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Patricia D. White’s experiences in life and law are diverse, colorful and unpredictable – like the South Florida community she is poised to serve. So it is fitting that she finds herself taking the helm as the eleventh dean of the University of Miami School of Law, lured by its tradition and trajectory.

“Geographically, Miami is a great city with a great legal community,” White said. “This Law School has a well-respected intellectual tradition that I’ve known of for years. That whole combination was very appealing.”

Still, Miami isn’t where she thought she’d be right now. She “fully expected” to return to the classroom at the Sandra Day O’Connor School of Law at Arizona State University, where she had served for almost a decade as the longest-tenured dean before spending last year as a visiting professor at Georgetown University Law Center and Special Counsel at Steptoe & Johnson LLP in Washington, D.C.

But, true to her open-minded world view and inquisitive nature, she shifted course to embrace a new challenge: leading a Law School on the verge of change and growth itself. Two things in particular beckoned White when Miami came calling: A sun-drenched coastal metropolis and UM President Donna Shalala.

“It all happened very quickly, deciding to come here,” White said. “Donna Shalala was the very first person I met. It was clear that under her leadership, the University of Miami is an exciting place to be.”

Add Miami to the mix – its complexities as an international gateway, its beautiful bay for sailing – and the pull became irresistible to White, a tax lawyer, philosopher, scholar and trailblazing institution-builder with a lifelong passion for sports and the outdoors.

“There are opportunities to take advantage of this wonderfully vibrant part of the world and to build on the Law School’s strengths and the momentum that President Shalala’s presidency has engendered here,” White said.

President Shalala is confident that White is the right person to advance the Law School to new heights, including the design and construction of a new physical complex. “The University of Miami has gained a visionary leader in the legal education arena,” President Shalala said in announcing White’s appointment. “Her vast experience, energy and innovative spirit will greatly enhance the Law School’s national profile.”

White is renowned for bringing people together, for stimulating thought while inspiring action. “She’s the exact right leader for our time,” said Law Professor and Dean Emerita Mary Doyle, who served as dean from 1986 to 1994. “We need to have more pep and vigor and verve and adventure in our faculty life and our student life. We needed a boost and she is it.”

Law Professor and Dean Emeritus Dennis Lynch, UM Law dean from 1999 to 2008, has served with White on the Law School Admissions Council Board of Trustees. “As a nationally recognized academic leader, and a nationally recognized scholar in tax law, she brings visibility to the University of Miami,” Lynch said.

Behind the scenes, White “is very devoted to students and to increasing diversity in legal education... Two things high on her list will be raising the necessary funds for a new building and improving our faculty-student ratio,” Lynch said.

Her legacy is celebrated in the Phoenix legal community, as well as at Arizona State, where she achieved diversity among the faculty and students; hired dynamic faculty known for their contributions to academic literature; developed interdisciplinary and joint programs in medicine, philosophy, psychology, international law and real estate; established an acclaimed legal writing program; and engaged both students and faculty in the spirit and practice of public service.

“For a dean to get all the constituents together and then move the school, which she did, shows she’s a very talented academic leader,” Doyle said. “She thinks outside the traditional category.”

ASU President Michael Crow said White set new standards for the university. “As we go forward, we’re doing so on the basis of what Trish has in her inner core: intellectual engagement, intellectual grounding and public service,” he said.

Under White’s leadership, in 2006 the ASU Law School was named after retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor. “The University of Miami has made a wonderful choice for the dean of its Law School,” said Justice O’Connor, whose friendship with White has blossomed since she agreed to the naming. “Trish White was a superb dean at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, and she will come to Miami with experience, wisdom and enthusiasm.”
The University of Miami has made a wonderful choice for the dean of its Law School,” said Justice O’Connor, whose friendship with Dean White has blossomed since she agreed to the naming. “Trish White was a superb dean at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, and she will come to Miami with experience, wisdom and enthusiasm.

David Bodney, a partner in the Phoenix office of Steptoe & Johnson LLP, called White “a dynamo.” White began her association with Steptoe & Johnson in 1975 as a first-year associate.

“Her commitment to diversity and equal opportunity made a real difference at the ASU College of Law,” said Bodney, who was instrumental in White’s nomination for the Judge Learned Hand Award for distinguished public service, which she recently received from the Arizona chapter of the American Jewish Committee. “She worked with all aspects of the legal community in the Phoenix area – from former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor and the managing partners of the city’s largest law firms to the newest first-year students and participants in the school’s many legal clinics – to knit the College of Law into the fabric of this community.”

Expect White to employ that same inclusive style at UM. “The Law School will become deeply embedded in the legal community in all types of ways,” she said. “We’ll have a lot of things going on simultaneously. It will be vastly more interdisciplinary and yes, there will be more clinics.”

First, though, White will take the time to absorb the environment and atmosphere and get to know the people who can make or break her vision. “One size fits all isn’t really an efficient or effective model,” she said. “You learn what people’s interests, strengths and passions are and then you figure out how to make all those things go together, like an orchestra. You want to have everybody working together to make a really dynamic, energetic and creative institution that does things well and innovatively.”

Associate Professor of Law Charlton Copeland, who served on the Dean Search Committee, was impressed with White from the beginning. “One of my initial impressions was that she was prepared to be dean. She knew the right questions to ask,” he said. “She was someone who really understood the mundane issues facing a law school, the day-to-day administrative responsibilities, and also in the broader context she knew the questions around the corner and the issues that are going to define and shape any law school and legal education for the next decade and more.”

Michael Pieciak, JD ’09, former editor-in-chief of the Miami Law Review, said White seems to understand the needs of students and the goals of student organizations. He and Brandon Thompson, this year’s editor-in-chief, met with White after her appointment so she could hear from some student leaders. “Before we talked about the business at hand, she wanted to know about us as individuals: what our interests were, what we were going to do next year,” Pieciak said. “It’s important for the dean to take a personal interest in students because she can advance the careers of so many just by making a phone call. And getting alumni good jobs across the country is a key way to promote the Law School.”

The Miami law community’s first impressions of White have inspired confidence and high expectations. U.S. District Judge Federico Moreno, JD ’78, hosted a breakfast in his chambers for White and fellow judges. “She is intellectual, yet approachable. She’s pragmatic, yet scholarly. Usually you don’t have that combination, and that is what law students need,” Judge Moreno said.

Wayne Chaplin, JD ’82, Vice Chair of the UM Board of Trustees and incoming chair of the Law School’s Visiting Committee, said building the Law School’s national reputation requires a dean “who can make things happen. She has the long-term vision we need. She knows how to lead people and can get things done. It’s an important time for us and I think we have the right person in Dean White.”

The academic and athletic life, with its intellectual and physical rigors, was in Patricia White’s blood. Both her parents had active bodies and minds.

She grew up in DeWitt, N.Y., near Syracuse University, where her father, Theodore Denise, was a professor of philosophy and longtime chair of the department. Her mother, Kathleen Denise, managed the household, which was at once intellectual and playful.

“My father was able to make every conversation interesting and every question interesting,” White said. This “philosophical approach to thinking about intellectual issues” – indeed all issues – still pervades her life. “Philosophy is a subject that’s in your genes, and I definitely have those tendencies,” she said. Her father, who died in 2005, was an avid tennis player and had been on the swimming and football teams (offensive guard) at the University of Michigan. In 1900, her maternal grandmother played ice hockey for the Canadian national team.

Young Trish and her younger brother, Todd, seemed to do it all, excelling in the classroom and on the playing fields. In high school, she won county championships in four different sports – gymnastics, swimming, track and tennis – and was named the most fit girl in New York state, “before it was cool for girls to be athletic,” she added. While Todd hit the gridiron at the University of Pennsylvania, one athletic dream eluded Trish Denise: to play pro football. For White, the point of sports is “challenging yourself. The sheer joy of physical activity is what’s so fun.”

Her summers were spent at the family cottage in a turn-of-the-century compound in tiny Northfield, Massachusetts, forming lifelong bonds and seasonal rituals, including an annual golf game with a special friend. “It’s a place that has always been a part of my life and will continue to be a part of my life,” she said.
In her senior year of college at the University of Michigan (her parents’ alma mater), she married Nicholas White and decided to go to law school – while simultaneously attending Michigan’s graduate school in philosophy. It was almost unheard of to attend law school and do a Ph.D. program simultaneously and, at the time, Michigan was one of the few universities where it was possible.

“I discovered in law school that I really liked law,” she said. And if she was going to teach law, she figured she ought to experience its real-life application. She began her practice in tax law in Washington, D.C., in 1975 and joined the Georgetown University Law Center faculty in 1979.

She juggled her career and family. While teaching, practicing law and publishing widely in tax law, bioethics, philosophy of law and legal education, she and Nicholas White reared daughter Olivia, son Alex and Nicholas’s daughter from a previous marriage, Jennifer.

White continued the traditions of her own childhood, creating an intellectually stimulating home life for her kids, who also excelled in athletics and academics. Each summer, they trekked to the family cottage in Massachusetts and also traveled widely in Europe.

White naturally emulated her parents. “My parents made the world an interesting place. I learned to be a good parent because I was fortunate enough to have good parents,” she said. “I think these things tend to replicate themselves.”

Olivia White, now 34, a Rhodes Scholar and Ph.D. physicist with degrees from Stanford, Oxford and Harvard, is a consultant with McKinsey & Company in San Francisco. A national championship kayaker, she played varsity water polo at Stanford and also was a competitive swimmer and soccer and rugby player. Alex White, now 27, a high school golf champion, soccer player and diver who played golf at Columbia University, is studying for his doctorate at the University of Toulouse School of Economics in France. And Jennifer White, who earned her JD at Michigan like her stepmother, practices law at Allen & Overy in London and is an active and successful master swimmer.

White met her second husband, James W. Nickel, then a professor of philosophy at the University of Colorado in Boulder, at a legal philosophy conference. Both divorced, they began a long-distance romance in 1998 and married five years later. Nickel, who has also joined the UM faculty with a dual appointment in philosophy and law, is a well-known scholar specializing in human rights. Their exploration of South Florida will include a lot of sailing. White also plans to take up scuba-diving, a sport Nickel enjoys. While her athletic endeavors are recreational at this point in her life, White remains fascinated with the motivation of the athlete.
“I’ve always admired the dedication and hard work that really first-rate athletes put in to mastering their sport,” she said. “I’ve always wished we could harness that effort in academics.”

Her friends and colleagues suggest that White’s successes are connected to her interest in and concern for the individual, as well as her intellectual and legal prowess. White’s curiosity about people also comes naturally, she said – from a grandmother who was extremely people-oriented.

“I’ve always aspired to try to have a broader perspective about what matters and to keep in mind the fragility of life and the humanity of everybody while going about doing one’s work,” she said. “When you’re trying to build institutions it’s important to keep perspective on who institutions are designed to serve.”

That perspective jibes perfectly with the law, she said. “Law is fundamentally an opportunity to use a tremendously powerful institution – the legal system – to promote the values of equality, justice and fairness while solving particular problems.”

That will be the mission inside the Law School as well as in the greater community. White plans to build on the School’s diversity and emphasize the ethical duties of the lawyer.

“You have to teach them about responsibility and self-reliance – all the kinds of things you teach your children,” she said. “As a lawyer, you have a fiduciary relationship with your client. Someone is depending on you for his or her well-being, sometimes even for his or her liberty. That’s a surprisingly hard lesson for students who haven’t played a fiduciary role to learn.”

White said Miami’s melting pot offers a perfect location to train lawyers. The University of Miami, she added, has a unique responsibility and opportunity as the only private research university in Florida.

“We intend that this school be a model of what legal education can look like going forward in the 21st century in a multicultural and global world,” Dean White said. “There is no better place to be thinking about these issues than Miami.”
Carolyn Lamm, JD ’73, is many things: renowned litigator and arbitrator, wife and mother, and now President of the American Bar Association (ABA). On August 2009, Lamm took over as head of the largest voluntary professional organization in the world. With more than 400,000 members, the ABA provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges in their work, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public.

Lamm is the first UM law school graduate to lead the ABA. Asked what her goals are for her presidency, Lamm outlines five priorities.

“First, the ABA must help lawyers and the public overcome the challenges of a down economy. We will help lawyers cope with the recession, and we will help people with legal problems related to the recession – such as evictions, foreclosures, bankruptcies, and other issues – to find lawyers who can help.”

Second, Lamm is looking to bring the system of lawyer regulation and ethics “into the 21st century.” “Technology and globalization present challenges that are not addressed by our current regulatory regime, which impairs lawyers and the public,” explained Lamm. “The ABA was founded in part to provide national leadership on lawyer regulation and ethics, and we will continue to play a leadership role by performing a

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

The ABA was founded on August 21, 1878, in Saratoga Springs, New York, by 100 lawyers from 21 states. The legal profession as we know it today barely existed at that time. Lawyers were generally sole practitioners who trained under a system of apprenticeship. There was no national code of ethics; there was no national organization to serve as a forum for discussion of the increasingly intricate issues involved in legal practice.

The first ABA constitution, which is still substantially the charter of the association, defined the purpose of the ABA as being for "the advancement of the science of jurisprudence, the promotion of the administration of justice and a uniformity of legislation throughout the country...."

Today, the stated mission of the American Bar Association is "To serve equally our members, our profession and the public by defending liberty and delivering justice as the national representative of the legal profession."
Lamm met her husband, Peter Halle, JD ’73, while at UM Law. Halle currently practices antitrust law at Morgan, Lewis, Bockius in Washington D.C. They have two sons, Alexander, who recently graduated from the University of Miami School of Business, and Daniel, “who will be a new Cane this September.” Lamm and Halle serve as co-chairs of the Law Alumni Association in D.C., and Lamm also serves on the Law School’s Visiting Committee. Recently, Lamm received the Edward T. Foote II Alumnus of Distinction Award for the great honor and recognition her career has brought to the University of Miami.

“I am very excited about the Law School today,” said Lamm. “It is truly on the cutting edge in so many ways and the student body just gets better and better. I am very excited also about Dean Patricia White. I know she will make the Law School even better than it is today, and be recognized for what it is – one of the best law schools in the country.”

