enrollment and continues to screen requests for assistance from individuals and families fighting what they perceive as wrongful convictions.

In the Juvenile Law and Policy Clinic, Chad Rogers, 2L, testified before the Virginia House of Delegates' Criminal Law Subcommittee in favor of a bill to include the expungement of electronic juvenile misdemeanor records. Gov. Timothy Kaine signed the bill into law.

The National Center for Family Law has developed a program for a certificate of concentration in family law. Students who graduate as early as May 2009 can qualify.

The center also selected Dale Margolin from St. John's University to serve as director of the multidisciplinary Family Law Clinic that will enroll students this fall.

The center co-sponsored the 13th annual Juvenile Law and Education seminar in May. Judge Angela Roberts of the Richmond Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court was moderator.

COMPETITION

Law School hosts national competition

Twenty-four teams from law schools across the country traveled to Richmond in March for the Robert R. Merhige Jr. Environmental Law Negotiation Competition.

Teams from as far away as Oregon competed in the two-day event in which they advanced through rounds in competition that tested their negotiating skills. A panel of three judges presided over the final rounds and ranked the teams from fourth place to first place.

The three judges were Dean John G. Douglass of the University of Richmond School of Law, Nikki Rovner, L'94, deputy secretary of the Virginia Office of Natural Resources, and Samuel Brumberg, an associate at LeClair Ryan who practices in the areas of energy and public utility law.

This year's winner was the University of California Hastings School of Law, followed by Lewis & Clark Law School, Liberty University School of Law, and Regent University School of Law.

The competition held annually at the Law School is named in honor of the late Judge Merhige, L'42 and H'76.
JOHN G. DOUGLASS

New dean welcomes ‘this time of great possibility’

By Rob Walker

When President Edward L. Ayers announced that John G. Douglass would be the Law School’s new dean, students, faculty, and the broader community responded with overwhelming support. A highly regarded professor, skilled practitioner, and respected scholar, Douglass, 53, a member of the faculty since 1996, accepted the job after serving as interim dean since July 2007.

He assumes the dean’s office with commitments from the University for significant new resources to advance the Law School.

In announcing the appointment, Ayers said the University is committed to increasing funding for scholarships for law students, to enhancing the student-faculty ratio by adding five new faculty positions while decreasing enrollment slightly, and adding the Robins Distinguished Chair in Law, which will provide for appointment to the faculty of a distinguished scholar.

Ayers also said improvements to the Law School building, including the proposed Judge Robert R. Merhige Jr. Law School Pavilion, will be priorities in fundraising.

With this infusion of resources and the Law School’s current strengths, Douglass spoke of “this time of great possibility.”

John Jeffries, former dean of the University of Virginia School of Law, praised Douglass. “John’s a first-rate lawyer, which is a good place to start. He’s also gifted teacher and scholar. He’s a superb choice.”

Douglass was mentioned as a candidate soon after Dean Rodney A. Smolla left last year to be dean at the Washington and Lee University School of Law. Douglass accepted the role of interim dean, with the understanding that he would not be a candidate for the job.

“I found my job as law professor to be so rewarding that I did not want to give it up,” he said. “I also felt a successful search producing the right person from outside could be terrific for the Law School.”

When the search did not find a match, Ayers came back to Douglass. By then, “I had been in the role for half a year, and I’d seen its potential. When Ed Ayers asked, ‘Would you reconsider?’ it felt different. I was honored and gratified by the support I received from so many people.

“This Law School is doing very well,” Douglass said. “It has a rich tradition that combines the best in professional education, community engagement, and scholarly excellence, and our intention is to build on that legacy.

“We do face challenges but I’m really excited about the commitment, with Ed Ayers’ support, to work together to meet those challenges.”

Douglass’s professional record, his temperament, and his immersion in the Law School culture combined to make him an ideal leader for the Law School, colleagues agreed.

His ability to work successfully with all kinds of people has always been a strength, said John McCammon, founder of The McCammon Group, who first met Douglass when Douglass was a summer clerk at McGuireWoods 30 years ago. For the last 12 years, Douglass has served as a mediator with The McCammon Group.

“He has a very unusual talent—an extremely rare and valuable combination of insight, analytical ability, trustworthiness, and likeability,” McCammon said. “He can beat you every which way from Sunday, and when he’s done, you want to go have dinner with him.”

Douglass graduated summa cum laude and a member of Phi Beta Kappa from Dartmouth College. At Harvard Law School, he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review. A history major, he did not start thinking about law school until midway through those four years, and even then, “my interest was more in government and politics, foreign relations, diplomacy, and public affairs than it was in the law,” he said.

Douglass’s father was a Methodist minister. His mother was an elementary school teacher. He moved to Richmond when he was 2 and has lived in the area most of his life. A runner who completed the
Richmond marathon in 2006, Douglass described himself as "an occasional and bad golfer." He and his wife, Cindy, enjoy hiking, canoeing, and "almost anything outdoors." She teaches English at the Collegiate School. They have two children. Their daughter, Erin, is starting a pediatric residency at the University of Virginia Hospitals. She is married to Jonathan Chiu, L'06. The Douglass's son, Scott, graduated recently from Dartmouth. He is a jazz musician.

Douglass's resume includes practice at McGuire-Woods and Wright, Robinson, McCammon, Osthimer & Tatum.

He worked as a federal prosecutor in Richmond and Baltimore where he distinguished himself in national security cases including the prosecution of Ronald W. Pelton. A former National Security Agency employee, Pelton was convicted of passing to the KGB details about America's ability to eavesdrop on Russian communications.

Douglass's successes brought him to the attention of Lawrence Walsh, independent counsel in the Iran-Contra investigation. In his work with Walsh, Douglass frequented the West Wing of the White House and dealt regularly with lawyers for Oliver North and his telegenic secretary Fawn Hall.

"I was interviewing a lot of people who didn't want to be interviewed," Douglass recalled. "It was fascinating."

Douglass has a long record of service to the bar and community.

"I was fortunate when I started my law practice to have experienced lawyers around who took time and energy to train me," Douglass said. "John McCammon was my law skills course and Richard Cullen was my trial advocacy course."

Alongside his parents and former colleagues, Douglass counts among his mentors Judge Harrison Winter of the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals, for whom Douglass clerked after law school, and Judge Robert R. Merhige Jr., L'42 and H'76. Winter "had a public image as a stern jurist and taskmaster, but he treated his law clerks like we were family," Douglass said. "He was an accomplished writer. We traded a lot of drafts, and mine always came back heavily marked up."

Any appearance before Judge Merhige was a learning experience, Douglass said. "If it's possible to be a demanding judge and a gentle man, he managed both. He was a brilliant judge."

Douglass was one of a group of talented young lawyers working in Richmond in the '80s and early '90s, who were connected through McGuireWoods, the Law School, and the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Cullen, L'77, was also a prominent member of that cohort. "We had a great group of lawyers who became great friends," he said.

When Cullen was named U.S. attorney, one of his first jobs was hiring someone to run the Richmond office's criminal section. His predecessor recommended James B. Comey, a promising prospect, but Cullen had his eye on Douglass, a former colleague at McGuireWoods.

"He was a real talent," Cullen said. "I knew he would be great so I chose him."

Cullen went on to become Virginia attorney general. He is now chairman of McGuireWoods. Comey, who at the time was an adjunct professor at the Law School like Douglass, went on to serve as U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, and then became deputy attorney general for the United States, the second-highest official in the Justice Department. Today he is general counsel of Lockheed Martin Corp.

"Turns out he was pretty good, too," Cullen said.

While Comey and Cullen climbed the ladder, Douglass found his calling at the Law School, joining the faculty full time in 1996.

"John always had a knack for finding a way to earn less money," Cullen offered.

In April, the Law School presented Comey its highest honor, the Green Award. (See story, page 4.) Cullen was in the audience. And in his new role as dean of the Law School, Douglass presented the medalion to Comey, and Comey offered praise for his old friend.
"John will be a fabulous dean," Comey said. "He has the most remarkable combination of smarts and nice you‘ll see. He treats all people with dignity and respect. He’s fair and careful. He’s extra bright and down to earth."

As his tenure unfolds, Douglass said the Law School will continue to emphasize teaching, which combines classroom and clinical experience, as well as scholarship, including publication in top journals, and strengthening the relationship between the Law School and the community.

He will draw on his own experiences. A nationally recognized scholar on Sixth Amendment issues, Douglass won the University’s Distinguished Educator Award in 1999.

“This Law School has always offered a quality legal education with a strong skills program, strong clinical programs, and a history of producing graduates who are ready to go to work,” he said.

