<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inside the Law School</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Message from the Dean</td>
<td>p 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Alumni Serve as Leaders of the Bench and Bar in Florida</td>
<td>p 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni In Public Service</td>
<td>p 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Notes</td>
<td>p 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Alumni Reunion Honors Professor Bernard H. Oxman</td>
<td>p 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment and Sports Law Symposium BLSA and Moot Events</td>
<td>p 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Ethics and Public Service Program</td>
<td>p 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., Visits UM</td>
<td>p 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Order of the Coif Inductees</td>
<td>p 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Parents and Partners Reception</td>
<td>p 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Momentum</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dean's Circle Events</td>
<td>p 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor Luncheon for Named Scholarships</td>
<td>p 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The I. Eric and Grace Leef Endowed Scholarship</td>
<td>p 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Honorable Theodore Klein, JD ’64 Memorial</td>
<td>p 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.A.M.P. 4 Justice Foundation-Henry Bandier Fellow</td>
<td>p 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alumni</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Interest Resource Center</td>
<td>p 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Alumni Association Holiday Reception</td>
<td>p 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homecoming Class Reunions</td>
<td>p 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty-Eight Annual Homecoming Breakfast</td>
<td>p 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Heckerling Institute on Estate Planning</td>
<td>p 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Notes and Alumni Profiles</td>
<td>p 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seven Benefits of a Gift Annuity</td>
<td>p 33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Report from the President of the Law Alumni Association</td>
<td>p 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Achievement Award Nomination and Alumni Questionnaire</td>
<td>p 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Save the Date-Homecoming 2007!</td>
<td>p 37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Law Alumni Recognized for Their Public Service

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Florida presented the Distinguished Judicial Service Award to the Honorable Lauren L. Brodie, JD ’83. Assigned to the Juvenile Delinquency/Dependency Division and the Family Division of the 20th Judicial Circuit, Judge Brodie has been instrumental in developing and transforming the Collier County Juvenile Justice Council and the Collier County Substance Abuse Coalition.

The law firm of Hogan and Hartson, LLP received the Law Firm Commendation Award, presented by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Florida. Law Alumni Association President Alvin F. Lindsay, JD ’91, accepted the award on behalf of the law firm. The award honors law firms that have demonstrated a significant commitment to the delivery of pro bono legal services to individuals and groups.

Among the Florida Bar President’s Pro Bono Service Award recipients were two University of Miami School of Law graduates. Rita C. Chansen, JD ’87, and Deborah M. Smith, JD ’88, received this distinguished award which both encourages and recognizes individuals who volunteer free legal services to those who cannot afford legal fees.

Barrister is published by the Office of Law Development and Alumni Relations of the University of Miami School of Law. Address correspondence to Barrister, University of Miami School of Law, P.O. Box 248087, Coral Gables, Florida 33124-8087, Telephone: 305-284-3470, E-Mail: alumni@law.miami.edu. Web site: www.law.miami.edu/alumni. Copyright 2007 University of Miami School of Law. All rights reserved. We extend our gratitude to the following contributors: Georgina A. Angones, Angelica Bourwell, Ann Dunkleberger, Jim W. Harper, Jeannette F. Hausler, JD ’53, Raquel Matas, Rima Mullins, Sabrina Mendoza Rembold, JD ’94, Mindy Rosenthal, Kathleen Swan, JD ’85, Adrienne Sylvre, Carla Tamayo. If we have made any errors, please accept our sincere apologies until a correction can be published.
MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

University of Miami School of Law alumni exhibit diverse and exemplary successes in their professional endeavors. Many of our alumni serve as leaders in communities and in the legal profession. I trust you will enjoy reading in this issue of the Barrister about two such alumni who have excelled as leaders of the judiciary. We are very proud of both Fred Lewis, the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court and Fred Moreno, soon to be Chief Judge for the Southern District of Florida. The School of Law is also proud of another distinguished alumnus, Frank Angones. A 1976 graduate of the School of Law and notable attorney in South Florida, Frank will head the Florida Bar as President this upcoming year.

The School of Law’s 2007 Alumnus of Distinction Award recipient is Neal R. Sonnett. Neal is one of the foremost criminal defense attorneys in the nation and has had a long and distinguished history of service to the bar and community. He has held leadership positions in local, state and national bar associations. He has provided countless hours of voluntary legal services and participates in many civic and charitable organizations. Neal has truly made his alma mater proud, and I am delighted that he is the recipient of the Alumnus of Distinction Award.

Last year’s recipient of the Alumna of Distinction Award and long time Dean of Students, Jeannette F. Hausler, retired after dedicated service to the School for over thirty years. A search committee comprised of faculty, administrators and students was assembled to identify a successor to Dean Hausler. After many months of interviewing candidates, both locally and nationally, the committee made its recommendations. Janet Stearns has been appointed as the new Dean of Students for the Law School. In her new role, Dean Stearns will be working closely with our Associate Dean of Students William VanderWyden. You can read more about Dean Stearns in this issue.

The School of Law continues to make strides in realizing its commitment to public service and pro bono work. Marni Lennon, an alumna of the School who has served as Assistant Dean of Students and who created and directed the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center, has been appointed as the Law School’s first Assistant Dean for Public Interest. You can read more about Dean Lennon’s new role in this issue of the Barrister and about other alumni of the School of Law whose commitment to public service defines their professional life.

I want to thank our alumni leaders who have spearheaded the Momentum Campaign for the School of Law. Hilarie Bass, J.D. ’81 and Wayne Chaplin, J.D. ’82 served as Co-Chairs of the School of Law Campaign Committee for the Momentum Campaign. Their efforts and the efforts of the entire School of Law Campaign Committee have made this a very successful campaign that will assist us in meeting the School of Law’s missions. I also want to thank all of the alumni leaders who have made this year’s class reunions so memorable for the School and for their former classmates.

I invite all of our alumni and friends to view the School’s website for information on upcoming School of Law events. I look forward to seeing our alumni at School events and at next year’s reunions.

Dennis O. Lynch
Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Fred Lewis, JD'72, and incoming Chief Judge of the Southern District of Florida Federico Moreno, JD'78, have more in common than their first names. The two share a zealous passion and knowledge of legal issues, the strong desire for today's youth to understand the legal system and infectious personalities that create a feeling of teamwork among those involved in their projects, according to colleagues.

Born and raised in small-town Beckley, West Virginia, Chief Justice Lewis was the son of a coal-miner. “In my formative years were grown the foundation for the moral values and life values that have been confirmed and reinforced in my legal career,” he said in a 2006 report in the Beckley Register-Herald. A skilled athlete, he came to Florida on a basketball scholarship to Florida Southern College. There, he assumed a leadership role early on, as president of his sophomore, junior and senior classes. After graduation, he attended the University of Miami School of Law, also on scholarship and graduated third in his class. He served in the United States Army, and then specialized in private practice in civil trial and appellate litigation. In 1998, he was appointed to the Florida Supreme Court, and in 2006 became the 52nd Chief Justice of the Court.

“Justice Lewis is a very thoughtful jurist,” said University of Miami Law School Dean Dennis O. Lynch. “His opinions are carefully crafted.” His ability to draw people together for a common goal is one of the reasons Chief Justice Lewis’s effort to teach school children about civics has been so successful, said a number of attorneys and judges. Justice Teaching was founded by Chief Justice Lewis in 2006 because he believes that not enough Americans understand the Constitution or the judicial system. Today, more than 3,000 volunteers are taking time from their busy schedules to visit every public school in Florida to teach students about the justice system. “He cares deeply about the rule of law as demonstrated by his commitment to the Justice Teaching program designed to make students better informed about the American judicial system,” said Dean Lynch. “We are very proud of his accomplishments and his leadership role in the judiciary.”

One of the reasons Chief Justice Lewis has taken a keen interest in children is his own experience in public schools as a young child. “My mother died when I was very young and I feel many public school teachers helped raise me and I am indebted to them for that,” he said to the Register-Herald. “This has given me an extreme interest in reaching out and educating students in Florida about the law.”

When Chief Justice Lewis was appointed to the Florida Supreme Court by then Gov. Lawton Chiles in 1998, he said: “I do believe in the concept of the team, of us. There is no ‘me’ or ‘I’ in this court system; it will thrive and survive only by the collective ‘us,’ the collective ‘we,’ not by ‘I’ or ‘me.’”

UM Law Professor Minnette Massey, who taught Lewis civil procedure, said the opinions he hands down are as thoughtful and caring as he is. “His values are not surpassed by anyone,” she said. “He has the inner core of a very fine person. One who is willing to serve. Not many are willing to make the sacrifice of remuneration or relocation as Justice Fred Lewis has. He is a man of great dignity, humility and service.

Alvin F. Lindsay, president of the University of Miami Law Alumni Association agrees. “One of our missions at the Alumni Association is to tout the excellence that comes out of the UM School of Law and there is no finer example than Chief Justice Lewis,” he said. “The Chief Justice not only is a remarkable intellect, but he is also a genuinely warm and caring person. In addition to his responsibilities on the Court, he founded the Justice Teaching program so that children in every school in Florida will learn about the American justice system, not only from teachers, but from attorneys and judges who volunteer to explain how our law, courts and Constitution work. He is just a great person and we are so proud to have him as one of our own.”

Chief Justice Lewis met his wife, Judith, at Florida Southern College, and they have two daughters, Elle and Lindsay.

Like Chief Justice Lewis, Judge Moreno is praised by his colleagues for his winning people skills. Attorneys on opposing sides leave the courtroom feeling as if they’ve been treated fairly and with respect, they’re quick to say.

Judge Moreno was born in Caracas, Venezuela and grew up in Indiana. He believes his Southern Spanish heritage is partially responsible for his feeling that a mix of a strong belief in destiny and deeply-rooted religious faith has guided his life and career. He graduated with a B.A. from the University of Notre Dame. At the University of Miami School of Law, he said, he learned to think for himself. “It was a great experience. You didn’t always have to agree with your professors, but you learned that you have to believe in your cause to be effective,” he said.

According to Dean Lynch, Judge Moreno “will be a wonderful Chief Judge of the Southern U.S. District Court. Through his judicial demeanor, he commands the respect of attorneys. He is respectful of others and he has a great sense of humor. His legal opinions are to the point and thoughtfully written. He demonstrated his leadership skills early as a law student when his fellow students selected him as President of the Student Bar Association. He will make the School proud as the Chief Judge.”

University of Miami Law School Dean of Students Emerita Jeannette F. Hausler agrees. “Judge Federico Moreno was born a leader as evidenced by his leadership abilities which he demonstrated as president of the Student Bar Association of the University of Miami School of Law,” she said. “His temperment and demeanor won him the respect and admiration of his peers and professors who were always impressed by his ability to be the voice of reason in any given situation.”

Judge Moreno believes that one of the most valuable experiences he had while in law school was his internship at the State Attorney’s Office. “In those days, you could try little cases while you were an intern. I learned so much from those judges,” he said. Later, he became an assistant federal public defender, and then a partner in Thornton, Rothman and Moreno, PA. In 1986, he moved from private practice to the bench when he was appointed Miami-Dade County Court Judge by Governor Bob Graham, and in 1987, Governor Bob Martinez appointed him Florida Circuit Court Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit. In 1990, he was appointed by President George H. W. Bush to the United States District Court, Southern Florida.

Over the years, he has received numerous awards for his service, including the Cuban American Bar Judicial Professionalism Award, the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Attorneys Judicial Distinction Award, the Pro Bono Service Award of the Cuban American Bar Association, the Outstanding Immigrant Award from Catholic Charities, Legal Services, and the People Helping People Award from United Way.
“His professional life as a young lawyer provided him with experiences that call into play his many qualities, as respect for law and justice, as well as fairness and respect for his colleagues, and those who appeared before him. These qualities led him to his present position as courtroom judge and now to his appointment as Chief Judge of the Southern U.S. District of Florida,” Dean Hausler said. The transition from the courtroom to Chief Judge is one that Judge Moreno is taking on with enthusiasm. “I’ve loved being in the courtroom,” he said. “The human dynamics are wonderful. There’s a lot of administration in being a chief judge, and I’m looking at it as a real challenge.”

He met his wife, Cristina Morales-Gomez, while they were attending law school at the University of Miami. She was a member of the Law Review and is an attorney today. They have three children, the oldest, Cristi, who is attending Notre Dame law school, Rick, an undergrad at Notre Dame and Victoria, who is in high school.

“Judge Moreno’s two passions, his love for his family, and his love for the law, have permeated throughout his personal and professional life,” Dean Hausler said.

The University of Miami School of Law’s commitment to public service and pro bono work is stronger than ever. The alumni profiles featured in the pages to follow demonstrate the various ways alumni have chosen to pursue public interest careers or to balance their professions with a steadfast commitment to pro bono or public service. Their career choices may be different, but all of these individuals have something in common: dedication to public service that serves as an inspiration to current law students and alumni.
Bennett Brummer, AB ’62, JD ’65, is arguably the ultimate public servant. While many people choose careers in public interest, Brummer goes one step further. He has to run for office every four years just to keep his job. The Public Defender for Miami-Dade County, Brummer has been elected to this prominent position eight consecutive times. He was first elected Public Defender in 1976, and his eighth term began in 2004. To Brummer, the choice is an obvious one. “I continue to [run for office] because it’s the best job I could ever have and is the highest use for my license to practice law,” he said.