A partner in the Washington D.C. office of White & Case LLP, where she’s practiced since 1980, Lamm is widely recognized as one of the world’s leading experts in international commercial litigation, arbitration, and trade. Lamm was named among the nation’s 50 most influential women and the 100 most influential lawyers by the National Law Journal, the 2002 Woman Lawyer of the Year by the Women’s Bar Association of Washington D.C., and the 500 leading lawyers in America by Lawdragon.

As President of the ABA, Lamm has two primary roles. She presides over the Board of Governors, which oversees the ABA’s activities and operations. Secondly, Lamm is the spokesperson for the Association and is responsible for communicating the ABA’s position on a host of issues affecting the profession, the justice system, and the rule of law.

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“Once policy is adopted,” said Lamm, “the ABA President advocates for the Association’s positions in various venues, including Congressional hearings, through the news media, at speaking opportunities, and many other public settings.”

Lamm attended UM Law School in the early 70s, and was one of only ten women in her class.

“It was certainly challenging being a woman in law school,” recalled Lamm, who was also a member of the Law Review. “Professors tended to call on the women more, which in fact caused us to be better prepared and focused than the male students. In many instances, women had to work harder to demonstrate your credibility and seriousness as a law student.”

“I am very proud of being a graduate of the University of Miami School of Law,” said Lamm. “Of course, the opportunity to serve as President of the American Bar Association is tremendous. I am equally proud of being able to serve my clients, and the successes I have had in various international arbitration and litigation matters. I feel that I have been truly blessed with the opportunity to do well while doing good."
A conversation with
Professor Bernard H. Oxman

UM Law Professor Bernard H. Oxman is a globally-renowned expert on the Law of the Sea. He has served as judge ad hoc of both the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, and is the only American to have been appointed to both courts. On February 3, 2009, he sat as judge ad hoc of the ICJ as the court delivered its 100th judgment.

Established in June 1945, the ICJ is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The seat of the court is at Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands), and its role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions.

At UM Law, Professor Oxman is the Richard A. Hausler Professor of Law. He regularly teaches Conflict of Laws, International Law, Law of the Sea and Torts courses. He also serves as Chair of the LL.M. program in Ocean and Coastal Law, and previously served as associate dean of the Law School from 1987 to 1990. Prior to joining the faculty in 1977, Professor Oxman was Assistant Legal Adviser for Oceans, Environment and Scientific Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, as well as U.S. Representative to the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea.
What was the most memorable moment for you at the International Court of Justice?

Perhaps the most memorable moment was on September 2, 2008 when I made the solemn declaration prescribed by the Rules of Court at the first public sitting in which I participated. I recall lining up with the other judges in the antechamber called the Red Room. We had all been helped by the bailiff into our black robes and white jabots, and were now waiting for him to open the door and announce “La Cour.”

A day earlier I had been advised that I would enter first, and I feared misleading the entire World Court. Fortunately, on this occasion, I was the last of the judges to enter, and had some weeks to habituate myself before I was asked to enter first.

It was an extraordinary feeling as I followed my esteemed colleagues into the awesome Great Hall of Justice of the Peace Palace in The Hague for the first time. Distinguished agents and counsel, diplomats, academics, guests, and members of the public stood in respect for the Court. And then there I was, taking my seat on the highest international court, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. After a few moments, the President, Judge Rosalyn Higgins, asked me to rise and recite the solemn declaration pledging my diligence and impartiality. It was the same pledge made in the antechamber and now reciting it in the Black Sea.

What did it mean to you to sit as judge ad hoc as the Court delivered its 100th judgment?

It was a humbling experience. Every judge has a duty to be faithful to the law and fair to the parties. When one is charged with rendering a judgment touching on the sovereign interests of states with which governments are expected to comply, the principle of the rule of law itself is engaged. The proposition that disputes between states should be resolved by a legally binding judgment rendered by an impartial court in accordance with international law is only gradually taken hold in international affairs, and is still in many respects the exception rather than the norm. Indeed, on both the international and national plane around the world, the more general idea that governments are themselves subject to the rule of law and the decisions of courts is not one that always commends itself to those who wield legislative and executive power.

Can you tell me about the judgment in the case concerning Maritime Delimitation in the Black Sea (Romania v. Ukraine)?

The Court’s judgment of February 3, 2009, as well as the written and oral pleadings of the parties, can be found on the Court’s website. I will try to explain a few highlights for the benefit of those who do not specialize in this field.

Like most states, Romania and Ukraine are party to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Convention provides that a coastal state is entitled to a territorial sea of up to 12 nautical miles from its coast in which it is sovereign. Beyond the territorial sea, a coastal state is entitled to an exclusive economic zone and continental shelf to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the coast in which it enjoys sovereign rights over the exploitation and exploitation of the natural resources of the waters and the seabed and subsoil. In the event of overlapping claims, the Convention provides that the delimitation of the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts shall be effected by agreement on the basis of international law in order to achieve an equitable solution.

Romania and Ukraine border the northwestern part of the Black Sea. Their coasts meet at the mouth of the Danube River. While Romania and Ukraine agreed on the boundary separating their respective territory and territorial seas based on prior treaties between Romania and the USSR, they were unable to agree on the maritime boundary delimiting their respective exclusive economic zones and continental shelves seaward of the territorial sea. Their boundary agreement provided that, if negotiations did not resolve this matter within a specified period of time, the dispute could be submitted to the International Court of Justice. Romania did so on that basis.

The recent practice of the Court in maritime boundary cases ordinarily entails drawing a provisional line that is equidistant from the nearest points on the coasts of the respective states, and then determining whether adjustments to that line are indicated in order to produce an equitable solution. A possible need for adjustment may arise, for example, because coastal irregularities, including particular features such as islands and promontories, can influence the location and direction of an equidistance line for substantial distances, especially when such features are in the vicinity of the terminus of a land frontier.

In this case the parties disagreed on how the provisional equidistance line should be drawn. The area between the provisional equidistance lines drawn by the parties embraced most, albeit not all, of the area in dispute. Romania complained that Ukraine’s provisional equidistance line was measured from Serpents’ Island, a Ukrainian island with a surface area of approximately 0.17 square kilometers located some 20 nautical miles east of the Danube
delta. Ukraine complained that not only did Romania’s provisional equidistance line ignore Serpents’ Island but that much of Romania’s line was measured from the seaward end of a man-made dyke extending over seven kilometers into the sea from Romania’s side of the mouth of the Danube.

The parties also disagreed on what, if any, adjustments should be made to the provisional equidistance line to take account of relevant circumstances such as coastal configuration and coastal length. Each party maintained that the seaward projection of its coast was cut off by the other party’s proposed boundary. Ukraine argued that the boundary should reflect the fact that Ukraine’s coastline surrounds the area to be delimited on three sides and that this coastline is much longer than Romania’s. Romania contested Ukraine’s calculations; it argued that Ukraine’s northern coast was too far and that some of it did not face the area to be delimited.

The Court determined that there was no prior treaty delimiting the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf between the parties. It proceeded to draw a provisional equidistance line that differed from that proposed by either party. The Court measured the provisional equidistance line from the nearest points on the respective coasts on either side of the mouth of the Danube, without reference either to Serpents’ Island or to the seaward projection of the dyke. The opinion of the Court indicates that, in view of that decision, the Court did not need to consider whether Serpents’ Island was a rock lacking entitlement to an exclusive economic zone and continental shelf nor the relevance to this case of the provision of the Convention dealing with this matter.

The Court concluded that the provisional equidistance line it drew did not entail an inequitable cut-off of the seaward extension of the coast of either party, and that the resultant allocation of the area of delimitation was not so disproportionate to the ratio of the length of the respective coasts as to require adjustment. Accordingly, apart from a small segment connecting the provisional equidistance line to the seaward end of the territorial sea boundary of the parties, the Court’s provisional equidistance line was determined to be the maritime boundary delimiting the exclusive economic zones and continental shelves of the parties.

What does it mean to you to be the only American to have been appointed judge ad hoc of both the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea?

It is an extraordinary honor. An honor for which I would like to thank those who appointed me and those who helped me reach that point, and pay tribute to America for the opportunities I was afforded and the values I was taught.

My service on the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea occurred when, for the first time on an international court, the ad hoc judges appointed by the respective parties appended a joint declaration to the decision. One of the high points of my service on the International Court of Justice occurred when, for the first time in its history, the Court, sitting with judges ad hoc, rendered a unanimous judgment with no separate opinions. Shortly before the reading of that judgment, a distinguished member of the Court expressed personal gratification at my understanding of the solemn declaration I made at the start of the oral proceedings in the case.

How has your time at the ICJ impacted your teaching?

Upon returning from The Hague, I commenced teaching my course in the international law of the sea. I could not of course discuss the Court’s deliberations in the case in which I participated and was cautious about speculating on its implications. But my experience serving on the Court provided me with greater insight into the workings of the Court and a richer appreciation of its decisions in other cases. I would hope that was and will continue to be of benefit to students in my international law and law of the sea courses in understanding the Court as an institution and in appreciating its contributions to international law. And I was delighted to learn that one of my students sought and was selected for an internship at the Court this summer.
In March of 2008, UM Law Professor Markus Wagner embarked on a ten-month bicycle trip to raise money for charity and to experience the different cultures found throughout Europe and Asia. A biking and running enthusiast, he decided to pursue this trip before he began his tenure as professor of law at the University of Miami. Starting from his home in Germany, Wagner traveled through eighteen countries, averaging approximately 70 miles per day. Pedaling from the Black Forest to the Yellow Sea, Wagner finally ended up in China in December, 2008.

“The beauty of this trip was that I could do what I wanted, whenever I wanted,” said Wagner. “My plan would sometimes just change. Instead of doing 70 miles, I would do 60 or 80, and be in a completely different place, which would change the dynamic of the next day.”

A typical day for Wagner included an early start to the day and breakfast after biking for an hour or two. He carried all his supplies and equipment on his bike, including cooking utensils, camping gear, clothes and tools. While he spent many nights in his tent, which offered the familiarity of “home,” he was often invited by locals to sleep in their homes.

“You try to put some constants in your life,” explained Wagner. While sometimes he preferred to sleep in his tent, in the Muslim world “hospitality has a high value.”

“That gave me a chance to get to know how people live,” said Wagner. “I got to see their life, which was probably the best thing about this trip. Some of the most hospitable people I met were in Iran and Tajikistan.”

The worst part of the trip for Wagner came when someone willfully damaged his bike and when “towards the end of the trip, rural China was culturally difficult. The people didn’t seem to be hospitable and friendly as in previous places, which may have to do with a lack of familiarity with foreigners or me not speaking Chinese.”

Wagner created a web site, www.cyclingwithoutborders.org that chronicled his experiences. He established the site before he left on the trip, and continued to work on it throughout the ten months he was on the road. Wagner carried a small computer and camera with him, and found internet service in “the strangest of places,” which allowed him to upload the pictures and content. A portion of the site is devoted to the two charities Wagner was raising money for – German Agro Action and German Youth for Understanding.

German Agro Action was established in 1962 and is today one of the largest private non-profit organizations working in the area of development cooperation and humanitarian aid based in Germany. Wagner raised funds for a particular project in Tajikistan, which he visited during his bike trip. The project benefits a small, remote village in the northern part of Tajikistan and helps the 2,000 inhabitants to better cultivate, store, conserve, and market their products.
The German Youth for Understanding organizes long-term youth exchange for high school students in more than 40 countries across the globe. These students spend one academic year in a foreign country, living with a family, and learning to integrate in local, everyday life. Wagner participated in this program as a seventeen-year-old, when he lived in Ohio for one year.

The total sum that Wagner managed to raise didn’t quite meet his expectations. His goal had been to raise one Euro per kilometer traveled, which would have brought in 15,000 Euros.

“But I didn’t publicize it much either. The whole fundraising thing went a different route because of the elections in the United States and the economic downturn. Bad timing for me.”

However, Wagner doesn’t see it as a failure because he still raised a considerable amount of money and continues to do so at this time.

“There was a spike of donations after I visited the village in Tajikistan,” explained Wagner. “I was able to give people first-hand information on what their money would be supporting.”

After 262 days traveling by bike, Wagner ended up in Beijing, China, ready to fly back home to Germany. Asked if he was ready for the journey to finally come to an end, and Wagner replied, “Yes and no.”

“I was ready in one way because my body, basically, broke down,” he explained. “I pushed myself toward the end quite a bit. On the other hand, I was itching to get back on my bike after a 5 day ‘break!’”

In total, Wagner ended up losing 25 pounds.

“After a trip like that, everything seemed different,” Wagner said. “When I headed on the plane, knowing that it would take only ten hours to cover the distance that had taken me ten months seemed surreal.”

“Whenever there were difficult times on the trip, I always reminded myself that I was heading towards an equally exciting prospect of teaching at the University of Miami School of Law.”

Will he attempt a similar trip in the future? “Absolutely.” Two trips he’s thinking about doing – a bicycle tour through Namibia and a trip to South America – biking from Argentina, over the Andes Mountains, to Chile.

“After going to China on a bike, you are ready for most things.”
FACULTY BRIEFS

MICHELE DESTEMANO BEARDSLEE was a Clemenko Fellow and Lecturer on Law at Harvard Law School, where she was previously the Associate Research Director of the Program on the Legal Profession. Her most recent research focuses on the intersection of public relations and corporate legal controversies. She teaches courses in professional responsibility, civil procedure, and corporations. Previously, Professor Beardslee clerked for Chief Judge William G. Young of the Federal District Court of Massachusetts. She also worked for a year as a Special Master on a patent law case. Before attending law school, Professor Beardslee was a Senior Marketing Manager at Levi Strauss & Company and an Account Executive at Leo Burnett Advertising Company. She has a B.A. degree from Dartmouth College and a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School.

