Dear Alumni and Friends,

There are many stories and pictures in this issue of Saint Louis Brief that will bring to you a strong sense of the vitality and warmth of those who comprise the law school community at Saint Louis University. Now in my sixth year as a member of this community, I feel blessed by the opportunity for daily interactions with students, faculty, staff and alumni. Teaching Evidence to our students is such fun! Visiting with alumni is inevitably a confirming and heartening occasion. Working daily with our fine faculty and staff, in a spirit of team work and “can do” optimism, is energizing.

As you read about Omen Safavi, Matt Jagger, Marguerite Roy, Robin Connelley and Vinita Ollapally, you will see why I am optimistic about the future of our legal profession. Our law students are talented, smart and well-rounded. They have a strong sense of community. They will do good work and contribute mightily to the profession and their communities. Indeed, they follow in the footsteps of the thousands of law graduates from Saint Louis University who preceded them.

The Fall 2004 entering class of just over 300 students was chosen from a pool of nearly 2000 applicants. Forty-six percent of our students come from Missouri, twenty-three percent from Illinois, and the rest from thirty-two other states and foreign countries. Women comprise fifty-three percent of our entering class; eleven percent of our students are minorities. Our average full-time student had a 3.5 undergraduate grade point average and scored a 157 (72nd percentile for all test takers) on the Law School Admissions Test. One hundred and twenty-seven different undergraduate institutions are represented by the 2004 entering class. Saint Louis University is our biggest feeder school; it is followed in numbers by Washington University, the University of Illinois and Notre Dame. Our new students are a very talented and diverse group of young women and men.

Another article in this issue of Saint Louis Brief is titled, “Women of the Seventies.” Seven of our alumnae who graduated in the 1970s are featured. It was not until the 1970s that significant numbers of women entered law school. They were pioneers. The nature of the profession and the nature of legal education have changed profoundly with the arrival of women — and for the better. I know you will enjoy their stories.

Finally, please permit me a word of thanks to our many alumni who serve as School of Law Class Agents. Their volunteer work in support of the Annual Fund produced a record level of giving to the law school last year. We are able to do so much for our students and their teachers because of the Annual Fund. It provides that critical margin of excellence. And thanks to all of you who responded so generously to the appeal of your fellow alums!

Sincerely Yours,

Jeffrey E. Lewis
Dean and Professor of Law
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CONSEQUENCES OF THE CONSUMER LENDING REVOLUTION

Prominent and nationally recognized legal scholars, economists and consumer advocates will participate in a two-day investigation of economic and social impacts of the consumer lending explosion.

Designed especially for economists, consumer advocates, sociologists, lawyers, law school professors, social workers, government employees and educators, this year’s Consumer Lending Revolution Conference* will provide a unique opportunity for analysis and discussion among academics and activists regarding the sociological and economic impacts of the explosion of consumer debt, what consumer groups can do to mitigate damaging fallout and how the revolution affects bankruptcy policy. Held on Wednesday, Dec. 8, from 8:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. to noon at Saint Louis University, the two-day event will bring together nationally known economists, sociologists, law professors, consumer advocates and social workers to discuss and disseminate this timely topic.

The keynote lecture will be given by Robert D. Manning, author of Credit Card Nation and professor at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Presenters include Michael Sheradden, developer of the Individual Development Account and professor at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work, Washington University; George Ritzer, author of Expressing America and The McDonaldization of Society and Professor of Sociology at the University of Maryland; Teresa Sullivan, author of The Fragile Middle Class and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of the University of Texas System; Richard Brown, chief economist at the FDIC; Dean Sagar, senior policy analyst, Democratic staff, Committee on Financial Services, U.S. House of Representatives; William Emmons, economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; Sarah Ludwig, Neighborhood Economic Development Advocacy Project (NEDAP); Karen Gross, author of Failure and Forgiveness and Professor at New York Law School and Peter Alexander, Dean at Southern Illinois University School of Law.

Conference Web Site: http://law.slu.edu/conf/lending

*Sponsored by Saint Louis University School of Law, The Center for Social Development at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University, the Consumer Federation of America and the National Consumer Law Center.

8th Circuit Court of Appeals
Heard Cases at School of Law


Professor Jesse Goldner Appointed
John D. Valentine Professorship

A big congratulations goes out to Professor Jesse Goldner, who has been appointed the John D. Valentine Professorship. John Valentine was a 1978 graduate of the School of Law, and, in his honor, Tom and Rita Keefe established this professorship.

Since his arrival in 1973, Professor Goldner has distinguished himself as a teacher, scholar and public citizen. His contributions to the law school and the university are innumerable and of the highest quality. He has garnered the respect of colleagues, alumni and students. Proof of that is his recent selection by the American Society of Law, Medicine and Ethics as the 2004 Distinguished Teacher of the Year.

Professor Goldner will be recognized at a ceremony in his honor in January.
Chief Justice of South Africa
Served as Millstone Lecturer

Arthur Chaskalson, Chief Justice of South Africa, served as this year’s twelfth annual James C. Millstone Memorial lecturer.

On Monday, Nov. 22, Justice Chaskalson gave the talk, “Can a Constitution Really Guarantee Socio-Economic Rights?” He spoke about his country’s apartheid system, the negotiations that led to its abolition and the impact their post-apartheid constitution has had on South Africa’s law and government.

