The FACE of MODERN-DAY SLAVERY
1. My first dinner out with my roommate and friends at the still-legendary Brown Jug. I remember my roommate, Mark Penskar, telling me that you could order a double pepperoni double sausage pizza with “extra grease.” An outstanding option.

2. Signing up for firm interviews in Room 250. Nancy Krieger would distribute clipboards at random, and the row you sat in had a lot to do with whether you were able to sign up for a firm. Students would game the system by having friends in other rows sign up for them.

3. Seeing the first Lexis machine, a contraption about half the size of a large freezer and vaguely reminiscent of Mr. Sulu’s Star Trek workstation. Located in a room off the side of the Reading Room, it had a very slow dot-matrix printer that used silver paper on a roll. It only covered a few years of New York and federal cases, but it was viewed as a miracle.

4. Lugging a Smith Corona electric typewriter from the Quad to Room 200 about 7 a.m. on an exam day to get a scarce study carrel with a functioning electrical outlet.

5. Thursday steak nights at the Lawyers Club. Only one steak and one mushroom were permitted (I never knew that button mushrooms were in such short supply). The yogurt police stood by to make sure that you took no more than one Dannon to your room by confiscating the lid (you could fit two or three comfortably in the pocket of a parka—not that any of us ever did that).

Frank Kimball, ’77 (Section 2), recently established a partner-level attorney search firm, Kimball Partner Group in Chicago, along with Lateral Link Group LLC. Previously, he ran Kimball Professional Management, which focused on lawyer placements and consulting services. Here, he recalls a random sampling of memories from his years in Ann Arbor.
I discovered James Tobin by reading the book he wrote for the sesquicentennial, and now I find him spot-on describing one of my favorite professors, L. Hart Wright. Tobin has that research-guided instinct enabling him to find the essence of the personality of someone he never met. Well, I did, and what a kick to learn more about the academic side and about his work with the IRS and the then-Commissioner, which he occasionally referenced.

In one class, opening with the phrase: “This is how a judge can write an opinion that can’t be overturned!” he told about a tax court opinion from Texas. The taxpayer had claimed a catastrophic loss due to termite damage, and won. The decision began with “…great swarms of termites…” descending on the house. I recall that very night reading the IRC and the code section added to rectify what the IRS felt was the wrong decision, stating in essence—no way, not ever, don’t even think to claim a catastrophic loss for termite damage.

Deliciously, Tobin’s final paragraph, quoting Wright on research, sums up Wright’s teaching philosophy and underscores Wright’s legacy while very much catching the elusive what-he-really-was-like.

Richard Helzberg, ’65  
San Rafael, California

I was pleased to see the article regarding L. Hart Wright in the Fall 2010 issue. He and Alan Polasky were inspirations to me as a student and were instrumental in my career path. Doug Kahn was just starting at the time; he and others have contributed to the School’s reputation in the tax area.

R. Peter Prokop, ’69  
Farmington Hills, Michigan
### Spring 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>A Message From Dean Caminker</td>
<td>Trajectory-Changing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Briefs</td>
<td>Historic Agreement with India Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Taking Home the Gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>New Medical Testimony Leads to Exoneration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Special Features</td>
<td>The Face of Modern-Day Slavery - 'No, Slavery Did Not End'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Whither the Law Librarian?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>In Fact, the Digital Age Makes Law Librarians More Necessary than Ever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Life for a Dying Tree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Higher Math at Dominick's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td></td>
<td>Munger's $20M Gift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Giving</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Class Notes</td>
<td>Judge McClain reflects on lifetime of 'firsts'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Verse and Versatility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Working Toward the Greater Good, 30 Years Later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Faculty Views</td>
<td>China’s Judicial System and Judicial Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Faculty News</td>
<td>In the News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Closing</td>
<td>Mocking and Mooting, Then and Now</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A profound sense of place is built on the architecture, the feel of the arched doorway, the warm wood of the classroom chairs, the green space as you step outside. Even decades after your Contracts class, those surroundings are etched into your memory, a snapshot of time, space, and place.

Since the 1930s the Law Quadrangle has been that sort of indelible environment, a space unlike any other in the United States. A place that, when constructed, changed the trajectory of Michigan Law. It turned what had started as a department of law into one of the nation’s leaders in legal education. Those stone hallways became a magnet for some of the world’s finest legal scholars, people whose intellectual contributions shaped American law even as their outsized personalities were ingrained in the hearts and minds of their students. The Quad emerged as home to generations of students from across the globe, who together with their faculty created a memorable sense of community, of camaraderie, that continues today.

The story of the Law Quadrangle, historical and contemporary, hinges on the power of a philanthropic gift. It was William Cook’s series of visionary donations in the 1920s that brought the Law Quadrangle to life. Cook imagined “a great center of legal education and of jurisprudence for the common good of the people.”
Over the course of the last few years, as we celebrated the Law School’s sesquicentennial and broke ground on both the new academic building and the stunning Commons, I’ve thought again about the trajectory-changing nature of philanthropy for Michigan Law. William Cook envisioned a future of leadership in legal education, and his gift made the critical difference in the University of Michigan’s ability to realize that future.

Now, almost 80 years later, the gifts of more than 420 alumni and friends dedicated to that same leadership have made our new learning and gathering spaces possible, envisioning a future where legal education includes professional clinical suites for students and clients to meet, where skills-based education blends with extraordinary legal scholarship.

At the same time, Bob and Ann Aikens’ gift of $10 million is bringing to life the Robert B. Aikens Commons, an arched glass gathering area that is soon to be the heart of our historic Quad. And this March, we celebrated yet another transformational moment that will change the future of living space in the Law Quadrangle. Charles Munger, a long-time friend of the University (and the man responsible for the lighting and Reading Room renovation project), has given the Law School $20 million to renovate the residence portions of the Lawyers Club. We had long recognized the need to bring the residences up to contemporary standards, and this gift will enable us to do just that. And yet, taken together with the construction of the new academic building and the Aikens Commons, the total is far greater than the sum of its parts. This visionary philanthropy will enable the Law School to match its modern-day facilities with the quality of its academic mission. As President Mary Sue Coleman said when we announced Mr. Munger’s gift, “Charlie Munger has a powerful vision of world-class facilities that will match a world-class law school at the University of Michigan.”

As we look at Michigan Law’s proud history, it is that sort of powerful vision and commitment that fueled the Law School’s leadership and carved such a memorable sense of place from quarried stone. And it is that sort of vision and commitment that will mark the Law School’s future strength as well.

As I look across the hallway of Hutchins Hall, I see that Professor Monica Hakimi’s class on the law of foreign affairs is about to start. And yet, I can almost hear students in L. Hart Wright’s 1971 Tax class gathering down the hall.

Sincerely,

Evan Caminker
Head of State

The November Bishop Lecture in International Law was a homecoming for Yale Professor Harold H. Koh, now the Legal Adviser to the United States Department of State. “In 1984 I came out here … to look for a teaching job under the auspices of Yale Kamisar,” Koh told a packed Hutchins Hall lecture room. “We fell in love with the place, but we ended up being called to New Haven, which is my hometown.” A faculty appointment at Yale Law eventually led to the deanship, and ultimately to Koh’s current appointment as the Department of State’s top lawyer. The Bishop Lecture commemorates the life and work of Professor William W. Bishop, ’31, who helped lead the School’s march to prominence in international law. Below, Koh greets Professor Emeritus Eric Stein, ’42, who pioneered the field of European legal studies at the Law School.

Michigan Law, India’s Jindal Global Law School Announce Historic Collaboration

A 2010 Memorandum of Understanding between Michigan Law and Jindal Global Law School of O.P. Jindal Global University, near Delhi, establishes a Joint Centre for Global Corporate and Financial Law & Policy, as well as opening the door for future cooperative efforts between the two schools.

The MoU, signed by Michigan Law’s Dean Evan Caminker and Professor C. Raj Kumar, O.P. Jindal Global University’s vice chancellor and dean of Jindal Global Law School, provides the framework for Michigan and Jindal to develop collaborative initiatives on faculty and student exchange programs, teaching and research initiatives, conferences and publications, and continuing legal education programs. The Centre’s directors will be Michigan’s Professor Vikramaditya Khanna and JGLS professors Vivek Pande, Charles Maddox, and Ajay Goyal.

Among the areas of planned study are the regulation of financial markets and corporate governance in the United States, India, and other jurisdictions. Key activities at the Centre will be research and legal policy analysis, facilitating development of collaborative research and teaching, and organizing lectures, conferences, and symposia.

“The collaboration between the University of Michigan and O.P. Jindal Global University is truly historic and in many ways reflects the strong commitment of both these institutions to promote global education across various disciplines,” Kumar said.

Dean Caminker agreed. “Michigan Law has a long and proud tradition of global law, and today, most areas of the law have international aspects. We look forward to working with O.P. Jindal Global University to establish new initiatives and exchanges of benefit to our students and faculty in this global context.”

As the school’s first step toward developing a strong partnership, JGU appointed Khanna a Distinguished Visiting Professor for 2010–2011. Also a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and editor of India Law Abstracts and the White Collar Crime Abstracts on the Social Science Research Network, Khanna is spending part of the current academic year teaching courses and pursuing research.

“Building a strategic relationship with a prestigious Indian institution is important,” Khanna noted. “India is one of the fastest-growing major economies in the world, as well as being the world’s largest democracy and its second most populous nation. Studying legal issues related to India and the U.S. is both fascinating and critical for faculty and students to better understand the role of the law in a fluid, heterogeneous, and increasingly global environment.” —John Masson
Taking Home the Gold

Students at the University of Michigan have selected a law professor to receive the student body's coveted Golden Apple for the first time in the award's 20-year history. Don Herzog, the Edson R. Sunderland Professor of Law, specializes in First Amendment law and in the teaching of political, moral, legal, and social theory.

The Golden Apple—the only U-M teaching award given by the students themselves—also provides its recipient a gift most professors only dream of: the right to give exactly the lecture they choose, as if it were their last.

Herzog said he was amazed when a student organizer called him and told him he had been selected. “It’s overwhelming,” he said. “It’s incredibly sweet. I don’t deserve it.”

Herzog’s “Ideal Last Lecture” was held in March. The topic was based on his new book about the surprising truth of household politics in early modern England.

“Let’s just say that it was better to be a man than a woman then, for sure, but not because women were mindlessly deferential and ‘knew their place.’ Not at all,” said Herzog, who came to the Law School from the Political Science Department, where he maintains a courtesy appointment. “So the thought that feminism is this late development is nuts, completely nuts.”

Around the Law School, faculty members weren’t surprised to hear that Herzog had captured the coveted award. “He’s just the person to choose, as if it were their last.”

If there is one thing Herzog is not, Miller added, it’s an easy A. “He’s very informal with students, but he’s also very demanding, and he’s a hard grader. He doesn’t pander to them,” Miller said. “He does, ostensibly, political theory and things like that, but … he actually dirties his hands in the real historical material. He feels it’s a requirement to actually know something about how people operate, and to read what they’ve written.”

Herzog demands “high-quality participation, both before and during class time,” Dean Evan Caminker said at the Golden Apple awards ceremony, at which Herzog spoke about the myth of “natural” patriarchal dominance in Early Modern England. “A tenured colleague of mine on the law faculty was once herself a student of Professor Herzog’s, and she reports that he made her think so hard her brain constantly hurt. Professor Herzog truly elicits the best efforts of, and the best performance from, his students.”—JM

Making Sense of Ranking Season

The 2012 U.S. News & World Report rankings of U.S. law schools—which saw Michigan jump from ninth to seventh place—may mark the official peak of ranking season, but other surveys highlight the Law School’s continuing strength, as well.

While the U.S. News rankings are perhaps the best recognized—measuring factors such as per-student expenditures, median LSAT scores, post-graduation employment rates, and faculty-to-student ratios—some of the other surveys also provide valuable information.

For example, a joint Best Lawyers/U.S. News ranking of law schools by law firm recruiters placed Michigan Law in a fourth-place tie with Columbia, behind only Harvard, Stanford, and Yale. The survey asked law firm hiring officials to rank the schools on a five-point scale; its organizers say the results are “strictly reputational,” based on how recruiters perceive each school’s quality.

Another survey, and perhaps the simplest, was conducted by the National Law Journal. It showed that Michigan is number 10 in the number of graduates hired at the nation’s top 250 firms; more than 42 percent of Michigan Law’s 2010 graduates took that route, according to the magazine.

In other words, while the Best Lawyers ranking reflects the strength of Michigan Law’s reputation, the National Law Journal tally is more a measure of the career choices the School’s students make after law school.

Finally, an unusual “crowd-sourced” ranking by The Conglomerate blog recently placed Michigan fifth among American law schools. The methodology had rankers vote on head-to-head comparisons of two law schools, then aggregated the paired comparisons. More than 300,000 votes were cast, the survey organizers said.

The most important message, say law school professionals such as Sarah Zearfoss, ’92, assistant dean for admissions, is for prospective students to make sure the rankings they’re paying attention to measure results they actually care about.

“It’s easy to remember that a particular school is number one, or number two, or number eight,” Zearfoss says. “But it’s crucial for people thinking about law school to know the reality these numbers are actually meant to measure.”—JM
Baer Appointed to Germany’s Highest Court

Susanne Baer, LL.M. ’93, one of the Law School’s six William W. Cook Global Law Professors, has been elected to the German Federal Constitutional Court.

Baer, also a professor of public law and gender studies and dean of academic affairs of the Law Faculty at Humboldt University in Berlin, was appointed to a 12-year, non-renewable term on Germany’s top court.

The court, which is divided into two separate “senates” of eight judges each, handles several thousand cases each year, several times the volume of the U.S. Supreme Court. Anyone who believes his or her rights have been violated under Germany’s Basic Law, or constitution, is entitled to bring a complaint that could end up being heard by the Constitutional Court. German states and the federal government can ask the court to review laws and proposed laws for constitutionality as well.

Despite her selection by the German legislature for a term on the court, Baer is expected to continue her relationship with Michigan Law.

“We’re pleased and proud to see Professor Baer elevated to a position of such eminence in her country’s judiciary,” said Dean Evan Caminker. “And we’re confident that the people of Germany will benefit, as our students have benefited, from her wisdom and keen insight.”

Baer’s research areas include socio-cultural legal studies, gender studies, law against discrimination, and comparative constitutional law.

She is the second 1993 Michigan Law LL.M. alumnus to land a seat on her native country’s highest court in the past year. Maria Lourdes Aranal Sereno was named an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines in August (see story, Law Quadrangle, Vol. 53, #2).

In addition to Baer, two of the German court’s current members also have Michigan ties: Andreas Paulus taught here as a visiting professor, and Johannes Masing was a visiting scholar.—JM

Scenes from the Law School

Activities at the Law School in recent months have included classical-music lunches, political chats, and scholarship banquets, representing the wide-ranging interests of students and faculty. Here are a few snapshots of the moments that occur between classes and study sessions.

Melissa Barahona, Jaclyn Kelley, and Laura Andrade were the winners at the Latino Law Students Association’s annual Juan Luis Tienda Scholarship Banquet. The March event honors the memory of Juan Luis Tienda, a Michigan Law student who was killed in a 1976 car accident shortly before starting his 3L year.

Emeka Ajene, Laura Kope, and Adrian Ohmer were named the winners at the annual Alden J. “Butch” Carpenter Memorial Scholarship Banquet, which honors the memory of a former captain of the Wolverines football team who died suddenly while a student at Michigan Law.

More than 350 people filled Honigman Auditorium in November for the taping of Slate.com’s popular Political Gabfest podcast, which featured animated political discussions among Slate’s Emily Bazelon, John Dickerson, and David Plotz (pictured left to right).
McCrudden Earns Major Research Fellowship from Leverhulme Trust

A Major Research Fellowship awarded by the Leverhulme Trust will allow Christopher McCrudden, a William W. Cook Global Law Professor, to spend three years, starting this October, continuing his path-breaking work on human-rights issues around the world. McCrudden, also a law professor at Oxford University and a Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford, was awarded the prestigious fellowship—roughly equivalent to a MacArthur Foundation fellowship—to pursue “an integrated theory of comparative human rights law.”

The Leverhulme Major Research Fellowships are designed to enable accomplished scholars to “devote themselves to a single research project of outstanding originality and significance,” essentially by funding a replacement for fellows while they’re away from the classroom doing research.

The funding will enable McCrudden to take a leave from teaching at Oxford for the period of the grant. After this fall, he’ll also take a break from teaching his annual courses as a Cook Global Law Professor at Michigan, although he is expected to come to Ann Arbor as a nonteaching visitor during the course of his fellowship.

“Chris’s Michigan Law colleagues are absolutely thrilled to see him offered the opportunity to focus more completely on this important scholarly work,” said Dean Evan Caminker. “Of course, we’ll miss him during his absence, but we’ll be eager to welcome him back when he returns.”—JM

Stein Awarded Hudson Medal by ASIL

The American Society of International Law (ASIL) has awarded the prestigious Manley O. Hudson Medal to Eric Stein for his lifetime of significant contributions to international and comparative law. The medal commemorates the life work of Manley O. Hudson, a former president of ASIL.

Stein, ’42, the Hessel E. Yntema Professor Emeritus of Law, has been an active supporter of ASIL as honorary vice president, counsellor, and honorary editor of, and frequent contributor to, the American Journal of International Law. His many books and articles have established him as a leading thinker and writer on European Community law and on what he described in a famous article as the “Uses, Misuses, and Nonuses of Comparative Law.”

Throughout his long career, Stein has helped to build and maintain bridges between the United States and Europe. He is a distinguished representative of the generation of great legal scholars who came to the United States in the 1930s and 1940s to escape fascism and who then made important contributions to their adopted land, the ASIL notes.

A decorated soldier in the American Army during World War II, he later served in the U.S. Department of State, advising U.S. delegations to the UN General Assembly, the Security Council, and the International Court of Justice, and helping to create the International Atomic Energy Agency. During his subsequent academic career, he led in advancing the role of comparative analysis, including through influential works examining comparisons between American federalism and the institutions of modern Europe.

Stein’s work has been marked throughout by humanity, insight, and careful craftsmanship, the ASIL notes. His scholarship and achievements in the law have been recognized by many awards and honorary degrees. However, the organization asserts, his greatest testimonial may be the respect and affection accorded to him by generations of law students, scholars, statesmen, and diplomats on both sides of the Atlantic.—ASIL

Snyder, Portman Among Alumni Elected in November

Several Michigan Law alumni were elected to prestigious posts in the November elections, including Michigan’s new governor and a U.S. senator from Ohio.

Rick Snyder, ’82, a Republican, became Michigan’s 48th governor by handily defeating Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero in November. Previously the president, COO, and interim CEO of Gateway Inc., Snyder returned to Ann Arbor in the late 1990s and founded the venture capital company Avalon Investments and the investment firm Ardesta LLC.

In Ohio, Rob Portman, ’84, also had an easy win in his race for U.S. Senate. Formerly the U.S. Trade Representative and director of the Office of Management and Budget, the Republican also has served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Portman will be the speaker at Senior Day in May.

Other alumni elected in November include:
- Justin Amash, ’05, Republican, Michigan’s Third District in the U.S. House of Representatives. At age 30, Amash is the second-youngest member of Congress.
- Scott Gessler, ’90, Republican, Colorado Secretary of State.
- Andrew Richner, ’86, Republican, re-elected to the U-M Board of Regents.
Five years ago, the medical testimony in Julie Baumer’s trial came only from the neurosurgeon and radiologist who treated her nephew at Children’s Hospital of Michigan. They both said she had violently shaken or hit the six-week-old boy, causing massive brain injuries and blindness. The defense could not afford to bring in a radiologist to examine the baby’s brain scans, and so the opinions of the prosecution’s experts were not seriously challenged at the first trial.

At a second trial in fall 2010, a defense team that included the Michigan Innocence Clinic at Michigan Law brought in six prominent physicians who examined the brain scans and all agreed that Baumer’s nephew—who now lives with adoptive parents—suffered a type of stroke called a venous sinus thrombosis (VST), which can have symptoms similar to shaken baby syndrome. In October, the 34-year-old from Macomb County was acquitted.

“I’m very relieved, and grateful to my dad and my lawyers for believing in me,” Baumer said.

The first step in Baumer’s journey toward exoneration was a meeting with Sister Lois Mitoraj of the Felician Order in Livonia, who believed Baumer was innocent and who contacted the Ave Maria Law School. The acting dean of the school got in touch with attorney Charles Lugosi, who, along with former Macomb County Prosecutor Carl Marlinga, ’71, sought relief from judgment for Baumer. (Marlinga was the county prosecutor at the time of Baumer’s first trial, though he was not directly involved in her case.)

Much of their argument focused on the testimony of three physicians: Patrick Barnes, chief of pediatric neuroradiology at Stanford University; Michael Krasnokutsky, a neuroradiologist with the U.S. Army; and Rex Ferris, a veteran forensic pathologist from Vancouver (see related story, next page). All three of them agreed that VST was the cause of the boy’s brain injuries, not physical force. In late 2009, Baumer won a new trial and was released from prison on bond after serving four years.

Lugosi asked the Innocence Clinic at Michigan Law to defend the judge’s decision against the prosecution’s appeals to the Michigan Court of Appeals and the Michigan Supreme Court; both courts denied the prosecution’s appeal. For Baumer’s fall 2010 retrial, the Innocence Clinic and Seattle attorney Heather Kirkwood, who specializes in cases involving a diagnosis of shaken baby syndrome, brought in three more physicians: John Plunkett, a Minnesota forensic pathologist; Joseph Scheller, a pediatric neurologist at Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; and Ronald Uscinski, a neurosurgeon on the faculty of Georgetown University Hospital and George Washington University Medical Center.

“All of the experts really left no doubt that, while tragic, the boy’s injuries were not caused by abuse,” notes David Moran, ’91, professor and codirector of the Michigan Innocence Clinic.

In October, a jury acquitted Baumer, making her the fourth exoneree in the short history of the Michigan Innocence Clinic. Baumer is grateful for her attorneys and student-attorneys, including Marlinga, Moran, Lugosi, clinic codirector Bridget McCormack, 2Ls Rachel Burg, Greg Polins, Aurora Maoz, and Kendal Kloostra, and 2010 graduates Jacqueline Harrington and Frances Lewis.

