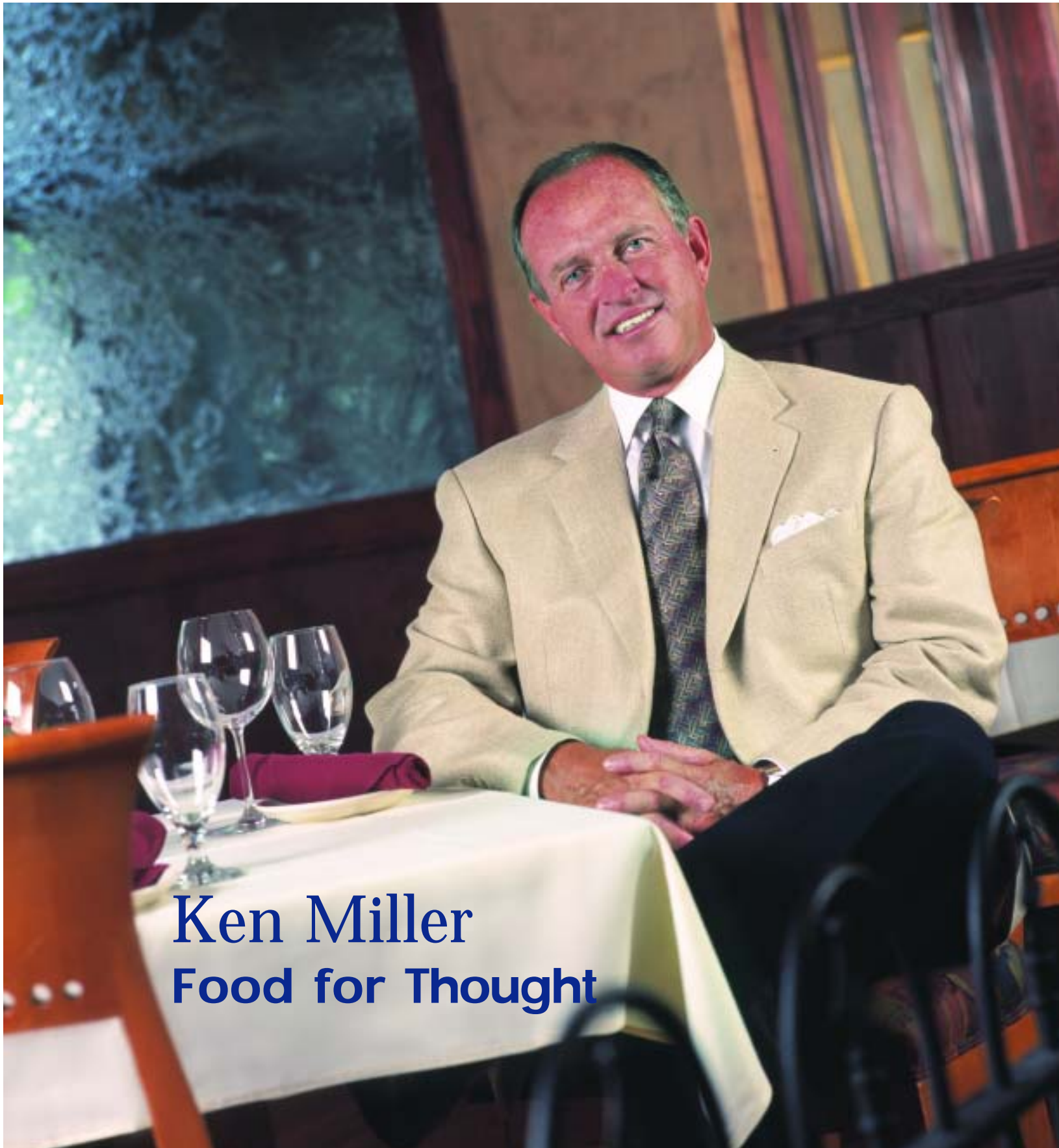


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BENCHMARK

THE THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL MAGAZINE



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Food for Thought

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Call for Submissions

The *Benchmark* is seeking submissions and story ideas from graduates. We are looking for stories on a variety of subjects including, but not limited to, graduate achievements, international law, cultural diversity, legal information helpful to practitioners, unique law practices, advice to prospective law students, or special events. If you would like to author an article, reprint an article you have authored for another publication, or share a story idea, please write, call, or e-mail:

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Letter from the President



My job as President is to implement Cooley's Strategic Plan. The plan adopts a three-part mission and declares five vision statements to guide everything we do at Cooley. If we accomplish that mission, Cooley will be one of the very best law schools in the country, and a Cooley degree will have much greater value.

Our mission is straight forward, to provide our graduates with the knowledge, skills, and ethics that will allow them to be successful lawyers. The five visions are to become the nation's largest law school, the nation's most affordable, unsubsidized private law school, the nation's best school at preparing its graduates for practice, the nation's most innovative and flexible law school, and to remain financially strong.

Cooley has been busy implementing the plan. The fall started with a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new Grand Rapids' Cooley Law School building, which will be located at 111 Commerce, and ended with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Cooley Law School library, located in O'Dowd Hall on the campus of Oakland University.

Cooley's new \$2.8 million, 18,480 sq. ft. state-of-the-art 5th floor courtroom complex also opened in the fall of 2003. It is an incredible facility and I urge people to visit Cooley-Lansing to see it. If you haven't been to Cooley lately, make a point to visit your *alma mater* for a Courtroom Grand Opening event being planned for January 2004. For those alumni who can't make it back to Lansing, the next *Benchmark* will highlight the new courtrooms.

We have opened two Master of Laws programs at the Oakland University campus, one in Intellectual Property and the other in Taxation, both of which have the approvals of the ABA and the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. A Master's program in Employment and Labor Law, which will be a three-way endeavor with Oakland University and Western Michigan University, is in the final review stages within the schools and will soon be the subject of applications with the accrediting bodies. Additional Master of Laws programs in Corporate Law and Education Law are under review within Cooley.

Cooley is now the largest Juris Doctor program in the nation, with a student enrollment of 2,317. Read my report on *Why Bigger is Better* on the Cooley home page and also click on *Judging the Law Schools*. The report now has an interactive element where you can compare all the nation's ABA-approved law schools using objective data as reported in the ABA's *Official Guide to Approved Law Schools*. Keep up on all the latest news, events, and information about Cooley by visiting the Cooley Web site at www.cooley.edu.

Don LeDuc
President and Dean

Alumni Database Password for Cooley Law School's Web Site

Please call the Alumni Relations Office at (800) 243-ALUM, or in the Lansing area call 371-5140, ext. 2038, or email alumni@cooley.edu if you have any problems.

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FOOD *for* THOUGHT

By Jane C. Parikh
Kalamazoo Gazette

Ken Miller may be best known for restaurants in Kalamazoo and South Haven areas, but he's giving people real food for thought with his goal of creating a strong connection between Western Michigan University and downtown Kalamazoo.

Miller, 55, is a majority owner of the Kalamazoo-based Millennium Restaurant Group. The business enterprise owns the Black Swan and its lounge, Martell's; Epic Bistro/Bin 359; and the Union in Kalamazoo, and next year is expected to open the Fieldstone Grill in Portage.

He is also a co-owner of Mixed Grill Inc., which owns the Three Pelicans and the Idler restaurant, both in South Haven; Coyote Creek restaurant in Paw Paw; and Waldo's Campus Tavern in Kalamazoo.

But when former Gov. John Engler appointed Miller to the WMU Board of Trustees, food was not what he had in mind.

"The biggest thing is to bring WMU and the downtown area closer together," Miller said. "When Engler asked me to become a trustee, that was the goal. Getting Western to participate at some level downtown is a goal of mine."

...when former Gov. John Engler appointed Miller to the WMU Board of Trustees, food was not what he had in mind.

Kenneth Nacci, president of Downtown Kalamazoo Inc., said his first dealings with Miller occurred when Miller joined the Downtown Development Authority board and began work on the Epic Bistro. Nacci said Miller is taking more of a leadership role in downtown development, but many of his efforts aren't readily apparent to the community. "What I like to see most is Ken's connection with WMU," Nacci said. "Ken is a (WMU) trustee and provides a natural link to downtown."

Miller said he thinks there is a geographical dividing line between the university and the downtown area that is slowly being breached.

"We have to offer students something like places to live and shop and classrooms," Miller said of the downtown area.

A varied career before restaurants

But, like many success stories Miller's didn't start out the way it has ended up.

Miller was born and raised in Albion and began planting roots in Kalamazoo when he attended WMU, where he earned undergraduate and graduate degrees. He went on to earn a law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 1977.



In between his time at Cooley and WMU, he sold computers and spent about eight hours in the Army.

"I had high blood pressure and they let me go," Miller said of the Army. After 15 years of practicing law, Miller gave it up to pursue other interests in partnership with his brother, Jerry.

The Miller brothers' initial entrée was fixing up old houses. Then someone contacted them about venture-capital opportunities. They invested in an Indiana-based orthopedics company called Biomet in 1979, and Miller remains on the board of directors and the executive committee and good friends with the company's founders.

Shortly after the Biomet investment, Miller became involved with Enterprise Oil in Houston. Unlike the Indiana company, he did not possess the Midas touch with the oil company. "It was bad timing," Miller said. "We made a mistake."

But, he said, mistakes "teach you that you're fallible" and that even the best-thought-out plans don't work.

"Underlying so many of the problems and mistakes are people," Miller said. "We did not invest in the right people."

The Houston experience seems to have been an exception to the rule.

He had a successful run as the owner of local radio stations B93 FM 93.7 and WMZO-AM 560 in California and Nevada.

"Those were fun years," Miller said. "But we were too small to play that game."

The Idler first restaurant venture

He said he was as actively involved with the radio stations as he is now with his restaurants, a venture he began in 1987 when he and a group of investors purchased the Idler Riverboat in South Haven. The lower level was converted into a casual, fine-dining restaurant called the Magnolia Grille and the upper deck became the Bayou Beach Club.

Following the success of that project, the group then purchased and created several other restaurants in southwestern Michigan, including the former Chianti/Players Pub and the Black

Swan/Martell's in Kalamazoo. The Millennium Group also owns the Three Pelicans in South Haven and Coyote Creek in Paw Paw. The group also bought and later sold Charlie





Marlin's in Grand Haven.

The restaurants have been a success conceptually, Miller said, adding that he did have concerns about the financial end of the various operations.

"Restaurants are a dicey business," he said. "The best of them have a thin profit margin. I think what makes people so afraid is that they're so pervasive. It's a highly exposed industry."

As a general rule Miller said he doesn't target the mass market.

"We target smaller markets and with each restaurant we try to make it unique and differentiate it from others," he said.

Despite the potential for major job losses in downtown Kalamazoo following Pfizer Inc.'s buyout of Pharmacia Corp., Miller remains optimistic about the area's future. He said the community weathered the closure of the General Motors plant in Comstock and Pharmacia's merger with Upjohn Co.

"Downtown as a geographic area will be initially hurt," Miller said. "But even if [Pfizer] pulls research out of here completely, downtown will survive."

Knowing that stronger ties with WMU could mean an influx of more than 30,000 potential visitors to the downtown area, Miller said it is imperative to foster those connections.

"Western is the entity to be reckoned with," Miller said.

Commitment served behind the scenes

Miller said he does what he does because he is so committed to the Kalamazoo community.

For much of the last 10 years he has worked behind the scenes. He said establishing a leadership position takes time and it isn't something a person can just jump into.

Nacci said Miller is involved in many areas of the community and has chosen to keep a low profile.

"He seems to be taking on more and more of a leadership role downtown, but has been very quiet about it," Nacci said. "Ken has a formula for the way he does things."

Nacci said Miller's restaurant group has helped to build a critical mass in the downtown area.

"When you look at the growth in the downtown-entertainment industry Ken is a critical part of that," Nacci said. "I think he found a formula that works. Part of that formula is he finds folks who know the business and he lets them run it.

"I want to be comfortable with what I did," Miller said of his various plans and involvements.

Brigit Klohs, chairwoman of WMU's Board of Trustees, said she was "delighted" to have Miller on the board.

"He's played a terrific and constructive role," Klohs said. "He's a very thoughtful and caring booster for Western,



KEN MILLER'S VARIOUS BUSINESS INVOLVEMENTS INCLUDE SERVING AS:

- Partner and executive vice president/chief operating officer of Havirco, a Kalamazoo-based investment-management firm.
- Director and vice chairman of Keystone Community Bank and Keystone Financial Corp. of Kalamazoo.
- Director and member of the executive committee of Biomet Inc., a Warsaw, Ind.-based manufacturer and marketer of orthopedic and surgical products.
- Director and co-founder of Av Tech Laboratories, a pharmaceutical-products-testing laboratory based in Kalamazoo.
- Chairman and co-founder of TEAM Industries., a manufacturer of expanded polystyrene, used primarily in commercial and residential construction, based in Grand Rapids.
- Majority owner of the Millennium Restaurant Group and co-owner of Mixed Grill Restaurant Group, based in Kalamazoo.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS

Community activities take up at least one-third of Ken Miller's time. In a volunteer capacity he serves as:

- A Western Michigan University board of trustees trustee.
- Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra president.
- Kalamazoo Valley Community College Foundation chairman.
- Haworth College of Business Advisory Council chairman.
- An active supporter of Downtown Kalamazoo Inc. and the Downtown Development Association.

the community, and the region.

"He has listened. He can take very complex issues and help discuss them constructively and move the process along."

Miller said he considers it an obligation to pay back the community for his good fortune.

"No community can run on its own," Miller said.

He said he is fortunate to have a supportive wife, Julie, who helps him with his business and volunteer ventures.

"[Julie] has kind of become my go-to-person," Miller said of his wife of two years.

The line between Miller's personal and professional life frequently blurs. He said many of his friends are lawyers, bankers, and his business partners, so he socializes with many of the people he does business with.

When he needs to relax, Miller said he plays golf or travels. Closer to home he enjoys fixing fences or moving trees at his horse farm in Texas Township.

"There are times when I feel overwhelmed. When I'm in that excess mode, I hunker down and get through all of my commitments," Miller said.

"You plan for your norms and suffer for your excesses."

Danilo Anselmo

Cooley Grad Advances at the Michigan Supreme Court

When Danilo Anselmo (Chandler Class, 1983) and his family emigrated from the Philippines in 1971, Cooley Law School was still a dream and not yet a part of the Lansing, Mich., landscape.



A couple years later, about the time the former Manila resident was graduating from a Lansing high school, Cooley became a reality and Anselmo's future — although he may not have realized it at the time — was set in motion.

That's because four years later, after Anselmo graduated from Michigan State University, he decided to follow in his father's footsteps and become a lawyer.

Anselmo's father was a labor lawyer in the Philippines. When they decided to come to the United States, they came to Lansing, where Anselmo's uncle had lived since 1954. It was a big change from an all-boys private school to an urban public high school in the early 1970s, but Anselmo adapted well to his new life and to his studies.

Just a couple years after graduating from Cooley, Anselmo joined the Michigan Supreme Court staff as a Legal Editor. In that capacity, he was responsible for editing published Michigan Court of Appeals opinions. Before joining the Supreme Court, he served as a law clerk and court officer in 54-A District Court in Lansing.

In February 2003, Anselmo was promoted to the position of Reporter of Decisions. He succeeded Norman C. Helfer, who retired from the court.

The Reporter of Decisions is responsible for editing and publishing decisions of the Michigan Supreme Court and the Michigan Court of Appeals. The Reporter of Decisions also publishes Michigan court rules, rules of evidence, and Supreme Court administrative orders.

Anselmo, 48, whose office is in the new, state-of-the-art Hall

of Justice Building in Lansing, spends much of his work time reviewing other editors, but he does original work also in summarizing the opinions.

Anselmo's work suits him perfectly.

"I'm more interested in the law at an abstract level," he explained, adding that reviewing the law as the opinions come through is one of the things he finds most interesting about his job.

