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Message from the Dean

It is with profound sentiment that I write my final Dean’s Message. For the last nine years, it has been my privilege and honor to serve as Dean of the University of Miami School of Law. I’m happy to say that this isn’t a goodbye, but simply a shift in my role and responsibilities. After my successor is named, I’ll be taking a yearlong sabbatical before returning to the classroom, where I began my academic career.

I am grateful to the many alumni who attended the Gala Dinner in my honor at the Biltmore Hotel on May 8. Thank you for joining the celebration. As I noted at the event, it was an evening I will always remember, filled with moments and gestures I will cherish. I was especially touched by your generous donations to establish an endowed scholarship in my name that will help worthy students attend this fine institution.

These years have been both challenging and rewarding as we strived to strengthen the Law School and enrich the experience of our students. Together, we have created a solid financial base through the Momentum Campaign, surpassing our ambitious fundraising goal by nearly 45 percent. We set our sights on raising $16 million and, thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends, received more than $22 million. These funds will help us provide much needed scholarship support to attract the best and brightest students, upgrade our facilities, expand our clinical programs and attract more renowned faculty who inspire our talented students to become competent, ethical lawyers committed to their profession and clients.

In this issue of the Barrister, we note many of the recent accomplishments of our faculty, alumni, and students. In our cover story, we pay special tribute to a longtime faculty member, prolific author and true Socratic teacher, Bernard Oxman, who was recently appointed the Richard A. Hausler Professor of Law. We also honor the memory of Professor John T. Gaubatz, who served on the Law School faculty for 30 years, inspiring students and colleagues with his passion and intellect.

In Class Notes, you will read about the nomination of Carolyn Lamm, JD ’73, as president-elect of the American Bar Association—the first UM Law School graduate to hold this prominent position. A future issue of the Barrister will detail her appointment and accomplishments. We also congratulate Frank Angones, JD ’76, on his successful term as president of The Florida Bar.

Our students continue to impress and honor us with their achievements. This year the Papy Moot Court and Mock Trial members won a stream of victories that capped the most successful season in the teams’ history. Their unprecedented performance is featured in this issue of the Barrister.

We hope you enjoy all the other news and features in the Barrister. As I prepare for new career challenges, I want to thank you all again for your support and friendship during my tenure as Dean. I look forward to returning to hands-on teaching, which I’ve always enjoyed, and working with you in new ways to maintain and generate excellence at the University of Miami School of Law.

Dennis O. Lynch
On March 5, 2008, nearly 200 colleagues, relatives, friends, and former students of Professor Bernard H. Oxman gathered at the Lowe Art Museum on the University of Miami’s Coral Gables campus to celebrate his appointment as the Richard A. Hausler Professor of Law.

Oxman joined the faculty of the University of Miami School of Law in 1977, taking the next step in an illustrious career that had seen him navigating the sometimes treacherous waters of international diplomacy, as an attorney in the International Law Division of the Judge Advocate General’s office at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

There, he was a firsthand witness to historic events when the Soviet Union opened a diplomatic channel with the United States on the idea of a new conference on the International Law of the Sea. Oxman was a member of the team engaged in a thorough analysis of the situation, which eventually led to a meeting between the two superpowers to discuss the subject.

Oxman’s career has taken many fascinating twists and turns through the years. He is the only American lawyer ever appointed to serve as judge ad hoc on both the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. Also a prolific author, he was elected in November 2007 to a second five-year term as co-editor in chief of the American Journal of International Law and serves as Vice President of the American Society of International Law. At the Law School, he has served as associate dean and is the faculty chair of the Master of Laws Program in Ocean and Coastal Law. Oxman has also served as a member of the University’s Faculty Senate.

Many of Oxman’s colleagues and students compare him to the late Professor Richard Hausler, finding them very much alike.

“He is an excellent professor who is very demanding of the students, much like Professor Hausler was,” said Law School Dean Dennis O. Lynch.

Students agree with this assessment and describe Oxman’s teaching style as very Socratic, much like that of Hausler. Spring 2008 Law School graduate Christopher Lomax met the professor in his Fall 2005 Torts class. “Oxman was invigorating and he incited a very intellectual discussion,” said Lomax.

Second-year law student Jeremy Kollitz agrees. He met the professor in his first semester at the Law School in August 2006. “He wants students to have a self-discovering process of the law,” said Kollitz.

The evening’s tribute to Oxman began with welcoming remarks and introductions by Dean Lynch and Professor Patrick O. Gudridge, after which Oxman delivered a lecture titled “The United States and the Future of International Law.”
In his introduction of Oxman, Gudridge recalled the late Professor Hausler, noting that “he became and remained a central figure – for his many, many students and for several generations of colleagues,” during his 52-year tenure at the Law School.

Gudridge also praised the late Professor John Hart Ely, a nationally acclaimed constitutional scholar and the first holder of the Hausler Chair, describing him as “a student favorite, a welcoming and sympathetic counselor to younger faculty, a central presence.” Remarking on Oxman’s appointment, Gudridge observed that “Bernard Oxman, it should be clear, finds himself in fast company.”

Following Oxman’s lecture, University Executive Vice President and Provost Thomas J. LeBlanc, along with Marta S. Weeks, Chair of the University of Miami Board of Trustees, presented Oxman with a medallion in honor of his appointment as holder of the Hausler Chair.

Dean Lynch then presented medallions to Judge Gisela Cardonne Ely, widow of the late Professor Ely, and to Hausler’s widow, Dean of Students Emerita Jeannette Hausler, JD ’53, before all the guests adjourned to the main gallery of the Lowe Art Museum for a reception.

From left to right: Thomas J. LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost of the University of Miami; Marta S. Weeks, Chair, University of Miami Board of Trustees; Patrick O. Gudridge, Professor of Law, University of Miami School of Law; Judge Gisela Cardonne Ely, widow of John Hart Ely, first holder of the Hausler Chair; Professor Bernard H. Oxman, the Richard A. Hausler Professor of Law; Dean Dennis O. Lynch; Dean of Students Emerita Jeannette Hausler.
Professor David Abraham Presented Papers in Israel.

Professor Abraham presented a paper entitled "Doing Justice on Two Fronts: The Liberal Dilemma in Immigration" to the Hebrew University Research Group on Immigration and Human Rights on December 26, 2007.

On December 30, 2007, Professor Abraham participated in an international conference at Tel Aviv University, where he presented a paper entitled "Hard on the Outside, Hard on the Inside, Too? The Friend/Enemy Distinction and Neo-Liberal Citizenship."

Professor Abraham also chaired a panel at the Council for European Studies’ 16th International Conference in Chicago on March 7, 2008.

UM Law School Professor Mario L. Barnes Received AALS Derrick A. Bell, Jr. Award.

During a luncheon held on January 5, 2008, at the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Meeting in New York, UM Law School Professor Mario L. Barnes was presented with the Derrick A. Bell, Jr., Award. The award is given annually by the AALS Minority Groups Section and honors a junior faculty member who, through teaching, scholarship, activism, and mentoring, has made an extraordinary contribution to legal education, the legal system, or social justice.

Professor Ricardo J. Bascuas Appointed to Committees of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

Professor Bascuas has been appointed by Chief Judge Federico Moreno (JD '78) to two committees of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida: the Advisory Committee on Rules and Procedures, which works on revisions to local rules; and the Committee on Attorney Admissions, Peer Review and Attorney Grievance, which deals with complaints about attorneys and admissions requirements.

Professor Kenneth M. Casebeer Presented Paper at Labor and Employment Symposium.

Professor Casebeer participated in the Second Annual Colloquium on Current Scholarship in Labor and Employment Law, which took place on September 28-29, 2007. He presented a paper titled "Of Service Workers, Contracting Out, Joint Employment, Legal Consciousness, and the University of Miami." The conference was jointly hosted by the University of Colorado Law School and the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, with presentations in both Denver and Boulder, Colorado.

Associate Dean and Professor Donna K. Coker Spoke at Stanford’s Criminal Justice Center symposium.

The conference was entitled "Rights, Needs, Power: The Victim in Criminal Justice," and took place at Stanford’s Law School on January 25, 2008. It brought together legal scholars and social science experts to explore emerging and evolving issues for victims of crime. Dean Coker participated in a panel discussion about domestic violence and sexual assault. Other panelists included NYU Law Professor Linda Mills and University of Oregon Law Professor Tom Lininger.

Professor Mary Coombs Appointed to City of Miami Community Relations Board (CRB).

The CRB was established in 1999 and is committed to finding ways to foster mutual understanding, tolerance, and respect among all economic, social, religious, and ethnic groups within the City of Miami. The CRB serves in an advisory capacity to the City Commission, and has the responsibility to recommend educational and social programs designed to eliminate discrimination in any form and to improve community relations by enlisting the support of civic leaders and citizen groups. The board consists of 13 members appointed by the Miami City Commission and Mayor.

Professor Ben Depoorter Visited the University of Oslo in Norway for Two Invited Lectures.

Professor Depoorter presented his recent scholarly work in the areas of real property and intellectual property law to a group of colleagues and doctoral students during two sessions at the University of Oslo. In the first session, organized by The Property and Natural Research Association at Oslo, Professor Depoorter surveyed his series of articles on the tragedy of the anticommons and discussed the applications of this theory to property law. At a Law and Economics workshop, Professor Depoorter presented recent and forthcoming papers on the role of social norms in copyright law enforcement.

Professor Mary Doyle Spoke at Conference on Ecosystem Restoration Hosted by the University of Miami’s Leonard and Jayne Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy.

Professor Doyle, Co-Director of the Abess Center and a conference organizer, gave the Welcome Remarks on December 6, 2007 and participated in a panel on December 8, 2007. The panel, entitled “Measuring Success: Ecosystem Restoration in the 21st Century,”
A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Professor Copeland taught at Northwestern University School of Law as a visiting assistant professor. He was also an associate with the law firm of Hogan & Hartson in Washington, DC. He has a JD (2003) from Yale Law School, a Master of Arts in Religion (2002) from Yale Divinity School and an AB (1996) from Amherst College.

Professor Copeland’s research interests include administrative law, federal courts and federalism, comparative constitutional law, and race and the law. However, he concentrates the majority of his research interests around the topic of federalism, an ideology he became enthralled with during a clerkship in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2002 under Justices Richard J. Goldstone and Catherine O’Regan of the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

He has published a scholarly piece entitled “Private Pathologies and Public Policies: Race, Class and the Failure of Child Welfare” (Yale Law & Policy Review, 2002), and his forthcoming scholarly publications include “Ripeness” for the Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the United States; and “Fists and the Sorrowful Voices of Women: Race, Gender and the Law’s Violence in Toni Morrison’s Jazz,” to be included in Justice Unveiled: African American Culture and Legal Discourse, edited by Lovalerie King and Rich Schur.

In addition to continuing to publish and becoming more involved with the institutional arms of law, Professor Copeland is determined to have an impact on his students. “I like the students most of all,” he said, “I think we have an energetic and delightful group of students.”

Professor Copeland said he plans to concentrate his efforts on developing his repertoire of scholastic publications. He uses a quote from former Morehouse College President Benjamin E. Mays for motivation—“Not failure, but low aim is sin.”

featured experts from around the country involved in large-scale ecosystem restoration efforts, including representatives from restoration initiatives such as the Everglades, Chesapeake Bay, Great Lakes, Mississippi/Gulf Coast, Missouri River Basin, Puget Sound, and California Bay-Delta. Panel sessions explored common issues, challenges, and lessons learned, and presenters examined the principal federal funding mechanisms and programs that are available to support these initiatives.

Professor Cynthia Drew Spoke at American Bar Association Conference.

Professor Drew moderated a panel at the American Bar Association’s conference, “California Initiatives to Mitigate Climate Change,” on Friday, February 8, 2008 in Los Angeles, California. The discussion focused on California’s waiver request for raising auto fuel efficiency standards. Professor Drew was subsequently featured in a South Florida Business Journal article about her participation in the conference and her views on the debate over auto emission standards.

Professor Zanita Fenton Spoke at UM Alumni Weekend Lecture Series.

Professor Fenton was a speaker in The Audrey R. Finkelstein UM Experience, an educational lecture series that promotes lifelong learning for returning alumni and guests. Professor Fenton’s talk titled “Humpty Dumpty and the Chicken Salad Sandwich-A Discussion of Modern Issues in Constitutional Law,” explored a sampling of the best-known constitutional cases and examining their modern-day effects on society across time.

Professor and Director of the Center for Hispanic and Caribbean Legal Studies Elizabeth M. Iglesias Spoke at the Hamline School of Law.

Professor Iglesias delivered the keynote address at the school’s fourth annual Juris Fiesta on March 8. Juris Fiesta is an annual celebration inaugurated by the Latino Law Student Association at Hamline Law School in order to generate needed funds for the LLSA student scholarship fund. Professor Iglesias’ keynote was entitled “Ethical Advocacy, Civic Courage and Administrative Evil: A LatCrit Perspective on the Challenges of Preparing Lawyers for a 21st Century Beyond the Shadows of Abu Ghraib.”
Professor Lili Levi Spoke at Copyright Law Conference.

Professor Levi spoke at the Future of Copyright Law Conference at the University of South Carolina School of Law on October 12, 2007. Her talk titled "Communications, Copyright, Culture," dealt with today's complex issues of copyright and communications policy. She was also a speaker in The Audrey R. Finkelstein UM Experience. Professor Levi's talk was titled "Copyright and Culture: Contending Perspectives."

Professor Martha R. Mahoney Prompted Justice Department Review of Florida Voting Procedures.

The Justice Department launched a review of Florida voting procedures after receiving documents from Professor Martha R. Mahoney, alerting them to errors in Florida election websites. Professor Mahoney was featured in a Tampabay's 10 article entitled “Feds approve Florida voting changes.”