“I always tell the students,” Baumer says, “You guys are doing a great job. Make sure you learn from this experience and use what you’ve learned to help other people.” —KV
A Doctor on TV, and in the Courtroom

On TV, Bruno Campos played the roles of Dr. Quentin Costa on *Nip/Tuck*, Dr. Eddie Dorset on *ER*, and Dr. Charlie Casey on *Royal Pains*. This past September, he was cast in another role as a physician, but this time the stakes were much higher than with his previous characters.

Now a 1L at Michigan Law, Campos was asked by the Michigan Innocence Clinic to help with a case. In the trial of Julie Baumer (see related story, previous page), one of the physicians who had testified at a pretrial evidentiary hearing—Michael Krasnokutsky, a neuroradiologist with the U.S. Army—had been deployed to Iraq and could not be at the trial. He could have testified via Skype, but only if the prosecution agreed. They did not.

Since the prosecution’s refusal to permit Krasnokutsky to testify by video rendered him unavailable, Baumer’s attorneys were entitled to introduce Krasnokutsky’s prior testimony to the jurors. And since the dry written word would not be as effective as the spoken version, trial judges in this situation routinely allow parties to “re-enact” the prior testimony by having someone read the testimony of the missing witness aloud in the courtroom. Jurors would know that the person on the stand was not really the physician, but that he was reading his testimony verbatim.

They wouldn’t be told, however, that the faux-Dr. Krasnokutsky was a professional actor, a successful one who has appeared on some 30 TV shows and movies.

“I expressed concern that someone on the jury may have seen me on TV and that this might distract them,” Campos notes. The Clinic had considered asking a drama student from U-M, but ultimately they decided Campos was the best choice.

“In a way, it’s an acting assignment. But at the end of this is a woman sitting in prison, relying on the efforts of her defense,” Campos recounts.

Campos studied the 65 pages of testimony packed with dense medical terminology. Luckily, Campos was comfortable with the lingo of the medical field and felt he could represent to the jury the doctor’s opinions on venous sinus thrombosis. “On a superficial level, I was very familiar with this. I’ve shadowed doctors, sat in on surgeries in clinics all over L.A. I’ve even practiced suture techniques on removed flesh.”

Since this acting job required no surgeries or procedures, he focused on the concepts. By the time he read the testimony in court, he wanted it to seem as natural and smooth as possible. “I didn’t want the jury to be thinking about the reader, just the words.”

At one point, the prosecutor objected and said this reader was adding inflection, which may not have been present in the initial testimony.

“I’m glad that a professional actor was there to do this for Ms. Baumer, rather than a drama student,” says Campos. A young actor may have been derailed by the objection, he notes. While he already was keeping his inflection and interpretation to a minimum, he had to tone it down to be virtually flat. “It didn’t bother me. Camera actors shouldn’t need much to communicate.”

After the verdict, when Clinic Codirectors David Moran, ’91, and Bridget McCormack spoke with the jury, they learned that jurors had not recognized the actor. Several of them, however, “commented that they had to keep reminding themselves that Bruno wasn’t the real Dr. Krasnokutsky,” Moran recalls.

All of this raises a question: Why is Campos—who recently was the voice of the prince and the frog in the 2009 movie *The Princess and the Frog*—a law student in the first place? “I’ve had five mentors in my life: two professional artists and three lawyers. This influence was always there and I’ve sensed for years my internal magnet was leading me to law.”

And why Michigan Law? In part, he was swayed when he met Sarah Zearfoss, ’92, assistant dean for admissions, at a University of Michigan event in Los Angeles. “She was an inspired communicator. It’s very hard to say no to her, in the best sense.”

Next up for Campos is an internship during the summer with U.S. District Judge Avern Cohn, ’49, in Detroit. What about a return to acting? That’s not in his plans, he says; he wants to focus on being the best lawyer he can be. Not that his acting career can ever completely be separated from his new endeavor; after all, when he wasn’t portraying doctors on television, he most often played lawyers.—KV
The FACE of MODERN-DAY SLAVERY

By Katie Vloet
ILLUSTRATION BY CAROLYN REED BARRITT
PHOTOGRAPHY BY LEISA THOMPSON
She thought about leaving. Of course she did; who wouldn’t?

But where would she go? Whom could she trust? What would her captors do if they found out?

So, day after day, year after year, throughout her early teens, often for 14 hours a day, Nicole worked at the grueling task of beautifying women with African braids. Rows and rows of tiny, intricate braids that turned Nicole’s hands old before their time. Grandma hands, she called them.

At the end of every day, she would turn over her money, tips and all, to the people who had brought her to the United States with promises of an education and a better life. At the end of every day, she would return to the cramped apartment near Newark, New Jersey, along with the other young women brought to the United States from Africa, young women who braided hair, lied about their ages, surrendered their wages and tips, dreamed of better lives while fearing the wrath of their captors.

Some call their situation human trafficking. Nicole leans toward a term that many people associate with an era long in the past.

“Anyone who thinks slavery doesn’t happen anymore,” she says, “they should know that slavery did not end. It still exists. Today you cannot always see it happening, but, no, slavery did not end.”

Nicole (left), a client of the Michigan Law Human Trafficking Clinic, was forced to braid hair for 14-hour days and to turn over her earnings to her captors. Next page, top: Nicole greets Jacqueline, another young woman who was brought to the United States by traffickers. Next page, bottom: Professor Bridgette Carr, ’02, prepares for an interview with CNN about human trafficking.
MORE SLAVES THAN EVER BEFORE

Nicole (a name she has adopted in the United States) is a client of the Human Trafficking Clinic at Michigan Law, the first clinical law program solely dedicated to the issue. She is from Ghana, where a family friend from the neighboring country of Togo in West Africa first spoke to Nicole’s family when she was 10 years old. With promises of an education in the United States, her family allowed the family friend, known to all as “Sister,” to take Nicole.

Nicole’s case is not unusual. Many Human Trafficking Clinic clients were lured to the United States with assurances of a great education. Some, like Nicole, were thrust into the world of forced labor with backbreaking shifts in service industries. Some were forced into the sex industry. They are men, women, children; from Africa, Eastern Europe, and the United States. Some were not yet teenagers when they began their time in forced bondage.

In many cases, they are people we see every day—at restaurants, beauty salons, hotels. Some work hidden away from the public eye as domestic servants or in the health- and elder-care industries. In many cases, someone has had—and squandered—the chance to go to authorities to report a situation that didn’t seem right.

“For human trafficking to be successful,” notes Bridgette Carr, ’02, director of the Human Trafficking Clinic, “the trafficker has to be willing to exploit the vulnerability of someone. And we have to be willing to look the other way.”

Carr and her clinic are helping shine a light into the dark recesses of the human trafficking world. With interviews on CNN and other high-profile media outlets, Carr tells audiences something that surprises a lot of people: Slavery still occurs. Indeed, there are more slaves in the world now—about 12.3 million—than at any other point in history, Carr points out.


“Millions continue to toil in modern forms of slavery,” Luis CdeBaca, ’93, ambassador-at-large with the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons in the Department of State, writes in the report. “Enslaving someone still carries too little risk. Remediation, fines, or warnings are too small a price to pay—those who would profit by stealing freedom should lose their own. Fighting trafficking commands too few resources, too little vision, and as a result, too few outcomes.”

Countries including Iran, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, and more are identified in the report as Tier 3—countries whose governments do not fully comply with minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so. Even the far more compliant Tier 1 nations such as the United States are identified as source, transit, and destination countries. The human trafficking industry, the report points out, is found in virtually every country and myriad industries throughout the world.

“With the majority of modern slaves in agriculture and mining around the world—and forced labor prevalent in cotton, chocolate, steel, rubber, tin, tungsten, coltan, sugar, and seafood—it is impossible to get dressed, drive to work, talk on the phone, or eat a meal without touching products tainted by forced labor,” the report states. “Even reputable companies can profit from abuse when they do not protect their supply chain—whether at the level of raw materials, parts, or final products—from modern slavery.”
Hidden in Plain Sight

When Nicole first was taken by Sister from Ghana to Togo—Sister’s native country—the girl was given her first job: selling candy by the roadside. Then, during her first years in the United States, Nicole babysat for a young boy whom Sister claimed was hers. For an entire year, she stayed inside Sister’s house with the boy, growing envious of the other girls who got to work in the hair salon; at least they got to leave the house. More than anything, though, she wanted to go to school.

After selling candy and babysitting for a few years, “I finally realized they weren’t ever going to let me go to school,” she recalls. “It was heartbreaking.”

She trained herself to braid, and, at age 14, began working in a salon. “I taught myself on mannequin heads. I watched the other girls to learn from them, but then I was better,” she laughs.

Jacqueline, another young woman who was brought over by the traffickers, was a blood relative of Sister. Once in the United States, “I asked about school, and my aunt said, ‘There’s no school.’ I was very sad. I love school, and I want to be somebody. When she told me I couldn’t go to the school, I just crashed.”

That same day, Sister put Jacqueline to work in one of the hair-braiding salons. She was 13.

Sometimes, Nicole and Jacqueline braided the hair of girls their age. Recalls Jacqueline: “I thought, ‘Am I ever going to live like them?’ ”

Clients routinely asked the girls—especially the petite and youthful-looking Nicole—how old they were. “I always said, ‘I am 18, I am 18.’ I said to some people that I was 18 for many years. One customer, she even called me ‘18,’ ” Nicole says. As far as she knows, none of her clients contacted authorities about the apparently underage girls working in the salon.

Nicole, Jacqueline, and about 20 others turned in all of their wages to the trafficking ring made up of Sister, as well as her husband and son. Nicole began by bringing in $300 a week, then made well over $500 in a couple of years. “Everything. They got everything. I got a tip of 50 cents one time,” Nicole recounts, “and I had to give it to them.”

Along the way, their fear of their traffickers grew. Jacqueline says of Sister: “She was never a happy woman. She’d beat me up. She threw hot water on me with a spoon while she cooked. Sometimes she wouldn’t let me eat if I messed up.” The girls knew they couldn’t escape without documentation of their identities; their fraudulent passports, which Sister had obtained in order to bring the girls to the United States, had all been taken from them. Several girls later would report sexual abuse at the hands of their captors. Sister’s son, Dereck Hounakey, later said in court that he’d had sex with many of the girls, including one minor.

They longed to tell someone, but whom? Like many of Carr’s clients, they were fearful of the police because, in their home countries, the police typically are not associated with protecting and helping people. The only people they knew in the United States were the other hair braiders, the traffickers, and their clients.

“My aunt sat next to me when I talked to my parents on the phone. It was the first time I ever lied to my father,” recalls Jacqueline. “I wished I could tell him, ‘I just want to come home.’ ”

Nicole sums up her feelings about Sister succinctly: “She was evil. She was evil. She was evil.”

Neither girl thought she would ever be free, after years of captivity. Then, early in the morning of September 6, 2007, everything changed.

What is Human Trafficking?

The United States’ Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) describes human trafficking using a number of different terms: involuntary servitude, slavery, debt bondage, and forced labor. Under the TVPA, individuals may be trafficking victims regardless of whether they once consented, participated in a crime as a direct result of being trafficked, were transported into the exploitive situation, or were simply born into a state of servitude. At the heart of human trafficking are the myriad forms of enslavement—not the activities involved in international transportation.
‘I Had Hope Again’

The long, disorienting day began with a loud knock at the door. Nicole and the other girls jumped out of bed, terrified that the apartment was about to be robbed.

“The oldest girl opened the door. The police told her to raise her hands. I thought we were all in trouble,” Nicole says. “They said, ‘Everyone on the floor with your hands on your heads.’ ”

But the police weren’t there for the girls. They went to the room of Dereck Hounakey, Sister’s son. Nicole remembers him being handcuffed, and all the documents being taken out of his room. “Then the police said to us, ‘We’re not going to hurt you. It’s okay.’ It was like being in a scary movie.”

Some of the girls cried. Some were stunned that Dereck had been taken away. Before long, though, they realized this was a turning point. “We knew right away,” Nicole says, “that it was the end.”

It wasn’t a perfectly happy ending. “I had lost hope, but when the police came, I had hope again,” Jacqueline says. “I was relieved, but I didn’t know if someone was going to take me and put me in another house.”

For Nicole, a strong distrust of police had carried over from her youth in Ghana and Togo. She and the other girls were questioned for days in a hotel, and they couldn’t make any phone calls or contact anyone in the outside world.

This was bad news for Nicole, who had a solid work ethic and a sense of loyalty to the salon owner, who may not have known about the trafficking ring. “I just wanted to call my boss and tell her I wouldn’t be at work.”

Soon, the girls were being sent to foster homes around the country. When Nicole’s plane landed far away from New Jersey, she walked toward her new foster family, who greeted her with smiles and balloons. Finally, she said, she no longer felt “trapped.”

Human Trafficking Clinic Partners with Mexican Law School

The Law School’s Human Trafficking Clinic has received a $300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State to open a similar clinic in Zacatecas, Mexico, this year.

“By awarding us the grant, the State Department acknowledged that the success of our clinic could be replicated elsewhere,” said clinic director Bridgette Carr, ’02. “We’re excited about this new venture and look forward to helping victims in Mexico.”

Several U-M law students are traveling to Mexico to assist in the project.

“Not only do the students gain valuable advocacy skills, they have been and will continue to be instrumental in protecting victims’ rights, in shaping the policy conversation, and in drafting the language used in amendments to trafficking laws,” Carr said.

Effective advocacy involves raising awareness about human trafficking among Mexico’s citizens, law enforcement officials and other leaders, as well as victims. Carr and law students are working with the nongovernmental organization Centro de los Derechos del Migrante (CDM, the Center for Migrant Rights), the NEXUS Institute (www.nexusinstitute.net), and the law school at Universidad Autónoma de Zacatecas, Unidad Académica de Derecho.

CDM is the first transnational workers’ rights law center based in Mexico to focus on U.S. workplace rights. “This clinical partnership is an exciting, innovative, and true collaboration between CDM and law school clinics on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border,” said CDM founder and executive director Rachel Micah-Jones. “Students will provide quality legal representation to vulnerable migrant communities whose legal needs often cross borders. In doing so, students will develop the skills to be transnational advocates in this new economy.”

Carr said Mexico was chosen for the pilot clinic because of a previous relationship with CDM. This is Carr’s second international effort to open a clinic. Last year, she traveled to Alexandria University to assist with the opening of Egypt’s first law school legal clinic, which focuses on human trafficking and domestic violence. She met with the university’s law students, professors, and administrators to train them in teaching methods used by U.S. clinical programs.—Jared Wadley
Things were not looking so bright for Sister (real name: Akouavi Kpade Afolabi), her ex-husband, Lassissi Afolabi, and son Dereck Hounakey.

In court, attorneys for Akouavi Kpade Afolabi asserted that this was all a cultural misunderstanding. It wasn’t forced labor, but rather a West African–style apprenticeship program. Carr thinks Sister “really believes her own rhetoric, that the girls were better off here, working for her.”

The judge and the federal jury didn’t buy it, especially after hearing how the girls were forced to work for hours and days on end, their wages taken by their traffickers, their inability to leave the house, the fear and intimidation—indeed, one witness testified that Sister would frighten the girls by using a voodoo ritual, telling them they would go insane if they escaped.

Sister was convicted on 22 counts, leading to a record-setting sentencing for a human trafficking case: 27 years in prison. At her September 2010 sentencing, she also was ordered to pay more than $3.9 million in restitution, which included the wages the girls earned at the salons and were forced to give to Sister and her family.

Lassissi Afolabi pleaded guilty and was sentenced to more than 24 years in prison, with charges including trafficking and sexual abuse. Dereck Hounakey pleaded guilty in March 2009 to one count of conspiring with others to commit forced labor, trafficking with respect to forced labor, and holding visas and identification. He was sentenced to four and a half years in prison.

A fourth defendant, Geoffrey Kouevi, pleaded guilty and received a 26-month term for helping Sister to obtain fraudulent visas for the girls.

The prosecutions never would have happened without the strong interest of law enforcement agents in New Jersey in stopping human trafficking, Carr believes. In particular, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the U.S. Attorney’s Office in New Jersey worked diligently on the case, with a several-months-long investigation in which some investigators traveled to Ghana and Togo to interview the victims’ families.

To this day, the feelings of the victims are complex. Nicole said seeing Sister in court was like “facing the devil,” but she also felt bad for her captor when she saw her in court. “I’m happy that I’m away from her, but I don’t enjoy seeing her in prison for so long.” She also is sad about the fate of Sister’s children, including Dereck, even though he had admitted to mistreating and abusing the girls. “I pray for them,” Nicole says softly. “I try to pray for them.”

Human Trafficking by the Numbers

- 12.3 million
  Adults and children in forced labor, bonded labor, and forced prostitution around the world

- 4,166
  Successful trafficking prosecutions in 2009

- 335
  Successful prosecutions related to forced labor

- 49,105
  Victims identified

- 0.4
  Ratio of victims identified to estimated victims, as a percentage

- 104
  Countries without laws, policies, or regulations to prevent victims’ deportation

Source: U.S. Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, Trafficking in Persons Report 2010

The Global Fight Against Human Trafficking: One Student’s Experience

When the country’s top official in the struggle against human trafficking needed an intern last fall, he knew exactly whom to ask: Professor Bridgette Carr, ’02.

Ambassador Luis CdeBaca, ’93, who directs the State Department’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, knows Carr from her involvement in the defense of human trafficking victims and her prominent role in the battle against modern-day slavery. Carr found a student in her clinic who was impassioned about the issue, and who could make arrangements to leave campus for a semester in her 3L year.

That student, Jane Khodarkovsky, provided interpretations of human trafficking laws in the United States and around the world for CdeBaca’s office. She worked on revising laws around the world that the office had found to be insufficient.

“It was an amazing experience,” says Khodarkovsky. “I was able to help draft two laws, one that was passed in Malaysia and one that is currently being looked at by the government of Bangladesh.”

She also has made her mark as a student in the Human Trafficking Clinic. She worked with clients in the hair-braiding case (see main story), helping one to get a Green Card and another to secure her mother’s passage to the United States because she was no longer safe in her home country.

“Those are the moments when you know, okay, staying up until one in the morning revising this one sentence was worth it,” she says.

Both experiences have built a strong foundation for her first post-law school job: clerking for New Jersey Judge Ronald Wigler, who previously was a federal prosecutor on a major human trafficking case in New Jersey.—KV
"I don't feel the need to hide it. I feel 100 percent free to talk about it, and influence people to do better," Nicole says of the years she was held by human traffickers.

A New Life

Including its representation of eight young women in the hair-braiding case, Carr's clinic is working on 20 active cases, 17 of which are labor cases and three of which involve sex work. And they all have an important thing in common.

"With every one of my cases, there's a missed opportunity for intervention. … Traffickers are really smart, and they know people are just going to look away. The fact that my clients could be in this hair salon for so many years at 9, 10, 11 years old is frustrating but not surprising."

What also isn't surprising is the motive for most perpetrators of human trafficking: money. "We're seeing people getting out of drug trafficking and into human trafficking because they can make more money," Carr says, "and, unlike drugs, they don't have to hide the slaves. "

The clinic has helped the girls in the hair-braiding case obtain T visas, which allow some human trafficking victims temporary residence in the United States. Carr and her students also are trying to get visas for the girls' family members so they can be reunited, some of them after nearly a decade apart. They help the girls adjust to their new jobs or schools—generous school tuition is available for foster kids, Carr points out—and act as the girls' general practitioner attorneys. "Miss Bridgette and her students are doing a marvelous job," says Nicole. "They take care of everything."

It's a lot of work, much of it emotionally exhausting. "But seeing them get married, going to college…" Carr says. "Like Jacqueline. She wants to go to school to be a lawyer. If they survived this and manage to still feel joy, how can we at the clinic complain?"

The young women are indeed surviving and feeling joy. At the houses where she lived with the other hair braiders and the traffickers, Jacqueline, now 18, often doubted herself. "I didn't know I was smart." She knows now; she was accepted to a well-regarded university and plans to start there in the fall. "I'm nervous, but if I made it out of my aunt's house, I can make it anywhere."

Now 19, Nicole began college last fall. In her classes, she has written essays about her past, and she is proud of her ability to teach her instructors and classmates about modern-day slavery. "I don't feel the need to hide it. I feel 100 percent free to talk about it, and influence people to do better."

She has a plan for her future, which includes training to be a nurse and continuing to learn from her experiences in New Jersey. Sister is out of her life. Nicole can go where she pleases and keep the money she earns at work, and she can finally understand what life is like in the United States as a free person. She likes this new person, this new version of Nicole.

"It's time," she says, "to let me be me."
In Fact, the Digital Age Makes Law Librarians More Necessary than Ever

A 2008 story in Forbes magazine estimated that Google handled 235 million searches a day. If we suppose that the number has risen a bit to a quarter of a billion of searches every day, that breaks down to more than 35 searches a day for every man, woman, and child on the face of the Earth.

If a machine can do that, where does that leave the librarian?

I spoke to four of the 12 librarians at the University of Michigan Law Library to get an answer. In addition to being credentialed librarians, all four are also lawyers. They want people to know that many stereotypes about librarians are outdated, and that they in fact are helping to advance digital research rather than hinder it.
The Image of the Librarian

One popular image of the librarian, a quiet but strict book-shelver who occasionally glares sternly, seems a poor match against this digital behemoth. How does the law librarian fit into the digital age?

Quite well, thank you, according to Michigan Law’s librarians. Barbara Garavaglia, ’80, notes: “I’ve never experienced in my entire career any problem whatsoever in embracing technology. ... For me it has always been: What is the most efficient and effective way to get this work done?”

The Law School launched an educational campaign last year to illustrate the many ways librarians can assist students, and to remind people that technology hasn’t supplanted the need for librarians. “We’re information experts. Really, They just call us librarians,” states one of the posters from the campaign.

Shaking up that old image is a welcome change, notes Jocelyn Kennedy, until recently the head of the circulation services unit and a reference librarian at Michigan Law. She believes many people hold a misperception that stems from their childhood interactions with librarians. “Their memory of a librarian, right, is their elementary school librarian, who helped them choose Curious George.”