The Law School has a strong faculty, he said. It is committed to excellence in teaching, which includes critical thinking, writing, and professional ethics. The law faculty is demonstrating “a remarkable growing strength in scholarship,” he said. “The record of our faculty publishing in the best journals is the envy of many law schools.”

Richmond’s strong student body enjoys a culture in which “students matter and the relationships between students and faculty are strong,” said Douglass, who has been actively engaged in that culture.

John O’Herron, 2L, a researcher for Douglass, found him to be “a very independent thinker” who transcends categorization as liberal or conservative. His example is “incredibly valuable, especially to students trying to learn the law and what they themselves think about an issue.”

“I have really enjoyed researching for him because he doesn’t treat me as only someone who works for him,” O’Herron said. “He constantly seeks my opinion and cares about my thoughts.”

Douglass has identified several challenges that face the Law School.

Aware that the high cost of law school may limit some students’ opportunities to come to Richmond, Douglass intends to make expanding financial support a priority.

Improving the Law School’s physical space also is important. Plans are underway for an addition, the Robert R. Merhige Jr. Law School Pavilion. And though he’s new to fundraising, Douglass said, “so far, my interactions with alumni and prospective donors have been encouraging. I am optimistic.”

Some of the challenges facing the Law School arise from its strengths, Douglass said. “We are a smaller school, which means we are strained in meeting the needs of a modern, specialized curriculum.” The Law School is well positioned to fill those gaps by drawing on Richmond’s talented legal community.

The Law School’s place in the region and state “is a two-way street that’s wonderful,” Douglass said. “It’s a great training ground with the court systems and governmental agencies. Our clinical programs take advantage of that. We have a talented group of students and faculty who take great pleasure in service. The challenge now is to build on that.”

A good law school education combines a basic understanding of legal doctrine with critical thinking and analytical skills, Douglass said. “You have to learn how the law changes because the law you study today is not going to be the same as what you’ll be applying 20 years from now.”

Referring to a decline in civility among lawyers, Douglass said the Law School will emphasize professionalism. “It’s difficult to teach that out of a book, which is why our culture, community, and clinically-based learning are so important,” Douglass said.

At the core, a good lawyer is “an objective, compassionate problem-solver,” Douglass said.

And a good dean must be a good manager and administrator, Douglass said. He has to see faculty members and students as individuals. He has to listen so he’ll be informed. He has to relate the Law School to the larger University, and he has to relate the Law School to the outside world, with support from alumni, to keep that two-way street busy.

“I see deans who continue to publish as scholars, to teach, speak, represent clients,” Douglass said. “I aspire to be able to do that. It’s a challenge.”

“We have a talented group of students and faculty who take great pleasure in service. The challenge now is to build on that.”
Redefining ‘emeritus’

Shepherd and Berryhill make lasting impact

By Bonnie V. Winston
Robert E. Shepherd Jr. and W. Wade Berryhill have distinguished themselves through more than 60 years of combined service to the Law School, and when they retired, each was honored with emeritus status. But neither went away.

They are still inspiring new students in the classroom. And Shepherd's advocacy in the area of juvenile justice and Berryhill's work in real estate and environmental law continue to enhance the Law School's reputation, influencing public policy and contributing to the community.

John G. Douglass, dean of the Law School, lauded their contributions.

"A teacher's legacy is in the personal growth and professional success of his former students," Douglass said. "In that tradition of teaching excellence, Bob Shepherd and Wade Berryhill have left a remarkable legacy that touches our government, our judiciary, and every level of our profession. It stretches to every corner of Virginia and beyond.

"It is hard to imagine any legal educators with a broader and more positive impact on the legal profession in Virginia."

**Advocate for children**

When Bob Shepherd is introduced, it's usually as the person who has had the greatest impact on Virginia's laws affecting children in the past 40 years.

He has testified in the courts and before legislative committees on everything from youth gangs to recidivism to alternative treatment for juvenile offenders. He has helped elevate family law from secondary status to a highly regarded practice field. He helped draft Virginia's first child abuse and special education laws. Over the last 20 years, he has advised Virginia governors and the president of the United States on juvenile justice issues.

Shepherd headed the American Bar Association's Juvenile Justice Committee and the Virginia Bar Association's Committee on the Needs of Children, and served on the national advisory committee created by the 1974 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act all while maintaining his teaching load.

"I believe I've been blessed in a way by being allowed to teach and be a member of a faculty that gives me the freedom and perhaps the credibility to affect public policy," said Shepherd. "And I feel like I need to give that back to society."

Now 70 and formally retired as of May 2001, Shepherd still teaches his signature family law and contracts courses. And he's working on another project for the ABA's Juvenile Justice Committee to develop standards for dealing with juveniles who are in multiple systems, such as the court system and the mental health system.

"We all laugh about Bob being retired," said Adrienne E. Volenik, acting director of the Law School's National Center for Family Law. Shepherd helped start the center and serves on its board. Shepherd remains such a presence at the Law School and in professional activities that "we all wondered what retirement looked like to Bob."

A Richmond native and former Army JAG Corps officer, Shepherd worked in private practice, and for the Virginia Attorney General, and taught at the University of Baltimore before coming to Richmond in 1978. His devotion to his field has redirected many students toward careers advocating on behalf of children and families.

"I represent a lot of juveniles in my work now. Bob helped me understand them and do a better job," said Rick Fuller, L'00, who practices criminal law in Richmond. "A lot of people have that 'lock-'em-up-and-throw-away-the-key' attitude. Well, some kids deserve a second chance. Bob always showed us that. He had a tremendous impact on me."

Many of Shepherd's former students fill Virginia's juvenile court benches. Others are members of the Virginia General Assembly.

Volenik said she has seen partisan legislative committee debates hush when Shepherd walks in to testify.

"Everyone wants to hear what he has to say," Volenik said. "He holds such credibility with all con-

"It is hard to imagine any legal educators with a broader and more positive impact on the legal profession in Virginia."

— John G. Douglass
stituencies in this state and is so highly regarded that he commands respect on both sides of the aisle."

Shepherd modestly laughs off descriptions of his influence.

Six of the House Courts of Justice Committee's 22 members are Shepherd's former students, he said. "And I can probably count on four of them to vote against me," he laughed.

He has been heartened in recent years, he said, by lawmakers and administrations who have focused more on treatment options for juvenile offenders than on punishment.

Shepherd has won numerous awards.

In 1999, he was the first person inducted into the Virginia Juvenile Court Hall of Fame. In 2005, he received the ABA's coveted Livingston Hall Juvenile Justice Award for his contributions. The National Center for Family Law created a scholarship in his honor.

Shepherd speaks proudly of the center, noting that its three-day "State of the Family 2007" symposium last fall put Richmond on the map nationally in terms of family law.

"Part of the reason I'm still teaching is that students keep me invigorated, and they keep my mind alert," Shepherd said. "And when you're spending a lot of your time with young people, it keeps you feeling younger."

On the personal side, Shepherd said he has been "rejuvenated" by the new love in his life. His wife, Julia Jett Shepherd, died in October 2003. Shepherd was her caretaker during the final two years of her life.

In April 2007, he married Nancy Hall. They honeymooned in Italy. They have four grandsons between them.

Resources and real estate
Wade Berryhill is both entertaining and enigmatic to the students he has taught since 1976.

With a wry sense of humor bordering on cynicism, he sometimes scares the first-year students taking his property law, real estate, and environmental law courses. He continues to challenge them to think beyond the textbooks, though he retired officially in May 2007.

"I teach with a lot of energy and dialogue," said the 61-year-old Berryhill. "That way, I can see what (students) are thinking, and I can correct soft, unfocused thinking."

In addition to teaching on campus, Berryhill travels to prepare students at Liberty and Regent universities for the bar exam. His highly regarded bar review course was run for more than 30 years at the University.

"He was a character. He was tough," recalled Carrie Hallberg O'Malley, B'91, M'96, and L'96, a partner in Hirshleifer Fleischer's Fredericksburg, Va., office. "He knew his stuff, and he made sure you did, too—standing up and in front of folks, explaining your position and answering questions. He'd put you on the spot."

For O'Malley, the lessons in the hot seat paid off. Now working in commercial real estate, O'Malley has been named one of Virginia Business magazine's Legal Elite in 2006 and 2007. And she has been recognized as a Super Lawyers Rising Star by Law and Politics magazine.

O'Malley's feelings are shared by many.

"I have met dozens of people in practice who were taught by him and credit him with being the significant force in their professional development," said Joel B. Eisen, a UR law professor. He called Berryhill a "rock-
solid and thoughtful" mentor when Eisen arrived at the Law School 15 years ago.