Professor M. Minnette Massey Participated in ABA Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Program.

Professor Massey participated in an ABA Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Program on The Future of Class Action Litigation in America, on October 24 - 26, 2007 in Washington, DC. The program brought together the leading judges, academics, practitioners, and policy makers in the field to discuss and debate the most recent developments and the future of class action litigation in America.

Professor Bernard H. Oxman Re-elected as Co-Editor in Chief of the American Journal of International Law.


Additionally, Professor Oxman and Professor Lori Fisler Damrosch, the Henry L. Moses Professor of International Law and Organization at Columbia University, were re-elected on November 3, 2007 as co-editors in chief of the American Journal of International Law (AJIL) for a second five-year term.

Professor Irwin P. Stotzky Spoke as Distinguished Visiting Professor in the College Library Association’s 16th Annual Colloquium

Held at New College of Florida in Sarasota on March 10-12, 2008, the Colloquium has become widely recognized in academic circles for its dialogue on significant topics with well-known presenters. The colloquium focused on the Supreme Court. Professor Stotzky spoke in a session titled "The Power of the Court and its Impact on Society."

Professor William Twining Received AALS John Henry Wigmore Awards for Lifetime Achievement in Elucidating the Law of Evidence and the Process of Proof.

Visiting Professor William Twining was one of two recipients of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Evidence Section’s Inaugural John Henry Wigmore Awards for Lifetime Achievement in Elucidating the Law of Evidence and the Process of Proof. The awards, named for the pioneering legal scholar in the field of Evidence, were presented at the Evidence Section’s luncheon on January 5, 2008 at the AALS Annual Meeting in New York.

Professor William H. Widen Teaches Class at Harvard Law School.

Professor Widen taught a class on reorganization techniques to second and third-year Harvard law students taking Bankruptcy Law from Professor George Triantis. During the lecture, Professor Widen elaborated on the parameters of a context sensitive analysis of the concept of the firm, using illustrations
WILLIAM H. WIDEN,
Professor of Law, is a film fanatic. He even brings film clips to class to help his students understand topics like contracts licensing.

Born in southern California and raised in Prescott, Arizona, Professor Widen joined the Law School faculty in the Fall of 2002, and last spring became its most recently tenured member. Prior to joining the Law School, he practiced law for 17 years at Cravath, Swaine & Moore in New York, where he was a partner for 10 years. His practice areas included structured finance and secured lending. He was also an adjunct professor at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in New York, where he taught advanced secured transactions. He has a JD cum laude (1983) from Harvard Law School and an AB in Philosophy (1980) from Stanford University.

Professor Widen has published several scholarly publications including articles in the Business Lawyer, the George Washington Law Review, the American Bankruptcy Institution Law Review, the Cardozo Law Review, and the American Bankruptcy Law Journal. He has been featured in several national publications including Forbes, Business Week, the Washington Post, and the Houston Chronicle. Additionally, he is a member of the New York Bar, the American Bankruptcy Institute, and the American Association of Law Schools.

Within the Law School community, Professor Widen is a former advisor to the UM Law Review. He also assists Adjunct Professor Patricia Redmond by judging practice rounds for the Bankruptcy Assistance Clinic’s moot court teams. Nonetheless, Professor Widen says he enjoys interacting with the students most of all. “My favorite thing is spending time on the Bricks talking about problems that come up in class,” he said.


Professor Bruce J. Winick Named Honorary Distinguished Member of the American Psychology-Law Society.

In October 2007, Professor Winick, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of psychology and law, was named an honorary distinguished member of the American Psychology-Law Society, Division 41 of the American Psychological Association. Professor Winick is the inaugural recipient of this award.

Professor and Director of the Law Library Sally H. Wise Presented Paper at International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting.

Professor Wise spoke about the planning process for the International Cultural Heritage Law Bibliography (ICHLB) at the International Cultural Heritage Informatics Meeting held in Toronto, Canada from October 24-26, 2007. The conference, which meets every two years, surveys the changing synergies of culture, heritage, and informatics. She and UM Law School Professor Stephen Urice are Co-Principal Investigators under a planning grant from the Mellon Foundation to develop this proposed online research resource.
The University of Miami School of Law lost a treasured colleague and friend when Professor John T. Gaubatz passed away on June 13, 2007 after a courageous battle with cancer. Gaubatz was an inspirational professor, steadfast advocate of oral and written advocacy, and a nationally renowned expert in trusts and estates law.

Born April 21, 1942, in Denver, Professor Gaubatz graduated from Colorado State University in 1964 with a bachelor’s in physics and earned his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1967. Although he ranked 5th in his graduating class, he chose to devote his time to Moot Court rather than join the Law Review. In fact, it was through Moot Court that Professor Gaubatz met Kathy Ball and the couple married in 1968. “John was a giant in his heart, as well as in his profession,” Kathy explained. The couple’s only son, Daniel, died unexpectedly in his sleep in 1994.

Following graduation from law school in 1967, Professor Gaubatz entered private practice with a Denver firm and, from 1968 to 1970, he served as a captain in the United States Army. Professor Gaubatz entered academia in 1971, joining the faculty at Case Western Reserve University School of Law where he served as adviser to the Moot Court Board. He developed his administrative skills and style while serving as that school’s associate dean for academic affairs from 1973 to 1976, and first taught at the University of Miami School of Law in 1976.

After a one-year term as a visiting professor from Case Western Reserve, Gaubatz agreed with then Dean Soia Mentschikoff in 1977 that he belonged at the Law School on a permanent basis and quickly found himself serving as associate dean for alumni and development. Beginning in 1983, Professor Gaubatz directed the Philip E. Heckerling Institute on Estate Planning as well as the Law School’s Graduate Program in Estate Planning, two positions he held until the early 1990’s.

Professor Gaubatz’ substantive teaching areas included trusts and estates, federal estate and gift taxation, estate planning, and employee benefits law. Before focusing his attention on casebooks, Professor Gaubatz wrote numerous articles on moot court, estates, trusts, taxation, and taxation policy and The Moot Court Book, a student guide to appellate advocacy. He also served as the principle drafter for several proposals and projects by the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel to modify various sections of the Internal Revenue Code. In 1996, the United Arab Emirates University Officials selected him based on his moot court expertise to consult with them on ways to improve their law school curriculum.

A professor who taught from the heart more so than from the case books he co-authored, Gaubatz’ love for the law was contagious. “I describe John as the professor who convinced me that I really wanted to be a lawyer,” said Hilarie Bass, JD ‘81, the national chair of the 500-member litigation department of Greenberg Traurig and a UM Trustee. “John always reminded us that the law was not just about rules and statutes, it was about real people and how we as lawyers could learn to help them solve their problems. He taught his students to think about law in terms of how it affected peoples’ everyday lives. He helped you understand the real life stories behind the facts.”

Professor George Mundstock, a dear friend and colleague, recalled John’s reputation in the classroom. “He was one of the old-school greats - one of the last Socratic teachers, where they teach by asking questions instead of lecturing.” Bass couldn’t agree more. “John was the king of the Socratic method,” she remembered fondly.

After 30 years of dedicated service to the University of Miami School of Law, professor, Iron Arrow member and long-time Coral Gables resident John T. Gaubatz announced his retirement from classroom teaching in the Spring of 2007. Prior to the professor’s retirement announcement, the Law School’s Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board voted to name its 1L Competition in Gaubatz’s honor. At his retirement reception on April 24, 2007, Professor Gaubatz’s colleagues, former students, friends and family members filled the Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge to celebrate and recognize his 30 years of service to UM Law.

The University of Miami Law Review published a tribute to Professor Gaubatz in April 2008. The issue featured both personal tributes from Professor Gaubatz’ friends and students, as well as scholarship dedicated in his honor by many of his colleagues. For more information, please contact the Law Review at (305) 284-2464, or University of Miami Law Review, 1311 Miller Dr., BA49 Law Library, Coral Gables, FL 33124.
The Equal Justice Works Conference and Career Fair was held October 6 and 7, 2007 in Washington, D.C. at the Omni Shoreham. Marni Lennon, JD ’95, Assistant Dean for Public Interest and Pro Bono, Randee Breiter, Associate Director of the Career Planning Center, and Tamesha Keel, Assistant Director of the Career Planning Center, traveled to the conference with 22 students. The Equal Justice Works Conference provided students with access to an exceptional public interest career fair featuring public sector employers from around the country. Many students were fortunate enough to receive interviews and job offers as a result of their participation in the fair. The conference also featured educational programming with world renowned advocates serving on panels and discussing a range of public interest topics. Claudine Chen-Young, JD ’01, hosted a reception for the students and area alumni from the public sector.
UM LAW STUDENTS MAKE THEIR MARK AT MOOT COURT AND MOCK TRIAL COMPETITIONS

The performance of students from the University of Miami School of Law makes this year’s interschool competition season the most successful in the organization’s history.

The University of Miami School of Law student team of Joycelyn S. Brown, Sarah B. King, Christopher M. Lomax, and Jonathan R. Weiss won the Chester Bedell Memorial Mock Trial Competition, sponsored by the Trial Lawyers’ Section of the Florida Bar, during the Florida Bar’s Midyear Meeting in Miami on January 16 and 17, 2008. Eight law schools and sixteen teams participated in the Competition.

From February 28 through March 2, the teams garnered honors in two prestigious national competitions.

At the end of February, the Law School’s Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board swept the competition at the BMI/Cardozo Entertainment and Communications Law Moot Court Competition in Manhattan. The team, consisting of third-year students Chris Bonifay and Kiara Griggs, and second-year student Samantha Epstein, won the competition, beating teams from various law schools across the country, as well as a team from India. In addition, the team took home the Best Brief Award, and Chris Bonifay won the award for Best Oralist in the final round. This year marked the University of Miami School of Law’s first appearance at the BMI/Cardozo competition.

The same weekend, two other Charles C. Papy, Jr. teams traveled to Brooklyn, New York to compete in the New York regional round of the American Bar Association’s prestigious National Appellate Advocacy Competition (NAAC). The first team, consisting of third-year student Kristy Militello, along with second-year students Danielle Golino and Chris Pizzo, advanced to the highly competitive final round where they narrowly lost to Harvard Law School. The second team, consisting of third-year students Lindsay Berman and Richard Jones, as well as second-year student Felix Rodriguez, advanced to the semi-final round. UM Law was the only law school in the region with two teams in the final rounds.

In March, the University of Miami School of Law Black Law Student Association’s (BLSA) Mock Trial and Moot Court Teams competed in the National Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial and Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competitions in Detroit, Michigan.

Mock Trial Team members Joycelyn Brown, Christopher Lomax, Tephaine Whitmore, and Forton Wimbush, all third-year law students, advanced to the quarterfinal round of the Thurgood Marshall competition. Lomax and Brown are also members of the Charles C. Papy Moot Court Board and the University of Miami Mock Trial Team. Second-year students Vincent Alexander and Leigh-Ann Buchanan represented UM’s chapter of BLSA in the Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition. Both are members of the Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board. The duo advanced to the semi-final round, finishing among the top four teams in the nation.

Earlier that month, a team from the Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board made an impressive showing at the 16th Annual Chief Judge Conrad B. Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition. The event, which took place in New York City, is the nation’s only moot court competition devoted entirely to bankruptcy.

The UM Law team of Sergei Kotelnikov, Shannon Puopolo, and Ted D’Apuzzo advanced to the quarterfinals and obtained the second highest “best brief” overall score. UM Law 3L student, Megan Connor, also won the best oral advocate award at the competition.
2007 ORDER OF THE COIF INDUCTEES

On November 7, 2007, the University of Miami School of Law welcomed the newest 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 congratulate the following on their induction into the Order of the Coif:

Andrew L. Adler  Colleen Elan  Stacy J. Harrison  Marlyse Y. McQuillen
Aracely Alicea-Clark  Colleen Elrod  Meghan K. Jacobson  Esther S. Meisels
Francisco Armada  Kimberly Brown Eve  Mary McLean Jordan
Ethan J. Barlieb  Barrie L. Filhaber  Jennifer M. Kennedy
Ashley E. Bruce  Amanda S. Frazer  David Loren Krypel
Jennifer B. Caldarelli  Kathryn M. Gissy  David L. Luck
Douglas K. Daniels  Nicole W. Golden  Abigail Marie Lyle
Danielle Diaz  Jason L. Goldsmith  Thomas E. MacWright
Tiffany A. Donaldson  Lauren J. Grous  Allison C. McMillen

From left to right: Dean Dennis O. Lynch, Kimberly Brown Eve, Barrie L. Filhaber, Esther S. Meisels, Associate Dean Donna Coker
SOLD! Alumni Support Boosts 9th Annual HOPE Auction, Benefit Supports HOPE Fellows

On October 25, 2007, alumni, faculty, students, local professionals, and patrons gathered at the Lowe Art Museum to lift a glass, enjoy hors d’œuvres, and benefit the HOPE Fellows Program. Designed to enable law students to secure positions at public interest agencies locally, nationally, and abroad, Fellows assist a growing population of marginalized and underrepresented clients.

This past summer, 15 students traveled worldwide to promote access to justice and to enhance the delivery of legal services. According to HOPE Post-Graduate Fellow Kevin Probst, JD ’07, “One hundred percent of auction proceeds fund fellowships, advocacy, and community programs.”

This year’s online, silent, and live items included several vacation packages, hot air balloon rides, kayak lessons with Olympian Benjie Lewis, and golf adventures in addition to dinners with cherished professors, deans, and UM President Donna Shalala.

Assistant Dean for Public Interest and Pro Bono, Marni Lennon, JD ’95, emphasized, “The generosity of our alumni, donors, students, community partners, faculty, staff, and administration made this year the best auction ever.” We look forward to alumni support of next year’s auction – and of all HOPE projects!