During his time at the Law School, Brummer found encouragement and support in some of his professors, including Professors Thomas Wills and M. Minnette Massey. Brummer remembers Professor Wills for helping him keep his focus. “[He] had faith in my abilities and encouraged me to remain in law school at a time when I found my studies irrelevant,” he recalled. In the community, Brummer recognizes former Public Defender Phillip A. Hubbart and Chief Judge Gerald T. Wetherington for modeling the values of leadership under the most challenging of circumstances.

Before beginning his career in public service, Brummer volunteered for two years in the United States Peace Corps in Venezuela. Although he may not have realized it at the time, his experience in Venezuela prepared him for what would become his lifelong career. “Service as a Peace Corps volunteer helped me better understand our American values, culture and foreign policy and how they are perceived by people outside of our country,” he explained. “My Peace Corps experience also allowed me to develop some understanding of Latin American culture and fluency in Spanish, which have been of great benefit as an elected official in Miami.”

As Public Defender, Brummer manages an office of approximately four hundred people, two hundred of whom are attorneys. Their job is to represent individuals whom a judge determines to be unable to afford a private attorney. The cases include criminal, juvenile, and mental health matters.

Brummer’s commitment to his community is as strong as his devotion to his job. He has served in numerous organizations, including the Supreme Court’s Appellate Advisory Committee, the Community Advisory Board of the University of Miami School of Medicine Center for Treatment Research on Adolescent Drug Abuse, the Miami Coalition for Care to the Homeless, and he has served three terms as president of the Florida Public Defender Association.

For Brummer, a lifelong career in public service is a calling. “Money is not my object,” he explained. “I have always had a roof over my head and never missed a meal. I get great satisfaction from service to my clients, my staff and the public. My work has given me the opportunity to fight for civil rights and human rights,” he said.

To students who may be hesitant to seek public interest legal work, Brummer offers the broader picture. “It is somewhat more difficult today to go into public service,” he said. “Public service does not get the respect it used to. But, it is still essential to a free and civilized society. There are many fine public servants who never get any recognition, but their work is no less important or rewarding than it has ever been.”

Neal Sonnett, AB ’64, JD ’67. As a young teen, Neal Sonnett told his parents he wanted to drop out of school. It wasn’t because he was lazy or a bad student, however. On the contrary, the New York City boy was already working as a child actor, and wanted to continue his run that included a Broadway production and a television soap opera role. Fortunately for the rest of society, Mr. Sonnett’s parents insisted on school, and although he continued acting, he ultimately decided his best role would be that of attorney.

Today, Mr. Sonnett is a nationally acclaimed criminal defense attorney. He’s been named the 2007 Alumnus of Distinction by the University of Miami School of Law and is receiving the University of Miami Alumni Association’s William R. Butler Community Service Award. The recognition piggybacks on dozens of other prominent awards recently, including the 2007 Fellows of the American Bar Foundation Outstanding Service Award and the 2006 Selig I. Goldin Memorial Award from the Criminal Law Section of The Florida Bar.

His pro bono work over his 40-year career, as well as his effort to help those who other attorneys preferred not to defend, earned him the informal title of “trial lawyer with a social conscience.” Never afraid to take on a challenging case, he described his first trial when he was a green attorney just out of law school. “The victim of the case was unable to speak or hear and I had to examine him in direct,” he said. “It was the same day I was sworn into the Bar. Talk about sink or swim. But the greatest thing about it was the fact that I was able to get right into the action right away.”

Mr. Sonnett attributes his ability to jump into action to several factors. First, his acting experience, coupled with the fact that he was a nationally recognized debator in high school and college, made him a natural performer in the courtroom. Second, his win of a moot court session at the UM Law School introduced him to practicing attorneys, one who later offered him a job. And, third, clerking at the U.S. Attorney’s office gave him the chance to observe trials and attorneys at work.

Attorneys who have known and worked with Mr. Sonnett for many years say he is an incredible individual. “I went to high school with Neal and from the moment I met him I knew he had the tremendous ability, even then, to defend his point of view,” said Steve Zack, former president of The Florida Bar Association. “He was very thoughtful and today when you say Neal Sonnett, you immediately think of someone who is concerned about the little guy or gal and is not afraid to express his opinions. He is a man of conviction.”
ALUMNI IN PUBLIC SERVICE

ALUMNI PROFILES

Mr. Sonnett’s convictions led to his appointment as chair of the 2002-04 ABA Task Force on Treatment of Enemy Combatants and saw him named the ABA’s official Observer for the Military Commission trials in Guantanamo.

When his work is done, Mr. Sonnett said, he hopes people remember him as someone whose honesty and credibility won him great respect within his field. “Over the past couple of decades,” Mr. Sonnett said, “particularly since 9/11, there has been a steady erosion of rights in this country. It’s important to fight against that, to preserve the Constitution. Democracy does not work and freedom cannot thrive unless we’re willing to protect the rights of everyone, the best of us and the worst of us. We must focus on preservation of the rule of law.”

His wife of 28 years, Pat, said her husband “is one of those rare individuals who has not only been given a burning desire to fight for liberty and justice, he’s also been given unique talents and the ability to actually make a real difference in this world. The NACDL’s motto is “Liberty’s Last Champion” and I think that’s a good description of who Neal is at his very core.”

Mr. Sonnett’s advice to those just coming out of law school is to consider public service. “There are great opportunities to work in government and to give back to society,” he said.

UM Law School Dean Dennis O. Lynch, said Mr. Sonnett is a wonderful model for today’s law students. “He’s a very generous person who has done a real service to our country in being a leader in serving those who deserve a fair trial no matter what they are accused of,” Dean Lynch said. “As an alumni, he also stays extremely involved in events and if we need to call on him for student related activities, he is there.” For many years, Mr. Sonnett chaired the Law School’s Homecoming breakfast, bringing an entertainment factor to the event that is unsurpassed,” Dean Lynch said.

Sharon Langer, BED ’69, JD ’79, has made a career out of public interest law. Langer has been the executive director of the Dade County Bar Association Legal Aid Society since 1986. While many people would not last long in a system that can be frustrating and bureaucratic, Langer does not want to be anywhere else. “I have the best job in the world,” she said without hesitation. “There is a challenge every day.”

Langer’s decision to study law took ten years. “Women were not encouraged to go to law school,” she explained, “but it was something that I always wanted to do.” So, with three children under the age of six, Langer became a full-time student. The journey was not easy. “I drew my strength from a small study group of older women who were all married with children,” she remembered. “They were my support and encouragement. We were women struggling with the same balancing act – to go to law school and to do well.”

Upon graduation from law school, Langer and two fellow students opened a general practice firm in a shopping mall. “In those days, law firms were not in strip malls,” she said. Her clients were mostly middle class, and the firm handled every type of law. After seven years of private practice, two of them as a solo practitioner, Langer joined the Legal Aid Society. The oldest provider of free legal services in Miami-Dade County, the Legal Aid Society serves the indigent population, much of which is children. Over the years, the Bar Association Office of Public Service has allowed the program to grow to meet different needs as they present themselves. Natural disasters, such as hurricanes, and mass immigration are two examples of crises that demand special legal services. Langer’s position at the Legal Aid Society also includes serving as the director of “Put Something Back,” the joint pro bono project of the 11th Judicial Circuit and the Dade County Bar Association that trains private lawyers and assigns them to cases.

An adjunct professor at the School of Law, Langer encourages students to explore areas of public interest. She and her husband, Circuit Court Judge Lester Langer, JD ’71, co-teach a family law workshop every spring. Her students show a great deal of interest in pro bono work and public interest law, and Langer’s agency offers numerous internships. “Pro bono work is a wonderful way to encourage students to explore public service,” she explained. The “hands on experience” is something that cannot be taught in a classroom alone. She believes that students ought to see the reality of this kind of work. “Individuals should have the opportunity to right their wrongs, regardless of whether they can pay a lawyer,” she said.

When she is not working at Legal Aid Society or teaching, Langer manages to find time to devote to organizations in the community, such as the Community Advisory Board for the “Girls Advocacy Project,” the Dade County Alliance Against Domestic Violence, and the Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board. She has served on the Florida Bar Board of Governors for many years.

Having devoted her career to public interest work, Langer offers seasoned advice to students who are thinking about their own legal paths. “There are a large number of opportunities to serve in a pro bono capacity,” she explained, “and we all live long legal careers. This does not have to be the first job out of law school. You have to find the right point in your career where you get the opportunity to do this kind of work.” For Langer, the choice is clear. “I’ll be here as long as they’ll keep me,” she promised.

Spring 2007 • UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW • 5
Sue Cobb, JD '78. At first glance, law school and mountain climbing may seem unrelated, but for Sue, they are both reflections of her personal philosophy and how she chooses to lead her life. “You have to try things,” she explained. She and her husband, Charles E. Cobb, Jr., moved from California to Florida in 1972, and together they have dedicated themselves to philanthropy and public service. Charles Cobb is a Life Member of the University of Miami Board of Trustees. “My husband's philosophy has always been that it is important to give back,” Cobb explained. The Cobbs have put that philosophy into action. They have contributed to the University in many ways, including Cobb Stadium, Cobb Fountain in Lake Osceola, and two family scholarships offered to students of Jamaica and Iceland to study at the University of Miami.

Ironically, the distinguished alumna did not expect to go to law school at all. The year was 1974, fifteen years after Cobb graduated from Stanford University, and she was looking for something more. Cobb assumed that she would pursue business school, but the University of Miami School of Law had a new dean who encouraged her to consider law. “I was really very impressed with Soia Mentschikoff,” Cobb said, “and I decided to take the LSAT to see if I could do it.” Like many things in Cobb's life, she seemed to have a natural aptitude for mastering tests, and she passed the LSAT on her first attempt, without even studying.

During her time at the Law School, two young professors motivated Cobb. They were Dennis O. Lynch and Irwin P. Stotzky. “They were serious academics,” Cobb remembered, “and I wanted to learn what they knew.” She still remains close to her two former mentors and has maintained connections with other professors as well. She considers Professors Bernard H. Oxman, Alan C. Swan and Bruce J. Winick to be close colleagues and friends. Cobb's training at the Law School prepared her for what would become a prominent path of both private work and public service. “The training and rigorous thinking and analytical capability that you acquire during law school are useful in any endeavor,” Cobb explained. “You add value as a board member or as a fundraiser because you have the capability to analyze circumstances.”

After graduating from law school, Cobb began working at Greenberg, Traurig, LLP, where there was a strong philosophy of community involvement. More recently, she has worked in her family’s venture capital company, Cobb Partners, Ltd., as managing director and general counsel. Cobb has served on the boards of numerous organizations, including United Way and Goodwill Industries. Her dedication and leadership extended beyond the local community, and in 2001, President George W. Bush nominated Cobb to be the United States Ambassador to Jamaica. Following her term as ambassador, Cobb was appointed by former Governor Jeb Bush to be Secretary of the Florida Department of State, with that appointment ending in January of 2007.

For Cobb, public service and private practice are not mutually exclusive. “Public service is a broad range of things,” Cobb explained. “You can commit yourself, your time, and your financial resources to improving your community at a local level, a county level, a state level, and even a national level.” Cobb's advice to students who are interested in public service but tempted by private sector salaries is straightforward. “You can do both,” she said.

For the moment, Cobb is taking a break from the public sector. But not really. She still enjoys training newly appointed ambassadors at the United States Department of State and periodically goes to Washington, DC to teach. Whatever happens next for Cobb, she will pursue it with zeal. “It's important to build on your strengths,” Cobb advised. “Do whatever you do with excellence.”

Erica N. Wright, JD '97, moves easily from the court room to the board room. An associate at Gunster, Yoakley and Stewart, P.A., Wright works in the firm’s real estate department, focusing on land use development and governmental relations. Prior to joining Gunster, she was acting city attorney for the City of Sunny Isles Beach and also worked as an assistant city attorney for the City of Miami.

With the strong support of her law firm, Wright devotes herself to organizations that are important to her. Since her graduation from law school, Wright has served on the Board of Directors for the Law Alumni Association (LAA) and is currently its treasurer. Wright feels a personal obligation to the Association, especially as an African-American woman working hard to represent the rich diversity of UM's law alumni. She is hoping to see more ethnic involvement in the Alumni Association.

Wright's connection to the Miami legal community is strong. She is currently President of the Gwen S. Cherry Black Women Lawyers Association and was recently inducted into Lilies of the Valley by City of Miami Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones and former U.S. Congresswoman Carrie Meek. Lilies of the Valley is an organization that assists homeless women with their transition to permanent residences.

Her efforts as an attorney and involvement in the community have not gone unnoticed. Last year, she was named one of the “Top 40 Under 40: Most Influential Black Professionals of 2006” by Success South Florida magazine, and she was “Member of the Year” in the Willie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association, a group founded by African-American lawyers to promote understanding and equality in the legal community.

Wright has lived in Miami since 1994. “I have lived here for almost thirteen years, and I enjoy living near the water and learning new things about Miami.” When she's not practicing law, Wright enjoys reading, cooking, and spending time with people who are close to her. With most of her family living in Georgia, she has
developed a close-knit group of friends. “It’s been very important to me to maintain a great connection with my network of friends. I try to take care of people I care about and who care about me, both as a lawyer and as a friend.”

John W. Thornton, Jr., JD ’77, has mastered the art of balancing a prominent criminal defense practice with a steadfast commitment to professional organizations and community service. For over a quarter of a century, Thornton has practiced law in Miami through his firm, Thornton and Rothman, PA, and at the same time, he has been a dedicated member of numerous bar associations and community organizations. He was president of the Dade County Bar Association and also served ten years on the Florida Bar Board of Governors. He currently serves as president of the Florida Bar Foundation and is chairman of the Board of Camillus Health Concern. For Thornton, dedication comes naturally. “You make a commitment and make it a part of your daily and weekly schedule,” he explained.