Kennedy, who now is associate director at the library at the University of Connecticut School of Law, has never once helped a student find a copy of Curious George. Rather, she spends a lot of her time assisting students with finding information through digital resources.

Which makes it all the more maddening when people say to her, “Do they even need librarians anymore? Isn’t everything on the Internet?”

Driving Innovation

Garavaglia points out that, throughout time, librarians have managed information in many formats, including “oral history, stone tablets, papyrus, acidic paper that deteriorates,” and now digital information. In response to these changes, librarians changed how they did the work, but the “nature of the work” didn’t change. When you are a librarian, “you are a specialist in how to find and use information.”

She offers as an example the digital database Westlaw, with which she has been working for the last 30 years. The online legal research service collects primary legal materials, court opinions, laws, regulations, books about the law, journals, and secondary materials.

“When I first started using Westlaw, it was very unsophisticated. I was on the phone with them every day saying, ‘This is really annoying.’ And [Westlaw’s] development took place over many years, and those developers responded to the needs of the librarians.

“Programmers were putting this software out for people to use, but they didn’t know about the underlying resources they were making searchable. The knowledge of the materials and the research strategies, which came from librarian users, was critical to making those products what they are today. And that continues to this day. Now they hire librarians to help develop those products.”
Law librarians are “information and research professionals in an era when finding essential information is more important than ever,” according to a recent ABAJournal.com article written by Patrick Lamb, ’82, founder of the Valorem Law Group in Chicago. “Associates, who do most of the research in law firms, are not research or information professionals. … When you live in a value-fee world, someone who finds the right information efficiently is really valuable.”

The article prompted a spirited debate about the value of law-firm librarians in an age when much information is available online. “I’d hire a law librarian … if I could afford one,” said one commenter. “My sixteen-year-old daughter maintains my library,” wrote another.

Joyce Manna Janto, president of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) and deputy director of the University of Richmond School of Law Library, points out that the value of law-firm librarians shouldn’t be in doubt. “I think in firms especially, the lawyers forget that the librarians are just as well educated as they are,” Janto notes. “They have no idea that we are able to go beyond the stereotypical ‘reference question’ and that the librarians are a good source for client development and client retention.

“It may have to do with the fact that our user base is so well educated. They seem to assume that if they can’t find it, it can’t be found,” she contends. “Then they’re amazed that we find that piece of information for them. They sometimes become embarrassed, ‘Oh I should have found that for myself.’

“Librarians are, or should be viewed as, the information professionals in any organization. It is our job, our responsibility, to find, categorize, analyze, and teach others how to find the information they need to do their jobs.”

As a young associate at Harness, Dickey & Pierce, Jennifer Selby leveraged her understanding of the value of the firm’s librarian to get ahead in her job.

“At HDP, which was a medium-sized patent firm then, there was one librarian and no support staff,” recalled Selby, now a senior associate librarian at Michigan Law. “What some of the summer associates quickly learned (and I also took advantage of as a young associate) was that the librarian was a treasure trove of helpful information. Many times, she helped me craft effective searches for expensive online databases—like Lexis or Westlaw—saving me from looking bad by racking up too much in online searching costs.”

The firm’s librarian also helped Selby navigate the paper collection and “pointed me in the direction of a more obscure treatise, journal series, or looseleaf service that helped me find the answer to an obscure legal question.”

Selby knows, though, that not all associates, or even partners, at firms are willing to go to the firm librarian for assistance. “I knew that others in my same position were not availing themselves of her expertise, either out of ignorance or really arrogance.”

The cost of such arrogance, Janto argues, is a loss of valuable time and money. At worst, it can lead to an attorney using incomplete or inaccurate information.

“There is so much information available, and it takes a trained researcher to sift through the dross to find the gold,” notes Janto. “As I tell my students, it only takes a few bucks and a little determination to become a content provider on the Internet. Many users, even well-educated lawyers, don’t always think to check the information they find on the Internet for currency, accuracy, and authenticity.”—FS
The Limits of Technology

For students of today, who all but came out of the womb doing Google searches, it may seem unlikely that much of the information they need isn’t retrievable using a Google search, even if the material is available free on the web. A variety of factors prevent a Google search from retrieving everything, including the structure of a website or its search interface, the need for a password, a resource’s use of a controlled vocabulary, the absence of the material from the Internet, or a bad search. Because of that, researchers who rely solely on Google run the risk of missing critical information.

“But even for what is on the Internet,” notes Kennedy, “when you do a Google search and you get 10 million hits … you would never be able to view more than 10,000 things. That’s just their limit. And you’re only going to look at the first 10 or 20 hits and think that you have found the information you need.”

Librarian Kincaid Brown, ’96, notes that people want information in the fastest way possible. “Back when books were what was available, that was the fastest way to do it, but now, sometimes Google may be the fastest way to get to something. Where we librarians come in is, sometimes the book is faster. And we often know ahead of time which way will be faster. The book is right there on the shelf; you can get it right there instead of trying to figure out how to sort your 10,000 Google hits.”

It’s no accident that the reference librarians at the Michigan Law Library are all required to both have a master’s degree in library science and a J.D., and to have passed the bar exam.

“To move through this collection,” notes librarian Jennifer Selby, “you need to think like a librarian, and you need to think like a lawyer. When I was at a law firm, the people who remained at the law firm were the people who could get the information the fastest. I saw people waste thousands of dollars sitting on Westlaw trying to find their information and not knowing what they were doing. So, there is a real liability issue here when people don’t understand how this information is structured, and how best to get at it.”

The Mind of a Librarian

Changes in technology have given many people the impression that the “problem” of research has been solved. In some ways, though, technology has flooded researchers with so much information that, now more than ever, they need a guide to help them navigate the chaos.

Returning to the question at the beginning of this article, where does the digital age leave the librarian?

The answer: Even when a tool has been built to search this data, whether the tool was a card catalogue, the Dewey Decimal system, or a search tool like Google or Westlaw, you have always needed the expertise of a librarian to teach you and help you to use that tool effectively.

These search skills can’t be encoded fully into a tool. These skills, instead, are programmed into the librarians who oversee a collection. They come from the years of training and experience a librarian has moving through the very specialized knowledge of a law library. They come from the mind of a librarian.

Editor’s Note: After 38 years at the Law School, Law Library Director Margaret Leary will retire in July. Her book, Giving It All Away: The Story of William W. Cook & His Michigan Law Quadrangle, is scheduled to be published later this year. Leary will remain in an academic environment after her retirement; she has been accepted to the M.A. program in creative writing at Eastern Michigan University. Look for more about Leary in the fall issue of the Law Quadrangle.
Earthquakes, hurricanes, and cholera have conspired to devastate Haiti in recent years. While residents, governments, and aid workers have joined forces to improve the basic necessities of Haitians—health, housing, food—Jerry Dupont, ’67, realized his expertise could help the island nation as well.

“I was talking to Kent McKeever, the director of the law library at Columbia. We were chatting about the earthquake in Haiti, and we said we ought to be able to do something,” Dupont recalls. “I said, well, we can build a library.”

Dupont, the founder and longtime executive director of the Law Library Microform Consortium (LLMC), didn’t waste any time. He worked with Columbia Law and the Library of Congress to begin collecting titles, such as Haitian constitutional documents, judicial publications, and treatises. Then he asked a few other law schools to assist, including his alma mater. Dupont served as assistant director of the University of Michigan Law Library until 1973, when he left to establish the University of Hawaii Law School Library.

In all, the LLMC’s Haiti Legal Patrimony Project has collected more than 700 books and other documents, with 75 coming from Michigan Law. The only libraries that contributed more were the two core donors to the project: Columbia Law and the Library of Congress. Resources have been donated by dozens of libraries around the world.

“It shows how libraries collectively think. You can never say Harvard has everything, Michigan has everything,” notes Dupont. “There’s a lot of stuff scattered around. Two unique titles were even found in Germany.”

Several people at the Michigan Law Library helped to locate the titles regarding Haiti, including some that the project had requested and some that Dupont hadn’t identified until learning that U-M had them. “Jerry had to track these libraries down, going to smaller and smaller libraries until he found everything he was looking for. It was a treasure hunt,” says Bobbie Snow, an assistant director of the Law Library and the U-M leader of the effort. “It’s a huge bibliographic project.”

Now, the LLMC is in the process of scanning the books and other materials, most of which are on loan and will be returned to the library of origin. From there, a massive digital record will be created that combines the strengths of the various collections.

How the images will be delivered for use by the people of Haiti is still under negotiation, Dupont notes. An outside agency, possibly the Digital Library of the Caribbean at the University of Florida, may host the free service until the Haitian government can take over.

While the primary beneficiaries of the project are the people of Haiti, Dupont points out that the resources also will help researchers around the world. “Libraries now will have access to a much richer collection than they otherwise would have,” he says.

Notes Margaret Leary, director of the Michigan Law Library: “This project is an excellent example of the way collection development policies result in the whole being much greater than any one library.”—KV
The once-vibrant elm tree, which was found to be infested with carpenter ants (above).
Greg Smith is working in his basement studio, holding a bowl gouge steadily on the lathe as he smooths the inside curve of a roughed-out bowl. The *clunk clunk clunk* of metal on wood and the 600 RPM whir of machinery are his soundtrack. Wood shavings fly everywhere, coating Smith’s arm and forming a dusty shag rug at his feet.

*These are the sights and sounds of a block of wood becoming art, of an old tree finding a second life.*
When the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) made plans to add a new wing several years ago, Museum Store Manager Suzanne Witthoff thought about the 26 trees that would have to be cut down to make room for the building. Already, U-M has a policy of planting new trees of the same size whenever a tree is removed from campus. But some of the UMMA trees had been part of the landscape of the campus for many decades, and Witthoff thought that even more should be done with them.

Inspired by UMMA’s renowned Bohlen Wood Art Collection, in 2005 she contacted woodturners in the area and learned about the process of wood being turned into elegant vases, shelves, and lamp bases. Why not ask the woodturners to create pieces from U-M’s felled trees, Witthoff thought, and sell the items in the Museum Store?

And so began an innovative—and beautiful—recycling project. Witthoff worked with Michigan chapters of the American Association of Woodturners, and turners such as Cliff Lounsbury of Tawas, Michigan, and Russ Clinard of Ann Arbor. They enlisted local and regional artists for the project, and, with the help of U-M Grounds Services, the project has continued around campus throughout the past several years.

“This has been such a rewarding project, to see the trees turned into beautiful pieces of art,” Witthoff says. “Some of the people who come to the Museum Store become really attached to a particular piece, and I love that they take these objects into their own homes. It’s hard to see them go, though; some of these pieces are like my children.”

The woodturners have created elm pepper mills, honey locust bowls, and white oak clocks. One item, a handwoven Nantucket basket with maple rims and lid, was U-M President Mary Sue Coleman’s gift to President Obama when he spoke at U-M’s 2010 spring commencement.

The artists also have made many objects from an elm tree—in particular, an elm that stood just east of Hutchins Hall and south of the Legal Research Building.

The elm tree had to be removed in July 2009 to make room for the Robert B. Aikens Commons, the new two-story, 16,000-square-foot, glass-roofed space that will include gathering spots and studying spaces for faculty and students. But it also needed to be cut down for another reason: It was overrun with sprawling colonies of carpenter ants. “The tree was dying and would have become dangerous if it hadn’t been taken down,” says Michele Frasier-Wing, ’98, director of finance and planning for the Law School.

Much of the usable wood then was taken to the Freier Forestry, one of the few mills in the area that accepts urban lumber, which is usually covered in blade-destroying objects such as nails and bolts. It was dried, then taken by U-M Moving and Trucking to a storage facility at the University’s Willow Run property.

From there, wood turners picked out the pieces they wanted to work with, and they set about making lamps, pens, shelves, pepper mills, vases, and at least one piece that clearly identifies the wood’s U-M link.

Pieces made from the elm tree include (clockwise from top left) a table (by artist Lynn Southward), two pepper mills (Greg Smith), a segmented vase (Bill Youngblood), a small box with a Petoskey stone inset in the lid (Robert Roehrig), and a lamp topped with a sea-urchin shade (Robert Ruehle).
Back in Greg Smith’s studio at his Troy, Michigan, home, he has removed his protective glasses and brushed the wood shavings off his arms. Now, he is giving a tour of many of the other pieces that line the walls of the studio: roughed-out bowls and vases, nearly completed ring holders, and several ornaments.

The ornaments are among the pieces he has made from the Law Quad elm. He started with one, and he, Witthoff, and Law School staffers liked it so much that he made several more. They feature finials on each end of a hollowed-out sphere, with a small Block M inside the globe.

![Greg Smith works in his studio. He has created ornaments (right) with the Block M in the center, among other pieces, from the Law Quad elm tree.](image)

The M is a small, delicate piece of elm that Smith carved by hand. It doesn’t take him very long, he says—just half an hour or so. But then he corrects himself, remembering how much time and energy has gone into learning his trade. “Fifteen years,” he says, “plus half an hour.”

For more about the UMMA Museum Store, visit [www.umma.umich.edu/visiting/shop.html](http://www.umma.umich.edu/visiting/shop.html) or call 734.647.0521.

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*Image note: Greg Smith works in his studio. He has created ornaments (right) with the Block M in the center, among other pieces, from the Law Quad elm tree.*
The first problem on the mind of Zevi Miller in the late 1970s ran along the following lines:

If $K$ were a pure $n$-dimensional simplicial complex, and if $\Gamma_0(K)$ were the automorphism group of $K$ [and so on], then what is the minimum number of points $M_0(n)$ in $K$ such that $\Gamma_0(K) \cong A$, and the minimum number of $n$-cells $M_1(n)(A)$ in $K$ such that $\Gamma_1 = A$?

The second problem was where to find a good place to concentrate on this question for several hours at a time, day after day, month after month, while nursing a single caffeinated beverage without getting hassled to buy refills. Earning his Ph.D. in mathematics might not depend on finding a solution to this second problem. But it would help.

So Miller would go to 812 Monroe Street—the eccentric, rambling restaurant and bar called Casa Dominick’s—pay for a single café mocha, and sidle inconspicuously down to a booth in the basement, where he figured no one would notice him.

“I spent incredible amounts of time there,” Miller remembered not long ago. “It was such a lively, cheerful place, and yet you could get work done there, too.”

Early in the 20th century, the address had been a neighborhood grocery. After World War I it became a coffee and sandwich shop. By 1959 the business was failing, and Dominick DeVarti spotted an opportunity.

A Connecticut native, DeVarti had been a bomber-navigator in World War II. He came to Michigan for an engineering degree on the G.I. Bill, then worked for Kaiser Industries in Ypsilanti, then shifted to construction. He bought and sold three pizzerias (one of them, in Ypsi, to Tom Monaghan; it became the first Domino’s, its name inspired by the original owner), and ran unsuccessfully for mayor of Ann Arbor on the Republican ticket in 1957.

About that time, DeVarti saw that 812 Monroe Street—within a few steps of the Law School, the School of Business Administration, the College of Art and Architecture, and the School of Education—couldn’t miss as a student emporium if only he could get the food right. So he bought the place in 1959, brought in pizza and Italian sub sandwiches—exotic casual fare in those days—and when he won a liquor license, he began to serve homemade sangria in glass jars.

Dominick’s was soon the preeminent student hangout in town. In the early 1960s, movie enthusiasts gathered there to found the Ann Arbor Film Festival, and it became the informal point of rendezvous for the radical Students for a Democratic Society.

Bob Adamowski, ’65, remembers Dominick’s from this era, and his visits there with roommate Bill Troutman, ’65. “We would typically share a pizza, as this was before the days of anything as highfalutin as sangria, Constant Buzz, or pesto,”
recalls Adamowski. “What I remember most vividly was Bill using a napkin dispenser or two to sop up the grease on his half of the pie before diving in. It was just pizza of the time with no low-fat concerns, except those Bill brought to the table.”

In the 1970s, DeVarti bought the house next door and joined the two together, with outdoor seating in front and back. For a while he ran a separate white-tablecloth Italian restaurant upstairs, then shifted to Vietnamese food, then turned the second story back over to the pizza-and-sandwich operation.

Law students continued to pack the picnic tables and booths in the decades that followed. Lewis M. Taffer, ’72, regularly entered a weekly contest in the Law School newsletter in which entrants chose the winning college football teams for the coming weekend. “The grand prize was the sub of your choice at Dominick’s. Being a devotee of the establishment, I was particularly thrilled to win twice, each time savoring the sub that had become my daily mainstay.”

Howard B. Iwrey, ’86, remembers the good and bad, but mostly the good, of one of his hangouts. “The food was mediocre on a good day, the ambiance was cave-like, and it seems like it was always cold, dark, and damp,” Iwrey says. “I miss it terribly.”

In all his long afternoons with his single café mocha, math Ph.D. student Zevi Miller often saw Dominick make his rounds through the place. But neither Dominick nor anyone else ever so much as hinted that Miller should either purchase a second café mocha or move along. Miller concluded that no one had even noticed his routine. He had been just another anonymous student in the crowd.

After many, many hours, he concluded that, given certain other things:

$$M_1(n)(A) = M_2(n)(A) = \sum p \alpha e(p^2) \text{ when } n \geq 4 \text{ [and so on]}$$

That done, Miller was awarded his Ph.D. His extended explication of the problem he had solved was published in *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* in 1982. He joined the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where he went on to new research in graph theory, graph embeddings, combinatorics, and theoretical computer science.

One autumn 10 or 12 years after Professor Miller completed his doctorate, he went back to Ann Arbor to see Miami play Michigan. Before the game, he stopped by Dominick’s. At the counter he found Dominick’s son Rich DeVarti, who had taken over management of the place. Miller told Rich that he remembered Rich’s dad well.

“He’s out in back,” Rich said. “Go say hello.”

In the garden courtyard where students and football fans filled the benches and chairs, Miller found Dominick DeVarti at his customary table. Dominick looked up at him.

“Hey,” Dominick said, “I remember you. You used to go downstairs and sit all afternoon with one mocha.”

Rich DeVarti continues to run the place, which still thrives, its menu much the same as it was in the late 1970s, its tables still favored by students in law, business, and education, among others. Dominick DeVarti died in 2001.

“The funny thing is,” Zevi Miller said, “he’s the only guy in the world who knew about that part of me—that little ritual that was so important to me.

“I’m glad it’s still thriving and I hope it goes on.”

Munger’s $20M Gift

JUMPSTARTS RENOVATION AT LAWYERS CLUB

One of the largest gifts ever made to Michigan Law will help revitalize living spaces within the 86-year-old student-housing portion of the iconic Law Quadrangle. The $20 million gift from Berkshire Hathaway Vice Chairman Charles T. Munger (HLLD Law ’10) will pay for the majority of a renovation project inside the Lawyers Club housing complex. The remaining $19 million of the estimated $39 million cost to complete the work will come from central university investment proceeds and the Lawyers Club, which is run by a separately incorporated, self-sustaining nonprofit organization.

The project will bring badly needed upgrades that will transform student rooms and other living areas inside the buildings while preserving the historic Collegiate Gothic exteriors that make them an integral part of a law campus recognized around the world for its beauty. Taken in combination with the soon-to-be-completed $102 million project to build the new academic building on the corner of State and Monroe Streets along with the breathtaking Robert B. Aikens Commons, the Lawyers Club project will enhance significantly the student experience.

Munger’s generosity stems from his long history as a University friend and advisor. As an undergraduate mathematics student at U-M in the 1940s, Munger appreciated the Law Quad’s beauty. He went on to graduate from Harvard Law School in 1948 and founded the Los Angeles law firm of Munger, Tolles & Olson. He became Vice Chair of Berkshire Hathaway in 1978.

Munger never forgot about Michigan, or its Law Quad. In fact, this latest gift extends Munger’s philanthropic relationship with the Law School, which began in 2007 with a uniquely practical $3 million gift for lighting improvements in public areas of the Law Quadrangle. Now complete, that project has turned the formerly dim interiors of Hutchins Hall and the Reading Room into showcases of Collegiate Gothic grandeur (see story, next page).

But Munger’s relationship with Michigan has always been more than simply philanthropic. He has lectured at various U-M schools and has advised the University on its investments.

Clossets in Each Room, Showers of the Latest Type

In 1924, students first occupied the dormitory portion of the Lawyers Club. Six years later, an additional dormitory, the John P. Cook Building, was completed.

“All in all, this new section includes ninety-seven rooms, some single and others arranged in suites. Every room has running water, well chosen furnishings, and ample room for rest and study. There are twenty-seven rooms with fireplaces and every room in the dormitory seems to exhale that same atmosphere of dignified ease which has been so evident in the first section of the Lawyers Club. …

Every modern convenience which has become known to architects and engineers since the construction of the first unit has been embodied in this latest structure. A typical suite of rooms for two students includes two bedrooms flanking a large center living room and study all furnished with richly appointed chairs, tables, desks, dressers, drapes, and curtains. Sufficient closet space is found in three large closets, one in each room. Showers of the latest type are found in the bathrooms in each section of the new dormitory.”

Like the gift for lighting, Munger’s new gift is designed to improve fundamentally the student experience. While the buildings were described in 1930 as possessing “every modern convenience which has become known to architects and engineers,” in those days such conveniences included luxuries like running water and showers—in all-male communal bathrooms. Planners are approaching the renovation project with the idea of taking the buildings into the future, while retaining their strong connection to the Law School’s storied past.

The University already is at work on conceptual plans and feasibility studies for the project. In the two dormitory buildings—the Lawyers Club dorm and the east wing of the John P. Cook dorm building—the work will include extensive interior renovations, technology upgrades, new roofs, fire safety features, and energy performance measures targeted to exceed national energy efficiency standards by more than 30 percent. In addition, the project will replace the roof and upgrade fire safety features in the Lawyers Club Lounge and dining hall.

“I am particularly pleased because this gift directly benefits the living-learning experience for our law students,” said U-M President Mary Sue Coleman.

The renovated residence portion of the Lawyers Club will be named “The Charles T. Munger Residences in the Lawyers Club” in honor of the gift.