"We are so pleased to have HOPE as a partner in making sure that access to justice is a reality, not just a dream in Miami."

- Sharon Langer, JD ’79, Executive Director, Legal Aid Society

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THE JAMES L. FERRARO ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Savvy in both his business endeavors and the practice of law, attorney James L. Ferraro knows a solid investment when he sees it. From fine cuisine to arena football, he uses his education and background to make good business choices. His success has allowed him to invest generously in his community and profession in a variety of ways, including his recent gift of $600,000 to establish an endowed scholarship fund at the University of Miami School of Law. The Ferraro Scholarship will join the Reed, Leef and Mentschikoff scholarships as an important tool to assist the Law School in recruiting outstanding students.

A faithful 'Cane and walk-on to the UM Football team, Greenwich, Connecticut native Jim Ferraro moved to Miami to attend college, obtaining his Bachelor of Business Administration, '78, Master of Science in Accounting, '79, and Juris Doctor, '83 at the University of Miami. It was during his time as a law student that he first met UM quarterback, Bernie Kosar. As a registered sports agent, Jim represented several notable players from UM's early championship years such as Albert Bentley and Eddie Brown. But Bernie Kosar was the one that got away.

“I interviewed to represent Bernie as his agent, but he went with someone else,” said Jim. “It was somewhat of a shock, but it was also a blessing in disguise that marked a major turning point in my life. I started to focus more on my trial practice.”

Following his law school graduation, Jim, who is also a Certified Public Accountant, worked for a civil litigation defense firm. A short time later, he decided he would rather advocate on behalf of plaintiffs, and launched his own practice.

“I was two years out of law school when I first opened my own firm,” he said. “I remember the exact date - May 13, 1985.”

By 1990, his interest in sports representation had waned, and he had built a successful practice in mass tort and wrongful death litigation. His two firms, Kelley & Ferraro in Ohio and The Ferraro Law Firm in Coral Gables, are handling nearly 50,000 asbestos cases, and are known nationwide for their environmental toxic tort practice. In 1996, Jim made American legal history when he tried the first case successfully prosecuted against a chemical company for causing a birth defect. The trial was broadcast in its entirety on Court TV and garnered worldwide media attention. In 1997, Jim was named a national finalist for Trial Lawyer of the Year.

As his legal practice expanded, his business, political and philanthropic endeavors also grew. In a nod to his Italian heritage, Jim became part owner in Randazzo’s Little Italy family-style Italian restaurant in Coral Gables; and he is the owner (Kosar, the president) of the Cleveland franchise of the Arena Football League. An avowed Democrat, Jim also counts President Bill Clinton and Senator Hillary Clinton, as well as senator and former presidential hopeful John Edwards, among his friends, and is an active member of the Democratic Party.

“I was always interested in politics, but as my legal practice took off, I became more involved,” he explained. “It was important to me personally and professionally, particularly as tort reform became a bigger issue.”

Jim is also noted for his significant charitable contributions. He donates to more than 50 charities every year, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Children’s Home Society, the Jackson Memorial Foundation, of which he sits on their Board of Directors, and the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis. For his philanthropy, he was inducted in 1999 to the Order of Saint John Knights of Malta, a worldwide organization dedicated to helping the sick and the poor. In 2001, he was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, given to U.S. citizens whose work and volunteer efforts help foster strong ties between various ethnic groups.

“The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is very important to me,” said Jim. “I am descended from Italian immigrants, and I am very proud of my heritage. Ellis Island is the ultimate symbol of freedom to many immigrants who have come to America and worked hard to build better lives for themselves.”

“Receiving the Ellis Island Medal also reminded me of why I do what I do,” he added. “So many of my clients are blue collar workers, working hard to build better lives. My law firm helps fund and pursue their lawsuits on a contingency basis, so they can take on major corporations that they otherwise could not, to help them recover from their injuries. Without our help, most of them would not be able to afford a lawyer. Knowing that I can help make a difference in their lives gives me enormous pride and satisfaction.”

Now, his philanthropic work has come full circle back to the University of Miami School of Law, with his $600,000 gift to the Law School to establish a new endowed scholarship.

“Scholarships, in particular endowed scholarships, are vital to our commitment in bringing the most talented students to the School of Law,” said Donna E. Shalala, President of the University of Miami. “I am grateful to Jim Ferraro for establishing this scholarship at the University of Miami.”

The scholarship, which will be geared towards students who plan to pursue careers in civil litigation, will help the Law School attract the best and the brightest students.

“Trial law is my focus, and I want to help form the next generation of trial lawyers,” Jim explained. “I attribute my professional success today to the education I received at the University of Miami. I would not be here without my law degree in particular. I loved the time I spent there. I learned so much, with professors who really knew how to engage the students.”

“The University of Miami School of Law is a great institution where I received an outstanding education. I want to give something back. I want to help build it up, to take it to the next level of greatness.”
DUANE MORRIS LLP SUPPORTS CHARLES C. PAPY, JR. MOOT COURT

The law firm of Duane Morris LLP donated $5,000 in support of the University of Miami School of Law’s Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court. The Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board, which is funded substantially by Charles Papy, III, allows students to gain valuable advocacy experience before starting their careers as practicing attorneys. This year’s Moot Court Board has had an outstanding showing at various competitions around the country.

THE JUDY PROLLER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Judy Proller, JD ’84, has established an endowed scholarship to assist single mothers in Law School. Preference will be given to women who are working towards their JD while raising their children.

“My while I was a student, I got divorced and was facing the prospect of raising my child as a single mother while still in school,” said Proller. “The University of Miami School of Law was very generous in helping me to complete my studies so I could be a self-sufficient single parent, and I am so pleased to be able to give back to the Law School to help others who find themselves in a similar position.”

THE GEORGE N. LEADER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

George Leader, JD ’51, a prominent criminal defense attorney, has generously endowed a scholarship at the University of Miami School of Law to establish the George N. Leader Endowed Scholarship. It will provide financial assistance to students who need it in order to complete their studies.

“My education at the University of Miami School of Law was very valuable, and has enabled me to establish a thriving career,” said Leader. “Establishing this scholarship allows me to pass along the same opportunity to future attorneys. Cost should not be an obstacle to an outstanding legal education.”

MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS

The law firm of Morgan, Lewis, and Bockius has established a scholarship for minority law students involved with the HOPE Public Interest Center who are dedicated to public service and advocacy. The scholarship will be awarded to two students each academic year. The 2007-2008 recipients were Edlyn Hernandez and Allison Perez. The recipients for 2008-2009 are Cassandra Spring and Rekha Rangachari.

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On November 9, 2007, the Donor Scholarship Luncheon was held in the Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge at the School of Law. The Law School deans hosted the luncheon which honored the donors of named Law School scholarships and their recipients.
UM Law alumni enjoyed a chance to take a break and talk to their colleagues at a Breakfast hosted by the University of Miami Law Alumni Association during the 42nd Annual Heckerling Institute on Estate Planning sponsored by the Law School held in January in Orlando. The attendees had an opportunity at the Breakfast to talk about the Institute, the premier conference on estate planning in the country, chat with some of the current Estate Planning LLM students in attendance, and hear an update from Dean Lynch regarding the School of Law. Some of the attendees also had a chance to speak with the staff of the UM Office of Estate and Gift Planning, which co-hosted the Breakfast and were on hand to talk about charitable planned giving. Planned giving is an important component of estate planning, as it allows a donor to invest in the future of the University of Miami School of Law while reaping benefits such as a lesser tax burden and increasing income. The Office of Estate and Gift Planning can help design a charitable gift plan that benefits the Law School while fulfilling the donor's personal financial goals. For further information, please contact Cynthia L. Beamish, Esq. at (305) 284-2914 or cbeamish@miami.edu.
Dear Friends:

You may think, another fundraising pitch… but this is more. This is about education. This is about taking pride in the education you received. Membership in the Dean’s Circle not only benefits the University of Miami School of Law, it also benefits the member. There are intangible benefits to the members of the Dean’s Circle such as demonstrating the confidence in their education by enhancing the prestige of the School; ensuring that the legacy of excellence passes to the next generation of law students; investment in programs that make a difference in the world; and serving as an example and leader to others.

There are tangible benefits as well like special invitations to Dean’s Circle and Law School events, discounted CLE credits, and recognition as a significant donor to the School of Law. Membership is $500 annually for those who have graduated within the last nine years and $1,000 or more annually for others. Membership also entitles you to membership in, and to the benefits of, the University of Miami’s President’s Circle.

The impact of your gift to the Law School is immediate and profound. Not only is alumni giving a factor considered by ranking publications, it represents funds that directly benefit the students and allows the Law School to innovate and excel.

I invite you to join us if you are not already a member and remind you to renew your membership for the upcoming year.

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Perez, JD ’93
Chair, Dean’s Circle Committee

Joining the Dean’s Circle

An annual gift of $1,000 or more to the Law Annual Fund, to a scholarship or to any programmatic activity of the Law School entitles you to membership in the Dean’s Circle.

Dean’s Circle membership also entitles you to recognition as a member of the University of Miami President’s Circle.

- Platinum ($10,000 and up annually)
- Gold ($5,000 to $9,999)
- Silver ($2,500 to $4,999)
- Bronze ($1,000 to $2,499)
- Judges* ($500 to $999)
- Protégé ($500 to $999 for alumni who graduated within the past 10 years)

To become a member of the Dean’s Circle, please call 1-866-99UMLAW, e-mail alumni@law.miami.edu, or log on to www.law.miami.edu/alumni.

*This gift level does not qualify for membership in the President’s Circle.
On February 12, 2008, the University of Miami School of Law hosted a luncheon for members of the Dean’s Circle at the Banker’s Club in downtown Miami. Visiting professor Jan Paulsson was the featured speaker.

Paulsson is a partner and head of the public international law and international arbitration groups at the international firm of Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. Professor Paulsson holds an AB from Harvard University, a JD from Yale Law School, and a Diplôme d’études supérieures spécialisées from the University of Paris, and is the author of numerous works on the subject of international arbitration.

Currently, he serves as the president of the London Court of Arbitration, as President and a Judge of the World Bank Administrative Tribunal, and as a member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration. He has acted as counsel or arbitrator in some 400 arbitration proceedings, including as lead counsel to the government of Bahrain in its land and maritime territory dispute with Qatar in front of the International Court of Justice; as co-agent of the state of Eritrea in its maritime boundary case against Yemen before the PCA; and as advocate for Barbados in its 2005 arbitration against Trinidad and Tobago under the Law of the Sea Convention. In addition, he has acted as lead counsel to the International Olympic Committee in many arbitrations.

Professor Paulsson taught a five-week workshop on International Arbitration at the Law School during the Spring 2008 semester, and is scheduled to return as a visiting professor in the Spring of 2009.

On April 17, 2008, Leon Patricios, JD ’94 and Michelle Ramirez-Patricios, JD ’95, hosted a Dean’s Circle reception at their Coral Gables home.
2007-2008 PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Your University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association is here for you. Our Board of Directors and Alumni Association office staff are committed to providing our alumni with excellent programming, CLE seminars, judicial receptions, homecoming events, reunions, and numerous special events throughout the year. We invite you to visit our website at www.law.miami.edu to see our calendar of events and benefits created for you. You can also view photos taken at our prior events and see many of your UM Law friends, colleagues, and classmates at our events and in the site’s Class Notes.

Dean Dennis O. Lynch and our Alumni staff and I have been traveling to recognize many of our alumni for their professional achievements and accomplishments and service to their communities. In June, we attended the Florida Bar Annual Meeting and gave Alumni Awards to our alumni who have served as presidents of the Florida Bar and our current Florida Bar President, Francisco R. Angones, JD ’76. We also presented our Alumni Achievement Award to Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court R. Fred Lewis, JD ’72. In August, we recognized Chief Judge of the Southern District of Florida, Federico A. Moreno, JD ’78, here at UM’s Lowe Art Museum. In early October, we presented Bennett H. Brummer, JD ’65, with our Achievement Award at our annual Judicial Reception. Later in October, we traveled to Washington, DC, to recognize our alumni Mark E. Brodsky, JD ’68, and Robert A. Ades, JD ’73, and in November presented Dean C. Colson, JD ’77, with our Award at his 30 year class reunion during homecoming week. At our Association’s 58th Annual Homecoming Breakfast, we recognized Paul T. Dec, JD ’77, for his services to UM and our community as UM’s Athletic Director. In January, we traveled to Orlando to present our Achievement Awards to George N. Jahn, JD ’48, and Holmes Russell Troutman, JD ’58, for his service as president of the Florida Bar in 1977-78.

As the University continues its search for our new Law School Dean, Alumni representatives will meet with the candidates to help ensure that we find the best candidate to take Dean Lynch’s position. This year’s Alumni Association gala dinner at the Biltmore was held in Dean Lynch’s honor on May 8, 2008, recognizing his superb leadership and accomplishments as Dean of our Law School. We are all pleased to know that Dean Lynch will continue to be a professor at the University of Miami School of Law.

Your Alumni Board is working hard to complete our Association’s Strategic Plan during the next few months. This 10 year plan will establish our Mission Statement and road map to continue to promote the excellence of our Association in the future. Your Board will contact many of our members to identify our Association’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, to obtain as much information as possible to use to create our strategic plan. If we call you to discuss your thoughts, please help us with this special project.

One of our main goals is to improve our standing in relation to other US law schools. A key factor in how a law school is ranked is the percentage of alumni who are donors to the school. Even a small donation of $25 can improve our standing if the number of donors increases. We encourage you to help our alma mater improve our standing by becoming a donor. For those of you who want to become members of the Dean’s Circle, an annual donation of $1,000 entitles you to join us for special events throughout the year and recognition in all of our donor publications and at the entrance to our law library. As a Dean’s Circle member, you automatically become a member of the University of Miami’s President’s Circle, which includes invitations to special UM events and recognition from the University.