SERGIO CAMPOS was the Charles Hamilton Houston Fellow at Harvard Law School from 2006 to 2007. He previously practiced law as an associate with Goodwin Procter and Piper Rudnick, both in Boston, Massachusetts. He also clerked for the Honorable Juan R. Torruella of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston and the Honorable Patti B. Saris of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. His teaching interests include civil procedure, race and the law, torts, complex federal litigation, consumer protection law, anti-discrimination law, remedies, and the first amendment. Professor Campos has an A.B. degree from Harvard and a J.D. degree from Yale Law School.

JAMES W. NICKEL holds a joint appointment in the Philosophy Department and the Law School. He teaches and writes in human rights law and theory, political philosophy, philosophy of law, and constitutional law. Nickel is the author of Making Sense of Human Rights (2nd ed. 2006) and of more than sixty articles in philosophy and law journals including the Columbia Law Review, Ethics, the Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophy and Public Affairs, and the Yale Journal of International Law. Nickel has enjoyed research fellowships from Corpus Christi College, Oxford; the Rockefeller Foundation; the National Humanities Center; the American Council of Learned Societies; and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Nickel comes to Miami from Arizona State University. From 1982 to 2003 Nickel was Professor of Philosophy at the University of Colorado. He has held visiting posts at the Georgetown University Law Center, the University of Utah, and UC Berkeley Law School. He holds a B.A. degree from Tabor College and a Ph.D. degree from the University of Kansas.

KUNAL PARKER taught at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, where he was the James A. Thomas Distinguished Professor of Law, before joining the UM Law faculty. Professor Parker has also held fellowships at New York University Law School, Cornell Law School, Queens University in Belfast, Ireland, and the American Bar Foundation in Chicago, Illinois. Prior to entering law teaching, Professor Parker worked as an associate at the New York law firm of Crayer, Gothel, Steen & Hamilton, where he practiced in the area of bankruptcy law relating to complex financial transactions. Professor Parker has written extensively in the areas of colonial Indian legal history, the history and theory of U.S. immigration and nationality law, the history of American legal thought and the philosophy of history. He has served on the editorial boards of various scholarly journals. He is currently completing a book entitled Custom and History: Common Law Thought and the Historical Imagination in Nineteenth Century America (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). His teaching areas and interests include American Legal History, Estates and Trusts, Immigration and Nationality Law, and Property. Professor Parker holds A.B. and J.D. degrees from Harvard and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Princeton University.

JAN PAULSSON joins the Law School as the Michael Klein Distinguished Scholar and the Faculty Chair of the Specialization in International Arbitration. Professor Paulsson practices also with Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Paris, where he is the head of the Public International Law Group and the joint head of the International Arbitration Group. Additionally, he is the President of the London Court of Arbitration, the Administrative Tribunals of the World Bank, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Professor Paulsson has participated as counsel or arbitrator in over 500 arbitrations in Europe, Asia, the United States and Africa. He has also appeared before a great variety of international tribunals, including the International Court of Justice and the International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes. His many publications include the standard reference work ICC Arbitration (3rd edition 2006), which he co-authored with W.L. Craig and W.W.: Park, Denial of Justice in International Law, published by the Cambridge University Press; and The Idea of Arbitration, a forthcoming book to be published by the Oxford University Press. Professor Paulsson has an A.B. degree from Harvard and a J.D. degree from Yale Law School.

REBECCA SHARPLESS will direct the Law School’s newly-established immigration clinic. From 1996 to 2007, Professor Sharpless was a supervising attorney at the Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center (FIAC), where she litigated numerous cases on behalf of immigrants both in immigration court and before the Bureau of Immigration Appeals. She also represented immigrants in federal court appeals, habeas petitions, and before the United States Courts of Appeals and United States District Courts. She also wrote an amicus brief to the United States Supreme Court in the seminal immigration case of INS v. St. Cyr, 533 U.S. 289 (2001). Adding to her work with FLAC, Professor Sharpless was a Visiting Clinical Professor of Law at the Florida International University College of Law, where she taught students in the in-house immigration and human rights clinics that worked on a range of immigration and human rights cases. She previously directed the Immigration Project at the Northwest Communities Education Center in Washington State. Professor Sharpless holds a B.A. degree from Swarthmore College, a Master of Philosophy degree from the University of Cambridge, and a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School.
KENNETH KETTERING teaches courses in bankruptcy law, commercial transactions, and corporations at New York Law School (NYLS). Before joining the faculty at NYLS, Professor Kettering practiced law for nearly 20 years with Reed Smith in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he was a partner in the firm’s business and finance group. Professor Kettering’s research focuses on commercial and financial law, particularly the continual dialectic between the legal systems built by law-crafters and the machinations of the marketplace to deal outside of those systems. He holds a B.S. degree from Carnegie Mellon and a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School.

WILLIAM H. LYONS is the Richard H. Larson Professor of Tax Law at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) College of Law, where he has taught since 1981. He is widely regarded for his tax expertise, is a Fellow and Regent of the American College of Tax Counsel, and held a Professor-in-Residence post in the Office of the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service. Professor Lyons is very active with the American Bar Association Section of Taxation, where he is managing editor of The Tax Lawyer. He is the former chair of the Committee of Individual Investments and Workouts; active on the committees on Bankruptcy & Workouts, Teaching Taxation, and Low Income Taxpayers; and was former Co-Vice Chair of the section’s I.R.C. Section 108 Real Estate and Partnership Task Force. He is also a member of the ABA’s Section of Real Property, Probate and Trust Law. Professor Lyons has an B.A. degree from Colby College and a J.D. degree from Boston College Law School.

DAVID NELKEN is visiting the Law School from the University of Macerata in Italy, where he is the Distinguished Professor of Legal Institutions and Social Change. He previously taught at Cambridge, Edinburgh and London Universities, and remains Honorary Professor of Law at University College in London and Distinguished Visiting Research Professor of Law at the University of Wales. In addition, he has held visiting posts at the University of Seattle; Sydney University; Monash University; the University of New South Wales; the University of Copenhagen; Nottingham Law School; New York University; the University of California, Berkeley; and Birkbeck College at the University of London. Professor Nelken is a well-known scholar of comparative socio-legal studies and criminology. He has authored, edited, and contributed to several published works including The Limits of the Law: A Study of Landlords, Law and Crime, which received a Distinguished Scholar award from the American Sociological Association (Criminology Section). Professor Nelken holds B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Trinity College, Cambridge.

MARGARET RAYMOND is a professor of law at the University of Iowa College of Law, where she teaches courses in constitutional law, federal income taxation, and international tax law. Professor Raymond has won a number of teaching awards. She received her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law and a Bachelor’s degree from Carleton College.
MARK SIDEL is a professor of law, faculty scholar, and The Lauridsen Family Fellow at the University of Iowa, where he teaches courses in philanthropy and nonprofit institutions, contracts, and comparative and international law. He has held visiting posts at Harvard Law School, the University of London, the Institut d’Études Politiques de Paris, and the University of Melbourne Law. Professor Sidel has published extensively on comparative law in Asia, and on philanthropy, the nonprofit sector, and civil society, including a volume on anti-terrorism policy in comparative perspective, and a co-edited volume on philanthropy and law in South Asia. He has an A.B. degree from Princeton University, an M.A. degree from Yale University and a J.D. degree from Columbia University School of Law.

NASSIB G. ZIADÉ is the deputy secretary-general of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), an autonomous international institution established under a multilateral treaty formulated by the World Bank. Ziadé was previously the ICSID’s chief counsel. In 2007, he was elected to a six-year term as the deputy secretary-general. Ziadé has extensive experience in the administration of international legal proceedings and in the management and development of international tribunals. From 1997 to 2007, he served as the executive secretary of the World Bank Administrative Tribunal. He was also a member of the Grievance Process Review Committee which reviewed and reformed the World Bank’s Internal Conflict Resolution System, and was involved in all subsequent reviews of the system. In addition, he advised the Government of Bahrain on, and played an important role in, the establishment of Bahrain’s Constitutional Court. Ziadé has published numerous studies on international law, organized several high-level international colloquia and spoken at numerous conferences.

GEORGE SCHATZKI is Professor Emeritus at the Arizona State University Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law. He practiced labor-management relations law for years, first with the National Labor Relations Board and later in private practice. In 1965, he joined the law faculty at the University of Texas, remaining until 1979 when he became the dean of the law school at the University of Washington. He later became the dean at the University of Connecticut School of Law, where he remained as a professor until he joined the faculty at ASU College of Law in 2000. Professor Schatzki has written numerous articles about labor law and employment discrimination law, and has co-authored two casebooks (and their later editions) in the same fields. He holds A.B., LL.B. and LL.M. degrees from Harvard. He will teach civil procedure at UM Law.

ALBERT JAN VAN DEN BERG is visiting the Law School from The Netherlands, where he is a Professor at Law and the Arbitration Chair at Erasmus University Rotterdam and the President of the Netherlands Arbitration Institute. The world-renowned arbitrator is a founding partner of Hanotiau & van den Berg in Brussels. He was previously a partner at the law firms of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Stibbe Simont Monahan Duhot, both in Amsterdam, as well as Van Doorne & Sjollema Advocaten in The Netherlands. He also worked as Secretary-General of the Netherlands Arbitration Institute and at the department of international commercial arbitration of TCM Asser Institute. Additionally, Professor Van den Berg is former Vice President of the London Court of International Arbitration and is a member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration, the Commission on International Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce, LCIA Company, and the Dubai International Arbitration Centre. He holds a Master of Laws from the University of Amsterdam and a Doctor of Laws from Erasmus University.
Faculty Notes

PROFESSOR DAVID ABRAHAM participated in the 33rd Social Science History Association, where he presented a paper titled “Hard on the Outside, Hard on the Inside Too: The Friend/Enemy Distinction Comes Home” during a panel on “Making Enemies: Distinguishing Citizens and Aliens post 9/11.” At Princeton University’s Annual ConLaw Schmooze, Professor Abraham also made a presentation titled “Carl Schmitt and Domesticating Friend/Foe Politics.”

PROFESSOR ANTHONY V. ALFIERI participated in a colloquium at Cornell University Law School, where he presented a paper on “Prosecuting the Jena Six.” Additionally, at the ABA CLE seminar “From Canons to Canons – A Colloquy with the Bench and Bar on the ABA Canons of Ethics,” Professor Alfieri made a presentation, where he spoke in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the American Bar Association’s Canons of Professional Ethics and the 10th anniversary of Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.’s Miami office.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM S. BLATT participated in a “Morality, Spirituality, and the Law” CLE seminar that was hosted by the UM Law’s Ethics & Professional Responsibility Program.

PROFESSOR MARY I. COOMBS presented at the University of Miami Ethics Society’s Guest Speaker Series and at the Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine. For the Ethics Society’s Guest Speaker Series, Professor Coombs lectured on the “End of Life Ethics and the [Terri] Schiavo case.” At the Miller School of Medicine, Professor Coombs spoke to students about “why doctors dislike lawyers and the legal system and what we might do about it.”

PROFESSOR CHARLTON COPELAND participated in a CLE seminar titled “Morality, Spirituality, and the Law: Maintaining Sense of Self in the Profession.” It was hosted by the UM Law’s Ethics & Professional Responsibility Program. He also gave a lecture at the University of Toledo College of Law, where he discussed the U.S. Supreme Court’s Ex parte Young decision.

PROFESSOR BEN W.F. DEPOORTER spoke at Northwestern University Law School, where he presented a paper titled “Technology & Torts: A Theory of Memory Costs, Nondurable Precautions and Interference Effects” (co-authored with Jef De Mot). He also co-chaired the 4th Biennial Prawfsfest! Junior Scholar Conference, which was held at the University of Miami School of Law.

PROFESSOR A. MICHAEL FROOMKIN was named an Affiliated Fellow of Yale Law School’s Information Society Project (ISP), which brings together students, scholars, activists, and policymakers to define the problems and identify the solutions of the contemporary information society.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL H. GRAHAM was appointed to an Illinois Supreme Court committee, organized to codify evidence laws in Illinois state statutes, Supreme Court rules, and common law.

PROFESSOR PATRICK GUDRIDGE spoke at the University of Alabama School of Law’s “Sovereignty, Emergency, and Legality” symposium and presented a paper titled “Defined Orderly Ways.”
PROFESSOR SUSAN HAACK presented lectures in the U.S and Europe. She spoke at Florida International University College of Law, at the Institute for Science, Engineering & Public Policy in Portland, Oregon, and at universities in Italy, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland. At the FIU College of Law, Professor Haack presented “Of Truth, In Science and in Law.” At the Institute for Science, Engineering, and Public Policy in Portland, she lectured on “Peace in our time: Beyond the Science Wars.”

In Italy, Professor Haack presented a lecture titled “Popper on Trial: A Brief History of the Big Muddle” at the European University. In England, she presented lectures at the University of Kent to the school’s law and philosophy departments and in Switzerland she spoke at the Friedrich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research on “Science, Religion, and Law.”

PROFESSOR ELIZABETH IGLESIAS joined dignitaries and academics from around the world at the Migrants and Migrations Conference, held at the University of Miami’s Coral Gables campus, where she participated in a roundtable session on “The Economics of Immigration and Migrant Flows.”

PROFESSOR FRANCES R. HILL participated in two symposia. At the Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, Professor Hill gave a lecture on “Tax Exempt Organizations as Election Campaign Vehicles: An Exercise in Statutory Arbitrage (and Bare Knuckles Politics)” as part of a tax policy colloquium. At the Miami Law Review’s annual symposium, Professor Hill participated in a panel entitled “Where Do We Go From Here? Lessons Learned and New Approaches in Election Law.”

PROFESSOR OSAMUDIA JAMES spoke at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law’s Post-Election Roundtable, which commemorated the 40th anniversary of several civil rights milestones and tragedies. It also brought academics together to discuss the implications of the historic 2008 presidential election for race relations and racial equality in the United States. Professor James also spoke at the Race & Socio-Economic Class conference at Duke University School of Law, where she presented a paper, co-authored with Professor Angela Onwuachi-Willig of the University of Iowa College of Law, on the deployment of class and race in the 2008 presidential election.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JONEL NEWMAN spoke at the American Library Association’s lawyers for libraries institute in Tampa, Florida. She also joined Professors Elizabeth Iglesias, Irwin Stotzky, and dignitaries and academics from around the world at the Migrants and Migrations Conference, where she discussed “HIV/AIDS & Immigration” during a session on Immigration and Health Care. Professor Newman also spoke at the Miami Law Review’s annual symposium where she participated in the panel entitled “Protecting the Minority Voter: Ballot Access and the Future of Section Five.”

