Law Alumni on the Front Lines in U.S. District Courts

UC Law Students Help Create Landmark Bill
Class of 2012 Reflects on Year
Check out the 2009 Golden Bearcats
Dear Alumni and Friends,

Our shared vision — to be the premier small, urban, public law school in America, nationally recognized for its excellence, relevance, and impact — reflects the finest traditions of our College of Law even as it points us forward. Continuity and change, then, have been very much on our minds: continuity because we have a great deal to be proud of; and change because it is a compelling reality of life and growth.

And there is change. Our university has a new president and a new provost, and we on campus are at work writing the next chapter of the University of Cincinnati. We have a strong foundation upon which to build, and we are determined under President Gregory H. Williams’s leadership to take our place among the elite universities in this nation. In a word, to achieve.

Change is a fact of life at the college, as well, where we too are determined to achieve. We continue our efforts to build a world-class faculty and can take pride in our impressive scholarly growth. We are equally driven to transform the way we educate young lawyers for a changing world.

In that regard, we are in tune with members of the bar, the bench, and the academy who believe that law schools can and must do better in preparing graduating students to help clients and advance their profession. We have been guided by much wisdom and input, including an influential report — Educating Lawyers: Preparation for the Profession of Law — issued not long ago by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. According to that report, law schools teach thinking, theory, and doctrine very well. (The traditional core of the law school curriculum gets high marks for training men and women to “think like a lawyer.”) But that is only one dimension of a lawyer’s education. As the report emphasizes, and as every practicing lawyer knows, being an effective lawyer requires a broad range of practical skills. It also requires a deep-rooted ethical, moral, and cultural framework that distinguishes our calling. It presumes a professional identity, and a sense of purpose.

That is why we are significantly amplifying the development of specific skills that our students will need as lawyers. And why we are expanding the opportunities to place students in real-life contexts where they can sharpen their abilities and acclimate themselves to life as a professional.

In recent years, for instance, we have been refining a pair of mandatory courses for 2L students focusing on client counseling, relationships with clients, problem-solving, and the ethics of the profession. These are augmented by other courses that specifically target the development of other central skills, such as negotiation, mediation, drafting, various pretrial and trial skills (such as witness preparation), and advanced legal research. Many of these skills-based courses are offered in concentrated workshops and other flexible formats, underscoring our commitment to innovation in teaching, as well as content.

We also are excited about an innovation that we call “Practice Ones.” Going hand-in-hand with a traditional substantive course taught by our full-time faculty — such as Corporations or Intellectual Property — a Practice One is a one-credit class taught by an experienced adjunct professor focusing on the skills, tasks, and strategies that practitioners are likely to encounter in the field. We now offer seven Practice Ones, and there are more to come. They meld theory and practice in new ways, and bring the voice of immediate, direct experience into the classroom. Our students are the direct beneficiaries.

Equally important has been the expansion of hands-on clinical opportunities for students. Joining our well-known Ohio Innocence Project today are four other clinical programs: an Indigent Defense Clinic (partnering with Chase Law School and the Ohio Justice and Policy Center), a Sixth Circuit Appellate Clinic (with the generous help of practitioners), a Domestic Violence and Civil Protection Order Clinic (in collaboration with the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati), and an Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic launching this year.

A wide range of judicial and legal externships further enhances the experiential-learning opportunities for our students. Our emphasis on skills and professionalism is furthered by
programs offered outside the formal curriculum. These include mainstays — like moot court, trial practice competitions, and journals — with which our graduates are thoroughly familiar. But they also include leadership development, a series of practitioner-led introductions to facets of practice, and a mentoring program that we are launching this year. Many of these skills-oriented curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular innovations have been developed under the leadership of our Center for Practice, which also offers a number of CLE programs each year that focus on strengthening the practical skills of lawyers in our community.

It has always been incumbent upon us to help our graduating students successfully enter their careers. Providing them with solid practical experience, and helping them build a strong network of contacts and colleagues in the profession, helps us begin to meet that obligation. In these challenging economic times, our responsibility is only enhanced. It is harder to find a secure, stable, and well-paying legal job today than it was just a few years ago. Meanwhile, our students (like their counterparts at other law schools) have taken on growing levels of debt to pay for their education.

As we rise to that challenge, my colleagues and I are well aware of the advantage we enjoy as a law school with deep roots here in Cincinnati. Much of what we are focused on and excited about today depends upon a close connection with the world of practice and experience. That world is literally at our doorstep, and Cincinnati’s lawyers, judges, and professional community are exceedingly generous in opening it to our students.

This, of course, is not new. Generations of UC law students have seen their education enriched through exposure to the law and legal practice in Cincinnati. But that tradition continues and grows, with externships, clinics, co-curricular and extracurricular programming, and other innovations. As we build our future — a future that is almost certain to involve serving new constituencies in new ways — we are fortunate, indeed, to be able to tap the strengths of a classic American city.

With all best wishes,

Louis D. Bilionis
Dean and Nippert Professor of Law
With the recent confirmation of Justice Elena Kagan, there was no lack of media attention on the Supreme Court and the important role of justices as the “backstop” of the federal courts. Much less is heard about the role of those who sit on that system’s front line — the U.S. district courts. Judges in these courts hear and decide thousands of cases every day, the vast majority of which never go to appeal. Three alumni who now sit on the federal bench have shed some light on their day-to-day work and the larger issues affecting it.

The Daily Docket
Judge Nancy K. Johnson ’78 has been a magistrate judge for 20 years in the U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern District of Texas. She finds the job rewarding, in part, because it presents something new each day.

“I do patent, insurance, and employment cases. Some magistrate judges do a lot of habeas work or prisoner rights,” she says. “I’m more of a generalist, which keeps it interesting.”

Of the various cases she handles, she finds patent cases most difficult. “They are highly technical, and I think the law in that area sometimes is not very clear.”

Judge Thomas R. Rose ’73 agrees. He serves on the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Ohio in Dayton. “Patent and trademark law are obviously very technical cases of litigation where the interpretation and meaning of words is complex. These cases tend to be the most challenging.”

Judge Sandra S. Beckwith ’68 holds a different view. She sits on the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Ohio in Cincinnati. “I was a pre-med student before I decided to go to law school, and I’m still interested in science and technology,” Judge Beckwith says. “I like the opportunity to get involved particularly in medical-device patents. In fact, I have a multidistrict case right now that’s a patent case, and I’m enjoying it.”

Judge Beckwith took senior status last year (she had served as chief judge since 2004), so she has a say in tailoring her docket. She has chosen not to take death penalty habeas corpus cases or death penalty cases that are federal cases in the first instance. Also, Judge Beckwith limits her criminal cases to those involving...
fewer than 35 defendants. Her reasons are partly that these cases demand much time and because they are a strain. As she explains, “When we take these cases we make an effort to do the best possible job we can, and that can be very draining.”

Regional Differences

The kinds of cases typical for a federal court can vary by geography. Judge Johnson’s district of Southern Texas has a large volume of immigration cases. She says that for her state’s border courts, immigration poses an even greater challenge.

“I’ve gone down to the Western District of Texas to help out when they were short,” she recalls. “Instead of having one person standing in front of you, you’ll have 15 at a time. It is a procedural challenge to ensure that all these people are being represented, and still have a volume practice.

“What we’re seeing with these cases is the criminal problem — smuggling, illegal entry and re-entry. It’s difficult because these people have family and jobs. They live here,” she says. “You can deport them, send them away, but they’ll be back. You’re not really fixing a problem that is partly driven by the economy in Mexico.”

Judge Beckwith says that while it’s nothing on the scale of what Judge Johnson sees in Texas, the Southern District of Ohio is dealing with more immigration-related issues than in the past.

“We’re seeing more illegal immigrant involvement in drug cases, and that puts a different spin on things. With these we deal with the Bureau of Immigration Customs and Enforcement, which we have not had here before.”

She says an increasing number of drug cases are coming to court, and they are wider in scope. “We are seeing larger amounts and broader networks, and in recent years, increased street violence and gun use.”

The docket in Cincinnati differs from most other districts in the large number of civil cases, according to Judge Beckwith. Many are employment discrimination cases related to age, sex, ethnicity, and religion. “This area of the law is developing,” she says. “It remains steady at about 40 percent of our local docket.”

Sentencing Guidelines

Over the summer, the U.S. Sentencing Commission released results of a survey of 639 district judges taken January-March 2010. Judges were asked about their views on federal sentencing under an advisory guidelines system. The survey drew interest from the media because of judges’ answers to questions about the appropriateness of guideline ranges. A majority of the judges agreed that the guidelines were “generally appropriate” for offenses, with the exception of two areas: crack cocaine trafficking (only 28 percent agreed with the guidelines); and the receipt and possession of child pornography (28 percent and 26 percent agreement).

The fairness of sentencing for crack cocaine has been under review for decades. But the judges’ objections to five-year mandatory sentences for possession of child pornography may take members of the public by surprise, given the nature of the crime. Judge Rose explains that these cases can be troubling for judges because often there is no evidence that the defendant has ever acted out in any way or victimized anyone in the community.

“The tough ones are when there doesn’t seem to be any activity or prior record other than possession,” he says. “The guidelines tend to gravitate toward the number of images. What you have to think about as a judge is what’s going on with the individual beyond possession. Do I need to be concerned about protecting the public, about recidivism? Or am I just dealing with a person who was experimenting?” Judge Rose says the advisory
CURRENT POSITION: Federal magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas since 1990. Judge Johnson marked her 20th anniversary on the court this year. “There was some cake involved,” she said.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE: Judge Johnson worked as an assistant U.S. attorney in Texas and as an assistant attorney general in Ohio.

Advice for young attorneys hoping to serve on the higher courts?
“Know your senator. That wasn’t the case for me. As a magistrate judge, the district judges voted for my appointment. I had been an assistant U.S. attorney for eight years and was in federal court every day, and that experience helped.”

A judge whom you admire?
“I can say I liked (Justice Byron) Whizzer White a lot. I thought he had a lot of common sense and he was a true gentleman. He was our circuit justice before he died. He was down-to-earth and would talk to anyone.”
guidelines are a valuable tool, but only one of many considerations.

Judge Beckwith adds that these defendants are typically different than those typically seen in that they hold jobs and often have no prior record. Further complicating matters is that a victim is seldom in the courtroom. She says, “Occasionally, they can actually identify the child and put a name with a situation. But it’s troubling to the court because you feel you don’t have all the facts in front of you.”

Advice for young attorneys hoping to serve on the higher courts?

“Take the legal education very seriously. I also believe that a person who wants to become a judge should experience the trenches. I was a trial attorney for 17 years and a common pleas judge for 11 years before I came to the federal bench. I believe trying criminal and civil cases — knowing what a lawyer is going through, knowing how parties react and how things work — is an immense advantage for an individual when he or she takes the bench. I’m not saying someone who doesn’t have trial practice can’t be a good judge, but I’ve come up through the ranks of trial practice and it seems to me an advantage.”

A judge whom you admire?

“There are so many, even in this district. Obviously, I could cite Supreme Court justices I admire. But I tell you one individual who I have admired and followed through the process and through the state court system here in this district is Judge (Herman) Weber. I think it’s his way of conducting his court, his knowledge of the issues. He always has a grasp of what’s going on in front of him and always has control of the situation. He has the right temperament, and I believe temperament is a big thing for a judge. I’ve tried to emulate him, though I’ve probably gone different directions on some things.”

Confirmation Process

As federal district court judges, Beckwith and Rose were nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate. Both said their experiences were quite different and more relaxed than what is usually witnessed with nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Judge Rose says he finds no serious faults with the confirmation process.

“I felt throughout that the objectives of both the White House and the Senate—regardless of what side of the aisle they were on—were very valid and that they were looking for an individual with the right temperament,

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE: After private law practice, she was appointed in 1977 and later became the first woman elected to the Hamilton County Municipal Court. She was the first woman elected to the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations, in 1987. Judge Beckwith became the first woman appointed to be a member of the Board of County Commissioners of Hamilton County, Ohio, in 1989, and the first woman elected to that position in 1990. Her fellow commissioners elected her president of the Board of County Commissioners that year, the first woman to hold the office. While serving as county commissioner she practiced law with Graydon, Head & Ritchey.

Advice for young attorneys hoping to serve in the higher courts?

“It’s important to be active in your community so you know the issues from a ground level. Many judges and academics believe judges shouldn’t be elected. But I always leaned toward thinking that electing judges forces them to meet people and hear their concerns and maybe gain a more detailed understanding of what’s going on in the community. With a federal court appointment for life, it is good to know there are not going to be negative consequences for deciding a case, regardless of whether the man on the street agrees with it. This is a good backstop for justice in this country, and I think parallel tracks have merit.”