In addition to his responsibilities as Chief Justice, Chaskalson is also president of the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists, which seeks to promote human rights around the world. For the last three years he has been a judge in the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, where the defendants include Slobodan Milosevic.

As a young lawyer in 1963-1964, he helped defend Nelson Mandela and other leaders of the African National Congress in the infamous Rivonia trial, at which Mandela and seven others were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. In 1978, he helped found the Legal Resources Centre, a human rights advocacy group, which he then directed, for 15 years. In 1993 he helped draft the transitional South African Constitution. The next year, President Mandela appointed him as the first President of South Africa’s new Constitutional Court, the highest court in the land on constitutional matters.

America’s Prison System

Alan Elsner, National Correspondent for Reuters News Service, spoke at the School on Wednesday, Sept. 8, about his new book, Gates of Injustice: The Crisis in America’s Prisons. On his Web site, Elsner warns future readers that the book “paints a terrifying picture of how our prisons really work...how race-based gangs control institutions and prey on the weak...how a rape epidemic has swept the U.S. prison system,” and how there are “300,000 mentally ill prisoners, some abandoned to suffer with grossly inadequate medical care.” His chilling expose is based on his visits to institutions in a dozen states, where he met with inmates, lawyers, corrections officers, medical staff, religious volunteers, family members and law enforcement.

With this year’s celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Saint Louis University School of Law focused the attention of their annual Richard J. Childress Memorial Lecture on the four decades that have followed the enactment of the most sweeping civil rights legislation in United States history. The one-day event, which included lectures and panel discussions from nationally known legal scholars, historians and authors, took place on Friday, Oct. 1.

Former U.S. Solicitor General and Yale Law Professor Drew Days III examined the impact of the legislation, and his commentary was followed by additional insights from a distinguished panel that included: Georgetown Law Professor Sheryll D. Cashin, former clerk for Justice Thurgood Marshall and author of The Failures of Integration: How Race and Class are Undermining the American Dream; University of Virginia Law Professor George Rutherglen, former clerk for Justices Douglas and Stevens; University of Chicago Political Science Professor Gerald Rosenberg, author of Hollow Hope: Can Courts Bring About Social Change?; University of Delaware Law and Public Policy Professor Leland Ware, former trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division, and co-author of Brown v. Board of Education; Caste, Culture, and the Constitution; Washington University School of Law Professor Samuel R. Bagenstos, former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; Saint Louis University School of Law Professor Peter W. Salsich Jr., former chair of the ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty; Mercer University School of Law Professor Harold S. Lewis Jr., author of Litigating Employment Discrimination and Civil Rights Cases; and Whittier Law School Visiting Assistant Professor Melissa Cole, adviser on disability rights and author of numerous articles on the Americans with Disabilities Act.
Toward a New Globalism?

The ice cream cone at the St. Louis World’s Fair in 1904 was not the only St. Louis “first” that year. St. Louis also hosted the first Universal Congress of Lawyers and Jurists, with more than a thousand lawyers and judges from around the world in attendance. This year, law faculties from Saint Louis University and Washington University designed a conference to celebrate the Universal Congress’ centennial anniversary. Titled “Lawyers and Jurists in the 21st Century,” the conference explored how the practice of law has changed, and is likely to change further during the coming decades as lawyers respond to the global legal needs of their clients. The discussions emphasized increasing coordination of legal systems and methods across national boundaries, the opening of multiple-jurisdiction licensing, and nations copying efficient and fair legislation from other nations to improve their own justice systems. Sessions examined judicial reform, criminal procedure, harmonization of civil procedure, international courts and global legal ethics. In addition, one session focused on the growing role that women play in worldwide legal practice — a development that commenced in the latter half of the twentieth century. To begin the program, the American Society of Comparative Law, which is also a sponsor of the conference, designed a panel to review comparative law in the United States over the past half-century.

Human Rights Law: The Case of Azerbaijan

Professor Dr. Stefan Trechsel presented, “Distinguishing Political from Other Prisoners Under European Human Rights Law: The Case of Azerbaijan,” on Nov. 4 in Queen’s Daughters Hall.

Trechsel recently retired from his position as a fully tenured professor for criminal law and procedure at the University of Zurich Law School. He has held several short-term and long-term appointments in the Swiss Federal and Bernese Cantonal Governments. He has been a staff member in the national headquarters of the Swiss Peace Corps and a district attorney in the City of Berne. He has been the Swiss member of the European Commission of Human Rights since 1975, was its second vice president from 1987 to 1993, was president of the Second Chamber (1990 to 1994) and served as president until the Commission ceased its activity (1995-1999). Professor Trechsel has presented cases on behalf of the Commission before the European Court of Human Rights. He also served as counsel for the United States before the International Court of Justice in the LaGrand case.

Disclosure and Insider Trading

The School of Law was pleased to welcome back Visiting Professor Eberhard Schwark, whose last visit was in 1991. This semester he joined the School’s faculty to teach the course, “Comparative European Union Investment Law.” He also gave a talk, “Disclosure of Material Non-Public Information, Insider Trading, and the Protection of Investors,” on Monday, Oct. 11 in Queen’s Daughter’s Hall.

Schwark is a Full Professor at Humboldt-Universität in Berlin, Germany, where he teaches Civil Law, German and European Trade and Business Law. Since 1993, he has been the director of the Institute of Banking and Capital Market Law. Professor Schwark was a Professor at Ruhr Universität in Bochum, Germany, from 1981 until 1993. Prior to that, from 1980 to 1981, he was a Professor at the University of Heidelberg. He was a senior adviser to the Federal Ministry of Justice, Department of Trade and Business Law, from 1975 until 1980. In addition, he was an adviser to the Federal Ministry of Economics, Department of Money and Credit, from 1969 until 1973.