PROFESSOR D. MAVIN JONES co-chaired the University of Miami’s Steering Committee for the Fourth Biennial Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference. He also penned a chapter titled “Been in the Storm So Long: Katrina, Reparations, and the Original Understanding of Equal Protection” in a book released earlier this year titled Hurricane Katrina: America’s Unnatural Disaster. Additionally, Professor Jones spoke at Pace University School of Law in New York, where he presented a paper entitled “Narratives of the Fall: Bubbles, Bail-Outs and the Social Construction of Economic Crisis.”

PROFESSOR MARTHA MAHONEY spoke at the Miami Law Review’s annual symposium, participating in a panel entitled “Making My Vote Count: Redistricting, Political Parties, Ballot Design, and Voter Disenfranchise.”

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Law School’s Richard A. Hausler Professor of Law, also sat as judge ad hoc when the ICJ delivered its 100th Judgment in the Maritime Delimitation in the Black Sea (Romania v. Ukraine) case. (See story on page 7).

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR BERNARD P. PERLMUTTER participated in the 4th Biennial Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference. Professor Perlmutter spoke during the conference’s “Advancing the Human Rights and Well-being of Unaccompanied Immigrant Children” session. Professor Perlmutter also conducted a Florida Guardian ad Litem CLE Training conference call session titled “Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Training Part II” for the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program. In addition, Professor Perlmutter joined Professor Bruce Winick at the UM Mental Health and Juvenile Justice Conference, where he participated in panels on “Juvenile Shackling: the Legal and Psychological Perspectives” and “Juvenile Transfer Hearings: Legal and Therapeutic Jurisprudence Perspectives.”

PROFESSOR IRWIN P. STOTZKY participated in the Migrants and Migrations Conference held at the University of Miami, where he spoke in a roundtable session on “The Economics of Immigration and Migrant Flows.” He presented a lecture entitled “Immigration Reforms: What Now?” Professor Stotzky also kicked off the Spring 2009 segment of the Chapman Dialogues at Chapman University with a session titled “Immigration Reform: What’s Next?”

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR KELE WILLIAMS spoke at the Seminole County Child Protection Conference, and participated in a workshop on “Educational Success for Foster Care Children.”

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR JENNIFER H. ZAWID participated in four international conferences this year including the plenary panel at the ARA Family Law Conference in Montreal, Canada, and in the Annual Conference of the International Bar Association in Buenos Aires, Argentina, presenting a paper on “Practical and Ethical Implications of Mediating International Child Abduction Cases: A New Frontier for Mediators.”

PROFESSOR BRUCE J. WINICK was appointed to the boards of Psychiatry, Psychology and Law and the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The Boston College Law Review accepted his paper on “Supreme Court’s Emerging Death Penalty Jurisprudence” for publication in the May 2009 issue. He spoke at the Florida Bar’s “Out in Court: Thirty Years of Gays and Lesbians in the Legal Profession” seminar, presenting a lecture titled “In re Board of Florida Bar Examiners re Eimers – Thirty Years Later.”

Professor Winick was also elected to lead the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Balance in Legal Education. He participated in the Psychology, Public Policy & Law Journal’s “Overcoming the Stigma of Disability” symposium at the Law School. He spoke at the UM Mental Health and Juvenile Justice Conference, where he participated in panels on “Juvenile Shackling: the Legal and Psychological Perspectives” and “Juvenile Transfer Hearings: Legal and Therapeutic Jurisprudence Perspectives.”

Professor Winick also spoke at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, giving a lecture on “The Psychology of Vision and of Dealing with Patients who are Visually Challenged.” Additionally, he led a Therapeutic Jurisprudence symposium at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida.
MADELEINE MANNELLO
Elected President Of Florida Bar’s Inaugural Student Division

UM Law student Madeleine “Mady” Mannello was elected president of the Florida Bar’s newly-established Law Student Division (LSD) last semester. Mannello was elected by representa-tives from 10 Florida law schools, beat-ing out students from Florida Coastal School of Law and Barry University’s Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law.

The Florida Bar officially incorporated the LSD in the summer of 2008 under the umbrella of the Young Lawyers Division (YLD). Like the American Bar Association’s Law Student Divi-sion, the Florida Bar’s LSD will help forge networks between law students and attorneys, provide mentoring and scholarship programs, and represent law students in state Bar matters that affect them.

Mannello, who was the Law School’s 2L Florida Bar Represen-tative, is a founding board member of the state’s newly-established LSD, along with classmate Errol Ross. Last year, she chaired the division’s Activities Committee, which coordinates state-wide events and programs. In November 2008, Mannello and Ross appointed William Mount, a 1L at the Law School, as the division’s 1L representative. Going forward, Mannello says representatives will be chosen through a school-wide election.

The division will be accepting its first members in the fall of 2009. It currently consists of board members – three repre-sentatives from each law school in the state. The elections for president began at the annual YLD conference, held in January 2009 in Orlando, Florida.

In her campaign letter, Mannello wrote: “My hope for the LSD is that it will one day rank among the top organizations in which students can rely for mentors, guidance, and assistance on their path towards a legal career. I will work hard to make sure that students view the Florida Bar as an organization that they are excited to join.”

Mannello is honored to have been elected to the position and is looking forward to serving. “While this is a wonderful opportun-ity for me, I recognize that this is an opportunity for UM Law as well,” she said. “I am committed to working as hard as is necessary to meet and exceed the expectations of the Florida Bar and to demonstrate that UM students are a dedicated, capable and unique group of people.”

A South Florida native of Ft. Lauderdale, Mannello came to the Law School after earning her Bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Florida. She is fluent in Italian, and volunteers with several student organizations at UM Law including the Environmental Law Society, where she is vice-president of events and programming; and the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center, where she co-founded a domestic violence initiative and works with Books & Buddies. With in-terests in political activism and human rights issues, Mannello plans to go into human and civil rights work.

Further propelling the Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board toward a top national ranking, the UM Law School won the 17th annual Chief Judge Conrad B. Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition, held in March 2009 at St. John’s University in Queens, New York.

The UM Law team, consisting of Omar Bradford, 2L, Natalie Boyajian, 2L, and Michael Rothenberg, 3L, took first place out of 47 teams from law schools across the country. The other UM law team, consisting of Vincent Alexander, 3L, Shannon Puopolo, 3L, and Kristin Stastny, 3L, received an honorable mention for their brief.

“Preparing for this competition was both mentally de-manding and stimulating,” said Boyajian. “It required me to leave my comfort zone and begin to research, learn, and advocate regarding challenging legal bankruptcy issues.”

The Duberstein Moot Court Competition is the only na-tional competition devoted to bankruptcy law and is jointly sponsored by St. John’s University School of Law and the American Bankruptcy Institute. The Duberstein Competi-tion is designed to simulate an appeal before the United States Supreme Court. This year, teams prepared briefs and oral arguments on two important and unresolved is-sues in bankruptcy law. The first issue was whether the appropriate test for substantive consolidation is the strict standard announced by the Third Circuit in Owens Corning or the liberal “modern test” used in some other circuits.

The second issue dealt with whether a creditor’s vote on a plan can be disqualified because its economic incentives are contrary to those if its class of claims.

UM Law Adjunct Professor Patricia Redmond, JD ’79, who has lead the School to great success in this competition over the past decade, advised the teams through approxi-mately 30 practice rounds, with the support of UM Law Professor and substantive consolidation expert, William Widen. Local judges and practitioners also assisted in judging rounds throughout the teams’ preparation.

I always enjoy Moot Court exercises, but the Duberstein Bankruptcy Competition was the most fun I have had,” said Bradford. “My teammates and I developed a strong bond, which allowed us to have fun while training and competing. Moreover, the fact that the issues we argued are so current, with the law developing as we speak, added to the experience.”
The School of Law held a paella dinner in March, 2009 in honor of Ramona Romero, Esq., President of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) and members of the HNBA’s Board of Trustees. This event kicked off the HNBA’s 2009 Midyear Conference and Moot Court Competition “Building Relationships to Forge Success” which took place in Coral Gables.

UM law students Omar Bradford, 2L, and Yolanda Paschal, 3L, represented the University of Miami School of Law at the national and regional Black Law Students Association (BLSA) conventions during the 2008-2009 academic year, beating out teams from law schools across the nation to place among the country’s top eight.

Bradford and Paschal, active members of UM Law’s Robert H. Water’s BLSA chapter, placed second in the 2009 Southern Regional Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, held in Nashville, Tennessee, in February, 2009. The competition problem this year focused on employment discrimination and Title VII’s anti-retaliation provision. Bradford and Paschal advanced to the final round to argue in the Middle District of Tennessee Federal Courthouse. Following their tremendous performance at the regional competition, the duo was invited to compete in the NBLSA national convention in Irvine, California, where they advanced to the quarterfinals and ranked among the top eight teams in the nation.

The team was coached by UM Law alumnus Adrian Felix, JD ’06, an associate with Carlton Fields and a former member of the Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board.

UM LAW HOSTS THE HNBA

The School of Law held a paella dinner in March, 2009 in honor of Ramona Romero, Esq., President of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) and members of the HNBA’s Board of Trustees. This event kicked off the HNBA’s 2009 Midyear Conference and Moot Court Competition “Building Relationships to Forge Success” which took place in Coral Gables.

This year the UM team won third place overall and came in third for Best Brief. UM law students Kathy Ahn (2L from Virginia) and Audrey Pumariega (2L from South Florida) received first runner-up and second runner-up for Best Oral Advocate, respectively.

The HNBA Midyear Conference and Annual Moot Court Competition offer a continuing legal education program and numerous opportunities for professional networking. This conference brings together Hispanic lawyers, business leaders, educators, and policy makers to share ideas and build relationships.

“The HNBA is very appreciative for the support the University of Miami has provided our organization and we look forward to continue to work with the law school to enhance our ties and the valuable programs we collaboratively coordinate,” said Richard C. Lorenzo (J.D.’95), HNBA Regional President.

Due in part to the UM School of Law’s commitment to educating Hispanic lawyers, Hispanic Business Magazine ranked UM Law #5 in the country. For the 10th consecutive year, the School has been named as one of the top ten law schools for Hispanic students.

Among the keynote speakers was Asheesh Agarwal, who served as the Deputy Assistant U.S. Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division. Agarwal worked extensively on voting rights and civil rights issues in the U.S. Department of Justice. Other speakers at the conference included Jigar Ashwin Madia, an American attorney and Iraq War veteran who ran for the United States Congress in Minnesota’s 3rd congressional district in 2008; Amardeep Singh, co-founder of the Sikh Coalition; and Sushma Sheth, the Media, Research, and Policy Director for Miami Worker’s Center.

The Inter-American Law Review hosted its 2009 Symposium – titled “Righting Wrongs: The Inter-American System of Human Rights after 50 Years” – in March. International experts gathered at the symposium to discuss the roles that the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights have played in changing the lives of those affected by human rights abuses in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The keynote address was delivered, via pre-recorded video, by the former president of Costa Rica and founder of the University for Peace, Dr. Rodrigo Carazo Odio. From 1907 to 1918, Costa Rica hosted the Central American Court of Justice, which was the first permanent international tribunal that allowed individuals to take legal action regarding international law and human rights issues. Following that tradition, Dr. Carazo pushed forward with efforts to establish the University for Peace while he was president of Costa Rica. He also helped establish the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in the Costa Rican capital.

Additional speakers included Larry Cox, executive director of Amnesty International, U.S.A.; Santiago Canton, executive secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; Carlos Ayala Coroa, former chairman of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; Rick Wilson, founding director of the International Human Rights Law Clinic at American University’s Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., and member of the Board of Directors of the World Organization for Human Rights, U.S.A.; Pablo Saavedra, deputy secretary of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; and Fred Morris, Methodist pastor and torture survivor.
The Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF) at the School of Law presented its Annual Spring Symposium in April 2009. The theme of the symposium was “That’s Entertainment, or Is It: A Discussion of Animals as Entertainment.”

The event consisted of three panels, where animal rights activists and specialists discussed legal issues related to animals as entertainment. It was co-sponsored by the Entertainment, Arts & Sports Law Section of the Florida Bar, the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center, the Law Activity Fee Allocation Committee, and Arnold, JD ’55, and Barbara Grevior.

The first panel, which focused on zoos and sanctuaries, featured as UM Law adjunct professor Marcy LaHart; Alex Pacheco, co-founder and former chairman of PETA; Russ Rector, former dolphin trainer and animal advocate; Conrad Schmitt, mammal curator for Miami Metro Zoo; and Terry Wolf, wildlife director of Lion Country Safari.

Panel 2, “Animals as Entertainment: Animal Ownership Exotic and Domestic Issues,” featured Jennifer Dietz, Esq., partner of Animal Law Attorney’s LLC, and former chair of the Animal Law Committee of the Florida Bar; Thomas Watts-Fitzgerald, Esq., assistant United States Attorney and chief of environmental crimes for the Southern District of Florida; and Sherry Schlueter, Broward County Sheriff’s Office lieutenant and section supervisor of the Special Victims and Family Crimes Section of the Broward County Sheriff’s Office.

The final panel, “Sports: Issues in Greyhound Racing,” featured Dr. Sean Gelb Esq., former chair of the Florida Bar Animal Law Committee, and Miami attorney Nick Atwood, campaign coordinator for the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida.

The Entertainment & Sports Law Society hosted its 12th annual symposium in February 2009. The daylong event brought law students and professionals together to take part in a forum discussing current legal issues in sports, entertainment, intellectual property, the arts, and the media.

Among the authorities from the legal arena that convened at the event to discuss the future of the entertainment and sports industry was this year’s keynote speaker David Cornwell, president of DNK Cornwell, LLC. Cornwell is nationally recognized as the premier lawyer for professional athletes. He has served as the primary counsel for professional athletes such as Reggie Bush, Gilbert Arenas, Michael Beasley, and Darren McFadden.