A judge whom you admire?

“I admire John W. Peck 38, who sat on our district court and was also a state judge and sat on the circuit court here (U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit). He once said he tries to say yes 90 percent of the time. He was active in local legal circles, started the local federal bar association, and remained active most of his life. He also taught at the law school. He was a very kind, accessible gentleman who exemplified the best qualities of a judge. In fact, he passed away here in the courthouse, which speaks for itself.”
Financially Wronged? New Study Says Investors Should Go After Leadership Instead of Corporation Itself

By: Carey Hoffman

Class action lawsuits against financial companies would often be better aligned with the financial interests of the wronged investor if they were directed at corporate officers and advisors who oversaw questionable practices, rather than the actual corporation as a whole.

That’s one of the conclusions to come from a new paper authored by University of Cincinnati Assistant Professor of Law Lynn Bai, along with fellow law professors James D. Cox of the Duke University School of Law and Randall S. Thomas of the Vanderbilt University Law School. The paper, “Lying and Getting Caught: An Empirical Study of the Effect of Securities Class Action Settlements on Targeted Firms,” was just presented publicly for the first time and will appear in an upcoming edition of the University of Pennsylvania Law Review.

The authors discovered that frequently the long-term damage done to the firm that is sued impacts its viability going forward, a factor that could have negative consequences for investors who are still exposed via their holdings with the company. One way around this would be to target the suit to individuals most at fault – an idea that is more practical than ever in the era of multimillion-dollar compensation packages for high-level financial employees.

“Class actions hurt the reputation of the corporation, distract the attention of the management and, to the extent that settlement is reached, this money may come, at least partially, out of the corporation’s pocket, rather than the pocket of the insurance company,” says Bai.

She adds: “The lawsuit may impose financial distress on the part of the corporation and hurt its financial well-being. From the shareholders’ point of view, they have brought the action hoping to be compensated in the form of a large settlement, but they are ultimately the owners of the corporation and, as such, they bear the full negative consequence that the class action may bring to the corporation.”

The new paper by Bai, Cox and Thomas examines two competing views on class action suits against the current backdrop of consideration of new financial regulation reforms. One traditional school of thought says that the threat of such suits is a necessary deterrent that assures sound practices by financial firms. The other adheres to a deregulatory philosophy that such suits place American companies at a competitive disadvantage in the global financial marketplace while doing little to help the overall position of investors.

The research looked at the impact class action suits had on 480 companies that were defendants in recent class action suits who had settled the litigation brought against them. Those defendants were compared to companies in the same industries and of similar sizes on key financial parameters such as sales, operating income, liquidity, financial distress levels and stock market performances.

The study revealed evidence of deterioration in the defendants’ operating efficiency and short-term liquidity as well as a higher propensity of filing bankruptcy after the lawsuit, relative to their peers. Moreover, stock prices plummeted upon the filing of the lawsuit and had not recovered even years after the lawsuits had been settled.

As one example of the kind of troubles these companies experience, consider what the study showed in regard to increases in risks of bankruptcy.

“The Altman’s Z-score is a measure of the overall financial distress level of a company and is widely accepted as a powerful predictor of bankruptcy in the near future,” Bai says. “We found that our defendants had significantly lower Z-scores than comparable companies that were not involved in class action lawsuits, which was a new finding.”
Bai also points out that the negative impact might be even stronger than the paper indicates, as the study did not include those similar companies who went bankrupt prior to or at the settlement stage. That is among the questions the researchers hope to look into in the future, as well as issues such as how corporate governance has changed in the wake of class action suits.

The authors conclude that the research in their paper offers some support to both schools of thought in the debate on the actual useful role of class action suits, but the data shows undeniable negative impacts for both the corporations in question and, by extension, their shareholders.

“Our results invite thoughts on important legal issues,” Bai says. “For example, if the class actions end up hurting the corporations, shouldn’t we adjust our procedural rules such as the pleading standard so as to better guard against frivolous suits? Also, to keep the class action from hurting the corporation, shouldn’t the law provide more incentives for shareholders to direct their actions against the officers of the corporation, who actually committed the fraud, rather than the corporation itself?”
A model innocence reform bill for the nation that has its roots in the work of nine UC College of Law students was signed into law last April by Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland.

Of all the significant accomplishments the Ohio Innocence Project (OIP) can claim in its seven years of existence — which includes securing the freedom of ten innocent men who were wrongfully convicted — none can top what took place April 5, 2010, in terms of overall impact.

Members of the OIP — which is based in the University of Cincinnati College of Law — were present to witness the signing into law by Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland of a new criminal justice reform bill. The bill will make Ohio a national leader in terms of implementing best practices to prevent the possibility of wrongful convictions.

Strickland signed the bill into law at a 9 a.m. ceremony in the Cabinet Room of the Ohio Statehouse.

One of the bill’s sponsors, former Ohio Rep. (and now Hamilton County Municipal Court Judge) Tyrone Yates, calls it “one of the most important pieces of criminal justice legislation in this state in a century.” The national leadership of the Innocence Project considers it to be the most comprehensive set of safeguards of its kind in the nation.

“This is a remarkable day for Ohio, and for all those who have worked so hard to make this law a reality,” says Mark Godsey, faculty director for the OIP. “Thousands of hours of effort went into researching and writing what would become this piece of legislation. Ohio is truly the national leader on innocence reforms, and will be the role model other states look to as they contemplate similar measures in the coming years.”
New Provisions

Among the new provisions that will now be Ohio law are:

• A requirement for preservation of DNA evidence in all cases of serious crime, such as homicide and sexual assault

• Police incentives for the recording of all interrogations from beginning to end in cases of serious crime

• A requirement for police lineups and eyewitness photo ID procedures to be conducted in double-blind fashion, meaning the officer who oversees the eyewitness procedure with the witness does not know who among the sample pool is the suspect

• An expansion of Ohio’s post-conviction DNA testing law to allow for DNA testing to be done during the parole phase of the justice cycle

Two Years in the Making

Work on the legislation began two years ago when a group of nine first-year UC Law students spent their winter break researching all aspects of laws and practices in the country that applied to this area of the law. Those nine students, who saw the bill become law in their final semesters as UC Law students, are Christie Bebo, Chris Liu, Peter O’Shea, Eric Gooding, Amanda Marie Smith, Patrick Brown, Elizabeth Zilberberg, Jonathan Haas and Tommy Kemp.

With guidance from Godsey and Michele Berry ’06, the students drafted a research memorandum that proposed legislation that was submitted to the General Assembly and Governor Strickland in February 2008. This written proposal was the impetus for what eventually became Senate Bill 77.

The Innocence Project, a national organization based in New York, worked closely with the Ohio Innocence Project to build legislative support for the bill over the last two years, including legislative testimony, meetings with key legislators, and substantial background on social science research and the effectiveness of reforms in other states.

In addition, the Columbus Dispatch newspaper provided the project a significant lift by partnering with the OIP on a series of articles, “Test of Convictions,” which illuminated many issues on the subject of wrongful convictions in the state.

For video coverage of the signing ceremony, visit the Ohio Channel webcast at http://www.ohiochannel.org/.

“One of the most important pieces of criminal justice legislation in this state in a century.”

Tyrone Yates, former Ohio representative and now Hamilton County Municipal Court judge
Professor Jacob Katz Cogan Receives Prestigious Award from American Society of International Law

Jacob Katz Cogan, Associate Professor of Law at the College of Law, is a co-recipient of the American Society of International Law’s 2010 Francis Deák Prize for meritorious scholarship.

This honor, which was awarded at the Society’s recent annual meeting, was given for Cogan’s article Representation and Power in International Organization: The Operational Constitution and Its Critics, published in the April 2009 issue of the American Journal of International Law.

In the article Cogan writes: “Nothing is more fundamental to a constitutional system than the techniques it adopts and employs for the selection of its governmental decision makers, be they executive, legislative, or judicial officials. Methods of representation can be based on a variety of principles and can be codified by various techniques. The international system possesses a plethora of possible principles, none completely dominant – those that treat all states the same and give them each an equal vote; those that treat states or groups of states differently and allocate representation based on a distinctive characteristic or interest; and those that give priority to region and divide positions accordingly. There is also a wide array of possible forms for implementing those principles that differ in their formality and degree of entrenchment. In the post-War era, an operational constitution of representation developed in which formal and informal arrangements were utilized to reconcile the conflicting principles and interests in play. Today, this operational regime is under stress: assailed as unreflective of contemporary power dynamics and criticized by those who would do away with informality and preferences altogether. These critiques are moves to create an international system that functions on radically different terms from the one that has existed for the past sixty years.”

He concludes the article with a discussion of the future of the operational constitution in light of these challenges.

What is the Francis Deák Prize?
The Francis Deák Prize is awarded annually to a younger author for meritorious scholarship published in The American Journal of International Law. The prize was established by Philip Cohen in 1973, in memory of Francis Deák, former head of the international law program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and editor of American International Law Cases, 1783-1963. The award, sponsored by Oxford University Press, is made in the spring following the volume year in which the article appeared.
The University of Cincinnati College of Law announces the launch of The Center for Race, Gender, and Social Justice.

Building upon a groundbreaking academic program in law and women’s, gender, and sexuality studies, The Center for Race, Gender, and Social Justice seeks to cultivate scholars, leaders, and activists committed to social change.

Through experiential learning, research, and other opportunities for interdisciplinary inquiry, the center’s goal is to forge relationships with local, national, and global communities, preparing students to take the lead in advancing justice.

Primary programs are the Freedom Center Journal, the Domestic Violence and Civil Protection Order Clinic, and the joint degree program in law and women’s, gender, and sexuality studies.

Visit the website at www.law.uc.edu for more information.
Ohio Innocence Project Helps Ohio’s Longest-Serving Wrongfully Convicted Inmate to Freedom After 29 Years in Prison

By: Carey Hoffman

Raymond Towler, the 10th individual freed with the help of the UC College of Law’s Ohio Innocence Project, has served the most time of any exonerated individual in Ohio history. On May 5, 2010, he gained his release as a free man following a hearing at the Cuyahoga County Courthouse.

Raymond Towler, who has served nearly three decades in prison for a crime he did not commit, was released as a free man May 5, 2010, thanks to the efforts of UC Law’s Ohio Innocence Project.

Towler is the longest-serving wrongfully incarcerated inmate to be released in Ohio history, and one of the longest in United States history. He is the 10th individual released through the efforts of the Ohio Innocence Project since its founding in 2003.

“It’s hard to believe he’s been in prison for 30 years – it’s hard to wrap my mind around that,” said Eric Gooding, who was one of the UC Law students who worked on Towler’s case and was in Cleveland for the hearing. “But his patience was amazing. He never seemed angry when you would talk to him.”

DNA testing completed May 3 conclusively proved that Towler was not the perpetrator in a juvenile rape and assault case that occurred on May 24, 1981, in Cleveland. Towler, who is now 52 years old, was convicted to a sentence of life in prison on Sept. 18, 1981.

UC Law students who worked on Towler’s case include Gooding ’10, Brian Howe ’10, Matt Katz ’11, and Chris Brown ’11.

Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Eileen Gallagher wept during the final hearing as she read the words that freed Towler.

“It was great to see, and it got very emotional,” said Howe, who was also in attendance at Wednesday’s hearing. “The judge read that old Irish prayer about ‘May the road rise up to meet you,’ and then she made an eloquent speech. She got very emotional at the end.”

Howe and Gooding went through the letdown in 2008 of getting back an initial batch of DNA testing that could have cleared Towler, but it was deemed not conclusive enough by the justice system. “He’s always been upbeat, though,” Howe said of Towler. “One of the downsides of working with the Innocence Project is that the cases take so long that most times you aren’t around to see them end. But I loved working with the Innocence Project, and now this is a great gift to have occurred during the same week as graduation.”
Other members of the Ohio Innocence Project, who worked on Towler’s case since 2004, were in attendance at the hearing, as were attorneys who represented him from the law firms of Jones Day and Berkman, Gordon, Murray & DeVan.

- **Mark Godsey**, faculty director of the Ohio Innocence Project and counsel for Raymond Towler
- **David Laing** and **Carrie Wood**, attorneys with the OIP
- **David B. Alden**, attorney for Raymond Towler from Jones Day law firm
- **James E. Young**, counsel for Raymond Towler from Jones Day law firm
- **Ann C. Weinzimer**, counsel for Raymond Towler from Jones Day law firm
- **Mark R. DeVan**, counsel for Raymond Towler from Berkman, Gordon, Murray & DeVan law firm
- **John Parker**, a Cleveland-based lawyer who assisted with the case

This event was covered by media locally, state-wide, and nationally.