Professor Schwark has published extensively during his legal career. His scholarly works have focused on the areas of investment law, stock exchange law, insider trading and corporate and group law.

Finding The Dream Legal Job

Career expert Kimm Alayne Walton, attorney and author of the national bestsellers, What Law School Doesn’t Teach You... But You Really Need To Know and Guerrilla Tactics For Getting the Legal Job of Your Dreams, spoke at the School on Thursday, Oct. 21. Her presentation included expert tips and strategies for landing the ideal legal job and making your career a success.
Distinguished Health Law Speakers

Mary Crossley, The Florida Bar Health Law Section Professor, gave a talk on Monday, Oct. 25, as part of the Center for Health Law Studies Distinguished Speaker Series. Professor Crossley teaches Health Law and Policy at Florida State University College of Law. Her research interests include disability discrimination and access to care issues for people with disabilities, as well as issues of inequality in health care more generally. Prior to joining the faculty at Florida State, she was a Professor at the University of California, Hastings College of Law, where she also served as Associate Academic Dean. Professor Crossley served as a law clerk to the Honorable Harry W. Wellford of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and practiced law in San Francisco and Connecticut. She received a B.A. in history from the University of Virginia in 1984 and her J.D. in 1987 from Vanderbilt Law School, where she served as editor-in-chief of the Vanderbilt Law Review and was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Larry I. Palmer, Endowed Chair in Urban Health Policy at the University of Louisville, visited the School on Thursday, Oct. 21. His talk was titled, "Lessons from the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiments."

Professor Palmer holds appointments in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, the Institute for Bioethics, Health Policy and Law, and the School of Public Health and Information Sciences. Prior to accepting the position at the University of Louisville, he was professor of law at Cornell University Law School in Ithaca, New York. He is the author of Law, Medicine, and Social Justice and Endings and Beginnings: Law, Medicine and Society in Assisted Life and Death. He has also written many articles dealing with law, medicine and health policy. Palmer is the executive producer and author of the study guide of the prize-winning educational video, “Susceptible to Kindness: Miss Evers’ Boys and the Tuskegee Syphilis Study.”

Russell Korobkin, Faculty Associate at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, visited the School as a Health Law Distinguished Speaker on Oct. 15 and spoke about new issues in employer provided health insurance. Professor Korobkin teaches courses in Health Care Law, Negotiation, and Contracts, and has written on the efficiency of managed care regulation, the Supreme Court’s jurisprudence concerning ERISA preemption of lawsuits against HMOs and state regulation of managed care, physician-assisted suicide, and philosophical perspectives on positive rights to health care.

Clinic Case Results in Community Court Being Declared Unconstitutional

The combined efforts of the Saint Louis University Civil and Criminal Law Clinics resulted in a victory for homeless persons who receive services in downtown St. Louis. The Clinics, along with the Washington University Civil Justice Clinic and Legal Services of Eastern Missouri sought an injunction against the City to prevent it from operating a privately funded court known as the Downtown Community Court. This Court was financed by a group of downtown businesses that contracted with the City to provide in excess of $200,000 a year for the court to be used to pay, among other things, the judge’s salary. The contract between the City and the private businesses required the court to target only those persons accused of committing “Quality of Life” crimes in a certain area of downtown St. Louis. It also required that the Court and the police treat these offenders differently, for example, requiring they be arrested immediately instead of being given a summons and told to appear in court at a later date.

Students, faculty and lawyers from the three institutions challenged the jurisdiction of the Downtown Community Court. They alleged that the provision of private funds for the operation of the Court, in combination with the amount of control the businesses were given over the operation of the Court, violated the most basic of due process rights. The Circuit Court of the 22nd Judicial Circuit agreed with this allegation and issued a Writ of Prohibition prohibiting the operation of the Downtown Community Court.

For more information on recent clinic victories, visit: http://law.slu.edu/clinics/clinicnews/index.html

Retraction:
In the Spring 2004 issue of Saint Louis Brief, Lindsey Vacco, 3L, was not properly identified as helping to author the “Student Spotlight” on page 9. Both Ms. Vacco and Mrs. Christine Duden Street contributed to the story.
dedicated LIVES
OF LAW STUDENTS

by Stefanie Ellis
Everyone has a story.
The mailman secretly loves Shakespeare. The grocery store clerk is a self-taught student of astronomy. The woman from your building, who works on the fifth floor, is a former Julliard scholar. And her boss, the grey-haired curmudgeon who smokes a cigar, is fluent in French. There are people — many people — you encounter every day, and, though you know them, you don’t really know who they are.

At Saint Louis University, our halls are teeming with students from diverse backgrounds — human rights activists, tennis players, environmentalists, marathon runners, political volunteers...stories just waiting to be told. Students here keep themselves busy with more than just the reading of cases and the writing of briefs. They know how to balance. They have passions. Their plans for enhancing the world with their gifts — legal and otherwise — are inspirational. In the next few pages you’ll meet five of them who are rocking the world, in some way, by doing what they love. They’re dedicated law students. They each came here to make a difference. And with their drive, determination and great talent, it’s not much of a stretch to imagine just how big that difference will really be.
The curtain rises. A baby lies motionless inside a hospital incubator, tubes attached to every part of its body. A doctor stands above the child, shaking his head. In the other room, a mother cries. Her husband embraces her. She clenches her fists and shakes them toward the sky. “Perché?” she screams. “Perché?”