Cornwell also represents NFL players in administrative appeals under the NFL’s Substance Abuse and Steroid Programs and the League’s Conduct Policy.

Other speakers included UM faculty members and experts from the sports and entertainment industries such as Lynn Carrillo, media counsel of NBC Universal & Telemundo; Dennis Curran, general counsel of the National Football League; Thomas Knapp and Yvonne Imbert from CBS Interactive; Donald Jackson of The Sports Group; Ernesto Luciano, general counsel of Yahoo! Hispanic America; Jose Sariego, senior vice-president and general counsel of HBO Latin America; and many other executives and attorneys in the field.
LAW REVIEW HOSTS SYMPOSIUM ON ELECTION LAW

The Law Review held its annual symposium, entitled “How Far Have We Come Since 2000?,” in January at the University’s Coral Gables campus. The symposium focused on current developments in election law and voting rights, and drew an impressive collection of nationally-renowned experts who participated in the day’s events.

The keynote speaker was David Boies. He is the founder and Chairman of Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP and is widely regarded as one of the nation's top trial lawyers. Boies is best known for serving as lead counsel for former Vice-President Al Gore in connection with the litigation relating to the 2000 Presidential election.

Cases such as the Supreme Court’s recent decision in Crawford v. Marion County Election Board and the Democratic Party’s handling of the Florida and Michigan delegate dispute were discussed. There was also a review of election reforms since 2000 with a focus on what still needs to be done to ensure every vote is counted.

OVERCOMING THE STIGMA OF DISABILITY

The School of Law’s Psychology, Public Policy & Law Journal hosted a symposium on “Overcoming the Stigma of Disability” which featured three noted law professors and scholars – UM Law Professor Bruce J. Winick, Professor Elyn R. Saks from the University of Southern California Gould School of Law, and Professor Stephen Wizner from Yale Law School.

Professor Winick, who has a congenital visual disability, is a Professor of Law and Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University, where he has taught since 1974. Professor Winick co-founded the school of social enquiry known as therapeutic jurisprudence and has authored several publications in the area including Civil Commitment: A Therapeutic Jurisprudence Model, published by the Carolina Academic Press in 2005.

Professor Saks, who has schizophrenia and acute psychosis, recently published The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness, a memoir about her struggles and successes with schizophrenia and acute psychosis. Professor Saks is the Associate Dean and Orrin B. Evans Professor of Law, Psychology, and Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences at USC’s School of Law.

Professor Wizner is the William O. Douglas Clinical Professor of Law at Yale Law School, where he has taught since 1970. Professor Wizner has taught and supervised students in Yale Law’s clinical program, and has taught non-clinical courses in Trial Practice, Evidence, and Ethics. When Professor Saks was a student at Yale, Professor Wizner supervised her work in the mental health law clinic.

The Psychology, Public Policy & Law Journal is an inter-disciplinary law journal that is published quarterly by the American Psychological Association. Every spring semester, PPP&L sponsors a symposium on a particular issue facing psychology and law.
INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE LAW STUDENTS
Making A Difference In The World

A Rafael C. Benitez scholar, **Samuel Mekonnen** hails from Ethiopia. After graduating from the Addis Ababa University Faculty of Law, Mekonnen served as a judge assistant and as a judge at the Federal First Instance Court in Ethiopia. He then joined a local human rights non-governmental organization called Action Professionals’ Association for the People as a project officer. He conducted human rights training for law enforcement officers and then moved from Ethiopia to Fairfax, Virginia where he joined a small law firm.

Mekonnen has been admitted to the Law School’s JD program after working towards his LL.M. degree in Comparative Law. “The LL.M. program at the University of Miami School of Law is excellent for its selection of various international and U.S. law courses,” said Mekonnen. “I knew I would enjoy my studies at UM Law after seeing the diversity of students in the program.”

**Ali Ramadhan**, a Fulbright scholar, comes to the Law School from the Basra region of Iraq. He studied Law and English at the University of Basra and then began his career as an attorney. Ramadhan worked for the Iraqi Ministry of Justice and the Basra High Criminal Court as a Serious Crime Investigator until the war began in 2003. He then worked with the Coalition Forces occupying various positions with international and U.S. organizations working under the auspices of the Coalition Provisional Authority. Ramadhan helped organize the first Iraqi national and governorate elections and wrote the first post-war Basra governorate council statute.

Ramadhan received his LL.M. degree in December 2008, and was able to bring his wife and daughter to the United States to start a new life. He looks forward to finding a job with the United States government so that he can continue to help make a difference in Iraq.
Bringing outstanding students with a passion for public service to the University of Miami School of Law has been the goal of the Miami Scholars Program since its inception in 1997. The Miami Scholars Program was designed to attract students with a strong desire to bring their dedication to social justice to the next level, by providing them with appropriate resources and support.

“The Miami Scholars represent some of our most dedicated, innovative and extraordinary students at UM Law,” said Marni Lennon, Assistant Dean for Public Interest and Pro Bono and Director of HOPE Public Interest Resource Center. “They bring with them experience as activists, journalists, policymakers, educators, and more.”

Candidates from across the country engage in an intensive review process, with special attention paid to excellent academic achievement, strong LSAT scores and a demonstrated commitment to public service. Once selected, students are awarded a $25,000 scholarship and are provided support for a summer public interest internship or coursework. The program provides opportunities for students to thrive, such as mentoring by upper-class scholars and Public Interest lawyers, monthly meetings, and individualized advising and career planning. Additionally, Miami Scholars participate in, and lead, various UM Law initiatives and serve on the Public Interest Leadership Board through the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center.

The Miami Scholars Program enables students to make a difference in the lives of others by representing individuals throughout the community and focusing on global advocacy initiatives. “Their passion for justice takes them across the globe and their intellectual curiosity and motivation drives them to effectuate change in agencies and communities near and far,” adds Lennon.

MAISON KERNS

As a reporter for the Daily Iowan and the Des Moines Register, Mason Kerns has interviewed a wide array of individuals, ranging from Barack Obama to the homeless citizens of the city. Through his journalistic endeavors, Kerns not only refined his language abilities, but he also developed a more profound understanding of the issues faced across all spheres of society, particularly in the legal arena. His investigative journalism on American ties to the genocide in Darfur merited a nomination for the Hearst Journalism Award for Investigative Reporting. Determined to take a position on the front lines of these issues, Kerns also worked for social equality in justice in a more direct manner. Through the University of Iowa Project Equality, an organization focused on attaining rights for the LGBT community Mason co-founded, he coordinated numerous projects to benefit those in need, including a Dance Marathon to raise money for pediatric cancer patients.

A 2L at the School of Law, Kerns is a member of the HOPE Public Interest Leadership Board and a volunteer researcher for the UM Wrongful Convictions Project. Over the summer he worked as a law clerk for the American Civil Liberties Union in Miami.

“For about a dozen students each year,” said Kerns, “the Miami Scholars Program is a godsend. The scholarships have enabled social justice-minded students to do what we love – be it prevent human trafficking or defend the civil liberties of the voiceless – without fear of being crippled by debt upon graduation. When I was deciding where to go to school, I found out that the Miami Scholars Program is the only one of its kind in the nation, and it really underscores UM Law’s commitment to practical, pro bono legal work.”
ARYN EMENT

Aryn Emert’s involvement in public interest began as an undergraduate at Johns Hopkins University, where as a recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, she received a grant to research China’s mental health institutions and the treatment of the mentally ill. As a result of this experience, Emert became an executive board member of Peace-by-Peace, an organization committed to solving community problems through negotiation and mediation.

A 3L at UM Law, Emert has continued to engage her passion for public interest. She is a former Research Assistant for the James Weldon Johnson/Robert H. Waters Fellowship program and co-chairs the Public Interest Leadership Board, where she works to ensure that law students are an accessible resource for the community. Emert is also involved with the Miami STREET LAW program, where she has taught law to underprivileged high school students. Additionally, she headed Books and Buddies and Canes’ Carnival – two projects involving elementary and pre-school students. Last summer Emert served as a Summer HOPE Fellow at the Center for Court Innovation, a public-private partnership between the Fund for New York City and the New York State Unified Court System, where she was responsible for creating policies that would further enhance the innovative use of the law as a tool, rather than as a solution.

“The greatest asset of the Miami Scholars Program is being surrounded and inspired by people who have a shared commitment to assist the community, and who will continue to pursue this promise with passion,” said Emert.

LARA O’NEILL

Lara O’Neill has joined UM Law as the project coordinator for the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center. A former Miami Scholar, O’Neill is looking forward to providing information, guidance, and training to law students who are dedicated to community service and advocacy.

After graduating from Brown University in 2001, O’Neill came to UM Law as a Miami Scholar. She traveled to London after her first year of law school as a HOPE Fellow and interned at Consortium for Street Children (CSC). At the CSC, she researched different juvenile justice paradigms and investigated the overlap between child soldiers and street children. O’Neill received a second HOPE Fellowship during her final semester and secured an internship at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. It was a rare opportunity to be involved in human rights jurisprudence at the highest level and to contribute to Rwanda’s healing process. After practicing as a litigator, O’Neill returned to East Africa to intern with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at the Kakuma Refugee camp in Northwest Kenya. O’Neill graduated magna cum laude from the UM Law School in 2005, and worked as a federal law clerk for the Honorable James I. Cohn.

“UM Law was a place where my ideas were met with enthusiasm,” said O’Neill. “The Law School offered an environment of committed faculty and administrators anxious to see me succeed and achieve my goals. As a result, I was fortunate to have some extraordinary experiences both as a student and an attorney. I am happy to return to UM as the Program Coordinator for HOPE and use my skills to make things happen for our students.”
Though Professor Perlmutter says McLaughlin "presented a very polished oral argument," the appeals court ruled that the agency decision was supported by substantial competent evidence. All was not lost for Roman though. In a surprising move, the DCF secretary was moved by the client's predicament and offered to settle the case. McLaughlin negotiated a settlement for Roman in which the agency agreed to enroll him in an online educational program, buy him a laptop computer, provide a tutor, and make support services available through his 23rd birthday.

The CYLC has been fighting for young adults like Roman since its inception in 1995. Each year, the clinic handles about 75 cases, primarily serving current and former foster children who need legal assistance on matters regarding dependency, health care, mental health, disability, independent living, education, immigration and other general civil legal matters. UM Law Professor Kele Williams, the clinic’s associate director, works with Professor Perlmutter to supervise the student interns, who provide direct legal services to clients. The second- and third-year law students in the clinic are eligible to represent clients in administrative hearings and engage in the supervised practice of law in court hearings under the Florida Supreme Court student practice rule.

It was a very steep hill to climb," said McLaughlin, who spent time sitting with Roman during his dialysis sessions.

When complications of kidney failure caused 22-year-old Felix Roman to lose the monthly $892 check he had received through the Florida Road to Independence Program (RTI), students in the Children & Youth Law Clinic (CYLC) at the School of Law worked diligently to get his benefits reinstated.

In early March 2009, Diana McLaughlin, a second-year law student in the CYLC, went before the state’s Third District Court of Appeal (DCA) in Miami to argue on Roman’s behalf, asking the court to address disabilities and medical conditions within the RTI program, which is designed to prepare former foster children for independent living as they “age out” of state care. Roman’s fragile health requires him to go to Jackson Memorial Hospital three times a week for dialysis treatment. The frequent, and sometimes extended, hospital visits cause him to miss school. As a result of his absenteeism, the state’s Department of Children and Families (DCF) cut Roman’s benefits in February 2008, deeming him ineligible for continued benefits according to the program’s school attendance requirement.

Months earlier in December 2007, UM Law Professor Bernard Perlmutter, director of the CYLC, and CYLC intern Michael Pieciak, 3L, represented Roman in a DCF fair hearing. They argued that the agency had a duty under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act to accommodate Roman’s medical condition and explore alternatives such as online or hospital/homebound classes as reasonable accommodations of the attendance requirement. However, DCF officials stood by their decision.

Professor Perlmutter enlisted McLaughlin to argue the case before the DCA. McLaughlin’s non-traditional journey to law school was perfect for the case, as she has practiced medicine as a successful pediatrician for over 20 years and had several patients who were foster children. With the help of fellow CYLC interns Pieciak and Kristofor Nelson, 3L, McLaughlin vigorously prepared for the appeal.
The University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association (LAA) enthusiastically welcomes incoming Dean Patricia D. White, a nationally known leader in legal education. Dean White's accomplishments as the former dean of the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University are impressive and we look forward to benefiting from her experience, energy and vision. For those of you who did not have the opportunity to meet Dean White at the LAA's Reception at the Florida Bar Annual Meeting on June 25th in Orlando, please make sure you attend one of our upcoming judicial receptions or other events. As a reminder, upcoming events are listed on the LAA's website at http://www.law.miami.edu/alumni/upcomingeve

We thank former Acting Dean Paul R. Verkuil for his service over the past year during the transition to a permanent deanship. His accomplishments in one short year are numerous and include the reestablishment of the Law School's Visiting Committee, under the leadership of Carlos de la Cruz, JD'79, and the addition of several exceptional faculty members, including Professor Jan Paulsson, the holder of the Michael Klein Distinguished Scholar Chair and one of the world's leading experts on international arbitration. These new faculty members join our already outstanding faculty and further faculty additions are planned, which will help to improve our student-faculty ratio, and ultimately, our rankings.

We also welcome the Class of 2009 to our alumni community. As recent alumni of the University of Miami School of Law, you are part of the fastest-growing segment of our alumni population. To make sure that you are represented, I am pleased to announce the creation of a Young Alumni network intended to help recent alumni connect with each other, the law school, and larger alumni community through social events and other personal and professional networking opportunities.

We look forward to the 2009 Homecoming festivities, which are scheduled to take place on November 5-7. If you are a graduate of the class of 1969, 1979, 1984, 1989 or 1999, please plan to attend your reunion and let us know if you would like to join you reunion planning committee. Additionally, for the first time this year, we will be having a reunion for all graduates in the LL.M. in Real Property. All alumni (whether or not it's your reunion year) are invited to attend the 61st Annual Homecoming Breakfast and Awards Ceremony that will take place at the Riviera Country Club on Saturday morning, November 7th. The Homecoming festivities are attended by Alumni, faculty, administrators and student leaders and we look forward to seeing you at these events.