Aaron, Kalsem, and Miller Receive 2010 Goldman Award for Teaching Excellence:

Challenging. Engaging. Uncanny. Committed. These adjectives describe the 2010 Goldman Prize for Teaching Excellence recipients. All have demonstrated their commitment to students and unrelenting support of the College of Law. Congratulations to this year’s recipients: Marjorie Corman Aaron, Kristin Kalsem, and Darrell A.H. Miller.

**Marjorie Corman Aaron**
*Professor of Clinical Law*

Law professors should be familiar with their curriculum teaching assignments. In this respect, there are few instructors who can rival the combination of real-world, clinical, and academic experiences that Marjorie Corman Aaron brings to the classroom.

This year’s Goldman Prize committee, however, took these qualities as a given. Since 1998, professor Aaron has been continually growing and improving a lackluster and unpopular part of the curriculum to make it an accessible, enjoyable, and practical gem among dry, bar-prep, and substantive courses. This year’s committee focused on a different quality highlighted by the student nominations: an ability to look beyond the curriculum. Put differently, professor Aaron is not bound by her teaching assignments; instead, the students and her experience about what skills are integral to a successful legal career dictate her every semester at the College of Law.

Professor Aaron maintains a persona that truly invites and encourages students to seek her advice. She has demonstrated willingness—and, in fact, pleasure—to go well-above and beyond in-class and office-hour requirements to meet her students’ needs.

In her own right, professor Aaron blazed paths for students interested in trial advocacy, mediation, and negotiation. Never satisfied with the status quo, she prods students to see the other half of the legal world: practice. It is a world that looms large over the students, but would be left unaddressed if not for professor Aaron’s sincere and remarkable efforts.

This award could be given to professor Aaron for her undeniable talents and contributions at the College of Law in her areas of expertise. This year’s committee, however, recognizes her extraordinary ability to teach students at the College of Law beyond the ordinary bounds.

**Kristin Kalsem**
*Professor of Law*

Respectful, extremely intelligent, highly personable, and cutting-edge—just a few of the words used by students to describe professor Kristin Kalsem. Not many law students are overly eager to learn the intricacies of secured transactions or bankruptcy, yet these two courses happen to be very popular at the College of Law—precisely because professor Kalsem teaches them. Impeccably organized, always enthusiastic, and often willing to put extra time and energy into making sure that her students are prepared, professor Kalsem embodies what the Goldman Prize stands for—excellence in teaching.

Inside of the classroom, professor Kalsem is most known for her exceptional intelligence, her perfectly organized presentations, and her respect for her students. Her command of the subject matter she teaches is extraordinary, yet
the way she is able to convey the subject matter to her students is what makes her an incredible teacher. Though she employs the Socratic method, she groups her students into threes, allowing them to answer the questions they know and rely on their group members for questions to which they aren’t sure of the answers. No student ever feels embarrassed or frightened, yet all are extremely prepared for each class, having studied with their group members and not wanting to let these members down come class time.

The diversity of professor Kalsem’s teaching skills became evident last year when she taught a special reading group course devoted to the writings of Carol Sanger, a well-read feminist writer and professor. Shying away from her famous PowerPoint slides and structured way of teaching, professor Kalsem knew that for the class to be successful, her students needed to feel comfortable to express their thoughts and ideas about Ms. Sanger’s articles. To make sure of this, she made them feel at home—by inviting them into her own home, creating lively discussions, respecting the viewpoints of her students, and providing an atmosphere in which conversation flourished.

The students at the College of Law are lucky to have such an extraordinary teacher as professor Kalsem. It is because of the overwhelming respect that these students have for her that she has earned this award.

**Darrell A.H. Miller**

*Associate Professor of Law*

It is not uncommon to hear first-year law students complaining about civil procedure. It can sometimes seem disconnected from the world that exists outside the practice of law, and some of its rules appear pointless or silly. Simply put, students often struggle to develop any passion for the study of civil procedure.

Yet, there is living proof that civil procedure can be an interesting subject that inspires passion. Professor Miller forthrightly illustrates this passion on an almost daily basis. In civil procedure, as well as his other classes, professor Miller shows a fiery intensity that engages his students in the subject matter. When professor Miller is at his best, his students may forget they are even in a classroom. Instead, they may feel they are watching a seasoned litigator deliver his closing argument in an important case.

These statements may seem to suggest that professor Miller only lectures to his classes. This is not the case. He also draws generously upon the Socratic method to ensure that all his students are fully engaged, using entertaining hypotheticals to clarify arcane concepts and to set up further class discussion.

Professor Miller is also known for his practical assignments. In civil procedure, students must write interrogatories and requests for admissions. In civil rights litigation, professor Miller divides his class into mini law firms, and the students become first-year associates who research legal issues and write memoranda. These assignments are an invaluable opportunity to gain practical experience.

In sum, professor Miller has successfully strived to be a model teacher, and he has cultivated the skills and qualities that earn him his second Goldman Prize in only his third year of teaching.
Congratulations Class of 2010
177th Law School Hooding Celebrates Graduates

Ohio State Senator Eric Kearney ’89, along with 128 students, were honored at the University of Cincinnati College of Law’s 177th Hooding Ceremony on May 8, 2010.

In addition to honoring the senator, the ceremony was highlighted by keynote speaker Justice Stephen J. Markman ’74 of the Michigan Supreme Court. “My colleagues and I were eager to celebrate this wonderful occasion with our students in the Class of 2010 and their family and friends,” said Dean Louis D. Bilionis. “The day marks a major milestone in the lives of these young professionals. They’ve worked hard, accomplished much, and are embarking on careers that will be rich with achievement and positive contributions to society.”

At this year’s event, Senator Kearney was presented with the Nicholas J. Longworth, III Alumni Achievement Award, which recognizes graduates for their outstanding contributions to society. Senator Kearney is a champion of small business development, child safety, adoption, and crime prevention. Before joining the Ohio Senate, he founded and built one of the largest African American-owned publishing companies, Sesh Communications. He also practiced law with Strauss & Troy, LLP and was a partner with the firm Cohen, Todd, Kite & Stanford, LLC.

Additionally, the Goldman Prize for Teaching Excellence was awarded. This year’s recipients are Professors Marjorie Aaron, Kristin Kalsem, and Darrell A. H. Miller. See accompanying article on page 16 for complete details.

Justice Markman, who serves on the Michigan Supreme Court, was the keynote speaker. He has had a distinguished career in the legal field. Justice Markman began his career on Capital Hill, working for seven years in government for many years, Judge Markman joined the firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone. Two years later he became a member of the Michigan Court of Appeals, serving for four years until his appointment to the Michigan Supreme Court.

These individuals also received awards:

- James Michael Matthews, John W. Peck Award
- Giles Roblyer, Stanley M. Chesley and Hon. Susan J. Dlott Prize for Litigation Excellence, William Worthington Prize, James B. Helmer, Jr. Law Review Award
- Jonathan T. Amitrano, Corbin Prize
- Jonathan W. Ford, Neil Weill Service Award
- Sean M. Donovan, J. Carro Consummate Advocate Award
- Ryan Nicholas Schmit, University Award
- Amy Gill, College Moot Court Award
- Megan Shuba, Augustine John McDonough Prize
- Lori Goetz Heilman, Norbert Heinheimer Essay Prize
- Peter J. O’Shea, James B. Helmer, Jr. Law Review Award
“The day marked a major milestone in the lives of these young professionals… (They) are embarking on careers that will be rich with achievement…”
Dean Lou Bilionis
3L Peter Link’s Appeal Accepted by the Supreme Court of Ohio

Peter Link ’10, a participant in the law school’s Indigent Defense Clinic in partnership with the Ohio Justice and Policy Center, has accomplished a task that few lawyers, let alone law students, ever achieve. His appeal in State v. Kenneth Hodge was accepted by the Supreme Court of Ohio, giving him the opportunity to argue an important constitutional issue before the Court.

The Indigent Defense Clinic allows supervised third-year law students to represent clients charged with misdemeanors and felonies in Hamilton County. The clinic is a cooperative effort of the law school, the Ohio Justice and Policy Center, the Salmon P. Chase College of Law, the Hamilton County Public Defender’s Office, and the local private defense bar.

Clinic co-founder Bill Gallagher referred the case to the clinic after handling the appeal. Link had already expressed interest in the issue, and had even discussed it with a panel of local judges who visited with students during the clinic’s intensive 10-day “boot camp” trial skills program.

The case challenges the trial court’s failure to make required findings of fact before sentencing Mr. Hodge to five consecutive sentences for aggravated robbery. Link spent many hours fine-tuning his research, crafting a theory of the case, and drafting Mr. Hodge’s Motion in Support of Jurisdiction.

“Peter gave it his all,” said his supervising attorney, Janet Moore. “He quickly adapted litigation skills that we teach for trial practice to the appellate context. His hard work and preparation paid off.”

In the past, several other defendants had asked the court to take up the issue. The court refused to hear all of those appeals. On February 10, 2010, the Supreme Court of Ohio agreed to hear Link’s appeal on behalf of Mr. Hodge. The appeal was heard in September.

Marilu Gresens ’10 Awarded William J. Butler Fellowship to Develop International Human Rights Clinic

The Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights is pleased to announce that Marilu Gresens ’10 has been awarded a William J. Butler Fellowship. The year-long fellowship will involve the development of an international human rights clinic with the new law firm established by Justice Unity Dow, formerly of the High Court of Botswana.

“I am so thankful to the Morgan Institute for making my dream become possible,” said Gresens. “I am truly excited to get to work in this important new clinic.”

The focus of the clinic will be to bring high impact litigation principally in Africa. The clinic will be a partnership between the Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights and Dow and Associates. Gresens is a native New Yorker, who graduated from SUNY at Plattsburgh, majoring in women’s studies. In addition to being on the editorial staff of the Human Rights Quarterly, she interned for the High Court of Botswana, as well as studied for a semester at the University of Botswana Law School. She also participated in the Domestic Violence Clinic, as well as clerked for the civil rights firm of Gerhardstein & Branch.
Kyrgyzstan Businesswomen Visit Law School

Women business leaders from Kyrgyzstan learned about the history of civil rights and women’s rights in the United States, as well as the formation of the law school’s joint degree program in law and women’s, gender, and sexuality studies when they visited the campus on July 29, 2010. Kyrgyzstan, located in central Asia, is one of six independent Turkic states.

This program, sponsored by the Open World Leadership Program, was an opportunity to share the history of the law/women’s studies curriculum and how graduates have used their knowledge to effect social change. Professor Verna Williams spoke at the event.

The Open World Leadership Program, a nonpartisan project of the U.S. Congress, is designed to cultivate mutual understanding between the U.S. and Eurasia. The Cincinnati delegation focused on accountable governance with a concentration on legal rights of women/women’s rights, small/medium businesses, and women who work or are part of the at-risk demographic. In addition to visiting the law school, the visitors attended programs with WE Lead of the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, Thompson Hine LLP Women’s Initiative, the SBA Office of Women’s Business Ownership, and Dress for Success.

The delegation, which included business leaders from a wide range of industries and professions, was in Cincinnati July 23–31. They were hosted by the Greater Cincinnati World Affairs Council.

Rising 9th Graders Hold Mock Trial Competition at Law School

The Law & Leadership Institute in second year at UC Law

What did your kids or grandkids do on their summer break? At UC Law, 18 soon-to-be ninth graders went to law school and learned what it’s like to be an attorney. Then, they put the skills they learned to the test in front of practicing judges, lawyers, friends, and family when they battled it out during a mock trial competition. The Law & Leadership Summer Institute, jointly sponsored by UC Law and the Ohio State Bar Association, is an intensive five-week program designed to show young people the “ins and outs” of the law and what it’s like to be an attorney. This year’s event was held July 6–August 6. Area high school students work with local law students throughout the summer, learning various aspects of the law in the classroom, law offices, and Hamilton County courtrooms.

The students will continue with the program during the school year with weekend classes, where they will learn skills and concepts that will help if they pursue careers in the field.

Mike Hogan Joins UC Law as Associate Director of Development

Mike Hogan has joined UC Law as the new associate director of Development. He comes to the law school from the UC Foundation central office, where he has been part of the National Major Gift Program team since 2007. He successfully focused his efforts on cultivating UC alumni and raising funds from areas outside of Greater Cincinnati. Hogan has gained valuable fundraising, PR and marketing experience working with the Boy Scouts of America, Northlich, a brand engagement agency, and the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce.