“Taken together, this group of construction projects represents by far the most dramatic improvement in the student environment since the first part of the Law Quadrangle was dedicated in 1925,” said Dean Evan Caminker. “Our new academic building and Commons areas will enable us to provide contemporary educational and community space, while the residence renovations will increase comfort and convenience for law students who wish to live in the Quad. We’re extremely grateful to Charlie Munger for his foresight and generosity in revitalizing the distinctive Lawyers Club.”

Construction is expected to begin in early summer 2012, with a goal of completion by fall 2013. The University will appoint Hartman-Cox Architects in association with SmithGroup for the project.

“Charlie Munger has a powerful vision of world-class facilities that will match a world-class law school at the University of Michigan. The Law Quad is an icon of U-M’s excellence in legal education, and its prominence is now ensured for future generations because of Charlie’s generosity,” said U-M President Mary Sue Coleman. “I am particularly pleased because this gift directly benefits the living-learning experience for our law students.”

Munger: A Leading Light

In 2007, Charles Munger made a $3 million gift to the Law School for lighting improvements in Hutchins Hall and the William W. Cook Legal Research Building, including the Reading Room.

Law School Dean Evan Caminker said at the time that Munger’s gift will result in a dramatic improvement of the student experience.

“Our beautiful and grand Gothic buildings create one of the most inspiring settings for higher education anywhere in the country, but traditional Gothic architecture often undervalues the importance of interior lighting, and hence leaves its inner beauty underappreciated,” said Caminker. “Thanks to Charlie, the public areas of the Law School will be more cheerful, bright, and accessible than at any time in the school’s history. After these improvements, students, alumni, and visitors will be able to see all the wonderful architectural details in the Reading Room and other areas in a new light, so to speak. We are deeply appreciative of this generous gift.”

The results? Dramatic, indeed. See the before and after pictures, above.

For more before-and-after photos of the Law School lighting project, visit www.law.umich.edu/quadrangle.
Team Building

During our building campaign, we have had the immense pleasure of working with four law firms that made collective gifts to name spaces in our new facilities. These gifts have included not only individual donations from Michigan Law alumni who are partners, former partners, associate attorneys, or business associates of the firms, but also commitments from the firms or their charitable foundations.

On these pages you will read the story of the most recent such gift, a wonderful commitment just made by all share partners at Kirkland & Ellis who are Michigan Law alumni and by the Kirkland & Ellis Foundation, joined by former K&E litigator William R. Jentes, ’56. In recognition, we are pleased to name our new café in the firm’s honor.

The first law-firm gift to this project came in 2007 from Weil Gotshal & Manges, matching individual commitments from Martin Bienenstock, ’77, Michael Levitt, ’83, Paul Victor, ’63, and Barry Wolf, ’84. What was formerly room 116 Hutchins Hall became the Weil Gotshal Room, always a busy site for classes and extracurricular programs (see story, Law Quadrangle Notes, Vol. 49, #3).

Faegre & Benson’s collective effort was led by Charlie Ferrell, ’77, Brian O’Neill, ’74, Jim Spaanstra, ’77, and Russell Stewart, ’84, with a commitment from the firm’s foundation. The Faegre & Benson Jury Room was named in the firm’s honor in 2009 (see story, Law Quadrangle, Vol. 53, #1).

Also in 2009, George Vincent, ’82, championed an effort at Dinsmore & Shohl, where he is managing partner, which included all Michigan Law alumni at the firm as well as a commitment from the firm’s foundation. In recognition, we will name a space in honor of Dinsmore & Shohl (see story, Law Quadrangle, Vol. 53, #1).

These collective gifts, celebrating the relationships of the firms with Michigan Law, have injected a tremendous energy into our building campaign. We are most grateful to the donors involved, and especially to those who championed the gifts at their particular firms.

Sincerely,

Todd M. Baily
Assistant Dean for Development and Alumni Relations

Building Support
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
The Kirkland & Ellis Foundation

The café adjacent to the new Robert B. Aikens Commons will be named the Kirkland & Ellis Café.

The designation recognizes a combined gift of $4 million made by all 26 Michigan Law alumni who are share partners at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, by the Kirkland & Ellis Foundation, and by William R. Jentes, ’56, a preeminent former K&E litigator now retired from the firm and engaged in his own arbitration practice.

In making the gift, the firm seeks to honor its longstanding relationship with Michigan Law. Partners at K&E have long been generous to the Law School, establishing the Kirkland & Ellis Professorship in 1993 and providing generous support for the Law School Fund over the years. Since the firm’s inception, Kirkland has hired hundreds of Michigan Law graduates, many becoming leaders at the firm. In addition, several K&E partners have served as adjunct faculty at the Law School.

“We take pride in our strong ties to Michigan Law, and we are delighted to be making a difference in this important project,” says Jeffrey C. Hammes, chair of K&E’s worldwide management executive committee. “It is wonderful to know that the Kirkland Café will be a center of Law School life for years to come.”

The café was selected following a hard-hat tour of the building site in January by K&E partners Sanford Perl, ’90, and Stephen Tomlinson, ’84, both $100,000 donors to the project.

But the combined gift, like so many legal matters, took long to develop. It originated several years ago when individual K&E partners began responding to the Law School’s need for additional facilities. First to get on board was James Amend, ’67, with a gift of $100,000. Other early contributors included David Callahan, ’91, Scott Fowkes, ’88, Tomlinson, and David Zott, ’86.

Momentum toward the collective gift picked up speed when Perl, early in 2010, was considering a personal gift honoring his 20-year reunion. As the event approached, Perl increasingly saw value not only in designating his reunion gift for the project, but more important, in organizing his partners to make a significant collective gift to name an important space in the new building.
“As an alumnus, I understood the huge significance of the building project to Michigan Law’s future,” says Perl. “Seeing the site in person, with all its beauty and grandeur, confirmed that this would be the perfect opportunity for our firm to celebrate our relationship with the Law School in perpetuity.”

After Dean Evan Caminker spoke about the building last August at the firm’s Chicago offices, Perl, Amend, and Tomlinson accelerated the drive for support from their fellow alumni partners. They set a goal of October 15: the date of the Law School’s Capstone Ceremony honoring donors to the project of $25,000 or more.

Perl also met with Hammes and the firm’s management committee to propose that the Kirkland & Ellis Foundation make a significant matching gift. They agreed, pending selection of an appropriate space. The collective gift got another boost when Jentes graciously consented to combine his personal building gift of $1.5 million, previously committed, to allow firm leaders to choose the space they deemed most appropriate.

So it was that Perl and Tomlinson arrived on campus on January 14, donned hard hats, and stepped from brisk winter weather into the now-enclosed new academic building and Robert B. Aikens Commons with Dean Caminker as their guide. They toured the spaces under consideration for naming and talked at length with the Dean about how students will use them.

Briefed with this information, Perl and Tomlinson returned to Chicago to present their findings to their fellow contributing partners. Their decision was swift; the café it would be.

The mind reels to contemplate the number of lattes, bagels, and sandwiches to be dispensed from the Kirkland & Ellis Café in the decades to come. Greater yet is the dedication of the Michigan Law alumni at K&E who helped to bring this meaningful gift to reality. Double cappuccinos all around!

Individual K&E donors of $50,000 or more, like all building donors at this level, will receive recognition on a permanent display in the new academic building. In addition to Amend, Perl, and Tomlinson, other donors of $100,000 include David Breach, ’94, Richard Cieri, ’81, and Barbara, ’83 and William Welke, ’83. Donors of $50,000 include Gregory Arovas, ’90, David Callahan, ’91, Scott Fowkes, ’88, Gerald Nowak, ’93, Jeffrey Seifman, ’92, and David Zott, ’86.

Building Support
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation

The longstanding affection of an illustrious Japanese alumnus for the Law School has resulted in a $1 million commitment by Tokyo-headquartered Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation for the School’s building expansion and renovation project.

Under the leadership of SMBC’s head, Masayuki Oku, LL.M. ’75, the firm last fall made a gift of $500,000 to the project, following an equal commitment in 2008. In appreciation, the Law School will name a seminar room in its new building in the firm’s honor.

“As president of SMBC, I am pleased (and as an alumnus, very proud) that SMBC is able to support the Law School with a total donation of one million dollars for the construction project,” Oku wrote in a letter to Dean Evan Caminker. “It is my hope that the new facilities will enhance Michigan Law’s international prominence even further.”

Also instrumental in the gift was Yoichiro Yamakawa, M.C.L. ’69, a lawyer with Koga & Partners in Tokyo who sits on SMBC’s board of directors, as well as on Dean Caminker’s advisory council.

Last October, Oku, Yamakawa, and other SMBC officials got a first-hand look at the construction. During the campus visit, Oku renewed ties with Professor James J. White, ’62, with whom he studied, and to whose book on U.S. banking laws he contributed.

The Law School’s ties to SMBC are strong. Oku is the highest ranking of several Michigan Law alumni who have served with the firm, which previously provided generous support for students at the Law School.
Building Support
Carla Schwartz Newell, ’85
William J. Newell, ’83

A few years back, Carla and Bill Newell paged through the Law School’s annual report of giving and were dismayed at what they read.

“There are people who are digging very deep to support this institution, but the numbers are staggeringly small,” says Carla Newell.

Despite busy personal and professional lives, the Newells, of Piedmont, California, are doing something about those numbers. Carla serves on the new Development and Alumni Relations Committee, while Bill co-chaired his reunion committee in one of the most successful fundraising efforts ever by an alumni class, earning the Class of 1983 a named space in the new building and garnering generous support for the Law School Fund.

The couple also has made several generous gifts to the building fund. They’re especially impressed by the plans for the Robert B. Aikens Commons and believe the new gathering place will add immeasurably to the student experience.

“By improving the student experience, the updated facilities will help the Law School attract the best students,” Carla Newell says.

“And it has been a long time since there was a facilities upgrade at Michigan Law.”

The Newells, who have sons aged 19, 16, and 11, met at Michigan Law (one of the reasons they feel fondly about the place) and began their legal careers in California, practicing first with law firms and then moving into business. Today Carla is a partner with Technology Crossover Ventures, a venture capital firm that invests in high tech companies, and Bill is CEO of Sutro Biopharma Inc., a biotechnology company.

“Michigan gave us the opportunity to pursue our careers anywhere,” Carla says. “I went to Silicon Valley right out of law school, and I have witnessed tremendous changes in the technology landscape. That was a chance I might not have had at a school outside California that didn’t have the broad reach that Michigan has.”

But the tipping point in the Newells’ decision to provide major support to Michigan Law has been Dean Evan Caminker, whom Carla calls “a great leader who is constantly striving to improve the Law School and the student experience. Dean Caminker is taking what was already a great environment and making it all that much better.”

Planned giving
Antoinette and Erik Stapper, ’60

In 1960 Erik Stapper graduated from law school, became an American citizen, sat for and passed the New York bar exam, got married, started his first legal job, and was called to a two-year service commitment in the U.S. Army.

Half a century after that whirlwind year, it’s time to celebrate. In January, Stapper and his wife, Antoinette (known as Atch), both Dutch-born and avid travelers, marked their golden anniversary with a trip to Madagascar and Mozambique. Last October, Stapper observed his Law class’s 50th anniversary by creating a $450,000 charitable remainder trust for the ultimate benefit of Michigan Law.

Why? Stapper ticks off the reasons: Professors Hessel Yntema, William Bishop, Eric Stein, ’42, and L. Hart Wright, LL.M. ’46. All helped give him a firm foundation for the international tax work that has been his career specialty.

“This was the time to recognize that those who helped me to succeed were not to be forgotten,” says Stapper.

And the price was right, adds the tax lawyer: a 5 percent return on his investment and a shelter for a Roth IRA conversion.

Stapper first practiced with a big New York firm, then went out on his own in the early ’70s, and on February 1, 1976, joined forces with Peter Van Doren to form Stapper & Van Doren, which today comprises five lawyers and has a busy, diverse practice.

With the retirement of his wife, a former paralegal, Stapper divides his time between New York and Newton, Massachusetts. The couple lives in a retirement community on the campus of Atch’s alma mater, Lasell College, where they met—“a wonderful place,” he says.

But Stapper has no intention of retiring. “What I do is very interesting and very different, and it gives us a chance to travel,” he says.
Georgia Bullitt was skeptical about coming to Michigan Law. The Nebraska native, who majored in Chinese studies as a Yale undergraduate, was sure the East Coast was the only interesting place to be. Then a friend told her, “Go to Michigan. It’s just as good [as the other schools you got into], and you’ll have fun.”

She did. Now, Bullitt, of Darien, Connecticut, reflects on Michigan Law as a great choice. The experience began with her fellow summer starters, who brought a wealth of diverse life experiences with them.

“It was such an interesting group,” she recalls. “People were less pretentious and less caught up in being intellectual, but they were just as intellectual and just as interesting.”

Bullitt aspired to work in business when she came to Michigan, but didn’t know if she wanted to practice law. She has done both: Her career has included stints in both law firm practice and investment banking. Currently she’s a partner in the New York office of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, where she works in the firm’s investment management and securities practice.

So it’s curious to hear that the person whom Bullitt credits with training her to think like a lawyer was criminal law Professor Jerry Israel.

“There’s no question that his teaching, his logic, and the questions he forced us all to look at have significantly influenced my thinking and my approach to law,” she says.

In appreciation, Bullitt has contributed regularly to the Law School Fund, last year making a generous gift at the Cavaedium Society level. She says she’s impressed that amid trends toward globalization in higher education, the University of Michigan has remained equally responsible about its public mission.

“The U-M has a very solid focus on domestic issues, and is grooming people to be important contributors to our society,” she says.

Jean Baumgarten LeGros was a loyal member of the Michigan Law family, though she wasn’t an alumna.

Members of the class of 1945 knew LeGros through her marriage to their classmate Theodore (Ted) LeGros, and the couple’s shared commitment to the Law School. They lived in Seattle, where Ted, who specialized in admiralty law, was president of the firm that is now LeGros, Buchanan & Paul.

Ted died in 1990, but LeGros remained connected to Michigan Law, attending reunions of her husband’s class and following news from the Law School and the University of Michigan.

When LeGros died last year, she left a bequest of about $1 million to the Law School Fund. She kept Michigan Law in her will, she always said, because “Ted thought very highly of the School.”
Building Project

Joel D. Tauber, ’59

Dean Evan Caminker congratulates Joel D. Tauber, B.B.A. ’56, J.D. ’59, M.B.A. ’63, at the dedication of the Tauber Family Classroom on November 6, 2010. In recognition of Tauber’s $1.5 million gift for the Law School’s building project, the Law School named Room 138 Hutchins Hall in honor of a relationship with Michigan Law that began with Tauber’s late father, Benjamin Tauber, ’30, and continues through his son, Brian, J.D./M.B.A. ’92. On the same day, the Ross School of Business dedicated a classroom in its new building in honor of the Tauber family. Tauber is the president of Tauber Enterprises LLC and a longtime University benefactor and volunteer. He currently serves on President Mary Sue Coleman’s advisory group.

International Support

Virginia Stein and Eric Stein, ’42

Virginia and Eric Stein, ’42, the Hessel E. Yntema Professor Emeritus of Law, have made another generous gift to the fund they established nearly 20 years ago, which supports international and comparative law initiatives in the Law School. The new gift received a match from President Mary Sue Coleman’s Student Global Experience Challenge. The Steins have been members of the Michigan Law family for more than six decades.
New alumni committee advances fundraising agenda

Given the critical importance of private support to the Law School, the new Development and Alumni Relations Committee has a key role in shaping the future of Michigan Law.

As volunteer fundraisers and fundraising strategists on behalf of the Law School, the new committee takes up where the Campaign Steering Committee left off, says Chairman Bruce Bickner, ’68, who also chaired the campaign group. The new group will assist and advise on alumni relations programs and activities.

“Today it is essential for the Law School to have a group of high-level, deeply engaged alumni volunteers making the case for Michigan Law,” says Bickner.

The committee includes new members and some of the alumni who served on the steering committee for the Michigan Difference campaign. Members, who will serve for three years, are:

- Martin Bienenstock, ’77, of Katonah, New York
- Bill Bogaard, ’65, of Pasadena, California
- Richard Burns, ’71, of Duluth, Minnesota, and Carefree, Arizona
- Terry Carlson, ’78, of Minneapolis
- Mike Fayhee, ’73, of Glencoe, Illinois
- Bruce Featherstone, ’77, of Denver, Colorado, and Franklin, Michigan
- Bob Fiske, ’55, of Darien, Connecticut
- Mike Hardy, ’72, of Pepper Pike, Ohio
- Andy Jacob, ’78, of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan
- Herb Kohn, ’63, of Kansas City, Missouri
- Barrie Lawson Loeks, ’79, of Grand Haven, Michigan
- Curtis Mack, ’73, of Atlanta
- Jamie Melvin, ’90, of Kalamazoo, Michigan
- Greg Mutz, ’73, of Chicago
- John Nannes, ’73, of Bethesda, Maryland
- Tony Natsis, ’83, of Los Angeles
- Carla Newell, ’85, of Piedmont, California
- Eric Oesterle, ’73, of Glen Ellyn, Illinois
- Mary Snapp, ’84, of Redmond, Washington
- George Vincent, ’82, of Cincinnati
- Barry Wolf, ’84, of Scarsdale, New York

Program Support

The Dewitt C. Holbrook Memorial Fund

The Dewitt C. Holbrook Memorial Fund has made a grant of $75,000 to support the Detroit Center for Family Advocacy, a Law School program that seeks to reduce the number of children in foster care by providing legal services and social work services to low-income parents and their extended families.

The grant supports a full-time staff attorney who conducts outreach and training to the communities the Center serves, and who also coordinates the legal training and education of law students from Michigan and other local law schools, with an eye toward encouraging students to pursue public-interest child welfare work.

“We’re deeply grateful to the Dewitt C. Holbrook Fund for its generous support, which is allowing us to expand both our service and educational missions in significant ways,” says Vivek Sankaran, ’01, the Center’s director and a clinical assistant professor of law.

The Holbrook Fund supports legal training and education in Detroit, where Holbrook was a public servant and private law practitioner in the 19th century.
Building Support

Susan and Jerry Miller, ’71

Since his student days, Jerry Miller has admired the architecture of the Law Quadrangle. So he was glad to see that the new academic building and the Robert B. Aikens Commons will equal the grandeur of the old.

“This is a wonderful project, beautifully designed,” says Miller. “The students coming in over the next few years are going to be very, very lucky with these facilities.”

Miller and his wife, Susan, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, have made a gift of $250,000 to the building project, a gift that reflects fond memories of the Law School. He credits the great teaching of Yale Kamisar, the Clarence Darrow Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Law, the late Professor Beverley Pooley, and, especially, Theodore St. Antoine, ’54, former dean and the James E. & Sarah A. Degan Professor Emeritus of Law. Miller remembers St. Antoine as “not only brilliant, but a whale of a nice person. Labor law remains one of my favorite courses, even though I never practiced labor law.”

After law school graduation, the Michigan-born Miller practiced law in Kalamazoo for two decades with a firm specializing in litigation, although his was a more general business practice. In the late 1970s he began developing investment interests with his brother, who is his business partner. They have invested in and owned a wide variety of concerns, including radio stations, restaurants, a laboratory testing firm, heavy industry manufacturing, and the manufacture of artificial hips and knees.

“There was no real theme, other than that we’ve always tried to invest in good people with good ideas,” says Miller, who left legal practice in the early 1990s to pursue his business interests full time.

Semi-retired today, he also spends a fair amount of time chauffeuring the couple’s 13-year-old triplets to their many varied activities. He’s eagerly awaiting the birth of his first grandchild, having a grown daughter and son from a previous marriage.

Perhaps it’s this immediate, personal focus on future generations that has inspired the Millers’ generosity to the Law School as well.

“You always have a sense of obligation to pay back what people in the past did for you,” Miller says. “That may be an old thought, but it’s a very true thought.”

A Sign of Things to Come

Last October the Law School honored donors of $25,000 or more to the building project at a special Capstone Ceremony. After dinner with Dean Evan Caminker, the donors were invited to sign a piece of stone that was placed in the new building the following morning. The ceremony also marked the midpoint of construction of the project, slated for completion at the end of this year. Shown here, clockwise from top left, are Jimmy Brandt, ’82, and Kathryn Weg Brandt, ’82; Greg Bonfiglio, ’81, and Patricia Murray, ’86; and Jack Molenkamp, ’79, and Sally Molenkamp.
Recent Gifts

Faith Brown, B.A. ’69, and Stephen Brown, B.A. ’66 and J.D. ’69, of Tiburon, California, have made a gift of $100,000 to the Program in Race, Law & History. Stephen is the retired vice president of labor relations and international human resources for McDonald’s Corporation, and Faith is the retired director of corporate communications for the Tribune Company.

Sonnet Meek, B.A. ’94, and Gregory Curtner, B.B.A. ’67 and J.D. ’70, of Ann Arbor, have made a gift of $50,000 for the building project in honor of the Class of 1970’s 40th-year class reunion. Greg is a principal with Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, and practices in both the Ann Arbor and New York City offices of the firm.

Anja Lehmann and Timothy Dickinson, B.A. ’75 and J.D. ’79, of Ann Arbor, have made a gift of $100,000 in support of the building fund and international post-graduate fellowships. The gift received a $25,000 match from President Mary Sue Coleman’s Challenge for the Student Global Experience. Tim is a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker. At Michigan Law, he is a Professor from Practice, a Business Law Faculty Fellow, and an adjunct clinical assistant professor. Anja is with Steptoe & Johnson, also in the Washington, D.C., office.

Jan and Michael Fayhee, ’73, of Glenco, Illinois, have made a gift of $50,000 for the building project, increasing their total commitment to the project to more than $100,000, and a gift to the Law School Fund, continuing their support at the Cavaedium Society level. Mike is a partner in the Chicago office of McDermott Will & Emery LLP and is head of the firm’s Tax Business Unit. He serves on the Law School’s Development and Alumni Relations Committee.

Elizabeth Yntema, ’84, and Mark Ferguson, ’83, of Winnetka, Illinois, have made an additional gift of $50,000 to the building project, increasing their total commitment to the project to $112,500. Mark is a partner with Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott in Chicago.