“He is an extremely valued member of the faculty even in retirement,” Eisen said. “People look up to him and are very glad to have him around.”


He also is lauded for the breadth and depth of his knowledge on environmental law, a field in which Berryhill developed considerable expertise as it became increasingly important, worldwide.

“It’s always going to be controversial because you’re fighting over resource allocation,” Berryhill said of the field. “As I tell the students, environmental law is the study of the conflicts of resource allocation. As the resources get more and more scarce, the conflicts and the passions are going to become more severe.”

Berryhill wrote an article, “Creation, Liberation and Property: Virtues and Values Toward a Theocentric Earth Ethic,” on the environmental movement and faith that was published in the 2003-04 Regent University Law Review. It is the basis of many arguments that have since been articulated in the mainstream media about the fundamentalist Christian movement and environmental stewardship as a religious duty.

Berryhill grew up on a cotton farm outside Monette, Ark. While in high school, he attended Boys State at the same time as former President Bill Clinton.

“I don’t remember him, and he certainly doesn’t remember me,” Berryhill said.

Berryhill graduated from Arkansas State University in 1967 and joined the Navy, flying as a radar intercept officer. He returned to Arkansas for law school.

He entered private practice and later was finishing a master of laws degree at Columbia University when he was offered a teaching job at the Law School in 1976.

“Wade is one of the pioneers in the field” of environmental law, said Noah M. Sachs, assistant professor and faculty director of the Judge Robert R. Merhige Jr. Center for Environmental Studies. “His legacy and impact here have been tremendous. He put Richmond on the map as a school that’s committed to environmental law. We now have a few dozen alums in the field whom Wade mentored.”

“As a new environmental law professor here, I’m indebted to Wade for paving the way and helping to set up the Merhige center,” he said. When the center was established in 1985, Berryhill was its first acting director.

For Berryhill, law school is all about learning how to think.

“The side that wins is the one that’s best able to take the facts and say, ‘Because of these facts, this law should or should not be applied.’ It’s a thinking, analytical, judgmental process,” Berryhill said.

And so Berryhill persists, raising questions of wind farms, dredge and fill operations, and endangered species’ habitat protection—all issues of national importance and debate.

By his count, he has taught more than 7,000 students in 33 years, many of whom, he said, “are wonderful lawyers.”

Outside the classroom, Berryhill is a model train enthusiast. Better known is his affection for golf. On Aug. 15, 2004, he hit a 124-yard hole-in-one on the fourth hole at Ponce in Hot Springs, Ark.

Yes, he had witnesses.
Mister Media

Carl Tobias provides creative commentary

By Richard Foster
On an unseasonably warm February afternoon, law professor Carl Tobias enters his third-floor office carrying what appears to be a large briefcase. He opens it, and out pops Maggie, his 5-year-old terrier. A scruffy little black dog resembling Toto from The Wizard of Oz, the unofficial school mascot and Tobias’ constant companion, deftly navigates the drifts of paper and stacks of law texts that make up the topography of Tobias’ office floor, winding her way to her doggie bed and a well-chewed rawhide bone.

Amidst this academic rubble, with his thin, angular frame and thick, bottle-end glasses, Maggie’s master could easily be mistaken for the prototypical absent-minded professor, but after a minute of listening to Tobias on the phone, it’s clear his mind is exceedingly present.

“This is Carl Tobias. Sorry, I was in class,” he says, surfing his computer for news and court filings while speaking to a reporter from Forbes.com. “Well it sounds like they sued each other, right? I haven’t seen all the papers, but it looks like they’re both in disagreement.”

He continues, launching into a cogent examination of patent law and how it relates to a technological legal spat between Motorola and Blackberry maker Research in Motion.

Why was the suit filed in Texas, the reporter asks? “The Eastern District, where Motorola is filing, has a reputation for being very pro-plaintiff in patent litigation,” Tobias says. “They are probably relying on that.”

Like ubiquitous political commentator Larry Sabato of the University of Virginia, Tobias has become one of the Commonwealth’s most-quoted experts in the national media, discussing the legal ramifications of everything from sports scandals to gubernatorial endorsements of presidential candidates.

In February, Tobias was quoted in The New York Times, speculating on possible actions to come in the federal civil suit over the New England Patriots taping scandal. A couple of days later, he commented in the San Francisco Chronicle about Microsoft’s proposed hostile takeover of Yahoo Inc. He told The Washington Times why the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an American Civil Liberties Union challenge to the Bush administration’s controversial eavesdropping on international phone calls and e-mails.

The next day, he was quoted in a New Orleans Times-Picayune article, discussing appeal options in the bribery case against U.S. Rep. William Jefferson. And toward the end of the month, he spoke to the Anchorage Daily News about why the U.S. Supreme Court might eschew large punitive damage awards to the plaintiffs in the Exxon Valde case.

And those aren’t all the articles in which Tobias quotes appeared in those two weeks.

“Carl is one of the most prolific, creative, engaging faculty members I’ve ever worked with,” says Roberta Oster Sachs, associate dean for external relations. “He is a reporter’s dream because he can synthesize and summarize complex issues and make them interesting and understandable to a wide-ranging audience. In the legal profession, that’s not an easy task.”

He’s a PR person’s dream too, she says with a laugh. “To have someone like Carl get our name out there is more valuable than sending out a hundred glossy brochures. And it saves paper too!”

Many Richmond law faculty are quoted in local and national papers, but none of them approaches the sheer volume of ink and tape occupied by Carl Tobias.

“He is our media superstar,” Oster Sachs says.

Tobias, who joined the law faculty in 2003, and who serves as Williams Professor of Law, has been teaching for most of his professional life.

A 1972 University of Virginia law graduate, he briefly worked at Hunton & Williams in Richmond before joining the faculty at the University of Montana, where he taught law from 1975 to 1998. He then served as a founding faculty member of the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. At Richmond, Tobias lectures on topics such as constitutional law, products liability, and torts. He has organized conferences on issues including judicial selection, capital punishment, and immigration, and he engages in traditional scholarship and writing, including a recent article in Cornell Law Review for a symposium on the 100th anniversary of the Food and Drug Act.

“Carl is a top-notch legal scholar and a conscientious student of public policy and current events. He stays on top of a wide range of important issues that

Tobias “follows the news as closely as any journalist does. He knows what we ought to be writing before we write it.”

— Gail Chaddock
Christian Science Monitor
are central to the administration of justice," says Dean John G. Douglass. "Carl's fine work demonstrates that great universities serve their communities and our nation by providing well-informed and independent commentary on matters of public interest."

"Some people want to get quoted ... just to see their names in print, but he's genuinely interested in helping and explaining the law."

— Michael Schmidt
The New York Times

An online news junkie, Tobias is a daily reader of the Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The New York Times. Intrigued by something in an article, he'll Google the topic for more information. He also regularly visits legal sites such as the blog How Appealing. It "posts hourly stuff on breaking stories or new cases," he says. "That's always a good source for me."

Tobias "follows the news as closely as any journalist does. He knows what we ought to be writing about before we write it," says Gail Chaddock, a reporter for the Christian Science Monitor. One of her most valuable sources, Tobias is known for launching "frequent preemptive strikes," e-mailing reporters to let them know he's prepared and available to lend his expertise on a wide variety of breaking news stories. "You'll be watching something break on the floor of the Senate, and Carl is watching it too, and he'll send you a message saying, 'I'm available to talk.'"

That's how New York Times staff writer Michael S. Schmidt came to use Tobias as a regular source in his coverage of the federal dog-fighting case against former Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick. Tobias "is very acces-
sible and has a wide range of knowledge and expertise," says Schmidt, who has more recently quoted Tobias in articles about the congressional hearings into alleged steroid use by former New York Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens. "Some people who want to get quoted want to do it just to see their names in print, but he's genuinely interested in helping and explaining the law."

Tobias says he's not really a sports fan, but says, "I find the legal issues involved are interesting, and I like working with the sports [reporters]. I guess they're more down to earth."

Tobias believes he may gain more from his relationship with the media than the reporters do from him. For instance, he often gets the inside scoop and behind-the-scenes perspectives on major news stories.

"If it weren't informing my scholarship, I wouldn't do it," says Tobias, who writes a variety of articles for legal publications like FindLaw and the National Law Journal as well as newspaper op-ed pages on topics such as judicial selection and separation of powers. In particular, his opinion pieces have been critical of various Bush administration actions, such as the recent mass firings of U.S. attorneys and the war on terror. (Tobias has filed amicus briefs in U.S. Supreme Court cases attempting to free Guantanamo Bay detainees. "I'm troubled by the indefinite detention of people without giving them a day in court," he says. His wife of 16 years, Margaret "Peggy" Sanner, an attorney with global law firm Reed Smith, also does pro bono work for Guantanamo-related cases.)