The Supreme Court is happy to have him. Chief Justice Maura D. Corrigan said that Anselmo "brings to the position 18 years of experience as a Legal Editor working under the Reporter of Decisions. The court is glad to have someone of his expertise in this position."

How did he get interested in the law in the first place? In addition to having a father in the field, Anselmo perceives "the law as a peaceful way to resolve differences."

Always one with a fine attention to detail, Anselmo points out that the jurist for whom his alma mater was named — Thomas MacIntyre Cooley — was himself a Reporter of Decisions for the Michigan Supreme Court from 1858 to 1864 — then went on to serve on the Supreme Court.

Anselmo has no plans to follow a similar path but instead focuses on his post as Reporter of Decisions. Anselmo's success illustrates just how varied the jobs in law can be. From the rough and tumble litigation arena, to the quiet study of the fine points of law at the top levels of the state court system, Cooley graduates are finding a home — and finding that they can excel at the job.

Joseph P. Overton

Cooley graduate

VP of Influential Mackinac Center for Public Policy, Dies in Ultra-Light Crash

Joseph P. Overton, 43 (Carpenter Class, 1993), died in an ultra-light aircraft crash on June 30, 2003. He was the Senior Vice President of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, an independent, non-profit research and educational organization in Midland, Mich.

At the center, Overton directed research projects, staff operations, and strategic planning. He also authored a number of studies and commentaries for the center.

Mackinac Center staffers were stunned to hear of the death of Overton, whom they variously described as a "beloved colleague," "pillar of strength," "an inspiration," a "prime mover," and a "model citizen."

Mackinac Center President Lawrence Reed noted that Overton "leaves behind an indelible imprint on our organization and our state, and tributes will undoubtedly flow in from his many friends abroad as well."

Indeed they did. Condolences poured into the center from around the world with the news of Overton's death – tributes from six continents, a dozen countries, and more than half of the states in the United States.

Overton studied and promoted free market principles for over a decade and traveled to such countries as Colombia, Croatia, Greece, Indonesia, India, Italy, Malawi, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nicaragua, the People's Republic of China, Poland, Singapore, and Slovenia.

In Nairobi, Kenya, a leadership development program will be named for Overton. James Shikwatt, who heads East Africa's first free market research institute, the Inter-Region Economic Network, said the Joseph P. Overton Leadership Center will help introduce African youth and other future leaders to ideas on freedom and how to effectively manage institutions like think tanks that advance liberty.

Overton's role in the Mackinac Center's growth and influence was notable. Joseph G. Helman, executive vice president, said that Overton "was a prime mover in the organization's growth, helping it to become the largest of some 40 research institutes of its kind outside of Washington, D.C."

Before attending Cooley, Overton earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Michigan Technological University. After his graduation from Cooley, Overton was appointed by then-Gov. John Engler to the Michigan Appellate Defender Commission. He had been recommended for the

post by the Michigan Supreme Court. Before joining the Mackinac Center, Overton worked for Dow Chemical Company in various posts, including electrical engineer, project manager, and quality specialist.

Overton started with the Mackinac Center as a volunteer and then joined the full-time staff in January 1992. In Overton's obituary, it was noted that "he was a fountain of ideas, a genius at marketing and strategy, and a powerful motivator of people."

Overton is survived by his bride of three months, Helen; mother, Kathryn Overton; sister, Laurie (Saunders Bennett) of Cary, N.C.; brother, Scott (Tammy), of Coleman, Mich.; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence G. Overton.

Overton was known and praised for his religious faith, and it was a common thread among his eulogies. Commented Reed, the president of the Mackinac Center, "You can understand everything about Joe — from the sterling virtues to the seeming flaws or quirks — when you realize that to him, life was an exercise in character-building for eternity. He knew that your character is nothing less than the sum of your thoughts and actions, especially those you think or do when no one is watching. Joe believed that building character means striving to be upright in all things at all times. From memory he would share Luke 16:10: 'Unless you are faithful in small matters, you will not be faithful in large ones.' He pricked a conscience on more than one occasion by asking if you were 'cutting corners' on something."

Noted his friend and former roommate, State Rep. John Moolenaar, "Joe's convictions were not based solely on a patriotic love of country, but resulted from many hours of study, prayer, and reflection about our purpose in life and what it meant to glorify God and enjoy him forever."

Overton was a persuasive speaker, a champion of school choice and education reform, and a prolific author. His many published articles included "An Inside Look at the Government-School Mentality," "Right-to-Work Laws Accelerate Economic Development, New Study Finds Michigan Losing Ground to Right-to-Work States," "Michigan Public School Teachers Launch a Non-Union Revolution," "Mr. Smith Is in Washington," "Advancing Privatization and People," "Lessons from Outrageous Laws, and "Juvenile Justice Requires Juvenile Responsibility."

Allen M. Chung

Cooley Grad Brings Heritage, Valuable Experience to Post in Admissions



Allen M. Chung's first thought when he stepped out of the airport in Lansing, Mich., was "Wow, I can breathe!" as he reveled in the relatively clean air of Michigan's capital city.

Chung spent his first seven years in South Korea, then moved to New York City with his family. Chung's father, Michael O. Chung graduated from Cooley in 1993 and his son followed him across the commencement stage less than a decade later.

Chung (Chase Class, 2002) is now Cooley Law School's newest Assistant Director of Admissions. He can be found in the Admissions Office in the Cooley Center when he is not out representing the law school at recruitment events.

It's been a long, gritty, and often colorful path to get here.

In 1975, Chung and his family emigrated from South Korea to the United States in search of education and a better life. They settled in New York City, where Allen's father, opened and operated a grocery store. It was hard work, Allen said, recalling the long hours and the tough neighborhood they worked in.

Chung and his father also ran the AA (which stood for Allen and his brother, Alex) Gulf Station on Staten Island. The manager there may have been the Chungs' first Michigan connection. "He was a tough Korean guy. He learned the trade from the age of six. He came with the place and was a great mechanic."

Chung enrolled at John Jay College but would soon face another life-changing move.

After 14 years of surviving in the competitive business, the Chungs had enough and headed for Michigan.

"It was like another emigration," he recalled, "another chance for a better life."

Chung's father, always a strong proponent of education, enrolled at Cooley Law School, graduating with the Moore Class in 1993. Currently, he is a member of the Michigan, New York, and New Jersey Bars. Six years later, Allen followed in his father's footsteps and graduated in September 2002. Chung's mother opened her own flower shop, where Chung worked during law school.

For a while, it looked as though Chung's professional life would indeed be in sales — although not in the flower shop. Instead his career was almost in auto sales. It all came about

when Chung went to a local car dealership to help a friend buy a car. The manager was so impressed with Chung's negotiating skills, he made an offer to hire him on the spot. Within four months Chung was the top salesperson, but he recalls the most memorable sale was when he sold a car to his very first client. Still pressing on Chung, however, was the need to go back to school. He had just started in college in New York when the family moved, and he needed to pick up that aspect of his life.

Life is full of defining moments. For Chung, one of those moments came when he enrolled at Lansing Community College and met two professors who inspired in him newfound enthusiasm for academics and "really changed my way of looking at education."

Chung went on to earn his bachelor's degree in international relations at James Madison College at Michigan State University, and then his Juris Doctor degree at Cooley.

With his recent law school experience, his valuable Korean language skills, and a strong work ethic, Chung was a natural when an opening for Assistant Director occurred in the Cooley Admissions Office. Chung was already known to the Admissions staff through his work as a translator for a Korean Cooley-student-to-be. He was active in the community even before Cooley, however.

While at MSU, Chung and three others started Korean Students United, a social group designed to create awareness of the Korean culture and stronger bonding among Korean-American and international students from Korea. At Cooley, Chung once again gathered people together and started a group, this time named the Korean & International Students Association (KISA), as a social and networking group for international students. KISA made the national news in a Chicago-based Korean newspaper.

The group helps its members with all kinds of issues, from school matters to such practical matters as where to live and find consumer goods that they miss from home. Of the 22 international students enrolled in the September 2003 class at Cooley, only Canada (at 9) has more students than Korea (7).

Chung is excited about his new position with Cooley and is determined to expand Cooley's presence internationally.

Scribes Celebrates 50th Anniversary. Cooley Professors Involved



Cooley Professor Otto Stockmeyer is now President-Elect of Scribes, the American Society of Writers on Legal Subjects. Scribes is a national association of lawyers, judges, law professors, and legal editors interested in promoting good legal writing.

Stockmeyer readies for the leadership of Scribes at an important time in the organization's history. Scribes is celebrating its 50th year in operation.

The organization started when the New Jersey Chief Justice at the time, Arthur T. Vanderbilt, proposed forming an organization of lawyers and law professors interested in promoting good legal writing. In 1953, 41 like-minded lawyers convened at the ABA annual meeting to create Scribes. Now, five decades later, Scribes membership exceeds 1,000 published lawyers, judges, law professors, and legal editors who support the society's goal of promoting and recognizing excellence in legal writing.

In support of its goal, Scribes publishes *The Scribes Journal of Legal Writing*. Cooley Professor Joseph Kimble serves as the Editor in Chief of the publication, which is produced at Cooley.

To further its support of excellence in writing, Scribes also presents the annual Scribes Book Award at the ABA annual meeting. This award is for the best work of legal scholarship.

The Scribes Law Review Award, presented at the National Conference of Law Reviews annual meeting, is given for the best student writing in a law review.

In addition, the Scribes Best Brief Writing Award, also presented at the ABA annual meeting, is given for the best student brief entered in a national moot court competition.

Michigan is well represented in Scribes, with the state having the third-highest membership in the society.

For more information about Scribes, visit the society's Web site at www.scribes.org.



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promoting
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writing.

Learning and Teaching Professionalism

By Donald Tucker

President, Oakland County Bar Association (OCBA)

We, as lawyers, are professionals. We hold ourselves out to our friends, neighbors, clients, and the community in general as different from, and even above, the rest of the working world by virtue of our profession and what it requires of us. But what is a professional? Indeed, why are attorneys considered professionals?

Our Personal Experiences

Each of us can look back on our career — whether long or short — and point to examples of how we were taught to be a lawyer. I, for one, was extraordinarily lucky. Thirty-one years ago I came to Oakland County directly from law school to the firm of Hartman Beier Howlett McConnel and Googasian. On my first day, I was given my own set of the Michigan General Court Rules, handed an application to join the OCBA at firm expense, and taken out to Oakland County Circuit Court to personally be introduced to each judge. Daily life in the firm, including weekly lunches hosted by one of the partners and monthly firm dinner meetings, included candid discussions about our obligations to our clients, being respectful to the courts, how we should deal with opposing counsel, and how we as a firm and individuals should act to preserve the respect of our fellow lawyers, which was viewed as a preeminent goal. Looking back, I know it is that experience which taught me (and many lawyers who have worked with me since that time) how to be a professional. I am sure you can pinpoint similarly impactful experiences.

Our Code of Conduct

We are very fortunate as a profession to have a written guide, the Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct, adopted in 1988, which provides us with a quick reference for such matters as our

relationship with our clients, our role as a counselor and advocate, conflicts of interest, our obligation to public service, and how we should hold ourselves out to the community. These rules are clear and concise, and each of us is wise to review those rules at least annually. They codify what should be common sense, but is on occasion forgotten in the heat of battle in the busyness of our daily lives.

Interestingly, in addressing the lawyer/client relationship in Rule 1.1, the Rules of Professional Conduct emphasize competence, diligence and communication (along with discussion of the scope of representation) as the preeminent rules governing our relationship with our clients. The emphasis on these three factors may be the keys to satisfying our clients in a professional manner: Know what you're doing, do it promptly, and keep the client advised of the status.

Professionalism in Our Daily Lives

Take a moment and reflect about your own experience. What were you taught as you began your practice? What have you learned through experience that you would like to teach newer lawyers?

To me, the characteristics of the professional are the same as those that make our pressure-filled lives as lawyers tolerable. They include such straightforward traits as returning telephone calls; always keeping your word; completing tasks on time; treating opposing counsel

with both respect and cordiality; respecting the human concerns not only of your client, but also those of the opposing counsel, his or her own client, the judge and the court's employees, and your own employees. Honesty, civility and diligence are the hallmarks of competent opposing counsel, and it is through the practice of these traits — and the reasonable expectation that opposing counsel will do the same — that is the sign of genuine respect that we all owe each other and deserve for ourselves.

I offer this humble suggestion: Make a list of all the actions that are most important to you in your dealings with opposing counsel and your clients, and ask yourself two questions. First, do you follow these principles every day, without exception, in your practice? Second, have you taken the time to impart these qualities to the newer lawyers in your firm or organization? If the answer is yes to both, then you are contributing to the professionalism of all lawyers; if your answer is not yes to either, then you will better the profession immediately by doing so.

Our Obligations to Public Service

One of the principal reasons that I went into law was my belief, substantiated in my 30-plus years of practice, that lawyers are agents for nonviolent change for the better in society. We provide the means through which

disputes may be resolved without resort to self-help. Our role as systematic reformers — challenging the powers that be to be better, and suggesting alternatives for the improvement of our clients, our communities and our society — is one of our highest callings.

Among the obligations to provide public service that we have, not only as officers of the court but also as human beings, is to provide our services in a *pro bono publico* capacity. This is not aspirational, it is memorialized in Rule 6 of the Rules of Professional Conduct, entitled “Public Service.” How do we fulfill that obligation? Some of us accept employment from clients who cannot afford to pay our legal services. Others offer to take assigned cases — either criminal matters from the court or *pro bono* cases from Legal Aid offices. Others make contributions to those offices or

client relationship, there is much about practicing law that a law school never touches on. When I was in Ann Arbor in the late '60s, the late Judge Horace W. Gilmore, then of the Wayne County Circuit Court and later of the U.S. District Court, taught a Saturday morning elective course on the subject of professionalism, but many of us chose not to spend our Saturday mornings in that way. Even now, law schools generally don't emphasize professionalism in their curriculum.

A refreshing exception to this is the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, which recently opened its inaugural satellite program at Oakland University, thereby becoming the first law school in Oakland County. Cooley has adopted a “Professionalism Plan” which has as its goal “professionalism taught, learned and lived in law school.”

congratulations for opening the first law school in our county, but a special congratulations and thank you for this extraordinary program that is a leader for law schools around the country. For more information regarding the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Professionalism Plan, you may call the school at (517) 371-5140 or access the Web site at www.cooley.edu.

What Is Professionalism to You?

Although we have Rules of Professional Conduct to guide our actions, our real learning experience comes from those wise lawyers from whom we learned by either listening or observing. There lies the message to all of us. Those of us who are long in the tooth should look around and find newer lawyers to whom we can impart — perhaps in an informal context — the lessons we have



other legal services providers to the poor such as the State Bar's “Access to Justice” campaign, which is designed to raise endowment to fund legal services for the needy indefinitely into the future. You may contribute to the Access to Justice campaign by calling the State Bar at (800) 968-1442.

It is our profession that makes public service a duty, not an option. I suggest that it is more than a duty; it is a calling to each of us who can provide so much to clients who otherwise would never be able to access our services.

I Didn't Learn It in Law School

From time to time, you hear lawyers talk about the things they didn't learn in law school. From client development activities, to billing practices, to collection of bills, to the maintaining of a positive

Meeting last month with Associate Dean of Development and Programs Jim Robb, a longtime OCBA member, I learned that Cooley Dean Don LeDuc has established 18 initiatives which, when implemented, will involve Cooley law students in the development of a “core portfolio” for professional growth and activities throughout their three years in law school, going far beyond their classroom work in Professional Responsibility. This program is designed to instill a sense of professionalism in each student at Cooley, monitor the development of that professionalism, and introduce graduates into our profession who are imbued with the sense that professionalism is an integral part of their careers.

Not only does Dean LeDuc and Cooley Law School deserve our

learned about professionalism. For those of you who are newer lawyers, identify with one or two lawyers to whom you look up, and approach them to share their experiences with you. With these efforts, we will ensure that the best of our profession is shared and passed on, not only to preserve our important role in society, but also to improve our daily lives.