Hogan has already worked successfully with UC Law’s development team in taking the campaign to constituents in key areas such as Cleveland, Atlanta, and Nashville. He is excited to engage with law alumni and friends on a more focused level.
Reflections on the 1L Year

Three second-year students were asked to reflect on their first-year experiences at UC Law. Was it like they had imagined? Did it resemble a favorite TV show? Did it change them? Here are their stories.

MY FIRST YEAR AT UC LAW: Unexpected

By: Guy Cardarome ’12

I have never in 27 years done or experienced anything quite like law school. Normally, I would insert an apt metaphor to illustrate my point, but I am at a loss to think of one that does it justice. Law school and especially 1L year is one experience where hindsight is not 20/20. Last year is still a blur. Even so, some things stick out.

Much of what I expected going into my first year I encountered in odd and unexpected ways. For example, I recall debating and discussing the law, as one would expect, but usually during really competitive games of ping-pong. I also remember “sweating it out,” but not because of stress, rather, because ping-pong is kind of a physical sport — despite conventional wisdom! And like all future 1Ls, I expected misery, nine months of sustained despair. What I found instead were spurts of pure misery interspersed with laughing, great conversation, and engaging course work.

The most surprising example of the unexpected—expected theme of last year was the law students. Movies and popular culture depict law students as a special breed of human: esoteric, pathological debaters running around planning lawsuits. Not exactly reality. They did have one thing in common, though. Students I met were passionate about making the most of their talents, and that meant practicing law. Otherwise the extent of our diversity was what blew my mind. My class alone has college athletes, Peace Corps volunteers, teachers, nurses, musicians, business professionals… you name it, we have it. I still get surprised when classmates tell me where they are from and what they did before law school.

In that respect, the pinnacle of last year was something completely unexpected: a class on admissions. I will never forget it. The professor forewent discussing yet another seminal case to tell us about our admittance to UC. He told us how hard the school looked at not only our ability to succeed, but also what we brought to the overall educational experience of our classmates — sort of like mini-adjuncts. Conversely, who surrounded us was just as important as what surrounded us. Before law school I imagined learning from books, teachers, and nifty little online programs, but not from the other students. Nor did I see myself as part of their education. It turns out he was right: Who would have thought?
Challenging

By: Maria Kontopos ’12

For as long as I can remember I have wanted to be a lawyer. My career path seemed unusual to some because there are no lawyers in my family. The University of Cincinnati seemed like the right fit for me as I was applying to various law schools. I was born and raised in Cincinnati. I also earned my bachelor’s degree in business administration (marketing and entrepreneurship) from UC’s College of Business.

My first year experience at UC Law was great. It was very challenging, but well worth it. I distinctly remember getting extremely frustrated trying to read my first Civil Procedure reading assignment, Pennoyer v. Neff. I was unfamiliar with the language and complexity involved with legal cases coming from a business background. The real surprise came when I walked into my first class thinking I knew exactly what the case meant, only to realize that the professor interpreted the same case differently. It took some time, but I started to realize what was important and how to interpret each individual case. I still get anxious when professors use the Socratic method, but attending class and being challenged by the professors has helped me learn and think about the law with a different perspective than I would have used a year ago.

One of my favorite things about UC Law is the small class size. I got to know a lot of great people. The small class size enables the students to get to know each other better, as well as establish a relationship with each individual professor. It is nice to be able to run into professors in the hallway and they remember your name and the insightful comment you made in class the week before.

The professors at UC Law truly care about each student. They want to do everything possible to help each student achieve his or her ultimate goal of becoming a lawyer.

Finally, UC Law offers many great extracurricular activities in which students can participate. It has a group to match any interest a student may have. Even though I was skeptical about joining anything that did not involve studying for finals, I am glad that I did. I was involved with the Human Rights Quarterly, Student Court, Student Ambassadors, and the Intellectual Property Society. Being involved in different activities helped me get to know 2Ls and 3Ls. It also helped me meet different classmates outside of a classroom setting.

My first-year experience at UC Law was everything I expected it to be and more. I initially expected the many hours of studying and preparing for class. What I did not expect was the many great friendships I made along the way. It is reassuring to associate with peers who have similar interests as me. I am completely satisfied with my decision to attend UC Law. I would not change my decision for anything.

Unforgettable

By: Ryan McGraw ’12

Growing up in Cincinnati, I have made the drive up Clifton Avenue countless times. Having gone to so many basketball and football games at UC as a kid, the drive had become uneventful. August 17, 2009, though, was different. I made the drive that morning as a law student.

Not wanting to be late, I left my house nearly 45 minutes early. What if there is traffic I remember asking myself? What if there is an accident? What if Clifton Avenue is closed? Having watched the traffic report on every news station that morning, I knew I had nothing to worry about, but I refused to be the guy that showed up late on the first day.

Arriving free of any detours or delays, I parked my car and began walking toward the College of Law. On my walk, though, a feeling of fear and anxiety came over me. Was this really what I wanted to do with my life? Was I going to be able to handle the work? Does the world really need one more lawyer?

Walking into the atrium, though, any doubts I had quickly dissipated. There to greet me were members of the Admissions Office, and they were legitimately excited about my arrival. Sure they probably had the same reaction to everyone, but to me it was genuine and put my nerves at ease. I was never more confident that UC was the place for me. It is a welcome I will never forget.

Intro Week and the entire first year went by in a blur. I still stop at times and think about how surreal it is that I have completed a year of law school. The work was challenging and the amount of it at times was overwhelming. That first cold call was terrifying, and the first set of exams was a grind. But at the end of the day, I never faced a challenge alone. Everyone in the building knew what I was going through and was available if I ever needed help. When I struggled writing my first legal memo, with the rule against perpetuities, or with substantive due process, I knew my professors’ office doors were going to be open. And when I did not quite understand how section 2-207 of the UCC worked, I knew my classmates were more than willing to talk me through it. Simply put, the people here are amazing.

I was positive UC was the place for me on August 17, 2009, and every day since I have been more and more convinced. I cannot wait to see what’s in store these next two years.
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Please take a few minutes to fill out the online survey at

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Your opinions, suggestions, and comments will go a long way in our efforts to communicate effectively with you. Thanks for participating!
William S. Richardson, who served as chief justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court from 1966 through 1982, passed away June 21, 2010, leaving behind a vast number of attorneys impacted by him, a community impacted by his rulings, and a law school named in his honor — the William S. Richardson School of Law. A leading proponent of the rights of native Hawaiians, he often relied on ancestral customs rather than Western common law in his decisions.

According to the article in the June 25, 2010, issue of The New York Times, the establishment in 1973 of the law school — the only one in Hawaii — was one of his proudest achievements and something he had long advocated. A leading voice for statehood, he was a prominent politician, serving as chairperson of Hawaii’s Democratic Party and lieutenant governor of the state.

During his tenure, the Richardson court expanded native Hawaiian rights to use private properties, ensure public ownership of natural resources, and gave public access to all beaches in Hawaii.

Born in Honolulu on Dec. 22, 1919, Richardson worked hard throughout his life, earning enough pay at his job in pineapple canneries, and other odd jobs, to attend the University of Hawaii and UC Law. After law school graduation, he served in the Army, seeing action in the Philippines.

In a 2007 interview for the law school’s Anniversary Celebration Memory Project, Richardson spoke about being a lawyer, a member of the judiciary, and an educator. “Bringing Hawaii in line with all the cases that have come about after working its way across the country [was a challenge] …and the different living conditions in Hawaii had to be melded in with the American systems…. Our students had to begin doing business with the Far East … Many of our lawyers are involved not only with American law, but with the Far East and Australia and Korea and Japan — it’s a different ballgame…."

Numerous stories were written about Chief Justice Richardson and his legacy. Stories can be found in The New York Times, the Star Advertiser, the Pacific Biz Journal, and the Los Angeles Times.
Professional Development: Key to Creating Your Brand

By: Mina Jones Jefferson

The new normal…what does that mean to you? In order to answer this question let’s look at the recent regular, you know, the time when irrational dysfunction ruled the day. In a Coveyesque manner we acted more like managers — efficiently climbing the ladder of success — instead of like leaders, which would require us to determine whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall. Clearly it wasn’t. It was also a time when we allowed Outlook and PDA’s to tell us what was on our schedule without taking the time to decide what should be on our schedule. In fact the more things on the list the more important we were, right?! We started to believe our own press and many allowed prosperity to carry them through a career that was really just a job, which became readily apparent when the economy soured and even partners were encouraged to get on with their life’s work.

Facing Facts

Let’s face it: the down side of an up economy is that we become complacent. We stop actively seeking opportunities for professional growth and embrace the status quo. We no longer engage in activities that enhance our skills and further develop us as professionals. When faced with multiple tasks and responsibilities we hunker down, start at the top of the list and try to get to the bottom, but often the reward for a job well done is simply more work. We are left with the reality that the list never decreases and most of the stuff in our inbox is not really that important. So now, more than ever, it pays to make an investment in you!

Personal Investment

First, let’s acknowledge that there is a vast difference between a job and a career. Your job produces a paycheck; your career is the sum total of your jobs, positions held, activities undertaken and roles played over time in life. Your career is yours to manage. To be successful in business and in your career you must be able to distinguish yourself from the rest of the pack. You need to develop your personal brand. What do you want to be known for? When people hear your name what should come to mind? Think of a brand as a collection of perceptions in the mind of the consumer. Your job search, retention and promotion are all about marketing — you are the product, and your employer is the consumer. If you cannot distinguish yourself then you are equivalent to a commodity that can be replaced easily. How do you know if you are guilty of thinking like a commodity?

If someone asked why you should be hired or promoted and your first thought is “because I am a hard worker” then you are well on your way toward becoming a commodity. Creating your brand requires serious thought — what do you bring to the table? What do you enjoy most? What are your interests, your aspirations, your objectives? Maybe you have no idea, but “I don’t know” is different from “I don’t know but I know I have to do something to figure it out.” Professional development activities help you answer that question. Such activities broaden your network, enhance your skill base and make you more valuable — they are an investment in you. The dividends are worth it.
Making Social Media Work For You

By: Sean Rhiney

Social Media. The words tend to prompt an immediate reaction in any practitioner who remembers typing term papers on a typewriter: Isn’t that what my son/daughter uses? In fact, more lawyers of all levels of experience as well as current law students are using social media for more than just social networking and keeping up with friends and family. And it’s not as daunting to dive in if you consider social media as simply another tool — albeit an affordable, effective, timely one — that permits lawyers to educate and reach a larger audience.

Branding through LinkedIn

Professional websites such as LinkedIn, already in use by most business professionals, are an excellent way to do more than just connect. While some might view LinkedIn as another ‘legal’ directory, it’s actually one of the first tools most lawyers should use to control their own personal branding.

During a recent conversation at the National Association for Law Professionals’ annual conference, Doug Mandell, former general counsel for LinkedIn, noted that very few professionals use the resource in the way it was designed. Mandell recommended that attorneys could use the site to help build their “public brand” in a number of ways: Using keywords that accurately describe what you do in your online profile (i.e., intellectual property, fair use, copyright and trade secrets for an IP lawyer) maximizes the number of ‘hits’ your profile will receive via a simple Google search for “copyright lawyer.” Mandell also encourages users to fully vet their various networks, including law school, college, high school and community associations to make the most of initial contacts. These simple enhancements work. Mandell, who concentrated on intellectual property issues, cites several instances where international clients found him through a simple search that led to his LinkedIn profile.

Share on a Blog

Blogging provides another opportunity to become a source for news as well as start the conversation in your community. Sharing information that will be passed over and over again, cited and referenced, allows an attorney to get ideas out into the blogosphere instantaneously. What does that particular case mean for Ohio corporations? How has a rule change or decision impacted the number of complaints filed? This is information that will generate comments, insights, and future contacts, and you’re the expert if you can quickly access and share this information. Of course, for the prudent lawyer, no matter what forum you’re working in the same rules apply to all public commentary: always indicate that your thoughts and opinions are just that and do not constitute legal advice.

Tweet! Tweet!

Twitter might be the most individualized way to communicate information informally. You can promote content on your firm’s website, share a recent victory, grab a news headline and state what its implications might be — all in 140 characters or less. Law firms can use the platform as well: tweeting job opportunities or touting big successes puts information into the hands of followers who can actually do something with it.

Tweet! Tweet!