Beyond his scholarship, there's a simpler reason why Tobias reaches out to the media: He is passionate about teaching the law. "I educate law students to be professionals in the legal arena," he says, "but I think it's probably more important to educate laypeople about what the law is, so it's not some technical morass that people can't understand."
Virginia Bar honors Bacigal

The Criminal Law Section of the Virginia State Bar presented its award for professionalism this year to Ronald J. Bacigal, a professor at the Law School.

In announcing the award, the bar recognized Bacigal for "a career that has left an imprint on his peers, his students, and the legal system."

A graduate of Concord University and Washington and Lee University School of Law, Bacigal was a Fulbright Scholar in international law in The Hague, Netherlands. He taught at the Judge Advocate General's School, and has taught at Richmond for more than 35 years. He has twice been recognized as a Distinguished Educator at the University and was presented an Outstanding Faculty Award by the Virginia Council of Higher Education in 1990. He is nationally recognized as a scholar of Fourth Amendment Law.

The Harry L. Carrico Professionalism Award was established in recognition of the career of The Honorable Harry L. Carrico, former chief justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia. The award is presented to one "who exemplifies the highest ideals and aspirations of professionalism in the administration of justice in Virginia."

Azizah al-Hibri was included in a program on "Global Islam: Promoting Dialogue," presented in May by the York Diversity Program. In the film "Muslims in America," al-Hibri addressed stereotypes about Islam and revealed diversity that exists within the Islamic faith.

Tara Casey, director of the Law School's Pro Bono Services program, spoke in May at the American Bar Association's Equal Justice Conference in Minneapolis. Her topic was "Unique Public Service Partnerships Between Law Schools and Local Institutions." Such collaborations on pro bono and public service projects represent an ongoing expansion in the holistic delivery of services to clients whose problems cross into a variety of specialties. Casey focused on the Law School's Richmond Families Initiative and a project addressing prisoner re-entry issues.

Casey also has been appointed to the board of directors of the Richmond Bar Association.

Henry L. Chambers Jr. published "Dred Scott: Tiered Citizenship and Tiered Personhood," in 82 Chicago-Kent Law Review 209 (2007). Chambers also served as a citizen member of a subcommittee of the Virginia General Assembly seeking to determine what impact recent Supreme Court desegregation rulings may have on Virginia's efforts to provide desegregated education to its children. Chambers was a member of the Yale University Gilder Lehrman Center's Slavery and the Law Working Group.

Timothy L. Coggins, associate dean for library and information services and professor of law, is the co-chair of the American Association of Law Libraries' Joint Study Planning Committee. The committee held a conference in June at Georgetown University Law Center for law librarians from the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the United Kingdom. The theme was "Harmonization and Confrontation: Integrating Foreign and International Law into the American Legal System."

Coggins also served as program director for Richmond's summer program at Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge. Thirty-five law students from Richmond and other schools attended.
John G. Douglass was among area leaders in the law quoted in an April 30 article in the Richmond Times-Dispatch discussing Richmond’s status as a major legal market.

Joel B. Eisen was quoted in the Florida newspaper The Reporter in March on electric utility company liabilities incidents such as the cascading blackout suffered in Florida last February. He noted that Federal Energy Commission rules adopted last year may create or exacerbate outages while foiling private lawsuits by keeping specifics of violations out of public view. Eisen is an authority on energy law.

David Frisch prepared a series of five "Expert Commentaries" on Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) topics for Lexis/Nexis.

James Gibson’s article “Doctrinal Feedback and (Un)Reasonable Care” will be published in the Virginia Law Review this fall. An earlier article, "Risk Aversion and Rights Accretion in Intellectual Property Law,” was selected by Thomson/West to be reprinted in the Intellectual Property Law Review as one of "the best intellectual property law review articles" of 2007. In April, Gibson moderated a panel on "Hot Topics in Copyright and Trademark Law” at the ABA’s 23rd annual Intellectual Property Law Conference. In March, he was a conference fellow at a University of Georgia symposium on Patent Failure: How Judges, Bureaucrats, and Lawyers Put Innovators at Risk. In February, he was a panelist at a program on "Campus Rights vs. Copyrights—The Entertainment Industry’s Battle with Higher Education” at the Chronicle of Higher Education’s annual Technology Forum.

Gibson also participated in a "mobblog” on the University of Chicago Law School’s faculty blog on "The New Servitudes.” In January, he presented a paper, “Unreasonable Care,” at a faculty workshop at the University of Virginia School of Law. In December, Gibson was a panelist on “Problems” at the Copyright Alliance’s Symposium on Copyright and the University, held at George Washington University. Gibson was widely quoted in media, including: Chronicle of Higher Education, March 7, 2008, "Frank Talk About Hacker Attacks, Emergency Notification, and Online Piracy” and in the Chronicle, April 4, 2008, in "How Higher Education and Industry Can Move Forward on File Sharing”; and in Electronic Commerce and Law, “To Combat File Sharing on Campus Copyright Clarity Needed, Educators Say,” Jan. 2, 2008.

Gibson was quoted in The New York Times, Dec. 31, 2007, in “In the Fight Over Piracy, a Rare Stand for Privacy.” He also was featured in Patent, Copyright & Trademark Law Daily, Dec. 18, 2007, article “To Combat File Sharing on Campus, We need Copyright Clarity, Educators Claim.”


Melissa Goemann, director of the Juvenile Law and Policy Clinic at the Law School, and her students worked closely with Virginia legislators during the 2008 General Assembly session on bills affecting juvenile justice issues. One focus of the clinic is establishment of an Office of the Children’s Ombudsman. Chad Rogers, 2L, testified before the House Criminal Law Subcommittee of the Court of Justice during the session on a bill dealing with the juvenile record expungement statute.

Mary L. Heen completed a two-year term as general counsel of the American Association of University Professors in August after meetings of its executive committee, national council, and committee on academic freedom and tenure. She also served on AAUP’s restructuring task force, litigation committee, legal defense fund board, and as chair of the election committee.

Heen worked with AAUP on a variety of legal issues related to higher education. AAUP participated as amicus curiae in employment discrimination cases before the Supreme Court of the United States. AAUP also was involved in cases involving tenured professors and issues of academic speech and freedom, and dealing with First Amendment rights of American academics. AAUP also challenged a version of the USA Patriot Act relating to National Security Letters involving researchers, such as
Junior Faculty Forum. She was interviewed on WRVA radio on the U.S. Supreme Court's decision, *Baze v. Rees*, in April. She was interviewed on National Public Radio in April on the Supreme Court's decision *Moore v. Commonwealth*. Lain also published an op-ed piece in the April 22 issue of the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* on the "Norfolk Four" case titled "Questions of Guilt, Innocence." The case deals with four sailors who were convicted on the basis of questionable confessions.

**Shari Motro** shared her unusual perspective on the presidential elections with the British newspaper *The Guardian*. A native of Israel, she wrote of casting her ballot in the Virginia primary for Barack Obama. (See http://commentisfree.guardian.co.uk/shari_motro/2008/02/my_audacious_hope.html.)

**Kristen Osenga's** article "Information May Want to Be Free" was chosen for presentation to the Michigan State IP Scholars Roundtable and will be published in the *Cardozo Law Review*. The Association of American Law Schools recognized Osenga at its annual meeting for her use of iPod technology as a teaching tool in her trademark law course.

**Noah Sachs** participated in April in an expert working group on European Union and United States approaches to climate change, sponsored by the Transatlantic Platform for Action on the Global Environment. In May, Sachs testified before Gov. Tim

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**Awarded tenure**

**Corinna B. Lain**

The past year has been a good one for Corinna Barrett Lain. She published lead articles in two top-tier journals, *Duke Law Journal* and *Washington Law Review*, and she was chosen to give the *Duke Law Journal* annual fall lecture. The Virginia Junior Faculty Forum, her creation, brought exposure to the Law School's impressive untenured law faculty and attention from other academics looking to copy the workshop series.

And in April, Lain, a former prosecutor who joined the law faculty in 2001, became the first faculty member in six years to be awarded tenure.

Tenure, she says, "inspires me to invest more in my school, and especially to do all I can to ensure the success of junior faculty. I had so much support coming up here, I want to give that back."

Lain is a familiar face to Virginia lawyers as a result of her work in continuing legal education. One of her mentors on the faculty, Ronald J. Bacigal, encouraged her participation. "I get as much as I give," Lain says. "It helps me stay connected to the larger legal community, which makes me a better teacher and scholar."