The Florida Bar Foundation reflects the values Thornton believes go hand-in-hand with the practice of law. Funded through the Supreme Court’s Interest in Trust Accounts (IOTA) program, the Foundation provides, through a variety of organizations and volunteer lawyers, legal support to low-income individuals. “I think that when people do pro bono work it benefits the lawyer as much as it benefits the client we assist,” he said.

Thornton’s experiences at the Law School are still vivid. His first year at UM coincided with Soia Mentschikoff’s first year as dean. He recalls being judged by Dean Mentschikoff in a moot court competition. “She was sitting on the bench in her slacks and sneakers,” he remembered. “We quickly learned how little we knew.” Thornton considers Dean Mentschikoff, Dean Jeannette Hausler, and M. Minnette Massey to be his mentors from that time. During his last year of law school, Thornton clerked for Judge James Kehoe and interned at the State Attorney’s Office. He was also a member of the Moot Court Board and the International Law Journal. Prior to opening his own practice, Thornton spent three years at the State Attorney’s Office, honing the skills he acquired in law school.

Not only did the Law School prepare Thornton for what would become a fulfilling legal career, it also introduced him to a fellow law student who would later become his wife, Assistant Miami-Dade County Attorney, Mindy Thornton, JD ’78. For Thornton, being married to an attorney makes it easier to balance his career and voluntary commitments. “She absolutely understands on every level what’s going on,” he said.

Matthew Hodes, JD ’82, was surrounded by Palestinians and Israelis who wanted to give him a piece of their minds. One by one, nearly 50 signers of the 2003 Geneva Initiative explained the importance of this cooperative blueprint for peace, and their sincerity gave great hope to Hodes, the director of The Carter Center’s Conflict Resolution Program since 2001. In this role, he has also witnessed a failed coup in Venezuela and the end of civil war in the mountains of Nepal. “After an agreement is reached, you take away memories that you had an effect,” said Hodes, who supports the personal diplomat efforts of President Carter. “These are moments that you gather as opposed to trophies.”

His memories of law school are also unique when compared to his colleagues’ recollections of their law school experience. “There was a certain kindness at UM that’s pretty noteworthy,” he said. In addition to their personable nature, the professors at UM “drilled in basic analytical precepts. I’m grateful for these tools,” he said.

Working for President Carter has been both a great honor and a demanding experience. Although Hodes plans to leave The Carter Center this year, his loyalty to its leader will remain.

His breakthrough into the international community came after completing an LL.M degree at the University of London in 1990. He spent considerable time in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the 1990s and witnessed the cease-fire that ended the Bosnian war in 1995. He led the Sarajevo office of the international war crimes tribunal and supervised national elections in 1998. From 1999 to 2001 he served as a judicial reform coordinator to help establish an independent judiciary.
FACULTY NOTES

Professor David Abraham participated as panelist in a Symposium on Immigration Reform and Policy

Professor David Abraham was a panelist at the Temple Political and Civil Rights Law Review’s Annual Symposium, entitled: Immigration Reform and Policy in the Current Politically Polarized Climate. Symposium panels addressed the current immigration debate in Washington, the economic impact of immigration policy, an advanced look at citizenship including the practical implications, and the humanitarian issues that surround this debate with a focus on U.S. border issues.

Professor Anthony V. Alfieri named recipient of two prestigious awards

Professor Anthony V. Alfieri has been named recipient of the 2007 William Pincus Award, given by the AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education, and the 2007 Father Drinan Award, given by the AALS Section on Pro Bono and Public Service Opportunities. The William Pincus Award honors one or more individuals or institutions of clinical legal education who have demonstrated excellence in service, scholarship, program design and implementation, and other activity beneficial to clinical education or to the advancement of justice. The Father Drinan Award honors an individual, whether full-time faculty or not, who has forwarded the ethic of pro bono service through personal service, program design or management.

Professor Mario L. Barnes participated in Makeup, Identity Performance & Discrimination Symposium

Professor Mario L. Barnes participated in the Makeup, Identity Performance & Discrimination Symposium at Duke University School of Law. Sponsored by the Duke Journal of Gender Law and Policy, the symposium brought together over 20 national scholars, practitioners, and corporate professionals to discuss workplace discrimination. The participants analyzed recent cases and scholarship to advance methods for addressing stereotyping and identity performance demands at work. Professor Barnes’ presentation expanded upon the themes explored in his recent article, “By Any Other Name?: On Being ‘Regarded As’ Black and Why Title VII Should Apply Even If Lakisha and Jamal are White”, 2005 WIS. L. REV. 1283 (with Angela Onwuachi-Willig).

Professor Caroline Bradley spoke at the American Branch of the International Law Association's International Law Weekend 2006

Professor Caroline Bradley spoke at the American Branch of the International Law Association’s International Law Weekend 2006 in a panel with the title: Harmonizing Disclosure Standards Across International Capital Markets and Corporate Governance Across Nations. Professor Bradley’s presentation was based on her paper on Financial Trade Associations and Multilevel Regulation.

Professor Mary Coombs named to Managed Care Ombudsman Committee

Florida’s Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) appointed Professor Mary Coombs to the local regional Managed Care Ombudsman Committee. This Committee responds to and tries to resolve complaints sent to AHCA from consumers about managed care organizations.

Professor Patrick O. Gudridge participated in Symposium on Global Terrorism

Professor Patrick O. Gudridge was a panelist at the Minnesota Law Review Symposium, entitled: “9/11 Five Years On: A Comparative Look At The Global Response To Terrorism.” His talk, "The Anti-Authoritarian Constitution," was part of a panel presentation on "The Implications of Hamdan." Fellow panel members included Professor Mark Tushnet from Harvard Law School and Professors Fionnuala Ni Aolain and Oren Gross from the University of Minnesota Law School.

Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy Susan Haack gave talks in Portugal

Professor of Law and Professor of Philosophy Susan Haack gave a talk in Portugal entitled “Science in the Courtroom: Essential Tensions,” at the Institute for Molecular Medicine at the University of Lisbon. Professor Haack also gave the inaugural lecture, entitled “The Integrity of Science: What It Means, Why It Matters,” at the annual meeting of the National Council for Ethics in the Life Sciences in Oporto.

Professor D. Marvin Jones Participated in the National Bar Association Convention

Professor D. Marvin Jones participated in a panel discussion at the 81st Annual National Bar Association Convention in Detroit, Michigan, entitled: “Invisible Men: Michael Jackson, Kobe Bryant and the Plight of the Black Male.” The panel included, among others, Professor Jones and Tom Mesereau, Esq., former attorney for Michael Jackson.

Law Dean Dennis O. Lynch received several appointments

Dean Dennis O. Lynch was appointed member of the Council of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. The Council is the governing body of the Section. Dean Lynch was also appointed for a second term as Secretary of the Law School Admissions Council.
In the course of his participation in the discussion at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, on Law of the Sea in the Twenty-First Century: A Symposium, Professor Bernard H. Oxman explained the importance of reciprocity in considering the strategic implications of alternative positions regarding the extent of freedom of action and the extent of restraint under international law.

Professor Martha Mahoney gave a faculty seminar on issues concerning electronic voting. Professor Martha Mahoney gave a faculty seminar to discuss a work in progress on the subject of electronic voting. Professor Mahoney has worked with Dr. David Dill, a computer science professor at Stanford University, to analyze records from the November 2004 election and other recent elections in Florida. Her paper is both an empirical study of this data and an analysis of issues involved in auditing elections, including technological and legal issues of electronic voting technology.

West Group publishes 2nd Edition of Professor George Mundstock’s casebook: A Unified Approach to Subchapters K & S

The Second Edition of A Unified Approach updates the First Edition to reflect all of the developments in the last 5 years. Prominently, the pending simplification of Section 751(b) is considered. Recent anti-tax shelter legislation and rulings, and their impact on ordinary business transactions, are also considered.

Further, the Second Edition is reorganized to be easier to teach. A new Chapter VII looks at both sides of the sale of a partnership interest. Chapter VI now looks at all aspects of the taxation of contributions of property (at the time of contribution and thereafter under Section 704(c) and related provisions). The discussion of liquidating distributions is simplified. A new section that covers the consequences of transfers of partnership interests by gift and at death has been added.

Professor Bernard H. Oxman participated in Law of the Sea Symposium and in Naval War College Workshop


The symposium, held at The George Washington University Law School, was co-sponsored by the American Society of International Law, the Center for International Environmental Law, and the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area. Professor Oxman was a panelist in a panel titled: Dispute Settlement Under the Law of the Sea Convention, chaired by Georgetown University Law Center Professor Edith Brown Weiss, Chairperson of the World Bank Inspection Panel. The other panelists were Professor Barbara Kwiatkowska, Deputy Director of the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea, and the Honorable P.S. Rao, of the UN International Law Commission. Professor Oxman also participated in a workshop organized by the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, on the role of international law in the formulation of a new United States naval strategy. In the course of his participation in the discussion at the Naval War College, Professor Oxman stressed the importance of reciprocity in considering the strategic implications of alternative positions regarding the extent of freedom of action and the extent of restraint under international law.

Professor Keith S. Rosenn was speaker at International Seminar for US Lawyers

Professor Keith Rosenn was a speaker at a seminar held at Duquesne University School of Law, entitled: “Judicial Review In the Americas…And Beyond, An International Seminar for United States Lawyers.” Professor Rosenn spoke on the subject of “Judicial Review in Brazil.” The seminar, sponsored by Duquesne University School of Law in cooperation with the Inter-American Bar Association, gathered some of the most important and articulate constitutional jurists of the Western Hemisphere and Europe to share their insights and evaluate their countries’ experience with judicial review.

Professor Urice moderated panel at Cultural Policy Center at the University of Chicago

Professor Stephen Urice moderated a panel on “Establishing Costs and Structuring Resources” at an international working conference entitled “Preventing Looting of Cultural Heritage During Wartime: Learning the Lessons of Iraq.” The Cultural Policy Center at the University of Chicago sponsored the meeting at the Pocantico Conference Center of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in Tarrytown, NY.

Professor Francisco Valdes delivered the Jerome Culp Memorial Lecture at the 2006 annual LatCrit conference

Professor Francisco Valdes delivered the second annual Jerome Culp Memorial Lecture at the 2006 annual LatCrit conference. The Jerome McCristal Culp, Jr. Memorial LatCrit Lecture is a community event inaugurated during the LatCrit X conference in October 2005. This lecture series honors founding Board Member Jerome Culp, who passed away in 2003, and is designed to ensure a substantive continuation of his work in the areas of law, policy and socioeconomic justice.

Professor William H. Widen Participated “Bankruptcy 2006: Views from the Bench” Conference

Professor William H. Widen was a panelist in a conference organized by the American Bankruptcy Institute and Georgetown University Law Center, titled: “Bankruptcy 2006: Views from the Bench”. Professor Widen presented some results from his ongoing empirical study of substantive consolidation in a panel that included Bankruptcy Judges Thomas B. Bennett, from (LSAC). As secretary, Dean Lynch serves as an ex officio member of LSAC’s Board of Trustees.
the Northern District of Alabama; and Leif M. Clark, from the Western District of Texas; along with Benjamin Cardozo Law School Professor David Gray Carlson and attorney James H.M. Sprayregen, formerly with Kirkland and Ellis in Chicago and now with Goldman Sachs.

**Professor Kele S. Williams spoke at Florida Coalition for Children Conference**

Professor Kele Williams spoke at the annual conference of the Florida Coalition for Children. The Coalition for Children consists of agencies that care for and provide services to abused and neglected children. Professor Williams discussed an innovative state law that requires school districts and child welfare officials to collaborate and enter into Interagency Agreements to address the educational needs of children in the child welfare system.

**Professor Richard L. Williamson spoke in Canada and Germany on Environmental Law**

Professor Richard L. Williamson, along with former UM Law Visiting Professor Monika Böhm, presented a paper at the Seventh Annual Global Conference on Environmental Taxation: “Instruments of Change for a Sustainable Economy,” held in Ottawa, Canada, and hosted by the Faculty of Law, University of Ottawa. The paper discussed the advantages and disadvantages of a German statute that imposes fees on the discharge of pollutants in wastewater. Professor Williamson also spoke at the Law Faculty of Marburg University on the topic: “Eine Einführung in das Amerikanische Umweltrecht” (An Introduction to American Environmental Law).

**Professor & Law Librarian Sally Wise elected to the Executive Board of the American Association of Law Libraries**

Sally Wise, Director of the Law Library and Professor of Law, was recently elected to the Executive Board of the American Association of Law Libraries for a three-year term. The American Association of Law Libraries was founded in 1906 to promote and enhance the value of law libraries to the legal and public communities, to foster the profession of law librarianship, and to provide leadership in the field of legal information.

**Professors Bernard P. Perlmutter, Stephen J. Schnably, and Bruce Winick Filed Expert Affidavits In Groundbreaking Case Concerning Shackling of Juveniles**

In a groundbreaking case, Miami-Dade’s Public Defenders Office recently filed a motion in Juvenile Court, challenging Florida’s 11th Judicial Circuit’s policy of using arms and legs shackles on all juvenile pre-trial detainees who appear before it. Professors Perlmutter and Winick, experts in children and juvenile law and therapeutic jurisprudence, filed a joint affidavit, opining that the indiscriminate blanket policy of shackling all juvenile offenders, in the absence of an individualized determination that the child poses a risk of flight or harm, is antitherapeutic, prejudicial to their obtaining a fair trial, and antithetical to the rehabilitative aims of the juvenile justice system. Professor Schnably, an expert in international law, opined in his affidavit that the practice is inconsistent with U.S. obligations under international law to treat all detainees with respect and dignity and to provide children with protections required by their status as children. UM Law alumni Carlos Martinez, JD ’90, Miami-Dade’s chief assistant public defender, and Shannon McKenna, JD ’00, also from the Miami Dade Public Defender’s office, are participating in the case.