'Tis the Season

To each of you I extend the warmest of holiday greetings. Take time to thank your clients, your fellow lawyers, and your family and friends for all the wonderful things they have done this year. Have a lovely holiday.

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race 4 education



Lansing, Michigan — Nearly \$8,000 was donated to area educational institutions in summer 2003 following the fourth annual 5K Race for Education at The Thomas M. Cooley Law School on June 6. Nearly 300 runners and walkers finished the event, which also featured children's races, the Uptown Band, and other activities.

All participants who signed up for this annual race designated an educational institution to receive a cash award if their name was picked in a postrace drawing. Nominees can be an institution at any level of education, K-12, higher education, private or public schools.

This year, the top dollar winner was Ovid-Elsie High School, which was nominated by Pete Treleaven. Ovid-Elsie High School received a check for \$3,693.89. This amount beats last year's 50 percent winner by nearly \$750.

Administrators at Ovid-Elsie High School received their school's donation enthusiastically.

"We were surprised and delighted with the generous check generated from your recent 5K Race for Education," responded Ovid-Elsie Principal Kirk A. Baese.

"The check comes at a time when funds are being pushed to their limits and the cost of textbooks and other classroom supplies, is rising dramatically. The check is welcome and appreciated by those of

us who must meet the budget crunch. You can be assured that the money will be used wisely."

The 25 percent proceeds winner was the 21st Century program at Bingham Elementary School in Lansing. Bingham's program was nominated by Jason Bremer, and received a check for \$1,846.94.

The check comes at a particularly good time for the 21st Century program, as well, responded Bremer. "This is a happy day for me," Bremer said. "The program is running on fumes."

The enrichment program, set up to keep kids off the streets in the 3-6 p.m. period, is funded by a grant, which was to run out in May, but Bremer said that they earned enough money to keep it going for the summer. The popular program provides activities for students during winter break, summer vacation, and after school.

The 10 percent winners were Michigan State University, nominated by Doug Mielock, and Impression 5 Museum, nominated by Janice Trudgeon. Each institution received a check for \$738.78.

The 5 percent proceeds winner was Central Elementary in Okemos, nominated by Cooley Professor Patrick Corbett. Central received a check for \$369.39.

In addition, the Cooley Race also has a drawing for a Cooley prize of \$1,000 (if present for the award or \$500 if not present).

The Cooley prize winner this year was Okemos High School, which was nominated by Trey Baughman. Cooley donated \$500 to the school.

In the four years that Cooley has operated the 5K Race, nearly \$23,000 has been given to area educational institutions.

For the race itself, the overall male winner was Chris Hughes, with a time of 15:50. He was also the overall male winner in Cooley's first 5K Race in 2000. Nikki Norris-Smith was the overall female winner, with a time of 17:27. Norris-Smith was also the 5K female overall winner in 2001.

The overall male master's winner was once again Roland Hensley with a time of 16:10. Hensley has won the race in this category in three of the four years that the race has been run. The overall female master's winner was Janice Spodarek with a time of 19:32.

All won a Romantic Adventure package from the Lansing Radisson Hotel, which included a one-night stay in a whirlpool suite, complimentary champagne and truffles, a rose upon arrival, breakfast for two in Seville's Restaurant, full use of the indoor pool, whirlpool, sauna, and exercise room.



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Alumni golf

One hundred and four golfers played in the 2003 Alumni Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing on Saturday, July 12. This was the fourth outing held at Wheatfield Valley Golf Course, near Williamston, Mich. The annual gathering raises funds for a scholarship granted to a current Thomas Cooley student each Hilary Term.

The Alumni Memorial Scholarship is awarded based upon financial need, academic achievement, extracurricular activities and other considerations. This year, \$7,587.48 will be added to the scholarship fund. The generosity of the golfers and hole sponsors is greatly appreciated by the Alumni Association and Cooley's students.

The golfers enjoyed a cool morning and sunny skies. The winning foursome was Stephan Holland (Jay Class, 2000), Melissa Redmond (Jay Class, 2000), Marc Slocum, and Matt Slocum. Mick Grewal (Hooker Class, 1993), Jeff Barrett, Annu Grewal, and Randy Behrman came in second. Current students John Cuschieri (Toy Class, 2003), Kyle Maninger (Swift Class, 2004), Dan Lambert (Swift Class, 2004), and Eric Laue (Swift Class, 2004) were the third place finishers.

The team with the lowest score in which all four golfers were Thomas Cooley alums consisted of Thomas A. Halm (Carr Class, 1984), Vincent W. Welicka (Pratt Class, 1988), David E. Prine (Sherwood Class, 1986), and Charles Justian (Chandler Class, 1983). The group with the highest score was Shawn Gillispie (T. Johnson Class, 2002), Daniel P. Driscoll (T. Johnson Class, 2002), Bradley Butcher (Iredell Class, 2001), and Jacob J. Pitre (T. Johnson, Class 2002).

The team with the highest number of cumulative years since Thomas Cooley graduation was the perennial winner,

Jerry Sutton (Cooley Class, 1976), Gary Tyler (Cooley Class, 1976), Tom Lapka (Wing Class, 1982), and Richard O'Neill (Cooley Class, 1976).

In the category of individual awards, Laura Graham (Cushing Class, 2000) sank the longest putt. Annu Grewal's shot made him the person who was closest to the pin. Michael Murphy (Wilson Class, 2001) made the man's longest drive on the fairway and Susan Metzger had the woman's longest drive. Unfortunately, no individual won the hole-in-one contest prize, a 2004 Cadillac CTS, although Steve McAlvey came closest.

This year's outing also determined the winners of the Fourth Annual Cooley Cup. This is a traveling trophy that recognizes the team with the lowest score that has at least three members from the same law firm or legal employment association (such as a prosecuting attorney's office). In 2000, Robin Omer (Ransom Class, 1978), Diane Bernick (Kelly Class, 1978), Dustin Foster (Fellows Class, 1997), and Dennis Bernick won the Cooley Cup for the firm of Bernick, Omer & Radner, P.C. In 2001, the Hubbard Fox law firm won the prize, thanks to the golfing skills of Jim Mauro (Champlin Class, 1987), Johanna Carey, (Kuhn Class, 1995), Brian Surgener (McGrath Class, 1992), and John Caudell. The cup returned to the firm of Bernick, Omer & Radner in 2002, owing to the skills of Patricia Ouellette (Steere Class, 1995), Scott Mertens (Rutledge Class, 2000), Diane Bernick (Kelly Class, 1978), and Dustin Foster (Fellows Class, 1997).

This year the cup stays at Bernick, Omer, Radner & Ouellette, P.C., located at 2400 Lake Lansing Road in Lansing. Patricia Ouellette (Steere Class, 1995), Mark



2003 outing

Gende, Diane Bernick (Kelly Class, 1978), and Dustin Foster (Fellows Class, 1997) made up the winning team. Looks like it is becoming an office fixture for that law firm. The trophy will be displayed there until next summer, when it is up for grabs again.

Beyond celebrating the athletic abilities of the golfers, the contributions of hole sponsors and other donors to the event must be recognized. The hole sponsors for the 2003 Alumni Memorial Golf Outing were: Alumni Executive Committee members Charles R. Toy, Jeff Haarer, Suzanne Lowe, Julie Clement, and Diane Britt; AFLAC — Pat Fuller; Alumni Past President Virginia P. Allen; the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel; Alumni President M. Carol Bamberg; Capitol Cadillac; Mike Carr-Lee Wayne Corp.; Rush Clement; Cooley Law School; Cooley Law School Associate Deans Charles Mickens, Helen Mickens, Ann Miller, Amy Timmer, and Paul Zelenski; Cooley Law School Associate Dean for Development Jim Robb; the Cooley Law School Bookstore; Cooley Law School Development, Alumni Relations and Reputation Faculty Committee — Professors Ron Bretz, Mary D'Isa, Judy Frank, Keith Hey, and Larry Morgan; Cooley Law School Director Alumni Relations Director Darryl Parsell; Cooley Law School Professors Kate Butler, Mike Cox, Eileen Kavanagh, Joe Kimble, Dan McNeal, Kathy Swedlow, and Ann Wing; Cooley Law School in Grand Rapids — Aletha Honsowitz; Cooley Law School LL.M. Program — Associate Dean Bill Weiner; Cooley Law School at Oakland University — Associate Dean John Nussbaumer; Cooley Law School Practice, Advocacy and Litigation Skills Dept. — Prof Marj Russell; Cooley Law School President Don LeDuc; two sponsorships from the Cooley Law School

Student Bar Association; Cooley Law School staff members Tony Alvarado, Marylynn Bain, Cherie Beck, Terry Carella, Margie Doyle, Audra Foster, Stephanie Gregg, Kathy Neros, Laurie Taylor, and Sherida Wysocki; the Daily Bagel; the Detroit Tigers; Greater Lansing Symphony Orchestra; GW Company; Jackson National Life; Jeff Jablonski and Brenda Popplewell; Kleinbrook Financial Inc. — Chip Kleinbrook; Kositchek's; Lansing Sanitary Supply; Alumni Association Treasurer Henry Legere, Jr.; Neiman Marcus — Bruce Smith; Plante & Moran; Khalid Sheikh; Sutton Advisors; Wheatfield Valley Golf Course; and Court of Appeals Judge William Whitbeck.

In addition to the aforementioned hole sponsors, the following individuals and firms gave contributions of goods and services, which made the outing a success: Beaners Gourmet Coffee, First National Bank of Michigan, Brown & Bigelow — Tom Todd, Clara's Lansing Station Restaurant, Korner Kitchen Restaurant, and the Lansing Lugnuts.

Following the completion of 18 holes of golf, the participants gathered at the Wheatfield Valley clubhouse for a steak lunch and the awards ceremony. Cooley Law School's Alumni Association thanks all of the golfers and donors who made the event so successful and invites everyone to attend the 2004 Alumni Memorial Scholarship Golf Outing. Next year's outing is again scheduled to be held at the Wheatfield Valley Golf Course on Saturday, July 10, so please save the date on your calendar.

The members of the Alumni Association hope to double the number of scholarships granted next year and we need your help, as do current Cooley students. There are few need-based scholarships available at Cooley, and our Alumni Memorial Scholarship is the most important one. To build the fund, play golf at the 2004 outing, sponsor a hole, or make a direct contribution to the Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund. Contact Alumni Relations Director Darryl Parsell at (800) 243-ALUM, in Lansing call 371-5140, ext. 2038, or e-mail <parsell@cooley.edu> for more information. Contributors receive a donation receipt for tax purposes and the appreciation of the Alumni Association.



Small business: reduce taxes and save big bucks for those who make the right moves

By Charles Kleinbrook, P.C.

When it comes to selecting a business entity, smart decisions can save a bundle. Proper planning can keep more dollars with the owner rather than the IRS. Unfortunately, far too often business owners make little effort to consider the options available. We often spend more time planning a vacation than planning our business structure. Corporate tax deductions can be significant. In particular, sole proprietors can miss the subtle tax deductions and benefits that significantly help small corporations. Cocktail party advice from a lawyer or other professional without a thorough evaluation of your current business situation may skip deductions and may be too myopic for a long-term strategy.

The purpose of this article is to identify the often overlooked fringe benefits that can help business owners, especially here in Michigan. Dollars currently being diverted elsewhere, especially during those pencil-biting weeks at tax time, may have special value to the small corporation.

Choosing an Entity

Should an owner of a business incorporate? Most likely, yes. A corporation is a "person" under the law. By forming a corporation, the officers and directors generally insulate themselves from personal liability, provided they act in accordance with the Michigan Corporation Act 1 and corporate bylaws. A corporation may not be the preferred business form in all circumstances. Owners quickly discover that most new corporations cannot obtain loans without personal guarantees.

Those personal guarantees will not avoid creditors if the business goes belly-up. In many cases, however, incorporation for small businesses will provide a number of advantages over a sole proprietorship or a partnership.

By the same measure, Michigan law permits the creation of similar entities that help limit liability — Limited Liability Partnerships and Companies (LLPs and LLCs). Partnerships joint ventures, and sole proprietorships do not afford the same level of insulation, as a rule. The pros and cons of each, along with a thorough examination of each, are found in nearly any business library. Your attorney should volunteer to give you a comparison spreadsheet for free.

If an LLP deducts the same expenses, why be an LLC or regular corporation? An LLP may well have certain liability protections that make it a smart choice, but rarely the best. Considering the total deductions and reimbursements available, as well as greater liability protection, a traditional corporation or LLC is the better move. If properly policed by the owner, the CPA and the attorney, these entities extend greater latitude when one considers pension plan options, key-person life insurance, and buy-sell agreements.

An LLC for high liability property?

Let's pretend that you have a boat or jet-ski, or maybe a cottage by the lake. These are high-risk activities, especially if your guests consume alcohol. It may well be in your best interest to place those parcels in an LLC. Why? Because if properly titled, it offers greater

protection from those claims arising from high-liability activities, especially if your coverage is insufficient, if you forget to pay the premium, or if the insurance company denies the claim for one reason or another.

Business Deductions

What tax benefits exist for small corporations and LLCs? As a rule of thumb, any business can deduct anything that is reasonably related to the business. As long as you have receipts and as long as it passes the "laugh test" (i.e., would a reasonable person not laugh at the attempt to reimburse yourself), then most obvious items are fully reimbursable/deductible. However, the not-so-obvious tax advantages that may not otherwise apply to a sole proprietor are listed here:

- Deductibility of certain business, estate- and tax-planning preparation fees from professionals, and start-up fees;
- Deductibility of health insurance premiums, disability premiums, and liability coverage for shareholders, officers, and directors — (and get this!): for family members as long as coverage is not discriminatory among other employees and as long as the family members are officers/employees; reimbursement of out-of-pocket medical, dental, and optical expenses and deductibles;
- Full or partial deductibility of life insurance premiums through split-dollar agreements and buy-sell insurance;
- Deductibility of fringe benefits, like business travel, company cars, and



ness purpose, and is not required to practice in that business. For example, if you create a coffee wholesaling corporation, and then get an international business degree to help expand your international coffee business, the company can legally reimburse your tuition. Whereas that old student loan from 10 years ago in political science can't be reimbursed when you form an LLC after getting your law degree. Many large companies permit any type of tuition reimbursement as long as the benefit does not discriminate between employees. Be sure that your CPA approves your plan before paying the tuition bills.

High-Limit Pensions

The IRS permits employers to create numerous pension options to corporations. Traditional 401(k) plans permit hefty matches and benefits to single-person corporations if you are willing to fork over one or two thousand dollars each year in legal and accounting fees. Some folks earn \$100K and contribute another \$100K to their traditional 401(k) plan. But such plans have become fairly expensive and onerous to administer for small companies. Employers are often annoyed with the discrimination testing requirement in ordinary 401(k) plans. Instead, more companies turn to SIMPLE IRA and SEP plans. SIMPLE plans permit the employee to stash away upward of \$6,000 tax deferred and require a small percent matching by the employer. The SEP even permits up to 25 percent of earned income to be deferred. With the right income parameters, an owner can also sock away his regular Roth or Traditional IRA amount of \$3,000 per year; \$3,500 if you are over 50. That is hard to beat even when compared to a traditional 401(k). Even better, if you and/or a spouse are the sole employees, the IRS gives you a special bonus. The new Solo 401(k), for fees generally less than \$500 per year through a few fund families, permits contributions upward of \$40,000! Better still, you can take loans from the Solo 401(k)! This is a great choice for solo professionals. Add to that the regular Roth or Traditional IRA contribution, and you are in fine shape. In sum, a closely held company can contribute surprisingly high dollar amounts to its pension.

high-dollar contributions to your pension that can be paid directly by the corporation at substantial savings to the owners;

- Interest-free loans to shareholders under certain circumstances and delay of payment of quarterly taxes;
- Tuition reimbursement plans and student loan payment plans so long as the education is reasonably necessary for the business purpose and in the same business.