Although we have exciting times ahead, it is important that we, as Alumni, reach out and help current law school students. In difficult economic times, the need for scholarships is greater than ever. For the academic year starting in 2009, annual tuition and fees for full-time students is over $38,000. Support in any amount is greatly appreciated. Please keep in mind that law school rankings are based in part on the percentage of alumni that contribute to the school. Therefore, even a small gift makes a big difference. Donations to the Law School are tax-deductible and can be designated to one of our many scholarships and if undesignated, will be used to fund special projects.

As a reminder, a donation or even sponsorship of an LAA activity of $1,000 or more gives you membership in both the Law School's Dean's Circle and the University's President's Circle. These are both great organizations with many exceptional year-round programs. If you would like more information about the Dean's Circle, please contact the Alumni office or sign onto the LAA's website.

We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the individuals and law firms who pledged their support to the law school by establishing scholarships. Please see the Honor Roll of Donors which is being included in this publication.

In addition to all the other opportunities that alumni have to support the Law School and the LAA, there are also many opportunities to support student seminars, symposia and other events. Please take advantage of these opportunities.

I would like to thank outgoing LAA President Lucinda A. Hoffman, JD’91 for her efforts in leadership over the past year. I look forward to continuing to her great work and the work of those that came before her. We also thank the members of the LAA Board, the Dean’s Circle Committee and the staff at the Alumni office for their help and support.

As LAA President, I invite you to contact me (jweinstock@bd-blaw.com) at any time if you would like to increase your involvement in the LAA or if you have any comments or suggestions on how to improve the LAA, its programs or the Law School.

Jeffrey D. Weinstock, JD ’96, LLM ’03
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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The South Florida community has become ground zero for the national foreclosure crisis. In response to the unprecedented legal implications caused by these conditions, the University of Miami School of Law has established a Foreclosure Defense Fellowship, which will be available to May 2009 UM Law School graduates upon becoming members of the Florida Bar. The goal of this unique fellowship is to provide meaningful and fulfilling post-graduate alternatives while assisting local residents caught in the foreclosure crisis. Participants will acquire real-world work experience and be able to address a serious need in the community at the same time.

The courts and legal system are overwhelmed by this legal catastrophe. In all of 2006, fewer than 10,000 foreclosures were filed in the Miami-Dade courts. In the first month of 2009, more than 6,000 foreclosures were filed in those same courts – more than half the annual number 3 years ago. Last year 56,656 foreclosures were filed in Miami-Dade County alone. It is estimated that almost a third of these local foreclosure cases involve “owner-occupied homestead property” (residential homestead mortgage foreclosures), and that a very large fraction of the borrowers in those cases are unrepresented. The Foreclosure Defense Fellowships will work to fill the gaps that this legal crisis has created within the South Florida community.

Winners of these fellowships will receive a limited grant totaling $10,000 in exchange for a commitment to attend a three-to-four-day training session in late September, and then work at least three days a week for 27 weeks with either Dade Legal Services or Broward Legal Aid, commencing as soon as graduates are admitted to the Florida Bar.

Further details are available on the application form at http://www.law.miami.edu/4close/application.pdf or by contacting Professor Michael Froomkin at Froomkin@law.miami.edu.
President Donna Shalala honored some of the University of Miami’s most esteemed alumni during the Annual Alumni Awards Reception in April 2009. Among those honored were UM Law alumni Hilarie Bass, Wayne Chaplin, F.W. Mort Guilford, and Carolyn B. Lamm. The foursome boasts some of the Law School’s most exemplary talent.

Bass, JD ’81, is a Global Operating Shareholder at Greenberg Traurig, LLP. She is also a member of the University’s Board of Trustees and the Law School’s Visiting Committee. Chaplin, JD ’82, also a member of the University’s Board and the Law School’s Visiting Committee, is president and chief operating officer of Southern Wine and Spirits of America, Inc., a leading national beverage distributor. Both were selected for the Green Outstanding Fundraiser Award for their work co-chairing the Law School’s Momentum Campaign, which raised more than $22 million from 2003 to 2007.

Guilford, JD ’56, a senior partner at the law firm of Guilford & Associates, PA, was honored as the Henry King Stanford Alumnus of the Year. Named in honor of the University’s late third president, who passed away on January 1, 2009, the award recognizes continued exemplary service to the University. As president of the Alma Jennings Foundation, Guilford has been instrumental in awarding several grants to UM.

Lamm, JD ’73, a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of White & Case LLP, was named the 2009 Edward T. Foote II Alumnus of Distinction, an honor bestowed to alumni whose personal or professional achievements bring great honor and recognition to the University. Among her many feats, Lamm is the first UM graduate to be president of the American Bar Association, the largest voluntary professional association in the world. Lamm is widely recognized as one of the world’s leading experts in international commercial litigation, arbitration, and trade.
The Law Alumni Association hosted a reception at the Florida Bar Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida.

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Class of 1959

It is the School of Law’s tradition to have the 50th reunion class participate in the Commencement ceremony in May by leading the procession.
On March 1st, 2009, friends and family of the Law School came together to celebrate the life of one of our alumni, Alex R. Laster, JD '02, who died tragically in an automobile accident. While he was at the School of Law, he was a member of the Moot Court Board and the International and Comparative Law Review. After graduation, Alex practiced law in Miami and Boca Raton, and was an active member in both legal communities. In July, 2006, Alex was named as one of Florida Trend magazine's Legal Elite in the “Up & Coming Attorneys” category.

To honor Alex’s memory, his friends and family formed the Alexander R. Laster Memorial Fund Committee, which created a scholarship in Alex’s name at the School of Law. Alex had a deep love for and dedication to the School, and the committee sought to raise enough funds to ensure that his memory lives on at UM in perpetuity. With a fundraising goal of $50,000, the committee held the 1st Annual Alexander R. Laster Memorial Bowling Extravaganza. The event brought them closer to their goal, with less than $10,000 needed to endow the scholarship and establish a memorial to Alex. Please help us build this tribute to his memory by making a secure online gift at www.miami.edu/give.
The connection between a university and its alumni can be a lasting one. Taking the time to cultivate that relationship has always been a primary goal of the Law Alumni Association (LAA). The members of the LAA recently examined the demographics of the Law School’s alumni population, and the results were both interesting and encouraging. “The Law Alumni Association in looking at their demographics realized that more than 25% of active alumni graduated in the last ten years,” explained Georgie Angones, Assistant Dean of Alumni and Development. Recognizing the need to bridge this gap, the LAA formed the Young Alumni Committee (YAC). The committee hopes to reach out to the young alumni, those who graduated law school within the last ten years, through events and networking opportunities geared specifically toward them.

Not only do young alumni represent a significant segment of the Law School’s alumni population, but many of them are living locally. Of the more than 3,200 young alumni living in Florida, more than half that number live in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. The committee’s programs will tap into those numbers and focus on creating a strong network of young alumni, which can be especially helpful for individuals living and working nearby.

The committee members serve as liaisons between their classmates and the school. “It is important for us to reach out to them and to encourage them to become involved in the life of the school,” Angones said. “We have established a very distinguished and energetic inaugural Young Alumni Committee to reach out to these graduates, establish network opportunities for them and ask them to share with us how we can be of service to them in their personal and professional lives.”

Law Alumni Association President, Jeff Weinstock, JD ’96, LL.M. ’03, shared his enthusiasm for the program. “We are very excited about the establishment of the Young Alumni Committee,” he said. “The committee presents a great opportunity for the Law Alumni Association to strengthen its connections with recent alumni and to provide the types of events and services that recent alumni want.”

The chair of the Young Alumni Committee is Devang Desai, JD ’03. “I am honored and humbled to serve as the chair of the YAC,” he said. “We have a very talented group of recent alumni who are excited about moving forward with many professional and social outlets wherein our recent alumni will be able to reconnect with old classmates and foster stronger bonds professionally.” Desai encourages young alumni to stay involved with their alma mater and also to give back whenever possible. Although financial support is always encouraged, he reminds graduates of the many ways they can remain connected to the Law School. Young alumni can mentor current students, judge moot court competitions, assist in the job search process and attend events at the Law School.

The Young Alumni Committee currently has over forty members, and the numbers are growing. Membership is open to all young alumni.

For more information, alumni can email the Law School at youngalumni@law.miami.edu or contact the Law Alumni Office at (305) 284-3470. Also, the University of Miami Law Alumni Association has a page on Facebook. Become a fan and stay connected to your alma mater!
Acting Dean Paul R. Verkuil, Peter Lederer, member of the School of Law’s Visiting Committee and UM Law Professor Irwin P. Stotzky hosted the event “Soia Mentschikoff and her ‘Seven Dwarfs’: A Discussion of Her Vision of Legal Education” in April 2009.

Soia Mentschikoff was a former Dean of the University of Miami School of Law from 1974 - 1982. Her seven original legal instructors, the “Seven Dwarfs,” attended the event to discuss Soia’s legal vision and provide insight and knowledge on legal education then and now.

Speakers included Kenneth Casebeer (Professor of Law at the University of Miami), Herbert W. Krueger (partner in Mayer Brown, Chicago), attorney Kenneth Lipman (partner in Siegel, Lipman, Dunay, Shepard & Miskel), Jeffrey S. Lubbers (Fellow at American University’s Washington College of Law), Keith E. Secular (partner in Cohen, Weiss and Simon, New York City), Irwin P. Stotzky (Professor of Law at the University of Miami), and James L. Wolf (a noted consultant in energy).
Carlos de la Cruz, JD ’79, Dean of Students Emerita, Jeanette Hausler and Rosa de la Cruz

Vision of Legal Education

Professor Stotzky and Sam Dubbin, JD ’81

Acting Dean Verkuil, presenting Chairman of the Visiting Committee Carlos de la Cruz with UM Crocs
Cindy Duque, JD '02

Cindy Duque, JD '02, was the first in her family to get a four-year degree from college and the first in her family to go to law school. “I grew up in a family where a lot of people didn’t even speak English,” she explained. “My grandpa came to this country in the 1970s from Colombia with not more than $20 in his pocket.” She saw many people around her who did not have a voice and who were taken advantage of because they did not understand their rights.

When she arrived at the School of Law, Duque didn’t know anybody. The Hispanic Law Students Association showed her the ropes. “They took me under their wing,” she said, gratefully. She found her way to the Center for Ethics and Public Service where Professor Tony Alfieri offered his mentoring and support. The Center’s workshop and symposium practice group gave Duque access to lawyers in the community that she never would have otherwise had.

Duque spent a few years working in the Orlando office of Greenberg Traurig practicing commercial and construction litigation before representing individuals at Wooten Honeywell, the oldest firm in Orlando. Three years ago, Duque decided to use her knowledge of the various practice areas and step out on her own. She opened the Duque Law Firm, a full service boutique representing individuals, small businesses, and large companies, and it is the only law firm in the Hunters Creek suburb of Orlando.

Duque was recently installed as the president of the Hispanic Bar Association of Central Florida. During her term, she hopes to focus on reaching out to graduates from the newer law schools in the region and also on having “more qualified Hispanic attorneys to serve on the bench,” she said. The Hispanic Bar offers free legal education in the areas of immigration and family law through its “Conozca sus Derechos” (know your rights) program.

Married to Luis Bonilla, an engineer, Duque has two young children, and she enjoys spending her free time with her family. She is satisfied with the choices she has made in her career thus far. “It’s a great sense of responsibility that brings a great sense of satisfaction,” she said. “I love what I do.”
Bernard Siegel, BA ’72, JD ’75

When Bernard Siegel, BA ’72, JD ’75, speaks, he sounds more like a doctor than a lawyer. The founder and executive director of the nonprofit Genetics Policy Institute (GPI), Siegel practiced law in Miami for over twenty years before trading in his practice for a brand new career. “I took a leave from my practice and never went back,” he said.

In 2002, Siegel was concerned when Clonaid, a company claiming to have technology to produce human clones, announced it created the first cloned baby, “Baby Eve.” Siegel knew that humans could not safely be cloned, and he was struck by the legal implications of such a claim. Filing what became the landmark case seeking guardianship for the baby, Siegel exposed the company and its false allegations. There was no baby. Scientists rallied behind Siegel. “They were looking for a legal mouthpiece,” he explained.

Siegel is also proud of what GPI has accomplished. “My organization has emerged from being advocates of stem cell research to advancing the entire field of regenerative medicine,” he said. It is the leader of the Pro-Cures Movement as well as the Stem Cell Action Coalition for Cures. GPI successfully lobbied the United Nations to reject a treaty banning therapeutic cloning of stem cells. The goal was to distinguish stem cell therapies from reproductive cloning, a practice GPI does not support. Siegel is the founder and coordinator of the annual World Stem Cell Summit as well as the co-chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee of the International Society for Stem Cell Research.

Eleven years ago, Siegel had colon cancer, and he took from that experience a lesson about how to lead his life. “Things like this are a wake-up call,” he explained. He saw it as a message not to be afraid but to be daring. “This is a chance to serve mankind,” he said. Reflecting on his decision to study law, Siegel knows he made the right choice. “I consider a legal education the ultimate backstage pass,” he said. “It’s been a journey and a half.”

Michael Blynn was appointed to lead the National League of Cities’ University Communities Council for 2009.

Adele Stone was recently re-elected vice president of Public Affairs for the South Florida Chapter of NAIOP.

Frank T. Pilotte was appointed to head the Florida Bar Committee on Probate Rules.

Miguel G. Farra has been named to the Miami-Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame.

Howard M. Talenfeld was appointed to head the Florida Bar Committee on the Legal Needs of Children.