**FACULTY PUBLISHING ELECTRONICALLY**

In 21st century academia including legal academia, electronic publishing has become an important aspect of scholarly publication. It provides a means for scholarship to be accessible sooner and to an expanded audience and is thus an effective addition to continuing publication in print journals such as the Law School’s several law reviews. Faculty at University of Miami’s Law School have quickly become players in this new venue. Social Science Research Network: [www.ssrn.com](http://www.ssrn.com) is the dominant player in e-publishing in law and some other fields. It keeps running counts of how frequently articles posted to SSRN are downloaded. Miami as an institution currently ranks 68 out of 198 US law schools, although some faculty are just learning to use this new medium. Five of its faculty have had sufficient downloads in the last year to be individually ranked: Professors Ben DePoorter, Robert Rosen, David Abraham, Stephen Vladeck and Caroline Bradley. Some of their articles have been individually ranked as among the “top ten” in their fields, including Professor Rob Rosen’s “Who is the Corporate Client? Corporate Officers’ Answers”, Professor Stephen Vladeck’s “Deconstructing Hirota: Habeas Corpus, Citizenship, and Article III,” Professor Susan Haack’s “Scientific Secrecy and Spin: The Sad, Sleazy Sage of the Trials of Remune,” and Professor Abraham’s “The Bush Regime from Elections to Detentions: A Bootstrapped Moral Economy of Carl Schmitt and Human Rights.” The Law School is launching its own electronic journal through SSRN, which will help provide even more attention to more works by our UM’s Law faculty.
INSIDE THE LAW SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI REUNION CELEBRATES PROFESSOR BERNARD H. OXMAN

Professor Oxman was honored during the International Alumni Reunion, February of 2007. As part of the Reunion, the University of Miami School of Law paid tribute to Oxman, who is celebrating his thirtieth year as a faculty member at the School of Law. "Professor Oxman has distinguished himself as a teacher, a scholar, a judge and an advocate," stated Dennis O. Lynch, Dean of the Law School.


Although he formally left the Department of State in 1977 to begin his teaching career at the University of Miami School of Law, his contribution to the negotiations of the Law of the Sea Convention was so valuable that he was asked to remain a member of the delegation. As a result, for several years Oxman spent his summers in Geneva negotiating the Convention and his winters in Miami teaching at the Law School.

In his thirty years at the Law School, Oxman has taught in the areas of conflict of laws, international law, law of the sea and torts. He served as associate dean from 1987 through 1990 and has been a member of the University Faculty Senate since 1996. He currently is the Faculty Chair of the Master of Laws Program in Ocean and Coastal Law. In 2003, Oxman served as a judge ad hoc of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, and from 2003 through 2005 he was a member of the arbitral tribunal in a dispute between Malaysia and Singapore. He currently is acting as a judge ad hoc of the International Court of Justice in a maritime delimitation case between Romania and the Ukraine. Oxman is the only American to be appointed to serve as a judge ad hoc before both these international tribunals.

The Tribute to Professor Oxman began with a half-day symposium inspired by his recent article, The Territorial Temptations: A Siren’s Song at Sea, 100 AM J. INT’L L 830 (2006) and moderated by UM Professor of Law Patrick Gudridge. Oxman’s article appears in the centennial issue of THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW – a publication for which Oxman serves as co-editor-in-chief. The article explores the dangers of unilateral regulation of the seas and argues that multilateralism, as currently expressed in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, provides the best approach for preserving unrestricted access to the seas while addressing the legitimate concerns of coastal states.

Lori Fisler Damrosch, the Henry L. Moses Professor of International Law and Organization at Columbia Law School – who shares the position of co-editor-in-chief with Oxman – presented the Keynote Address, entitled “Homer, Sirens and Temptations: Where is the Law at Sea.” Professor Damrosch began by noting her long professional relationship with Oxman and expressing her admiration for his accomplishments in the area of international law, particularly regarding the Law of the Sea. Professor Damrosch opined that the multilateral approach advocated by Oxman provided a practical solution to dealing with issues of jurisdiction and dispute resolution arising from territorial conflicts at sea.

After the Keynote Address, several UM Professors of Law participated in a Round Table discussion of Oxman’s article. Professor Hugo Caminos, Senior Lecturer in International Law and a judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, began the discussion by emphasizing his agreement that multilateralism is a critical element of the Law of the Sea. Professor Mary Coombs, after noting Oxman’s significant contribution to the scholarship on these issues and her personal appreciation for his support and encouragement as a colleague, addressed territorial concerns raised by attempts to thwart terrorist or criminal acts at sea. Next, Professor Richard Williamson addressed the issue of multilateralism from an environmental perspective. Williamson asserted that because coastal states often have the worst environmental records, unilateral action by coastal states in the name of environmental protection of the seas should be regarded with skepticism. Finally, Professor Michael Froomkin analogized Oxman’s analysis of the need for multilateralism in the area of the Law of the Seas to unilateral attempts to regulate the internet.

(Continued in page 34)
ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS LAW SYMPOSIUM

The 10th Annual Entertainment & Sports Law Symposium was held on February 17. Dennis Curran, JD ’75, General Counsel for the National Football League and speaker at the Symposium, was given the Alumni Achievement Award during this event. Other featured speakers included attorneys Lawana Bryant of the Legal & Business Affairs Department of NASCAR, Michael Dugan, President of Thrill Street Entertainment, Robert Hacker, Vice President of Legal and Business Affairs at Fox Sports, and David Schwartz, Vice President of Business Affairs for Buena Vista Television.

WINNERS OF THE 2007 C. CLYDE ATKINS SPRING ADVANCED MOOT COURT COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

President Kevin E. Probst and Vice-President of the Spring Advanced Moot Court class Matt Simmons, along with the entire Charles C. Papy Jr. Moot Court Board are proud to recognize Lindsay Berman and Randi Spector, winners of the C. Clyde Atkins Spring Advanced Moot Court Competition.

This Moot Court competition is the culmination of the Spring Advanced Moot Court Seminar that is coordinated by the Moot Court Board and co-taught by attorney Harvey Sepler, JD ’84, and Vice-President Matt Simmons. Competitors were evaluated by local attorneys based on their level of excellence in written and oral advocacy, through participation in oral arguments and submission of a written brief.

A distinguished panel consisting of U.S. District Court Judges Alan S. Gold, Adalberto J. Jordan, Paul C. Huck, Joan A. Lenard and Federico A. Moreno judged the final round. In securing their victory, Randi Spector and Lindsay Berman engaged in a heated and closely fought oral argument against the team of Christopher Lomax and Sean Steele.

Additionally, Sarah King was awarded the honor of best oralist, the team of Ilana Tabacinic and Michelle Holmes wrote what was determined to be the best brief and Todd Allison was named as the recipient of the Kurt Marmar Award, an honor given to the most well-rounded and sportsman-like competitor.

UM Law School's Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board Team Takes Home the Best Brief Award and Finishes Third Nationally at the Fifteenth Annual Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition

The University of Miami School of Law’s Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board continued its success at this year’s Fifteenth Annual Duberstein National Bankruptcy Competition in New York City. One of the Miami teams, consisting of third-year students Jennifer Newberger and Gregory Zarin, placed third overall and won the best brief award. A second team, consisting of third-year student Omid Ghaffari-Tabrizi and second-year student Adam Kerlek, also performed admirably against fierce competition.

This year’s competition dealt with two current topics in bankruptcy practice: whether the 2005 bankruptcy amendments limit attorney speech in violation of the First Amendment, and whether the automatic stay prevents a chapter 7 debtor’s lawyer from receiving payment for post-petition services. The teams were coached by Professor Patricia Redmond.

Standing from left to right: 2L Adam Kerlek, 3L Omid Ghaffari-Tabrizi, 3L Gregory Zarin, and Desiree Zarin. Sitting from left to right: 3L Jennifer Newberger and Professor Patricia Redmond
University of Miami School of Law students excelled in the moot court and mock trial competitions held during the Black Law Students Association’s (“BLSA”) 36th Annual Southern Regional Convention in Miami from January 17-21, 2007. Christopher Lomax, 2L, and Shelly-Ann Springer, 3L, won the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition. They came in first out of thirty-six (36) participating teams. In the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition, 3L Arey Desadier, 2L Arnett Mumford, 2L Tephaine Whitmore, and 2L Forton Wimbush placed third out of thirty-two (32) participating teams. Forton Wimbush also received Best Oral Advocate Award, beating 127 other mock trial competitors. Both teams represented BLSA’s Southern Region in the national competition which was held in Atlanta in March.

The University of Miami School of Law won both first and second place at this year’s American Bar Association Regional Client Counseling Competition. Kristy Militello and Ilana Tabacinic comprised the first place team, and as a result of their win, were invited to the National Client Counseling Competition. The Client Counseling Competition tests students’ ability to engage with clients, elicit relevant information, clearly convey and apply legal principles to difficult fact scenarios, address ethical issues, and formulate plans for future action. Prior to each round, the teams only know their client’s name and the broad subject matter the client wants to discuss.

The Center for Ethics and Public Service hosted an insiders’ discussion of the Hungarian Gold Train litigation: Rosner v. United States of America. Lead attorneys for the Plaintiff Holocaust Survivors and the Defendant, United States Government, discussed the key strategic and practical factors involved in the prosecution, defense and settlement of this historic case. The event was held on March 1st, 2007 in The Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge. Some of the panelists presenting were Jonathan Cuneo, of Cuneo, Gilbert & LaDuca, Daniel Meron, General Counsel, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Samuel J. Dubbin, Dubbin & Kravetz, Former U.S. Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Policy Development.

The Law Alumni Association hosted an informal luncheon during the program to honor Sam Dubbin, recipient of one of the 2007 Alumni Achievement Awards. We extend our gratitude to Mellon Bank, our Corporate Sponsor for this event.
After 31 years of service, Dean Jeannette F. Hausler, JD’53 retired as Dean of Students in December of 2005 and joined the Alumni Relations staff as Dean of Students Emerita. A search committee was appointed to find her replacement and a national search was conducted. Dean Dennis O. Lynch is delighted to announce the appointment of Janet Stearns, former Assistant Dean for International and Foreign Graduate Programs as the new Dean of Students.

Janet relocated to Miami in 1999 from Santiago, Chile where she was living and teaching. She is a graduate of Yale College and Yale Law School, and has been admitted to practice in both Connecticut and Washington State. She practiced Law for five years in Connecticut and has been involved in a number of community and bar activities. She was recently elected President of the Miami Council for International Visitors.

"Janet’s experience as a teacher, both as a clinical professor at the University of Washington School of Law and in teaching the Comparative Law course Introduction to U.S. Law here, provides her a window on the classroom experience that will be invaluable in the Dean of Students position,” noted Dean Lynch.

On Tuesday, November 14th, 2006, United States Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. visited the Law School and addressed students in the Constitutional Law II classes taught by Professors Patrick O. Gudridge and D. Marvin Jones. Over 160 law students engaged in a lively question and answer session with Chief Justice Roberts, moderated by Professors Gudridge and Jones. The discussion covered topics ranging from advice on how to write an effective Supreme Court brief and the importance of oral argument, to more substantive constitutional issues such as the right to privacy protected by the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Chief Justice Roberts’ visit to the Law School followed a session, on the previous evening, with over 3500 University of Miami students, faculty, staff, judges, and University friends. As part of the inaugural program of the University of Miami Lecture Series, Chief Justice Roberts had an hour-long conversation with ABC News correspondent Jan Crawford Greenberg, on topics ranging from his judicial philosophy and the importance of insulating judges from political pressures to his college days at Harvard and how the Supreme Court decides cases as a collegial body. The event took place at the BankUnited Center on the University’s Coral Gables campus.
On Friday, November 17, 2006, the University of Miami School of Law held a reception to honor the 2006 members of the Order of the Coif.

The Order of the Coif is an honorary scholastic society, the purpose of which is to encourage excellence in legal education by fostering a spirit of careful study, recognizing those who as law students attained a high grade of scholarship, and honoring those who as lawyers, judges and teachers attained high distinction for their scholarly or professional accomplishments.