Medical Benefits

Many small business owners are painfully aware of the recent large increase in health insurance premiums. The trend does not appear to be slowing any time soon. This deductible cost alone may well convince owners to incorporate pronto. When the owners discover that 100 percent of premiums are deductible, there is a deep sense of comfort to them and their employees. A properly drafted medical reimbursement plan will permit deduction of the full amount of medical costs — a benefit unavailable to large corporations.

What deductions can a corporation take with regard to optical and dental expenses? The smaller the company, the better. For corporations with a handful of officers and directors, there is good news. Many optical costs, disability premiums, drug plans, and dental expenses may, through a contractual medical reimbursement agreement properly drafted by an attorney, be reimbursed by the corporation. The IRS authorizes such plans [see IRC Section 213(d)]. Be

advised, however, that health insurance coverage must follow strict requirements under IRS rules. To summarize the code, plans must not discriminate between officers and employees, with certain exceptions that your CPA can elaborate. The smaller the company, the more likely benefits can be paid for all medical, dental, and optical costs for owners and their families. The owner, however, can exclude employees who have not completed a certain length of employment, who are not a certain age, who work less than 30 hours a week, or who are seasonal, or who are union members covered by a separate contract.

Tuition Benefits

Can corporations pay for educational expenses incurred by employees? Sure. The corporation can adopt a tuition reimbursement plan that even lets full-time employees become part-time employees due to the course schedule. The plan can pay the installments or balance from retained earnings without being considered income to the employee. Another caution though: the employee/officer must clearly be an employee providing genuine services to the company in order to obtain this benefit. The education must be reasonable and necessary to the conduct of the business. For many small businesses, the education must be in the same line of business and not required in order to be qualified in that line of business. So, for small businesses, you can't pay off that college loan, unless the degree you obtained is concurrent with your corporation's existence, is relevant to the busi-



Discrimination Rules

What is the best way to comply with discrimination rules but still permit other tax benefits to my family? Depending on the nature of your business, some companies have little choice. But if your business can stratify its operations between different companies, the plan might permit different benefits to different company employees. Pretend you sell donuts. You own four stores. You own all four and have more than, say, five employees. There is no rule against creating an employee leasing company to provide benefits of a limited amount to the employees at all the shops. But, if you create another company to own the real estate and collect the rent, you have another option. That real estate company has separate and distinct books, shareholders, officers, and directors. You could make your family members officers and employees of that real estate leasing company and offer more generous benefits than if they were employees of the donut shops. As long as the companies are truly distinct and have a separate business purpose (with no employee overlap outside IRS limits), then you may well meet the discrimination tests.

Interest Free Short-Term Loans

Can the owner take an interest free loan from the corporation? You bet. Small loans (usually less than \$10,000) to shareholders are allowed and not necessarily subject to imputed interest if the loan is forgiven by the corporation at the end of the year and simply taken

as pay. Be sure that you have a promissory note duly executed and drafted by the company's attorney, with the corresponding resolutions to show that it is legitimate. Loans past the corporate year end or of higher principal amounts are more complicated. The IRS will impute interest and your CPA can tell you the particulars. In any event, you get a better break because loans taken during the year but forgiven in the last quarter avoid the quarterly tax payment rules. Ask a qualified accountant for the specifics here, too.

The Kleinbrook Credit Card Trick

In my corporation, I chose to get a personal credit card used on all personal and business expenses. I segregate the charges on each monthly bill and reimburse myself for any corporate expense. The bonus? The card generates frequent flier miles. Thanks to my corporation, expenses run through the personal credit card and — voila! — say hello to that free airline ticket to ski Banff!

A word to the wise

Any corporate structure should be in tandem with a properly drafted estate plan. Anything less might put your beneficiaries through unnecessary probate involvement if you are disabled or die. The will, trust, powers of attorney, patient advocate agreements for health care, and corporate documents must all dovetail to work right. Businessmen and women who build a "book of business" have special concerns. If your "book" is not subject to sale provisions on death or disability, your plan is substantially defective. That "book" must be specifically addressed in your trust. A business professional with no trust language that specifically sells your business? Yikes! Your spouse or beneficiaries will have a right to be miffed!

What good is your plan if you make millions only to have those dollars wasted away through probate court? Failing to hold assets in the name of your family trust just takes attorney fees from your family's inheritance.

State laws vary, so be sure that you contact advisers familiar with the subtleties. Don't try to operate on yourself. Select

an accountant and attorney who pledge to work in harmony. Deciding which business election is best for your situation and which tax benefits may apply is not rocket science, but it should not be taken lightly either. Some CPAs frown on traditional corporations because of double taxation rules and high costs in small companies. A single owner LLC is an easy and very feasible alternative. An objective, seasoned, and professional attorney and accountant will ensure that these concepts make your business complete, the first time. The adviser should pledge continual support and ongoing education to help sort through your specific needs as they may evolve. A yearly review is often overlooked, but well worth it. I offer my clients that courtesy for free.

Over the years I have had sophisticated clients who knew these rules, such as insurance agents and attorneys, but they were so consumed by their day-to-day work that they put off their plans until it was too late. It left their family sad and amazed that they did not plan the way they preached.

In sum, your properly crafted business and estate plans can offer significant tax savings. The effort and time put forward with your attorney and CPA will be well worth your time. It will put more money in your pocket, insulate your liability, and protect your family from future strife. Your family will appreciate your thoughtfulness, and any potential creditors will be all too amazed at your adept planning. I strongly encourage an annual personal and business review to consider these and other tax friendly tools to help you. If your adviser has not suggested these ideas, are you really getting the best advice?

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A graduate of Marquette University and Cooley Law School, a stockbroker and insurance agent since 1998, Mr. Kleinbrook operates a general practice law firm in Livonia, Michigan and has been advising individuals and small businesses since 1988.

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ROCKFORD COMPANIES BREAKS GROUND ON NEW COOLEY LAW SCHOOL

Officials from Rockford Companies (Rockford) and Cooley Law School (Cooley) held a groundbreaking ceremony Sept. 10, 2003 at the future home of Grand Rapids' Cooley Law School, located at 111 Commerce St. in downtown Grand Rapids' Cherry Street Landing district. The groundbreaking event celebrated the establishment of Cooley Law School's Grand Rapids campus and the partnership between Cooley and Western Michigan University.

"We are very fortunate to finally have a law school in our city," said Grand Rapids Mayor John Logie. "Cooley has truly made a significant investment in our city, and I want to recognize Rockford for its continued commitment to making our downtown area the place to be."

The construction project includes the renovation of two existing buildings and a 33,500-square-foot addition that will connect them. The project will be completed in four phases. Phase One, which is expected to be completed in January, 2004, includes the renovation and construction of a library on the lower level and first floor, partial second floor offices, and a lobby area. Cooley plans to open the first portions of the facility upon completion of Phase One.

"We have been looking to expand our program for some time now," said Cooley Law School President Don LeDuc. "With the increasing demand for legal education in Grand Rapids and West Michigan, it was clear to us that Grand Rapids was ready for a law school. It was a very natural move for us."

Rockford Companies' CEO John Wheeler announced that construction of all four phases will be complete in May 2006. He also expressed his excitement for Cooley's decision to locate in the Cherry Street Landing district. "We are pleased to partner with Cooley and we're excited about the vitality and level of sophistication that Cooley will bring to the area," said Wheeler. "Cherry Street Landing is a personal passion of mine. Rockford has been working to develop the area for the past five years and it's great to see it come to life. I see Cooley as an important anchor for the Cherry Street Landing neighborhood and for the sustainability of the district."

By fall 2006, Cooley plans to operate as a full branch campus at its own 100,000-square-foot facility. Enhancing its partnership with Western Michigan University, Cooley offered first-semester evening classes in May 2003 at WMU's Graduate Center downtown. In September 2003, Cooley opened its satellite campus on the fourth-floor of the Graduate Center and currently offers first-semester morning classes. In January 2004, Cooley will offer schedules for afternoon and weekend classes at its new facility.



Rockford Companies, which includes Rockford Construction Company and Rockford Development Group, has demonstrated a commitment to downtown Grand Rapids' revitalization for the past 15 years through a successful history of renovating and restoring historic and other buildings downtown for new uses. Projects include the Peck Building on Monroe Center, the Williams Arena Station, the Ferris State University/Kendall School of Art and Design, and Rockford's 32 Market Avenue corporate offices, in addition to the multiple projects in Cherry Street Landing district. Cherry Street Landing is an emerging district located within the boundaries of Cherry Street, Oakes Street, Ionia Avenue, and Commerce Avenue. Rockford partnered with the DeVos family in April 2003 to further the development of Cherry Street Landing. The partnership was formed through Rockford and the DeVos family's shared vision and commitment to downtown revitalization.

THE INNOCENCE PROJECT'S FIRST DNA RESULT – AND ITS FIRST EXONERATION!

On June 17, 2003, Kenneth Wyniemko walked out of prison after having served almost 10 years for a crime he did not commit.

His innocence was conclusively established by sophisticated DNA testing, prompted and pursued by students and faculty at the Thomas M. Cooley Innocence Project. Mr. Wyniemko was the 132nd person exonerated by DNA testing, and the second person to be so exonerated in the state of Michigan.

At the time of Mr. Wyniemko's trial, several key pieces of forensic evidence raised doubts about his involvement:

Biological evidence left at the scene of the crime was tested at the time of trial using basic blood type testing, but excluded Mr. Wyniemko as the source. Although Mr. Wyniemko steadfastly maintained his innocence from the time of his arrest, he was convicted of 15 counts of First Degree Criminal Sexual Conduct

and sentenced to 40-60 years for each count.

In November 2002, the Cooley Innocence Project — working with pro bono local counsel, Gail Pamukov — filed a motion for DNA testing under Michigan's postconviction DNA testing law. In December 2002, the Michigan State Police Crime Laboratory was directed to conduct DNA testing on all the evidence in the case. Because of advances in DNA technology, personnel at the Crime Laboratory were able to perform more sophisticated testing on items that could not have been tested at the time of Mr. Wyniemko's 1994 trial. That testing, completed in June 2003, definitively showed that Mr. Wyniemko had not committed this horrendous crime. And, while the DNA testing in this case also provided a DNA profile of the real perpetrator of this crime, he has not, as of this writing, been apprehended.



About The Cooley Innocence Project

On Jan. 1, 2001 Michigan enacted a DNA testing statute (MCL § 770.16), which provides a postconviction remedy for those individuals who claim factual innocence, and whose innocence can be established by DNA testing of the biological evidence collected at the time of the offense. Shortly after the statute went into effect, the Thomas M. Cooley Law School initiated The Cooley Innocence Project, and in May 2001 it began operation as a law school clinic. The project's dual mission is to identify, provide legal assistance to, and secure the release of persons who are wrongfully imprisoned for crimes they did not commit, as well as to provide its students with an excellent learning experience. It is the only such project in the state.

Each term, the project accepts a handful of qualified Cooley students to work with faculty experienced in criminal and postconviction law to screen postconviction cases for strong evidence of factual innocence and prepare appropriate cases for court action. Cooley Law School students, under faculty supervision, work directly on the project and are intricately involved in various operations of the project, such as creating screening procedures, obtaining and reviewing case histories, applying screening devices, investigating facts, interviewing involved persons, writing case time lines and summaries, performing case analyses, and preparing written case evaluations and pleadings. As a case is selected for legal action, the project prepares pleadings for court filing and a student is assigned to assist a participating attorney. A group of over 160 criminal defense practitioners statewide have agreed to work with the project faculty and students in taking cases to court on a pro bono basis.

As of this date, the project has received, screened, and reviewed over 2,000 requests for assistance. Ken Wyniemko's case was filed by the Cooley Innocence Project under the new DNA statute and was the project's first exoneration. At this time, Cooley Innocence Project student interns are actively investigating about 150 cases, and the project has several other cases in litigation.

Cooley Innocence Project Faculty and Staff

The project is administered and taught by Professors Norman Fell, Kathy Swedlow, and Marla Mitchell, with the assistance of Staff Attorney Donna McKneelen.

Professor Fell has been chairperson of the Clinical Skills Department at the law school and is co-director of the project. In addition, he teaches Criminal Law and Professional Responsibility. Before coming to Cooley in 1987, Professor Fell served as a public defender and legal aid attorney, and conducted a private practice for 15 years, concentrating in criminal defense work.

Professor Swedlow is co-director of the Cooley Innocence Project. She teaches Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, and a Death Penalty Seminar. She served as a staff attorney in the U.S. Courts of Appeal for the Second and Third Circuits, and for the past eight years, has been involved in death penalty and postconviction litigation.

Professor Mitchell, in addition to her work on the project, is a faculty supervisor and clinical skills teacher in Cooley's Sixty Plus, Inc., Elderlaw Clinic. Before coming to Cooley, Professor Mitchell taught in criminal law clinics at the University of Akron, Case Western Reserve Law School, and the University of Dayton. Prior to teaching, she was a public defender in the



Front row, from left: Katherine Bordner (Innocence Project staff), J. Kevin Wright and Matthew Galasso. **Second row, from left:** Staff attorney Donna McKneelen, Professor Marla Mitchell, Darin Poole, Ken Wyniemko, Heidi Hagen, Therese Maloney, and Professor Kathy Swedlow.

Donna McKneelen is a 2002 Cooley graduate and has been with the project from its inception. As a student, Ms. McKneelen volunteered her time to the project; later, she worked in the project for four terms as a student intern. After graduating from Cooley, Ms. McKneelen worked in the project as an adjunct professor and now serves as its staff attorney.

How Can You Be a Part of the Cooley Innocence Project?

The Cooley Innocence Project exists because concerned persons support it. You can show your support by sending your tax-deductible donations to: The Thomas M. Cooley Innocence Project, P.O. Box 13038, 300 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing, Mich. 48901.

Moot Court



Front row, left to right: Amy Church, Evelyn Tombers, Michelle Mauldin, Sara Jazayeri. **Back row, left to right:** James Duquet, Steven Laucella, Jill Swiontek, Annel Norgaisse, Janelle Benjamin, Yusuf Wilson, Larkaya Gant, Jesse Smith, Shital Bhakta, Phillip Lane

Mock Trial



MOCK TRIAL BOARD General Membership: **Front row, from left:** Ayiteh Sowan, Jill Swiontek, Kristin Heyse, Tiffany Evans. **Middle row, from left:** Shital Bhakta, Ammie Rouse, Felina Vaughn, Stayce Davis. **Back row, from left:** Michael Maher, Matt Galasso, Maxim Vayner.



MOCK TRIAL BOARD Executive Board: **Front row, from left:** Lisa Lanxon, Michelle Mauldin, Michelle Brya, Cassandra Harmon. **Back row, from left:** Jesse Smith, Jarrod Higgins, Jodi Copenhauer.

Law Review



Achieving Justice: The Case for Legislative Reform

By Alma Lowery

A predominately Hispanic community in Detroit is getting a new and much needed state-of-the-art elementary school. Unfortunately, the school is built on contaminated land. In fact, during the construction process, workers experienced unexplained illnesses and located underground chemical storage tanks. When the location of the school was decided, the school district failed to provide parents with information, in Spanish, about potential pollution levels, or to solicit meaningful public participation in the process. This left many parents concerned about the new school's location and dangers to their children. What could the concerned parents and local community do?

The author uses the issues in *Lucero v. Detroit Public Schools* to illustrate the need for legislative reform by focusing on environmental justice for all segments of society, including low-income and minority communities. The article explores some fundamental flaws in current state and federal laws that cause communities like that in Lucero to shoulder a disproportionate share of society's environmental burdens. Specifically, environmental laws do not consider the effect of cumulative pollutants on the communities that surround polluted sites.

The author suggests that corporations are presumed to be in compliance with environmental regulations, which leaves plaintiffs like those in *Lucero* with few legal resources to protect their rights. For example, the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment requires intent to discriminate, while Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 does not allow for private right of action.