Again, your Association is here for you. We invite you to visit our website and return to our beautiful campus in November for our 59th Annual Homecoming Breakfast & Morning Spirits and our class reunions. We are here for you.

Lewis J. Levey, JD ’86
President, University of Miami School of Law Alumni Association.
On June 28, 2007, Dean Dennis O. Lynch and Law Alumni Association President Lewis J. Levey, JD ’86, hosted a reception at The Florida Bar Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. The Honorable R. Fred Lewis, JD ’72, Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, was presented with the Alumni Achievement Award, as was Francisco R. Angones, AB ’72, JD ’76, President of The Florida Bar.

Angones and several other alumni who have previously served as President of The Florida Bar were honored with Alumni Leadership Awards in recognition of their service to The Florida Bar. In addition to Angones, recipients included Tod N. Aronovitz, JD ’74, Edith Osman, JD ’83, Holmes Russell Troutman, JD ’58, and Burton Young, JD ’50, as well as the late Edward J. Atkins, JD ’51, and Sam Smith, JD ’60.

The Florida Bar 2007 Pro Bono Service Award recipients were also presented with Leadership Awards. They included Hogan & Hartson LLP (Law Firm Commendation), The Honorable Lauren L. Brodie, JD ’83 (Distinguished Judicial Service Award), and Rita Chansen, JD ’87 and Deborah M. Smith, JD ’88 (President’s Pro Bono Service Award.)

At the event, UM Law alumni who are members of The Florida Bar Board of Governors were also recognized for their service and dedication: Frank Angones, Steven E. Chaykin, JD ’76, Ian M. Comisky, LLM ’84, Ervin A. Gonzalez, JD ’85, Nancy W. Gregoire, JD ’84, Dennis Kainen, JD ’81, Benedict P. Kuehne, JD ’77, Laird Lile, LLM ’87, and Carl B. Schwait, JD ’76.
On August 23, 2007, the Law Alumni Association paid tribute to The Honorable Federico A. Moreno, JD ’78, Chief Judge, United States District Court, Southern District of Florida. Judge Moreno was presented with an Alumni Achievement Award during a reception held at the University of Miami’s Lowe Art Museum.

A native of Venezuela, Judge Moreno grew up in Indiana. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Notre Dame, he obtained his JD from the University of Miami School of Law, where he was elected as the first Hispanic president of the Student Bar Association.

Prior to joining the bench, Judge Moreno was an Assistant Federal Defender and was a partner at the law firm of Thornton, Rothman & Moreno. In 1986, Governor Bob Graham appointed him to the County Court for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit. A year later, he was appointed by Governor Bob Martinez to the Circuit Court for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit, where he served with distinction in the Criminal, General Jurisdiction, and Appellate Divisions. In 1990, he was appointed to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, where he has served on multiple committees including the Executive and Budget Committee on Defender Services.

Judge Moreno has received numerous awards, including The Honorable Gerald Kogan Judicial Distinction Award, the United Way “People Helping People” Award, the Hispanic National Bar Association Judicial Recognition Award, the Cuban American Bar Association’s “Paver” Goderich Professionalism Award, and the University of Miami Lawyer of the Americas Award. He has been an adjunct faculty member at the University of Miami School of Law since 2001.
BOCA RATON

On October 18, 2007, Law Parents & Partners committee members, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Schwarzberg, hosted a cocktail reception in honor of Dean Dennis O. Lynch. The event, which was attended by other law parents and alumni, was held at their home in Boca Raton, Florida.

CHICAGO

On September 27, 2007, University of Miami School of Law alumni in Chicago, Illinois, were treated to a cocktail reception featuring a special lecture by UM Law professor Irwin P. Stotzky. The event was hosted at the law firm of Drinker Biddle Gardner Carton.

ORLANDO

On January 15, 2008, Dean Dennis O. Lynch, along with the Law Alumni Association, the Attorneys' Title Insurance Fund, and the law firm of Akerman Senterfitt, hosted a reception in honor of Orlando-area UM Law alumni. Two alumni were honored with Alumni Achievement Awards: George N. Jahn, JD ’48, and Holmes Russell Troutman, JD. ’58.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

On October 25, 2007, Mark E. Brodsky, JD ’68, hosted a reception for Washington, D.C.-area UM Law alumni in honor of Dean Dennis O. Lynch at the Chevy Chase Club in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Brodsky and Robert Ades, JD ’73, were both honored with Alumni Achievement Awards.
ALUMNI

Homecoming

Class of 1967

Lee Pender, Bruce M. Lyons & Thomas H. Seymour

Doyle Fierro, Mary Lu Bürner, Hon. Eugene J. Fierro & Dean Jeannette F. Hausler JD ’53

Linda & Jeffrey Fine, Dean Jeannette F. Hausler JD ’53

Class of 1977

Paul Dee, Larry Fierec & Joe Matthews

Sherry & Harley Tropin & Laurie Silvern

Joe Matthews, Susan Minor & Marc Rubn

Louis Levy JD ’86 President Law Alumni Association, Debbie Wasserman, Martin W. Wasserman

Penny & Ted Brill, Allen Richand & Claire C. Kouch

Top: Larry Fierec, Joe Matthews, Andrea Wales, Louis Todisco, Bottom: Patti Fierec, Enidette Todisco, Judy Wales

James Oppenheimer, Larry Fierec, Louis B. Todisco, Andrea Wales

Harley Tropin, Laurie Silvern, Dean Dennis O. Lynch, Louis Levy, James Oppenheimer

Mark Onnick, Dean Colen and Robert L. Jamerson, Jr.

Reunion

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Total

CLASS
Michael T

CLASS
James Oppenheimer, Laurie Silvern, Harley Tropin, Dean Dennis O. Lynch, Lewis Levey, James Oppenheimer

CLASS
Rana G

CLASS
Duane M. Stearns, Fowler Whit

CLASS
Mellon United Nation Community

Gibraltar Private

Kenneth A. Gordon, Esq. and Morgan, So

Lunny & Co

Richman

CBRE

Fowler Whit

Action Video
ALUMNI

Homecoming

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Nachwalter

OF 1977
Tenenbaum & Silvers Tropin

OF 1982
Gorzeck

OF 1987
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National Bank Fund at Dade
Bank and Trust

Esq. and Mark A. Levy,
Tatum, Stanley, Crosby, LLP

Greer, PA

Medley

Be Burnett, PA

o Productions

Class of 1982

Geoffrey King Robinson, Dorian Denburg, Dina N. Celloni, Monica L. Salis

Edith Osman, Matthew Hodes, Julie Freigels

Noel & Marianne Nation, Kathleen Mahoney, Arlene Brummer, Denise V. Powers

Dean Jeanette F. Hauder JD '83, Dorian Denburg, David Deehl

Laurie Riemer, Jeffrey & Donna Benjamin, Michele & David Soffner

Gloria & Gabriel Sanchez, Asila & Jorge L. Forn, Joseph Martin Dobkin

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Class of 1987

Renee Siskin Wiser, Aliis Jacobson Lath, Ana Cela Harris

Gregory & Kimberly Treadrich, Joel Blumberg

Elizabeth Young, Ellen & Scott Saul, James Weinle

Dena Jeanette E. Hauser JD '53, Pedro Fuentes-Cid

Scott & Ellen Saul, Jill & Adam Palmer, Chuck Gaspari, Dennis Harbor

Manuel Fernandez, Chuck Gaspari, Elizabeth Young, Dennis Harbor

Ana Cela Harris & Alyyn Sanchez

Class of 1997

Kathryn Oldroy, Maury Udell, Jeffrey Flanagan

Eric Spett and Elizabeth F. Schwartz

Marlene Rodriguez, Manny Gonzalez, Alfredo Borgen, Andy Herrera and Mario Arango

Jennifer Thader and Stephanie White

Maury Udell, Jason M. Wunderer and Jason A. Sexton
TotalBank was the generous corporate sponsor of the Law Alumni Association’s 59th Annual Homecoming Breakfast, held on November 3, 2007 in the Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge and Law School Quadrangle.

The Honorable Jose E. Martinez, JD ’65, served as Master of Ceremony. Jeff Weinstock, JD ’96, LLM ’03 and Vice President of the Law Alumni Association, was Homecoming Chair this year. Donna Shalala, President of the University of Miami, briefly addressed the alumni, and Paul Dee, JD ’77, University of Miami Athletic Director, gave a brief presentation regarding our Athletic Program.

During the festivities, Lewis J. Levey, JD ’86, President of the Law Alumni Association, along with Lucinda Hofmann, JD ’91, President-Elect, and Jeff Weinstock presented the Thomas Davidson, III Memorial Service Award to Paul Dee and Barbara Perez, JD ’93, Chair of the Dean’s Circle Committee. The Henry “Lat” Latimer Professionalism Award was presented to H.T. Smith, JD ’73, prominent attorney, loyal alumnus, and member of the Board of Trustees of the University of Miami, and Alvin F. Lindsay, JD ’91, received the Past President’s Award.
On October 3, 2007, the University of Miami School of Law and the Law Alumni Association hosted the annual Miami-Dade County Judicial Reception at the Mellon Financial Center in Miami. The reception brought Law School faculty, students and alumni together with local judges and attorneys to honor the judiciary. The Bank of New York Mellon sponsored the event, and we thank them for their ongoing generous support.

The Law Alumni Association presented the Honorable Bennett H. Brummer, JD ’65, Miami-Dade County Public Defender, with the Law Alumni Association’s “Alumni Achievement Award,” in recognition of his extraordinary service and dedication. Brummer has served as the Miami-Dade County Public defender for 32 years.
LAW ALUMNI JUDICIAL RECEPTIONS

BROWARD

On April 10, 2008, the University of Miami School of Law hosted an Alumni Reception at the Tower Club in Fort Lauderdale. The event honored the judiciary, and the Honorable Martin R. Dishowitz, JD ’75, received the Alumni Achievement Award.

On March 6, 2008, the Law School hosted an alumni reception at the Governor’s Club in Palm Beach. The event honored the judiciary, and the Honorable Mark E. Polen, JD ’69, received the Alumni Achievement Award.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

PALM BEACH

On March 6, 2008, the Law School hosted an alumni reception at the Governor’s Club in Palm Beach. The event honored the judiciary, and the Honorable Mark E. Polen, JD ’69, received the Alumni Achievement Award.
Alumni from the Class of 1957 gathered for a great reunion weekend in Miami last May. The festivities began with the Class of 1957 Reunion Dinner at the University of Miami’s Lowe Art Museum, where guests enjoyed the music of Joe Donato and Friends. Reunion Committee Chair Stuart A. Markus acted as Master of Ceremony, and Dean Dennis O. Lynch and Professor Massey delivered greetings to the guests before they went on to share their memories of their time at the University of Miami School of Law. The following evening the members of the Class of 1957 attended the Law School’s reception for the graduating students from the Class of 2007, held on the Baron de Hirsch Meyer Law School Quadrangle. The weekend culminated with a very moving Commencement ceremony, where members of the Class of 1957 were invited to robe and march with the faculty and new graduates.

We extend our gratitude to the reunion committee for their hard work: Stuart A. Markus, Harold Peter Barkas, Tala Colias Engel, Sonia Pressman Fuentes, Alvin Goodman, Roderick Knott, Sheldon B. Palley, Jack Samuel Ring, Charles A. Sullivan, and Irving J. Whitman.

We also wish to thank our generous sponsors for their support of this event: The Lowe Art Museum, Mellon Bank, Sheldon Palley, Jack Samuel Ring, Southern Wine & Spirits, and Alvin and Rusty Goodman.

You can enjoy additional photos of this reunion and view the dinner program by visiting our website at www.law.miami.edu/alumni.
SONIA PRESSMAN FUENTES, LLB ’57

Feminist, writer, public speaker, and lawyer, Sonia Pressman Fuentes, LLB ’57, graduated top of her class at the Law School at a time when only 3% of law graduates nationwide were female.

Fuentes went on to work as an attorney for the U.S. Justice Department and the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), and in 1965 she was hired as the first female attorney in the Office of the General Counsel at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). The EEOC was created to enforce Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, gender, and national origin. However, according to Fuentes, many EEOC officials were reluctant to enforce the statute as it applied to women. Fuentes became known for her insistence that the EEOC implement the gender discrimination prohibitions so as to further equal rights for women, drafting a number of the EEOC’s initial landmark guidelines and decisions. The EEOC later honored Fuentes with a Superior Performance Award for her dedicated efforts.

In 1966, while still working at the EEOC, she helped establish the National Organization for Women (NOW). In her memoir, Eat First – You Don’t Know What They’ll Give You, The Adventures of an Immigrant Family and Their Feminist Daughter, Fuentes wrote, “The country needed an organization to fight for women the way the NAACP fought for African Americans.” She went on to become a founder of the Women’s Equity Action League (WEAL) and Federally Employed Women (FEW). Following her work with the EEOC, Fuentes held positions with GTE Service Corporation, a subsidiary of GTE (which merged with Bell Atlantic in 2000 to form Verizon), TRW Inc., and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

In 1993, Fuentes retired from practicing law, but she is far from the typical retiree. “The life of the retiree has changed,” said Fuentes, who spoke at the 12th Annual Conference of the International Association of Yiddish Clubs in La Jolla, California, in October 2008. She has pursued an active career as a writer and public speaker since retiring. Previously working as an attorney volunteer for the Montgomery County Human Relations Commission in Rockville, Maryland, Fuentes has since moved to Sarasota, Florida, where she currently resides.

Filmmaker Jennifer Lee features Fuentes in a documentary film about the American women’s liberation movement called Wavelength. Additionally, Australian playwright Neil Cole is developing a play based on Fuentes’ memoir. The Veteran Feminists of America (VFA) honored Fuentes with the VFA Medal of Honor in 1996 for her efforts to improve the status of women. On June 9, the VFA will honor Fuentes again, along with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and 27 other feminist icons, in a special event at the Harvard Club in New York City.