Howard J. Berlin joined the Florida business law firm of Berger Singerman.
Dennis Scholl, JD ’81

Dennis Scholl, JD ’81, is as complex as the wines he produces. If he had a label, it would be lengthy: lawyer, venture capitalist, art collector, philanthropist and winemaker. He was recently named the Miami program director for the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

“The Knight Foundation is an opportunity for me to take all the things the city has given to me and turn around and give it back,” he said. Last year, Scholl was the volunteer chair of the Knight Arts Challenge, one of the foundation’s biggest projects. The University of Miami was one of the 2008 winners, receiving $1.8 million dollars toward a post-graduate program for emerging artists.

Although Scholl no longer practices law, he is grateful for the education he received. “That first year was the greatest intellectual experience I ever had,” he recalled. If it were not for law school and alphabetical seating, Scholl would not have met his wife. He met Debra Schwartz, the woman he eventually married, on the very first day of contracts class. She was sitting on his left.

The two began collecting art while working in a gallery in a mall. “We needed jobs to pay for law school,” he explained. “We began to sell art that matched your sofa.” Eventually, they started spending their paychecks on what was the beginning of their lifelong passion. Thirty years later, their Miami Beach home is a showcase. “We’ve had 15,000 people to the house in the last decade,” Scholl said.

In the 1980s, Scholl helped transform the South Beach Art Deco District. He served as the chair of the Guggenheim Photography Committee, the Tate Modern Acquisitions Committee, and the Miami Art Museum Collectors Council. He has been on numerous boards including the Aspen Art Museum and the North Miami Museum of Contemporary Art. He is also a cultural correspondent for the resort television network, Plum TV.

In 2001, Scholl met Richard Betts, a sommelier in Aspen, and they embarked on a winemaking adventure. Betts and Scholl is now an award-winning winery in Australia. Scholl commissions artists to design customized labels for his wine, blending his two favorite passions.

For Scholl, taking risks is not a problem as long as you believe in the idea. He looks forward to his role at the Knight Foundation and how he will be able to work within the community to create change and innovation. “It’s the greatest opportunity I’ve ever had to make a difference,” he said.

James Cassel has been named Vice President of Americas of M&A International.

1980
Barry A. Stein was appointed to head the Florida Bar Committee on Workers Compensation Certification.

Jeff S. Aberswas named national board representative of the Ft. Lauderdale Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Steven C. Cronig who is Board Certified in Real Estate Law, has joined Adorno & Yoss LLP in the Miami office as a partner.

1981
Wilfredo A. Rodriguez has left Holland & Knight to form Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Ferri.

Hilarie Bass received the University of Miami Alumni Association’s Green Outstanding Fundraiser Award for 2009.

1982
Jeremy A. Spector was appointed Chair of the Committee on Tax Exempt Financing by the American Bar Association.

Thomas M. Karr was elected a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

Jeffrey M. Liggio received the Al J. Cone Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Justice Association, which is given to an attorney who has pledged his or her life to upholding consumer rights and fighting for justice.

Wayne Chaplin received the University of Miami Alumni Association’s Green Outstanding Fundraiser Award for 2009.

1983
Brian K. Gart joined Berger Singerman in Ft. Lauderdale as a partner.

1984
Scott L. Rubin was appointed to head the Florida Bar Committee on the Registered Paralegal Program.

Gustavo Pupo-Mayo was awarded The Don Basco Distinguished Alumni Award and inducted into the La Salle Hall of Fame by the Immaculata-La Salle High School Alumni Association.

Peter Mollengarden joined Katzman Garfinkel Rosenbaum in West Palm Beach as a partner.

Robin J. King joined GrayRobinson in Ft. Lauderdale as a partner.

William M. Pearson joined GrayRobinson in Miami as a partner.

Diana Santa Maria was named Secretary of the Ft. Lauderdale Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

1985
Ervin A. Gonzalez was a featured speaker at the “Trail of a Truck Accident Case” web seminar presented by The National Business Institute.
Diana Joseph has changed her firm to the Barrington Strategic Wealth Management Group LLC.

Dr. Amy Debra Ronner, Professor of Law at St. Thomas University School of Law, has published an article, “The Learned-Helperless Lawyer: Clinical Legal Education and Therapeutic Jurisprudence As Antidotes to Bartleby Syndrome,” in The Touro Law Review. She will present this paper at the 2009 International Association of Law and Mental Health Conference in New York.

Craig L. Montz joined Adorno & Yoss in Miami as a partner.

1987

Jan M. Morris has been named partner at the Boca Raton office of Adorno & Yoss.

Kimberly Kolback was awarded board certification by The Florida Bar in the area of intellectual property law. Additionally, Kimberly was a featured speaker at the Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, on the topic “Getting Started in the Entertainment Industry.”

Norman M. Waas is the managing partner of the Coral Gables and Fort Lauderdale firm of Falk, Waas, Hernandez, Cortina, Solomon & Bonner, P.A. Waas has also been recognized by Florida Super Lawyers magazine as one of the state’s top medical malpractice defense lawyers for 2009, and has also been selected as a member of the Florida Legal Elite by Florida Trend magazine. He remains active with the University through the School of Law’s Dean’s Circle, the Hurricane Club, and as an alumni advisor to Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity.

Karen L. Stetson joined GrayRobinson in Miami as a partner.

1987

David A. Slutsker has been named partner at the Fort Lauderdale office of Adorno & Yoss.

Craig Roberts received the South Florida Business Journal’s 2009 Miami Ultimate CEO Award.

Michael R. Diliberto conducted mediation training for judges and lawyers in Ecuador. He was also interviewed about mediation on two Ecuadorian television stations (in Spanish), which are posted on his profile at www.SuperMediator.com.

Donna Bucella, JD ’83

Donna Bucella, JD ’83, has an intimidating resume. Faced with challenges throughout her career, her philosophy is simple. “Play nice,” she said. Her parents taught her to fight for what she wanted without losing respect for herself or others. When she was a child, her father introduced her to a lawyer who happened to be a woman. “I wanted to be one of them,” she recalled. Bucella is currently of counsel at Foley & Lardner, LLP., in Washington, D.C.

Coming to Miami for law school was a change of pace for the native New Yorker. The professors changed her way of thinking. In particular, Professor M. Minnette Massey pulled it all together, teaching Bucella to see how law was connected to the past. Bucella was in the Society of Bar and Gavel and was the alumni editor of the Barrister. She worked with Georgie Angones, Assistant Dean of Alumni and Development. “Georgie is a very special person,” Bucella said. “She is a great connection for a number of the alumni. They remember her.”

After law school, Bucella joined the military. She served in the trial defense and litigation divisions of the Judge Advocate General’s (JAG) Corps of the U.S. Army. She learned quickly and got real experience. “Within the first week of my first assignment, I was in trial,” she remembered. Bucella spent twenty years in the U.S. Army Reserves, served as Assistant Chief of the Litigation Division, and retired as a Colonel last year.

Bucella’s career never strayed too far from government. After working as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of Florida, she was deputy and then director of the Executive Office for the United States Attorneys. On April 19, 1995, Attorney General Janet Reno asked Bucella to go to Oklahoma City to initiate the bombing investigation. “That was one of the most life-changing events for me,” she said.

In 1999, Bucella became the United States Attorney for the Middle District of Florida and the first female attorney confirmed by the Senate in the history of the state. She eventually worked in the private sector as a partner at Steel, Hector, and Davis in Miami. Everything changed on September 11, 2001, and Bucella became Director of the Southeast Area Aviation Operations for the Transportation Security Administration. She was there for nearly a year and then was made Director of the Terrorist Screening Center (TSC), a new program under the FBI. “I had to use every skill set I had to get people to work for an organization that never existed,” she recalled. “We had sixty days and we started from nothing.”

Bucella navigates her complicated career while living according to a few basic principles. She remembers her friends and colleagues. “People have always helped me, and I help the next person out,” she explained. “That’s what it’s all about.” Her commitment to the law is unyielding. “If you don’t have passion, how can you get up in the morning?” she asked.

Jorge Luis Lopez was appointed the 2009 Vice Chair of the Dade Community Foundation’s Board of Governors.

1988

Mariaelena Gayo-Guitian has joined the firm of Genovese Joblove & Battista, P.A.
Brian J. Felcoski was appointed Chair-Elect for the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of The Florida Bar.

Richard B. Sabra has joined Ruden McCloskey as a partner in the Ft. Lauderdale office.

Darrell Cartwright was named one of Birmingham’s “Top Attorneys” by Birmingham Magazine.

1989
Hon. Carroll Kelly was presented with the Harvey Ford Award by the Conference of County Court Judges in addition to being named President of the Conference of County Court Judges of Florida.

Kim K. Thompson was named a 2009 Georgia Super Lawyer.

Franklin Zemel has been reappointed to serve another two-year term on The Florida Bar Professional Ethics Committee.

1990
Michael R. Gibbons was selected by The Best Lawyers in America 2009 for Construction Law.

Carlos J. Martinez was sworn in as Miami-Dade’s Public Defender on January 28, 2009. He also received the Dade County Bar Association’s Robert L. Shevin Public Service Award.

Thomas H. Loffredo was named managing partner at GrayRobinson’s Ft. Lauderdale office.

Lance A. Harke was re-elected as Director of the Greater Miami Shores Chamber of Commerce.

1991
Jeffrey Rinde has joined Blank Rome LLP in the firm’s New York City office as a Partner.

1992
James D. Gassenheimer has been named partner at the Miami office of Berger Singerman.

Barry P. Gruher has joined the firm of Genovese Joblove & Battista, P.A.

Fleur J. Lobree has been appointed to head the Florida Bar Committee on Criminal Procedure Rules.

Yvette Ostolaza has been appointed to the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors.

Alexander L. Palenzuela-Mauri was named a partner at Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske in Coral Gables.

Maria Tebano joined Tulley Rinckey PLLC as a partner in the Albany office.

1993
Raul J. Chacon, Jr. has been named partner at the Miami office of Akerman Senterfitt.

Paul A. Calli recently served as a panelist for the American Bar Association Section of Antitrust Law’s “Brown Bag” teleconference seminar entitled, “Discussing the Criminal Jury Trial in the Marine Hose Case.”

Adam Rabin has been named to the Board of Directors to the Palm Beach County Bar Association.

Harvey Hyman was released from active duty with the U.S. Coast Guard after serving 4 years in Operation

George Harper, JD ’70

George Harper, JD ’70, has dedicated his career to international law. After practicing over thirty years at various Miami firms, he formed Harper Meyer in 2002. He is the managing partner, specializing in international business transactions, aviation and banking.

Born and raised in Cuba, Harper intended to go to college and return to Cuba to work on his family’s cattle ranch. That never happened. “My family left Cuba two days after I graduated high school,” Harper recalled. “There was nothing left to go back to.”

At seventeen, Harper came to the United States to attend the Georgia Institute of Technology. He graduated during the Vietnam War and joined the United States Navy before deciding to apply to law school. Although Harper was accepted to every law school he applied to, the decision to come to Miami was clear. His grandparents were living here, and his wife was a UM employee. Her job offered some tuition remission, and that, coupled with the GI Bill, helped defray some of the cost.

Harper took law school seriously. “I went to law school with a great deal of trepidation and fear,” he remembered, “and I worked extremely hard.” He studied international law with the late professor Rear Admiral Raphael Benitez. Associate Dean Benitez had a tremendous influence on Harper and his career. “He was a genuine hero,” Harper said. In his final year of school, Harper’s first son was born. By then, Harper was Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review and a member of the moot court team that went on to win the Philip Jessup International Moot Court World Championship.

Staying connected to the Law School is easy for Harper. “The Law School taught me my trade, the value of hard work and the benefits that come from it,” he explained. He has been president of the Law Alumni Association and the General Alumni Association, and he has been on the University Board of Trustees. He is also an adjunct professor of international business transactions.

When he is not practicing law or spending time with his four grandsons, Harper devotes time and energy to a number of professional and civic organizations. He is president-elect of the Inter-American Bar Association, a group representing forty-four organizations and seventeen nations of the western hemisphere. He is also a board member of the Historical Museum of Southern Florida.

Harper’s work ethic has not waned since his days at the Law School, and he advises young, aspiring lawyers to develop a similar drive. “When you go to law school you should be the best possible student of the law that you can be,” he said. How do you do that? Harper will tell you, “Jump in with both feet.”
Iraqi Freedom. Harvey will be pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of South Florida this fall.

Lee Katherine Goldstein joined the litigation team at Fairfield and Woods, P.C.

1994
Gregg Wenzel has had the 90th star on the CIA’s memorial wall dedicated to his memory in honor of his service to our nation. Wenzel was a member of the first clandestine service training class to graduate after the September 11th terrorist attacks.

William M. Shaheen joined Berger Singerman in Boca Raton as a partner.

Michael C. Gongora was named a partner at Becker Poliakoff in Coral Gables.

William R. Lowman gave a presentation on “The Overview of Estate Planning” to a group of SunTrust bankers in January.

1995
Jana M. Fried was named partner at the Miami office of Bennett Aiello Cohen Fried & Kober.

Seth R. Kaplan has been added as a partner to Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod's Tax and Wealth Transfer Groups.

Juan Carlos Ferrer joined K&L Gates in Miami as a partner.

S. Joanne Linley joined Peckar & Abramson in Miami as a partner.

Max Holtzman was appointed as Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture by the Secretary, Tom Vilsack.

Maitri “Mike” Klinkosum was named a 2009 North Carolina Super Lawyers’ Rising Star.

Richard J. Bernard was named partner at Baker Hostetler in New York.

1996
Patricia M. Hernandez has left Holland & Knight to form Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Ferri.

Stephanie A. Russo was appointed to head the Florida Bar Committee on Health Law Certification.

James F. Rosenberg was featured in a Miami Herald article titled “Lawyer’s Classroom Visit Leads to Charity Helping Schools.”

1997
Andre Pierre has been elected Mayor of North Miami.

Stephen R. Astley was named a partner at Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman & Robbins in Boca Raton.

Jeffrey Lynne is a real estate and litigation shareholder with Akerman Senterfitt and is one of few Florida attorneys recognized as a LEED AP. Jeffrey was also recently awarded “Citizen Advocate of the Year” by the Florida Bicycle Association for his pro bono work representing League of American Bicyclists against the Florida Department of Transportation.