Renee and Jeffrey Hall, ’88, of Wilmette, Illinois, have made a gift of $50,000 for the building project and a gift of $2,500 to the Law School Fund, continuing their support at the Cavaedium Society level. Jeff is a partner with Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott in Chicago.

Jon Henry Kouba, B.A. ’62 and J.D. ’65, of San Francisco, a longtime benefactor of the Law School’s international programs, has made a gift of $50,000 for the building project. Jon is retired from full-time law practice and owns a real-estate investment company.

Edward Krauland, ’80, of University Park, Maryland, has made a gift of $50,000 for international post-graduate fellowships in honor of his 30th class reunion, which includes a match from President Coleman’s Challenge for the Student Global Experience. Ed is a partner in the Washington office of Steptoe & Johnson.

M. Olivia and Martin Laguna, ’82, of Traverse City, Michigan, have made a gift of $125,000 to create the George Laguna Family Scholarship, honoring his father, at the Law School. Marty is the majority owner of Heritage Sustainable Energy LLC.

Abby and George Lombardi, ’84, of Hinsdale, Illinois, have made a gift of $50,000 for the building project. George is a partner in the Chicago office of Winston & Strawn LLP and serves on the firm’s Executive Committee.

Curtis Mack, LL.M. ’73, of Atlanta, has made a gift of $50,000 to the Gabriel Hargo Scholarship Fund of the Alumni.
Association of the University of Michigan for the benefit of law students. Curtis is a partner in the Atlanta office of McGuireWoods. He serves on the Law School’s Development and Alumni Relations Committee.

Richard McLellan, ’67, of East Lansing, Michigan, has made a gift of $50,000 to the building project. Richard has retired from practice as a partner in the Lansing office of Dykema Gossett.

Paulette and Ronald Nessim, ’80, of Los Angeles, have made a gift of $50,000 to the building project in honor of the Class of 1980’s 30th-year class reunion. He is a principal with Bird, Marella, Boxer, Wolpert, Nessim, Drooks & Linenberg in Los Angeles.

The firm of Oh-Ebashi & Partners, in Osaka, Japan, has made a gift of $50,000 through the Japan Foundation’s Designated Grant Program that continues the firm’s commitment to the Japanese Legal Studies Program at the Law School.

Mary and John Rayis, LL.M. ’80, of Hinsdale, Illinois, have made a gift of $60,000 in honor of the Class of 1980’s 30th-year class reunion for the building project, increasing their total commitment to the project to $160,000. John is a partner with Skadden, Arps, based in both the Chicago and Los Angeles offices.

Sallyann and Harold Rosenn, B.A. ’39 and J.D. ’41, of Kingston, Pennsylvania, longtime benefactors of the Law School, have made additional gifts of more than $50,000 in support of the Law School Fund and the building project. Harold is retired from active practice with Rosenn, Jenkins & Greenwald, in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

Dorian and William Sailer, ’85, of San Diego, have made a gift of $50,000 to the building project in honor of the Class of 1985’s 25th-year class reunion. He is senior vice president, legal counsel at Qualcomm Incorporated in San Diego.

Daniel Sandberg, B.A. ’81 and J.D. ’84, of Novi, Michigan, has made a gift of $100,000 to the building project and a commitment of $12,500 to the Law School Fund, continuing his support at the Cavaedium Society level. Dan is President and CEO of Brembo North America Inc., in Plymouth, Michigan.

Margaret and Neal Schmale, of La Jolla, California, have made a gift of $100,000 to create the Schmale Family Scholarship Fund at the Law School. Neal is president and chief operating officer of Sempra Energy in San Diego. Margaret and Neal are the parents of Eric C. Schmale, ’09, an associate in Davis, Polk & Wardwell’s New York office.

Lisa and Robert Spatt, ’80, of New York, have made a gift of $50,000 to the building project in honor of the Class of 1980’s 30th-year class reunion, increasing their total commitment to the project to $150,000. Rob is a partner in the New York office of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP.

Chieko and Yoichiro Yamakawa, M.C.L. ’69, of Tokyo, have made an endowment gift of $100,000 to foster scholarly exchanges between Japan and the United States. The gift will receive a $50,000 match from President Coleman’s Challenge for the Student Global Experience. Yoichiro is a partner with the Tokyo firm of Koga & Partners. He serves on Dean Caminker’s Advisory Council.

Barbara and Stanley Zax, B.B.A. ’58 and J.D. ’61, of Beverly Hills, California, have made a gift of $200,000 to provide discretionary support for special initiatives at the Law School. Stan is chairman of the board and president of Zenith National Insurance Company in Woodland Hills, California.
Reunion Giving

By making gifts in honor of their reunions, Michigan Law alumni celebrate their classes and their relationship with the Law School. Reunion giving, especially to the Law School Fund, is an important source of funding for all aspects of the Law School’s mission.

Reunions were held September 24–26 and October 15–17, 2010, when the Law School also held the first-ever Emeriti Reunion for the classes of 1959 and earlier. The emeriti group did not formally fundraise, but the reunion group included many alumni who support the Law School generously.

Thanks to all who made reunion gifts in 2010!

Class of 1960


Law School Fund (LSF) total: $135,429
Total all gifts: $598,742

Class of 1965


LSF total: $136,162
Total all gifts: $1,957,030

Class of 1970

Committee: Steve Chameides and Gregory Curtner, co-chairs; Diane Dorfman, Bettye Elkins, Sy Lorne, George Macdonald, Vic Ptasznik, Jim Roosevelt, David Schraver, John Sobieski, Bob Wefald, and Tom Whalen.

LSF total: $113,373
Total all gifts: $286,223

Class of 1975


LSF total: $157,015
Total all gifts: $247,945

The two weekends of class reunions held in the fall included a look at the construction of the new academic building and the Aikens Commons—though from a safe distance, since the novelty hardhats pictured below are far from construction-grade.
Class of 1980
LSF total: $418,359
Total all gifts: $1,531,268

Class of 1985
LSF total: $161,395
Total all gifts: $498,094

Class of 1990
LSF total: $75,186
Total all gifts: $185,426

Class of 1995
Committee: Kady Ashley, chair; Robert Bronston, Michael Feiwell, Eric Gorman, Timothy Hartch, Angela Jackson, Rick Juckniess, Richard Klarman, Ana Merico, Adam Nordin, Steven Olson, Andrew Portinga, and Paul Tauber.
LSF total: $54,397
Total all gifts: $83,372

Class of 2000
Committee: Paul Astolfi and Chris Evers, co-chairs; Rahmah Adulaleem, Rachel Croskery-Roberts, Beej Das, Rafael Gimenes, Chitta Mallik, Nora FitzGerald Meldrum, Hartmut Schneider, Leah Sellers, Michael Simes, Elizabeth Stephan, Georg Umbricht, and Chris Workman.
LSF total: $72,115
Total all gifts: $73,445

Class of 2005
Committee: Michael Daniel, Andrew Frey, Alicia Gimenes, Andrew Schlichtler, and Ali Shah, co-chairs; Reena Bajowala, Umbreen Bhatti, Thaya Brook, Ryan Calo, Rabeha Kamaluddin, Jennifer Kozar, Chaya Mandelbaum, Samy Sadighi, Darcie Tilly, and Megan Whyte.
LSF total: $37,691
Total all gifts: $43,846
Judge McClain reflects on lifetime of ‘firsts’

By Amanda Chalifoux

Becoming a member of the bar made me feel like a first-class citizen. I was denied twice because of my race. When I got in, I’d broken down the final barrier of my profession.

Before I die, I hope to meet President Obama, because he’s had a winning attitude, too. I want to sit down and compare notes with him about how he was able to overcome the negative part of racism and make it positive to become the first black president of the United States. I’m sure we share some things in common.

I feel that you owe legacy. That’s why mentoring is important to me. It was the legacies I received from others that made me what I am. I’m repaying the past by helping those in the present with their futures.

I’ve had a fine life. I married a beautiful lady, and we’ve been married for 67 years. I thank God for giving me the strategy, courage, and ability to survive and make a contribution to life and to history.

In 1951, McClain became the first black member of the Cincinnati Bar Association. Besides holding positions as Cincinnati’s city solicitor and Hamilton County Common Pleas Court judge, he also served as judge and civil trial referee for the Municipal Court of Hamilton County. McClain is retired from the law firm of Manley Burke, a position held since 1980. He has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the Ellis Island Medal of Honor and the Great Living Cincinnati Award. McClain received an honorary degree from the University of Michigan in 2002.
1954

Chris Christ, one of the architects for merging Community and Leila Hospitals in Battle Creek, Michigan, was honored with the Michigan Health & Hospital's 2010 Health Care Leadership Award.

1961

The Class of 1961 reunion will be September 16-19, 2011.

1965

Neil R. Mitchell of Salt Lake City was a visiting professor at the Udmurt State University in Izhevsk, Russia, in the autumn semester of 2010. He is semi-retired and a member of the Michigan, Illinois, Texas, and American Bar associations and the American Chemical Society.

1966

The Class of 1966 reunion will be September 16-19, 2011.

Dr. Boris Kozolchyk was selected to speak on secured transactions reform at FinNet 2010 in October at the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C.

1967

Senior District Judge Howard D. McKibben of the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada was honored at the 2010 Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference and presented with the prestigious Ninth Circuit Professionalism Award from the American Inns of Court.

1968

Lawrence Glazer re-examines the FBI’s investigation of John Swainson and delves into his 1975 trial in detail in his book, Wounded Warrior: The Rise and Fall of Michigan Governor John Swainson. He relates the little-known story of Swainson’s rehabilitation and return to public life as a historian.

1969

The Hon. J. Richardson “Rick” Johnson, a circuit judge in Kalamazoo, Michigan, has received the first Judicial Excellence Award from the Michigan Judges Association.

1970

Retired Air Force Colonel Richard J. Erickson has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Military Officers Association of America, the nation’s largest veterans’ organization for active duty, National Guard, Reserve, former, and retired officers and their families.


1971

The Class of 1971 reunion will be September 16-19, 2011.

1972

Mike Hardy of Thompson Hine in Cleveland was inducted as a fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers in October 2010.

Ken Kraus, law director of Strongsville, Ohio, has been re-appointed chair of the Ohio Supreme Court’s Board of Commissioners on the Unauthorized Practice of Law.

1973

Butzel Long attorney and shareholder Max R. Hoffman Jr. was honored by the Ingham County Bar Association and received the Leo A. Farhat Outstanding Attorney Award. He is a director of the Ingham County Bar Foundation and is past president of the Ingham County Bar Association.

Edward H. Pappas, a Dickinson Wright PLLC attorney and one of the firm’s chairmen in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has been invited to become a fellow of the International Society of Barristers.

1974

On October 4, 2010, the legal team of Stephen R. Drew and Adam C. Sturdivant, of the law firm Drew, Cooper & Anding in Grand Rapids, Michigan, won a sexual harassment/hostile work environment jury trial against Consumers Energy. They represented the plaintiff, Theresa Waldo, and after a two-week trial, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff in the amount of $7.9 million in a 7–1 decision.

Bruce F. Howell, counsel to the law firm of Bryan Cave LLP in Dallas, has been elected chair of the Health Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.
1975

Daniel P. Ducore received a 2009 Presidential Rank Award from President Obama for Meritorious Service in the Senior Executive Service. He is an assistant director in the Federal Trade Commission’s Bureau of Competition, and is in charge of enforcing the FTC’s competition orders.

1976

The Class of 1976 reunion will be September 16-19, 2011.

Patrick E. Mears, chair of Barnes & Thornburg LLP’s Finance, Insolvency & Restructuring Department, and fellow law partner John T. Gregg, recently collaborated on two significant book projects for the bankruptcy and insolvency industry. They coauthored a chapter entitled “Chapter 11 Cases Involving Automotive Suppliers and their Customers” for the Collier Guide to Chapter 11: Key Topics and Selected Industries and coauthored the book Michigan Security Interests in Personal Property.

1978

Joanne R. Lax, a member of Dykema Gossett’s Health Care practice group in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has been reappointed as a vice chair of the American Health Lawyers Association Long-Term Care, Senior Housing, In-Home Care, and Rehabilitation Practice Group for the 2010–2011 year.

Eric Martin of Indianapolis has been named president and chief executive officer of Music for All Inc., one of the nation’s leading advocates for the arts and producer of events for high school bands and orchestras.

1979

Mark A. Filippell has written the Mergers and Acquisitions Playbook (Wiley, 2010), which provides practical tricks of the trade on how to get maximum value for a middle-market business. He is co-founder and managing director at Western Reserve Partners, a mergers and acquisitions investment banking boutique in Cleveland.

Jay A. Kennedy has been named partner with Warner Norcross & Judd LLP. His primary practice area is corporate tax planning in the Southfield, Michigan, office.

The Minneapolis-based law firm of Gray Plant Mooty is pleased to announce that The Minnesota State Bar Association Tax Law Section has honored shareholder William D. Klein with its Distinguished Service Award.

President Obama has nominated Terry Lewis to be a member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation. Lewis is the principal of LIA Advisors, LLC, a private consulting firm providing advisory services in housing and community economic development.

Susan Segal, the Minneapolis city attorney, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the International Municipal Lawyers Association, an organization with 2,500 members across the United States and Canada. She is in her second term as Minneapolis city attorney.

1980

G.A. Finch, a senior partner at Hoogendoorn & Talbot LLP in Chicago, recently was appointed to the board of directors of the Chicago Bar Foundation, the advisory board of the John Marshall Law School Center for Real Estate Law, and the advisory board of Victoria Court Reporting Service Inc.

Ron Heller has been appointed to the Land Use Commission of the State of Hawaii. He continues to practice law with the Torikildson Katz firm in Honolulu. Recently, he also completed his first Tinman Triathlon.

Iris K. Linder has joined Foster Swift Collins & Smith PC as a shareholder in the law firm’s Lansing, Michigan, office. She joins the firm’s Business and Corporate Practice Group and her practice focuses extensively on corporate and securities work.

1981

The Class of 1981 reunion will be September 16-19, 2011.

Guy E. Whitesman, partner and chair of the Business & Tax Division of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A., has become chair of the Tax Section of The Florida Bar.
Houck Leads Navy JAG Corps’ Diverse Practice

By Sandra Svoboda

He runs a law firm with 2,300 employees and is the top administrator for trial and appellate court systems that operate around the world, every moment of every day.

Some of the attorneys who report to him advise commanders and senior policymakers about how to achieve military objectives. Others, such as prosecutors, defense attorneys, and judges, argue or decide cases of military justice. Still more of his staff help sailors and their families with legal aid.

“There hasn’t been a day in the 25 years that I’ve been serving on active duty as a Navy lawyer that I haven’t gotten up and felt good about the cause I’m serving,” says Vice Admiral James Houck, ’85, who since August 2009 has been the U.S. Navy’s Judge Advocate General (JAG), the top lawyer in that branch of the military.

In the time since he crossed the Quadrangle at Michigan Law, geopolitical forces have changed and so has some of the work the JAG corps performs. Many of the hundreds of JAG attorneys stationed around the world serve on ships at sea as they always have, but today, others are “literally with boots on the ground,” as Houck describes it, in places like Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Horn of Africa. They not only execute their traditional role of advising military commanders but also ensure that the rule of law is followed.

Far from the U.S./Soviet–dominated Cold War of the past, a much more diffuse arena with legal naval operations now takes place on battlefields, in the capitol buildings of countries struggling to promote new governments, and in hearing rooms for detainees from distant fronts.

“The biggest change would be the United States’ role as a partner as opposed to a unilateral actor on the world stage,” Houck says.

His work as a judge advocate has taken him around the world—his tours have included Bahrain and other parts of the Middle East—and he has lived in several United States locales, including Washington, D.C. As the U.S. Navy’s top lawyer, he oversees roughly 2,300 people: attorneys, active duty personnel, paralegals, reservists, and civilian employees among them.

“I’ve had the chance to be a legal advisor to a number of U.S. Navy fleet commanders, to work on Capitol Hill in the office of legislative affairs, to be a strategic planner, and to be a prosecutor and defense attorney,” Houck says. “It keeps you professionally alive in the sense that you have to really invest yourself in these experiences.”

A native of State College, Pennsylvania, Houck graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and then qualified as a surface warfare officer aboard the USS Caron. Through the Navy’s Law Education Program he attended Michigan Law, where he earned his J.D., and he later earned a master of laws in international and comparative law from the Georgetown University Law Center.

He credits his Ann Arbor education with opening his view of the world, allowing him to learn about personal interactions and interpretations of events that have helped him with the critical thinking required in his profession.

“I think the real value of my experience at Michigan was the way it exposed me as a military officer to a very diverse range of thinking from my professors, from my classmates. It was the diversity of the points of view that was a broadening experience for me as a military officer,” Houck said. “People can have very divergent points of view on a topic that at first glance may only seem to have one solution, and people can bring such differing points of view that it causes you to think about problems in a different way.”

He had a chance to reminisce with some current Michigan Law students who entered the JAG’s moot court competition in 2010. “I was thrilled about that, but I was even more thrilled when they actually won the competition,” Houck says.

Houck, now 53, will retire after his three-year JAG stint.
Verse and Versatility

Now, what type of animal asks after facts?
—so I’m a lawyer. Maybe charming,
direct yet as circumspect as any other lawyer
going on about concrete forces of civil
society substantially beyond anyone’s grasp
and about money. …

—Lawrence Joseph, “Admissions Against Interest”

For Lawrence Joseph, ’75, the seemingly disparate worlds of

poetry and the law fit well together, just as they once did for the

American modernist poet Wallace Stevens. Joseph is the author

of six widely acclaimed books—five books of poetry, and

Lawyerland, a book of prose. As a lawyer, he currently is the

Tinnelly Professor of Law at St. John’s University School of Law
in New York City.

Now, the University of Michigan’s Special Collections Library

has acquired his literary, professional, and

personal papers, which will be housed at

the Hatcher Graduate Library.

For Joseph, it is the latest honor in a

long and successful career. His journey

began in Detroit, where he was born; his

grandparents—Lebanese and Syrian

Catholics—were among the first Arab

American emigrants to Detroit in the early

years of the last century. The city, with its

hard edges and burned wreckage, would

inform his poetry for decades to come.

“I write of Detroit, which I use metaphorically

as being emblematic of a number of things:
labor and capital, race, violence,” he said in

a recent speech. He has written of tool and

die factories, Hamtramck, Highland Park, of

the 1967 riots, of a junkie shooting and wounding his father at

his store in 1970.

Joseph earned a B.A. in English literature at U-M in 1970, and

won first prize in poetry in the Hopwood Awards. A Power

Foundation Fellow at the University of Cambridge, he received a

B.A. and M.A. in English language and literature, then attended

Michigan Law.

Here, he met some of his major influences, such as then-Dean

Theodore St. Antoine, ’54, who taught Joseph’s labor law class

in the spring of 1974. He says St. Antoine, as well as Professors

Joseph Sax, Joseph Vining, and Yale Kamisar, “are as

professionally important to me as anyone in my life.”

Detroit beckoned Joseph home again after he earned his degree

from Michigan Law, first as a clerk for Justice G. Mennen

Williams, ’36, of the Michigan Supreme Court, later as a professor

at the University of Detroit Law School.

In 1981, Joseph moved to New York City, where he practiced law

at the firm of Shearman & Sterling before becoming a professor

at St. John’s University School of Law. He teaches courses on

labor and employment law, jurisprudence, tort and compensation

law, and law and interpretation, and has

written and lectured in these areas.

New York City also has become an integral

part of Joseph’s work, particularly after

the World Trade Center attacks of 2001,

which occurred just a block from his

apartment. “There are few writers toiling

on the edges of ground zero better

equipped to express what happened,”

noted a New York Times writer.

Joseph’s writing has been honored by two

major symposia, “The Lawyerland Essays”

(Vol.101, Columbia Law Review, November

2001), and, more recently, “Some Sort of

Chronicler I Am: Narration and the Poetry

of Lawrence Joseph” (Vol. 77, Cincinnati

Law Review, Spring 2009). His

latest book, The Game Changed: Essays and Other

Prose, will be published this year by the University of

Michigan Press. In one of the essays, “Being in the

Language of Poetry, Being in the Language of Law,”

he weaves together his two professions with

references to court cases such as Sierra Club v.

Morton and Laird v. Tatum, along with excerpts

from several of his poems.

Joseph also includes in the essay this quote

from his predecessor in the fields of law and poetry,

Wallace Stevens: “…I don’t have a separate mind

for legal work and another for writing poetry. I do

each with my whole mind, just as you do everything

that you do with your whole mind.”—KV

“One is not a lawyer

one minute and a

poet the next.”

—Wallace Stevens,
in a letter dated July 29, 1942
1982

Thomas F. Cavalier of Barris, Sott, Denn & Driker in Detroit has been elected chair of the Litigation Section for the State Bar of Michigan for the 2010–2011 term. He has been actively involved with the Litigation Section Council since 1999.

David Lauth has joined UnitedHealth Group in Minnetonka, Minnesota, as senior associate general counsel, employment law. UHG, a Fortune 25 company, is one of the nation’s largest health insurers. Lauth previously was a partner with Dorsey & Whitney LLP in Minneapolis, where he was a member of the Labor and Employment Group.

Butzel Long attorney and shareholder Daniel B. Tukel recently was inducted as a fellow to The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Based in Butzel Long’s Detroit office, he is chair of the firm’s Labor and Employment Law Department.

1983

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released a new comprehensive tobacco control strategy, “Ending the Tobacco Epidemic: A Tobacco Control Strategic Action Plan.” Cliff Douglas, lecturer in the U-M School of Public Health’s department of health management and policy, and director of the University’s Tobacco Research Network, co-chaired the working group that developed the plan and will participate in the plan’s implementation.

Mark G. Malven, the leader of Dykema Gossett’s Technology Transactions Practice in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has been elected chairman of the Information Technology Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

John R. Mussman has joined the Financial Services Regulatory Group of Reed Smith LLP as counsel in its Chicago office. He will bolster the firm’s representation of banks and other financial services industry clients by advising them on changes in federal and state banking law.