The University of Miami School of Law, the University of Miami Law Alumni Association, and the Law School Community congratulates the following graduates on their induction into the Order of the Coif:

- Samuel Robert
- Lyuboslav M. Bassin
- Paul R. Borr
- Ashley M. Buist
- Sarah Chase Edgecomb
- Karen P. Finesilver
- Gerald A. Giurato
- Emily Guerin Irwin
- Shagufa R. Hossain
- Brandon J. Josephsen
- James Edwin Kirtley, Jr.
- Caroline Klancke
- Emma R. Larson
- Randon Ethan Loeb
- Athalia E. Lujo
- Cristina Arana Lumpkin
- Randi N. Macdonald
- David J. Marshall
- Jennifer Ann McLoone
- Joshua Nix
- Adriana Riviere
- Mark E. Rooney
- Samuel A. Rubert
- Andrea N. Rubinoff
- Kristina Samuels
- Jeremy H. Segal
- Michael C. Shue
- Joel Smith
- Melissa Gibson Swain
- Cheryl L. Tedeschi
- Michael Trolly
- Anthony P. Vernace
- Mihai M. Vrasmasu
- Brandon Josephsen, Melissa Swain, Cristina Lumpkin, Mihai Vrasmasu, Sarah Edgecomb, Jennifer McLoone, Jeremy Segal, Joshua Shore, and Andres Rubinoff

We extend our gratitude to Southern Wine and Sprits of America, Inc. for their generosity and to the following committee members: Mercedes Cubillan, President of SigFigs and the members of the Law Parents and Partners Association: The Honorable (Martin R., JD ’75) and Jeanne Dishowitz; Aurora and Jose A.Garrido; Bonnie and David Gold, JD ’78; Barbara Hecht Havenick, JD ’75; Susan and Edgar Jones; The Honorable Celeste and Toby Muir, JD ’81; Nanette and Charles Ruffner, JD ’64; Gail, JD ’79 and Joseph Serota, JD ’78; and Meryl and Brian Spector, JD ’78 the Co-chairs of this event.
Dear Friends:

I write to invite you to join the Dean’s Circle. Alumni, appreciative of the UM Law School’s contribution to their success, have committed to helping the School continue its growth as a premier educator of tomorrow’s attorneys and leaders. These individuals who give $1,000 or more to the Law Annual Fund, scholarships or other Law School programs, become Dean’s Circle members and form a partnership with alumni, parents and friends to advance the mission of the Law School.

During the University’s 2006 fiscal year, the Dean’s Circle enjoyed a large number of members. The goal for the 2007 fiscal year is to have 1,000 members join the Dean’s Circle. The support of friends and alumni is a critical resource to the School. It bridges the gap between tuition dollars and actual costs of educating students and it provides the means to create scholarships to address the financial burden of higher education on students. The alumni’s participation in supporting their school is particularly important. Alumni participation is a significant statement to organizations who rank law schools throughout the nation because alumni-giving is seen as a measure of the bond between alumni and alma mater.

In addition to generating critical financial support for the Law School, the Dean’s Circle provides an exclusive forum for social and intellectual activities. Dean’s Circle members receive complimentary invitations to special events, celebrations, guest lectures and judicial receptions throughout the year. They are given a twenty-percent discount on all School of Law sponsored CLE programs. Their names are showcased on the Dean’s Circle plaque at the entrance to the Law Library and they receive recognition in Law School publications.

I encourage you to help us reach our goal of 1,000 members in the 2007 fiscal year by becoming a Dean’s Circle member.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Perez, J.D. ’93
Chair, Dean’s Circle Committee
DEAN DENNIS O. LYNCH HOSTS ANNUAL DEAN’S DONOR SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The Donor Scholarship Luncheon is an event that allows the student recipients of Law School scholarships to meet the donors responsible for those scholarships. This year, the luncheon was held on October 20th in the Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge, and was hosted by Dean of the School of Law, Dennis O. Lynch.

Grace Leef, Miami Beach philanthropist, has established The I. Eric and Grace Leef Endowed Scholarship at the University of Miami School of Law. The Scholarship, which was funded by the Grace G. Leef Living Trust after Ms. Leef passed away last year, is intended to benefit “needy and worthy” students of the Law School.

Grace and her late husband, Eric, adopted Miami Beach as their home over forty years ago, moving to South Florida from New York. The couple, both of whom were avid tennis players, enjoyed the South Florida lifestyle to the fullest. “Grace was a nice, feisty woman who was always full of energy,” recalls Eugene Lakin, a friend and trustee of the Grace G. Leef Living Trust. Grace, who had no children of her own, generously gave back to her community through her estate, leaving the majority of her assets to a number of charities, including the University of Miami School of Law.

Although neither Mr. nor Mrs. Leef were graduates of the University of Miami, Mr. Leef was a prominent attorney in Miami for many years and Grace assisted him in his practice. The generous endowment to the Law School for the purpose of creating scholarships highlights the importance that Ms. Leef placed on legal education and the practice of law. “Ms. Leef’s foresight was well placed,” explained Donna E. Shalala, President of the University of Miami, “Her commitment will make a significant difference in the lives of our students, providing them with the financial resources to fulfill their academic ambitions.” The first scholarship underwritten by the endowment will be awarded in the Fall of 2007.

Membership in the University of Miami School of Law’s Dean’s Circle reflects a high level of commitment and a shared vision for ensuring excellence in legal education. An annual gift of $1,000 or more made between June 1 and May 31 helps the School of Law retain its place among the nation’s leading law schools. The gift can be given to the Annual Fund, scholarships or other areas of programming. Dean’s Circle members receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the academic year. Additionally, a plaque containing the names of the Dean’s Circle members hangs on the Dean’s Circle Donor Wall in the lobby of the law library. Dean’s Circle members also receive recognition as members of the University of Miami President’s Circle. Alumni who graduated within the past ten years and members of the judiciary receive recognition in the Protégé membership category with an annual gift of $500.

To join call (305) 284-3470 or visit our website at www.law.miami.edu/alumni.
Members of the bench and bar joined faculty, alumni, students, family and friends as we celebrated the life of the Honorable Theodore Klein at a memorial program hosted by the Law Alumni Association which was held in the Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge on November 30, 2007. Ted was born on March 3, 1940 in Czechoslovakia during the Nazi occupation. His parents fled their homeland with his sister, Miriam, when he was 9 months old, making their way to Lisbon. They eventually immigrated to the United States in 1941. While in law school he was an Associate Editor of the Law Review and was elected to membership in ODK, Phi Kappa Phi and the Society of Iron Arrow. He was awarded a fellowship to attend Yale University where he earned an LL.M.

During his outstanding career Ted was regarded as one of the top trial attorneys in the United States. He served as a Law School adjunct faculty member for over 37 years and was a mentor to countless law students. He was past President of the Law Alumni Association. He was known for his remarkable sense of humor and quick wit. For many years he was the emcee of the annual Homecoming breakfast, where he would bring the crowd to howling laughter. He always had a joke, a smile and the beautiful ability to make people laugh. To honor his memory and in keeping with his legacy of excellence, friends and colleagues formed a committee chaired by Ed Shohat, JD’72 and raised funds to establish an endowed scholarship in his name at the School of Law. The Honorable Theodore Klein Scholarship will be awarded each year to a student enrolled in the Litigation Skills Program based on academic performance and financial need. Ted died on September 27, 2006.

On February 21, 2007, representatives from the foundation joined faculty and staff to recognize the establishment of this important fellowship at the CEPS’s Children and Youth Law Center. They were introduced to the first “Henry Bandier Fellow,” Liliana Valdes de Moya, and those in attendance were able to learn about the clinic and their projects. Henry Bandier (1915-2001) was an international jurist specializing in labor and international law. In 1945 he and his family were sent to a German concentration camp. After the war, he practiced law in Spain until the 1970s when he moved close to Geneva to dedicate the rest of his life to promoting and defending human rights. He was founding president of the United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation, a United Nations non-governmental organization (NGO). He worked tirelessly for many issues including defense of the environment and the rights of children. At the time of his death he was organizing a Children’s Summit where the world’s children would relay their needs to the UN delegates and ask for UN assistance. In 1996 and 1997 he assisted the families of the four men murdered by the Cuban Air Force in the February 24, 1996 shoot down of two unarmed civilian aircraft conducting humanitarian missions in International waters. The families were able to make a presentation before the Commission on Human Rights that led to an official UN condemnation of the shoot down. To recognize Henry Bandier and his tireless efforts, a fellowship was created in the Children and Youth Law Center at the school.
ALUMNI

PUBLIC INTEREST RESOURCE CENTER

Dean Dennis O. Lynch has appointed Marni Lennon, JD ’95, MSEd ’98, as Assistant Dean for Public Interest. For the last several years, Assistant Dean Lennon has served as an Assistant Dean of Students. Lennon has also served as the Director of Disability Services, and Director of HOPE Public Interest Resource Center, founded at the Law School in 1998. Lennon was selected as the 2005 National Recipient of the Outstanding Law School Faculty/Staff Award from Equal Justice Works (formerly the National Association for Public Interest Law) for her leadership and promotion of a pro bono ethic among future lawyers. HOPE (Helping Others through Pro Bono Efforts) has also been recognized with numerous awards from the ABA and Equal Justice Works for its innovative programming and dedication to service.

In her new role, Assistant Dean Lennon will concentrate on strengthening and growing the HOPE Public Interest Resource Center. With individual and law firm support, she plans to expand the HOPE Fellows Program, which sends students across the globe to work in the public interest each summer, and to enhance the Public Interest Luncheon Series; externship opportunities with non-profit agencies, and relationships with NGOs, non-profits and public interest agencies. Assistant Dean Lennon has been working with Associate Dean Donna Coker to develop a loan reduction and scholarship program.

"Collaboration will be the key for moving public interest and pro bono even more into the forefront of this Law School and our community," said Lennon. "I look forward to partnering with our faculty, clinics, students, administrators, alumni and members of the bar to maximize opportunities for the advancement of public service and to ensure that we draw on all resources."

LAA PRESIDENT AND FAMILY HOST THE 2006 LAA HOLIDAY RECEPTION

Mayra and Alvin F. Lindsay, President of the Law Alumni Association, hosted the Annual Holiday Reception at their lovely home on Key Biscayne on December 14, 2006.
Classes of 1965-1966 Reunion

Dean Dennis & Carol Lynch, Michael R. Klein, JD '66

Susann & Richard Skor

Carolyn Lamb, Donald Bierman, Barbara Lipcon, Rosetta Bierman

Ed Rubinoff, Thomas & Donna Tew, Merrill Lamb

Judy Feinerman, Ira M. Elegant

Mary Sullivans, Julie & Charles Sansone, Bill Sullivan

Julian Kreeger, Carol & Dean Dennis Lynch, Hon. Judith Kreeger

Michael R. Klein, Bruce Alexander, Edward Sawyer

Michael & Barbara Lipcon, Paulette & Bruce Alexander

Paige Olbrig, Rhea Grossman, Elliott & Arlene Harris

Stephanie Chase, Edward Sawyer

Phyllis & Sam Harris, Jeannette Hauser, Stanley Langbein

Phyllis & Sam Harris, Jeannette Hauser, Stanley Langbein

Edward Sawyer & Stephanie Chase

Home

REUNION

CLASS OF 1965
Rhea P. Grossman
Charles E. Sansone

CLASS OF 1966
Michael R. Klein
Elliott Harris
Thomas Tew

CLASS OF 1975
Doumar, Allsworth, Gross, Laystrom, Perloff, Voigt, Wachs & Mac Iver
Rutherford Mulhall, P.A.
Zebersky & Payne, LLP

CLASS OF 1976
Francisco R. Angones
Carlton Fields, P.A.
Steven E. Chaykin
Marcia K. Cypen
Hon. Amy Dean and Alan J. Kluger
Craig E. Larson
Robert E. Panoff
Arthur H. Rice
Rice, Pugatch, Robinson and Schiller
Donald Jay Wolfson
Classes of 1975-1976 Reunion

Dennis Curran, JD ’75, Jeanne Dishowitz, M.Ed. ’78, & Hon. Martin Dishowitz, JD ’75

Harvey Rogers, JD ’75 and Ann Leibowitz

Ginnette Garrandes, Hon. Mario P. Goderich, JD ’66, Andrew Connell, JD ’94

Lynn Dannheiser, JD ’76 and Chris Russo

Hon. William Berger, JD ’75, & Linda Berger, Amy Shlfield, JD ’76, Frank Fishman

Lewis Fehman, JD ’76, Mark Gene Langer, JD ’75, Mark A. Leibowitz, JD ’75, Dennis Curran, JD ’75

Elyse Danzweiser, JD ’76 and Chris Russo

Maria & Harvey Rogers, JD ’75, Greg Cesarano, JD ’76

Maria K. Copen, JD ’76 and Robert Berrin, JD ’76

Melanie Coleman Jacobson, JD ’75, Rich Berman, JD ’76 and Carey M. Fischer, JD ’75

Robert E. Panoff, JD ’76, Jeanne Panoff, Ann Mack, Neal Rosenbaum, JD ’76

Thomas Hyde, JD ’75, Christine Hyde, Susan Larson, M.Ed. ’76, Frank Argones, JD ’76

SPONSORS:

CLASS OF 1981
Dubbin & Kravetz, LLP
Lana Monchek

CLASS OF 1986
Levey, Airan, Shevin, Roen, Kelso, Corona & Herrera, LLP
Panter, Panter & Sampedro, P.A.