“I did well in my career,” said Fuentes, “and I got an excellent foundation for it at the University of Miami School of Law.”

CLASS OF 1959

BORIS KOZOLCHYK, JD ’59, hosted a meeting on May 3, 2007 for high level government officials of the Honduran government at the National Law Center for Inter-American Free trade.

HON. GERALD MAGER, JD’59, has been serving as a mediator, arbitrator, and special magistrate for over 15 years. He is currently sitting on the Fourth DCA in Florida.

CLASS OF 1968

RICHARD HAUSER, JD ’68, was named Boeing’s senior attorney in Washington, D.C.

CLASS OF 1969

JAMES BRINDELL, JD ’69, was named in Chambers and Partners’ Directory of America’s Leading Business Lawyers. He was also selected for inclusion in the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America in the area of Environmental Law, Land Use & Zoning Law.

CLASS OF 1970

RICHARD M. DUNN, JD ’70, opened the Miami office of Cozen O’Connor, and is currently serving on the firm’s Board of Directors.

CLASS OF 1971

HON. LESTER LANGER, JD ’71, was appointed by Lt. Governor Frank Broward to the Blueprint Commission to study juvenile justice reform in Florida.

CLASS OF 1972

MARK LEBAN, JD ’72, released the Criminal Benchguide for Circuit Judges, which is used by criminal circuit judges in Florida.

CLASS OF 1973

STUART Z. GROSSMAN, JD ’73, was selected by Lawdragon as one of the top 500 attorneys in the United States.

GORDON MANFIELD, JD ’73, is currently the Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

CLASS OF 1967

JACK BLUMENFELD, JD ’67, was named a “Delaware Super Lawyer” by Law and Business Media.

EUGENE J. FIERRO, JD ’67, was awarded the Diploma of Judicial Skills from the American Academy of Judicial Education.

CLASS OF 1970

RICHARD M. DUNN, JD ’70, opened the Miami office of Cozen O’Connor, and is currently serving on the firm’s Board of Directors.

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**CLASS OF 1974**

LEWIS B. FREEMAN, JD ’74, received the 2007 Ultimate CEO Award from the South Florida Business Journal.

THOMAS R. MCGUIGAN, JD ’74, was ranked in the top tier of capital markets and corporate governance lawyers in Florida in the 2008 edition of Who’s Who Legal: Florida.

STUART SILVER, JD ’74, was recently named a Member of the Board at Temple Beth Emet in Cooper City, FL.

CLEMENTE VAZQUEZ-BELLO, JD ’74, was named in Chambers and Partners’ Directory of American Leading Business Lawyers. He was also selected for inclusion in the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America for Banking Law.

**CLASS OF 1975**

THOMAS N. HYDE’S, JD ’75, firm, Thomas Newcomb Hyde, received the “Have a Heart Award” for pro bono service from the Hillsborough County Bar Association.

H. GEORGE KAGAN, JD ’75, was appointed to a two year term as the chair of the National Workers’ Compensation Committee of the Defense Research Institute.

ALAN KLUGER, JD ’75, was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2008 in the area of litigation and dispute resolution.

BERNARD SIEGEL, JD ’75, has become actively involved in the area of cloning, stem cell research, and the law. He has participated in various conferences and summits regarding these issues.

MICHAEL O. WEISZ, JD ’75, joined the Miami office of Berger Singerman as a shareholder with the Dispute Resolution Team.

HARRISON J. GORDON, JD ’75, was selected as one of the Top 100 Super Lawyers of New Jersey.

**CLASS OF 1976**

ELIOT ABBOTT, JD ’76, was recently named a lead attorney in the newly formed Distressed Asset Group at Kluger, Peretz, Kaplan & Berlin.

**MARK E. BRODSKY, JD ’68**

Someone once said, “Washington is filled with young men who came to do good, most of whom ended up doing well.” Certainly this applies to Mark E. Brodsky, JD ’68, whose unconventional career path has led him to professional success and personal satisfaction. After practicing securities law with the SEC for three-and-a-half years, the logical next step would have been to launch a career at a big corporate law firm. “I was more entrepreneurial,” recalled Brodsky, who instead bought and renovated old houses in Washington, D.C. “With the capital I accrued, I went into the antiques business,” he said. Then, he and four other attorneys purchased the old Hungarian Embassy, and started practicing law there. “My clients were young entrepreneurs. Instead of paying me, they gave me shares in their deals.” Thus began Brodsky’s career in real estate and rent control law. “I’m still in deals with some of those people,” he attested.

Admittedly, the entrepreneurial spirit runs in Brodsky’s blood—he’s the uncle owned the Miami-based Black Angus Steakhouse chain, and his father found success in a second career as an antiques dealer. In fact, his decision to attend UM Law School was influenced by his restaurateur uncle. “He promised me that if I came to Miami and did well, he would help me, so I went,” said Brodsky. Notwithstanding, Brodsky credits his success to his experience at the Law School. “I had a Corporations professor whose reputation and stature opened doors for UM Law students to get staff attorney positions with the SEC and the U.S. Attorney’s office—jobs that in 1968 were open only to Ivy League grads,” Brodsky recalled.

As the school’s status has soared, he finds it “extremely gratifying that it’s in the running with the Ivy Leagues.” Brodsky knows this firsthand, as he is active in mentoring young students, helping them with law school admissions applications and offering career advice. “There are many career paths—some of them unconventional—that converge on success,” he counseled.

In Washington, Brodsky readily opens his doors to host alumni events. “I’m always happy to accommodate my UM alums and make them feel welcome in Washington,” said Brodsky, who manages to spend a nice amount of time in Miami at his Grove Isle condo. “I love Miami and have strong connections to the Law School here,” he said. More importantly, “I really do attribute whatever success I’ve had to UM.”

STEVEN E. CHAYKIN, JD ’76, was elected President of the University of Miami Citizens Board.

JAMES W. JARVIS, JD ’76, joined Rasco, Reininger, Perez, Esquenazi & Vigil as of counsel to the firm.

MARTIN PRESS, LLM ’76, became a Senate Club Member for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee in December 2006. He also was named in Chambers and Partners’ Directory of America’s Leading Business Lawyers and was named a top taxation attorney by South Florida Legal Guide 2008.

**CLASS OF 1977**

SHELDON H. LEINICKE, JD ’77, will serve as the program chair for the Defense Research Institute’s Fire and Casualty seminar.

JOSEPH MATTHEWS, JD ’77, went to Mongolia as part of a program that sends experienced attorneys to former Soviet satellite nations and republics, where he lectured on international arbitration and the rule of law to law students at National University of Mongolia’s School of Law.

RONALD RAVIKOFF, JD ’77, was elected co-chair of the Florida Association of Managing Partners.

**CLASS OF 1978**

DONALD N. ISKEN, JD ’78, was named a “Delaware Super Lawyer” by Law and Business Media.

DANIEL W. RAAB, JD ’78, released a publication, Transportation Terms and Conditions.
JOE RAIA, JD ’78, joined Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, P.A. as a shareholder.

ADELE I. STONE, JD ’78, took office as Secretary of the Florida Bar Foundation on July 1, 2007.

ROBERT A. VIGODA, LLM ’78, was named one of the country’s Top 100 Attorneys by Worth magazine.

CLASS OF 1979

HOWARD BERLIN, JD ’79, was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2008 in the area of bankruptcy and creditor’s rights.

Harvey Gurland’s, JD ’79, law firm, Duane, Morris & Heckscher, received the 2007 “Outstanding Law Firm” award for pro bono service to low income people in Miami-Dade County.

CLASS OF 1981

ANDREW J. KRAUSE, LLM ’81, was named a Florida Super Lawyer by Law & Politics magazine.

LAURENCE LITOW, JD ’81, was named President of Soref Jewish Community Center.

Wilfredo Rodriguez, JD ’81, opened up a new firm in Coral Gables, Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Ferrer LLP.

JOSE I. ROJAS, JD ’81, moved his offices to the Datran II building in Miami, FL.

CLASS OF 1982

SUSAN APRILL, JD ’82, has joined Fowler White Burnett, P.A. in Miami.

ERIC BUERMANN, JD ’82, is the chairman of the Miami River Commission.

RICK BURGESS, JD ’82, was named in Chambers and Partners’ Directory of America’s Leading Business Lawyers. He was also selected for inclusion in the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America for Environmental Law.

When Carolyn Lamm, JD ’73, entered law school at the University of Miami in 1970, she was one of only ten female students in the class. Today, a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of White and Case, Lamm is a prominent attorney with clients all over the globe, specializing in international arbitration, trade matters and commercial litigation. Recently, she was nominated as president-elect of the American Bar Association. Lamm will become president in August 2009, and will be the first UM Law graduate to hold the position.

Life at the Law School in the early 1970s was both stimulating and challenging. Being one of so few women had its benefits. “You knew you had to be prepared, take good notes, and pay attention,” Lamm recalled. “So, in the end, it resulted in a better education.” Lamm believes much of who she is today was formed back in her days at the University of Miami School of Law.

Not only did Lamm graduate UM with a solid legal education, but she also met her husband, Peter Halle, JD ’73, during law school. Halle practices antitrust law at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. Lamm realizes being married to an attorney has its benefits. “You appreciate the demands on their time, and they appreciate the demands on yours,” she explained. She values her husband’s opinions, and both Lamm and Halle bounce ideas off each other from time to time.

Lamm and her husband have two sons, one of whom is a senior in the Business School at UM. Although she travels around the world on a regular basis, Lamm especially looks forward to her trips to Miami. “The city has entirely transformed since I was here as a law student,” she said. “Miami is one of the most vibrant and dynamic cities in the U.S.”

Not only has city changed over the years, but Lamm recognizes how the University has changed as well. “Donna Shalala has truly done great things,” Lamm said. “There is an energy and enthusiasm [at UM] … that is just wonderful.” Lamm and her husband stay connected to UM by co-chairing the Law Alumni Association in D.C., a position they have held together for many years.

Active in many legal organizations including the American Bar Association, the Council of the American Law Institute, and the American Arbitration Association, Lamm was also President of the D.C. Bar, the third largest bar in the country. While many attorneys can claim memberships to a variety of legal associations, Lamm’s contacts around the world have resulted in some appointments that are much less common. How many other attorneys can say they are Board Members of the American Chambers of Commerce in Turkey, Indonesia, and Uzbekistan?

Lamm’s accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. The National Law Journal named her one of the “50 Most Influential Women in America,” and Lawdragon lists her among the “500 Leading Lawyers in America.” The Women’s Bar Association of Washington, D.C. named her “2002 Woman Lawyer of the Year.”

The issues facing women lawyers are close to Lamm’s heart. Together with a small group of lawyers at her firm, Lamm worked to create the Women’s Initiative, a program designed to examine and promote the role of women. Due in large part to the efforts of the Initiative, White and Case was recently listed in Working Mother magazine as one of the fifty best firms for female attorneys. Lamm recognizes that delegating tasks and dividing responsibilities are critical to finding your balance. “You can do whatever it is you want to do,” she said. “It’s all a question of the way you organize your life and organize your responsibilities.” The bottom line is clear. “You can’t feel guilty about decisions you make on either end.”

How does Lamm find balance in her own life? When she is not traversing the globe to practice law, she spends time with her family, her children, and her friends. A fan of both skiing and golf, Lamm is also a runner. “I try to run five days a week,” she said, “when it’s not icy.” Whether she is in D.C., Miami, or Uzbekistan, Lamm’s life is full of exciting challenges she cherishes on a daily basis.

CAROLYN LAMM, JD ’73

Lamm believes much of who she is today was formed back in her days at the University of Miami School of Law.

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ELLEN GOLDMAN, JD ’82, has been a Real Estate partner with Portner, Wright, Morris & Arthur in Naples since 2001. She married in 2004.

CHRISTOPHER ROBINSON, JD ’82, was named to the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America.

JOHN PAUL PARKS, LLM ’82, received a passing score on the July 2006 California Bar examination. He is the sole member of the law firm of John Paul Parks.

HENRY N. BUTLER, JD ’82, was named the first Executive Director of the Searle Center studies at Northwestern University. The Searle Center studies how government regulation and interpretation of laws and regulations by the courts affect business and economic growth.

CLASS OF 1983

HON. ROBIN FABER, JD ’83, was elected to the County Court for Miami-Dade County. He was sworn in on January 26, 2007.

JONATHAN GOODMAN’S, JD ’83, reversal of the verdict in the AlphaMed Pharmaceutical case was listed as number twenty-two of the top 100 list of cases by the National Law Journal.

VALERIE GRANDIN, JD ’83, was appointed to the newly created position of Commercial Account Executive and Senior Underwriting Counsel at Attorneys’ Title Insurance Fund, Inc.

CLASS OF 1984

DAVID R. CARLISLE, JD ’84, was named Vice Chair of the Probate Rules Committee of The Florida Bar for the 2007-2008 term.

IAN M. COMISKY, LLMT ’84, served as Adjunct Professor at Temple University School of Law last semester.

STEVEN E. EISENBERG, JD ’84, joined Jones Walker’s Miami office as special counsel in the Business & Commercial Litigation Practice Group.

MARCIA CYPEN, JD ’76

Marcia Cypen, JD ’76, has devoted her career to securing legal rights for underprivileged individuals. She started working as a student law clerk at Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. in 1974 and has been the Executive Director since 1983. “I’m a lifer,” she said, without hesitation. Her father, Harry L. Cypen, JD ’56, pursued law when he was in his thirties, and she remembers attending his graduation from the Law School when she was six years old. Although Cypen came from a family of attorneys, she majored in math at the University of Florida and considered a career in sociology or social work. Following the advice of a friend who suggested she could help people more with a law degree, Cypen decided on UM.