Sean Rhiney, Public Service Coordinator and Counselor
Becoming a Valuable Asset

By: Brooke E. Hiltz

As the economy began to sour, times became stressful not only for those unemployed, but also for numerous practicing attorneys. Many working in what they had previously deemed “secure” positions with six-figure salaries began to witness work drying up and accordingly realized that they might soon find themselves on the chopping block. Likewise, public interest and government employees saw budgets slashed and positions fall by the wayside. All needed a strong network of advisors to help cobbled the pieces back together. If nothing else, this dire turn of events has hopefully instilled in the legal profession a renewed appreciation for “taking the bull by the horns” and personally ensuring ongoing professional development throughout one’s career.

Managing your career is multifaceted and should incorporate both internal and external activities and leadership roles. It is not enough to be the superstar within your current organization. You must also actively seek out opportunities to grow and apply your skills in a variety of settings, ranging from bar association involvement to non-profit board service, or even your child’s PTA. Keep in mind that participation is not just for the purpose of having someone to ask for a job should you suddenly need or want one. With time, you begin to establish relationships beyond the superficial, gain knowledge outside of your day-to-day practice areas, and become more invested in your community.

Running a Marathon

For most lawyers the daily workload can make the prospect of seeking out yet another activity just too much to contemplate. Keep in mind, though, you do not have to start out chairing a committee or serving as the board’s president! Professional development is a marathon, not a sprint; so just being in the room with other engaged professionals is the perfect starting point. The people you meet could be the firm’s next client or become a strong referral source. Your involvement can increase your employer’s name recognition in the broader community and lend a legitimacy that only personal interaction with one of its own can bring.

Getting Started

To motivate yourself into action seek out opportunities that are, first and foremost, interesting. Perhaps there is a social justice issue that invokes passion. Look for a nonprofit that addresses this need. Seek out environments that foster leadership. When you serve as a leader in various capacities, you become more adept at communicating and working effectively with persons from all walks of life. And finally, seek out tasks that take you beyond your comfort zone. Perhaps there is an opportunity to write regularly for a trade publication or to present on current topics affecting an industry. Seize the opportunity. You will become more widely recognized as a true leader, a team player, and an expert in a given field.

Laying the groundwork for professional growth means that should the day arrive when you are out of a job, you have somewhere to turn for advice and suggestions. But more than that, it means that you will become a more valuable asset to your employer, thus decreasing the likelihood that you would be expendable in the first place.
It’s a simple enough philosophy: If professional correspondence is a big part of an attorney’s job, why not teach law students to write strong emails and memoranda in law school? And if it’s important for attorneys to think on their feet, shouldn’t law school prepare them to handle such situations?

Stephanie Hunter McMahon thinks so — which is one reason she designs her courses with a view to what her students will do in their work as lawyers. She gives her students what they’ll need when they leave her: practical skills, such as writing effective emails and gaining the trust of their clients and peers, and critical-thinking skills, such as the ability to view legal decisions with an eye trained to spot biases. In other words, professor McMahon is practicing what cutting-edge law professors practice: She’s preparing her students for real-world work.

In her syllabus, professor McMahon makes explicit the reasons underlying this cutting-edge shift: the shift from a lecture-based course to a course in which students actively engage with primary and secondary sources; the shift from a course in which students write essays to one in which they compose professional emails and memoranda; and the shift from giving students the option to “pass” on a question in a Socratic method course to one in which students are invited to work through an answer aloud even though they may not know the answer right off the bat.

In real life, attorneys must address questions to which they don’t know all the answers. And because it’s important for those attorneys to display capability while avoiding the blustering that can be associated with some lawyers, professor McMahon does not allow her students to simply “pass” when they don’t know the answers to questions. For McMahon, much is gained when students practice the art of talking through an answer — when those same students later become lawyers, this practice allows them to exhibit credibility while also keeping them from appearing as if they know something they don’t actually know.

Professor McMahon applies a similar practice-oriented approach to assessing her students. In most classes, law students write essay responses on their final exams; however, they’ll write very few essays once they become new employees, whether at law firms, government agencies, or other forms of employment. So, in order to ease the transition from student to capable new employee, McMahon substitutes memoranda for essays and emails for short answers, insisting that her students practice writing in the forms lawyers use professionally and work at articulating legal concepts.

And speaking of encouraging a richer conversation, in 2009 professor McMahon redesigned the previously lecture-based legal history course to a course in which students wrestle with primary and secondary sources by viewing them through the lens of interpretation. Now, rather than listening passively as McMahon lectures, her students examine the time in which an argument was written and talk together about why such an argument would have then been considered persuasive. This way, they learn the art of different and effective ways to persuade.

Professor McMahon is quick to say that it’ll take another semester or two to work the bugs from her newly redesigned courses; but she’s just as quick to say she’s not likely to return to the old lecture style of teaching or the old essay-style exams. Funny thing, though: Spanning an entire wall of McMahon’s office is a real, live chalkboard with words written on it. Some things are definitely worth keeping.
2009 William Howard Taft Lecture

Constitutional Law Featuring
Dean Erwin Chemerinsky

Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean and Distinguished Professor of Law, University of California, Irvine, School of Law, was the 2009 William Howard Taft lecturer. At the event he spoke on “Government Speech and the First Amendment.” In a series of decisions, most recently Pleasant Grove v. Summum (2009), the Supreme Court has held that the usual First Amendment rules do not apply when the government is the speaker. The Court has held that the government may engage in content or even viewpoint discrimination and that this applies even when the government is adopting private messages as its own. The implications of this are potentially enormous and Dean Chemerinsky gave careful consideration of different types of government speech and the rules that should apply to each.

Prior to assuming his current position at the law school, Dean Chemerinsky was the Alston & Bird Professor of Law and Political Science, Duke University. He joined the Duke faculty in July 2004 after 21 years at the University of Southern California Law School, where he was the Sydney M. Irmas Professor of Public Interest Law, Legal Ethics, and Political Science. Before that he was a professor at DePaul College of Law from 1980-83. He practiced law as a trial attorney, United States Department of Justice, and at Dobrovir, Oakes & Gebhardt in Washington, D.C. He received a BS from Northwestern University and a JD from Harvard Law School. A prolific writer, he is the author of six books and over 100 law review articles. Frequently, he argues appellate cases, including in the United States Supreme Court and the United States Court of Appeals, and has testified many times before congressional and state legislative committees.

2009 Ethics Conference

Corporate Counsel During a Time of Economic Crisis

Keynote speaker James Hubbard, senior vice president and general counsel at Fifth Third Bank, spoke on the central issue and theme: the role of corporate counsel during a crisis. A panel discussion, led by attorneys from leading corporations including Macy’s Inc., Senco Brands, and Baker Concrete Construction, discussed proactive measures that corporate counsel can implement in a distressed debtor/bankruptcy situation. This event is jointly sponsored by The Association of Corporate Counsel: Southwest Ohio Chapter, and UC Law’s Corporate Law Center.
2010 Robert S. Marx Lecture
Disability and Integration
Samuel Bagenstos, Deputy Assistant Attorney General at the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, was the 2010 Robert S. Marx lecturer. In his lecture “Disability and Integration,” Bagenstos discussed the Obama administration’s focus on enforcing disability rights at home and supporting them abroad. The Americans with Disabilities Act involves the fundamental principle that disability should not limit a person’s ability to live in the world. One of the priorities in the civil rights division is enforcing the rights of access to public places close to home and in the world; another priority is allowing people with disabilities to live at home rather than in institutions, which had been the trend in the United States for many years. The Obama administration is moving toward more engagement with disability rights in other parts of the world. He discussed strides made in this area.

Bagenstos’s scholarship focuses on the substance and enforcement of civil rights — both constitutional and statutory. Much of his work explores disability rights law to draw lessons for broader debates in doctrine and scholarship. His work also explores civil rights remedies — both inside and outside of the disability rights context.

After receiving his BA in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Bagenstos graduated from Harvard Law School, serving as editor of the Harvard Law Review while there. His professional career path includes clerking for Judge Stephen Reinhardt, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; working as an attorney in the appellate section for the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division; clerking for United States Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; and teaching at Harvard Law School, Washington University School of Law, the University of California—Los Angeles School of Law, and the University of Michigan Law School. Currently, he is on leave to serve in the Obama administration.

2010 Corporate Law Center Symposium
The Globalization of Securities Regulation: Competition or Coordination?
After the enactment of Sarbanes-Oxley in 2002, influential voices in the business, political, and academic communities expressed concern that the U.S. markets were losing their competitive advantage. While a number of factors were identified as contributing to this decline, higher U.S. regulatory compliance costs and liability risks were, in particular, singled out. Regulators, in turn, considered proposals that would ease barriers to entry. The 2008 financial meltdown increased awareness of the interconnectedness of markets and the importance of a coordinated approach toward securities regulation. Thus, the Obama administration’s financial regulatory reform calls for raising international regulatory standards and improving international cooperation. The panel discussions analyzed how these considerations — competition and coordination — will play out.

2010 Judge In Residence Program
Featuring the Hon. Rosemary Barkett
The Judge in Residence program brings sitting judges to the law school to participate in the “daily life” of the law school, presents a substantive lecture, and provides students with access that they would not otherwise have. The Judge in Residence for the 2009-2010 school year was the Honorable Rosemary Barkett from the US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

During her visit, Judge Barkett delivered a lecture to the law community, focusing on lawyers who influenced her personally, and the way in which they dedicated themselves to standing up against injustices. She referenced Florida attorney Chesterfield Smith. He influenced Barkett by expressing the view that it is possible to do good things as a lawyer. She also discussed Hank Cox, whose inauguration acceptance speech when he was sworn in as president of the Florida Bar Association, quoted a scene from the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. His point was that Atticus Finch had stood up for what was right despite vehement — and violent — opposition, and for that he deserved respect. Judge Barkett then emphasized the importance of being such a lawyer, and of standing up against wrongs as they arise. She stated also that it is important not to take cases about individual liberties for granted. “You have to think of these cases in terms of their history,” she said; “Remember that *Brown v. Board of Education* came after *Plessy v. Ferguson*.” Judge Barkett emphasized that society has been lucky that the Constitution has been restored after courts — and society overall — has strayed, but that we may not always be that lucky.
The UC College of Law partnered with Chase College of Law to honor Judge S. Arthur Spiegel for the publication of his memoir, *A Trial on Its Merits: The Life of a Judge*.

Graduates and friends from both schools gathered at the Mercantile Library as UC Law Dean Bilionis and Associate Dean of Chase College of Law David MacKnight thanked Judge Spiegel for his many years of service to the law community of Greater Cincinnati and their colleges.

Many of Judge Spiegel’s former clerks came to visit with him while he signed copies of his book. Proceeds from the book sales will be donated to UC Law and Chase College of Law.
The 2009 John H. Burlingame Distinguished Lecture was delivered by Jeffrey Toobin, a high-profile senior analyst for CNN and staff writer for The New Yorker. He is the author of New York Times bestsellers *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court* and *Too Close to Call: The 36-day Battle to Decide the 2000 Election*. The lecture was held for the first time at the Queen City Club, and a record number of attendees (more than 230) joined us for dinner and the lecture.
Alumni

Judge Walter Porter, Class of 1949, regales the crowd with stories of his time at UC Law.


Sherri Goren Slavin, Jeff Adler and Bill Keating, Jr., Class of 1979.

UC Law Alumni Association CLE and Annual Meeting.
Members from the Class of 1949 (called “Golden Bearcats”) celebrated law school graduation from 50 years ago, while mingling with alums who graduated only 10 years ago. All classes in between also joined in the fun during the 2009 Reunion gathering. Great stories were shared and friendships rekindled as they were updated on their alma mater by Dean Bilionis.

In the next Counselor be sure to look for photos from the 2010 Reunions. For 2011 Reunion information, visit our website at www.law.uc.edu.

The UC College of Law Alumni Association (UCLAA) held their annual meeting and three continuing education classes at the college. Daniel J. Buckley ’74 was also named the Distinguished Adjunct award winner for the year.

The CLEs presented were: (1) The Watergate Burglars Were Not Guilty, presented by Jim Hunt ’74, then president of the UCLAA; (2) Most Important Cases of the Supreme Court, presented by Marianna Brown Bettman ’77, College of Law professor; and, (3) I’m Not an Alcoholic — Why Am I Here? presented by James J. Slattery, Jr. ’71. Approximately 55 attended and the CLEs were all very well received.

New trustees elected were: Hon. Mark Painter ’73, Rogena Stargel ’82, Barbara Watts ’78, Hon. Jerry McBride ’77, and Erin Moosbrugger ’10, student representative.