CLASS OF 1995
Martha L. Arias, Arias Villa, P.A.
International Data Depository
International Managed Care Services

CORPORATE SPONSORS
Bacardi USA
Gibraltar Bank
LexisNexis
Matusalem Rum
Mellon United
Ocean Bank
Southern Wine & Spirits
TotalBank
Classes of 1980-1981 Reunion

Bonnie Giehe, Prof. Bruce Winick and John Giehe, JD ’80
Abbe Bifflon, JD ’81 and Dean Dennis O. Lynch
Alberta Mans, JD ’81, Steven J. Brodiz, JD ’81, Joe Serren, JD ’81, George Mencio, JD ’81
Karen Throckmorton, JD ’81, LLM ’89, and husband, John Throckmorton
Richard Warren, JD ’81, and wife Lisa, Diane Frable, Charlie C. White, Gary Pollock, JD ’80, Deborah & Dennis Kaimen, JD ’89
George Mencio, JD ’81, Arnulfo Velas, JD ’72, & Hon. Barbara Levenson, JD ’81
Lori Dubbin, Alison Weinger, JD ’80, Shelly Brodiz, BBA ’80
Steven Brodiz, JD ’81, Carol & Dean Dennis O. Lynch, Bernard Allen, JD ’81

Classes of 1985-1986 Reunion

Barry Wise, JD ’85 & Leslie Schefman
David Bobbitt, JD ’86, Myra & Jeffrey Antell, Rebecca Bobbitt
Adrianne F. Prunoff, JD ’85, Pamela Jones, Douglas Jones, JD ’85, Jack Gaiman, JD ’86
Ed Dikes, Tracy Griffin, JD ’86, Barry Mawad, Hon. Amy Kaur, JD ’86
Denise Groves, Lauren Prister, Rebecca Bobbitt
Eric Gehaside, JD ’86, Monica Swede, Thane Runenbaum, JD ’86, Hon. Alex E. Ferrer, JD ’86
James Finkel, JD ’86, Hon. Linda Singer Stein, JD ’86, Kenneth Harriman, JD ’86, Joanna Gelfond, JD ’85
Michael Guilford, JD ’85, Elizabeth Santos, Rebecca Rabin Spitalne, JD ’85, Ed Braustein
Classes of 1995-1996 Reunion
TotalBank was the generous corporate sponsor of the Law Alumni Association’s Fifty-Eighth Annual Homecoming Breakfast which was held on November 4, 2006 in the Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge and Law School Quadrangle.

The Honorable Jose E. Martinez, JD’65 served as Master of Ceremony. Lucinda Hofmann, JD’91 was the Homecoming Chair this year. During the festivities, the following awards were presented: Thomas Davison, III Memorial Service Award: Meryl and Brian S. Spector, JD’78, Former Co-Chairs of the Law Parents and Partners Association and Dean’s Circle, and Robin C. Schard, JD’90, Assistant Library Director for Public Services. The “Henry “Lat” Latimer Leadership and Professionalism Award was presented to The Honorable Sue M. Cobb, JD’78, former Ambassador to Jamaica and former Florida State Secretary. Our congratulations to the recipients for their service to our legal profession and School of Law.
The Law Alumni Association and the Estate Planning Office at the University of Miami hosted their annual Heckerling Alumni luncheon on January 10th at the Orlando World Center Marriott. Dean of Students Emerita, Jeannette F. Hausler, JD’53 joined Dean Dennis O. Lynch and Lucy Morillo, Esq. at the time, Executive Director of Estate and Gift Planning at the University of Miami to welcome our guest speaker, H. Allan Shore, LLM’72. Everyone had a great time but agreed that next year we will go back to our usual cocktail reception to give our alumni an opportunity to network informally!
Judge Lauren. L. Brodie came to Naples by way of Miami Dade County, where she served as a county judge and a circuit court judge. She currently is assigned to the Juvenile Delinquency/Dependency Division and the Family Division of the 20th Judicial Circuit where she has served for nearly three years. While others may have faced difficulties in adjusting to a different cultural environment, Judge Brodie quickly assumed a leadership role in two local community-based organizations. Judge Brodie’s enthusiasm for and persistence in developing the Collier County Juvenile Justice Council transformed an organization with poorly attended meetings to a proactive organization with meetings that are regularly attended by 20 or more constitutional officers, agency heads and community leaders. As a result of her work, the Juvenile Justice Council now is actively involved in legislative initiatives as well as educating those in leadership roles in government on the juvenile justice needs in Collier County.

GEORGE F. KNOX, JD ’73, has been appointed by the Florida Bar Board of Governors to the board of directors of The Florida Bar Foundation.

THOMAS R. TATUM, JD ’73, has been listed in Florida Trend magazine as “Florida Legal Elite” in the area of commercial litigation.

PETER CHATILOVICZ, JD ’74, a senior partner at Seyfarth Shaw LLP, was recently named “Lawyer of the Year” in his field of Labor and Employment by the Washington Business Journal. He was also honored by Chambers USA as one of the top lawyers in Washington, DC.

THOMAS NEWCOMB HYDE, JD ’75, spoke at the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals Annual Forensic Conference in Nashville, TN on the topic of effective testimony for vocational experts. He also published an article in The Rehabilitation Professional.

ELLIOIT H. SHERKER, AB ’72, JD ’75, was selected to the Daily Business Review’s “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

THOMAS NEWCOMB HYDE, JD ’75, was recognized in the South Florida Legal Guide in the areas of civil rights and plaintiff and white collar criminal defense practice. 

ROBERT PANOFF, JD ’76, has been selected to receive the Gerald T. Hart Tax Lawyer of the Year Award by the Tax Section of the Florida Bar.

PETER NEESON, JD ’78, has been appointed chair of the American Bar Association Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section.

ROBERT RYWKN, JD ’78, has joined the law firm of Thompson Hine LLP as Of Counsel in the firm’s Commercial & Public Finance and Corporate Transactions & Securities practice groups in NY.

BRIAN F. SPECTOR, JD ’78, has been appointed by The Florida Bar to serve on the Standing Committee on Professionalism and has been appointed by the Supreme Court of Florida to serve on its Commission on Professionalism as well as the Court’s newly created Committee on Standard Jury Instructions - Contract and Business Cases.

HOWARD A. KUSNICK, LLM ’79, announced the fourth anniversary of Double Diamond Sports Management in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

HOWARD TALENFELD, BBA ’74, JD ’79, was recognized in the South Florida Legal Guide in the areas of civil rights and plaintiff law and in Florida Super Lawyers in 2006. He was named in Florida Trend magazine as “Florida Legal Elite” in 2006 and in the Daily Business Review as one of the “2006 Most Class of 1952

BURTON LANDY, JD ’52, of Akerman Senterfitt, was elected chair of the World Services Group in Lisbon, Portugal.

Class of 1957

SONIA PRESSMAN FUENTES, JD ’57, was featured in the new book, Feminists Who Changed America, 1963-1975. This book is the first comprehensive directory of the founders and leaders of the second wave of the women’s movement.

Class of 1959

DR. BORIS KOZOLCHYK, JD ’59, was selected by the U.S. Mexican Law Institute to receive its Jose Luis Siqueiros award on October 9th in St. Augustine, FL. The Institute also named in his honor the Boris Kozolchyk Legal Research and Consulting Center in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Class of 1968

NEIL S. ROLLNICK, AB ’65, JD ’68, was selected to the Daily Business Review’s “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

Class of 1970

ROY BLACK, AB ’67, JD ’70, was selected to the Daily Business Review’s “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

Class of 1971

CAMI GREEN, JD ’71, is currently teaching School Law at F.I.U.’s Graduate School of Education. She received her Ph.D. in Education Leadership in 2000.

LESLEY ALAN SCHERE, JD ’71, joined the George Hartz Law firm as Of Counsel to launch its new entrepreneurial consulting group.

Class of 1972

HON. R. FRED LEWIS, JD ’72, was sworn in as the Florida Supreme Court’s 52nd Chief Justice.

Class of 1973

STUART Z. GROSSMAN, JD ’73, was named among the nation’s leading 500 plaintiff attorneys by Lawdragon.
Effective Lawyers.” He also received the President’s Pro Bono Award for the 17th Judicial Circuit.

**CLASS OF 1980**

APRIL CHARNEY, JD ’80, was honored as the top consumer lawyer in the nation, winning the National Association of Consumer Advocates’ “National Consumer Award of the Year.”

**CLASS OF 1981**

LAURENCE LITOW, JD ’81, was elected Chairman of the City of Parkland Planning and Zoning Board. He joined Hinshaw & Culbertson as a partner in 2005.

WENDY F. LUMISH, JD ’81, was honored with a Distinguished Service Award by the Product Liability Council, Inc.

JOSE E. SIRVEN, JD ’81 was selected to the Daily Business Review’s “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

STEVEN M. ZIEGLER, JD ’81, was named National Managed Care Counsel for Lexinton Insurance Company.

**CLASS OF 1982**

DORIAN DENBURG, JD ’82, Chief Rights-of-Way Counsel for BellSouth, was named an officer of The National Association of Women Lawyers 2006-2007 executive board.

SPENCER LEVINE, JD ’82, spoke at the U.S. Health and Human Services, Office of the Inspector General Conference on “Strengthening the Government’s Response to Medicaid Fraud” at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, SC. He is the Director of the Florida Medicaid Fraud Control Unit and has recently lectured at St. Thomas School of Law, the Health Law Institute of the Florida Bar, and at the ABA’s 16th National Institute on Health Care Fraud.

JOHN PAUL PARKS, LLM ’82, relocated his office from Phoenix to Scottsdale, AZ. He practices in the areas of trusts, estates, wills, and probate.

**CLASS OF 1983**

STEVEN W. CUTLER, JD ’83, joined Hinshaw & Culbertson as a partner in 2005.

ROBERT C. MEYER, JD ’83, wrote an article entitled “Discharge Calculations Under the New Bankruptcy Code” in the American Bankruptcy Institute’s Committee News in May 2006. Another article entitled “Homestead Protection is Devolving” was published in the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustee’s NABTalk in the summer of 2006.

DANIEL A. ZABLUDOWSKI, JD ’83, joined Hinshaw & Culbertson as a partner in 2005.

**CLASS OF 1984**

KERRI J. BARSH, JD ’84, was named one of the Daily Business Review’s “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

**CLASS OF 1985**

ANGEA FLOWERS, JD ’85, was appointed to the Florida Supreme Court’s Commission on Professionalism.

ERVIN A. GONZALEZ, JD ’85, was re-appointed to the National Board of Trustees of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy. He was re-elected to the Eleventh Circuit of the Florida Bar Board of Governors. He was also named one of the “100 Most Influential Hispanics” by Hispanic Business magazine.

RENALDY J. GUTIERREZ, JD ’85, was elected first vice president of the Inter-American Bar Association. He will serve as the president of the IABA in 2007.

**CLASS OF 1986**

DONALD DUFRENSE, JD ’86, has joined Greenspoon Marder in West Palm Beach as Of Counsel.

ALBerto M. HERNANDEZ, JD ’86, has joined Holland & Knight’s Health Law Team as a partner.

**VALERIE JAHN GRANDIN, JD ’83**

Valerie Jahn Grandin joined Attorney’s Title Insurance Fund, Inc. (The Fund), Florida’s largest title insurance underwriter. Valerie will be a Commercial Account Executive and Senior Underwriting Counsel, a newly created position. In her new role, she will support members of The Fund on major commercial transactions in the Central Florida region. The Fund is the leading title insurance underwriter in Florida and the sixth largest title insurance company in the country. They have established an endowed Scholarship Fund at the School of Law.

Ms. Grandin comes to The Fund from a private commercial real estate practice with Graham, Builder, Jones, Pratt & Marks, LLP of Winter Park, Florida. Valerie is a past president of the Young Lawyers Section of the Dade County Bar and is also past president of the Student Bar Association at the University of Miami School of Law. She is the Chair of our Orlando Law Alumni Club were she resides with her husband, Dean and their two daughters.

**Oscar J. Cabanas, JD ’84, was admitted to the Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel.**

**Matt CoGlianeSe, JD ’84, has been selected to head Peckar & Abramson’s environmental law practice group.**

**Guy S. Emerich, LLM ’84, was elected to the American College of Trust and Estate Attorneys.**

**Pamela I. Perry, JD ’84, has become Of Counsel to the Miami-based firm Dressnick & Rodriguez, P.A. Perry’s practice focuses on the defense of health care providers in regulatory matters, civil mediation and arbitration, civil litigation and criminal defense.**

**Diana Santa Maria, AB ’81, JD ’84, became an Adjunct Professor of Law at Nova Southeastern University College of Law teaching Civil Pretrial Practice. She serves on the Florida Bar’s Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism as well as on the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission.**

**KERRI J. BARSH, JD ’84, was named one of the “100 Most Influential Hispanics” by Hispanic Business magazine.**
**Class of 1987**

JOHN J. FUMERO, AB ’84, JD ’87, was the invited speaker at the National Business Institute’s conference concerning land development law and regulation in January 2007.

**Class of 1988**

MARIA ELENA ABATE, AB ’84, JD ’88, was recognized in the *South Florida Legal Guide* for her work in insurance defense and civil rights law. She was also named a “Florida Super Lawyer” in 2006.

MICHAEL B. CHESAL, JD ’88, has been appointed to serve on the Florida Bar’s Intellectual Property Law Certification Committee.

MARIA T. CURRIER, JD ’88, has joined Holland & Knight’s Health Law Team as a partner.

DIANE HICKS, JD ’88, has opened up a private practice in Maryville, TN specializing in medical malpractice and insurance matters.

LISA LANDY, JD ’88, was named “2006 Interlawyer of the Year” for her efforts in organizing the Women Lawyers in Interlaw initiative.

MARK TOBIN, BBA ’85, JD ’88, was selected to the *Daily Business Review’s* “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

**Ervin A. Gonzalez, JD ’85,** finds his passion in law in cases that bring about change – not just for a client, but for an entire community. When 12-year-old Jorge Luis Cabrera was electrocuted while seeking shelter at a Miami bus stop during a thunderstorm in 1998, Mr. Gonzalez saw the tragedy as a way to get a message to the world, and a civil jury agreed. They ordered the company that performed shoddy electrical work at the bus stop to pay $65 million in damages. The message was broader than the verdict, however. “Bus shelters in Miami-Dade and Broward counties are now solar-powered, and other communities have moved to solar as well,” he said. “No one will get electrocuted again.”