Some suggested solutions for the environmental justice movement are to amend Title VI to allow private right of action, to amend laws to require corporations to reduce pollution levels until compliance standards are updated, and to adopt legislation to aid in the decision-making process. These solutions may be achieved through coordinated legal challenges, media attention, grassroots efforts to educate the public, and cooperation with other social justice movements.

Education for What? A Chronicle of Environmental Health Deception in Lansing, Michigan

By Brian McKenna

In this article, the author explores recent instances of censorship and deception of environmental health data in the Lansing area. More specifically, the author suggests that there are identifiable environmental health risks in Lansing caused by water and air pollutants; however, Lansing's citizens have not been, and continue not to be, fully informed of health data and local environmental risks to public health.

The author suggests that Lansing citizens are led to falsely accept the idea that their health is not seriously impacted by the environment. The citizens remain unaware of environmental health risks due to a number of factors: the nondisclosure and/or censorship of health reports by local governments, the fear and failure of government workers to speak out on the true state of environmental affairs, the lack of public access to critical health data, and the failure of the local media to publicize crucial environmental stories. Furthermore, because of this lack of knowledge, many environmental lawsuits that potentially could be filed never are.

The author recognizes that, in questions of environmental health, economic development often takes priority over the public at large, especially when the home of General Motor's largest production center is located in Lansing. As a result, he emphasizes the need for activist intervention to raise awareness of environmental health problems. Local governments, media, and Thomas M. Cooley Law School are identified as the important Lansing-area institutional actors who can play a part in this struggle for "environmental literacy" and social justice.

Could Narrowing Federal Jurisdiction Under the Clean Water Act Actually Take Away the States' Ability to Protect Their Own Water? The Unintended Consequences of Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

By James Duquet

Water is probably our most essential natural resource. We need water that is chemically, physically, and biologically pure for our very survival. So it would only make sense that in passing the Clean Water Act, Congress would have intended to protect people and wildlife from any discharges that might harm the integrity of the nation's waters, especially waters that might affect more than one state, right? Wrong. At least according to some interpretations of the U.S. Supreme Court's 2001 holding in *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* (SWANCC), Congress only intended to regulate discharges into waters that are actually capable of supporting navigation in the traditional sense.

The author examines the history of the Clean Water Act and traditional definitions of "navigable waters" as used in prior statutes to identify potential regulation problems as well as conflicts with the intent of the Clean Water Act created by the narrow reading of SWANCC adopted by some courts. One such problem is that waters which cross state lines, and are not navigable in the traditional sense, may serve as a conduit for pollution from one state to enter the waters of another. Limiting the Clean Water Act to only traditionally navigable waters would preclude any federal regulation of the discharges into such waters and effectively deny a remedy to the state that suffers the effects of the discharge. This creates precisely the encroachment upon federalism that the SWANCC decision sought to prevent.

The author suggests that this problem was created by ambiguities in the drafting of the Clean Water Act and must be remedied legislatively so that the clear meaning of the act reflects the intent of its framers and gives no room for judicial interpretation.

An Overview of Environmental Justice

By Tom Stephens, Esq.

The tragedy of Sept. 11 changed the way that many important issues are dealt with. "An Overview of Environmental Justice" explores the significant legal and social issues facing the environmental justice movement in a post-Sept. 11 world both at home and abroad.

In this article, the author explores the development of environmental justice and how the events of Sept. 11 have raised new challenges to it. He contends that while conducting the "war on terrorism," issues such as environmental racism, global warming, and water shortages have not been properly intertwined with U.S. foreign policy toward the Middle East. Further, while the United States provides millions in environmental aid to Europe, Third World countries, and people of color are often left alone to fend for themselves. He also contends that fighting terrorism has caused an abandonment of many of this country's traditional environmental standards. He notes that the director of the EPA's Office of Regulatory Enforcement and their National Ombudsman resigned in protest of Bush Administration policies regarding energy. The author further contends that the environment is not currently being viewed as a significant policy crisis and it has been replaced by war and the economy exclusively.

The author recognizes a need for social, economic, and scientific change. He points out that there is an administrative problem with getting any meaningful resolution of complaints regarding the environment. He suggests that activists need to promote the election of a more environmentally friendly president. He also suggests the confrontation of transnational corporate institutions regarding these issues. Most of all, the author stresses that our attention should be focused on the real issue of the struggle for a cleaner and more democratic world.

The Wolverine Pipeline, Lecture

By John Smiertka

The Wolverine Pipeline Company proposed enlarging a current pipeline that runs from the Stockbridge Terminal Point to the LaPaugh Station. Before its application for the pipeline was accepted or rejected by the Michigan Public Service Commission, the application was pulled and a new pipeline along I-96 was proposed. Lansing's City Attorney discusses the new route, the potential problems, and the city's role in *Mayor of the City of Lansing v. Michigan Public Service Commission*.

As with most pipelines there are dangers associated with leaking and spilling. These dangers include harm to residents if there should be an explosion, as well as danger to the drinking water system in general. Also, in contrast to the original proposal, the new pipeline along I-96 travels through minority populations that are greater than the urban average. And, the average income in these areas is about 40 percent less than those in the original proposal.

The city of Lansing opposes the pipeline because of the dangers and claims that because the new route travels through these high minority areas there is a disparate impact creating an issue of environmental justice. Additionally, the Michigan Constitution requires municipalities to consent to the use of their right-of-ways. Wolverine never obtained consent from the city of Lansing to install the proposed pipeline. The city will continue to oppose the pipeline and seeks environmental justice for all residents.

Troubled Waters: Policy and Action in the Great Lakes

By Jerome Hinkle

In this article, the author discusses the problems facing our water supply, specifically the Great Lakes Basin. Water is one of the most important resources we use, and unless measures are taken to conserve this resource there may be drastic results. We use water in a variety of ways, some are ineffective, leading to vast amounts of water wasted every day. With our increasing use of water and our ineffective use, we must seek changes to correct the problem before our water resources are depleted.

The author explores the difficulties in finding solutions to correct the water depletion problem. Despite much concern, one possible solution is to privatize water along with other public assets. Another possible solution is to trade water. However, there is an issue of whether water can be traded, and if so, there is a conflict regarding the regulation of these transfers. Since there are no real safeguards, our water resources could receive irreversible effects if mismanaged.

In response to the current state of water depletion, several agreements and acts have been formed. One such agreement, The Boundary Waters Treaty, has been seen as a model of how two nations can work together to successfully manage their natural resources. The treaty requires approval of any action that would affect the water level on either side of the boundary. Another is the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which set up a framework for conservation measures and processes for the approval of diversions and exports. There exists hope that with the attention to these issues the problem with our water supply can be reversed.



LAW REVIEW ROSTER FOR TRINITY 2003: Board of Editors: Dana Cilla, Editor-in-Chief; Marc Amos, Articles Editor; Amy Church, Interim Symposium Editor; James Duquet, Interim Comments Editor; Stacy Flanery, Interim Editor-in-Chief; Kristin Heyse, Casenotes Editor; Connie Marean, Comments Editor; J. Kevin Wright, Symposium Editor. **Assistant Editors:** Kimberly Fink, Melissa Hornyak, Julie Kretzschmer, Tedd Nesbit, Jonna Skyles, Inge Stevens, Kevin Stoops. **Managing Associate Editors:** Gary Gensch, Lindsey Robbins. **Senior Associate Editors:** Jennifer Brant, Heather Gray Bruce, Dominic Hamden, Susan Fox-Jacobsen, Stephen A. Laucella, Sean Logsdon, Steven Mann, Marc May, Kriston Neely, Karen Patrick, Tracey Reyna, Juliana Sabatini, Jeremy Trapp, Joseph Yaksich, Majed Zeineddine. **Associate Editors:** Jason Cieslik, Melina Cleary, Ericka Domarew, Gary Huggins, Shannon Nicole Price, Paul Vargas.

Law Journal



The Thomas M. Cooley Journal of Practical and Clinical Law



LAW JOURNAL: **Front row:** Nadia Lesscot, Rehanna Rasool, Natasha Preston **Back Row:** Rogelio M. Chapa, Majed Zeineddine, Samuel Henderson. **Not Pictured** Jodi Copenhaver (Editor in Chief) and Felina Vaughn (Business editor).



LAW JOURNAL: **Front row, from left:** Syntoria Spencer, Brian Lancial, Shane Waller, Debbie Jones, Sonia Pineda, and Minah Cho. **Back Row, from Left:** John Frame II, Treneeka Cusack, Rose Billeci, Sharelle Lacey, Shital Bhakta, and Ammie Rouse. **Not Pictured:** Jerome Davis, Lisa Lanxton, Caryl Williams, Nicole Fox, Zakyia Jackson, Rhonda Allen, Robert Ost, and Jaunita Woods.

D.S.A.

Distinguished Student Award.

Alumni Association Vice President Charles Toy Grants the Distinguished Student Award for the Harry S. Toy Class.

The faculty, staff and student body of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School gathered in the auditorium on Friday, July 25 for the Honors Convocation of Trinity Term 2003. Alumni Association Vice President Charles Toy of the 1981 Kavanagh Class was on hand to grant the Distinguished Student Award to Kelly McDoniel of the graduating Harry S. Toy Class.

The nine students nominated for the Distinguished Student Award furnished a variety of information, including resumes and letters of reference that were reviewed by the Executive Committee. Nominees were also personally interviewed as part of the selection process. Members of each graduating class are evaluated on the criteria of character, academic accomplishment, leadership and

extracurricular activities in the decision to grant the Distinguished Student Award.

Kelly McDoniel will sit for the February 2004 Michigan Bar Examination and the July 2004 California Bar Examination. Her primary areas of interest are Criminal Law, Litigation, and Medical Malpractice. Ms. McDoniel is seeking an initial position with a large law firm.

Alternatively, she may seek employment as a prosecuting attorney. Eventually, Ms. McDoniel aspires to find a position in legal public service and hopes to work with the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The Alumni Association is proud and pleased to give recognition to this outstanding member of the Toy Class and extends its best wishes for her continuing success.

Graduation

HIGHLIGHTS



Smith Class

Members of the Otis M. Smith Class received their juris doctor degrees May 17, 2003.

The Hon. Robert Young Jr., Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, gave the commencement address. LuAnn Kohler gave the valedictory address.

Shawna Lee Stevens graduated *summa cum laude* and earned the James E. Burns Memorial Award. Ari Karpf earned the President's Achievement Award. *Summa* status is awarded to the graduate with the highest cumulative grade point average in the class. The President's Achievement Award is given to the graduate who has achieved the biggest increase between his or her freshman index and graduating GPA.

Professor Philip Prygoski won the Stanley E. Beattie Teaching Award, an honor voted upon by the graduating class.



Above left: The Hon. Robert Young Jr., Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, gives the commencement address for the Otis M. Smith Class. **Above right,** Professor Phil Prygoski accepts the Beattie Award for Excellence in Teaching. **Below,** Cooley President Don LeDuc, with President's Achievement Award winner Ari Karpf and *Summa* and James E. Burns Memorial Award winner Shawna Stevens. **At bottom,** Graduation marshal J. Kevin Wright gets the diplomas in order while fellow marshal Jule McReynolds (background) works on another aspect of graduation preparation.



Top
Leadership Award Winner Danalee Elie and Associate Dean of Enrollment and Student Services Paul Zelenski



Bottom
Distinguished Student Award Winner Kelly McDaniel and Alumni Associate Vice President Charles S. Toy

Graduates

Smith Class

Lesley Turmelle Abbott
 Gil Orlando Acevedo,
WITH DISTINCTION
 Tynika A. Adams, *CUM LAUDE*
 Lisa Lyna Adcock
 DawnWin Howard Allen
 Mark David Altenhof, *CUM LAUDE*,
DISTINGUISHED STUDENT AWARD
 Helen Amarantos
 Nakea Joyelle Anderson
 Allan Barnabus Archie
 Jeffrey Atkin, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 Hlaselan Baloyi
 Brian Bates
 Deana Beard
 Collene A. Beatty
 Kristina Marie Bell
 Diana Lynn Bennington
 Michael Blumeno
 Anthony J. Bonomo, *WITH DISTINCTION*
 Aaron M. Boone, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 Richard James Bowers, Jr
 Craig Boyce
 Dorothy Elizabeth Brian
 Sandy Nadeen Brown, *LEADERSHIP*
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 Timothy P. Brown
 Willie H. Brunson, *LEADERSHIP*
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 Anna Rowena Cabral
 Lorne Ladd Carignan, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 Scott Michael Carrington
 Amy Lynn Chaitoff
 Richard Francis Cipriano, III
 VeNita Beatrice Conway
 Rose A. Coonen, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 Clayton Douglas Crooks
 Colleen Elizabeth Cruff
 Megan Tawanda Crump
 Elizabeth Emmely Csoka
 Jeffrey Lee Cunningham
 Michelle René Dunham
 Libby Pearl Dunn
 Susan Lynn Durian, *CUM LAUDE*
 Henry Derrick Etheridge, *CUM LAUDE*
 Maher Alex Fakhouri
 Jodie Marie Fallon
 Daniel Finwall
 Tiffany Marie Foskey
 Matthew Roberson Monroe Fowler
 Glenn Phillip Franklin
 Ben K. Frimpong
 LáKeisha Tennille Gantt
 Jeffrey Richard Garcia
 Ruben Garcia
 Kiflom Gebremariam
 Michael Keith Gendill, *CUM LAUDE*
 Tynisha C. Gibbs
 Anne N. Githae
 Timothy George Glass, *CUM LAUDE*
 Jessie Juan Glenn

John F. Golden
 Paul Rowland Graff, *CUM LAUDE*
 Vijay K. Gupta, Jr.
 Zead Haddad
 Terrance A. Hall, Jr
 Georgette Hamboussi
 Cory A. Hamel, *CUM LAUDE*
 Karim Alnoor Hassanali Hamir
 Leah M. Hardwick
 Brian J. Harrant
 Lisa R. Harris, *CUM LAUDE*
 Julie M. Harrison
 Craig D. Harter
 Bradley Scott Heffner, *CUM LAUDE*
 Stacy Treber Henderson
 Kristen S. Henninger
 William Michael Hinton
 Sylvia House
 Laurie Anne Hrydziuszko, *CUM LAUDE*,
LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 Andrew Michael Jason, *CUM LAUDE*
 Felicia O. Johnson, *CUM LAUDE*
 Gerald D. Johnson
 Heidi Lee Johnson, *CUM LAUDE*
 Ari Risson Karpf, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*,
PRESIDENT'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 Ethan Kemp
 Aaron Brett Kendal, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 LuAnn Marie Kohler, *LEADERSHIP*
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 James M. LaBianca
 Benjamin C. Landau
 Elias G. Latouf
 Marc Philip Lawrence, *WITH DISTINCTION*
 David William Leavell
 Dirk O. LeGate, *CUM LAUDE*
 Terri L. Lester
 Bernadette Marie Letzring
 Aleksandra Ljubisavljevic
 Rafia Rashid Lodhi
 Heather Anne MacKinnon
 Richard A. Madril
 Vernon Lonnel Mann
 George H. Margetas
 Robert G. Mathis Jr., *CUM LAUDE*
 Peter P. McFadden
 Carmen Lenora McKean, *CUM LAUDE*
 Frank Carlyle McLaughlin,
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
 Paul Joseph McMahan
 Cesar A. Millan
 Janet K. Miller
 Harriet Rennie Miller-Brown,
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
 Robert A. Mills, *CUM LAUDE*
 Robert P. Mills
 Keith L. Morris, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 Carrie L. Napoleon
 Julie Marie Nash
 Matthew Lee Nebeker
 Rhonda M. North