The stage grows dark and the deep moan of a bass fills the air. The mother begins to sing. “Il caro padre, che cosa sarà del mio bambino? Me lo non prenda prego via!”

True to form, good things have come to Omen Safavi. Having defied the prediction of underdeveloped lungs and speech and hearing problems, Safavi has become an accomplished opera singer, and belts out arias with gusto. And, rather than a mental handicap, he has been blessed with a zest for learning and an ability to challenge himself as a law student. It is not without hope, however, that he has been able to accomplish so much. His hope for bettering the world led him to the law, and his hope for bringing out joy in others sustained his interest in singing. The fact that he flawlessly balances both of his life’s passions is a marvel, but comes rather naturally to Safavi, who has become something of a fate-driven juggler — one accustomed to discovering, by chance, the paths on which he is destined to travel.

Many years ago, while singing along to a friend’s guitar strumming, Safavi’s family, as well as the guitarist, was stunned by the beauty of his voice — a voice that had never had a single lesson. He was fifteen then and remembers having developed “an instant connection” to singing, something he describes as “a natural part of who I am.”

Though he chose to focus on his burgeoning talent, and became a voice performance major at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign, it was his experience as a medical director for a group home for mentally handicapped and retarded adults that made him realize he was passionate about more than just singing. When one of the home’s employees was accused of abusing a resident, Safavi had to testify in court. That experience sparked an interest in health care and prompted him to add another major to his repertoire — hospital administration. It also made him more certain that he wanted to one day have the authority to become a voice for others.

He chose to attend Saint Louis University School of Law because, he says, “it just felt right…the minute I set foot on campus, met the students and discovered the city’s cultural offerings, I knew I wanted to go to school here.”

He also knew he wanted to keep singing. So, along with his demanding legal studies, he performs regularly with the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra Choir and the Trinity Presbyterian Church Choir, and has delivered performances with the Saint Louis University Master Singers Choir.

“I see great parallels between singing and the law,” says Safavi. “When learning a song in another language, I translate the words and apply them to what I’m performing so I can understand the emotions behind it, the origin of the words. It’s the same when I study the law. I have to understand it, internalize it and communicate its principles to others. Whether on stage or in front of a judge, I have to have confidence in my abilities and the knowledge that what I’m doing will benefit others.”

What he’s doing, he says, is “the hardest, yet most rewarding work I’ve ever done in

(*Why? **Heavenly father, what will become of my son? Please don’t take him from me!)
Whatever you do, don’t make fun of the shorts. They’re small, blue, a bit snug, and tend not to be the kind of attire one would expect to see on a 6'2” man.

But in Australian Rules Football, the shorts are a required part of the uniform. And when 36 men run across an oval-shaped field, kicking and punching an oblong ball into the air and knocking each other to the ground, the shorts suddenly fade into the background. The players, however, don’t.

With approximately 2000 players in the United States, the sport, that originated in Australia in 1858 and is said to predate any other modern form of football, has given birth to some superior athletes — the kind who seem naturally carved out for the game, whose flawless performances are characterized by speed, stamina and unmatched agility. In St. Louis, and, now, the world, Matt Jagger is fast becoming one of those players. His gift for the game has been written about on the official Australian Rules Football Web site, and a recent citation credited him with holding together the backline during a particularly challenging game, ultimately contributing to his team’s win over a successful Atlanta team. And, although his team didn’t need much help since they happen to be the back-to-back Mid-America Australian Football League champions, it’s clear that Jagger plays a large role in the team’s success. While Jagger is quick to give credit to his teammates, he certainly deserves credit of his own for being the only player on his team chosen to play for the U.S. in the 2002 Australian Rules Football Tournament in Melbourne, Australia. In that capacity, he spent close to three weeks competing, with the U.S. team, for the International Cup. His team played against eleven other countries and came home with fifth place. Jagger garnered “Best on Ground” honors twice in five games.

He was, of course, honored to have such an impressive showing under his belt, but it was what awaited him at Saint Louis University School of Law that would ultimately provide him with his greatest source of accomplishment.

“After college, I was in the workforce for a few years, but knew that what I was doing wasn’t something I’d want to pursue the rest of my life,” says Jagger. “I also knew I would feel unfulfilled if I didn’t go back to school at some point. I had taken a property law course as an undergrad, and, almost immediately after that experience, had a good feeling that the law was where I wanted to be.”

Jagger was drawn to Saint Louis University School of Law because of its well-known health law program and is thrilled that throughout his three years at the School,
he’s been able to apply so much of what he’s learned to the work he’s done outside of school. He recently finished an externship with Ascension Health Care, and says he can’t wait to be able to put all of the skills and knowledge he gained from that experience — as well as the things he learned in class — to use in his future career.

“My courses have prepared me well for the real world,” says Jagger. “Through my Health Care Finance course, for example, I learned what variety there was in the health law field, and how dynamic the industry really is. The class was taught by an actual practitioner, and he illustrated legal principles by showing us how the laws applied to the work he does every day. I was able to see how the law is applied in practice, not just theory.”

Jagger is also given more than just a theoretical glimpse of things when he’s on the field, helping to propel his team to victory.