Lain also acknowledges as mentors Dean John G. Douglass and professor Mary L. Heen.

Douglass recruited her to the faculty and sets a high bar. "He is the kind of teacher-scholar I want to be," Lain says. Heen offers invaluable insight, judgment, and demeanor. "She listens more than she speaks and when she does speak, it is always wise and thoughtful," Lain says.

With Douglass's recent appointment as dean, Lain predicts that the Law School will thrive. The momentum "is palpable," Lain says, "and Dean Douglass is committed to strong classroom teaching, community outreach, and top-notch scholarship."

"Richmond Law is an institution to watch," she says. "A great place is about to get even better."

Lain and her husband, John, a partner at McGuireWoods, have two daughters, ages eight and four.
Kaine's Climate Commission on what Virginia can learn from the European climate change strategy. Sachs is faculty director of the Robert R. Merhige Jr. Center for Environmental Studies at the Law School.

Peter N. Swisher has been appointed Court Reporter for Civil Cases by the Court of Appeals of Virginia. He will serve as advisor, editor, and counsel to the court as it drafts options. His role will be significant to developing law in areas including family law, Swisher's field of specialization. He is taking over the position vacated by Robert E. Shepherd Jr., law professor emeritus, who is retiring. Swisher also published the 2008, revised edition of Virginia Family Law with co-authors Laurence D. Diehl and James R. Cottrell, L'77, as part of the Thomson/West Virginia Practice Series. He also wrote the article "Causation Requirements in Tort and Insurance Law Practice: Demystifying Some Legal Causation Riddles." The article appeared in volume 43 of Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal, which was published in February.

In April, Swisher was quoted in the Los Angeles Times and Bloomberg News on child custody issues resulting from the raid on a polygamist ranch in El Dorado, Texas, by state and federal law enforcement and child welfare officials. Swisher co-hosted a Moot Court presentation with Karen Swisher, L'81, and her students dealing with terminal end-of-life issues for a minor child in the case of In re Gonzales.


Tobias was a widely quoted contributor to the debates over judicial selection and driver fees, as well as the Michael Vick litigation, appearing on outlets, including WTVR, WDBJ, Cox TV, Bloomberg Radio, CBS Radio, ABC Radio, KNPR, WRVA, WCVE, Oregon Public Radio and WTOP.

Sally Wambold writes a quarterly preservation column for Technical Services Law Librarian, a newsletter of two special interest sections of the American Association of Law Libraries.

New faculty

Three new faculty will join the Law School this summer, and four professors will visit. The new faculty are William O. Fisher, Dale Margolin, and John F. Preis.

Fisher's law degree is from Yale Law School. He holds a master's degree in public policy from Harvard. He has been a visiting faculty member at Tulane Law School and lecturer at the University of California, Boalt Hall. He has held positions in private practice, and in the U.S. Justice Department. His work has been published in Venture Capital & Public Offering Negotiations, and Emory Law Journal.

Margolin holds a law degree from Columbia University School of Law. He has been interim director of the child advocacy clinic at St. John's University School of Law in New York and was a Skadden Fellow in the Legal Aid Society in New York. His publications include the University of Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law, and Represent Magazine.

Preis earned his law degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law. He comes from Brooklyn Law School and worked previously as a commodity trader with Archer Daniels Midland Co. His articles have been published in Connecticut Law Review, Wake Forest Law Review, and the Encyclopedia of International Security Studies.

Visiting faculty are Cyra Akila Choudhury from the Florida International University College of Law, Maurizio Del Conte of the University of Bocconi in Italy, Nathan B. Oman from the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at The College of William and Mary, and Valerie K. Vojdik from the West Virginia University College of Law.
Student boxer finds parallels in courtroom and ring

Like a lot of law students, Kristina Perry trains hard, sparring with the opposition, looking for an opening, going for the knockout. But for Perry this is no metaphor.

Before she completed her second year at the Law School this spring, Perry won the Virginia state women’s boxing championship in her weight class.

“It gives me a bit of an intimidation factor,” she says with a laugh. “It’s a very interesting extracurricular activity for a law student.”

Perry, who grew up in Charlottesville, Va., and graduated from Virginia Tech, had been athletic all her life, but she had never tried boxing until the summer after her first year in law school. She was interning in Washington, D.C., looking for a way to get some exercise and release stress. A friend of her sister’s was coaching boxing at a nearby gym.

“I’m a pretty aggressive person, and I wanted to give it a try. I took to it,” she says. “Once I started, I didn’t just want to be in it for the exercise.”

Back in Richmond, she found InMotion Boxing, a club in Chesterfield County. Perry is one of two women who compete through the club, and while she spars with men there, “my 125-pound female coach is the person who’s hit me the hardest,” she says. “Getting punched is a bit humbling.”

The requisite toughness and training will come in handy, she predicts. “It helps me to get stress out of my life and work through problems with a cooler head. I’ve learned to be analytical while being aggressive.”

Perry plans to go into sports law and being an athlete will help, though “my education is what’s going to serve me best,” she says.

In addition to her boxing, Perry is editor-in-chief of the Journal of Global Law and Business.

Katrina transplant argues before appeals court

Thrid-year law student Christine D. Salmon, who came to the Law School from Tulane University after hurricane Katrina, argued two cases before the Massachusetts Court of Appeals this year.

Salmon’s arguments arose from her summer internship at the Suffolk County district attorney’s office.

Beginning this summer, Salmon will clerk for Judge...
Alexandra DiPentima of the Connecticut Appellate Court. Salmon came to the Law School from Tulane when it closed after the hurricane, staying with David and Marguerite Ruby, L'83 and L'86, both of whom practice in Richmond. She decided to continue her studies at Richmond. (See photo, page 29.)

Richmond team wins advocacy competition

The Law School’s Trial Advocacy Board fielded winning teams this year in competitions testing trial advocacy skills.

In March, Erica Giovanni, Scott Jones, Rob Windle, and Kristen Wright won the American Association for Justice 2008 Regional Student Trial Advocacy Competition in Washington, D.C., defeating a team from the University of Virginia School of Law in the final round.

In April, the team competed in nationals in West Palm Beach, Fla., finishing fourth of 225 teams.

The TAB also fielded strong teams in other competitions. Buckley Warden, Chris Johnston, Jeanine Panzera, and Ashleigh Ward competed in the National ABA Labor and Employment Law finals in Chicago in January.

Student wins McNeil Writing Competition

Jeffrey D. Chadwick, 2L, won the top prize in this year’s McNeil Writing Competition, sponsored by the McNeil Law Society.

Chadwick’s paper was “Proving Preemption by Proving Exemption: The Quandary of the National Securities Market Improvement Act.” The prize includes $300 and publication in the University of Richmond Law Review.

H. Ross Gibson, 3L, won second place and $200.

Third place and $100 went to Sarah E. Bruscia, 3L.

Students join ‘Wills on Wheels’

Four law students joined the Virginia State Bar’s Senior Lawyers Conference and Williams Mullen in May to launch Wills on Wheels, a program that provides free estate planning services to eligible senior citizens in Virginia.

Victoria Allen, Jarrod Blackwood, Eryk Boston, and Dustin Davis joined volunteer attorneys to assist in drafting basic wills, advanced medical directives, and powers of attorney.

Students win fellowships, awards

Matt Hull, 1L, has been awarded a Steiger Fellowship by the American Bar Association’s antitrust section. He was selected from hundreds of applicants and is the only fellow from Virginia. The fellowship provides $5,000 to support his work this summer in an externship in the public service division of the Virginia Attorney General’s office.

The Janet D. Steiger Fellowships were initiated in 2004 by the ABA Section of Antitrust Law, in cooperation with the National Association of Attorneys General.

Tony Bessette, 1L, received the Virginia International Business Council’s annual $1,000 scholarship in support of his study of international business law in Asia.

Alejandra Zapatero, 1L, received a $1,500 grant from the University’s International Education Program to support her research this summer in Guatemala. Zapatero will join a professor from Virginia Commonwealth University to study legal questions related to adoption.

Jonathan Falk, 1L, has been awarded a $1,500 grant from the Carole Weinstein Fund to support a summer project in Israel. He will work for Richard Laster, L’69, an environmental attorney in Jerusalem.
Recognizing significant alumni accomplishments

From law school to Google to superdelegates

When the Democrats gather in August to name their ticket for the presidential election, Rick Klau, L'96, will play a key role in the most technology-oriented convention in history.

As coordinator of Google's team in Denver (the company also will work with the Republicans in Minneapolis), he will help establish the convention's interactive Web presence.