Kimberly E. Norton
 Gabriel Chukwuemeka O. Nwugwo,
WITH DISTINCTION
 Joseph John O'Donnell
 Jennifer Therese Olson, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 William Ward Olterman
 Dionne Antoinette Osborne
 Kerry Anne Pace
 Wyatt James Palmer
 Amy Marie Patterson, *MAGNA CUM LAUDE*
 Todd R. Perkins
 Sean Phinney
 Nicole Tracey Prestin
 Mark Allen Puthoff
 Mendy Read
 Urenia L. Ricks, *CUM LAUDE*
 Lisa M. Ritchie
 Amanda Marie Roberts
 Scot R. Robinson
 Amanda M. Robledo, *CUM LAUDE*
 Susan Lynn Root
 Bernadine Hunt Saxe
 Jay M. Schwandt
 Joel B. Schwartz
 Michael T. Semeniuk
 Dina Shenker
 Jennifer Hinson Shephard, *CUM LAUDE*
 Kerri Ann Smith
 Torrey D. Smith
 Yolanda Michele Smith-Williams
 Bahram Soleymani
 Tyonia Denise Solomon
 Hamid Reza Soltani
 Donald Edward Sommerfeld Jr., *CUM LAUDE*
 Nancy Spearman
 Mary Kathleen Spellman
 Eddie L. Spencer
 Shaaleen L. Spjute
 Shawna Leigh Stevens,
SUMMA CUM LAUDE,
PRESIDENT'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 Nicol Lacinda Stewart
 Jason Patrick Stoffel
 Katherine Elizabeth Storch
 Robert Lee Stratton, III
 Michael J. Szappan, *CUM LAUDE*
 Jennifer Lynn Thompson
 Jeffery Dale Thornburg, *CUM LAUDE*
 John Wayne Thornton
 Demond Tibbs, *WITH DISTINCTION*
 Shannon Elena Tolbert
 Michele A. Toler, *CUM LAUDE*
 Joeie Elizabeth Tracht
 Brian Turley, *CUM LAUDE*
 Paschal E.C. Ukpabi
 Michael Evan Underwood
 Dawn Renee Van Dusen
 Abelardo R. Villescáz
 Adam Charles Virant
 Alexander Jude Virgil
 Doris M. Dozier Walters
 Sandra Louise White
 Veronica J. White
 Danielle Renee Wilcox
 Julie L. Williams
 Patricia Ann Wilson, *CUM LAUDE*,
LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
 Daniel J. Wood
 Nikki S. Wright
 Reza Yazdian
 Patricia Sandra Zangrilli
 Herbert Zimmerman

Faculty Briefs



Gary Bauer, Associate Professor

Published, an article "Addressing the Needs of Solo/Small Firm Practitioners through Law School Based Programs to Reduce Stress in Practice – Several Approaches." Vol. 6, Issue 1

2003, Thomas Cooley Journal of Practical and Clinical Law.

Presented, to the Association of American Law Schools, a workshop on Clinical Legal Education 2003, May. The title of the presentation was "Teaching "Good" Lawyering through Observation of "Bad" Lawyering."



David C. Berry, Associate Professor

Attended, a conference in Atlanta, Ga., hosted by the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) at the 2003 Spring Meeting, May 14-16, 2003.

Delivered, a paper, entitled "Searching and Reporting on Patentability," at the AIPLA Annual Patent Prosecution Basic Training Seminar, Aug. 21, 2002, in Arlington, Va.

Admitted, to the Michigan Bar, in June.



Lynn S. Branham, Associate Dean

Attended, a conference, "Prison Reform Revisited: The Unfinished Agenda," Oct. 16-18, 2003, at Pace Law School, in White Plains, N.Y.

Spoke, "Prison Litigation Reform Act Update," at the Workshop on Section 1983 Litigation for District and Magistrate Judges" Aug. 1, 2003, in Boston, Mass.



Ron Bretz, Professor

Spoke, on "Current Issues in Search & Seizure Law," at the Criminal Law in the Sun, in Tucson, Ariz., April 2003.

Spoke, on "Criminal Law Update," at the Michigan Judges Association Meeting, at Mackinac Island, Mich., August 2003.

Spoke, on "Understanding DNA Evidence: The Law," at the Michigan Appellate Assigned Counsel System Criminal Appellate Practice Seminar, in Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 5, 2003; in Lansing, Mich. on Sept. 12, 2003; and in Novi, Mich., on Sept. 24, 2003.

Spoke, on "Order vs. Liberty," at the Thomas M. Cooley Law Review Symposium, in Lansing, Mich., September 2003.



Kathleen Butler, Associate Professor

Authored, an article, "Shared Responsibility: The Duty to Legal Externs," published in the October issue of the *West Virginia University Law Review*.



Charles P. Cercone, Professor and Associate Dean

Published, an article, "The War Against Work Product Abuse," in the *Pittsburgh Law Review* Vol. 64 Fall 2003.

Appointed, Associate Dean of Faculty, by President Don LeDuc.



Mark Cooney, Assistant Professor

Elected, by unanimous ballot as the 2003-2004 Chair-Elect of the State Bar of Michigan's Appellate Practice Section.

Moderated, a seminar entitled, "Sixth Court Appeals for Michigan Lawyers —

From Basics to Best Practices." The panel of speakers included Sixth Circuit Judge James L. Ryan and Eastern District Judge Arthur J. Tarnow, as well as representatives of the Sixth Circuit's Clerk's office and prominent appellate practitioners.

Argued and briefed, successfully, Michigan Supreme Court case *Rednour v. Hastings Mutual Ins. Co.*, 468 Mich. 241, 661 N.W.2d 562 (2003).



Pat Corbett, Associate Professor

Presented, "Safety on the Internet," at Central Elementary School, in Okemos, Mich., May 2003

Attended, a presentation on "Snag It" and "Camtasia," at Michigan High Tech Crimes

Investigation Association, in Lansing, Mich., May 2003.

Presented, "Overview of Search and Seizure" and "State Computer Crimes," at the State of Michigan Department of Information Technology, in Lansing, Mich., June 2003.

Lectured, at the Computer Crimes Seminar, at the University of Detroit Mercy Law School, Detroit, Mich., September 2003.

Attended Presentation, on "Conducting Digital Incident Post Mortems, at the Michigan High Tech Crimes Investigation Association, Livonia, Mich, September 2003.

Presented, "Michigan Computer Crime Laws," at the Oakland County Bar Association, State of the Law Day, Pontiac, Mich., September 2003.

Presented, "State Cyber Crime Laws," at the Digital Security Conference, Washtenaw Community College, in Ann Arbor, Mich., September 2003.



Cynthia Dennis, Assistant Professor

Attended, the 17th annual Higgins Lake Title III-B Legal Service Training Oct. 14-15, 2003, in Roscommon, Mich.

Spoke, Oct. 13, 2003, at the fourth annual National Aging and the Law

Conference in Arlington, Va., at a roundtable discussion about HIV discrimination in nursing homes.

Appointed, to the board of directors for the Alzheimer's Association — Michigan Great Lakes Chapter.



Mark Dotson, Associate Professor

Spoke, on the Importance of Education," at the Minority Advisory Panel 7th Annual Conference, Sept. 26, 2003, at Holiday Inn South, in Lansing, Mich.

Barry Hart Dubner, Professor

Published, an article "On the Importance of Regulating the International Trade of Pesticides — A Look at the Current Status of Conventional Wisdom (and lack thereof) on the Subject," *28 William and Mary Environmental Law and Policy*

Review, Vol. 1 (2002/2003).



Judith A. Frank, Professor

Published, an article, "The Human Legacy - Using Ethical Wills to Enhance Estate Planning," in the *Thomas M. Cooley Journal of Practical and Clinical Law*, Vol. 6, No 2.

Awarded, the Stanley E. Beattie Teaching Award, from the Toy Class, September 2003.

Completed, a volunteer project with the Ingham County Probate Court, June-August 2003.



Elliott B. Glicksman, Professor

Presented, Evidence Law Lectures at the Annual Labor and Employment Law Seminar sponsored by the ICLE Troy, Mich., April 8, 2003: topics included Character Evidence; Proofs; After Acquired Evidence

Principles; and Sexual Abuse Rules As They Relate to Sexual Harassment Cases.

Delivered, a series of Evidence lectures in Concord, N.H., a National Judicial College sponsored seminar. The topics included: The Hearsay Rule; Child Witness Testimony and Relevance Standards as they relate to Sex Abuse Cases.

Awarded, the 15 Year Award by the Judicial College for his dedicated service to judicial education as a faculty member of the National Judicial College.



Joseph Kimble, Professor

Begins, a three-year term as President of Clarity in January 2004. Clarity is an international plain-language association with members in more than 25 countries. Professor Kimble has been the membership secretary

since 2000; in effect, Clarity has been administered at Thomas Cooley Law School since then.

Presented, a seminar for the Commissioners of the Michigan Supreme Court.

Published, an article called "The Elements of Plain Language" in the *Australian Law Journal*. The article originally appeared in the *Michigan Bar Journal*.

Cited, many times in three recent books on legal writing — *Plain Language for Lawyers*, *Modern Legal Drafting*, and *Legal Usage in Drafting Corporate Agreements*.

Continues, work on restyling the *Federal Rules of Civil Procedure*, as the style consultant for the Standing Committee on Federal Rules.



Joni Larson, Assistant Professor

Accepted, for publication, an article, "Tax Evidence: A Primer on the Federal Rules of Evidence as Applied by the Tax Court," in *Tax Lawyer*.

Authored, a book, *I.R.S. National Office Practice*, to be published by CCH.

Don LeDuc, President and Dean

Published, an article, "Leadership," in the *Toledo Law Review*.



Helen Mickens, Professor and Associate Dean

Taught, judges from around the country at the National Judicial College, Reno, Nev., in a course on Decision Making.

John P. Rooney, Professor

Attended, the Law & Society Association Meeting, on June 5-8 2003 in Pittsburgh, Penn.



Marjorie Russell, Professor

Taught, a graduate course at the Trial Lawyers College, Dubois, N.Y., August 16-22 on the use of psychodramatic methods in trial preparation and trial.



Taught, a course on trial skills instruction in small group settings for the Criminal Defense Attorneys of Michigan (CDAM).

Serving, on the faculty of CDAM's fall conference on Advanced Criminal Defense Practice, Traverse City, Mich., Oct. 23-25. The subjects are closing argument and direct examination.

Serving, as Honorary Judge for Lansing Teen Court, September – October, 2003.



Chris A. Shafer, Associate Professor

Spoke, on the "Modern Day David vs. Goliath: *MCWC v. Nestle Waters*," at the Thomas Cooley Distinguished Brief Awards Dinner on Aug. 2, 2003 at the Country Club of Lansing.

Served, as co-counsel for the plaintiffs in *Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation v. Nestle Waters*, a lawsuit seeking to enjoin the Ice Mountain groundwater diversion project in Mecosta County, Mich. This litigation became the primary project of his sabbatical in the Trinity Term and involved participation in 23 days of trial in May, June, and July 2003, co-authoring a 97-page post-trial brief and participating in a day-long oral argument on Sept. 9, 2003. A decision is expected from the Hon. Judge Root this fall.



Norman Otto Stockmeyer, Senior Professor

Published, an article, "Damages for Breach of Contract: Measurement and Limitations," in the October 2003 issue of the *Michigan Bar Journal*.

Published, an article, "Link Between Course Website and Law School Grades," in the September/October issue of *Michigan Computer Lawyer*.

Elected, President-Elect of Scribes, The American Society of Writers in Legal Subjects, at the society's annual meeting in San Francisco. Scribes is a national association of lawyers, judges, law professors, and legal editors interested in promoting good legal writing.

Listed, among Cooley's "Top Five Professors" in a student survey published in *The Pillar* (July 7, 2003 edition).



Amy Timmer, Professor and Associate Dean

Spoke, on "Professionalism in Law School," at the Windsor School of Law Faculty Retreat, in Bayfield Ontario, May 2003.

Joan P. Vestrand, Associate Professor



Published, an article, "Avoiding Grievances and Malpractice," in the State Bar of Michigan Law Practice Management Section Newsletter, Spring 2003.

Published, an article, "A Lawyer's Guide to Avoiding Grievances and Malpractice," in *Laches* magazine, Oakland County Bar Association, June 2003.

Published, numerous articles for the Law Day Conference, which consisted of "Planning Ahead to Avoid Legal Malpractice," "14 Tips for Avoiding Grievances and Malpractice," "So You Have Received a Grievance – Now What?," "Responding to a Grievance," "The Discipline Process," "Conflicts of Interest," "Solos Must Be Prepared for Sudden Disability," "Revealing Confidences and Secrets of a Client," and "The Duty to Supervise-Ethical Challenges Facing Supervisory Lawyers."

Spoke, on the topic of Legal Ethics at the State of the Law Day Conference, Sept. 18, 2003.

Appointed, Chair Elect of the Council for the State Bar of Michigan Law Practice Management section.



Inducted, as a Fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, August 2003.

William Wagner, Associate Professor & Director – Center for Ethics & Responsibility

Spoke, on "Foundations for Constitutional Democracy—

Choosing Your Worldview," at the Student Statesmanship Institute annual conference, July 10, 2003, in Lansing, Mich.

Established, the Liberian Law Institute at the Cooley Law School, February 2003.

Launched, along with Professor Peter Kempel, the Center for Ethics and Responsibility Professionalism Library, Sept. 11, 2003.

Participated, in a symposium at the Cooley Law School on the Exclusionary Rule and Judicial Integrity, July 18, 2003.

Participated, in a national symposium at the Cooley Law School on Order vs. Liberty: Ethical Issues facing Lawyers in an Uncertain World.

Letter from the Alumni President



By M. Carol Bambery, Past President

Greetings!

We certainly can't say nothing ever changes at our law school! And quite frankly, when I heard about our new Grand Rapids campus my thoughts were divided. On one hand I thought, do we need it? On the other hand, I was proud. But when my oldest daughter, Emma, who lives in Grand Rapids, called me this week and told me she was starting Cooley in Grand Rapids this January, I knew that we needed that Grand Rapids campus! Thank you, President LeDuc and Dean Jim Robb, and others who made our expansion both at Grand Rapids and at Oakland University a reality.

The annual golf outing is July 10, 2004 at the Wheatfield Valley Golf Course. This is the Alumni Association's largest fundraiser. We made \$7,587.48 in 2003. All proceeds from the golf outing go into the Alumni Memorial Scholarship Fund. If you play golf or just want to hang around with us a bit, come out for the event.

Charles Toy was elected your new president at the Board of Governor's annual meeting on October 18th. He is a graduate from Oakland University and has an active private practice in Lansing. He will serve you well.

Finally, in this my last column, I'd like to give a big thanks to a friend of all of ours, Darryl Parsell, Cooley's Alumni Director. What a wonderful resource he is for our alumni. Thank you, Darryl, for your guidance and leadership of our association.

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "M. Carol Bambery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M. Carol Bambery

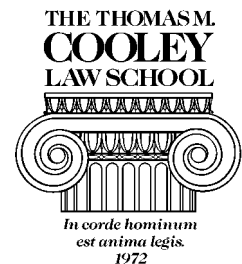
Cooley Law School

Now offers LL.M. Degrees in
Taxation and Intellectual Property
at its Oakland University Campus.



Specializing in a field of law can
focus and heighten your skills in
the legal career of your choice.

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Cooley's Master of Laws
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the Cooley Law School Web
site at www.cooley.edu.
Click on graduate programs.



Classes enter in September and January.
Contact us at LLM@cooley.edu

New LL.M. Program Kicks Off at Cooley's Rochester/OU Campus



Cooley Law School started classes in its new Master of Laws (LL.M.) program Michaelmas Term 2003. Cooley offers courses leading to the LL.M. degree in the fields of Taxation and Intellectual Property. Each 26-credit hour program is offered at Cooley's satellite campus at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich. The LL.M. program has been evaluated and received accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and acquiescence from the ABA.

The LL.M. can be earned in one calendar year by a full-time student or up to five years by attending part-time. A total of 26 credit hours of required and elective courses and a 3.0 cumulative grade point average are needed to complete the academic requirements. Students begin in January and September but can attend classes year-around.