Mr. Gonzalez is a partner at Colson Hicks Eidson, where he is a civil litigation specialist in the area of serious personal injury, product liability, medical malpractice, wrongful death, construction defects, commercial litigation and mass tort. A veteran trial attorney, he has 23 verdicts in excess of a million dollars.

Recently, he was named one of the top 11 attorneys in the nation by *Lawyers Weekly USA*. In 2006, *Hispanic Business* magazine named him to its list of 100 Influentials, the most powerful Hispanics in business today. He is a member of the Florida Bar Board of Governors and former president of the Dade County Bar Association and Dade County Trial Lawyers Association.

At the University of Miami School of Law, Mr. Gonzalez is an adjunct professor. His experience as a student in the law school prepared him well for his career. “The program taught me to think, to figure out my own solutions. Because of the Trial Advocacy Program, I could handle motions, take depositions and try cases right out of law school,” he said. “My motto is to follow your passion and be the attorney you would want representing you. That’s what I try to teach my students.”

**Class of 1989**

ELIZABETH M. RODRIGUEZ, BS ’85, JD ’89, has joined Ford & Harrison LLP as a partner in its Miami office.

CECILIA I. LAVRIN, JD ’89, formed her own firm, Law Offices of Cecilia I. Lavrin, LCC on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, specializing in medical negligence cases.

FRANKLIN ZEMEL, JD ’89, was selected to the *Daily Business Review’s* “2006 Most Effective Lawyers.”

**Class of 1990**

CORI LOPEZ CASTRO, JD ’90, was recognized for her leadership as president of the Cuban American Bar Association in *Hispanic Trends* magazine. She also was the recipient of the University of Miami’s Law Alumni Association Leadership Award in December 2006.

KENNETH KIRSNER, BSN ’79, JD ’90, is an associate professor of nursing and program director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers.

FL. KELLY ANNE LUTHER, JD ’90, was appointed co-chair of the Women in Products Liability Subcommittee of the American Bar Association.

MARIBEL N. NICHOLSON-CHOICE, JD ’90, has been elevated to 500 shareholder of Greenberg Traurig in Tallahassee, FL.

**Class of 1991**

KEVIN R. GHASSOMIAN, LLM ’91, has been elected to the board of directors for the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, the nation’s fifth largest Chamber.

**Class of 1992**

JOHN R. BANDY, JD ’92, has accepted a new position as vice president and general counsel of Allied Cash Holdings in Miami, FL.

SUSAN MARSILLO, JD ’92, has joined the intellectual property law firm of Feldman Gale as an associate.

**Class of 1993**

RAUL CHACON, JR., BSE ’90, JD ’93, was appointed to the Cuban American Bar Association’s Board of Directors for 2007.

NORMA S. LINDSEY, JD ’93, was appointed to the County Court Bench by former Governor Jeb Bush. She is currently assigned to the Criminal Division.
**CLASS OF 1994**

SONJA KNIGHTON DICKENS, JD ‘94, was appointed by former Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Judicial Nominating Commission for the 4th District Court of Appeal and was named partner to the Arnstein & Lehr, LLP office in Ft. Lauderdale.

JENNIFER FRANK, JD ‘94, was named a partner at Wendy L. Aikin in Winter Park, FL.

JONATHAN R. FRIEDLAND, JD ‘94, has formed the new firm Friedland & Brown in Miami.

ANDREW FROMAN, JD ‘94, has joined Fisher & Phillips as of counsel to establish the firm as one of the first national firms to provide employers in the Sarasota-Manatee region with specialized employment counsel.

DEBORAH J. GANDER, BSC ’91, JD ‘94, has been appointed by former Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Judicial Nominating Commission for the 4th District Court of Appeal and was named partner to the Arnstein & Lehr, LLP office in Ft. Lauderdale.

Sherry Lambson-Eisele, JD ‘94, and her husband Frank announced the birth and adoption of their first child, Jacob Brooks.

**CLASS OF 1995**

CHRISTOPHER D. BROWN, JD ’95, recently served as a lecturer for the National Association of Mutual Insurers in Tampa, FL., speaking on the topic of insurance bad faith. He also spoke for Ace Insurance in Chicago, IL., on the topic of Florida procedural issues.

GABRIELA GONZALEZ-UNGO, JD ’95, was promoted to partner at Walker & Ungo, a business immigration law firm in Mississippi.

PHILIP JOSEPHSON, JD ’95, has earned an MBA from Columbia Business School and has formed the Law Office of Philip Josephson which focuses on business law and corporate transactions.

KEVIN LEVY, JD ’95, has been selected for inclusion in the 2007 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. He also has been elected to serve on the board of directors of the Voices for Children Foundation, Inc.

JOANNE S. LINLEY, JD ’95, recently became Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Construction Law.

SHERRY WILLIAMS, JD ’95, has been promoted to senior vice president and corporate secretary of Halliburton Company in Houston, TX after serving eighteen months as senior litigation counsel.

**CLASS OF 1996**

LEYZA BLANCO, AB ’93, JD ’96, was featured as one of the “Top Up and Comers” in the 2006 edition of the South Florida Legal Guide. She was also named as the president of the Bankruptcy Bar Association of the Southern District of Florida.

MELANIE E. DAMIAN, JD ’96, was appointed vice-chair of the Communications Committee for the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar.

CHRISTOPHER ECK, JD ’96, was appointed to the Library Visiting Committee of Loyola University in New Orleans.

TRACY SMITH HYMAN, JD ’96, and her husband Scott are happy to announce the arrival of their daughter Emily Rose on May 30, 2006. Tracy is the grievance handler for the Coalition of University Employees, UCLA local.

MARLENE QUINTANA, AB ’93, JD ’96, was appointed to the Cuban American Bar Association’s Board of Directors for 2007.

**Rita C. Chansen, J.D. ’87,** was the recipient of one of the 2007 Florida Bar Pro Bono Service Awards. She came to Family Law after raising her four children as a single mother. At age 39, she began a 16-year academic journey, which included an Associate’s Degree with honors from Miami Dade Community College and Bachelor’s and graduate degrees, Magna Cum Laude, from the University of Miami. She currently is a family law attorney with Thomson & Schreiber, PA.

In the course of her legal career, Ms. Chansen has worked as a law clerk in the Third District Court of Appeal in Miami, has specialized in asbestos-related injuries at a personal injury law firm and has accepted court appointments in dependency matters as an Attorney Ad Litem. She also is a certified mediator.

Working with the Office of the State Attorney, Juvenile Division, in 1991, Ms. Chansen prosecuted juvenile offenders while coordinating community resources for their rehabilitation and counseling for their families. She currently uses her experience in the areas of family law and domestic violence to help clients referred to her by the Lee County Legal Aid Society. She also has provided more than 300 hours of pro bono work to clients referred to her by Florida Rural Legal Services.

**CLASS OF 1997**

FRANK CARBER, LLM ’97, retired as a Captain in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps after 23 years of service.

MARY CLARK, JD ’97, has been selected for the 2006-2008 Florida Bar Foundation Equal Justice Works Fellowships.

SCOTT A. EASH, JD ’97, has been appointed visiting professor of criminal justice at California State University. Since his graduation from law school, Scott has also earned his LLM degree from Tulane Law School and an MS in psychology from Pacific Graduate School of Psychology.

ANDREW M. FELDMAN, JD ’97, was certified as a Circuit and County Court Mediator.

MARNIN J. MICHAELS, LLM ’97, was elected a principal in Baker & McKenzie International, a Swiss Verein.

ERIC SPETT, JD ’97, has joined Countrywide Financial Corporation as 1st VP, Senior Legal Counsel.

JASON M. WANDNER, JD ’97, participated in a two-week exchange program in The Federal Republic of Germany on behalf of the American Jewish Committee as guests of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

DARIN I. ZENOV, JD ’91, LLM ’97, received his 10th Exceptional Participation Pro Bono Service Award from Put Something Back of Miami-Dade County.
Deborah M. Smith
Eighteenth Judicial Circuit
Satellite Beach

Deborah M. Smith received her A.S. from Bryant Stratton Business Institute in Rochester, New York and went on to earn a B.S. in Humanities from the University of Rochester. She received her J.D. from the University of Miami in 1988. Ms. Smith began her legal career as a workers’ compensation defense attorney. She continues to practice in that area of the law, and currently conducts workers’ compensation private mediations through her firm, Deborah M. Smith Mediations, located in Satellite Beach. In addition to her work as a mediator, she currently is in general practice with Enrique, Smith & Trent in Melbourne.

When the Brevard County Legal Aid’s (BCLA) clinical program was faced with having to shut down its Pro Se Project after the departure of an Equal Justice Fellow in 2004, Ms. Smith stepped in. There, Ms. Smith helps pro se litigants with family law matters, assisting people who are on the road to self-sufficiency but who face seemingly insurmountable hurdles. Over the past three years, she has donated 400 hours of her time, providing assistance to more than 250 clients. She also staffs the organization’s bi-weekly clinics. Ms. Smith sometimes encounters cases she feels so strongly about that she accepts the client for ongoing representation. Typically, these clients are facing the most urgent problems involving issues of custody, visitation, support and distribution of assets. In 2004, Ms. Smith was recognized by BCLA with its outstanding Pro Bono Service award for providing more than 175 hours of pro bono service in a single year. Her selfless dedication to the poor and disadvantaged is a shining example for the legal profession.

In 2004, Ms. Smith was recognized by BCLA with its outstanding Pro Bono Service award for providing more than 175 hours of pro bono service in a single year. Her selfless dedication to the poor and disadvantaged is a shining example for the legal profession.

Class Notes

Class of 1998

John W. Bolanovich, JD ‘98, is celebrating the birth of his daughter, Kirah Jai, with his wife Allison and his son Noah.

Thierry Olivier Desmet, JD ‘98, was promoted to Branch Chief in the Enforcement Division of the US Securities and Exchange Commission. He recently published “The Pitfalls of Wells Submission” in the Securities Regulation Law Journal. He and his wife have a daughter, Emmanuelle Zoe.

Carolotta J. Roos, AB ‘94, JD ‘98, has joined the Miami office of Morgan Lewis & Bockius as Of Counsel.

Sylvia Urrechaga, JD ‘98, opened Sylvia M. Urrechaga, PL. She will focus her practice in the areas of wills, trusts, estate planning, business planning, and taxation.

Class of 1999

Evan J. Goldman, JD ‘99, was promoted to Manager of Public Affairs and Organizational Development for the Children’s Services Council of Broward County.

Class Notes

Class of 2000

Victoria Chemerys, JD ‘00, has joined Ford & Harrison LLP as a senior associate in the area of ERISA and employee benefits.

Daniel T. Fleischer, BBA ‘97, JD ‘00, MBA ‘01, was appointed as a regional probate officer for Northern Trust, NA for Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

Genilde E. Guerra, JD ‘00, was selected by LatinBiz Magazine to receive a “2006 Women of Virtue Award.”

Paul Hilgers, JD ‘00, has joined Strasburger & Price as a member in their Corporate and Securities practice in Dallas, TX.

Victoria Mendez, AB ‘96, MPA ‘99, JD ‘00, was appointed to the Cuban American Bar Association’s Board of Directors for 2007.

C. Mark Stevenson, JD ‘00, MBA ‘02, has joined the Tax Practice Group of Parker Poe in Charlotte, NC.

Anna Volkova, JD ‘00, an attorney with Wolpe, Leibowitz, Alvarez & Fernandez in Miami, and husband Christopher M. Reed JD ‘05 welcomed their daughter Aeryn Maria on April 27, 2006.

Class of 2001

Robert M. Chisholm, JD ’01, has opened the law firm Robert M. Chisholm, PA. and will practice in real estate and corporate law.

Kevin R. Ghashomian, JD ’01, has been elected to the Board of Directors for the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber.

Anna M. Hernandez, JD ’00, was appointed to the Cuban American Bar Association’s Board of Directors for 2007.

Deborah M. Martin, JD ’01, has joined the George Hartz law firm in Coral Gables as Of Counsel.

H. Steven Vogel, LLM ’01, teaches business law and tax at Florida International University and is an adjunct professor in the LLM program at the University of Miami. In 2006, he wrote two chapters for the Lexis-Nexis Practice Guides.

Class of 2002

Tom Dillckrath, JD ’02, was promoted to senior associate in the anti trust group of Howrey, LLP. He is also an adjunct professor at American University Washington College of Law.

Robert Moreiro, JD ’02, joined the NYSE Regulation Division of Enforcement as special counsel.

Jason Ronning, JD ’02, is proud to announce the birth of his son, Owen Michael, on May 2, 2005.

Aaron J. Slavin, JD ’02, prosecutor in the Clearwater office of the 6th Judicial Circuit State Attorney’s Office, has been promoted to be the Gang Unit Prosecutor. He also serves on the DUI Mianneck Squad. He married Eryn L. Litman in Tampa, FL in February 2007.

Class of 2003

David D’Agata, JD ’03, spoke at the Education Law Association’s 52nd Annual Conference on the legal authority of public schools.

Dorothy Ne grin, JD ’03, joined the Miami office of Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, PA as an associate practicing in the areas of commercial and real estate litigation, casualty defense, employment and professional liability.
ERIK A. YOUNG, JD ’03, joined Seyfarth Shaw, LLP in Atlanta, GA as an associate in the labor and employment practice group.

CLASS OF 2004

ALAN R. GREENFIELD, JD ’04, has relocated to Chicago and is now an associate in the franchise and distribution practice group of DLA Piper US.