“In Australian Rules Football, just as in most any sport, you work yourself past your limits — even if you don’t know where your limits are,” says Jagger. “You sweat, you plan and you learn from those around you. Law school, and the law itself, is the same. You must challenge yourself every day, and you must be able to give your all. Most importantly, you must be ready to learn.”

Thankfully, Matthew Jagger, a celebrated athlete in a sport described as being “faster than rugby and American football, more physical than soccer, and one of the most physically demanding team sports in the world,” is ready. He’s ready to face the challenges the law has to offer, and he’s ready to get out there and give it his all. And, he might even be ready for another International Cup in 2005.

“It will be fun to see what I can really accomplish,” says Jagger.

Most people wouldn’t leave a cushy job at one of America’s most successful companies, where millions of dollars are exchanged on a daily basis, only to end up working in a remote part of Western Africa, giving out $50 loans to women who need to buy butter and flour for cookies they sell on the road. And, those same people might have difficulty giving up air conditioning and indoor plumbing for a place that, though dubbed the “water shed” of Africa, oftentimes has no latrines or running water. Then again, most people aren’t Marguerite Roy.
Roy recalls, with clarity, the moment her eyes were opened to where she was and where she needed to go. She mimics the voice of one of her superiors when recounting his words during a staff meeting: “We’re all here for the same reason,” she says, her voice gruff and masculine. “The bottom line.”

“I knew then that I was in the wrong place,” she says.

So she took a year off work, moved to France to learn the language, and received her certification from the Centre Internationale d’Études Francaises. Then she enrolled in the Peace Corps, and never looked back. After ten years of international work in Guinea, Senegal, Morocco, Albania, Kosovo, Haiti, Ethiopia and London — some work in D.C. with Population Services International, and a one-year stop in Massachusetts where she earned a M.A. in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University — she is back in the States pursuing another challenge. Law school at Saint Louis University. Here’s why.

**Why did you choose to come to law school at the age of 44?**

My experiences convinced me that I would like to sharpen my skills and learn to negotiate more effectively within the context of the law. I also want to develop the necessary analytical and logical reasoning skills needed to better advocate viewpoints of both individuals and diverse interest groups.

**What experiences, in particular, cemented the idea in your head?**

I’ve had so many, really, but I’d say that my work as Municipal Administrator to one of the few remaining ethnically mixed municipalities in Kosovo, Kamenica, was a very strong experience. I was working there as part of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo. I was in Kosovo for three years, and, after my position as Municipal Administrator, went on to become the Deputy Head of two separate regions — Mitrovica and Pejë/Pec — and then the only female Regional Administrator of Pejë/Pec.

**What was your main assignment as Municipal Administrator?**

Essentially, I was the Mayor, and was responsible for establishing an interim administration for the Municipality of Kamenica. In doing so, my goal was to maintain an ethnic balance between the Albanian and Serbian people, but hard line elements of the Albanian community were intent on shifting that balance in their favor. Following much controversy, numerous protests, walk-outs and death threats to my staff, we managed to maintain a mixed administration where Albanians and Serbians continue to this day to work side-by-side.

**Was your work dangerous?**

Sometimes, yes — on many different levels. Although not directed at me personally, a bullet was fired into my vehicle, just inches from my head. There were land mines and anti-tank mines, houses being bombed. I’ve rolled off my bed at night, crawled on the floor, while gunfire went off like popcorn outside my window. Once, in Albania, we had to be evacuated by the marines because things were so bad. They airlifted us out by helicopter and landed us on an Aircraft Carrier in the middle of the Adriatic Sea. I actually took a little bit of time off after that particular experience.

**What other things did you do overseas?**

I worked with the Peace Corps on some special projects, and am pleased with the changes I was able to help make while there. In Guinea, I helped build three classrooms, which meant 180 more children could go to school each year, helped put electricity in classrooms, built bathrooms where there once were none, built a medical post in a small town, where roads were hardly navigable and people couldn’t make the ten-mile trek into the next town. I saw a lot of people get the help they deserved.

**What’s been the best part about your work?**

The influence I’ve been able to have on others. It’s made everything worthwhile.

**Would you say that your experiences have been transformative?**

Although all of my experiences were, in a sense, just another day at the office, they were defining moments in my life. It was often incredibly gratifying, and sometimes dangerous, but everything I experienced helped teach me what being alive really meant.

**Can you put into words what that means?**

It means daring to do something different. Following your heart. If you have a nagging voice, listen to it. Don’t let your fear stop you from ever doing anything. I always wanted to do work where I could make a difference, where I had passion for what I was doing. I have to do something that means something to me, as well as to others. And even if it was, at times, dangerous, my work has always been rewarding.

**And now, you’re pursuing other rewarding avenues by going to law school. What brought you to Saint Louis University School of Law?**

I love St. Louis. Though I’m from the Northeast, my family bought land about three hours from St. Louis many years ago, so I’ve been able to visit the city and get to know it better. I also have friends from St. Louis who told me how good Saint Louis University School of Law was, and that was my first motivation to look into the programs they offered here. I was really drawn to the evening program. I liked that I could still work if I wanted to, and attend classes at night. Plus, many of the students are at the same point in their lives as I am, and that’s comforting.

**What now?**

I plan to get a certificate in International Law and gain experience with an international firm. I want to use my experiences to shed more light on current international problems.
She jumps from side to side, her breath quick, gaze locked.