The following were elected as Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees: Brie Rogers, president; Robert D. Lewis, vice president; Anthony Osterlund, treasurer; Daniel Startsman, secretary; James A. Hunt, immediate past president.
Dean Bilionis hosted the Dean’s Council dinner at the Westin this year overlooking Fountain Square where skaters on the Square’s ice rink and Santa rappelling down the Macy’s building entertained all. Campaign co-chairs, James B. Helmer, Jr., and Doloris L. Learmonth were honored for their leadership campaign gifts.

Membership in the Dean’s Council requires an annual gift of $1,000 or more. To become a member, please contact Mike Hogan at 513.556.5002 or Michael.Hogan@uc.edu.
Law School Hosts Annual Bar Exam Tailgate

The Ohio Bar Exam was administered on July 27, 28 and 29. This year’s bar exam test-takers were treated to breakfast in the parking lot of the Columbus Veterans Memorial and lunch inside in the Memorial Room. The staff from the offices of Admissions, Career Development and Alumni were on hand to provide nourishment and support to the 120 or so graduates taking the exam. As one student put it, “This was the best part of the experience. It allowed me to focus on the exam and not worry about where to find lunch.”

Distinguished Alumni Award Luncheon

For 30 years, the UC Law Alumni Association has been honoring distinguished UC College of Law alumni. Recipients exemplify excellence and achievement in the individual’s chosen field of practice or profession. The 2010 luncheon was held on Friday, June 11, at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza. This year’s honorees were: Norman Barron ’60 (posthumously), Cris Collinsworth ’91, and Bill Morelli ’78.

Norm Barron passed away just a week before he was to be honored. His son, Michael, and daughter, Esther, accepted the award on behalf of the family.
UCLAA Summer Social

Each summer the UCLAA replaces one of their board meetings with an opportunity for members to network and connect with each other. From Dean Barb Watts greeting former students to Tony Osterlund (USMC) and Rob Lewis (USN) sharing Iraq war stories — a good time was had by all! This year’s Summer Social was held at Bootsy’s in downtown Cincinnati. A wide range of graduating classes attended and heard a brief college update from Dean Bilionis.
Marjorie Corman Aaron, Professor of Clinical Law and Director, Center for Practice, participated in Client Troubles? It’s Time for Psychiatric Advice, a CLE Seminar (with professor Douglas Mossman), sponsored by the Weaver Center for Law and Psychiatry and the Center for Practice. She served as a judge for the CPR International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution’s annual awards, in the professional articles category.

Timothy K. Armstrong, Associate Professor of Law, had an article, Shrinking the Commons: Termination of Copyright Licenses and Transfers for the Benefit of the Public, accepted for publication in the Harvard Journal on Legislation. He presented Crowdsourcing and Open Access v2.0: Harnessing the Power of Peer Production to Disseminate Historical Records and Legal Scholarship at the 2009 CALI Conference for Law School Computing at the University of Colorado Law School and An Introduction to Publication Agreements for Authors as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Lin (Lynn) Bai, Assistant Professor of Law, published two articles:

- The Uptick Rule of Short Sale Regulation: Can It Alleviate the Downward Pressure from Negative Earnings Shocks?, 5 Rutgers Bus. L.J. 1 (2008).
- Do Differences in Pleading Standards Cause Forum Shopping in Securities Class Actions?: Doctrinal and Empirical Analyses, 2009 Wis. L. Rev. 421 (with James D. Cox (Duke) & Randall S. Thomas (Vanderbilt)).

Bai had another article, On Regulating Conflict of Interest in the Credit Rating Industry, accepted for publication in the New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy. She presented Effectiveness of Current Regulation of Credit Rating Agencies as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Marianna Brown Bettman, Professor of Clinical Law, published several columns in her monthly newspaper series, Legally Speaking, in the Cincinnati Herald and the American Israelite. She made a presentation to the Ohio Judicial Conference in Columbus on the most important cases of the Ohio Supreme Court’s past term.

Barbara Black, Charles Hartsock Professor of Law and Director, Corporate Law Center, published two articles:


Black participated in a by-invitation-only Roundtable on Mutual Funds Under New Administration: Litigation & Regulation at Boston University School of Law. She was the co-chair and one of the principal speakers at the Securities Law Seminar held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Public Investors Arbitration Bar Association (PIAA) in Carlsbad, California. She spoke on securities law developments and regulatory reform affecting retail investors.

Black and the Corporate Law Center presented its third annual program with the Association of Corporate Counsel Southwest Ohio Chapter on The Role of Corporate Counsel During a Time of Economic Crisis. Speakers included the general counsels of Fifth Third Bank and Macy’s and several other distinguished local corporate attorneys, as well as professor Edward Janger, a recognized bankruptcy expert at Brooklyn Law School.

Finally, Black joined the panel of academic contributors to Black’s Law Dictionary (9th ed.). She presented Post-Dura Issues and Collateral Damage in Securities Litigation, as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.
A. Christopher Bryant, Professor of Law, published The Empirical Judiciary, 25 Const. Comment. 467 (2009) (reviewing David L. Faigman, Constitutional Fictions: A Unified Theory of Constitutional Facts (Oxford University Press, 2008)). He presented The Pursuit of Perfection: The Extent of Congressional Power to Enforce the Reconstruction Amendments at Kansas as part of the College’s Scholar Exchange Program and at Toledo as part of its Faculty Workshop Series.

Bryant was named one of 150 nominees for designation among the “Best Law Teachers in America” in the forthcoming Harvard University Press book, What the Best Law Teachers Do: “He combines an intellectual prowess with a practical approach, making even the most complex constitutional issues understandable. Not only that, his unique charisma and charming delivery keeps students engaged in the many facets of constitutional law.” He served as a judge at the Ohio We the People competition, which was held at the statehouse in Columbus. He also presented Foreign Law as Legislative Fact in Constitutional Cases as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Paul L. Caron, Associate Dean of Faculty and Charles Hartsock Professor of Law, published Tax Stories (Foundation Press, 2d ed. 2009).

For the fourth year in a row, Caron was named as one of the 100 Most Influential People in Tax and Accounting by Accounting Today, the leading journal of the accounting profession. He was also named one of the ten nominees for the 2009 Tax Person of the Year by Tax Analysts. His article, The Estate Tax Non-Gap: Why Repeal a “Voluntary” Tax?, 20 Stan. L. & Pol’y Rev. 153 (2009) (with James R. Repetti (Boston College)), was named one of the Ten Noteworthy Estate & Gift Tax Articles of 2009.

Caron taught Tax I at the University of San Diego School of Law as the Herzog Summer Visiting Professor in Taxation. The Law Stories Series of Foundation Press, for which he serves as Series Editor, published Constitutional Law Stories (2d ed. 2009), by Michael C. Dorf (Cornell). Additionally, his TaxProf Blog has been named:

• One of the Top 100 Law Blogs by the ABA Journal (the “Blawg 100”).

• The “Best Law Professor Blog” in the 6th Annual Law-Related Blogging Awards (the Blawggies).


Jenny Carroll, Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, published Rethinking the Constitutional Criminal Procedure of Juvenile Transfer Hearings: Apprendi, Adult Punishment and Adult Process, 61 Hastings L.J. 175 (2009). She presented the article at the Juvenile Defender Leadership Conference in Denver. She was quoted in Trapped in the Closet, Slate Magazine, Sept. 11, 2009.

Jacob Katz Cogan, Associate Professor of Law, presented The Coercive Turn in International Law at Villanova as part of the college’s Scholar Exchange Program.


Mark A. Godsey, Professor of Law and Faculty Director, Lois and Richard Rosenthal Institute for Justice and Ohio Innocence Project, with Adjunct Professor Pierre Bergeron and Michele Berry ’06, represented Warren County (Ohio) defendant Ryan Widmer, charged with murder, and were successful in winning him a new trial based on juror misconduct. The team then successfully defended that victory before the Court of Appeals, resulting in Widmer’s release pending a new trial.

Godsey presented his research involving international issues in wrongful convictions to the faculty as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series. He traveled to New York City and met with Ulf Stridbeck, professor at the University of Oslo, Norway, who is a founding member of Norway’s Criminal Case Review Commission — a government equivalent of an innocence project.

Godsey spoke in Indianapolis at the annual conference for the Society of Professional Journalists. He discussed ethical issues that arise between attorneys and journalists on high profile legal cases.

He hosted the college’s celebration of Constitution Day and shared the program with a select group that evening at the Museum Center. He testified twice in the Ohio House of Representatives in favor of Senate Bill 77, a comprehensive Innocence Protection Act designed to reduce the number of wrongful convictions, which passed the Senate last spring.

The Ohio Innocence Project gave a seminar, *Strengthening Prosecutions: Improving Eyewitness Identification Procedures in Ohio*, for police and prosecutors in Columbus on wrongful conviction and the proper way to perform eyewitness identification procedures. He also spoke along with exoneree, Robert McClendon, on DNA and junk science at the Death Penalty Seminar in Columbus sponsored by the Ohio Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Emily Houh, Gustavus Henry Wald Professor of the Law and Contracts, presented *Racial Retrenchment and the Thirteenth Amendment* as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Kristin Kalsem, Professor of Law, presented *In Contempt: 19th Century Women, Law, and Literature* as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Christo Lassiter, Professor of Law and Criminal Justice, spoke on a Federalist Society panel at the University Club on U.S. Supreme Court Appointments: Perspectives on the Sotomayor Nomination with Ross Wright (GE Aviation) and Jennifer Morales (Keating, Muething & Klekamp). His article, *Consent to Search by Ignorant People*, 39 Tex. Tech L. Rev. 1171 (2007), was republished as a chapter in *Prosecutorial Misconduct — Problems and Perspectives* (G. Radha Kalyani, ed.) (Amicus Books, India, 2009).
Bert B. Lockwood, Jr., Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Director, Urban Morgan Institute for Human Rights. The Pennsylvania Studies in Human Rights Series of the University of Pennsylvania Press, for which he serves as series editor, published:

- Inherent Human Rights: Philosophical Roots of the Universal Declaration (Johannes Morsink, ed. 2009).
- Landscape of Hope and Despair: Palestinian Refugee Camps (Julie Peteet, ed. 2009).

Two books from the series have been issued in paperback:

- Harry Mulisch, Criminal Case 40/61, the Trial of Adolf Eichmann: An Eyewitness Account (Robert Naborn, trans. 2009).


Bradford C. Mank, James B. Helmer, Jr. Professor of Law, published The Supreme Court’s New Public-Private Distinction under the Dormant Commerce Clause: Avoiding the Traditional versus Nontraditional Classification Trap, 37 Hastings Const. L.Q. 1 (2009). His article, Summers v. Earth Island Institute Rejects Probabilistic Standing, But Laidlaw Still Leaves an Opening for Threatened Injuries, was accepted for publication in Environmental Law.

Mank’s article, Should States Have Greater Standing Rights Than Ordinary Citizens?: Massachusetts v. EPA’s New Standing Test for States, 49 Wm. & Mary L. Rev. 1701 (2008), was cited by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in Connecticut v. American Electric Power Company Inc., 2009 WL 2996729 (2d Cir. Sept. 21, 2009), which held that states had standing to bring public nuisance suits against public utility companies such as AEP or Duke Energy.


Mank presented Summers Rejects Probabilistic Standing, But Laidlaw Still Leaves an Opening for Threatened Injuries as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series. The City of Cincinnati’s Council adopted an environmental justice ordinance, a project on which he has consulted. Finally, Mank was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Mill Creek Restoration Project.

Stephanie Hunter McMahon, Assistant Professor of Law, published To Save State Residents: States’ Use of Community Property for Federal Tax Reduction, 1939-1947, 27 Law & Hist. Rev. 585 (2009). She presented the following:

- California Women: Using Federal Taxes to Put the “Community” in Community Property to the Ohio Legal History Seminar.
- To Have and to Hold and to Shift Between Us: Rethinking Marital Property for Federal Income Tax Return Filings as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Miller presented the following:
- Iqbal and Empathy at the Enforcing Constitutional Rights in the 21st Century Symposium at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.
- Racial Retrenchment and the Thirteenth Amendment as Redemption as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Dr. Douglas Mossman, Director, Glenn M. Weaver Institute of Law & Psychiatry, published the following:
- His article, Testifying in Civil Commitment Hearings: Your Performance in Court Can Help Unwilling Patients Get the Care They Need (with B. Todd Thatcher), was accepted for publication in a forthcoming issue of Current Psychiatry.