1984

Michael C. Blaney has joined Winstead PC in Houston as a shareholder in the Corporate, Securities/Mergers, and Acquisitions practice group.

1985

Butzel Long attorney and shareholder Robert A. Boonin was elected treasurer of the Labor and Employment Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

Butzel Long’s Ann Arbor office, his law practice is concentrated largely in the areas of labor, employment discrimination, public contract, and education law.

George Tzanetopoulos has joined Baker Hostetler’s Chicago office as a partner in its Litigation Group.

Stanley Jaskiewicz of Pennsylvania and his son Peter were featured in a book, Get Out, Explore, and Have Fun! How Families of Children with Autism or Asperger Syndrome Can Get the Most out of Community Activities, by Lisa Rudy (Jessica Kingsley, 2010).

1986

The Class of 1986 reunion will be September 23-25, 2011.

Robert Azarow has joined Arnold & Porter LLP as a partner in New York. He has experience in mergers and acquisitions and securities transactions for commercial banks, savings institutions, and other financial institutions, which complements Arnold & Porter’s existing bank regulatory and corporate practices.

1987

Michael S. Ashton of Fraser Trebilcock in Lansing, Michigan, was elected as treasurer of the Administrative and Regulatory Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

James F. Scales has become a member of the law firm of Mika Meyers Beckett & Jones PLC in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He practices in the areas of estate planning, municipal, real estate, construction, and property tax.

Mary Jo Newborn Wiggins, associate dean for academic affairs and a professor of law at the University of San Diego School of Law, has been named the Class of 1975 Endowed Professor by the university. She also recently coauthored Questions & Answers: Bankruptcy with bankruptcy judge Bruce A. Markell.

1988

President Obama has appointed Marty Castro to be a commissioner on the United States Commission on Civil Rights. He is the president of Castro Synergies, LLC, which provides strategic consulting services to corporations, entrepreneurs, and nonprofit organizations. In 2009, he was appointed to chair the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

1989

Raymond I. Bruttomesso Jr. has been elected a shareholder of the Devine Millimet law firm, which has offices in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. He is a member of the firm’s Intellectual Property Practice Group.
1991

The Class of 1991 reunion will be September 23-25, 2011.

David E. Christensen, a partner with Gursten, Kolotonow, Gursten, Christensen and Raitt, P.C. in Farmington Hills, Michigan, has been elected to serve as the chairperson of the Negligence Section of the State Bar of Michigan during 2010–11.

Michael Haddad has been elected president of the National Police Accountability Project for 2011. He is a civil rights–trial lawyer in his firm, Haddad & Sherwin, in Oakland, California. His law partner is his wife, Julia Sherwin.

1992

Liesel Brand Stevens has become a shareholder/director of Ray Quinney & Nebeker in Salt Lake City. She continues to practice in the areas of employment and commercial litigation.

1993

Alyssa A. Grikscheit has joined Sidley Austin LLP as a partner in the Latin America and investment funds, advisers, and derivatives practices. She will be based in the New York office and will focus on cross-border transactions and alternative investment funds.

Kevin O’Gorman has been elected division chair of the American Bar Association Section of International Law. He is a partner at Fulbright & Jaworski LLP in Houston, practices international arbitration and litigation, and also serves as arbitrator.

1994

Dominic Cianciolo, cinematic director for NetherRealm Studios, is finishing production on in-game cinematics for the reboot of the video game Mortal Kombat. This is his second Mortal Kombat title, including the 2008 bestseller Mortal Kombat vs. DC Universe. He also co-wrote the script for the upcoming game’s cinematics, his first major video game screenwriting credit.

Anthony R. Comden has joined Miller Johnson in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in the firm’s Employment and Labor Section.

Peter Hardy recently published a legal treatise through BNA Books regarding the litigation of criminal tax, money laundering, and Bank Secrecy Act cases. Criminal Tax, Money Laundering, and Bank Secrecy Act Litigation draws in part on his experience as a former federal prosecutor and current defense attorney.

1995

Andrew W. and Danielle B. Mayoras are coauthors of Trial & Heirs: Famous Fortune Fights! (Wise Circle Books, 2009), which helps people learn from celebrity errors so they can protect their heirs. Andrew is a probate attorney and Danielle is an estate planning attorney. Both are shareholders with Barron, Rosenberg, Mayoras & Mayoras, P.C. in Troy, Michigan.

1996

The Class of 1996 reunion will be September 23-25, 2011.

Nathaniel Cade Jr., a partner in Michael Best’s Litigation Practice Group and co-chair of the firm’s Tort Liability Practice Group in Milwaukee, was appointed to serve a three-year term on the American Bar Association’s Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility. Cade previously served a similar role on the State Bar of Wisconsin’s Professional Ethics Standing Committee for seven years, including three as chair.

Thomas B. Cochrane joined the Ohio Northern University College of Law faculty as adjunct professor teaching labor law. He continues to serve as associate general counsel to the Ohio Civil Service Employees Association, AFSCME Local 11, in Westerville, Ohio.

Linda Colfax was elected to the San Francisco Superior Court bench in the June 2010 citywide election. On January 3, 2011, after serving over 13 years as a San Francisco Public Defender, she was sworn in and began her new role as a Superior Court judge.

Rafael R. Lagos was appointed as an associate justice of the Sandiganbayan (court of appeals) by the president of the Philippines, Benigno S. Aquino III.

Ariella Nasuti has written a novel, The Ninth Wave (Smashwords, 2010). The novel grew out of an independent study about Irish land tenure that she did with the late Professor A. W. Brian Simpson at Michigan Law.

Miller Johnson attorney D. Andrew Portinga in Grand Rapids, Michigan, has been appointed chair of the United States Courts Committee for the 2010–11 bar year by the State Bar of Michigan.

1997

Jennifer Cass Barnes was appointed to replace retiring Judge Scott Newcombe on Michigan’s 74th District Court for the second half of 2010.
An Unplanned Road to International Trade Law

By Pat Materka

If Susan Esserman, ‘77, had known that she would serve as Deputy United States Trade Representative during the Clinton Administration, she certainly would have taken the international trade law course taught by Professor John H. Jackson, ’59.

“Michigan was one of the few schools in the country to offer it, and by the leading authority in what would become my field,” she recalls with amusement. “John and I participated on a panel together at the Law School’s 150th Anniversary celebration [in 2009] and had to laugh at the irony.”

Back in the 1970s, Esserman expected to become a civil liberties lawyer. She finished an externship at the Center for Law and Social Policy in Washington, D.C., working on women’s rights, and a clerkship at the U.S. District Court, where she had the opportunity to work on a large antitrust matter. She sought to pursue that interest after joining the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson, where she now is a partner, chair of the International Department, and a member of the firm’s Executive Committee.

“Antitrust is the thread that led me into international trade,” she explains. “I love the area because it is a blend of law, politics, policy, and economics. The field is continually evolving, as longstanding trade tensions and disputes arise in new contexts and World Trade Organization rules have extended to new areas not previously covered by international disciplines.”

Her practice is focused in three areas: helping U.S. companies to navigate the regulatory barriers they face in foreign markets, particularly in India and China; assisting foreign companies to expand their participation in the U.S. market; and representing U.S. and foreign companies in trade litigation.

While some people immediately link India with outsourcing, Esserman takes a broader perspective. “India is a very important strategic ally. Our countries have so much in common in terms of democratic ideals and cultural heritage. India is a rapidly growing market that presents huge opportunities for American exporters. Plus, Indian companies have invested significantly in the U.S., creating thousands of American jobs. Outsourcing is a very small part of the relationship.”

Esserman’s expertise in international trade led to her appointment as assistant secretary of commerce for import administration and later to three additional senior positions: general counsel to the U.S. Trade Representative, general counsel at the Department of Commerce, and deputy U.S. trade representative.

As deputy U.S. trade representative—the second-ranking official at USTR, with the standing of Ambassador—she was responsible for developing U.S. trade policy and negotiations in the World Trade Organization and with Europe, India, Russia and the former Soviet Union, Africa, and the Middle East.

“I loved representing the United States,” she says. “It was a thrill, actually, to serve the country in an international forum.”

In addition to her international trade and regulatory practice, Esserman continues her interest in nonprofit matters. She is a managerial trustee of the International Association of Women Judges, an organization that aims to protect and empower women through the judicial system. She also sits on the boards of the U.S.-India Business Council and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. She and her husband, Andrew Marks, ’76, a partner at the D.C. firm of Crowell and Moring, have three sons.

She enjoys close ties with the Law School, where she has been a guest lecturer and is an advisory board member to the Directors College for Global Business and Law. “Openness to the world is critical to every segment of practice,” she tells students. “International” developments do not just affect the international trade and international law areas. They affect literally every practice area from corporate law to arbitration.”

And drawing from her own experience, she adds: “Keep an open mind about your practice focus. You may wind up in a place you never expected.”

Project to Update the Alumni Printed Directory

Michigan Law is working with its partner, Publishing Concepts Inc. (PCI), in an effort to update alumni contact information. This is a project that most law schools undertake approximately every five years. This new directory will be the Law School’s 12th edition.

Over the next few months, all graduates will receive a postcard from PCI requesting that alumni contact the PCI call center. During the call, alumni will be asked to update their contact (mailing address, e-mail, telephone, etc.) and professional information (job title, employer, and practice areas). Alumni may indicate what information is shown to fellow graduates and/or current students on the password-protected online directory (our AlumNetwork), and what data should remain concealed and only available to the Law School.

Many thanks in advance for your participation in this project. By updating your information, the Law School will be able to send you invitations to programs and events of particular interest to you. Most important, up-to-date alumni information provides you and your fellow alumni with the opportunity to connect and re-connect with one another.

Please call the Office of Alumni Relations if you have any questions or concerns: 734.615.4500.
The Four Ms. Bradwells, the One Ms. Clayton

Betts Zhukovski, '82, and Mia Porter, '82, shared a room in the N section of the Lawyers Club in their 1L year. Later, they moved into a house on Division Street along with Laney Weils and Ginger Cook Conrad. All summer starters, they met on their first day of Law School in May 1979 during a Constitutional Law class in Room 100 of Hutchins Hall. They drank coffee from Dominick's and ate fragens and studied in the Arb across it in their old Constitutional Law textbook.


The four main characters—Betts, Mia, Laney, and Ginger—are best friends since their years at Michigan Law who have been brought together by the Supreme Court confirmation hearing of Betts. The process uncovers a 30-year-old secret, and the old friends must find a way to deal with the exposure of the secret, which could derail Betts’s chances of serving on the High Court.

The characters aren’t based on anyone in particular, Clayton says, though their living situation is drawn from her own life (two characters live in N32, just as she and her roommate did during their 1L year, and they later join two other characters in a house on Division Street, just as Clayton and her roommate did in their 3L year). A real-life hot-tub/wine-tasting party also appears in fictionalized form in the book. And the island that is featured prominently in the novel is called Cook Island, named for Law Quad benefactor William W. Cook.

Her Michigan Law experiences also led to the title of the book. She found a mention of Bradwell v. State of Illinois—took it in my old Constitutional Law textbook. Why I still have my Constitutional Law book, I don’t know.”

In the 1873 sex discrimination case, Myra Bradwell applied for admission to the Illinois Bar but was denied. U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Joseph P. Bradley wrote that the “natural and proper timidity and delicacy which belongs to the female sex evidently un-fits it for many of the occupations of civil life. ... The paramount destiny and mission of women are to fulfill the noble and benign offices of wife and mother. This is the law of the Creator.”

The quote proved to be inspiration for Clayton’s book, in which the four classmates refer to each other as the “Ms. Bradwells.” Adding to her research for the book was a visit she made to campus a few years ago.

“The summer The Wednesday Sisters came out, I was here doing a reading at Borders. I met with [Dean] Evan [Caminker], and he introduced me to Margaret [Leary, director of the Law Library], who gave me a tour of the Law School and shared all of her knowledge about the history of the Law School.

“I learned so many things from her. I didn’t know women were allowed to attend the Law School but weren’t allowed to live in the Law Quad or eat in the Lawyers Club.” Such details helped Clayton to highlight the gender gap that affects the characters in the book as the Ms. Bradwells find their place in the world from the late 1970s to the present day.

Clayton released her first novel, The Language of Light, in 2003 (St. Martin’s Press). It sold modestly, and was followed by short stories and other pieces that didn’t go anywhere. Then, “in a moment of utter despair,” she began writing what would become The Wednesday Sisters. Her despair was a distant memory when the novel became a bestseller and a favorite of book clubs. Now, she’s hoping that her fictional Michigan Law classmates—Betts, Laney, Mia, and Ginger—can lead her to the bestseller list once again.—KV
A Helping Hand for Haiti

By Lara Zielin

On January 24, 2010, 12 days after a magnitude 7.0 earthquake flattened southern Haiti, Hardy Vieux, J.D./M.P.P. ’97, found himself in the Dominican Republic staring west across the border into Haiti, facing chaos and devastation unmatched by anything he’d witnessed before.

“It was a cacophony of noise and sensory overkill,” Vieux says. “There were so many people—hurt, sick, destitute. Convoys were going in and out of the country kicking up dust. The smells are hard to describe. They were just . . . overwhelming. Guns were displayed openly but it’s not clear they belonged to anyone affiliated with an official institution. Folks just had weapons.”

Using the little Spanish he knew as well as Haitian Kreyol, Vieux was able to shepherd himself and his company of Family Health Ministries (FHM) volunteers—comprising mostly doctors—into the country. The doctors set up their medical practice immediately, their Hippocratic mission clear. Vieux might not have been medically trained, but his purpose was no less plain. He was going to do whatever it took to help his homeland.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, to Haitian parents, Vieux was back in Haiti by the age of seven months. “My parents were young, unemployed, and barely knew the English language,” says Vieux. “They decided my paternal grandmother should raise me.”

It was his grandmother, Vieux says, who instilled in him a sense of giving back that motivated his mission to Haiti, not to mention countless other volunteer and pro bono activities that have earned him, among other honors, the District of Columbia Bar Association’s 2010 Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year award.

“Maybe I watched too much television growing up,” Vieux says, “but the image of To Kill a Mockingbird stood out for me. For many of us law students, it’s a quintessential image. For many lawyers, pro bono work is a significant part of what we do.”

Vieux is already planning a 10-day trip to Haiti in May of 2011 with FHM and a team of medically trained Duke alumni, despite recent cholera risks post–Hurricane Tomas, which slammed Haiti in November.

“That the country has fared as well as it has thus far is a testament to the people and probably a bit of a miracle,” Vieux says. “Nothing will impede me from returning or doing what I can. You make your peace with the risks.”
Working Toward the Greater Good, 30 Years Later

By Rebecca Frelich

Last spring, on a windswept beach in North Carolina, a small group of Michigan Law alumni gathered together for the first time since 1979. They did what old friends usually do at beach houses: cooked meals together, walked, ran, read, kayaked, and played games (including a 1970s version of Trivial Pursuit put together for the occasion).

But this group shared a deeper commitment than leisure. In law school, they were participants in a student-led seminar about using the law for social change guided by David Chambers, now the Wade H. McCree Jr. Professor Emeritus of Law. They had come to law school, after all, vowing to help the poor and to make a difference in society. At Michigan they found like-minded people in the National Lawyers Guild, the ACLU, and Chambers’ seminar, which Travis Payne, ’78, calls “my favorite experience in law school and one of the most significant.” Reunited, they found they had kept their promises.

“I was really pleased to see how people in this group have maintained their commitment to doing things toward what we envision to be a greater good,” says Stuart Lev, ’78, who represents death-row prisoners in the federal public defender’s office in Philadelphia.

Each seminar participant has kept the faith in his or her own way. Two have been deeply involved in law reform: Steve Rosenbaum, ’78, in the Civil Rights Division at the Justice Department, and Jim Morales, ’79, first with the National Center for Youth Law and now counsel to the San Francisco Redevelopment Authority.

Others have focused on helping individuals: Lev, the death-row defender; Bob Gillett, ’78, since 1983 the director of Legal Services of Southeast Michigan and who still represents clients; Sheila Haughey, ’79, a partner in a tiny Charlottesville, Virginia, firm, who calls her clients “ordinary people with ordinary and even extraordinary problems”; and Payne, owner of the 1955 Chevy Nomad that chauffeured the group to dinner, and partner in a two-man firm in Raleigh, North Carolina, that does worker’s compensation and personal injury litigation (to pay their bills) and civil rights and employment law (to feed their souls). Rick McHugh, ’78, is a staff attorney with the National Employment Law Project, and Morley Witus, ’78, a firm practitioner in Detroit, is president of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association.

True to their commitment, most found the heart of the weekend in the meaty discussions set up by Gillett and Chambers, the event organizers. The group was astonished when Gillett produced the original papers and memos they wrote for the seminar. They dived into the first discussion topic, “Hanging in There, Getting By, Selling Out,” reviewing their professional lives and their feelings about their work. To Haughey’s delight, “It was almost like picking back up in Law School again.”

Gillett adds, “I was amazed at the depth and quality of the conversations. It really gave people the opportunity to reflect on their lives, in a way you don’t have a lot of opportunities to do.”

Between the fun activities, the friends continued their deep conversations, including a session on race and gender equity—issues significant in all their work—and another on how social change has itself changed in the last 30 years (these days, do you take your cause to the streets or Tweet about it?).

From the perspective of Chambers, himself a retiree (from legal education, though not, as a recent first-time novelist, from writing), one of the most interesting discussions had to do with retirement: Only one of the group expressed a plan to leave his current job. That may be partly about economics; public service salaries don’t make for plush or certain retirements. But Chambers, who for some 40 years conducted a longitudinal survey of Michigan alumni job satisfaction, thinks there is more to it. “There are three kinds of attitudes about going to work: it’s just a job, it’s a career, or it’s a calling. These people have a calling.”
2001

The Class of 2001 reunion will be September 23-25, 2011.

Joseph E. Giles recently joined Barclays Capital in Chicago to help grow its Education and Business Services investment banking franchise. In his new role, he will work closely with companies in those two sectors, primarily advising on merger and acquisition transactions and a variety of equity and debt financings.

Samir Parikh recently joined the faculty of Northwestern Law School of Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, as an assistant professor of law.

2002

Héctor Arangua has been named partner of Jáuregui, Navarrete y Nader, S.C. in Mexico City. His practice focuses on project finance, structured finance, mergers and acquisitions, and securities law for both Mexican and foreign clients.

Scott Hairston has been named partner at Latham & Watkins in the Chicago office. He is a corporate attorney with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings, and general company representation, with particular expertise with companies and transactions in the hospitality industry.

Matthew D. Johnson has been named partner with Warner Norcross & Judd LLP. He specializes in mergers and acquisitions, private security offerings, joint ventures, and related corporate matters in the Grand Rapids, Michigan, office.

Jordan L. Lipp has been named partner at Davis, Graham & Stubbs, LLP in Denver. He was also chosen as the Colorado Lawyer of the Year by the Colorado Civil Justice League, Colorado’s tort reform coalition.

Caroline Reckler has been named partner at Latham & Watkins in the Chicago office. She is an insolvency attorney and has experience in a wide range of restructuring matters, both in- and outside of bankruptcy, including representations of private and public companies in all aspects of chapter 11 proceedings.

Michael Riela has been named partner at Latham & Watkins in the New York office. He is a finance attorney specializing in corporate restructuring.

Darkness, Light, and Hummingbirds

By Clarissa Sansone

Greg Rappleye, ’76, wrote poetry in high school. “But,” he observes, “I think everybody does that.” Unlike everybody, however, he returned to it decades later and has won prizes for his work.

Rappleye, who is corporation counsel for Ottawa County, Michigan, and teaches in Hope College’s English department, has published three books of poetry, completed a fourth manuscript, and drafted a novel. It’s no wonder his blog is called “Sonnets at 4 a.m.”; he needs those pre-dawn hours to devote to his craft.

An undergraduate history major, Rappleye turned to reading poetry for “eye relief” while at Michigan Law. “Staring at casebooks every day drove me crazy,” he says. He read the work of Lawrence Joseph, ’75, a renowned poet who maintains a law career (see story, p. 50), and looked to the Modernist era. “It was T.S. Eliot and Auden,” he says, who rekindled his love of verse.


He received an M.F.A. from Warren Wilson College in 2000 and published two more books: A Path Between Houses (University of Wisconsin Press, 2000) and Figured Dark (University of Arkansas Press, 2007). His latest manuscript, Tropical Landscape with Ten Hummingbirds, draws on the life and work of 19th-century painter Martin Johnson Heade.

Rappleye’s legal writing and creative writing, seemingly at odds, have influenced each other. “What I learned from being a lawyer is don’t take criticism too personally, and don’t get so attached to what you’ve written,” he says. Writing poetry helps Rappleye to craft “really, really good resolutions” which, he observes, tend to “have a sonnet-like form.”

Rappleye’s poetry, lyrical yet unflinching, is permeated with images and metaphors of darkness and light. The poet’s fascination with these themes stems from his own struggles with macular degeneration and glaucoma. Yet, as he notes, “What a great metaphor.” In “Orpheus the Prophet,” a poem from his latest manuscript, he writes:

name one songbird, nestled at last among the darkening trees, who will not prophesy the night.
Varner, ’94, Appointed to State Board of Education

In the 2010 documentary Waiting for Superman, the filmmaker highlighted a failing educational system, mixed with some glimmers of hope. Daniel Varner, ’94, took a special interest in the film, which “shows that success can be achieved in the poorest of communities, so there is really no excuse for failure anywhere.”

Varner has developed that perspective during the past couple of decades, as co-founder of Think Detroit PAL—a partnership with the Detroit Police Department and community volunteers designed to build character in young people through athletic, academic, and leadership development programs—and as a program officer with the Education and Learning Team of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Now, he has moved onto a bigger stage for his thoughts about school reform: Then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm appointed Varner to the State Board of Education in October.

Obstacles to building a vibrant educational system, he says, have included fear of innovation, outdated assumptions about the lengths of the school day and the school year, inconsistent involvement by parents, ineffective school governance models, ill-prepared teachers, and collective bargaining agreements negotiated with teachers, among others. Assessments of learning can be extremely valuable, he notes, but current tests measure only whether students have learned something, not their ability to apply or communicate it.