Lyle E. Shapiro was named a “Top Up and Comer” by the 2009 South Florida Legal Guide.

1998
Richard E. Landman has been named partner at the Fort Lauderdale office of Akerman Senterfitt.

Kathy Williams, JD ’82

Although Williams worked at firms over the years, she always returned to government. “I’d like to be able to say there was a plan,” she admitted, but it was her love for trial work that kept bringing her back. She spent four years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Florida and five years as the Chief Assistant Federal Public Defender. As Federal Public Defender, she spent six years as chairperson of the Federal Defender Services Advisory Group, representing all federal and community defenders and panel attorneys before the Judicial Conference subcommittee. The Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers gave Williams the Founder’s Award in 2007, and the American Civil Liberties Union presented her with the C. Clyde Atkins Civil Liberties Award in 2003.

Williams recognizes that her job is not the most popular in the profession. “The federal public defenders know that their office is the redheaded stepchild of the criminal justice system,” she said. When people ask how she can defend her clients, her answer is unwavering. “It’s not just about the people we defend, but it’s about who we are as a constitutional democratic society,” she explained. Defending her profession as fervently as she defends her clients, Williams explains that funding is at the heart of everything. “Nothing speaks more articulately and eloquently than how indigent defense programs are managed and funded,” she said. “It’s at the core of the Constitution that the individual rights be maintained.”
Mahvish Rukhsana Khan, JD ’07, was a student at the University of Miami School of Law when she became an interpreter for lawyers representing Guantanamo detainees. Her subsequent memoir – *My Guantanamo Diary: The Detainees and the Stories They Told Me* – details her experiences at Guantanamo.

Before *My Guantanamo Diary*, Khan, who was born in Michigan to Afghan immigrants, had hopes of becoming a journalist or a human rights attorney. Then, she says she began to see the combination of law and media as a powerful public advocacy tool. In 2005, Khan did a Google search on some of the cases she was studying in an international law class at UM. The search led her to the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York, where she finessed her fluency in Pashto into a position as a translator for attorneys who were representing detainees at the Guantanamo Bay prison camp.

“On my first trip to the military base in January of 2006, I was very apprehensive,” said Khan. “I was expecting to meet a terrorist, a member of al-Qaeda or the Taliban... Instead, when I walked into my first meeting, I met prisoner No. 1154. He looked just as nervous as I was. The second detainee I met on that first trip was an 80-year-old paraplegic—Haji Nusrat... It went on and on like this. Prisoner after prisoner. They were not the worst of the worst. Some of them in fact were the best of the best; charitable, upstanding citizens who if Americans knew about would feel as outraged as I had become. I felt completely deceived after that first trip and saddened that the U.S. administration was not only destroying men’s lives, but tarnishing America’s global reputation.”

After that first trip to the camp, Khan penned an article about her experiences at Guantanamo for *The Washington Post*. She caught a lot of heat from the Department of Justice about the article, and had to do a tremendous amount of negotiating to have her security clearance reinstated in order to return to the camp. It eventually was and Khan’s work as a translator resumed. Her role with the detainees quickly developed, and she began providing supervised legal counsel to Guantanamo detainees. She also traveled to Afghanistan to find exonerating evidence for prisoners. It wasn’t long after her clearance was reinstated that she decided to write the book.

“There was so much information and I felt [the need to] share,” she said. “I decided against follow up piece meal articles and decided I would save it all for a book. If I was banned again after that, it would be OK, because I’d have published everything I saw for American and global readers.”

*My Guantanamo Diary* was published in 2008 by PublicAffairs. Since then, the book has gained widespread popularity around the globe, and has been translated into several other languages, most recently Pashto and Arabic. The paperback edition of the book was released on June 22, 2009. By recording injustices against oppressed human beings, Khan says she hopes that we learn from our mistakes. “We have such a short time on this planet. It is our duty to help those who cannot help themselves.”

John P. Rutledge announced the formation of Rutledge Law Center Ltd., a real estate, business and corporate, and intellectual property law firm located in Carson City, Nevada.

Natalie J. Carlos joined the Miami office of Carlton Fields as a shareholder.

Carlos I. Cardelle and his wife Dainene H. Cardelle welcomed their first child Isabella Carolina on December 24, 2008.

John M. Siracusa joined Katzman Garfinkel Rosenbaum in West Palm Beach as a partner.

Joseph W. Janssen joined Katzman Garfinkel Rosenbaum in West Palm Beach as a partner.

1999

William V. Roppolo has been named partner at the Miami office of Baker & McKenzie.

Timothy M. Ravich was recently recognized by The Florida Bar as a Board Certified specialist in Aviation Law.

Gary Reshefsky has joined the MDW-Law Insurance Services as Senior Vice President.

Ann K. Levine received the Ginsberg Award from the Anti-Defamation League at their National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C, on April 20, 2009.

Anthony J. Fantauzzi III was appointed to President of The Union College Club of Tampa. Anthony was also selected to join the Litigation Counsel of America Trial Lawyer Honorary Society.

Eduardo R. Arista presented on Asset Protection for Business Owners at a Florida Institute of CPAs seminar in March.

Blanca R. Sordo joined Martinez & Sordo in Miami as a partner.

Daniel Rogers was named a partner at Shook Hardy & Bacon in Miami.
Sarah King, JD '08

Sarah King, JD '08, graduated from law school and, like the rest of her classmates, packed her bags. Her journey, however, was not leading her to a firm or agency. She had a position as an International Legal Fellow in Bosnia and spent the next year in the Criminal Defense Section of the Registry for the State Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The study of international law brought the native of upstate New York to the University of Miami. “I was impressed with Miami from the outset and primarily chose to attend because of the very individualized attention I received while applying,” King remembered. She became involved in the school’s clinical programs, specifically the Community Health Rights Education Clinic, the Children and Youth Law Clinic, and the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center. She spent a summer as a HOPE Fellow at the World Organization Against Torture in Geneva, Switzerland, focusing on women’s issues. King excelled as a law student, and her accomplishments include membership in the Order of the Baristers and Outstanding 3L of 2007-2008. She and her partner won the 1L Moot Court Competition with her winning Best Oralist.

King credits her clinical experiences at the Law School with preparing her for the “real working world.” The job in Bosnia is one that she will not soon forget. Her office handled charges of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. “In this system,” she explained, “the accused have a right to participate in all stages of proceedings, despite having counsel. This made for an incredibly spontaneous and interesting courtroom experience requiring everyone involved to be on their toes at all times.” When she was not working or freezing (Bosnian winters are notoriously cold), King was able to make close friends and enjoy the rich culture.

Now that she is back in the States, King’s focus is on the bar exam. The recent graduate encourages students to get involved in as many areas of law as possible. “I think that there are so many possibilities that you might not even know the field you want to specialize in exists when you enter in your first year,” she said. Her passion for helping others is still strong, and she expects to incorporate public interest and human rights work into her career. “It is what motivated me into law and what I expect will propel me through a satisfying career,” she said.
When Max Holtzman, JD ’95, answered his cell phone in February 2007, he had no idea who was calling. He was the Florida finance chair for Iowa governor Tom Vilsack’s presidential campaign, and when that campaign ended, Holtzman was a popular guy. “When you are a candidate’s money person, the phone rings a lot from other campaigns,” he explained. “My cell phone rang one day, and it was Barack Obama. He said he was a big fan of Vilsack’s and wanted to talk to me about joining his team.”

In a way, Holtzman has UM to thank for the connection. Kirk Wagar, JD ’93, was a good friend of Holtzman’s, and the two stayed in touch since law school. Wagar was the first Florida contact for the Obama campaign, and he wanted Holtzman to join Obama’s National Finance Committee. Holtzman got on board. Throughout the campaign, Holtzman remained close with Governor Vilsack, and when Obama picked Vilsack for his Secretary of Agriculture, Holtzman became Vilsack’s Senior Advisor.

Born in Miami, Holtzman graduated from the University of Florida with an agricultural economics degree. He worked at the Florida Department of Agriculture under Governor Lawton Chiles before starting law school. “Growing up a huge Hurricanes fan, I was excited to go to the University of Miami,” he said. Holtzman’s law school experience was memorable from the start. Hurricane Andrew struck Miami the day before classes were to begin, so he spent the first semester helping the relief efforts. Once school opened, classes were longer to make up for lost time. During his three years at UM, Holtzman enjoyed being the drummer for the “Equity Playhouse” performances.

After law school, Holtzman was Assistant City Attorney for North Miami and Miami Beach. He also worked in commercial real estate and as a consultant for companies who were involved in government. Realizing they were dealing with many of the same issues, Holtzman and his father, Sonny Holtzman, JD ’59, went into business together in 2007. The Holtzman Group represents clients nationally and internationally in the public and governmental sectors.

Now Holtzman lives in Washington with his wife, Heather, and their two young children. “There is a very steep learning curve up here,” Holtzman said about his new job. His focus is on international trade and biotechnology. “You have to sharpen your expertise quickly.” Holtzman encourages law students to consider taking jobs in government. “When you work for government, you are exposed to every single sector of the community,” he said. “I think it’s an incredibly valuable use of your time.”

**2005**

Robert Malinoski provides Falcon Cove middle schoolers with insight into law and government through the Justice Teaching program.

**Jesse M. Keenan** has joined Adorno & Yoss in the Miami office as a Senior Associate.

**Alejandra Ramirez** has been recognized as an Accredited Professional under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System.

**2006**

Philip A. Gold has joined David H. Gold as an associate.

**Víctor Pérez** was named a partner at Holland & Knight in Miami.

**2007**

Andrew Neal passed away on May 23, 2009. Our thoughts are with his family.

Kevin Probst will join Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. as an Equal Justice Works Fellow in September. He will spearhead the development of The Miami Medical-Legal Children’s Clinic.

**Monal K. Oza** and **Joshua L. Zipper** were married at the Ritz-Carlton Key Biscayne on January 10, 2009.

**2008**

Jordan Dresnick of Holland & Knight has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Dade County Bar Association.
In Memoriam

Sol Alexander, JD ’53
Jack Ankus, JD ’58
Daniel L. Bakst, JD ’65
John B. Bennett, JD ’50
Mark L. Bregar, JD ’89, LLM ’90
Dwight W. Broeman, JD ’53
Carl L. Campbell, JD ’55
John J. Cariddi, JD ’49
Paul J. Carroll, JD ’63
Ira. B. Coldren, LLM ’82
Henry J. Cotman, JD ’51
Benjamin J. Daniels, JD ’57
Anthony J. De Lucca, JD ’51
Rocco W. DeStefano, JD ’62
Gerald W. Douglas, LLM ’79
Edward C. Flood, JD ’54
Samuel S. Forman, JD ’66
Brenda A. Friedman, JD ’95
Joseph H. Ganguzza, JD ’82
Robert Golden, JD ’52
Barry L. Halpern, JD ’68
Beth D. Jarrett, JD ’68
David Kerben, JD ’59
Ben R. King, LLM ’76
Louann Lang, JD ’85
Mary E. Leeper, LLM ’76
Ronald G. Levy, JD ’58
Robert J. Lewison, JD ’52
Michael A. Rubin, JD ’74
Brian R. McComb, JD ’74
Daniel C. McKeachern, JD ’50
Abner Miller, JD ’54
Andrew A. Neal, JD ’07
Walter E. Nottebaum, JD ’54
David S. Nunes, JD ’79
Edward J. O’Flynn, JD ’50
George Onoprienko
Megan O’Toole JD’04
Charley C. Papy, Jr., JD ’53
Barbara J. Parker, JD ’77
August J. Pereno, JD ’50
James Pilafian, JD ’46
Francis B. Pridgen, JD ’69
James D. Range, JD ’74
Harold S. Rash, JD ’73
Lawrence C. Rice, JD ’63
Seymour J. Ronald, JD ’51
Hon. Michael H. Salmon, JD ’52
Harry M. Schwenke, JD ’54
David R. Serns, JD ’63
Martin P. Shachat, JD ’51
Antonio J. Soto, JD ’80
Adele T. Weaver, JD ’60
Irving J. Weiner, JD ’50, LLM ’69
Robert D. Zahner, JD ’51
# UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION

The Law Alumni Association, in its quest to expand its reach into the national alumni community, has established the “University of Miami Law Alumni Association Achievement Award.” Our goal is to recognize alumni on a national and international level, whose professional achievements and service to the communities at large have earned them the recognition of distinguished alumni.

We encourage your nomination of individuals who fulfill the criteria: “Individuals who are graduates of the University of Miami School of Law and who have excelled in his/her chosen profession, in the public or private sector, or in service to the legal community.”

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**SHARE YOUR NEWS!**

From all reports, the most avidly read section of the Barrister, both printed and Web site versions, is “Class Notes.” The Law School’s more than 18,000 alumni want to know what their classmates have been doing – the awards they have received, high-profile cases they have won, law firms or cities they have moved to, pro bono activities they have undertaken, spouses they have married, etc.* Please note that space limitations do not permit publication of every submission in its entirety. The editors reserve the right to edit when necessary.

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I am interested in serving as a member of the Alumni Advisory Group to the following student organization:

- [ ] I am/was a clerk in a domestic or foreign court.

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<th>Court jurisdiction:</th>
<th>Judge’s name:</th>
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Would you like your email address included in a directory available on UM Law’s Career Development web site?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No

Information for Class Notes:

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Please mail this form to the University of Miami Law Alumni Association, P.O. Box 248087, Coral Gables, Florida 33124. You may also fax it to (305) 284-3968.

Thank you!
HOMECOMING 2009
The University of Miami School of Law will host the
61st Annual Class Reunions during Homecoming Weekend

NOVEMBER 5-7, 2009
Class of 1969 - 40th Year Reunion
Class of 1979 - 30th Year Reunion
Class of 1984 - 25th Year Reunion
Class of 1989 - 20th Year Reunion
Class of 1999 - 10th Year Reunion

Young Alumni on Alumni Avenue
LL.M. in Real Property Development 30th Anniversary Reunion

If you are interested in serving on your class reunion committee, please contact us at alumni@law.miami.edu or 1-866-99UMLAW.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
SCHOOL of LAW