MARYANN M. BULLION, JD ’05, has joined the firm Matuszewich, Kelly & McKeever, LLP as an associate.

KRISTI MORGAN, JD ’05, has opened a law firm in Austin, TX that specializes in government procurement contracts, insurance law, and international transactions. The firm is Weitz Morgan PLLC.

KEVIN STEINBERG, JD ’05, has opened the company Innovative Title in Texas.

LAURA SWERDLOW, JD ’05, has joined Robert J. Merlin PA in Coral Gables as an associate.

LORRAINE WONG, BBA ’02, JD ’05, joined Pugatch Robinson & Schiller in Ft. Lauderdale.

The University of Miami has named Sabrina Mendoza Rembold as Director of the Annual Fund for the School of Law. Rembold takes her experience as a “double UM grad,” earning her B.A. in 1991 and J.D. in 1994, with her to her new post. “I love this institution,” Rembold said. “This is where I grew up and learned to be a lawyer. I feel that this job will give me the chance to help future generations of lawyers.” As Director of the Annual Fund, she will work closely with UM’s alumni leadership and members of the Dean’s Circle Committee. Prior to joining the School of Law, Rembold spent several years as a litigator specializing in social security disability law and immigration law at Legal Services of Greater Miami and later her law firm, Gonzalez and Rembold. She then joined the University of Miami’s General Counsel Office where for seven years she managed litigation and handled legal matters in the areas of employment, labor, and health care law. Rembold is a member of the University of Miami’s highest honor society, Iron Arrow, and was a member of the Society of Bar and Gavel while in law school. She resides in Coral Gables with her husband and two children.

“We are very fortunate to have Sabrina as part of our team; she is a talented, dedicated and respected professional who will be a great asset to the School of Law and the Law Alumni Association,” said Georgina Angones, Assistant Dean for Alumni and Development at the School of Law.

CLASS OF 2006

ADRIAN K. FELIX, JD ’06, has joined Carlton Fields as an associate in the firm’s litigation and trade regulation practice group.

CHAMPAGNE GIRTEN JD ’06, has been selected for the 2006-2008 Florida Bar Foundation Equal Justice Works Fellowships.

BENJAMIN M. HANRAHAN, JD ’06, joined Malloy & Malloy as an associate focusing on patent and trademark prosecution and litigation.

GARRETT C. REUTER, JD ’05, LLM ’06, has joined Thompson Coburn LLP as an associate.

JAMIE SCHWINGHAMER, JD ’06, has joined Gunster Yoakley & Stewart, PA as a litigation attorney in its Ft. Lauderdale Office.

ESPERANZA TILGHMAN is proud to be a “public school kid,” born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. After graduating from high school, she enrolled in a community college program leading to admission to the University of California at Berkeley, where she received an undergraduate degree in sociology in 1997. Ms. Tilghman received a law degree from the University of Miami School of Law in 2002 and was admitted to the California State Bar in 2005. She joined the Department as a Foreign Service Officer in September 2006 and is preparing for her first post as a Consular Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan.

“Education is a core value in my family, key to making one’s way in the world,” says Ms. Tilghman. “Early in this country’s history, the education of black slaves was not tolerated, and was frequently punished with violence. This denial of access to education continued well into the 20th century, culminating in the case of Brown v. Board of Education. Historically, our education was made possible with a strong network of black educators. One pioneer for the education of blacks in the U.S. is Anna Julia Cooper, a prominent scholar, activist, and educator in African-American history. There are many pioneers like Ms. Cooper in my own family, as elementary school teachers, college professors and school administrators. A very close cousin will become a teacher in San Francisco, and she will bring with her a tradition that will enrich her student’s lives.”

The University of Miami School of Law
2007 Commencement

Congratulations to the Class of 2007

Commencement speaker:
The Honorable Marco Rubio, JD ’96

ERRATUM

The information reported in the Class Notes section of the Summer 2006 issue regarding the following individuals was incorrect. Please accept our apology, and see the corrected information for the following individuals in this issue:

Laurence Litow, JD ’81, Steven Cutler, JD ’83 and Daniel Zabludowski, JD ’83

THIRD YEAR LAW STUDENT RECEIVED AWARD FROM THE FLORIDA IMMIGRANT ADVOCACY CENTER

Third-year law student Jason Blatt received the Sister Catherine Cassidy Compassion Award from The Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center (“FIAC”) at its Annual Awards Dinner on February 13, 2007. Blatt received the award for his work on behalf of Chinese women and children. “Jason spent countless hours translating from English to Mandarin Chinese and back again in order facilitate our attorneys’ ability to provide necessary legal services for the women and children in detention in South Florida,” explained Cheryl Little (JD’85), executive director of FIAC. “Jason was able to develop a rapport with these frightened individuals, many of whom fled repression in their own country. This rapport allowed them to feel comfortable sharing their stories with our attorneys. By reaching out to these women and children in their darkest moments, Jason was able to provide a voice by which these women and children can be heard.” Blatt became involved with FIAC through the Asian/Pacific-American Law Students Association at the Law School, which passed along a request from FIAC for Mandarin Chinese translators. Blatt, who had worked for over twelve years in Taipei, Taiwan as deputy director of international news for TVBS-TV, a Chinese language cable television news network, and as a Chinese correspondent for the South China Morning Post prior to attending UM Law School, is fluent in Mandarin. Blatt admits he was surprised to learn of the significant number of Chinese detainees in South Florida. “I never expected that my Chinese skills would be needed at all in Miami, but I have been able to provide substantial help through my work with FIAC,” stated Blatt.
There's rarely been a better time to obtain a charitable gift annuity from the University of Miami. Low interest rates and roller-coaster markets are causing people to think twice about their financial decisions, and to consider the seven benefits of the University of Miami's gift annuity program.

Attractive Rates
When you compare our gift annuity rates with what you might receive from a savings account or a certificate of deposit, you will likely be pleasantly surprised. For example, the payment rate for a 70-year old senior is 6.5 percent. At age 80, the rate is 8.0 percent. In other words, a $100,000 gift annuity would provide an 80-year old person $8,000.00 every year.*

Regular Payments
When you establish your gift annuity, you decide how often you want to receive your payments. While most annuitants receive their checks or direct deposits every quarter, some choose semiannual payments and some once-a-year payments. Those who qualify can select monthly payments if they wish. Whatever you choose, receiving your regular payments on a specific, predetermined date is comforting and also helpful for planning purposes.

Fixed Income
Your payment rate will be locked in a time you obtain your gift annuity. It will not rise or fall with the economy. Instead, it will be the same amount every year – and that can mean a lot in uncertain times.

Lifetime Benefit
Gift annuities are for life. No matter what your age now or how long you live, your payments will continue right to the very end. And if you have a two-life gift annuity, when one person dies the other can continue to receive the same amount for the rest of his or her life. This benefit of ongoing payments can provide security for each spouse as they enter their older years.

Dependable Source
The University of Miami stands behind all of our gift annuities. We have a reserve fund set aside to meet our obligations and, what’s more, we back up our annuity obligations with the full financial assets of our organization. We want you to feel safe and secure and to have confidence that your payments will continue without fail.

Relief from Taxes
Since part of your contribution for a gift annuity is considered a charitable gift by the IRS, you will receive an income tax charitable deduction to apply on an itemized return. Also, during your life expectancy, you will be able to claim part of the annuity payment as tax-free income.

Simple Process
Obtaining a gift annuity from the University of Miami is much easier than most people think. We provide you with a tailor-made illustration, with your age and contribution amount included, so you can see how it all works. We provide materials you can share with your family and advisor(s).

Another benefit we should note is the enormous satisfaction you will receive for making a charitable gift in this manner. Every time you receive a payment, you will be reminded that your gift annuity will eventually benefit the University of Miami.

For your personalized gift illustration, please contact our Office of Estate and Gift Planning at 305-284-2914 or 800-529-6935. Please understand that we will not pressure you in any way to proceed with a gift annuity if you ask for further information. Our role is to simply provide clear illustrations and to let the seven benefits speak for themselves.

*Note: Rates are slightly lower when the annuity is for two persons. Like most charities, the Univeristy of Miami uses the rates recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities.

The Law Alumni Association welcomes Cynthia L. Beamish, wife of Mike Guilford, JD ’85, as the New Executive Director of Estate and Gift Planning for the University of Miami!
Tamera Kempf, JD ’85, was named General Counsel and Associate Executive Director of the American Dental Association. A graduate of Knox College with a BS in economics, Kempf intended to pursue a Masters in Economics. Her path shifted, however, when she met her neighbor at the time, now Judge Cynthia Lederman, who was completing her third year at the School of Law. Lederman convinced Kempf that to understand how the world worked, she had to learn the “rules.” Kempf took this advice to heart and entered a joint program in law and economics.

While in law school, Kempf realized the best place for her to utilize her JD and her Masters degrees was the Federal Trade Commission. Upon graduation, she began her work in the FTC regional office in Chicago. The practice encompassed both trade regulation and anti-trust.

After three years at the FTC, Kempf joined Peterson & Ross, a Chicago firm with over 125 attorneys. The corporate practice was client-centered, and Kempf gained experience working with a number of the firm’s association clients, including the American Dental Association.

In her current position, Kempf strives to build a collegial corporate culture and sponsors a series of team building workshops. She also works to build diversity and model flexibility within her legal department and the Association.

Kempf acknowledges the Law School faculty who challenged her to “look beyond her toes.” Professor Howard Leonard encouraged her to identify what areas of law she was most interested in and to pursue her interests with passion, inspiring her to integrate her economics background and legal studies with the “real world.”

Kempf also advises current students to “look beyond their toes,” talk to people with different perspectives, and to understand their passions and what type of work best suits them. According to Kempf, if students honestly evaluate their skills and passions, success will follow.
The 2006-2007 academic year has been one of transition and tremendous promise for both the University of Miami School of Law and our Law Alumni Association.

My primary goal this year has been to recognize the excellence that has come from our law school, and we have been doing just that. We have chosen to award the "Alumnus of Distinction 2007 Award" to Neal R. Sonnett for his tireless dedication to the legal profession and public service. The national prominence that Neal has achieved, as well as that of our other recipients, reflects so positively on our great institution.

We have also bestowed the Alumni Achievement Award—our “lifetime achievement” recognition—upon several of our outstanding alumni. At Homecoming, we recognized Ambassador Sue Cobb, whose recently completed term as Florida’s Secretary of State was just another in her list of world-class public-service accomplishments.

Dennis Curran, Chief General Counsel and Senior Vice President for the National Football League, also earned an Alumni Achievement Award.

I was so pleased that we could also present this prestigious award to Sam Dubbin for his work on the “Hungarian Gold Train” litigation. Sam has taken the lead in obtaining reparations for thousands of Hungarian Jews whose personal belongings were plundered by the Nazis.

During the Annual Convention of the Florida Bar in June of 2007, the LAA will recognize our own Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Fred Lewis for his Justice Teaching program, which pairs every public school in the state with a lawyer who can teach the meaning and values of our Constitution. Likewise, we will recognize the Honorable Federico Moreno, who will become the Chief Judge in the Southern District of Florida on July 1st. We congratulate both of these outstanding alumni for their judicial scholarship and innate leadership ability.

I have also created an important new award, the Alumni Leadership Award, to recognize those in the fold who bring honor to the law school through positions of leadership. Already, Cori Lopez-Castro, the immediate past President of the Cuban-American Bar Association, and Francisco Angones, our incoming Florida Bar President have been recognized with this honor. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all our award recipients—you honor us all.

Despite such remarkable alumni, we are sometimes too modest in showcasing our excellence and strength. During my year as President, I chose to make this a priority, and we will continue to do so at our upcoming regional alumni gatherings by recognizing many more of our distinguished alums who have succeeded in all areas of law, business, and public service.

Finally, I want to congratulate incoming Dean of Students Janet Stearns and incoming Assistant Dean for Public Interest, Marni Lennon. I have been so pleased to get to know these two wonderful and brilliant people who truly are devoted to our students and community.

I thank you and the Office of Alumni Relations for the support given me during this past year and urge you to continue your involvement with the Law Alumni Association and the Annual Fund. Together we can make a difference. I pledge to continue my involvement and look forward to your continuing support. I look forward to seeing you and hope we have a chance to visit at one of the upcoming alumni events.
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, accomplishments 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.”

Name: ____________________________________________________________  Email: __________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Office Phone: _____________________________________________________    Fax:  _______________________________________

I nominate: _______________________________________________________    Class of: _______________________

Accomplishments/Reasons for this Nomination: (You may include a resume if one is available)
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Mail to: University of Miami, Law Alumni Association, P.O. Box 248087
Coral Gables, Florida, 33124 or you may fax to: (305) 284-3968
Thank you!
Mark your Calendars!

Reunions 2007-2008

59th Annual Class Reunions & Homecoming Weekend
November 2-4, 2007

Planning for your class reunion is already underway, and you can be sure that a great time will be had by all. So get out your yearbook, clear your calendar, and buy your plane ticket! Your reunion is an opportunity to see the changes on campus, visit with former professors, get reacquainted with classmates, and party hearty! No doubt, you will also share fond memories and create new ones. If you would like to participate in planning your class reunion, call the Law Alumni Office at (305) 284-3470 and volunteer! Whether you join a committee or not, be sure to let your law school chums know about the upcoming reunion and encourage them to attend. The more the merrier!
Hold the Date

Florida Bar Annual Meeting Law Alumni Reception
Thursday, June 28, 2007
Orlando Marriott World Center

For information contact us at:
(305) 284-3470 or email: alumni@law.miami.edu