He also is not a fan of the way that Michigan schools are funded, because they are forced to create a budget before they know how much money they will receive from the state in the next fiscal year.

“The truth is,” Varner says, “that our educational systems can probably serve every community better. I don’t think there are many schools that are performing at as high a level as they possibly could.”

In particular, he says, “I would love to see our state’s education system producing consistently high outcomes for low-income students, and especially for low-income students of color.”

Varner is optimistic that the state can improve its educational system, and he points to University Preparatory Academy, Chrysler Elementary, and Renaissance High—all in Detroit—as examples of successful schools that could be models for other schools around the state. Something dramatic needs to happen, he believes, to raise the quality of schools and the achievement levels of students.

“I’m wildly curious and interested in school reform efforts, and how to maintain and support high-achieving schools,” Varner says. “I’m excited about the opportunity to make a difference.”—KV

2005

Aaron Cutler continues his service on the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee as deputy policy director.

Christina Murdoch, a former articles editor of the Michigan Journal of International Law and staff attorney at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, is now an associate attorney at Scott D. Pollock & Associates in Chicago. She practices exclusively in immigration and nationality law.

The Class of 2006 reunion will be September 23-25, 2011.

Joslyn Kaye and Christian Grostic were married last May in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

Daughters/new stepdaughters Sophia and Audrey excelled in their roles as a junior bridesmaid and flower girl, respectively.

Thomas P. Hitchcock has joined the law firm of Quarles & Brady in its Milwaukee office as an attorney in the Public Finance Group.

Mark J. Magyar has joined Dykema Gossett in the firm’s Business and Commercial Litigation practice group as an associate in the Grand Rapids, Michigan, office.

Rachael T. Shenkman has been appointed a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve JAG Corps. An attorney with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of the General Counsel, she will serve with the 151st Legal Support Organization based in Alexandria, Virginia.

2003

Catherine Heitchue Reed left Frost Brown Todd in Cincinnati after seven years to return to Detroit. In October she began as an associate at Keller Thoma, a labor and employment law defense firm.

Taylor Garrett joined the Foreign Service last November with USAID, and has been assigned to Pretoria, South Africa, where he is working with the Office for Foreign Disaster Assistance as the program officer for Southern Africa—primarily covering disaster risk reduction projects, but also in a response capacity.

Geoffrey M. White has joined Frost Brown Todd LLC in their Louisville, Kentucky, office in the Real Estate Practice Group.

2006

2011
2007

Jennifer Berman has been honored at the Sanctuary for Families Above & Beyond Pro Bono Achievement Awards & Benefit in New York City for handling numerous immigration cases for Sanctuary for Families clients, supervising colleagues on many other cases, and for strengthening the pro bono partnership between Sanctuary for Families and Latham & Watkins, where she is an associate.

Judith Cothorn has joined the Cincinnati office of Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP. She will practice as an associate in the Intellectual Property Practice Group.

Ron Garber has joined the corporate and mergers and acquisitions groups of Fredrikson & Byron in the Minneapolis office.

Suzanne L. Wahl of the Ann Arbor office of Miller Canfield recently received the Outstanding New Lawyer Award given by the Washtenaw County Bar Association.


Paul Porter recently joined the London office of Allen & Overy LLP, where he will continue his international capital markets and mergers and acquisitions practice. He previously practiced with Allen & Overy in Hong Kong.

2008

Andrea C. Wiltz has joined Winthrop & Weinstine, P.A., as an associate with litigation experience in federal and state courts.

Lyzzette M. Bullock, an attorney in the Phoenix office of Quarles & Brady, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of NiJeL, Inc., which uses high-performance mapping to identify and mitigate social, economic, and environmental problems in poor communities. She is a member of the commercial litigation group.

2009

Jason Miller has joined the Litigation practice of Sherman & Howard in the Denver office.

Andrew G. Gioia has joined the law firm of Rubin, Fortunato & Harbison P.C. in Paoli, Pennsylvania, as an associate. He will assist in handling a variety of matters related to post-employment litigation and arbitration of restrictive covenants, trade secrets, and commercial litigation.

Brandon C. Griffith has joined the law firm of Miller Canfield as an associate in the Real Estate Group in the Troy, Michigan, office.

Carla M. Lee has joined Polsinelli Shughart PC in the Kansas City, Missouri, office in the business department with an emphasis on science and technology.

Kela Shang has joined Kaufman & Canoles, P.C. in the Richmond, Virginia, office as an associate. His practice will focus on corporate and public finance matters.

2010

Balancing Act

Like all Michigan Law grads, Anna Leipsic worked her way through a legal smorgasbord during her three years in Ann Arbor. And since graduating in 2006, she’s had an opportunity to go back for seconds on a couple of the entrées.

“I took classes at Michigan in all sorts of different subject areas, but focused on a lot of international law,” she said. She also served on the Michigan Journal of International Law. “I was generally aware of international issues, but I never did refugee or asylum work while I was at school.”

That changed after she took a job in 2006 as a securities litigator at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, where she also found herself drawn to pro bono work on a variety of asylum cases—thus beginning her balance between working for corporate clients and doing pro bono work.

One particularly thorny case involved a Nicaraguan victim of domestic violence who was seeking asylum in the United States. The work paid off, as the Cleary team, partnered with the ACLU, is heading toward a negotiated settlement. Leipsic and two of her colleagues at Cleary were recognized for their work late last year with an Above and Beyond Award from the Sanctuary for Families Center for Battered Women.

The award wasn’t the best part. “I really feel, without sounding too dramatic, that it’s been the highlight of my legal career,” Leipsic said of her pro bono work. “It gives you such a good feeling, without sounding too dramatic. I’ve always felt, without sounding too dramatic, that my practice has always been more with corporate clients, so it’s refreshing to work with individuals.”

Leipsic served as law clerk to Judge Harold Baer Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York in 2008 and 2009. Now an associate with Fross Zelnick Lehrman and Zissu, Leipsic is taking on another challenge: putting her background in the arts—including a degree in art history—to work representing clients in trademark and copyright cases.—JM
Dores McCree

Former Law School Administrator Dores McCree, whose family roots at Michigan Law ran deep and who was familiar to generations of students who attended prior to her retirement in 1996, died in December at age 90.

Mrs. McCree was married to Wade H. McCree Jr., a former Wayne County, U.S. District Court, and appeals court judge who also served as the U.S. Solicitor General. Wade McCree came to Michigan in 1981 after he left office and served as the Lewis M. Simes Professor of Law until his death in 1987. The McCrees’ daughter Kathleen McCree Lewis, ’73, was a prominent Detroit attorney until her death in 2007. Other Michigan Law connections were her son-in-law David Baker Lewis, ’70, chairman of Lewis & Munday in Detroit, and her grandson Aaron McCree Lewis, ’05, counsel to the Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice. Son Wade Harper McCree is a Wayne County Circuit Judge, and daughter Karen McCree Harvey, a librarian in New York City.

Here, we share the memories of Mrs. McCree by some of the many colleagues who loved and respected her. A more detailed obituary is available in the online version of the magazine, as well as longer versions of the remembrances below.

The term “grande dame” must have been designed for her. She had an incredible combination of grace and dignity. But then she also had a simply hilarious sense of humor.
—Sarah Zearfoss, ’92, assistant dean for admissions and special counsel for professional strategies at the U-M Law School

Dores McCree was one of the finest people I have ever known. She was not only smart and kind, she was wise beyond her years. And that is saying something about a person in her 90s. Dores’s real job at the Law School was helping students solve their problems—whatever those problems might be—and she had an amazing sensitivity to people’s real needs. The world is a better place for her having lived and is diminished by her departure. When I think about never seeing her again, I know that I am mourning for myself, not for Dores.—Nicholas J. Rine, clinical professor of law and director of the Program for Cambodian Law and Development

My husband and I had the pleasure of having Mrs. McCree as a guest in our home. On one such occasion, our house was full with family members and close friends. One of my warmest memories of Dores is of her sitting at my kitchen table, legs crossed and arms folded in a manner that communicated her contentment. She sat for hours trading stories with the family matriarchs. It was as if they had known each other all their lives, and as if Dores had always had a seat at that table. I remember thinking, “It’s official—Dores is family.” Years later, I am struck by how wonderful it still feels to so easily have expanded our table to include Dores, just as she helped ensure “a seat at the table” for countless Law School graduates. Her impact, on so many lives, is immeasurable.
—Charlotte Johnson, ’88, vice president and dean of the college at Colgate University

Kenneth J. Nordstrom, ’41 12/9/10
H. Martin Peckover, ’41 12/26/10
Frank C. Shaw, ’42 1/16/11
The Hon. Donald Carl Neitzel, ’45 7/19/10
John M. Milliken, ’47 1/20/11
Edward N. Glad, ’48 3/4/11
The Hon. Joseph B. Grigsby, ’48 9/16/10
Alfred Earl Holland, LL.M. ’48 5/27/10
Beryl A. Brindorff, ’49 12/20/10
Lawson M. Brown, ’49 4/11/10
Harman M. Hitt, ’49 10/27/10
Dana Sherwood Jones, ’49 1/25/11
Paul Willard McCreight, ’49 12/11/10
A.W. Brian Simpson

A.W. Brian Simpson, a Michigan Law professor who was recognized around the world as one of the leading academic lawyers of his generation, died at his home in England January 10 at the age of 79.

Simpson’s scholarly interests included the historical development of law and legal institutions, legal philosophy, the European Convention, and human rights. But alongside his commitment to excellence in scholarship came a matching commitment to superb teaching. So beloved was he by Michigan Law and other former students that they formed a Facebook fan page in his honor.

“He was much loved and will be deeply missed,” Michigan Law and Oxford colleague Professor Christopher McCrudden said. “His scholarship remains and is an important consolation, but there is so much more to be remembered: a deeply committed scholar who wore his learning lightly, someone tolerant of all human foibles except pomposity, self-deprecatingly witty, excellent company, a natural storyteller, a loyal friend, an inspirational teacher, a part-time pilot, and an intrepid (if somewhat haphazard) sailor who loved messing about in boats.”

Simpson’s work was wide-ranging. Born in 1931, his early education came in what he jokingly referred to as the “Prussian model” British boarding school. He also served in the British Army, where he was an officer in the Nigeria Regiment of the Royal West African Frontier Force. After his service he studied law at Oxford, where he stayed as a fellow and tutor of Lincoln College until 1973. During that time, he returned briefly to Africa, serving as dean of the law faculty at the University of Ghana.

After leaving Oxford, he became a law professor and later a dean at the University of Kent. In 1984 he came to the University of Chicago Law School, then to U-M in 1987. He retired in 2009.

He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1983, and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences 10 years later.

A prolific and influential writer, his signature wit and meticulous research were perhaps most evident in the mordantly titled Cannibalism and the Common Law (The University of Chicago Press, 1984), a study of a 19th-century British court case involving shipwrecked sailors who were prosecuted for killing and eating a cabin boy. The book was in keeping with Simpson’s hallmark dedication to researching the minutiae of common law cases, then presenting his findings in clear and compelling prose.

“Few professors have commanded the affection of students more completely or more naturally than Professor Simpson,” said Dean Evan Caminker. “He will be sorely missed by his colleagues on the faculty and by generations of alumni of the institution he served so well for more than 20 years.”

He is survived by his second wife, Caroline, whom he married in 1969; children Charles, Carol, Tim, Zoë, and Jane; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.
China’s Judicial System and Judicial Reform

The following is an extract from the statement delivered by Michigan Law School Professor Nicholas Howson at the inaugural “China-U.S. Rule of Law Dialogue” held at Beijing’s Tsinghua University July 29-30, 2010, and convened by Tsinghua Law Dean Wang Zhenmin and Harvard Law School Professor and East Asian Legal Studies Director William Alford, and with the support of the China-United States Exchange Foundation chaired by C.H. Tung, first chief executive and president of the Executive Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The dialogue was organized as a private meeting between senior PRC law professors and U.S.-based Chinese law specialists to discuss China’s three decades-long legal reform program and progress towards “rule of law” in the People’s Republic of China in all areas of the domestic legal system.

Recently I have spent a significant amount of time studying Chinese People’s Court judicial opinions in the corporate law and securities regulation areas, and have come across examples of extremely competent judicial work by the People’s Courts at all levels. This in turn has pushed me to reconsider the goals and trajectory of “judicial reform” outside of the usual focus—the “vertical” social control/criminal law function—but still in the broader context of China’s movement towards “rule of law” and a desired “rule of law state.”

Admittedly, it is the judicial function in the social control/criminal law areas which attracts the most attention from Chinese and foreign legal scholars and journalists—e.g., with respect to judicial constitutional review, administrative law and review, criminal law and criminal procedure, or mass torts that threaten to conjoin group political action and social instability. That focus is entirely appropriate, for what we loosely understand as judicial independence (against superior political or military power) and the autonomy of the law (against political commands or shifting policy, and as contrasted with raw instrumentalism) must be at the core of anyone’s conception of rule of law. At the same time, however, we must understand that the majority of the PRC citizenry intersects with law and legal institutions “horizontally” and at the apparently more mundane level of property and contracts rights and expectations.

As scholars intent on understanding the development of “rule of law” in contemporary China, we cannot therefore ignore entirely how legal institutions function, day to day, in the corporate/commercial/contract/property rights spheres, and most importantly how they are perceived to function by civil actors who have recourse to the same institutions for the settlement of disputes, clarification of property and contract rights, and enforcement of those rights—at least against other, horizontally positioned, actors. Indeed, many of the rights described and enforced in the commercial sphere—e.g., residential and commercial real estate, intellectual property, labor contracting, family property, media and publication, etc.—may presently or in the future be asserted against institutions which have that present monopoly on political or coercive power. These claims may thus be seen as embryonic identities of the more sensitive civil and political rights understood to be at the core of “rule of law.”

Let me be more concrete by citing two examples of what I think is highly competent adjudication in contemporary China, culled from publicly available judicial opinions. These examples, two among thousands, will never be described in the pages of Nanfang Zhoumo [Southern Weekend], Caixin Magazine, the New York Times, or Le Monde. Yet they reveal commendable judicial action that is relatively common, and distinct from the always fascinating stories of lack of judicial independence, official corruption, summary procedure, coercive use of the legal system, and more that feature in the Chinese and foreign media.

A first case arose in Shanghai Municipality’s relatively distant Baoshan District. In the opinion, the Shanghai Baoshan District People’s Court (later upheld by the Shanghai No. 2 Intermediate People’s Court) looked through a de jure “corporate” establishment to understand a de facto “partnership” and to rule on the investing participants’ rights accordingly. Disregarding form (and an

apparent Shareholders’ Agreement between the investors), the Baoshan court ruled that the entity at the center of the dispute was a kind of general partnership and ordered equal partner distributions of the enterprise’s residual assets (instead of different proportions of the company’s residual assets determined by the participants’ notional “equity” investment). The Baoshan Court did not base its ruling on the imperfect PRC Partnership Enterprise Law or any other positive law, but what are understood to be universal partnership law principles: Unless subject to ex ante contract, partners share in the residual assets of the partnership equally, regardless of their investment or contribution to the partnership. This decision demonstrates a very high level of technical insight and competence, which even many U.S. state courts struggling to adjudicate close corporations might have had difficulty implementing.

A second case comes from the city of Zhengzhou in Henan Province, where the shareholder of a property development company was permitted to initiate a derivative suit against a contractor that had not performed on a construction contract entered into with company. The problem in the case, for the initiating plaintiff at least, was that the complaining shareholder had not formally served the requisite demand on, or met with refusal from, the development company (the true party in interest in the derivative action) in conformity with Article 152 of China’s 2006 Company Law. The defendant and non-performing construction contractor offered as one defense that “the plaintiff has not exhausted all internal remedies in accordance with legal stipulations,” referring to the lack of required demand or refusal. However, both the Zhengzhou Municipal Guancheng Hui Minority District People’s Court and the Zhengzhou Intermediate People’s Court on appeal permitted the derivative action to go forward by taking judicial notice of that fact that originally the company did sue on the contract, but then withdrew its action (under the power, no doubt, of the breaching or simply conflicted company) at the time of the lower court proceedings. This allowed both courts to rule that (in the words of the appellate Intermediate People’s Court opinion) “this may be seen as the same thing as a refusal [by the company] to bring the action.” This elegant adjudication allowed the plaintiff and the courts to continue with the derivative action for contract enforcement even in the absence of legally required demand and refusal—a technical non-conformity which more timid or less autonomous courts would have invoked as a basis to deny the entire claim.

In these two cases we see something which might be considered extraordinary in the PRC context: technical competence certainly, but also the ability of Chinese judicial institutions to go beyond the bounds of formal statute in crafting a legal characterization and applying doctrine that vindicates important legal rights in a highly sophisticated and justice-facilitating way.

Tom Ginsburg and Timira Moustafa have identified five primary functions for judicial institutions in authoritarian political systems: (i) social control and the containment of political opposition; (ii) bolstering government “legitimacy”; (iii) support of administrative compliance and coordination of competing functions; (iv) facilitation of trade and investment; and (v) the provision of cover for controversial policies. I understand the Ginsburg-Moustafa list as somewhat partial and pessimistic. In fact, judicial institutions in non-democratic or authoritarian societies do much more than erect a Potemkin Village of purely symbolic decision-making and convenient cover for oppressive political organization. This is especially true as even politically unreconstructed societies experience economic system transformation, putting property and contract rights into the hands of low-level civil actors: contract parties, residential property owners, shareholders, inheritance beneficiaries, copyright owners, etc. One proof of this is the degree to which citizens in China with no particular political background, or assurance of a politically determined result, continue to refer to “law” and formal judicial institutions for remedies. We saw this in the strong appetite among individual shareholders for remedies against false or misleading disclosure in the securities markets between 1999 (after promulgation of the form of China’s first Securities Law) and 2003 (when the Supreme People’s Court permitted a limited private right of action against issuers, controlling shareholders, underwriters and accountants in such cases), and widely publicized cases discussed in the very independent PRC financial press. Aggrieved investors continued to push into the People’s Courts, in many cases knowing that the defendants were actors with superior political and economic power in Chinese society (not to mention significant power over the judges in their locale). The fact that state institutions have sought to limit this recourse—for instance, by excluding claims against insider trading and securities manipulation, splitting large plaintiff groups into smaller groups, restricting contingency fee arrangements, or continuing to resist the introduction of the class action mechanism—does not dilute the certainty of demand-side interest in recourse to formal judicial institutions in contemporary China.

The critiques leveled against China’s judicial institutions both in China and from abroad are many. These criticisms include: lack of technical competence; constrained political independence and the burden of Party Committees; funding of local level courts—and thus direct political control—by local level government (and Party) institutions; direction from adjudication committees; the inability...
to act against local government (Party) power to enforce civil rights and interests (not to mention central law or policy); relative powerlessness against the police, secret police and military; understaffing and over-stretched resources; procedural irregularities and confusion (including endless appeals and “black holes,” and failure to deliver resolution, compensation or any idea of “justice”); unrestrained and judgment-determining ex parte contacts; the continuing failure to hold public proceedings; corruption; lower courts seeking guidance from bureaucratically higher-level courts prior to decision; court officials working towards bureaucraticallyquota of “case handling” (case disposition) rather than substantive case-specific adjudication; refusal to accept cases that involve a large number of parties (triggering “social stability” [shehui wending] concerns); the drafting of opinions prior to submission of briefs or trial, or by court officials who have not attended case proceedings; enforcement “chaos” or impotence, etc. These specific concerns have only been augmented after 2007 by concern, again both Chinese and foreign, about a seeming shift in the rhetoric emanating from the Supreme People's Court favoring a “democratic” (“masses”-friendly) judiciary, and attacking a “professional” (and “mystifying”) judicial apparatus.

The answers proposed—and in some cases implemented—to this collection of concerns tend to focus on mechanisms designed to enhance the People’s Courts’ technical competence, professionalism, transparency, procedural regularity, and political independence: (i) education, training, qualification and increased professionalism of judicial personnel; (ii) the uncoupling of local level courts from local governments and Party institutions, bureaucratically, politically and financially
d (with Supreme People’s Court officials advocating a federal court system with something like “diversity jurisdiction,” allowing for case acceptance and decision by disinterested judicial institutions); (iii) increased non-political oversight, and investigation and prosecution of corruption; and (iv) enhanced transparency in judicial action. As scholars of Chinese law and judicial institutions, we must be heartened by and approve of all of these measures. Indeed, they are measures taken by societies all over the world to strengthen the performance and legitimacy of the single most important institution necessary to deliver “rule of law.” There are of course historical and political complexities and obstacles specifically applicable to the huge and widely differentiated nation we call the “People’s Republic of China” as it has developed to the end of the first decade of the second millennium. Those particular factors may counsel that we urge authentic and deeply rooted implementation of the above-listed reform measures before we push too hard for really extraordinary changes like judicial “strict” constitutional review, ever more robust judicial review of administrative action, and the like—favorites of Chinese legal reformers stretching back to the (mostly) Western-educated stalwarts of the early 20th century.

Yet even with those specific factors in mind, let me suggest one other idea for continuing development of China’s reforming judicial institutions, and one that is inspired by my close review of judicial opinions in the purely commercial sphere. It is an idea slightly divorced from what we legal specialists usually advocate, i.e., substantive law reform, perfection of procedural rules, better financing of litigation or courts, etc. We should work to continue attracting “horizontal” dispute litigants into the PRC People’s Courts and attempt to remove obstacles, structural, substantive or applied, which keep those civil actors out of the courts, including the direction of cases to assuredly resource-efficient mediation, arbitration, or alternative dispute resolution. This proposed push has many virtues aside from those identified by institutional economists keen to show how predictably enforceable (and enforced) property rights result in economic development, and relates specifically to the task of constructing and reforming China’s judicial institutions. I am convinced that increased use of the People’s Courts in such cases would enhance the idea of such judicial institutions as the best and most authoritative forum for dispute resolution and property rights delineation (as opposed to China’s very strong pre-existing institutions such as local Party organizations, neighborhood committees, or family organizations). It would also serve the sometimes quite inchoate expectations of China’s population, who as noted above continue to look towards formal legal institutions for remedies, even against state or Party infringement of their rights and interests. But, and most importantly, increased traffic in the People’s Courts on complex matters with significant value at stake would give the courts themselves the chance to function, apply the law intelligently (and flexibly), demonstrate judicial independence, direct enforcement, and buttress their legitimacy as the critically important institution of a state governed “under law.” Of course, egregious mistakes will be made, corruption will continue to work its poison, and there will be vigorous resistance to increased judicial action from much stronger political forces. Yet China’s judicial institutions will be functioning, and seen to be functioning, with ever-increasing challenges to their competence, autonomy and political independence, and in an area of law and activity that does not impact directly on the political or social control sphere or the center of governance power. The hope is that if judicial institutions can establish themselves in this limited area, then their social power, effectiveness and legitimacy will extend to areas closer to the more sensitive core of what we perceive to be the “rule of law.”