Dr. Mossman made several presentations:
- Connecting Which Dots? Problems in Detecting Uncommon Events, Annual Meeting of the Association for Treatment of Sexual Abusers, Dallas.
- What Can We Learn from Recent Antipsychotic Drug Litigation?, Does the Law Recognize a Specific Competence to Divorce?, and Incompetent Defendants: Probability of Restoration, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, Baltimore.
- Does the Law Recognize a Distinct Form of Competence to Maintain a Divorce Action?, Summit Behavioral Healthcare, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Civil Commitment: When Courts Allow Forced Psychiatric Hospitalization, forensic psychology class (PSYC 712), Xavier University.
- Implications of Atkins v. Virginia: A Psychiatric Carn of Worms?, forensic psychology class (PSYC 712), Xavier University.
- Risk Assessment, forensic psychology class (PSYC 712), Xavier University.
- Violence and Mental Illness: Problems with Predictions, H. I. Davis Memorial Lecture, Department of Psychiatry, University of Illinois at Chicago (1 hr CME).
- Right to Refuse Treatment and Guardianship, forensic psychology class (PSYC 712), Xavier University.
- Psychological Damages in Tort Litigation, forensic psychology class (PSYC 712), Xavier University.
- Does the Law Recognize a Distinct Form of Competence to Maintain a Divorce Action? (with 3L Weaver Fellow Amanda N. Shoemaker) as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Nancy Oliver, Associate Dean for Curriculum and Student Affairs and Professor of Legal Research and Writing, was appointed to the Ohio Department of Health Director’s Advisory Committee on Emerging Infections. She spoke at a dinner meeting sponsored by the Milbank Memorial Fund and the Reforming States Group in New York City about the new rules in Ohio that will require hospitals to
publicly report performance measures to consumers, including measures related to hospital-acquired infections. While in New York, she spoke on the same topics at a lunch gathering at the Yonkers office of Consumer’s Union.

**Ronna Greff Schneider, Professor of Law,** published the 2009 updates for her two volume treatise, *Education Law: First Amendment, Due Process, and Discrimination Litigation* (West Group, 2004). Her book, *Education Law Stories* (Foundation Press, 2008) (with Michael A. Olivas (Houston)), was favorably reviewed by the following:


**Michael E. Solimine, Donald P. Klekamp Professor of Law,** published the following:

- Anderson’s Ohio Civil Rules Practice with Forms (LexisNexis, 2010) (with John W. McCormac).

**Adam Steinman, Professor of Law,** had his article, *The Pleading Problem,* accepted for publication in the Stanford Law Review. He presented the paper at the following:

- The Junior Faculty Federal Courts Conference at Michigan State
- Ohio State as part of the College’s Scholar Exchange Program.
- UC as part of the 13th Annual UC Faculty Summer Scholarship Series.

Steinman launched a new blog, *Civil Procedure & Federal Courts Blog,* as part of the Law Professor Blogs Network, with former UC Law professor Cyndi Fountaine (Texas-Wesleyan) and Robin Effron (Brooklyn).

**Joseph P. Tomain, Dean Emeritus and the Wilbert & Helen Ziegler Professor of Law,** presented *The Conflict between Law and Justice: Three Perspectives* at Lewis & Clark Law School as part of his position as distinguished environmental scholar at the law school. He also presented: *Venture Regulation* at Energizing the Future Conference, Wake Forest University; *Ending Dirty Energy Policy* at Lewis & Clark Law School; *Creon’s Ghost: Law, Justice and the Humanities* at Lewis & Clark Law School; and *Venture Regulation* at the University of Toledo Law Review Symposium.

Dean Tomain served as ABA site inspector for Western State University School of Law and as reporter for the ABA Standards Review Committee at its quarterly meeting.

His remarks entitled *Venture Regulation* were published in the proceedings of the Wake Forest University Energizing the Future Conference held in February 2010. Finally, he has published the following:

- “Steel in the Ground:” Greening the Grid with the iUtility, 39 Envt’l L. 931 (2009).

**Verna L. Williams, Professor of Law.** Her article, *Reform or Retrenchment: Single Sex Education and the Construction of Race and Gender,* 2004 Wis. L. Rev. 15, was included in the new book by Maurice R. Dyson (Thomas Jefferson) and Daniel B. Weddle (Missouri-Kansas City), *Our Promise: Achieving Educational Equality for America’s Children* (Carolina Academic Press, 2009).
1950s

William E. Santen ‘55 with Santen & Hughes received the John W. Warrington Community Service Award at the annual meeting of the Cincinnati Bar Association. Besides recently embarking on a career as a mediator in eminent domain cases, an area in which he has tried over 125 jury cases, Santen has made a tremendous difference in his community. He currently serves as vice president of the St. Gertrude Confraternity of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and through his work on the boards of the Health Resource Center, Tender Mercies, and Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, he has helped the poor, homeless, and disadvantaged.

Wilbert L. Ziegler ‘56, a partner at Ziegler & Schneider, was honored at the Northern Kentucky Bar Association’s annual meeting as the 2009 Northern Kentucky Bar Association Distinguished Lawyer.

Donald P. Klekamp ‘57, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, has received the St. Xavier High School Insignis Award in recognition of his service to the community. This is the highest alumnus honor from the school. He was also recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list in the business/corporate practice area. Finally, Klekamp continues on the executive committee as immediate past president of the Legal Aid Society of Great Cincinnati.

Justice Donald C. Wintersheimer ‘59 has published Secrets of the Kentucky Supreme Court: A Memoir, a comprehensive review of the 32 year career of Justice Wintersheimer in the Kentucky Supreme Court and Kentucky Court of Appeals. In the book he reveals how the jurisprudence of Kentucky developed during that period and casts light on the structure and humanity of the court and legal principles that shaped his professional life.

1960s

Gary P. Kreider ‘64, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Kreider was recognized for securities and corporate finance.

Herbert B. Weiss ‘65, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list for his work in the real estate area.

Louis F. Gilligan ‘68, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Gilligan was recognized for his work in the class action/mass torts area.

1970s

Joseph P. Rouse ’70, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Rouse was recognized for estate planning and probate.

Judge Mark P. Painter ’73 served on the first ever United Nations Appeals Tribunal. He was an Ohio trial and appellate judge for 27 years as well as the author of 200 published legal opinions, six books, and 135 articles. The court has decided on 33 cases.

Joseph L. Trauth Jr. ’73, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. He was recognized for his work in the land use/zoning area.

Daniel J. Buckley ‘74, a partner with the law firm Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, was elected 2nd vice president of the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati.
Tom Keefe ’75 has become a member of the Midwest Scouts Association. A professional baseball scout since 1994, he has been with the Florida Marlins (1994-2003) and the Los Angeles Dodgers (2003–present). Keefe is president and general counsel for Patriot Signage, as well as an adjunct associate professor teaching philosophy of sports at UC.

Paul V. Muething ’77, a managing partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list for the business/corporate area.

Judge Robert P. Ruehlman ’77 of the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas announces that the Literacy Center West’s new office is being named the Robert P. Ruehlman Center. The center provides second chance educational opportunities, GED preparation, and job readiness assistance at no cost. The grand opening of the facility was held this summer.

Patricia Mann Smitsone ’77, a partner at Thompson Hine LLP, has received three appointments by Cincinnati-area organizations. She has been elected to serve as a new governing board member of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation; to chair the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber’s Capital Bill Prioritization Task Force; and to serve on the United Way of Greater Cincinnati’s Board of Directors.

James E. Burke ’78, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list for business litigation. He was also named to the Top 50 Cincinnati Super Lawyers list. Finally, he was featured in the February 2010 issue of Cincy magazine.

Kevin Flynn ’78 has recently been chosen by the Hamilton County Commissioners to serve on its Government Reform Task Force. The volunteer task force will examine how to restructure county government to make it more efficient and effective and less costly.

Hon. William Walker ’73 of the Clermont County Court of Common Pleas was honored as the 2009 Judge of the Year by the membership of the Southwest Ohio Trial Lawyers Association.

Richard W. Kopenhefer ’78 has joined Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP in Los Angeles as partner in the firm’s entertainment, media and technology, and labor and employment practice groups. Kopenhefer specializes in entertainment industry labor law matters.

Robert P. Mecklenborg ’78 has joined the law firm of Dinsmore & Shohl LLP as of counsel. He will practice in the Litigation Department. Currently, he is serving his second term as the state representative for the 30th District in the Ohio House of Representatives. Additionally, he is the current prosecutor for the Village of Cleves.

Barbara J. Howard ’79, principal of the firm Barbara J. Howard Co., L.P.A., was one of four winners honored at the Cincinnati Bar Association’s 2010 Annual Meeting, receiving the Trustees’ Award. On a statewide level, she is the 2009-2010 president of the Ohio State Bar Association; nationally, she serves as an OSBA delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates. Finally, she was honored by Xavier University with the Distinguished Alumna award at the spring commencement.

William J. Keating Jr. ’79, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list for the business/corporate area.

William A. Posey ’79, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list for the personal injury plaintiff area.
Sherri Goren Slovin ’79 has been named president of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP). The IACP is an international organization comprised of more than 4,000 lawyers, mental health professionals, and financial professionals focused on collaborative practice.

1980s

Anita B. Folino ’80, a partner at Plunkett Cooney, was named by Michigan Super Lawyers magazine as a 2009 “Super Lawyer.” Folino was recognized for the personal injury defense: medical malpractice area.

Anne E. Krehbiel ’80 has been elected to the LCNB Corp. board of directors by its shareholders to serve a three-year term. She established her firm, Krehbiel Law Office, in 1998 and is certified by the Ohio State Bar Association as an estate planning, trust and probate law specialist.

Mark J. Weber ’80, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. He was recognized for the banking area.

Gregory M. Utter ’81, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was inducted into the Litigation Counsel of America at the LCA’s Spring Conference and Induction of Fellows. Utter was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars for the class action/mass torts area.

Robert E. Coletti ’82, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Coletti was recognized for mergers and acquisitions.

William L. Montague ’82 has joined Frost Brown Todd as partner in the Cincinnati, Ohio, and Florence, Ky., offices. Montague has practiced law nearly 30 years and concentrates his practices in estate and gift taxation and planning, estate and trust administration, business succession planning, asset protection planning, and charitable giving. Montague was recently selected for inclusion to the list of Cincy Leading Lawyers 2010. He was selected in the area of trust and estate planning. Finally, Montague was also selected for inclusion in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers list.

James Hubbard ’83 was promoted to chief legal officer at Fifth Third Bancorp.

Patricia D. Laub ’83, a member at Frost Brown Todd, was recognized by the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers. She was recognized for estate planning and probate. In addition, she was recognized as among the Top 50 Women Super Lawyers in Ohio and the Top 25 Women Super Lawyers in Cincinnati.

C. Curtis Walden ’84 has joined the Drew Law Firm as a partner.

Grant S. Cowan ’85, a member at Frost, Brown & Todd, was recognized by the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers. He was also recognized in the March/April 2010 Corporate Counsel Edition that recognizes the top attorneys for business litigation.

James R. Matthews ’85, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Matthews was recognized for insurance coverage.

Daniel C. Heyd ’86, partner at Graydon Head & Ritchey LLP, has been elected chairman of the board of Wesley Services Organization and its operating subsidiaries: Lincoln Crawford and Wesley Community Services. Heyd has served on the board for 20 years, and has served as president of Wesley Community Services for the past several years.

Glen D. Bellamy ’87 has recently joined the region’s largest intellectual property (IP) law firm, Wood, Herron & Evans, LLP. His experience spans the width of IP law and focuses on advising clients on the management of patent, trademark, and copyright portfolios. He is one of a small number of attorneys experienced in the enforcement of IP rights through U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Bellamy was selected for inclusion in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers list. He has also been selected for inclusion to the list of Cincy Leading Lawyers 2010 in the area of patent and intellectual property.

John M. Hands ’88, a partner with Ulmer & Berne LLP, was elected president of the Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys (OACTA), which is a state-wide organization of more than 650 attorneys who routinely represent the interests of parties sued in civil lawsuits. His practice focuses on business litigation, contract/commercial litigation, product liability litigation, construction law, architect/engineer defense and general liability defense.
Lisa Wintersheimer Michel ’88, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. She was recognized for her work in the employee benefits/ERISA area.

Peter Newberry ’88 has been named Kentucky’s Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for 2009 by Governor Branshear. The annual award recognizes one Kentuckian who has met a community need in an innovative, effective manner; who has demonstrated exceptional ability; and who has made a great impact through changed lives and/or community conditions as a result of his or her service efforts.

Patricia B. Hogan ’89, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Hogan was recognized for intellectual property.

Kevin N. McMurray ’89, a member at Frost Brown Todd, was recognized by the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers. McMurray was recognized for environmental law.

Mark L. Newman ’89 has joined Barron Peck Bennie & Schlemmer LPA as a partner.