By then, Klau will have been involved in the Democrats' turbulent nominating process for months via a Web site he designed to fill a need that traditional media have not met.

Back in February, when pundits predicted the race for the Democratic nomination would be decided by early caucuses and primaries, Klau had a revelation. "Super Tuesday" probably would not end the contest. In fact, Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama were likely to split primary wins, meaning neither would lock the nomination up until the August convention neared.

"That meant these 'super delegates' were likely to come into play," Klau said. "I quickly found out there was no single resource that gave information about them all, and I was curious. It was an itch worth scratching."

The result was superdelegates.org, which went online in February, drawing mentions on CNN, NPR, Wired magazine, and The Wall Street Journal. It registered more than 500,000 page views in less than a month. In March, Google's founders, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, demonstrated the site at the company's weekly TGIF meeting.

"Remarkable," said Klau.

In a campaign season that has generated huge voter turnout across the nation, traffic on the site "indicates there are thousands of people looking for information on these superdelegates who might very well decide the race," Klau said.

An Obama supporter, Klau said his purpose with the site is nonpartisan. "We want to make sure there's transparency in the process. We want people to know who these [super delegates] are, how they work, and whom they are supporting so this doesn't look like a smoke-filled-room kind of deal."

Modeled on Wikipedia so readers can edit what they see, the site includes biographies of each super delegate, maps locating them around the country, and a list of their endorsements.

"It's been more successful than we imagined," Klau said. There have been no instances of vandalism that sometimes afflicts similar sites, and superdelegates themselves have offered praise. "They appreciate being able to learn something about one another," Klau said.

Klau's nontraditional career path began typically. He came to Richmond after earning a liberal arts degree from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania. "My original intent was to practice law, but one of the reasons I chose Richmond was because it was one of the first law schools in the country to require students to have laptops. Lafayette had been one of the first schools to have Internet access for everyone, and I knew technology was something I was going to focus on. Richmond was going to give me a chance to explore how law and technology collide."
At the Law School, Klau distinguished himself by founding the *Journal of Law and Technology* (*JOLT*). "It's exciting to see it continues to thrive," he said.

Klau never did practice law. *JOLT* brought him recognition from the publishing community, he said. He established links at LexisNexis and Martindale-Hubbell that led to a job with a tech startup that was building intranets and Web sites for law firms. From there he moved to a company that was working on networks for litigation management. Next, he moved to Feedburner in Chicago, which helped publishers ranging from bloggers to *USA Today* distribute content over the Internet. The business grew to where it was working with thousands of publishers, and Google bought it.

Today, Klau works for Google in Mountain View, Calif., in the content partnership group. "We're responsible for acquiring content for Google, which can mean negotiating partnerships and relationships, and working with the product teams to identify what we need and how we can acquire it," he said. "Google has a significant legal department so they don't want me practicing law, but I do quite a bit of negotiation, typically on the business side," he said. "It is always helpful to have a legal background."

Klau said he has been pleased with the Law School's continued emphasis on technology, both as a learning tool and through the Intellectual Property Institute.

"That students are coming out of Richmond better educated in the technology space makes the Law School more relevant," he said. "As an alumnus, that makes me proud. It means we'll have more good lawyers to help us get this right."

Klau was on campus in April for a symposium on social networks on the Internet. (See story, page 5.)

**Virginia bar honors Katz**

Phyllis C. Katz, L'82, co-founder of the Legal Information Network for Cancer (LINC), was presented the 2008 Lewis F. Powell Jr. Pro Bono Award in May by the Virginia State Bar. The award recognizes dedication to development and delivery of pro bono services that benefit poor and underserved people in Virginia.

Katz and Ann C. Hodges, a professor at the Law School, founded LINC to provide legal counsel to people facing daunting legal issues that often come with a cancer diagnosis. LINC has 90 volunteer attorneys throughout the state and has served more than 3,000 patients. Katz credits the Law School and her firm, Sands Anderson Marks and Miller, with making LINC possible.

**Belleman named 'outstanding woman’**

YWCA of Richmond presented Pamela Smith Belleman, B'B3 and L'86, with one of its 2008 Outstanding Women Awards. She was one of 10 women honored.

Belleman was recognized for professional achievements in a practice that focuses on commercial development and real estate. She also was honored for service to the Troutman Sanders firm in promoting diversity in hiring, client services, and community outreach. Belleman provides pro bono work for several non-profit organizations including the YWCA.

**Barnes earns lifetime award**

Edward D. Barnes, L'72, the founding chair of the National Center for Family Law at the University, has been named the 2008 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Virginia State Bar's Family Law Section. The award recognizes persons who have demonstrated excellence and integrity, and who have made substantial contributions to the practice of family law in Virginia.

Barnes was recognized for his contributions to continuing legal education and the VSB Family Law Section, the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, and the Metro Richmond Family Law Bar Association.
Richmond Law magazine is looking for information on alumni to include in Class Notes. If you have news or if you would like to gather and send news of your classmates, please contact us at LawAlumni@Richmond.edu or Law Alumni, University of Richmond School of Law, University of Richmond, VA 23173, (804) 289-8028.

1960s

Irving M. Blank, L'67, managing partner at ParisBlank in Richmond, was inducted as a fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation (VLF) on Jan. 17, 2008. The VLF fellows are Virginia attorneys, law professors, and retired judges who are deemed to be outstanding in their profession and in their community.

1970s

David Storey Mercer, L'73, and Lucia Anna Trigiani, L'83, both of Alexandria, Va., have formed the law firm MercerTrigiani. The firm offers corporate, litigation, and public policy legal counsel to condominium unit owner associations, property owners associations, real estate cooperative proprietary lessee associations, timeshare associations, real estate developers, and individual owners throughout Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Harold L. Kestenbaum, L'75, is chairman of the franchise and distribution practice group at Ruskin Moscou Faltischek in Long Island, N.Y.

Dennis L. Belcher, L'76, is president-elect of the American College of Trust and Estate. He is with McGuireWoods.

Stephen A. Bryant, L'77, of Richmond, has been named a partner with WallacePledger.

Theodore L. "Ted" Chandler Jr., L'77, chairman and CEO of LandAmerica Financial Group Inc. in Richmond, has been elected to the board of governors for the American Land Title Association.

Richard B. "Rick" Chess, L'77, managing partner at Chess Law Firm and president of the American Realty Capital Markets, has been elected president of the Richmond Association of Business Economists. He is a lawyer and investment banker, and a former Pennsylvania state legislator.

Gordon M. Cooley, L'78, is executive vice president for the western Maryland region for PNC Bank, following the acquisition of Mercantile Bankshares Corp. by PNC Financial Services Group.

Thomas R. Klein, L'78, is senior vice president of LandAmerica Financial Group Inc. in Richmond. He is chair-elect of the Richmond Business Council of the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Cheryl, adopted a daughter, Angelina Suzanne, who was born July 14, 2007.

John V. Cogbill, L'79, of Richmond, has been named first vice chair with the Virginia War Memorial Educational Foundation. He is a partner at McGuireWoods.

Edward P. Roberts, L'79, of Richmond, is one of the Top 5 Producers of 2007 with GVA Advantis Richmond. He was companywide top producer at the firm in 2007.

Robert Lee Samuel Jr., L'79, was named one of the Best Lawyers in Virginia by Virginia Business magazine in the area of civil litigation. He also was included in the 2007 edition of the Best Lawyers in America in personal injury and was appointed to a fourth term as commissioner of the Chesapeake Redevelopment and Housing Authority, where he was elected chairman.

1980s

Stephen E. Baril, L'80, was recognized by Super Lawyers magazine as a leader in business litigation. He is with Williams Mullen in Richmond.
ALUMNI PROFILE

Courtroom innovator

Judge A. Ellen White, L'83

A. Ellen White found her calling while serving as a substitute judge for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts in Campbell County, Va.

Today, she sits on the bench there, and she also serves as a trustee of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, which trains judges and other court officials, and works to improve their effectiveness.

The 32 members of the board represent different states and courts. "Needs can be different from court to court," says White. "The board tries to tailor things to meet the needs of judges in any court."

As a member of the National Council's Juvenile and Family Law Department Advisory Committee, White was involved in creating bench cards (easy reference guides) for making realistic and enforceable orders for child support. In her Virginia courtroom, she has been using innovative problem-solving techniques to enforce child support orders.

White always has been interested in the law. "My mother reminds me that I wanted to become a lawyer when I was in the fifth grade," she says. Her interest in family law began in professor Bob Shepherd's classroom at Richmond. (See story, page 12.) It continued after graduation, culminating in the judgeship just over a decade later.