Cypen attended the Law School when the late Soia Mentschikoff was the new dean, and she remembers the young, bright professors who were recruited to teach. Some of her professors and mentors included Dennis Lynch, Irwin Stotzky, and Kenneth Casebeer. Another professor stands out in Cypen’s memory. “No one could ever forget Professor Hauser,” she said. “He called on me the first day of class in my first year. It reminded me of The Paper Chase.”

Cypen’s interest in poverty law started early on in her studies. “At the end of my first year on Career Day, I learned about Legal Services and knew right away that was what I wanted to do,” she recalled. As a law clerk, she was impressed with how much responsibility she was given. “I was immediately involved with clients,” she said. “They had no where else to go.”

Not only did Cypen find her career niche at Legal Services of Miami, but she found her husband there as well. On the day she interviewed for a position as a law clerk, Cypen met attorney Steven Wisotsky, JD ’70. The two were married in 1979. Wisotsky is a professor of appellate law and criminal procedure at Nova Southeastern University, and he is also Special Counsel at Zuckerman Spaeder.

Working over thirty years for the same organization has given Cypen a unique chance to see how the place has evolved over time. “When I started working at Legal Services, it was a storefront operation,” she said. “I wanted to go into the administration so I could help us run like a law firm.” Today, they have thirty attorneys and a six million dollar budget. The most pressing issue facing the agency currently is the salaries. While many law graduates begin their careers at Legal Services, loan payments and private sector salaries often force lawyers who are truly passionate about poverty law to take other jobs. Recognizing the problem, the Board of Directors and the Florida Bar Foundation are committed to raising salaries significantly over the next two years.

Cypen encourages students who are interested in poverty law to take every opportunity to get involved early in their careers. The Law School has many paths to choose from, including the HOPE (Helping Others through Pro Bono Efforts) Fellows Program and the clinics through the Center for Ethics and Public Service. “The work is challenging and very difficult,” she admits. “You need a passion and a commitment to sustain you.”

Cypen is committed to other organizations in the community as well. She has spent nearly twenty years working with the Community Action Agency, a sister program to Legal Services. When her children were young, Cypen worked to establish the Gordon Day School at Temple Beth David in Miami. She also served on the committee to organize the 30th reunion for her law school class.

When Cypen is not practicing law and helping the community, she enjoys reading, exercise, and yoga. She has also learned to share her husband’s passion for fishing. Following the practice of “catch and release,” the two attorneys recently traveled to Patagonia and Costa Rica to fish for trout, sailfish, and marlin.

As someone who has spent her life fighting for the legal rights of others, Cypen could not see herself doing anything else. “I find it immeasurably rewarding to know that we are bringing equal justice to poor people every day,” she explained. “We are the knights in shining armor who right the wrongs, making sure that people are treated fairly under the law and their rights are enforced.”
ADELE STONE, JD ‘78

Adele Stone, JD ’78, has an unwavering commitment to her practice and the field of law. Joking that she doesn’t like first days on the job, she has been working at the same law firm her entire career. A shareholder at Atkinson, Diner, Stone, Mankuta and Ploucha, P.A., Stone works primarily in commercial real estate and general business law. “Ever since I was a kid I wanted to be a lawyer,” she recalled.

As a student at the University of Miami School of Law, Stone particularly enjoyed her courses in real estate. Two professors, the late Ralph Boyer and the late Richard Lee, influenced her decision to pursue real estate law as a career.

When she is not practicing law, Stone devotes much of her time and energy to working with various Bar organizations. She is a member of the Executive Council of the Bar’s Real Property Probate and Trust Law Section. She is currently the first vice president of the Florida Bar Foundation, and she will be the Foundation’s president in July of 2009. Coincidentally, her husband and law partner, Jesse Diner, will be the President of The Florida Bar during the same time period.

A long-time member of the Florida Bar Professional Ethics Committee, Stone also served for five years as the chair of the “Ethics 2000” Review Committee, a group dedicated to the extensive revision of the Rules of Professional Conduct. She frequently lectures on the topic of ethics and the law at numerous seminars, including those sponsored by the University of Miami.

Stone is committed to many local organizations as well. “My need to serve the community wouldn’t be fulfilled by the practice of law alone,” she explained. A past president of Broward County Legal Aid, she founded, chaired, and now serves on the Executive Council of Legal Aid Service of Broward County. She currently serves on the board of trustees of Women in Distress and is also the South Florida chapter vice-president of government affairs for NAIOP, a trade association of commercial property developers and brokers.

Although her children are now grown, Stone recalls the days when she needed to work hard to balance her career and her family. “It’s all about choices and priorities,” she explained. “As they say, you can have it all but not all at the same time.” The full-time lawyer never missed the special moments in her children’s lives. “You can do it, but you must be really organized and energetic because you have to work late to make up for it,” she said.

Working in the same practice since 1978 has given Stone the chance to develop and keep strong bonds with her clients and her surrounding community. She feels fulfilled by her career, her family, and her connections. "I am very proud to be a lawyer," she said. “We [tend to be among] the most active people in the community.”

PETER PRIETO, JD ’85, was named Section Leader of Holland + Knight’s National Litigation Section.

RAQUEL RODRIGUEZ, JD ’85, was named partner at McDermott, Will & Emery’s trial department. She was also appointed by U.S. District Court Chief Judge Federico A. Moreno, JD ’78, to the Southern District of Florida’s Federal Judicial Bar and Community Liaison Committee.

STEVE I. SILVERMAN, JD ’85, was named a lead attorney in the newly formed Distressed Asset Group at Kluger, Peretz, Kaplan & Berlin.

MICHELE CRAWFORD, JD ’85, is working in the Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development with the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

CLASS OF 1986

DONNA BALLMAN, JD ’86, was named in Lawdragon's Top 500 Plaintiff's Attorneys in the United States. She was the only labor and employment attorney in Florida to receive this distinction.

DON DUFRESNE, JD ’86, was elected Chairman of the Village of Wellington Equestrian Preserve Committee.

KIMBERLY D. KOLBACK, JD ’86, was presented with an award of acknowledgement for inclusion in the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America.

ROBERTO PARDO, JD ’86, was appointed to the board of directors of the Florida Bar Foundation.

ANDREW G. NOVAK, JD ’86, joined the law firm of Liskow & Lewis in New Orleans.

STEVE I. SILVERMAN, JD ’85, was named one of Top 10 Super Lawyers by Florida Super Lawyers Magazine. He was also named as one of the best personal injury litigators by Best Lawyers in America.

MICHAEL J. HIGER, JD ’85, was selected as one of Florida Trend’s 2007 Florida Legal Elite for his practice in commercial litigation.

MICHAEL S. LEONE'S, LLM ’85, firm, Cass, Levy & Leone, merged with Alpern Rosenthal, and is now known as Cass, Levy & Leone, an Alpern Rosenthal Company.
CLASS OF 1987

MICHAEL DILIBERTO, JD ’87, joined ADR Services, Inc. as a full-time Mediator and Arbitrator. He was also featured on the “Insider Exclusive” television show.

JOHN FUMERO, JD ’87, was appointed to the Board of the Forum Club of the Palm Beaches where he will inform and educate the public about community’s business, political, and social interests and promote more active participation by all citizens in the democratic process. He is also engaged in several corporations. He is currently practicing in commercial real estate and corporate contract law.

GERRY HAYES, JD ’78

Gerry Hayes, JD ’78, career as a general corporate attorney lasted exactly nine months. That was when the nation’s first major nuclear accident at the power plant in Three Mile Island, Pennsylvania changed the direction of his career. A first year associate at Baker & McKenzie LLP, the world’s leading global law firm, Hayes learned that the energy industry had insufficient capacity to cover the catastrophic losses of a nuclear accident. “We gathered every utility with nuclear power and organized a larger company—Nuclear Electric Insurance Limited—to cover the risk,” Hayes recalled, describing his career transformation from general corporate lawyer to one of the world’s leading specialists in Insurance and Alternative Risk Transfer and Nuclear and Atomic Energy Issues.

Now in his thirtieth year at Baker & McKenzie, Hayes credits his arrival there to Soia Mentschikoff, Dean of the Law School in 1978. “Soia introduced me to Peter Lederer, of the Law School’s Visiting Committee. She said, ‘work for him, and he’ll teach you how to be a lawyer,’” he remembered. Hayes did just that, and has been with Baker & McKenzie ever since, becoming partner in 1985 and managing partner for several years between 1995 and 2006. “I am enjoying the reprieve from managing partner now,” said Hayes, “I was eager to get back into my practice.”

Based in New York, Hayes is actively involved in alumni networking and fundraising for the Law School and is a member of the Dean’s Circle. Yet his most rewarding activities involve his personal connections to the school and its alumni. “In my last year, I chaired Moot Court and helped develop a second year moot court class that is still part of the curriculum today,” he asserted. Recently, the daughter of a classmate won the Moot Court competition. “That was nice to see,” he said.

JAMES WEINKLE’S, JD ’87, law firm, Duane, Morris & Heckscher, received the 2007 “Outstanding Law Firm” award for pro bono service to low income people in Miami-Dade County.

CLASS OF 1988

MICHAEL B. CHESAL, JD ’88, was named the Co-Chair of Kluger, Peretz, Kaplan & Berlin’s Intellectual Property Law Department. He was also selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2008 in the area of intellectual property law. Additionally, Michael was awarded board certification in “First-In-The Nation” Intellectual Property Law specialty by The Florida Bar.

Jorge Espinosa, JD ’88, was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2008 in the area of intellectual property law.

CLASS OF 1989

JOSE L. FERNANDEZ, JD ’89, was sworn in as a County Court Judge. He joins the County Court Criminal Division at the North Dade Justice Building.

GARY R. GOSSETT, JR., JD ’89, was selected as the recipient of The Florida Bar President’s 2008 Pro Bono Service Award.

MATTHEW R. KAMULA, JD ’89, passed the California Bar and is general counsel to several corporations. He is currently practicing in commercial real estate and corporate contract law.

CLINTON LOSEGO, JD ’89, was appointed by Governor Charlie Crist to serve a four-year term on the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Law.

KRISTA K. MCINTYRE, JD ’89, was named to the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America.

KYLE PAIGE, JD ’89, has joined UM’s Advancement Division as Director of Estate and Gift Planning. She will be responsible for assisting in the growth of the planned giving program to support the University’s needs.

GERALD T. RODEN, JD ’89, was recently appointed by Governor Charlie Crist to serve on Indian River Community College’s Board of Directors.

KIMBERLY ROSS SHAPIRO, JD ’89, joined the North Broward Hospital District as Associate General Counsel.

FRANKLIN ZEMEL, JD ’89, was honored at the Hollywood Community Synagogue-Chabad’s Annual Journal Dinner for his dedication to the Jewish community.

MICHAEL J. MULLANEY, JD ’89, was named the new chief of the Department of Justice’s Counterterrorism Section in Washington, D.C.

CLASS OF 1990

DARIN LENTNER, JD ’90, will run for the Florida House of Representatives’ District 91.

CARLOS J. MARTINEZ, JD ’90, was appointed by Lt. Governor Frank Brown to the Blueprint Commission to study juvenile justice reform in Florida.
PETER PRIETO, JD '85

Peter Prieto, JD '85, was destined to be a lawyer. As a child, he was inquisitive and loved to argue. “I had arguments for everything,” he recalled. Born in Cuba, Prieto came to Miami with his parents when he was seven years old. His parents taught him the value of education, even though they themselves never received a higher education. “My mother always told me that an education is the most important thing you can receive,” Prieto remembered. “It’s something no one can take away from you. And both my parents – by example – showed me the value of hard work.”

The former Executive Partner of Holland + Knight’s Miami office and Co-Chair of the White Collar Defense Team, Prieto has recently been appointed Section Leader of the firm’s national litigation section, consisting of over 430 lawyers across the country. His new role began in January 2008.

A cum laude graduate, Prieto has many strong, fond memories of the Law School, a place he credits with preparing him for his career. “UM taught me to think like a lawyer,” he said. He recalls one particular memory from his first year when he read Bramble Bush, written by the late Professor Karl Llewellyn, the husband of the late Dean Soia Mentschikoff. Considered a classic and essential reading for anyone interested in the study of law both then and now, the book taught Prieto that the practice of law has many layers, and it is essential not simply to be a good lawyer, but to “know your profession, including the history and prominent members.”

During his time at the Law School, Prieto was an articles and comments editor for the Law Review as well as a member of the Moot Court Board. He considers Professor Bernard Oxman to be one of the best professors he had at UM. Professor Oxman trained him through the Socratic method. “When you were in his class, you were thinking from the time you got there until the time you left. I felt like my head was on fire from thinking so much,” Prieto remembered with a laugh.

Prieto maintains his connection to the University of Miami and the Law School through his involvement with the Citizens Advisory Board and the Advisory Board for the Center for Ethics and Public Service. He is also the Chair of the Daniel Pearson Scholarship Committee. Prieto was recently tapped into Iron Arrow, the University’s eighty-year-old honor society.

Prieto’s background also includes time spent working for the government. He worked as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida, and he also spent a year as Associate Deputy Independent Counsel for the Office of Independent Counsel in Washington, D.C., investigating the late Secretary of Commerce, Ronald Brown. His time in government was crucial to his development as a lawyer. “There is no better training ground for a litigator than to be a federal prosecutor,” Prieto said.

Prieto enjoys spending whatever free time he has with his family. He and his wife, Caren, have three children, ages ten, nine, and six. “You can have a really tough day as a lawyer,” he explained, “but getting home and seeing your children and your family makes the day a lot better.”

ROBIN ROSENBERG WEINER, JD '90, was elected President of the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees.