She’s worked hard to get here. Trained for hundreds of hours, fought men three times her size, proven herself, again and again, until she could no longer move, no longer think, no longer feel. It’s just a few minutes before the match. Her teeth are clenched. Sweat is rolling down her cheeks.

“Are you scared?” her coach asks. “Not at all,” she replies. “I’m ready.”

Robin Connelley was born to kick people around. Her mother knew it and anyone who laid a hand on her pregnant stomach knew it. “Feels like someone’s having a party in there,” amused friends would say. “She sure knows how to kick.” If they only knew.

They would know one day, though — seventeen years later. For it was then, while she was in high school, that Robin began her search for something different, something other than the typical sports in which her friends were participating. She wanted to be able to unleash her frustrations, learn to be stronger, develop a sense of self. She wanted a challenge that couldn’t be found in volleyball or soccer. She wanted to kick.

So she enrolled in a kickboxing class… then another, and another, until finally, she joined the team. Connelley’s involvement was not met without opposition, however. This is because she chose a sport that is not only intense and physically demanding, but is also primarily male dominated. None of this was an issue for Connelley, though, who is as determined as she is feisty, as tough as she is focused. Still, it was a bit of an issue for those she told of her athletic endeavors. Not because she’s a woman — because she’s a petite woman.

Slight of build and lithe of frame, Connelley is all of 5’3” and 105 pounds. Not exactly a quarterback, but definitely living proof that big things really do come in small packages. She’s done exceedingly well throughout the years to prove that fact true. At the age of 22, she became the first woman to earn a black belt from her kickboxing instructor, and was also one of the youngest recipients of the belt in the state of Georgia, where she trained. Not only had she found the perfect sport, she had stumbled upon something at which she was surprisingly gifted. “Plus, it’s a totally new twist on stress relief,” she laughs.

And she needs that relief. Especially when balancing aggressive kickboxing training and teaching with a full law school class load at Saint Louis University and a position as treasurer of the Student Bar Association.

“It’s worth the balancing act,” Connelley says. “I know what I’m working toward, and it’s important that I get there, so I will.”

She’s referring, of course, to the work she’ll be doing after law school. As a second-year law student, Connelley has her sights set on being as successful out of the ring as she is in it. Helping people was always something she was good at, and, though she always intended to study the law so she could put her skills to use on a grander scale, she didn’t know where she would be going to school. A southern girl at heart, Connelley planned to look into schools around her home state of South Carolina, but it was an attorney in her kickboxing class who changed her mind.

“He was from St. Louis,” she remembers, “and couldn’t stop talking about how great Saint Louis University School of Law was, so I visited the campus. I found the environment comfortable, not stuffy like many other
schools, and it seemed that the administration was focused on the quality of education they provide and the quality of people they release into the world. That pretty much sold me.”

Another selling point was the kindness of the Admissions staff. Connelley recalls a time, before law school, when she needed to secure an apartment, and called the Admissions Office to inquire about a particular area of the city. Because no one in the Office was 100% certain about the kinds of apartments available at that time, they got in their car and drove to the location.

“They decided it wouldn’t be a good fit for me, so they found me a different place to live,” says a still-impressed Connelley. “Everyone here really goes out of their way to help you.”

And “help,” for Connelley, came not only in the form of door-to-door apartment hunting, but also in the form of a full-tuition scholarship. She joined just ten other students in her entering class in receiving the prestigious 1843 Scholars Award.

Now, halfway through her second year, she’s able to reflect on her personal development.

“Both law school and kickboxing help me develop as a person and allow me to test myself, see how far I can go,” she says. “Even more, as a woman, I push myself hard even if I don’t feel like it. People are always watching. They know that if I can do it, they can too.”

And she can — and does — do it all, with the kind of verve and confidence few could muster. Exactly the kind of spunk you’d expect from someone who seemed to have come out of the womb ready for a challenge.

“You have to go after what you want,” says Connelley. “It doesn’t matter if it’s a law degree or a black belt. It won’t come to you for free — you have to make it happen. You have to earn it, and, when you do, be ready for everything.”

Washington wanted Vinita Ollapally.

She would never admit that, of course, but facts are facts. And the fact is, she was offered a highly coveted summer position in the Office of the Inspector General-Department of Health and Human Services. Only three law students were accepted, and over 200 applied.

The experience which, she says, gave her a “wonderful overview of federal health care law,” helped her determine that she did, in fact, want to work in the health care law field. After doing “real projects and cases,” such as Medicare fraud and EMTALA work, health care client issues, STARK and anti-kick back laws, she got a good sense of what it is that the Office of the Inspector General does on a daily basis.

She is convinced she never would have been given a glimpse into that world, if it hadn’t been for Saint Louis University School of Law.

“Saint Louis University School of Law has an excellent reputation in D.C., and in the Office of the Inspector General, in particular,” she says. “I know that my affiliation with the School was instrumental in helping me get the job.”

Or, it could’ve been her work as lead articles editor on the Journal of Health Law, her internship with Southern District of Illinois Judge William Stiehl, and her
inpressive academic record. Whatever credentials one looks at — and there are many — Ollapally humbly shifts the focus from her accomplishments and gives the attention to those at the School who have, along the way, provided her with assistance.

“All the professors here go out of their way to help you,” she says. “Even the professors I’ve never had a class with.” She cites, as an example, a criminal procedure question she asked Professor Roger Goldman via e-mail. Though he’d never been a professor of hers, Goldman replied, almost immediately, with a list of five applicable cases, and, within the hour, sent her several more — all during the weekend. “I had only spoken to Professor Goldman on a few occasions, yet he helped me without even questioning it,” Ollapally remembers. “I was so impressed that he would go out of his way to help me like that.”