White was working for the law firm Joseph R. Johnson Jr. and Associates in Lynchburg when she learned that the J & D Court was adding an additional judgeship. She let local legislators know she was interested, and in 1994, she was appointed judge.

Today, White is pleased the Law School is broadening its involvement in the field by creating the National Center for Family Law. "It's wonderful that they are taking a leading role in that," she says.

White also applauds First Lady Anne B. Holton's efforts to improve the juvenile justice system. "One of her initiatives is achieving permanent families for teens placed in foster care," White says. "That's a noble goal."

Since taking the bench, White has seen a decrease in the number of juvenile delinquency cases but a significant increase in the civil docket for custody, visitation, and child support cases. "We try to make alternatives—mediation, referral to parent education seminars, etc.—available to litigants," she says.

Though her caseload is growing, White wouldn't change her career. "I really love what I do," she says. "I'm not sure everybody can say that about their job."

By Joan Tupponce

Janice R. Moore, L'81, has joined Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP as a partner in the firm's corporate practice in Washington, D.C. Moore's capital markets practice involves a wide range of derivatives, structured products, and other risk management activities. Her energy practice involves physical and financial trading and structured transactions for energy commodities in international and domestic markets.

Linda F. Rigsby, L'81, of counsel at Williams Mullen in Richmond, was inducted as a fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation (VLF) on Jan. 17, 2008. The VLF fellows are Virginia attorneys, law professors, and retired judges who are deemed to be outstanding in their profession and in their community.

Lucia Anna Trigiani, L'83, and David Storey Mercer, L'73, both of Alexandria, Va., have formed the law firm TrigianiMercer. The firm offers corporate, litigation, and public policy legal counsel to condominium unit owner associations, property owners associations, real estate cooperative proprietary lease associations, timeshare associations, real estate developers, and individual owners throughout Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Patricia Johnson Arrighi, L'84, and Donna DiServio Lange, L'84, attended the Virginia State Bar CLU trip to Florence, Italy, in November 2007.

Kirk T. Schroder, L'84, has been named to the board of directors of Virginians for the Arts.

Susan Williams, L'84, who took early retirement from law practice many years ago, has published her first full-length collection of poetry, Ashes in Midair, which won the Many Mountains Moving Poetry Book Contest. In addition to writing poetry, she is a book review editor and associate literary editor of the online journal Blackbird. (www.blackbird.vcu.edu)

John Overton Harris, L'85, was elected Hanover Circuit Court judge.

Michele A.W. McKinnon, L'85, of Richmond, is secretary of the board
Send your photos! If you have photos of Law School alumni at recent events and would like to share them with fellow alumni, send high-resolution files to Lawalumni@richmond.edu.

Kenneth H. Edwards, R’82 and L’87, of Midlothian, Va., has joined Long and Foster.

Teri C. Miles, L’87, is senior assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Mark S. Paulin, B’81 and L’87, was featured in a Midlothian Exchange story on “Midlo Faces.”

Michael G. Phelan, L’87, is a partner and director with Butler Williams & Skilling in Richmond.

W. Ryan Snow, L’87, was listed in the 2007 Rising Stars edition of Virginia Super Lawyers by Law & Politics magazine for his work in civil litigation defense. He is an attorney at Crenshaw, Ware & Martin in Norfolk, Va.

Stanley P. Wellman, L’87, of Richmond, has been named president-elect of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys. He is a partner with Harmon Claytor Corrigan & Wellman.

Michele Lewane Busch, L’89, opened her own firm, Injured Workers Law Firm in Richmond. Her focus is on legal representation of injured workers in worker’s compensation matters.

David A. Garrison, L’89, has been elected to the board at the Volunteer English Program in Chester County, Pa.

John L. Walker III, L’89, was recognized by Super Lawyers magazine as a leader in business litigation. He is with Williams Mullen in Richmond.

1990s

John Denison, L’91, is a member of the commercial business group at Cherry, Bekaert & Holland in Richmond. He provides tax-planning services related to key business issues, such as mergers and acquisitions, executive compensation, consolidated tax return planning, state tax planning, international tax planning, and IRS and state audit defense projects.

George L. Hiller, L’91, received a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education to develop an international business study in China program. He is the director of international programs at the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon, Va. He also is an adjunct associate professor in the University of Richmond’s School of Continuing Studies.


Nancy W. Reaves, L’91, is the school division attorney for Hampton, Va.

W. Edward Riley, L’91, has formed Riley & Wells with Mitchell M. Wells. They practice criminal law, traffic defense, and personal injury law in Richmond.

Sarah “Sally” Campbell, L’93, is dispute resolution coordinator in the Department of Judicial Services at the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Mary Louise Costello Daniel, L’93, of Winchester, Va., has been appointed to the Berryville Town Council.

Vishwa Bhargava Link, L’93, has joined McGuireWoods as a partner in the firm’s energy and utilities department.
Mark F. Leep, L'93, has been appointed vice chair of the Bon Secours Richmond Health System Review Board, responsible for the scientific, regulatory, and ethical review of biomedical and behavioral research on human participants within the system.

James M. Villani, L'94, and Helen Z. Galette formed the firm of Villani & Galette, which concentrates in areas of elder law, estate planning, administration, and litigation.

Save the date!
On October 17 and 18, the Law School will host its annual Law Weekend. This is the reunion year for the classes ending in ‘3’ and ‘8’. Join us!

Alicia Zatcoff, L'94, was chosen to participate in Pups on Parade, a public art campaign in Richmond designed to raise awareness for FETCH a Cure, a non-profit dedicated to raising canine cancer awareness. While continuing to work as an attorney, Zatcoff is a part-time artist concentrating on pet portraits and animal artwork. She donates some proceeds from her sales to animal welfare charities.

Theron T. Jackson, L'95, and his wife, Christina Harris Jackson, L'96, welcomed their first child, Logan Harris, on Dec. 4, 2007. Theron Jackson is a special agent with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Christina Jackson is director of career services for the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in Montgomery, Ala.

Elliot Purcell Park, L'95, has been elected chair of the International Practice Section of the Virginia State Bar. He also has been elected a member of the Board of Visitors of Fishburne Military School in Waynesboro, Va., and is president of the Virginia Boat Club in Richmond.

Jeffrey Scott Shapiro, L'95, is a partner at McGuireWoods in Richmond.

Shena Renee Dixon, L'96, has joined Parker, Pollard & Brown in Richmond as an associate. Her practice is in family law, guardianship, domestic relations, commercial and residential real estate, and criminal and traffic law.

Jonathon Lack, L'96, has been appointed Standing Family Master for the Superior Court in Anchorage, Alaska.

Joshua F.P. Long, L'96, has been named a principal at Woods Rogers. He is a member of the firm’s litigation section, where he concentrates on business torts, contract disputes, unfair competition, and intellectual property.

Stephen R. McCullough, L'97, is Virginia’s deputy solicitor general at the Attorney General’s office in Richmond. He argued the state’s position in Moore v. Virginia before the Supreme Court of the United States in January.

Byrum W. Cooper Jr., L'98, was reappointed public defender of Steuben County, NY.

Perry W. Miles, L'98, is a partner at McGuireWoods in Richmond.

Christine M. Sims, L'98, is a member in the labor and employment law firm of Constandy, Brooks & Smith in Winston-Salem, N.C.

Nancy S. Gistover, L'99, was chosen as a 2006 American Library Association Spectrum Scholar and attended the graduate school of library and information science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is librarian at Lincoln College of Technology in Marietta, Ga. Read her blog at www.nanlovesyarn.blogspot.com.

Amy Miller, L'99, is a partner at McGuireWoods in Tysons Corner, Va.

Michael James Rothermel, L'99, has been elected director of Spotts Fain.

Troy Savenko, L'99, is assistant general counsel with Cavalier Telephone and Television.

2000s

James Jarrett Reid, L'00, of Williamsburg, Va., is a partner with Kaufman & Canoles.

Romana Taylor, L'00, wrote the film Camp DOA, which was one of the films showcased at the 2008 Pan African Film and Arts Festival held in Los Angeles in February. The film was produced by Magic City Films in Birmingham, Ala., and stars Erik Dellaums and Christopher Clay. Taylor represents the Richmond City Attorney’s office on the Richmond Multidisciplinary Task Force teams and on the Oliver Hill Courts’ millennium planning team advisory committee.

Chris Ashby, R'96 and L'01, has joined LeClair Ryan in Washington, D.C. He is pursuing a master’s of law degree at Georgetown University focusing on political law.