Thank you very much.

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1 note that the Politburo endorsed a proposal by the Central Political-Legal Committee to create central funding for all People’s Courts in November 2008 (see “Opinions of the Central Political-Legal Commission on Several Issues in the Deepening of Reform in the Judicial System and Work Mechanism”). This remains unimplemented as of this statement.

2 My idea of “strict” constitutional review is review, by a court or independent commission, of the conformity of legislative acts and executive action with superior norms laid out in a Constitution. At the present time this kind of review is not permitted under the PRC Constitution of 1982 (as amended), although it is allowed, in limited circumstances, under the Basic Law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, i.e., “with respect to Hong Kong SAR legislative norms that do not relate to the concerns of the Central People’s Government or the relationship between the Central People’s Government and the Hong Kong SAR. Of course, administrative review has been a reality in the PRC since the promulgation of the 1989 Administrative Litigation Law.
Progress and Pitfalls: Trade and Investment Relations with China at Heart of Conference

A conference co-organized by the U-M Law School earlier this year brought together a prominent contingent of experts on trade relations and cross-border investment between the United States and China who emphasized the opportunities and potential conflicts as China rises to a global trade and investment power.

During a keynote address, Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky, President Clinton’s U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) and the person who negotiated China’s accession to the World Trade Organization spoke of increased head-to-head competition between developed and developing countries generally, business conditions in China that often are disadvantageous for foreign companies, and a change in the global trade and capital markets from U.S. dominance to a marked increase in China’s power and influence.

“The re-emergence of China … will be the biggest economic story of this century, in my opinion,” she said. “It is both a cause for marvel and a cause for significant global concern.”

Howson said he and Qin were pleased to have gathered some of the key figures involved in the U.S.-China relationship, including: Ambassador Barshefsky; Madame Li Yongjie, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce official in charge of all WTO disputes and resulting litigation; Tim Stratford, a former director of the China Desk at the U.S. Trade Representative; and Professor Merit Janow, who recently stepped down from the WTO’s Supreme Court equivalent, the Appellate Body.

In addition to Professor Howson, U-M Law School also was represented by Professor Edward Parson, who described the present state of U.S.-China climate change negotiations. Other U-M participants included Professor Mary Gallagher, director of the U-M Center for Chinese Studies; Professor Zhao Minyuan of the Ross Business School; and Professor Alan Deardorff of the U-M Economics Department, who also serves as the associate dean of the Ford Public Policy School.

Reuven S. Avi-Yonah, the Irwin I. Cohn Professor of Law and director of the International Tax LL.M. Program, was a panelist on “Recent International Tax Developments Affecting Latin America” at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C., in October. In November, he presented “The Case for Dividend Deduction” at Columbia Law School, taught Comparative CFC Rules at Vienna Economic University, and taught U.S. Corporate Taxation and presented “Recent Developments in U.S. International Taxation” at Bocconi University, Milan. In December, he attended the American Tax Policy Institute’s Board of Trustees Meeting in Washington, D.C., presented “Taxation as Regulation” at New York Law School, and taught U.S. International Taxation at Université Paris-Sorbonne. In January, he chaired a panel on “Taxation in Developing Countries” at the AALS Annual Meeting in San Francisco and a panel on

“Corporate Tax Reform” at the American Bar Association Tax Section in Boca Raton, Florida.

Susanne Baer, LL.M. ’93, William W. Cook Global Law Professor, has been elected to the German Federal Constitutional Court, Germany’s top court, for a 12-year non-renewable term (see story, p. 8).

Professor Michael S. Barr returned to the Law School after a two-year stint in the Obama Administration. Barr served as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Institutions, and was a key architect of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. He also led passage of the Credit CARD Act and played a key role in the Small Business Jobs Act. Barr served as a board representative on the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation, as a board member of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation, and as a member of the FDIC’s Advisory Committee on Financial Inclusion. Barr helped to craft the Administration’s housing policy, was responsible for implementing its small business lending funds, led the Treasury’s financial education efforts, and expanded the Treasury’s financial access initiatives. Barr also served as Acting Under Secretary of the Treasury for Domestic Finance, and as Counselor to the Director of the National Economic Council. He testified numerous times before Congress and delivered remarks nationwide regarding financial reform. Barr was awarded the Treasury’s highest honor, the Alexander Hamilton Award for Distinguished Leadership.
David H. Baum, ’89, assistant dean for student affairs and special counsel for professional skills development, was appointed to serve on the State Bar of Michigan’s Standing Committee on Character and Fitness in September, received a Certificate of Appreciation from the U-M Council for Disability Concerns in October, and was a panelist at a program entitled “Character and Fitness: To Disclose or Not To Disclose” at the AALS Annual Meeting in January.

Howard Bromberg, clinical assistant professor of law in the Legal Practice Program, edited the three-volume encyclopedia *Great Lives from History: The Incredibly Wealthy* (Salem Press, 2011).

Bridgette Carr, ’02, public interest/public service faculty fellow and director of the Human Trafficking Clinic, was awarded a $300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of State to open a human trafficking clinic in Zacatecas, Mexico (see story, p. 17).

Rachel Croskery-Roberts, ’00, clinical assistant professor and associate director of the Legal Practice Program, has been named the chair of the Teaching Methods Section of the AALS for 2011. She participated in a panel discussion on “Connecting Doctrinal and Practical Problem-Solving Instruction to Enhance Legal Education” at the AALS Annual Meeting in January.

Kristina Daugirdas, assistant professor of law, presented and commented on a paper by Michael Van Alstine, “Stare Decisis and Foreign Affairs,” at the American Society of International Law Workshop at the University of Virginia in December.


Samuel R. Gross, the Thomas and Mabel Long Professor of Law, participated in the workshop “International Perspectives on Wrongful Convictions” at the U.S. Department of Justice’s National Institute for Justice in Washington, D.C., in September, and led a discussion on the role of plea bargaining in false convictions in the United States. In November, he presented a paper on “Plea Incentives, Post-Conviction Review, and Sorting Criminal Defendants by Guilt or Innocence” at the Exonerating the Innocent: Pre-trial Procedures Symposium at New York Law School.

James C. Hathaway, the James E. and Sarah A. Degan Professor of Law and director of the Program in Refugee and Asylum Law, traveled in September to Japan, where he delivered the keynote address, “Saving International Refugee Law,” at the University of Tokyo’s Human Security Symposium, and
Nicholas C. Howson lectured on refugee law in the university's Human Mobility Studies Program. He then spent two weeks as a distinguished visiting professor of law at the University of Toronto, where he taught an advanced symposium on international refugee rights and delivered papers in the faculty's Constitutional Law Workshop (“The Lawfulness of Refugee Boat Arrivals”) and Globalization Workshop (“Dictating Asylum: What Does International Law Allow?”). He returned to Toronto in October to give the lead paper, “What Does International Law Require of a Refugee Status Determination Procedure?”, at a national symposium on refugee law reform. After completing his teaching term at Michigan Law, Hathaway gave his Inaugural Professorial Fellow Lecture, “Constraints on Choice of the Country of Asylum,” at the University of Melbourne, and led both a Ph.D. roundtable on international migration issues and the inaugural workshop for law professors from the Asia-Pacific region working on issues of refugee and asylum law.

Professor Nicholas C. Howson presented “Corporate Litigation in the Chinese People’s Courts—Clear Competence, Developing Autonomy and Intimations of Independence” at Michigan State University College of Law in September. He presented “Corporate Litigation in the Chinese People’s Courts” to Michigan Law’s Asia Law Society in October, and was a panelist on “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Archival Research” at the Archival Advances & Historical Research: Shanghai Municipal Archives and Beyond Symposium convened by the U-M Bentley Historical Library and the Shanghai Municipal Archives. In November, he was a commentator on the paper “Development Bank, Regulation and Self-regulation: Regulatory Complementarity in the Brazilian Venture Capital Market” at the Agencia Brasileira de Desenvolvimento Industrial/Fundação Getúlio Vargas Escola de Direito de São Paulo Conference, “Law and Development: A Dialogue Between BRICS,” and presented “The Chinese Legal Profession” at the Globalization, Lawyering, and the Emerging Economies (GLEE) Workshop, Fundação Getúlio Vargas Escola de Direito de São Paulo, both in São Paulo, Brazil. In addition, he gave two presentations in December: “Liu Xiaobo in Three Parts” at the Nobel Symposium—Concurrent Talks on the Nobel Prizes and the People Who Won, sponsored by the U-M Center for the Study of Complex Systems, and “China’s Legal Construction Program” as part of the “China Today” panel during the U-M Economic Dinner Group. In February, he helped to organize and lead the U.S.-China Economic Law Conference at Wayne State University (see story, page 65).

Martha S. Jones, affiliated LSA faculty and associate professor of history and Afroamerican and African studies, gave two presentations at the University of Southern California Law School in October (“Rituals of Rights in the Discharge of Debts: Overturning Dred Scott v. Sandford in Baltimore City” and “Bearing Arms in Baltimore City: From Claimsmaking to Citizenship in the Era of Dred Scott”). She organized “We Must
First Take Account*: A Conference on Race, Law, and History in the Americas in April at U-M.


Margaret A. Leary, director of the Law Library, has written a biography of William W. Cook that will be published by the University of Michigan Press this fall. Giving It All Away: The Story of William W. Cook & His Michigan Law Quad describes Cook’s family background, his education at Michigan, and his great success in New York City, which generated the money he was to give to Michigan Law. Unbeknownst to most people, Cook was married, then divorced in 1898. After he died in 1930, his former wife sued for half the estate, claiming the divorce was invalid and that she was therefore his widow.


Kyle D. Logue, the Wade H. McCree Jr. Collegiate Professor of Law, was selected as a member of the American Law Institute and was named associate reporter on the ALI’s Liability Insurance Project. His recent publications include “Coordinating Sanctions in Tort” in Cardozo Law Review, Vol. 31, No. 6, “Narrowing the Tax Gap Through Presumptive Taxation” in Columbia Journal of Tax Law, Vol. 2, No. 1 (with Gustavo G. Vettori); and “Of Coase, Calabresi, and Optimal Tax Liability” in Tax Law Review, Vol. 64, No. 3 (with Joel Slemrod).

Leonard Niehoff, ’84, became a professor from practice last fall after eight years as an adjunct faculty member. He recently was elected to the board of directors of the National Association of College and University Attorneys and to the board of governors of the American Bar Association Forum on Communications Law. His article “When the Supreme Court Came to Michigan” was published in The Court Legacy, Vol. XVII, No. 2, in September.

Mark K. Osbeck, ’86, clinical assistant professor of law in the Legal Practice Program, presented “Incorporating Research Strategy into the Teaching of Legal Research” at the biennial conference of the Legal Writing Institute in Marco Island, Florida.
Professor Richard Primus’s work was cited by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Foundation in its brief to the 9th Circuit in Perry v. Schwarzenegger, the Proposition 8/Gay Marriage case. He also has been helping the National Fire Prevention Association develop a set of policies that fire departments will use to govern the safety and nondiscrimination issues that arise with respect to pregnant firefighters.

Frances and George Skestos Professor of Law Adam C. Pritchard presented “Charter Competition, Corporate Governance, and CEO Turnover” at a faculty workshop at Marquette University Law School in October and at the International Business Seminar at New York University Law School in November. During the fall he also presented “The Price of Pay To Play in Securities Class Actions” during the Conference on Empirical Legal Studies at Yale Law School; “The Supreme Court’s Impact on Securities Class Actions: An Empirical Assessment of Tellabs” to the Illinois Corporate Colloquium at the University of Illinois College of Law; and “Securities Law in the Roberts Court: Agenda or Indifference?” at the Center for Business Law and Regulation at Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Margaret Jane Radin, the Henry King Ransom Professor of Law, presented two chapters of her work in progress—a book about form contracts (“boilerplates”)—at a faculty workshop at the University of Wisconsin Law School in November. The tentative title of the book is World B: My Way or the Highway in Contract Law. She also presented a paper at the 2010 University of Wisconsin Law Review Symposium on Intellectual Property and Intergenerational Equity. The title of her paper, slated to be published in the Symposium volume of the Wisconsin Law Review, is “Property Longa, Vita Brevis.”

Steven R. Ratner, the Bruno Simma Collegiate Professor of Law, presented “The Obama Administration and Counter-Terrorism” during the International Law Year in Review at Hebrew University Faculty of Law in Jerusalem in December. He was a visiting professor at the Haifa University Faculty of Law in Israel in December and January. He authored the article “Between Minimum and Optimum World Public Order: An Ethical Path for the Future” in Looking to the Future: Essays on International Law in Honor of W. Michael Reisman (Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2011), and coauthored (with Jeffrey Dunoff and David Wippman) the books International Law: Norms, Actors, Process, Third Edition and Teacher’s Manual for International Law: Norms, Actors, Process, Second Edition, both published by Aspen Publishers in 2010.

Mathias W. Reimann, LL.M. ’83, the Hessel E. Yntema Professor of Law, gave a presentation at the International Bar Association Meeting in Vancouver in November. He was a visiting professor at the Haifa University Faculty of Law in Israel in December and taught an “Introduction to German Law.”

Mark D. Rosenbaum, Harvey J. Gunderson Professor from Practice and a public interest/public service faculty fellow as well as the legal director of the American Civil Liberties
Union in Los Angeles, has been named an attorney of the year by California Lawyer. He and two other attorneys were honored for securing a landmark settlement in a class action alleging that youths detained at a complex of six Los Angeles County probation camps were denied a constitutionally adequate education.


Dana A. Thompson, ‘99, clinical assistant professor of law and faculty member in the Urban Communities Clinic, joined the board of directors of Community Legal Resources in Detroit and became a faculty affiliate with U-M’s Center for Entrepreneurship. She spoke on “Common Legal Issues Impacting New and Existing Small Businesses” at then-Governor Jennifer Granholm’s Emerging Small Business Leaders Forum in September. She was a panelist at the Net Impact Conference, sponsored by U-M’s Ross School of Business last October, and discussed the role of social enterprises in American urban revitalization. In addition, she discussed the Michigan Law Urban Communities Clinic at the Michigan Small Business Technology Development Center and presented a paper on low-profit limited liability companies and urban revitalization at the Clinical Law Review Writer’s Workshop, both in October.

David M. Uhlmann, the Jeffrey F. Liss Professor from Practice and director of the Environmental Law and Policy Program, gave the keynote address on “Environmental Crimes: Real Crimes, Real

Law Quadrangle

Spring 2011
Victims” at the National Center for Victims of Crime Annual Conference in New Orleans in September. In October, he presented “The Gulf Oil Spill: Criminal Fines, Civil Penalties, and Natural Resource Damages for the Worst Environmental Disaster in U.S. History” at the Graham Environmental Sustainability Institute in Ann Arbor. He also presented “Criminal and Civil Penalties for the Gulf Oil Spill” to the Dean’s Advisory Council at Michigan Law, and gave the keynote address on “Keeping America’s Promise of a Safe Workplace: OSHA Reforms for the 21st Century” at the American Industrial Hygiene Association’s Professional Conference on Industrial Hygiene in Fort Worth, Texas. In March, Uhlmann was a moderator during the Green Technology and Economic Revitalization symposium sponsored by the Michigan Telecommunications and Technology Law Review. Uhlmann’s article “After the Spill Is Gone: The Gulf of Mexico, Environmental Crime, and the Criminal Law” is forthcoming in Vol. 109 of the Michigan Law Review, and his article “Crimes on the Gulf” was published in the Fall 2010 issue of the Law Quadrangle magazine.

Lawrence W. Waggoner, ’63, the Lewis M. Simes Professor of Law, retired from Michigan Law at the end of fall 2010 after 36 years of teaching (see story below). His article on U.S. perpetual trusts will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Law Quarterly Review. The article is designed to bring the U.S. perpetual trust movement to the attention of British and Commonwealth readers.

Save the Last Class For Me

As the final moments of his Trusts and Estates class ticked away on December 6, retiring Professor Lawrence Waggoner, ’63, found himself on the receiving end of a longstanding Michigan Law tradition he’d undoubtedly participated in many times himself. Outside his classroom, respectful colleagues were gathering clandestinely before entering, lining the walls, and applauding—“clapping him out,” as is the Michigan Law custom, of his last class. Space was tight in the fourth floor conference room where the estates class was held, but as many faculty members as could uncomfortably fit crammed themselves into the room anyway. Applauding professors were quickly joined by students in an enthusiastic salute to Waggoner and his three-and-a-half decades of service on the Michigan faculty. The gesture wasn’t lost on Waggoner.

“I want to thank everyone who came over at the end of my last class,” he said later. “I’m deeply grateful. It was a great send-off. I have to say also that the students’ eyes were as big as saucers, seeing so many of their professors crowding into that small room and standing in the hall outside.” Waggoner served as a captain in the U.S. Army from 1966–68, earned a doctorate from Oxford as a Fulbright Scholar, then came back to the Law School for good in 1974 after a stint at the University of Virginia.

The Lewis M. Simes Professor of Law, Waggoner became perhaps America’s most recognizable figure in trust and estate law during his time at Michigan. He was the director of research and the chief reporter for the Joint Editorial Board for Uniform Trust and Estate Acts, as well as the principal drafter of the 1990s revisions to the Uniform Probate Code.

“Larry has been a wonderful teacher and a committed and creative torch-bearer for law reform for his entire career,” Dean Evan Caminker said. “We wish him the best in retirement, and hope he knows how much he’ll be missed in the classroom.”—JM
In the News

Michigan Law faculty members were quoted in news stories across the country and around the world in recent months, about everything from oil to the SEC to brain rot. Here are some of the highlights.

MARCH

Mark West is quoted in Slate about the myths and the realities behind Japanese poise in the face of multiple and simultaneous catastrophes.

A Wall Street Journal story cites Lawrence Waggoner’s American Law Institute report about restrictions on dynasty trusts.

Richard Friedman helps WDET listeners understand the state’s newly signed law that gives broad powers to emergency financial managers.

FEBRUARY


Nicholas Bagley is quoted in USA Today about GOP efforts to reduce regulations on businesses.

Dana Thompson, ’99, is quoted in a Detroit News story about warming centers for the city’s homeless.

JANUARY

David Uhlmann talks to The Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, ABC News, The Financial Times, the AP, and others about recently released sections of a report showing problems with management of the rogue Gulf of Mexico oil well.

The Legal News profiles William I. Miller and includes mentions of his writings about blood feuds and brain rot.

Nicholas Howson helps The Washington Post analyze the meaning of a Chinese tech giant’s suit against its former partner, Motorola.

Sam Gross is quoted in an Agence France-Presse story on how bad science can lead to bad convictions.

In an AP story, Jessica Litman comes to the defense of the Cuban state tobacco company in an infringement case based in Detroit.

Reuven Avi-Yonah pens an op-ed for the Detroit Free Press on President Obama’s best course in the Middle East.

DECEMBER

CNN’s AC 360, featuring Anderson Cooper, highlights slavery in America by focusing on a New Jersey hair-braiding case involving Human Trafficking Clinic clients of Bridgette Carr, ’02.

Daniel Crane discusses, with The Detroit News, the antitrust implications of a possible Barnes & Noble/Borders merger.

Frank Vandervort is quoted in the Detroit Legal News in a story on the Detroit organization Motherly Intercession.

NOVEMBER

A study by John Pottow about bankruptcy among older Americans is featured in USA Today, Fox Business News, The Washington Post, Newsweek, and more.

A page-one New York Times story about the Supreme Court’s tendency to “write long” features a quote from Ed Cooper.


The National Law Journal notes the new Jindal University/Michigan Law collaborative arrangement spearheaded by Vikramaditya Khanna.

OCTOBER

Adam Pritchard is quoted in The New York Times about changes that grant more power to the SEC.

Reuters quotes Nina Mendelson in a story about augmented SEC powers.
A long tradition at Michigan Law, mock trials and moot courts help to train students for their careers in the courtroom. In the bottom photo, from November 2010, students from the General Clinic argue a larceny from a vehicle case in front of Ann Arbor attorney Drew McGuinness, ’88, acting as trial judge. Arguing for the prosecution are 2Ls Nick Hirst and Molly Storey, and for the defense are 2Ls Jonathan Fleischman and Cara Wall.

“Participating in the mock trial was nerve-wracking, but I really enjoyed challenging myself to deliver an effective closing argument to help win the case,” Storey says of the experience. “The feedback provided to us by our professors, the student jurors, and the judge was extremely beneficial in developing our litigation skills.” Jurors are middle-school students from Detroit’s Pierre Toussaint Academy.
Save the Date …

What: **Senior Day**

Who: Keynote speech to be delivered by U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, '84, a Republican from Ohio

When: May 7, 2011, at 2 p.m.

Where: Hill Auditorium

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**Story Ideas for the Law Quadrangle?**

Do you have story ideas for the *Law Quadrangle*, or for our online sister publication, *Amicus*? An alum we should profile? A legal trend in which our alumni are prominent? An idea for our old- and new-photos feature in the back of the magazine? E-mail LQNGeneral@umich.edu.

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**Searching for Old Postcards**

In an upcoming issue of the *Law Quadrangle*, we will feature old postcards of the Law School. Do you have some in your collection? If so, please e-mail a scanned image to kgazella@umich.edu or mail your postcards to:

Editor
Law Quadrangle
B38 Hutchins Hall
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215

We will return your postcards to you.

We’re particularly interested in linen, “real photo,” chrome, and other vintage styles.

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