Goldman was only one on a long list of professors and administrators who wanted to see Ollapally succeed. Professor Sandra Johnson has helped by writing many letters of recommendation on her behalf, and Professor Thomas Greaney made himself accessible to assist with possible job interview questions with the OIG, even though he wasn’t in town that semester. And Christine Duden Street, assistant director of the Center for Health Law Studies, helped with interview questions as well as ongoing support throughout the application and interviewing processes.

“I really believe the School wants us to succeed,” Ollapally says, “and will do whatever they can to help us get where we want to go. I can’t wait to get a really great job and come back and tell everyone, ‘Look! I did it — I’m here because of you.’”

This is a message she would also share with her peers. “It feels great to come here every day and surround myself with so many people who devote their lives to doing good,” she says. “They inspire me.”

And the more Vinita Ollapally reflects on her time at the School of Law, the more inspiration she finds. She loves being in St. Louis — a city she says is a “great place to be a law student.” She loves researching the law. She loves writing. She loves being around professors who listen to her ideas and encourage her to pursue her dreams. And she loves, even more, the person law school has helped her become.

“People have noticed a change in me,” she smiles. “I don’t think I’d be who I am now if I hadn’t had this experience. I never expected to love law school as much as I do. I’d stay here five years if I could.”
Learning Styles and Law School

For many entering students, law school can appear a formidable endeavor. And indeed it is. One way to make a successful transition from an undergraduate to a law student is to understand one’s learning style and how best to learn in law school. Research shows that people have different learning styles. Law students who are aware of their own learning styles can engage in metacognition: they can self-monitor to see whether their old studying habits are best suited to succeed in law school, and adjust those studying habits where necessary. In the same manner, law school professors should teach in ways that reach the various learning styles invariably represented in their classrooms.

How students absorb and process information depends on whether they are verbal learners, visual learners, oral learners, aural learners, tactile and kinesthetic learners, or some mix thereof: Verbal learners learn best through written materials, like textbooks and articles. Visual learners learn by seeing or picturing information and recalling a mental image of it. So, for example, a visual learner may mentally scroll down a textbook’s pages in her mind’s eye to recall an idea. Oral learners learn by talking out their ideas. They tend to speak more frequently in class than other students, and profit from student study groups where they can discuss what they have read. Aural learners learn by listening to information. They like class lectures and small group discussions, listening in class more than taking notes, and even taping classes. Finally, tactile and kinesthetic learners learn by touching, by doing and by movement. They tend to learn well from role-playing, clinical experiences, internships and interactive, on-line instruction.

To be successful, law students should know their learning styles. This allows students to be metacognitive: to learn how they learn best in law school. Self-awareness of learning style allows students to monitor and critically assess how and whether they are absorbing assigned reading and class discussion, whether they are “getting” the material, and whether or not to alter inefficient learning processes. They tend to learn well from role-classes. Finally, tactile and kinesthetic learners do best by using diagrams or different colored markers to separate visually the facts of the assigned legal case, the case’s legal conclusion (holding) and reasons supporting the conclusion. Using the best learning practices as dictated by learning style should make students more effective learners and performers in law school.

As to law professors, in almost any class (and certainly large ones), all five learning styles will be represented. Law school professors should teach in ways that accommodate different learning styles. For example, a professor might complement written assignments with visual aids like PowerPoint or the time-tested blackboard, or use in-class hypotheticals, the analysis of which requires a high degree of oral/aural interaction between the professor and students.

In my Secured Transactions class, I use a box of cookies around which I tie a piece of string to illustrate the “attachment” of a lien to collateral. Visual learners thus can actually see a lien (the string) being attached to the collateral (the cookies), which helps them grasp the legal rules of attachment set forth in their textbook. A colleague of mine, in his Intellectual Property class, passes around boxes of cereal to his students when discussing trademark infringement. For tactile learners, handling and comparing the various boxes is very helpful to understanding the infringement doctrine of “confusing similarity” between products.

Research (and my own experience) shows that both law students and law professors profit when they acknowledge students’ different learning styles. Students become better students, and law professors become better teachers. That’s a happy ending.
As we began to conceptualize the fall issue of *Saint Louis Brief* magazine, we knew that we wanted to include in it a story about women in the law. But, as can be imagined, this was a very broad, and very daunting, project. That’s only because there is so much to say about women in the legal profession and so little space in which to say it. We realized this after a panel of female professors and administrators put their heads together to discuss the many alumnae we might be able to feature in our article. By the end of the meeting, we had enough women to fill fifteen magazines! So when someone suggested we narrow the focus to include those women who were, in many ways, trailblazers for women in the field of law at the time — the 1970s female attorneys — we felt it was more doable. This decade was, after all, a significant one for women. It was during this time that many became the first women in their family to attend law school. Outnumbered by men 10 to 1 in 1971, for example, women were beginning to pave the way on a path that, just a few years before, had never been trod upon. Some left their careers to attend law school. Others went to school part time and raised their children. Regardless of the paths they took to get to Saint Louis University School of Law, so many female graduates from the 1970s left indelible marks in the fabric of the legal community. And so many of them continue to make those marks today.