Cooley's graduate programs are headed by William P. Weiner, Associate Dean for International, Graduate, and Extended Programs. According to Dean Weiner, who has a Master of Laws degree from Cambridge University in Cambridge, England, "graduate legal education represents the ultimate specialization for a lawyer. The concentration of study in a single area prepares lawyers for practice unlike any other educational experience. Also, taxation and intellectual property are dynamic areas of the law subject to constant change. Advanced legal study in those areas provides both recent graduates and practitioners with a competitive advantage in the job market."

Why obtain an LL.M. from Cooley? First, the two degree programs are located in Oakland County, in the heart of international business, industry, and technology. Second, the credentials of the academic directors, faculty, and adjunct faculty are superb.

The director of the Intellectual Property LL.M. is Professor Gerald Tschura, who came to Cooley after serving as Divisional Vice President—Intellectual Property Law for Kmart Corp. He managed and supervised all domestic and international intellectual property matters for the Kmart Corporation and specialty retailing subsidiaries. Prior to Kmart, Professor Tschura was in business and pri-

vate practice. The assistant director of the IP Program is Professor David Berry. Before joining the Cooley faculty, Professor Berry was a partner in the Boston, Mass., law firm of Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP, a 400-plus attorney firm with a national practice in venture capital and technology law. In private practice, he represented companies in patent and license disputes.

The director of the Tax LL.M. is Professor Gina M. Torielli, who comes to Cooley from Howard & Howard Attorneys, P.C., where she was prominent in the tax field. Professor Torielli just completed a five-year term as president and CEO of Howard & Howard, the first woman president of a major Michigan law firm. The assistant director of the Tax LL.M., Professor Stuart Lazar, also brings outstanding credentials to the graduate tax program. From 1997 until he joined Cooley, Professor Lazar was a partner with the firm of Edwards & Angell, LLP, in Providence and Boston, where his practice focused on all phases of corporate, partnership, and individual tax planning.

Before joining Edwards & Angell, Professor Lazar practiced tax law with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP in New York City, and during that time earned his LL.M. in Taxation from New York University School of Law in 1996. He taught Corporate Taxation and Corporate Reorganizations as a lecturer of law in the Boston University School of Law Graduate Tax Program for nearly six years.

To obtain more information about the LL.M. program, go to Cooley's Web site at www.cooley.edu and click on the link Graduate Programs or e-mail the LL.M. Program directly at LLM@cooley.edu. You can also contact the LL.M. program through the Office of International, Graduate, and Extended Programs by telephone at (517) 371-5140, ext. 2849. We are accepting applications for the January and September 2004 classes.

alumni news

Alumni Enjoy Annual Reception During the Michigan Bar Association's Meeting

The 68th annual meeting of the State Bar of Michigan took place in Lansing, Sept. 11-12, at the Lansing Convention Center. Ninety-five graduates, faculty, staff, and friends gathered for Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Alumni Reception in the lobby of the Cooley Center from 7-9:30 p.m. on Sept. 11.

Associate Dean Jim Robb greeted the guests and served as master of ceremonies. He is responsible for Cooley's development initiatives and is the law school's general counsel. Dean Robb spoke to the alumni group about the ways that they can support the law school and described plans for the future, including the completion of the courtrooms in the Cooley Center. He also introduced Cooley's Dean and President Don LeDuc, founder and President Emeritus Thomas E. Brennan, and Polly Brennan. Other dignitaries present included Justice Elizabeth Weaver, Court of Appeals Judge and Cooley Board member Jane Markey (Dethmers Class, 1981), District Court Judge and Board Member Thomas E. Brennan Jr. (Marston Class, 1978), and former Municipal Court Judge Joseph Impastato. Then, William Wagner, the Director of the Center for Ethics & Responsibility, described that program and led a tour of the center's new Professionalism Library on the eighth floor of the Cooley Center.

This year's guests socialized with Associate Deans Charles Cercone, Charles Mickens, Helen Mickens (Bushnell Class, 1980), Duane Strojny, and Bill Weiner. Faculty members Josh Ard (Kuhn Class, 1995), Gary Bauer (Green Class, 1988), Terry Cavanaugh, David Cotter (Cooley Class, 1976), Elliot Glicksman, Eileen Kavanagh, Peter Kempel, Joe Kimble, Charles Palmer, Ernie Phillips, Otto Stockmeyer, Evelyn Tombers (Lawrence Class, 1991), Joan Vestrand, and Nancy Wonch (Kelly Class, 1978) also mixed with the alumni.

Alumni Office staff members Deb Hirsch (Sherwood Class, 1986), Barb Kowalk, and Darryl Parsell (Wiest Class, 1979) made the alumni feel welcome. Joining them were Alumni Executive Committee Past President Virginia P. Allen (Wing Class, 1982) and At-Large Members Aletha Honsowitz (Witherell Class, 1990) and Diane Britt (Chandler Class, 1983).

The alumni guests included Goldie Adele (Patterson Class, 2002), Cherie Beck (Flannigan Class, 1999), Fred Bell (Brooke Class, 1982), Curt Benson (Mundy Class, 1986), Larry Betz (Clark Class, 1979), Barry Brickner (Campbell Class, 1976), Brian Bridson (T. Smith Class, 1985), Doug Chalgian (Stone Class, 1996), Hugh Clarke, Jr. (Wiest Class, 1979), Ed Cook (Morell Class, 1985), Elizabeth Csoka (O. Smith Class, 2003), Robert Fleming (Turner Class, 1991), Brien Fortino (Sherwood Class, 1986), Stephen Gatto (Person Class, 1994), Laura Graham (Cushing Class, 2000), Phyllis Groenewoud

(Christianity Class, 1977), Gerard Haddad (Weadock Class, 1999), Steve Howard (Blair, Jr. Class, 2001), Bruce Hunting (Dethmers Class, 1981), Rhonda Ives (Sharpe Class, 1998), Andrew Jason (O. Smith Class, 2003), Lewis Langham (Blair, Jr. Class, 2001), Cynthia Law (Bird Class, 1995), George Lenard (McAlvay Class, 1984), David Machado (Fead Class, 1999), Susan Mallory (Wiest Class, 1979), Gary McEntee (Sharpe Class, 1998), Scott Mertins (Rutledge Class, 2000), Linda Mohoney-Rhodus (Long Class, 1981), Linda Mullins (Snow Class, 1998), Billie Jo O'Berry (Manning Class, 1984), Jolina O'Berry Machado (Chase Class, 2002), Candace Person (E. Wilson Class, 1990), Tom Rombach (Morse Class, 1987), Rashmi Saini (Cushing Class, 2000), Rhonda Sanders (J. Wilson Class, 2001), Theresa Schurman (Blair, Jr. Class, 2001), L'Mell Smith (Butzel Class, 1979), Katherine Talbot (Kuhn Class, 1995), Ardena Walsh (Dethmers Class, 1981), and Pamela Wynn-Quada (Stone Class, 1996).

Florida Alumni Association Hosts a State-wide Series of Events

As you can imagine, it is difficult to schedule one event that all of Cooley's 588 Florida graduates can attend. As the state is about 400 miles long and 300 miles wide, no single location is convenient for everyone. That is why the Florida Alumni Association's Executive Committee came up with a clever plan. They organized a series of alumni events across the state that took place at the same time. The Florida Executive Committee is comprised of President Mo ElDeiry of Fort Lauderdale (Black Class, 1996), Vice President Lara Edelstein of Boca Raton (Steere Class, 1996), Secretary Cynthia Arevalo of Hollywood (Snow Class, 1998), and Treasurer Peter J. Frommer of Miami (Adams Class, 1997).

The event was called the Cooley Alumni Night Out and was held on Thursday, September 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. Lara Edelstein deserves special recognition for her leadership. In addition, the following alumni also were vitally important to the success of the event. Michelle Reddin (Flannigan Class, 1999) in Orlando, Sandi Milmed (Sharpe Class, 1998) in Tampa, Scott Devore (Stone Class, 1996) in West Palm Beach, Kimberly Colgate (Butzel Class, 1979) in Sarasota, Lorna Scharlacken (Black Class, 1996) in Naples, Lara Edelstein in Boca Raton, Christine Harter (Lawrence Class, 1997) in Ocala, and Maritza Betancourt (Rutledge Class, 2000) in Miami all volunteered to serve as hosts.

Associate Dean Jim Robb traveled to Florida to join the Boca Raton group and enjoyed meeting with a large group of alumni there and answering their questions about current activities at the law school. Florida Alumni President El Deiry plans to continue to organize such alumni events, including golf outings. For additional information, he invites all Florida alumni to call him at (954) 527-5222.

alumni news

Grads Jacqueline George and Dale Malewska Make Significant Contributions to Cooley

Jacqueline George (Campbell Class, 1976) and Dale Malewska (McAlvay Class, 1984) recently gave generous donations to Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Their support is greatly appreciated and demonstrates the variety of ways that alumni can help their alma mater.

Ms. George resides in Plymouth, Mich. Some years ago, she purchased a life insurance policy and made Cooley Law School the beneficiary. Then Ms. George continued to make the annual premium payments. This year, she transferred ownership of the policy to the law school. Cooley cashed out the policy and realized a contribution of nearly \$30,000 to its general fund. Unrestricted donations of this nature are especially valuable, as they allow the law school to apply the financial support to the areas where the need is greatest.

Life insurance is an excellent vehicle for making charitable contribution to the law school.

Life insurance is an excellent vehicle for making a charitable contribution to the law school. If Cooley is the owner and the beneficiary of the policy, the annual premiums you make are tax deductible. Alternatively, if you own a paid-up life insurance policy that is no longer needed, please consider naming the law school as the owner and beneficiary. Then you can take a charitable deduction approximately equal to the cash value at the time of the gift to Cooley. Check with your life insurance agent for details on the proper forms to complete.

Mr. Malewska lives in the Lansing area. He chose to follow a different route to support Cooley Law School: an endowed scholarship fund. Mr. Malewska had been a journalist before studying law. His father-in-law, Robert Wissmuller, had been in the newspaper business during his life, and Mr. Malewska wanted to find a way to help law students and to memorialize Mr. Wissmuller in perpetuity. He decided to found the Dale Malewska/Robert Wissmuller Fund Scholarship. This scholarship is granted annually, giving preference to current Cooley students who serve as writers and managers on the *Pillar* student newspaper.

Mr. Malewska made a gift of \$10,000 in cash to make it possible for the first grant of the scholarship to be made in Michaelmas Term 2003. He then plans to make additional contributions, including a gift through his will. That way, the Dale Malewska/Robert Wissmuller Fund Scholarship will grow over the years, through these additional contributions, as well as from the accrual of the interest on the initial gift.

Gifts of cash allow immediate charitable deductions for the 2003 tax year. If you itemize, cash gifts can be fully deductible for federal income tax purposes for up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. Federal estate taxes are also a consideration in your long-term planning. Charitable bequests can help you save estate tax dollars while giving much appreciated support to Cooley students with financial need. Scholarship fund support can also serve as a way to encourage those students who share your professional interests and experiences. Please contact Associate Dean of Development James Robb at robj@cooley.edu, or call (800) 243-ALUM for more information regarding how you can follow the example of graduates Jacqueline George and Dale Malewska in their support of Cooley Law School.

Admission Ceremony for February 2003 Michigan Bar Examinees Hosted by Cooley

Successful examinees of the February 2003 Michigan Bar Examination were admitted as new attorneys at a ceremony held on Monday, May 12, in the Thomas M. Cooley Law School's Auditorium. Faculty, family, and friends were able to share the moment when these candidates became members of the State Bar of Michigan and later socialized at a reception held by the school in the Red Room following the ceremony.

The program was provided with the assistance of the Ingham County Clerk's Office and the Ingham County Bar Association. Cooley's Assistant Dean of Faculty Charles Cercone welcomed the admittees and their guests on behalf of the school and as host of the event. Shauna Dunnings, President of the Ingham County Bar Association, was responsible for convening of the court while the Hon. David L. Jordon, Judge of the 54-B Judicial District Court, granted the motions to admit the new attorneys.

Many of the admittees were graduates of Cooley Law School. Ten new attorneys entered the legal profession at the ceremony, with eight of them being Cooley alumni. The Cooley graduates in the group were Robert Andretz (Swainson Class, 2003), Michael Baldwin (Chase Class, 2002), Lloyd Grandy II (Chase Class, 2002), David Holmes (Paterson Class, 2002), Heather Horwath (Swainson Class, 2003), David Tarrion (Chase Class, 2002), Greg Thatcher (Swainson Class, 2003), and Judith Varga (Swainson Class, 2003).

It was a great honor for the faculty and staff of Cooley Law School to share this joyous event with these new attorneys and their guests. Congratulations and good luck in the practice of law!

1976 Cooley Class

Sutton, Jerry G., the owner of Sutton Advisors, PLC, in Lansing, Mich., has been awarded the Accredited Investment Fiduciary Auditor Designation from the Center for Fiduciary Studies, a nationally recognized training organization for fiduciaries. He has been a practicing attorney since 1976 in areas of estate and business planning. He is a certified financial planner and holds the designation of Certified Investment Management Consultant.

Campbell Class

Jordan, Stephen H., of Rothman Gordon, P.C., in Pittsburgh, Penn., has been named to the 2003-2004 edition of *Chambers USA Guide to the Legal Profession*. He received his B.S. from Eastern Michigan University in 1971.

1977 Felch Class

Johnson, Byron, J., of Access Business Group, LLC, has been elected Chairman of the Council for Responsible Nutrition. He will hold the titles of Chairman of the CRN Board of Directors and Chairman of the CRN Executive Committee. He is an active leader in the dietary supplement industry and most recently served as the CRN Chair-elect for 2000-2002. He was first elected as an officer to the CRN Board as treasurer in 1998.

Porteous, Dave, was elected Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University.

1978 Marston Class

Charney, Elaine Hiscoe, has relocated from Washington, D.C., to Ft. Myers, Fla., to accept the position of Assistant Federal Security Director for the Transportation Security Administration, within the Homeland Security Department for Southwest International Airport.

1979 Butzel Class

Farran, William Richard, passed away July 20, 2003. He is survived by his loving wife of 19 years, Jill Farran nee Rozelle; his children Allison and Christopher; his parents, Richard and Carmen Farran; sisters, Leslie (David) Sukup, and Cheryl (Mark) Petrie; twin brother, Nick (Colleen) Farran; brother, Richard (Pam); several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, dear friends, and his friends at Mueller, Myers and Farran P.C. where he enjoyed practicing law for over 20 years.

1980 Potter Class

Mead, Irene M., has joined the firm of Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn, LLP as a partner with the Regulatory Department in the Lansing office. She specializes in advising and representing clients on liquor control issues. She focuses on liquor license transfers and liquor law violation issues. She is also a nationally recognized expert on alcohol direct shipping matters.

Whitsitt, Shirley, was appointed managing attorney and director of the Highland Park office of the Legal Aid and Defender Association, Inc. She is responsible for civil legal services provided to low-income clients by a staff of eight attorneys and support personnel. She was senior attorney and supervisor in the Florida Department of Health before returning to Michigan.

Bushnell Class

Heugel, John C., Partner, Liebman, Conway, Olejniczak & Jerry S.C., Green Bay Wisc., is a contributor to *AGC Contract Documents Handbook* by Aspen Publishers, N.Y. The book is an authoritative guide to contract documents for attorney, owners, contractors, subcontractors, designers, construction managers, and educators. He is a past chairman of the Wisconsin Bar Association Construction and Public Contracts Law Section, and is a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel Construction Law and Litigation Committee. He is Secretary of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Wisconsin Alumni Association. (920) 437-0476 E-mail: jch@lcojlaw.com

1981 Kavanaugh Class

Lawless, Janelle A., was elected judge of the 30th Judicial Circuit (Ingham County) in November, 2002. She began serving her six-year term January 1, 2003 and is assigned to the Family Division.

1982 Goodwin Class

Collison, Jeffrey C., was elected Saginaw County Bar Association President on June 12, 2003.