W. Russell Wilson ’83, a member at Frost Brown Todd, was awarded “Practitioner of the Year” by the Real Property Law Committee of the Cincinnati Bar Association. It is a shared award for his work on the lease with anchor tenant American Financial Group, Inc., for over 500,000 square feet of space at Great American Tower at Queen City Square. Wilson focuses his practice on the representation of owners and developers of commercial real estate, with a particular emphasis on office buildings and shopping centers.

1990s

Anthony M. Barlow ’90, a partner with Strauss & Troy, has been appointed chairman of the Real Estate/Finance Department for the firm. He currently serves as a member of the board of directors for Strauss & Troy, and has been a shareholder with the firm where his law practice of 20 years consists of all aspects of real estate law.

Gail King Gibson ’90, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the February 2010 issue of Cincy Magazine as a Cincy Leading Lawyer. Gibson was recognized for work in the areas of mergers and acquisitions.

Mina Jones Jefferson ’90, the assistant dean and director of the Center for Professional Development at the University of Cincinnati College of Law, will serve as secretary at the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati. Prior to becoming assistant dean, Jefferson was a partner at Frost Brown Todd LLC.

Thomas Williams ’90, a member with Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC, was recently selected as a Louisville Connector as part of the Leadership Louisville Center’s Connector Project. Among 5,500 nominees, 128 were identified as the Connectors of Louisville and Southern Indiana.
Michael L. Scheier ’91, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Scheier was recognized for his work in the Business Litigation area. He is a partner and co-leader of the Litigation Practice Group at KMK and also serves as an adjunct professor at UC Law, where he teaches trial technique and practice.

Paul D. Dorger ’92, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Dorger was recognized for employment and labor.

Laura Ryan ’92 has been named partner at Thompson Hine LLP.

Mark A. Weiss ’92, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. He was recognized for securities and corporate finance.

Joseph M. Callow Jr. ’93, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Callow was recognized for business litigation.

Scott A. Carroll ’93 will now head and become managing partner of workplace law firm Jackson Lewis LLP (Cincinnati office). He has also been elected chair of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) Board of Directors. His national term is for two years. “As a blood cancer survivor I am deeply committed to the LLS mission, and to doing everything I can to help patients live better, longer lives,” Carroll said.

Jack B. Harrison ’93 has joined Cors & Bassett LLC as a member. Harrison practices in the litigation and labor and employment areas. He has received the AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in The Best Lawyers in America 2009-2010. He has also been an adjunct faculty member at the University of Cincinnati and University of Dayton Colleges of Law for 15 years and has written or was the lead author in various articles and publications.

Alan S. Fershtman ’94, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Fershtman was recognized for the business/corporate area.

Robert Smyth ’94 has been named president and managing partner at the Drew Law Firm.

Jeffery D. Gordon ’95 was installed as chair of the Taxation Law Section of the New Jersey State Bar Association (NJSBA) on May 20, 2010. The section educates its members, other professionals, and the public regarding federal, state, and local property tax law; works to enhance the quality of legal services provided by New Jersey attorneys; and serves as the voice of attorneys on tax-related issues. Gordon served as a section officer for the past three years and was previously the chair of the NJSBA Real Property Tax Committee.

Shane Starkey ’95 has been named partner-in-charge of Thompson Hine LLP, succeeding fellow UC Law alumnae Patricia Smitsen ’77. His practice focuses on executive compensation.

Mark J. Chumley ’96, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was recognized in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers and Ohio Rising Stars list. Chumley was recognized for the employment and labor areas.

Rachael A. Rowe ’96, a partner at Keating Muething & Klekamp, was named to the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. Rowe was recognized for business litigation. KMK announced also that Rowe will join its Labor & Employment Group, focusing on employment practices consultation and employment litigation while continuing to work on other types of complex commercial and securities cases.

Chandler Travis ’96, the founding attorney of Travis Law Firm, PLC, in Arizona, was selected to serve as a board member to The Leadership Centre (TLC) Board of Directors. In this role, Travis will work with fellow board members to help the nonprofit develop community leaders by providing education, resources, and tools residents need to be empowered.

Steven Wesloh ’96, a member with Frost Brown Todd LLC, was recognized by Law360 as a Top 10 Environmental Attorney Under 40. Law 360 noted his extensive track record of successfully challenging actions by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in complex Clean Air Act enforcement matters as a factor in honoring him with this designation.

Gloria Carlino ’97 ran for Pennsylvania’s Eighth Congressional District seat. Originally from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, she serves as the Republican Party Committee woman for Upper Solebury Township. She has also served on Capital Hill where she worked for Congressman Dan Burton (R-IN), then chairman of the Government Reform and Oversight Committee.
Carlineo worked also at the Governor of Puerto Rico’s federal affairs office in Washington, D.C.

Karen K. Gaunt ’97, a partner with Wood, Herron & Evans, LLP, has been elected to the University Club of Cincinnati’s Board of Governors. Gaunt is only the seventh woman elected in the Club’s 130-year history. She serves as chair of the club’s speaker series. Her legal practice is concentrated in the areas of domestic and international trademark, copyright, internet, media, licensing, advertising and corporate law. Gaunt was selected for inclusion on the Cincy Leading Lawyers 2010 list in the area of copyright and trademark.

Katherine Cook Morgan ’97, a member with Frost Brown Todd, was selected for inclusion on the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers list. Morgan was recognized for employment and labor.

Daniel S. Carlineo ’98 was appointed a member of the advisory council for the Illinois Institute of Technology’s master’s in IP management in markets program, one of the first of its kind. Carlineo was also identified in Intellectual Asset Magazine for inclusion in its 2010 edition of the IAM 250- The World’s Leading IP Strategists. Asia Law & Practice’s 2008 and 2009 Leading Lawyers Survey also identified Carlineo as one of Asia’s leading business lawyers in recognition of his work in the field of intellectual property. The survey is one of the largest annual surveys in the legal profession.

Sean Donovan ’98 has been named principal at Finney Stagnara Saba & Patterson Co. LPA.


J. Michael Hurst ’98, of counsel with Keating Muething & Klekamp PLLC, was recently elected to the Board of Trustees of ArtWorks, a non-profit arts organization that connects artists of all ages with opportunities in arts through inspiring apprenticeships, community partnerships, and public art.

Lori E. Krafte ’98 has recently joined Wood, Herron & Evans, LLP as partner. Krafte counsels clients in all areas of advertising and media law, privacy, trademarks, copyrights, and domain name disputes. She has also been selected for inclusion to the list of Cincy Leading Lawyers 2010. Krafte was selected in the area of copyright and trademark. Finally, she was selected for inclusion in the 2010 Ohio Super Lawyers list as one of the top 25 women lawyers in Cincinnati in 2009 and 2010, and one of the top 50 women lawyers in Ohio in 2010.

Michael Dailey ’99, a partner with Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, was recently appointed to the board of advisors for St. Joseph’s Orphanage. Dailey will serve on the board for a three-year term as well as continue to serve on the finance committee. His main responsibilities will include evaluating and promoting the orphanage’s innovative programs.

Nicolette R. Hudson ’99, a member with Frost Brown Todd LLC, was recognized as a 2010 Ohio Rising Star in the intellectual property area.

R. Scott Hughes ’99 has been elected as a member at Cors & Bassett, LLC. Hughes practices in the litigation group, and represents clients across a vast...
array of general litigation matters. When not practicing law, Hughes is also a published poet and high school soccer coach.

V. Brandon McGrath ’99, an associate with Greenebaum Doll & McDonald PLLC, was selected for inclusion in the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. McGrath is recognized for his work in the general litigation area.

2000s

Megan Shanahan ’00, an assistant Hamilton County prosecutor, has been awarded the top honor from “Hope in Heels,” a private, nonprofit agency that promotes advocacy for crime victims and their families. She was honored for her innovative work on a rape case involving a four-year-old girl and her seven-year-old brother.

Rocco I. Debitetto ’01 is now a partner with Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP. Debitetto focuses his practice in the creditors’ rights, reorganization and bankruptcy areas. He is involved in the community in a number of pro bono projects, including Wills for Heroes, which provides free wills to emergency first responders. Debitetto is also active in a number of bar associations, currently serving on the board of directors of the Federal Bar Associations, currently serving on the board of directors of the Drop Inn Center, Cincinnati’s largest homeless shelter.

Anne K. Howard ’01 was the 2010 Democratic candidate for state representative of the 67th District. Her law practice is located in Lebanon, Ohio.

Andrew R. Kaake ’01, a member with Frost Brown Todd, was recognized as a 2010 Ohio Rising Star. He was recognized for his work in the employment and labor areas.

David Lafkas ’01, a founder of the law firm Lafkas Patent LLC, was sworn in as a 2010-2011 Cincinnati Bar Association board trustee at the 2010 annual meeting. Lafkas served on the Professionalism Committee at the association where he was also a member of the Cincinnati Academy of Leadership for Lawyers (CALL) Class XI.

Leanne R. Montgomery ’01, an attorney with Freking & Betz LLC, was elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors of the Drop Inn Center, Cincinnati’s largest homeless shelter.

Nicholas K. Rohner ’01 was recently promoted to managing attorney of the Collection Support Group at Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., LPA (Cincinnati office). He is a lifetime member of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity and frequently lectures on collection law.

Anita Vizedom ’01, an assistant Hamilton County prosecutor, was honored by local victims’ advocacy group Hope in Heels for her work.

Rebekah Ellen Fisher ’02 was named a partner at Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis, LLP, a Nashville-based law firm with women comprising 80 percent of the firm’s new partnership class.

Michael J. Moeddel ’02, a partner with Keating Muething & Klekamp LLP, was named to the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. Moeddel was recognized for his work in the areas of mergers and acquisitions.

Drew M. Hicks ’03, an associate with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was named to the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. Hicks was recognized for his work in the area of business litigation.

Brian P. Muething ’03, an associate with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was named to the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. Muething was recognized for his work in the area of business litigation.

Christy M. Nageleisen-Blades ’03, an associate with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was named to the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. Nageleisen-Blades was recognized for her work in the business litigation area.

Peggy (Mary Margaret) Sullivan ’04, a senior associate at Frost Brown Todd, was recognized as a 2010 Ohio Rising Star in the area of real estate.

Michael T. Cappel ’05, an associate with Keating Muething & Klekamp, was named to the 2010 Ohio Rising Stars list. Cappel was recognized for his work in the business litigation area.

Staci Jenkins ’05 was sworn in as a 2010-2011 Cincinnati Bar Association board trustee at the 2010 Annual Meeting. Jenkins has been active in the CBA’s Young Lawyers Section since 2002 and is currently serving as the chair-elect. She is also in the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber’s 2010 C-Change Class.

Nicole Tepe, PhD ’05 has rejoined the Frost Brown Todd LLC firm as senior associate in the Intellectual Property Practice Group (Cincinnati practice). Her areas of expertise include patent drafting and prosecution, preparation of freedom to practice and patentability opinions, and patent portfolio management, with a concentration in the area of biotechnology.

Ali Razzaghi ’06, senior associate with Frost Brown Todd LLC, has been selected
Lynn Schulte ’06, an associate with Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, has been selected for Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber’s 2010 C-Change Class, a chamber-led initiative to attract, develop, and engage young talent in Cincinnati.

Mark Newman ’07 has joined Barron, Peck, Bennie & Schlemmer LPA as a partner.

Brandon Waddle ’07 has joined Rendigs, Fry, Kiely & Dennis LLP as an associate attorney.

Sean Owens ’08 has recently joined Wood, Herron & Evans, LLP. Owens counsels clients in the areas of trademark, copyright, media, advertising and Internet law. He has taught classes in introductory law at St. Xavier High School and co-teaches classes in media law at the University of Cincinnati.

Maria Gonzales ’09 has joined Greenebaum Doll & McDonald PLLC as an associate in the Corporate and Commercial Practice Group and the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice Group.
Upcoming Events in 2011

January 20: William Howard Taft Lecture on Constitutional Law
Vicki Jackson, Professor of Law, Georgetown University School of Law

February 17: Robert S. Marx Lecture
Victor E. Schwartz, Partner, Shook, Hardy & Bacon, LLP

March 3: Butler Medal Awards
Paul Hoffman, Partner, Schonbrun DeSimone Seplow Harris & Hoffman, LLP

March 16: Weaver Institute of Law and Psychiatry
Symposium on Drugs and the Law

April 1: Corporate Law Symposium
The Principles and Politics of Aggregate Litigation: CAFA, PSLRA, and beyond

April 7–10: Innocence Network International Conference
An International Exploration of Wrongful Conviction