CLASS OF 1991

JUAN ANTONIO GONZALEZ, JD '91, received the 2007 Attorney General's John Marshall Award for his participation as lead prosecutor in a six month criminal trial. The John Marshall Award is the Department of Justice's highest recognition.

JONATHAN E. GOPMAN, LLM '91, was named one of the top 100 attorneys in the United States serving affluent individuals and families in the December issue of Worth magazine.

LEONTYNE PARTEE-ELDER, JD '91, was named an associate at Plunkett & Cooney, P.C.

JEFFREY A. RINDE, JD '91, was named to the board of advisors of the Bill and Vieve Gore School of Business at Westminster College, in Salt Lake City. He also gave a presentation at Integrated Corporate Relations XChange Asia.

CLASS OF 1992

SCOTT J. BROOK, JD '92, was recognized by the National League of Cities for reaching the Platinum level in its Certificate of Achievement in Leadership Program. He was also recognized by the Healthy Mothers-Healthy Babies Coalition of Broward County as the Outstanding Father of 2007.

DONNA M. LEWANDOWSKI, JD '92, is the current president of the Board of Directors of Florida Legal Services, Inc. and a member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Bar Foundation.

YVETTE OSTOLAZA, JD '92, was named the co-head of Weil, Gotshal & Manges' Complex Commercial Litigation practice.

MICHAEL PANE JR., JD '92, has authored the fourth edition of Local Government Law.

DAVID POLLACK, JD '92, spoke on “Cruise Ship Medical Malpractice Cases Involving a Ship’s Physician” at the Academy of Florida Trial Lawyers Annual Workhorse Seminar in Orlando, FL.

ADAM B. SABEN, JD '92, was selected as one of Esquire magazine’s 2007 Best Dressed Real Men in America.

BENTON N. WOOD, JD '92, joined the Orlando office of Fisher & Phillips.

CLASS OF 1993

PAUL A. CALLI, JD '93, was elected Of Counsel at Zuckerman Spaeder, LLP. Additionally, he spoke at the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers' 20th Annual Meeting, addressing National Security Letters and Warrantless Taps, among other topics.

RAUL CHACON, JR., JD '93, has been appointed to the 2008 CABA Board of Directors.
JUDY DOLAN, JD '93, was appointed as a Director on the Board of the non-profit adoption agency Advocates for Children & Families in North Miami Beach.

MICHELLE M. PEREZ, JD '93, was recently appointed supervising attorney in AIG’s Orlando area office.

CLASS OF 1994

STACY BOHM, JD '94, was ranked as one of the “Top Women in Real Estate” for 2007 by the Florida Real Estate Journal. She was also selected by the American Arbitration Association to be listed on their panel of construction arbitrators.


MICHAEL GONGORA, JD '94, was elected to the Miami Beach City Commission in November 2006. He was also appointed acting Vice Mayor.

JASON OLETSKY, JD '94, was selected for inclusion in Best Lawyers in America 2008 in the area of private funds law.

PETER F. VALORI, JD '94, was appointed Chair of the Business Litigation Committee for the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar.

CLASS OF 1995

WILLIAM BOSHNICK, JD '95, was appointed Chairman of the International Education Committee of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

JANE W. BROWN, JD '95, was named a Shareholder at Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart, PA.

PATRICIA A. LEONARD, JD '95, was named a Florida Super Lawyer by Law & Politics magazine. She was also named a “Top Up & Comer” attorney in the area of complex business and commercial litigation by the 2008 South Florida Legal Guide.

KEVIN M. LEVY, JD '95, was selected for inclusion in the 2008 edition of Best Lawyers in America for Technology Law.

JUSTIN SAYFIE, JD '95, was appointed by President George W. Bush to the President’s Commission on White House Fellows.

JORDAN A. FISCH, JD '95, was selected by his peers as one of New Jerseys’ Super Lawyers’ Rising Stars in the area of business/corporate law.

DANIELLE CAMNER LINDHOM, JD '95, was appointed the Chief of Staff of the Legal Working Group for the Project on National Security Reform, and is Vice-President for Policy at Business Executives for National Security in Washington, D.C.

CLASS OF 1996

SHELDON J. BURNETT, JD '96, is currently managing a series of hedge funds focused primarily on emerging markets.

CLASS NOTES

MARTIN ZILBER, JD '88

Martin Zilber, JD '88, is a jack-of-all-trades. On any given day, he can be found practicing law, brokering mortgages, serving as an elected official, voluntarily managing the budget of the state’s largest public healthcare facility, or coaching his daughter’s basketball team. Born and raised in Miami, Zilber is committed to making his community a better place. He graduated from Miami Beach Senior High and earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Florida. His interests in political science and government made law school an easy choice, and the Law School was a perfect fit. “I always wanted to return to the community where I grew up,” he explained. “As a kid, I remember going to UM football games. I feel like I’ve been a part of UM forever.”

After graduation, Zilber worked in Miami at the Office of the State Attorney. He was then general counsel and eventually president of his father’s business, Metro Transportation Services. The business went public in 1996 and became Coach USA, a company based in Houston. Zilber was the vice president of corporate development for the southeastern region. He is past president of the Taxicab, Limousine, and Paratransit Association (T.L.P.A.), the largest diversified transportation association in America. “My father’s company gave me the opportunity, at a pretty young age, to be able to get in to a fairly good position in the community,” he said.

Currently, Zilber is partner and general counsel of Avatar Real Estate Services and Lansdowne Mortgage LLC, a firm specializing in real estate development and hard equity mortgages. He is also Of Counsel at Rafferty, Stolzenberg, and Gelles P.A., a firm his former partners worked to form over five years ago. Keeping the ties to his alma mater strong, Zilber’s firm tries to hire at least one UM summer law clerk every year. He is also a member of the Law School’s Dean’s Circle.

Throughout his diverse employment history, a common theme has been his interest in politics. His political aspirations came as no surprise to him or the rest of his family. His mother, Linda Zilber, served on the Bay Harbor Council for eight years and was the city’s mayor from 1998-2000. Following his mother’s lead, Zilber was elected as a councilman to the Coconut Grove Village Council three years ago. Recognizing Zilber as a concerned and involved citizen, the Miami-Dade County Commission appointed him to the Cultural Affairs Council where he serves as the first vice chairman.

Zilber is also on the board of the Miami-Dade County Public Health Trust, an appointment that is achieved only after a rigorous selection process. As the governing board for Jackson Memorial Hospital, the thirteen-member Public Health Trust works to manage the hospital’s 12,000 employees and two billion dollar budget. Zilber often works as a liaison between UM and the Trust, and he finds himself spending up to ten hours a week in this volunteer position. To him, it is worth it. “The position is intellectually challenging and rewarding,” he explained. “There are very few positions that give you the chance to make such a difference in a community. When you think about life in general, you think of health and happiness. Health comes first.”
RAQUEL LIBMAN, JD ’95

At 5’2” and one hundred pounds, Raquel Libman, JD ’95, is not a likely choice for a basketball team. The Miami Heat, however, would disagree. Since 2001, Libman has been general counsel and executive vice president for The Heat Group, handling a broad range of legal matters including labor, employment relations, intellectual property, and contracts. “I am the attorney not only for the team but the AmericanAirlines Arena as well,” Libman explained.

As a woman working in sports and entertainment law, Libman finds herself in a unique position. “When I came into this job, there were practically no women in this field,” she said, “but The Heat Group has by far the most diverse management team.” Promoting diversity in her field is important to her, and she would like to see more women in the profession.

Libman earned her undergraduate degree from Yale University and worked for several years in the field of international trade and project development. After receiving her law degree, she was an associate at Kurzban, Kurzban, Weinger and Tetzeli, as well as general counsel for Continucare Corporation. The combination of business and law works for her. She especially enjoys the negotiating and problem solving that comes from crossing over between law and business.

Libman has the chance to rub elbows with some of the legal community’s most talented lawyers. “I work with a lot of excellent attorneys in the community, including many UM alumni,” Libman said. She has strong connections to a number of her former classmates and considers Professor Irwin P. Stotsky one of her most influential teachers. “He continues to be a valued friend and mentor,” she said.

As if being a female lawyer in the sports and entertainment industry is not challenging enough, Libman is also a mother of two sons. She encourages other women to follow their interests, even if the doors seem closed. Standing tall in her legal career, Libman offers simple and direct advice. “In this field, you have to prove yourself.”

MELANIE E. DAMIAN, JD ’96, was appointed Chair of the Communications Committee for the Business Law Section of The Florida Bar. She was also selected as the recipient of The Florida Bar President’s 2008 Pro Bono Service Award.

ADRIAN C. DELANCY, JD ’96, was named an associate at Markowitz, Davis, Ringel & Trusty, PA.

PATRICIA HERNANDEZ, JD ’96, opened up a new firm in Coral Gables, Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Ferri LLP.

ALLEN KATZ, JD ’96, joined the National Arbitration Forum’s national panel of independent and neutral arbitrators and mediators.

JAMES M. KUNICK, JD ’96, was named partner at the Chicago Intellectual Property law firm McCracken & Frank LLP.

GARY H. LEIBOWITZ, JD ’96, was elected Chair of the Baltimore chapter of the Bankruptcy Bar Association for the District of Maryland.

DOUGLAS MORRIS, JD ’96, recently opened the law firm of Acker Morris, P.L., in Boca Raton, concentrating in medical malpractice and nursing home abuse and neglect.

MARLENE QUINTANA, JD ’96, has been appointed to the 2008 CABA Board of Directors as President.

DINAH STEIN, JD ’96, spoke at the 2007 Florida Medical Malpractice Claims Council, Inc. annual seminar in Fort Lauderdale in September 2007.

DOUGLAS S. STRANSKY, JD ’96, LLM ’97, was named partner for the Tax Department of Sullivan and Worcester.

JEFFREY D. WEINSTOCK, JD ’96, was appointed to the Board of Directors of Junior Achievement in South Florida.

CLASS OF 1997

JACQUELINE CALDERIN, JD ’97, recently formed the new firm Ehrenstein Charbonneau & Calderin, specializing in complex business litigation and corporate restructuring.

JONATHAN LOUIS, JD ’97, received the James and Marjorie Baer Outstanding Young Leadership Award for dedication to the Jewish Federation.

MICHAEL PACKER, JD ’97, was promoted to partner at Adorno and Yoss, LLP.

FRANCISCO RAMOS JR., JD ’97, was named as a Top Up & Comer by the South Florida Legal Guide.

ARMANDO RODRIGUEZ-FEO, JD ’97, joined the Department of Justice as a trial attorney in the civil division, where he handles commercial litigation cases.

JAMES D. ROWLEE, JD ’97, became Board Certified in Appellate Practice and is currently working with the Broward County Attorney’s Office.

MICHAEL W. ZIENTZ, JD ’97, is a founding partner of Mackie, Wolf, & Zientz, P.C. in Dallas, TX. He was named a Texas “Rising Star Attorney” in 2004 and 2005. He and his wife had their first child in April 2006.

CLASS OF 1998

LORI BARKUS, JD ’98, opened Lori Barkus PA. in September 2005, specializing in family law and adoption.

CARLOS CARDELLE, JD ’98, was named to TelePlus’s board of directors.

CHAD LANG, JD ’98, has been named a “Top Up & Comer” by the South Florida Legal Guide.

JARETT LEVAN, JD ’98, was promoted by BankAtlantic Bancorp to succeed his father as the president of the holding company and CEO of its BankAtlantic subsidiary.

RALF RODRIGUEZ, JD ’98, was promoted to partner at Pecker & Abramson.

DENISE M. ROSENTHAL, JD ’98, was named a partner at Adorno & Yoss.
JOHN P. RUTLEDGE, LLM ’98, completed the Coeur d’Alene Ironman Triathlon in June 2006. He is currently at the law firm of Brooke, Shaw, & Zumpft in the Lake Tahoe area.

SHELLY WALD, JD ’98, spoke at a National Business Institute Seminar on the Probate Process from Start to Finish.

BRIAN S. HAMBURGER, JD ’98, is the Founder and Managing Member of the Hamburger Law Firm. He is also the Founder and Managing Director of MarketCounsel, a nationwide consulting firm for entrepreneurial investment advisory firms.

WEBSTER R. LEMON, JD ’98, an international analyst at the Center for Strategic & International Studies.

CLASS OF 1999

SANDRA FERRERA, JD ’99, has been appointed to the 2008 CABA Board of Directors as Vice President.

MICHELLE GERAIS, JD ’99, was awarded the "Domestic Violence" award by Put Something Back for her pro bono work in that area.

MONICA GORDO, JD ’99, has been appointed to the 2008 CABA Board of Directors.

FRANK S. HONG, JD ’99, was named partner at the Long An Law Firm’s Shanghai Offices.

BOBBI L. MELORIR, JD ’99, was honored by the National Association of Women Lawyers as Outstanding Member.

CARRIE ROANE MENDRICK, JD ’99, and her husband welcomed their second son, Sebastian, in April 2007.

SHARI F. MYERS, JD ’99, will serve as a Board Member for Memphis Area Legal Services.

KARA S. NICKEL, JD ’99, was promoted to shareholder at Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson.

KURT A. RAULIN, LLM ’99, joined Tivoli Properties in Atlanta, GA, as the new general counsel and head of the legal department.

JAMES N. STANLEY, JD ’99, was awarded Board Certification in Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification.

EMILY USOW, JD ’99, was promoted to partner at Adorno & Yoss, LLP in January 2007.

CLASS OF 2000

EUGENE P. BALSHEM, JD ’00, was named partner in the New York office of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP.

BRAD COREN, JD ’00, along with his wife Elise Coren, announce the birth of their first child, Alex Matthew, on December 4, 2007.

NATASHA CORTES, JD ’00, was named a member of Grossman Roth, P.A. in 2007. She was also named the incoming Vice President for the Third District of the Puerto Rican Bar Association of Florida.