Johnson, Lolanda R., has accepted the position of Assistant Risk Manager/Collection Attorney for Hurley Medical Center, located in Flint, Michigan.

McGraw, Patrick, J., Hon., was a program presenter at the 43rd Probate and Estate Planning Institute in Traverse City, Mich., in May 2003. His topic was "The Key Court Rules Under Epic."

Smolenski, Sara, J. Hon., was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award from Grand Rapids Community College for 2003 and was the commencement speaker for the College in May 2003.

1983 Chandler Class

Copeland, Anthony, has been named Assistant Secretary for Business Development and Trade, in Raleigh, N.C. He will oversee the department's work in business development and trade including business recruitment, existing industry services, international trade and commerce finance. He has previously worked with BTI as an Executive VP of General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for 10 years.

McQuillan, Kevin, was recently ranked 70th by *Forbes Magazine's* 2003 Midas List as one of technology's top 100 venture investors. He is co-founder and general partner of Focus Ventures, an expansion stage venture capital firm in Palo Alto, Calif. Kevin focuses on investments in the software and communications market and has led the firm's investments in Agile Software, Alleon Websystems (Nortel), Commerce One, Com21, Copper Mountain, and Pixelworks, all of which became public companies. (650) 325-7400 E-mail: kevin@focusventures.com

1984 Manning Class

Kraft, Daniel L., founder of the Kraft Law Firm, was recently named general counsel to the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association at 320 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, Mich. 48933. Phone: (517) 485-8856; E-mail: Kraftd2@earthlink.net.

1985 Mundy Class

Cunningham, Janice K., of the firm of Mallory, Cunningham, Lapka & Scott, P.C., has been granted a fellowship to the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers. She has become the first attorney in the mid-Michigan area to be named to this prestigious national organization. The academy recognizes attorneys throughout the country who have demonstrated exceptional skill and integrity in the practice of family law.

1986 Miles Class

Schumacher, Kevin V.B., has been awarded the AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell. The Martindale-Hubbell AV ratings results from an extensive and confidential peer and judicial review of attorneys. The AV rating is the highest awarded and signifies that the recipient demonstrates preeminent legal ability and the highest professional and ethical standards. Kevin practices in the area of commercial law, civil litigation, and personal injury at the Glassen Rhead Law Firm. (517) 482-3800

1987 Champlain Class

Fox, Mark R., a shareholder of the firm of Fraser, Trebilcock, Davis & Dunlap, P.C., was appointed legal counsel to the Granholm-Cherry Inaugural Committee, the Governor's Residence Foundation, and the Great Lakes Great Hopes Scholarship Fund, by Michigan Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm. He handled the debate negotiations, debate preparation, and related matters during the 2002 gubernatorial campaign.

Morse Class

Teter, Scott, has been appointed as the lead attorney in the new Child Support Division in the office of the Michigan Attorney General. He has served as Cass County prosecutor since 1996 and has successfully prosecuted more than 200 felony non-support cases.

Champlin Class

Mauro, James F., joined the firm of Dickinson Wright, PLLC as a member. His expertise is in corporate law practice and advises major corporations, small businesses, and individuals on tax dispute, contract, real estate and general business issues. He has also received an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating awarded to attorneys for legal ability and ethical standards.

1988 Green Class

Thornton, Patrick K., is a visiting Professor of Sports Law at Handong Law School in South Korea. He and his wife Alison recently adopted a baby from Hawaii, Samuel Marcus Thornton.

1990 Witherell Class

Tillman-Butler, Paula, has been recently appointed to Legal Division Supervisor for Muskegon County Family Court.

1991 Krinock Class

Hood, Donald, has his own law firm at 4615 Southern, Dallas, Texas 75209, The Law Offices of Donald E. Hood, PLLC.

1992 Montgomery Class

Clarke, John, and his wife Suzanne Farmer (1983 Hooker Class) announce the birth of their second child, John "Jack" Andrew Clarke, born on Aug. 22, 2002.

Marie Elena Martell, has been reappointed as a lawyer member of the Attorney Discipline Board for the term ending Sept. 30, 2006.

1994 Person Class

Abrams-Gornstein, Gail L., was married on Oct. 20, 2002 and practices in New Jersey. She specializes in Tax and Estate Planning. She has three offices, in Wayne, Red Bank, and Florham Park, NJ.

Ostrander Class

Fallstrom, Karen A., and her husband, Christopher, announce the birth of their son, Wyatt, born in January 2003.

Macdonald, Timothy P., has joined the law firm of Brian Lavan & Associates, P.C., located in Brighton, Mich. He focuses his practice on estate planning, trust and probate administration, real estate, corporations, limited liability companies, and consumer bankruptcy, chapters 7 & 13.

1995 Steere Class

Goldberg, Scot D., on April, 20, 2001 was successful in obtaining the biggest verdict in Lee County, Fla., with a \$28 million jury verdict in a claim regarding a motor vehicle accident.

Goldenburg, Alison E. (Benis), has been elected member of Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC, of Baltimore, Md. She is a member of the firm's Litigation Practice Group where her practice involves business and commercial litigation. She received an Outstanding Service Award from the ABA Section of Litigation for 2002-2003. She was also appointed as Subcommittee Chair of the ABA Section of Litigation Trial Practice Committee and reappointed as Subcommittee Chair of the ABA Section of Litigation Woman Advocate Committee at the ABA's annual meeting. (410) 576-4283 E-mail: agoldenberg@gfmlaw.com

Guari, Jason J., an associate with the firm of Rice & Leopold, P.A., located in West Palm Beach, Fla., announces his marriage to Nicole M. Kasbar in March 2003. His practice focuses on personal injury litigation with an emphasis on product liability and auto crashworthiness.

Kane, Robert, and his wife announce the birth of their second son, Matthew on April 10, 2003. Matthew joins his big brother Benjamin.

Kuhn Class

Selin, Todd S., of Mallory, Cunningham, Lapka & Scott, P.C., in Lansing, was re-elected by the State Bar of Michigan Family Law Section to a second three-year term on the State Bar of Family Law Council. Mr. Selin is a frequent lecturer and author on family law-related topics. He is actively involved in American Inns of Court, Rotary International, and is serving his third two-year term on the State Bar of Michigan District E Character & Fitness Committee.

Zotos, Andrew P., and his wife **Amy L. Miller** (also Kuhn Class) are proud to announce the birth of Nicholas Andrew Zotos, on September 27, 2002. Andrew Zotos is a senior associate at the AV rated litigation firm of DeCicco, Gibbons & McNamara, P.C. Amy Miller is a Senior Management Consultant for Metropolitan Life's Compliance Department.

1996 Stone Class

Chalgian, Douglas G., was elected Chairperson of the State Bar Elder Law and Advocacy Section. He is certified as an elderlaw attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation, and is a member of the National Association of Elder Law Attorneys. His practice focuses exclusively on probate, trusts, estate planning, and issues relating to aging and incapacity. He also serves on the governing council of the State Bar Probate and Estate Planning Section, and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Alzheimer's Association Great Lakes Chapter and the Thomas M. Cooley Law School Sixty Plus, Inc., Elderlaw Clinic. (517) 332-3800

Sharpe Class

Stamm-Philipps, Angela, of Jackson, Balkin & Douglas located in Lockport, N.Y., and John N. Philipps Jr. (1996, Stone Class), announce the arrival of their daughter, Julia Santina Philipps, on April 27, 2003 in Buffalo, N.Y.

Moody Class

White, Amy, and her husband announce the arrival of their second child, Lucas Anderson White, born on Dec. 22, 2002. He joins big sister Lyndsay Avery White.

Harrel, Jason, joined the firm of Richard S. Calone, Inc. and in January 2002 was promoted to partner. He is specializing in all matters of taxation law. In August 1997, he received his LLM in taxation from Goldengate University School of Law. He was also recently certified by the California State Bar as a specialist in taxation.

Black Class

Nawash, Kamal, has been appointed acting President of the National Capital Area Alumni Association. He specializes in immigration law in his Falls Church, Va., law practice, where he is a partner. Kamal has been quoted in recent Associated Press articles describing the problems of immigrants who registered under the recent federal law.

1997 Voelker Class

LoTempio, Melissa A., recently joined Andrew Hilton Attorneys in Orchard Park, N.Y. She serves as an associate attorney concentrating her practice on trust, estate, and elder law matters including guardianship law and estate, tax, and Medicaid planning. Prior to joining the firm she was employed by Citigroup Trust in Palm Beach Florida. She is also the former Assistant Attorney General for the State of Florida (716) 662-2664.

Jordan, Jerry D., of Winston-Salem, NC, has been recently named General Counsel for the Forsyth County Republican Party.

Allison-Flynn, Brande, was recently promoted to Associate Director of Compliance at UBS Warburg, Ltd. in London, UK.

Fellows Class

Petrequin, Brian L., of Jersey City, N.J., was married on Feb. 14, 2001 in Las Vegas, Nevada to Emily J. Parodi. In addition, he has been an associate with the law firm of St. John & Wayne, L.L.C., since 1998 where he concentrates his practice in the areas of corporate law, corporate finance, lender's counsel, mergers & acquisitions, intellectual property law, and Internet law. He regularly represents public and private corporations, banks and other financial institutions.

Adams Class

Gregory, David, was named 2003 Outstanding Young Alumni for Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Mich. He was also named to the Board of Directors of the NMU Alumni Association. He is with the Lansing-based law and government relations firm of Kelley Cawthorne, PLLC, where he specializes in legislative and regulatory matters. Representative clients include Wayne State University, Lorillard Tobacco, Magna Entertainment Corporation, the Michigan Society of Planning, and Automotive Recyclers of Michigan.

1998 Sharpe Class

Milmed, Sandi D., opened her law office at 3105 W. Azeele St., Tampa, Fla. 33609 in August 2003. Her practice is limited to family law. Phone: (813) 875-7555.

Goostrey, Daniel A., has joined the law firm of Parker & Adams, P.C.

McDonald Class

Twarozynski, Judith A., has been appointed to Chief Assistant Prosecutor in Alpena County after serving two years as an assistant prosecutor. She was recently appointed chair of the Alpena County Building Authority.

Snow Class

Bilbey, Heather, has recently joined the law firm of Trott & Trott from the Saginaw, Mich.—based firm of T&T Financial.

1999 Flanigan Class

Nichols, Mike, was recently appointed as Treasurer of the Board of Directors at The Reynolds Law Firm P.C. The Reynolds Law Firm is a six-member firm in Lansing, Mich., that focuses on litigation, particularly in the criminal and family law areas. He also handles contract drafting, review, and litigation, particularly in the areas of not to compete. Phone: (517) 372-0676; E-mail: mnichols@reynoldslawfirm.com

Weadock Class

Taylor, Michael, is now staff attorney for Alex Acosta, member of the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Taylor was previously staff attorney for Arthur Rosenfeld, General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board.

Vandivier, Angela, announces her marriage to Will Stanley on March 22, 2003 in Connersville, Ind. She is an associate with the firm Brumbaugh, Mu & King, P.A., located in Fayetteville, N.C. She practices in the field of workers' compensation.

2000 Rutledge Class

Lassner, Caralyce M., has joined the Bankruptcy Department of Shermeta, Chinko & Adams, P.C. in Rochester Hills, Mich. She focuses her practice in the area of creditor's rights and will practice throughout the state. Phone: (248) 652-8200, ext.2073; E-mail: caralyce@provide.net.

Stern, Bradley, and his wife, announce the birth of their son, Brandon Michael, born on Nov 19, 2002.

Jay Class

Cary, Catherine A., after receiving her LL.M. in International Legal Studies at Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco, Calif., accepted the position as Pro Bono Coordinator with Washoe Legal Services in Reno, Nev. Her work consists of providing pro bono referrals and self-help clinics to the low income residents of Washoe County. She also writes articles for the Washoe County Bar Association's Publication, *The Writ*, on pro bono issues in the community and organizes continuing legal education programs for pro bono attorneys.

2001 Iredell Class

Bogart, Jeremy, has just received his LL.M. in Criminal Law from State University of New York at Buffalo. He has also just accepted an associate position at the Pima County Public Defender in Tucson, Ariz.

Reed, Shane M., and Michelle Lahey Reed (Cushing Class, 2000) announce the arrival of their son, Jaxson David Reed, born on December 27, 2002 at Hayes Green Beach Memorial Hospital located in Charlotte, MI.

Wilkerson, James L., passed away on June 9, 2003.

Blair Class

Dunbar, Heather, began working for the law firm of Jeffries & Newton in East Lansing, Mich. The law firm provides general legal services to students of Michigan State University. (517) 353-3716

McKneely, Roland, has just opened solo practice under the name of McKneely Law Firm, LLC, located at 400 Travis St., Ste. 305, Shreveport, La.

Kuehn, Christopher, has recently accepted a position with the Wisconsin State Public Defender's Office as a trial attorney. His practice focuses on criminal defense, mental commitments and juvenile law.

White, George, has accepted the position of foreign expert-in-residence and visiting scholar of international business law and global commerce in the international business department of the business school at Zhejiang Wanli University in Ningbo, China. He will also be a senior researcher and professor of international commercial and economic law at the Sino-West Legal Studies Centre at Zhejiang Wanli University.

Paterson Class

Willis, Shaun Patrick, has his own law firm in Kalamazoo, Mich. He specializes in estate planning, civil litigation, personal injury, and criminal law.

2002 Johnson Class

Catipay, James Anthony, accepted a position as Assistant General Counsel at the Wysong Corporation in Midland, Mich. His focus will be on corporate tax, tax planning strategies, state and local tax, as well as assisting in all other general operations. He recently earned an LL.M. in taxation from the Boston University School of Law. (517) 410-6580 E-mail: jcatipay@aol.com

Pitsch, Eric, has been hired by the Van Lieshout Law Office in Little Chute, Wisc. He was formerly with Hinshaw & Culbertson Law Firm. In addition to practicing law, Pitsch was recently hired as an adjunct professor for Cardinal Stritch University where he teaches business law, statistics, ethics, and the psychology of business. In his free time he loves to write. His new book entitled "*Lawyers, Mental Health Professionals & the Legal System*" was just released.

Chase Class

Trudeau, Christopher R., has joined the firm of Plunkett & Cooney's Labor & Employment Law Practice Group as a member. He is located in the firm's Bloomfield Hills office where he also practices in the area of commercial litigation. He is a member of the Oakland County Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan and the American Bar Association. This fall he will serve as an adjunct professor of Law Practice at Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

2003 Swainson Class

Armstrong, Vicki Lynn, has accepted a position as a Prehearing Attorney with the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Solo and Small Firm Alums Needed for Cooley's Mentoring Program

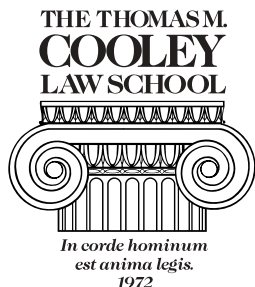


The Alumni Mentoring Program has gained a lot of momentum since its beginnings. The Alumni Relations Office is very proud of the relationships it facilitates by matching Cooley students and recent graduates with alumni practicing in areas throughout the United States. The networking that students are able to do in their geographical area of interest has proven itself as a worthwhile experience time and time again.

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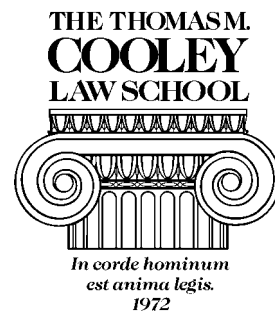
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Circuit Court Judge,
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For more information about admission to Cooley Law School, please contact the Admissions Office at (517) 371-5140 ext. 2244, or e-mail admissions@cooley.edu. If you would like to speak to someone about taking classes at Oakland University or would like to visit, take a tour, or sit in on a class, please contact Cooley's Rochester/Oakland University Campus at 472 O'Dowd Hall by calling (248) 370-3148 or e-mail oucampusinfo@cooley.edu.