John H. Filice, L'01, an attorney at Rubin, Glickman, Steinberg and Gifford, was named a Rising Star in the December 2007 edition of Philadelphia Magazine.

Jill McIntyre, L'01, is a non-equity member of Jackson Kelly. She practices in the firm’s litigation department with an emphasis on legal professional liability and tort cases related to the extraction of natural resources.

M.F. Connell Mullins Jr., L'01, has been elected an officer and director of Spotts Fain PC. His practice focuses on commercial and business litigation, products liability and toxic tort defense, and intellectual property litigation.

Jayne A. Pemberton, L'01, an attorney with the risk management practice group at Sands Anderson Marks & Miller in Richmond, was honored as a Big Sister of the Year by the Big Brothers and Sisters of Central Virginia for her mentoring and volunteer efforts. A mentor with the program since 2003, she has been on the organization’s board of directors since 2006.
Laura Osterman Burke, L'02, is an associate with McIntyre, Hartye, & Schmitt in Hollidaysburg, Pa. Her practice is in medical malpractice defense.

Delphine G. Carnes, L'02, was listed in the 2007 Rising Stars edition of Virginia Super Lawyers by Law & Politics magazine for her work in government, cities, and municipalities law. She is an attorney at Crenshaw, Ware & Martin in Norfolk, Va.


Tom Garrett, R'94 and L'02, was elected commonwealth's attorney for Louisa County, Va., in November 2007. He also became the first constitutional officer in Louisa since Reconstruction to win as a Republican. Tom and his wife, Dana, live in the Holly Grove area of Louisa County. They have two daughters, Carolyn, 9, and Laura, 6.

Buddy Omohundro, L'02, is senior vice president and general counsel at Apex Systems Inc. in Richmond.

Robert J. Allen, L'03, is an associate at Spotts Fain in the firm's Richmond and Irvington, Va., offices. His practice focuses on business and real estate. In 2007, he was married to the former Caroline Nickel.

Terry Catherine Frank, L'03, is an associate with Kaufman & Canoles in Richmond. Her practice focuses on litigation, real estate finance, and commercial business.

Jeffrey M. Bauer, L'04, is vice chair of the Richmond Business Council of the Greater Richmond Chamber of Commerce.

Katharina Marie Kreye, L'04, of Richmond, is an associate at Midkiff, Muncie & Ross. Her practice focuses on defense general litigation, property liability and worker's compensation, subrogation and insurance coverage.

ALUMNI PROFILE

A career with the FBI

Patrick Kiernan, L'84

Law enforcement is in Patrick Kiernan's DNA. His father and two uncles were sheriff's officers in New Jersey. His mother's brothers were FBI agents. So it is no surprise that Kiernan serves as assistant special agent in charge of the FBI's Little Rock, Ark., division.

During his career with the agency, Kiernan has worked on everything from foreign counter intelligence and counter terrorism to the drug squad, public corruption, and health care fraud. He's investigated violent and organized crime, gangs, and cyber criminals.

Kiernan came to Richmond from New Jersey, drawn by the school's smaller size, which meant greater interaction with faculty. He also was drawn by the opportunity to work in the region's richly varied legal community.

After graduation, he returned to New Jersey, where he practiced law in a small firm. "It was okay, but it wasn't for me. I already had the FBI in the back of my mind," he says. "I have always viewed the FBI as a premier law enforcement organization. I wanted to go with the best."

In 1987, he made the change, starting with the FBI in Dallas. "It was a busy time in my life," he says. He served as a legal advisor for his office, and he was a member of the evidence response team often working high-profile cases that required legal expertise.

In June 1998, Kiernan returned to Virginia where he taught ethics and the prevention of police corruption at the FBI Academy. He has traveled the world conducting ethics training for FBI agents and other police agencies.

During that same time, Kiernan was tapped as liaison for the Office of Special Counsel in Washington, D.C., to help review the FBI's actions at Waco, Texas. He also worked at the bureau's Strategic Information Operations Center after the terrorist attacks of 2001.

"I got to see how we developed all those suspects and profiles, who they were, and where they had been," he says. "When I drove to the FBI that first week, I had to go by the smoldering Pentagon. It really hit home that this is why we do our job at the FBI."

Kiernan was promoted to his current position in September 2007, after serving as a field supervisor in Salt Lake City.

It's demanding work that requires family support, he says. "You're always on call, no question about it, but I really believe my work makes a difference in peoples' lives."

By Joan Tupponce
James Madison Metcalfe, L’04, of Virginia Beach, was admitted to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Bar and is working for the Supreme Court of Guam.

Nhon Nguyen, L’04, James Schettine, ’01 and L’04, and Angela Schettine, L’01, of Schettine & Nguyen in Richmond, won the Attorney General’s Cup as the law firm that raised the most food per capita in the annual Legal Food Frenzy. Schettine & Nguyen contributed more than 1.3 million pounds of food to the drive, Attorney General Robert McDonnell announced. The competition benefits the Federation of Virginia Food Banks. (See photo on page 27.)

Victoria Balestriere Bova, L’05, lives in Baltimore with her husband, Keith G. Bova II, L’06. She is a corporate attorney at the Baltimore office of Aegon USA.

Stephanie M Brinegar, L’05, married Jason Vipperman on the beach in Destin, Fla., in November 2007. Ryan Burleigh Ellithorpe, L’05, and Beth Simonton, L’05, were honorary bridesmaids. Also in November, Brinegar was elected to a four-year term as commonwealth’s attorney for Patrick County, Va.

John Pope, L’05, has accepted an appointment as clerk to the Hon. Gerald B. Tjoflat of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals. He spent the last year clerking for the Hon. Harvey E. Schlesinger, L’55, of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida.

R. Oliver Branch, L’06, has joined the Research Triangle Park office of Sands Anderson Marks & Miller as an associate in the business, finance, and real estate practice group. Branch’s legal experience includes strategic immigration planning to address the visa and work permit needs of international professionals, managers and executives, corporate trainees, and students.

Edward “Eddie” Everett Bagnell Jr., L’07, has joined Spotts Fain PC in Richmond as an associate in the litigation section.

Jennifer Melissa Becker, L’07, is an associate in the business section of Hirschler Fleischer in Richmond.

Patrick Crocker, L’07, is a captain in the U.S. Army JAG Corps stationed in Fort Campbell, Ky. He works in the legal assistance office and is the officer in charge for the tax center on post.

Lauren E. Davis, L’07, is an attorney at Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore on the firm’s team of litigation attorneys. She completed her master’s degree in social work from Virginia Commonwealth University in December.

Lee G. Lester, L’07, is an associate in the corporate finance and securities section of Williams Mullen in Richmond.

Joshua A. Lindenbaum, L’07, of Atlanta, is vice president of development at The Halter Companies.

Robin A. McVoy, L’07, is an associate in the health care practice group at Sands Anderson Marks & Miller.

Hans P. Riede, L’07, is an associate in the litigation and domestic relations practice group at Odin, Feldman & Pittlerman in Fairfax, Va. He focuses on civil litigation, commercial litigation, and all areas of family law.

John C. Selback, L’07, has joined Cantor Arkema in Richmond as an associate focusing on business law, mergers and acquisitions, employment law, and commercial real estate.

Jesse Lauren Smith, L’07, of Richmond, is an associate at Midkiff, Muncie & Ross. Her practice focuses on workers’ compensation law, accounting malpractice, insurance, and defense.

Lauren M. Wheeling, L’07, of Richmond, is an associate in the litigation section at Williams Mullen.


The Law School has created the Robert Slimak Fellowship Fund to honor the memory of Robert Slimak, a student who died in a fall while hiking with friends this March. The fund will support students pursuing employment in criminal prosecution.

Gifts may be sent to the Office of Development and Alumni Programs, University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, VA 23173. Please note that the gift is for the Robert Slimak Fellowship Fund. Gifts may also be made online at www.law.richmond.edu.
On a bright May day made for celebration, the Law School conferred degrees on 162 students. Friends and family joined faculty and staff in a sendoff that was both cheerful and solemn, while speakers emphasized the importance close relationships will have in each graduate’s life. (See story, page 3.)

(COMMENCEMENT 2008)

(Clockwise from left) Branyah Ramsey; Matthew Bollinger and Misty York; John Erback with his wife, Tiffany, and daughter, Lily Elizabeth; and Yuka Ito with her mother, Junko Ito.
Overturning wrongful convictions

Best-selling author John Grisham (center) called on law students to become involved in work on behalf of wrongfully convicted prisoners. He is seen here in April with Dean John C. Douglass, and Mary Kelly Tate, director of the law school's Institute for Actual Innocence. (See story, page 2.)