JASON T. HANSELMAN, JD ’00, joined Dykema’s Lansing office as a member of the Government Policy Practice Group.

PAUL HILGERS, JD ’00, joined the Investment Funds Practice Group of Akin Gump in Dallas.

CLASS N Notes
CLAUDINE CHEN-YOUNG, JD ’03

Claudine Chen-Young, JD ’03, believes in paying it forward—and paying back.
A tireless promoter of the Law School, Claudine serves on the Dean’s Circle Committee, recruits students to UM, and chairs the newly established Law Alumni Regional Club in Washington, D.C.
“Our goal is to encourage networking and maintain the connection among young alumni out of law school less than ten years,” she explained. “I feel strongly about giving back to the school, not only with my time and enthusiasm, but financially as well.”

Claudine’s impassioned approach to giving back is mirrored in her zeal for making deals. An Associate at McKee Nelson, LLP in Washington, D.C., Claudine works long days putting together structured financing in mortgage-backed securities. “When you are doing transactional work, your time is 100% driven by the deal. If something hasn’t been negotiated by seven o’clock at night, you can’t go home and call it a day. You stay until the job is done,” she said. “It’s a very specialized field. I love the pace of the deal,” she added.

With a family background in finance, Claudine majored in economics at American University and worked for the Population Council in Washington, D.C. until she applied to law school. A native of Jamaica, her choice to attend the University of Miami was initially “driven by the fact that there was a large Jamaican community in South Florida,” she recalled, “but UM Law ended up being best decision of my life. I truly believe that my experiences at UM enabled me to position myself as a strong candidate for some of the country’s top firms.” Claudine obtained her first job with Sidley, Austin, Brown & Wood, LLP, one of the world’s largest law firms, by way of the Law School’s on-campus interview program. For this reason, Claudine keeps in close contact with the Career Planning Center and Recruiting departments at the Law School. She represents both McKee Nelson and UM at career and student fairs in the D.C. area. “UM is not a school that my firm typically recruits from, so this is a way to establish a connection with the school,” she explains.

Recently, one of Claudine’s legal assistants was accepted to the Law School. “I’d written her a letter of recommendation,” says Claudine. “I don’t know if I had anything to do with it,” she said, “but I told her ‘I just paid it forward. One day, you, too will pay it forward. But pay it back, too. Give back to the school.’”

DAVID HOLM, JD ’00, was certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a specialist in Family Law, and is a principal in the Holm Law Firm, PLLC in Raleigh, NC, where he focuses his practice in the areas of family law and estate planning.

JOSHUA M. KAYE, JD ’00, was named hiring partner of McDermott, Will & Emery’s Miami office.

ELBA C. MARTIN, JD ’00, gave birth to her son, Martin John Schomaker on December 28, 2006. She has been an assistant Attorney General for two years in Tampa, FL.

VICTORIA MENDEZ, JD ’00, is on the 2008 CABA Board of Directors.

HASHI NAGUBADI, JD ’00, is working as an elementary school teacher in Florida.

SUZANNE PEREZ, JD ’00, was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Coral Gables Bar Association for the 2007-2008 year.

ERICA STUMP, JD ’00, became General Counsel at Vital Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

ROBERT E. BRIGGS, LLM ’03, was promoted to partner at Ferrell Law, where he concentrates his practice on international and domestic commercial disputes.

CYNTHIA HILL, JD ’03, accepted the General Counsel position for the Dekalb County School System in Atlanta.

MELISSA TAPANES LLAHUES, JD ’03, is currently practicing zoning, land use and environmental law at Bercow Radell & Fernandez, PA. She recently gave birth to her daughter, Laylah.
JASON MOLDER, JD '03, was hired by Akerman Senterfitt for its construction practice group in Fort Lauderdale.

JESSICA MORRIS, JD '03, was named Director of International and Foreign Graduate Programs at the University of Miami School of Law.

SOLIMAR SANTOS, JD '03, joined the firm of Bander & Associates, P.A. as an associate.

ELIZABETH A. SIMMONS, JD '03, has been hired as an associate with Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP.

MATTHEW SLATER, JD '03, joined the D'Ambrosio Law Office in Boston in 2007.

JEFFREY WEINSTOCK, JD '03, has been elected shareholder at the Boca Raton office of Buckingham, Doolittle & Burroughs, LLP.

MYLES A. COCHRAN, JD '03, accepted a new position at Much, Shelist, Denenberg, Ament & Rubenstein. He was married in July.

NIKOLA ANDREJKO, JD '04, accepted a position with the United States Attorney's Office as the new Asset Forfeiture Attorney in the Orlando Office.

STEFANIE BLACK LEWIS, JD '04, was appointed to the Board of Directors for Florida Media Market. She also opened her own law firm in Miami.

ANDREA BRAVERMAN, JD '04, accepted a position as Associate General Counsel with The Continental Group.

ELIZABETH MESSER, JD '04, was named partner at Gounce, Young, Collum-Butler & Messer.

ESTRELLITA S. SIBILA, JD '04, earned the credential of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional from the United States Green Building Council.

JEREMY S. SLOANE, LLMT '04, was named a new shareholder at the law firm of Zimmerman, Kiser & Sutcliffe, P.A.

ELISABETH CAVANAGH, LLM '04, married Scott Cavanagh in August 2006. She is an associate at Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz, P.C. in New York.

CLASS OF 2005

SAMUEL C. COZZO, JD '05, joined Berger Singerman as an associate with the firm's Dispute Resolution Team.

MARYANN M. BULLION, JD '05, was appointed by the President of the Illinois State Bar Association as a member of the Association's Local Government Law Section Council.

DAVID RUBENSTEIN, JD '05, completed his judicial clerkship in the New Jersey superior court, and is currently working in the litigation department for the Newark firm of Sills, Cummins, Epstein & Gross, P.C. He was married in July 2007.

CLASS OF 2006

NICHOLAS BAKATSIAS, LLM '06, joined Carruthers & Roth in Greensboro, NC as an associate.

MARY B. CLARK, JD '06, is currently an associate at Schwarzberg, Spector, Duke and Rogers, specializing in employment and labor law defense. Additionally, her second published law review article will be published in the University of Maryland Journal of Race, Religion, Gender and Class.

CYNTHIA D. RALEIGH, JD '06, was named an associate at the Orlando office of Baker & Hostetler LLP in 2007.

DR. DANIEL SCHNABL, LLM '06, published his first scholarly book and received the academic award for outstanding doctoral thesis. He also launched a lead-article in Germany's most important law journal. The article analyzes whether lawyers have a duty to use legal online databases.

Originally from New Jersey, Alex graduated cum laude from George Washington University in 2000 before attending the University of Miami School of Law. While in Law School, he was a member of Phi Delta Phi Honor Legal Fraternity and the International and Comparative Law Review. He was also a member of the Moot Court Board, receiving the Best Oral Advocate Award in the Advanced Moot Court Competition, and as a member of the Moot Court Board he served as an adviser for Legal Writing & Research.

After graduating cum laude from Law School, Alex practiced law in Miami and Boca Raton, and was an active member in both legal communities. In July 2006, Alex was named as one of Florida Trend magazine’s Legal Elite in the “Up & Coming Attorneys” category.

It was just a few months ago that Alex married Lauren Roseman in a beautiful ceremony in Boca Raton. In addition to Lauren, Alex is survived by his parents, his sister, his in-laws, and his brother-in-law.

In Alex’s honor, friends and family members are establishing the Alexander R. Laster Memorial Fund. Committee members include Andrew S. Buzin, JD and MBA ’03, Daniel Harwin, JD ’03, and Samuel Ross Troy, JD ’03. If you would like to assist in fundraising efforts, email alumni@law.miami.edu.

Please help us build this tribute to his memory by making a gift to the Alexander R. Laster Memorial Fund. To make a gift to the Alexander R. Laster Memorial Fund, make checks payable to the University of Miami School of Law for the Alexander R. Laster Memorial Fund, and mail to Office of Law Alumni & Development, P.O. Box 248087, Coral Gables, Florida 33124.

You may also make a secure online gift at www.law.miami.edu/alumni.
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)
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

From all reports, the most avidly read section of the Barrister (for both the printed and the Web site versions) is “Class Notes.” The Law School’s more than 16,000 alumni want to know what their classmates have been doing – about the awards they have received, high-profile cases they have won, law firms or cities they have moved to, pro bono activities they have undertaken, spouses they have married, etc.

*Please note: space limitations do not permit publications of every submission in its entirety. The editors reserve the right to edit when necessary.

Name (Maiden): ____________________________________________________________________  Class Year: ______________________

Home Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________________________________ State: _____________________________ Zip: ___________________

Job Title: ___________________________________________________________________

Type of Business: ____________________________________________________________________________________________________

Employer/Firm: _____________________________________________________________________________________________________

Business Address: ____________________________________________________________________________________________________

City: ____________________________________________________ State: _____________________________ Zip: ___________________

Business Phone: ___________________________________________________  Business Fax: _______________________________________ 

E-mail Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Would you like your e-mail address included in a directory available on UM Law’s Web site? □ Yes  □ No

Information for “Class Notes:”
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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!**

**LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Please note that some of the events are subject to change, for further information please contact the Alumni Relations Office at 1-866-99 UM LAW or email us: alumni@law.miami.edu

### 2008

#### JUNE

- **18-22** Florida Bar Annual Convention, Boca Raton Hotel and Club
- **19** Law Alumni Association Reception, to be held during the Florida Bar Annual Convention, Boca Raton Hotel and Club
- **30** Friends of the Law School Luncheon Series, Miami-Dade, location and time TBA

#### JULY

- **30** Friends of the Law School Luncheon Series, Broward County, location and time TBA

#### AUGUST

- **7-12** American Bar Association Annual Convention, New York, NY
- **7** New York Law Alumni Association Reception, honoring ABA President-elect Carolyn B. Lamm, JD '73
- **11** UM HOPE Day of Service
- **28** Hurricane Football vs. Charleston Southern, Dolphin Stadium

#### SEPTEMBER

- **6** Hurricane Football vs. Florida, Gainesville, FL
- **13** Law Alumni Association Board of Directors Fall Retreat
- **20** Hurricane Football vs. Texas A&M, College Station, TX
- **25** Chicago Law Alumni Association Reception
- **27** Hurricane Football vs. North Carolina, Dolphin Stadium

#### OCTOBER

- **4** Hurricane Football vs. Florida State, Dolphin Stadium
- **11** Hurricane Football vs. UCF, Dolphin Stadium
- **16** Tenth Annual HOPE Auction, 6pm-10pm
- **18** Hurricane Football vs. Duke, Durham, NC
- **23** Celebration of M. Minnette Massey, Professor of Law 1946-2008, University of Miami School of Law Quadrangle, 1311 Miller Drive, Coral Gables, 5:30-7:00pm
- **24** Reception in honor of Judicial Clerks, Law School Quadrangle, 1311 Miller Drive, Coral Gables, 5:30-7:00pm
- **24** Class reunions 1968, 1978, 1983, and 1988, 6:30-9:30pm, location TBA
- **24** Class reunion 1998, 8:00-11:00pm, location TBA
- **25** Sixtieth Annual Homecoming Breakfast, University of Miami School of Law, Alma Jennings Foundation Student Lounge, 1311 Miller Drive, Coral Gables, 8:30am
- **31** Named Scholarship Donor-Recipient Luncheon, 12:00pm
- **31** HOPE/Bar & Gavel Canes Carnival, 6:00pm

#### NOVEMBER

- **1** Minority Mentoring Picnic, Corporate Pavilion at Amelia Earhart Park, Miami
- **1** Hurricane Football vs. Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
- **7** Washington DC Alumni Networking Event, location and time TBA
- **12** Center for Ethics and Public Service, Lawyers in Leadership Award, 3:30-5:00pm
- **13** Hurricane Football vs. Virginia Tech, Dolphin Stadium
- **14** Law Alumni Association Reception in honor of ABA President-elect Carolyn B. Lamm, JD ’73, Lowe Art Museum, 5:30-7:00pm
- **20** Hurricane Football vs. Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA
- **29** Hurricane Football vs. North Carolina State, Raleigh, NC

### 2009

#### JANUARY

- **6-10** The Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA
- **14-17** The Florida Bar Mid-Year Meeting, Miami, FL
- **31** Law Alumni Association Board of Directors Winter Retreat

#### FEBRUARY

- **11-17** American Bar Association Mid-Year Meeting, Boston, MA
- **11** Student-To-Student Public Interest Career Fair
- **25** Public Interest/Public Sector Career Fair

#### MARCH

- **26** Faculty Scholarship Celebration

#### APRIL

- **9** HOPE Spring Recognition Reception

#### MAY

- **14-15** UM Undergraduate Commencement
- **15** Law Class of 1959 Fiftieth Reunion
- **16** Law School Commencement Reception
- **17** Law School Commencement Ceremony, Bank United Convocation Center

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**10th ANNUAL AUCTION**

**University of Miami School of Law**

**October 16th, 2008 at 6 PM**

**Lowe Art Museum - 1301 Stanford Dr. Coral Gables, FL 33146**

Please join us to bid and win on dining and vacation packages, wines, cultural and athletic tickets and more to benefit public interest fellowships and pro bono opportunities through the University of Miami School of Law.

For more information, please call (305) 284-2669 or visit law.miami.edu/hope

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SAVE THE DATE FOR
HOMECOMING 2008

The University of Miami School of Law will host the 60th Annual Class Reunions during Homecoming Weekend

October 23-26, 2008

Class of 1968 - 40th Year Reunion
Class of 1978 - 30th Year Reunion
Class of 1983 - 25th Year Reunion
Class of 1988 - 20th Year Reunion
Class of 1998 - 10th Year Reunion

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