In this article, we will celebrate seven such women who responded to a letter that was sent out to every female graduate from 1970 to 1979. They shared with us their personal stories — stories of innovation, of great strength of character, and, ultimately, of great satisfaction with the choices they made to become legal professionals. We are honored to be able to share those stories with you. So let these next few pages serve as a well-deserved badge, not just to the women whose words are captured on them, but, more importantly, to women everywhere who understand the power they have to make a difference. We salute you for helping to prove, every day, just how real that power is.
It is hard to believe I graduated from Saint Louis University School of Law over 25 years ago. I remember how excited my family was to go to the Supreme Court of Missouri in 1978 for my oath of admission to the Missouri Bar. Never in my wildest dreams did I expect to have the opportunity to actually sit behind the Missouri Supreme Court bench to hear oral arguments during my career.

Still, I always knew I wanted to go to law school. Although my parents are not college graduates, they instilled in their children the importance of a good education. Because I am one of eight children, they could not have my financial in college — I remember telling them that if there was any money available for college tuition, it should go to my five brothers who would need a good education so they could support their families. Fortunately, I was able to put myself through college in three years through scholarships and work-study. My parents encouraged me to become a teacher so I would always have a degree “to fall back on.”

I graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a B.S. in Education in 1974. Although I taught school for a year to save money, my desire for a legal education was still a priority, so I applied to law school. When I entered Saint Louis University School of Law, I was in the first class at the School that had twenty to thirty percent women, which seemed revolutionary at the time.

When I started working at the Public Defender’s Office in the city of St. Louis in 1978, there were a few women attorneys, but not a female judge on the circuit bench. I was happy when Judge Anna Forder, ’74, was appointed by Governor Teasdale in 1979. I joined the Women Lawyers Association shortly after becoming a lawyer. I found the companionship and camaraderie extremely supportive and beneficial. I served as president of that organization from 1986-1987. During that year, our organization worked on getting women appointed to the judiciary. In the spring of 1987, the president of the Kansas City Women Lawyers Association and I met in Jefferson City to encourage the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court and the Governor to consider appointing a woman to the appellate court for the first time in Missouri history. We were delighted when Judge Ann Covington was appointed to the Western District Court of Appeals in 1987 and Judge Jean Hamilton was appointed to the Eastern District Court of Appeals in 1989. We were especially pleased when Judge Covington became the first female Missouri Supreme Court Judge in 1988.

I became a circuit judge in the city of St. Louis in 1989 and joined three other women and 27 men on the bench. Needless to say, the pregnancies of Judge Sherri Sullivan, ’81, and myself in 1990 were new situations never encountered before by our bench.

In December of 1995, I was appointed by Governor Carnahan to the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, and joined two women and eleven men on that bench. Now, in 2004, we have two women judges on the Supreme Court, four women judges on the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, and many circuit judges.

I am glad to say that things look a lot different then they did in the 1970s. I look around now and see almost fifty percent women students and more women faculty members in most law schools. I see many more women partners in law firms and women corporate attorneys. I see many more women judges at every level of the judiciary. I have also witnessed the expansion and acceptance of the Women Lawyers Association and the changes it has promoted.

I am proud of how far women in the profession have progressed. But I think it is important to remind everyone today that it has not always been this way. A lot of effort and dedication on behalf of many individuals throughout the years has laid this foundation and made our current progress possible. I believe it is critical to appreciate the past and to continue our efforts in the future.

August 1976 — called home and told my mother I was going to law school the following week.

With her hand over the mouth piece, I heard her call to my dad. When he said, “What’s wrong?” she answered, “It’s Anna and she’s going through menopause.”

Dad came on the phone and again asked what the matter was. I told him I was going to law school and he said, “How long will that take?”

After I told him it would take three years, he replied, “But you’ll be an old woman when you get out.” I told him I’d be an old woman in three years whether I went to law school or not.

I was 44 years old at the time and the oldest woman in the class of 1979.

Needless to say, my parents, especially my dad, were very proud of me. He was a German immigrant who never had the chance to go to school. While he thought higher education was only for sons, he finally, in later years, agreed it was for daughters also. He eventually told all his friends that he had a lawyer who made house calls.

It was wonderful to see so many women going to law school during the years I was still in practice. Every year the number increased. The year I graduated, there were over 30% women enrolled.

After hearing too often during those three years that my age would be a liability in
WOMEN OF THE SEVENTIES

finding a job, I was hired by the St. Louis Division of Workers’ Compensation after my first interview. Being the only woman in the firm was difficult at first. Being the only woman practicing workmen’s compensation at the time was even worse. There wasn’t even a ladies’ room on the same floor. I was told to leave the lawyer’s conference room at the Division more than once, as there were no other women practicing there and the lawyers didn’t recognize a woman lawyer.

I’m still so happy that I did it. It wasn’t easy going to school full time with a husband, three children and a home to care for. But I would do it again. It has enriched my life and the lives of my family.

Sr. Betty A. Berger, OSF, ’75
Legal Aid Lawyer; Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services; Member of the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota

In 1975 I was the first Catholic sister to graduate from Saint Louis University School of Law. I had been teaching high school students in my community’s girls-only high school in rural Minnesota and came to St. Louis with the goal of experiencing an urban inner city and becoming a lawyer for the poor.

I had never been to St. Louis before I arrived for law school. The only lawyers I knew were parents of high school classmates and of high school students I had taught. I did not know any women lawyers. I did not know any Catholic sisters who were lawyers. No one in my family had a college degree. I was embarking on an adventure.

One of my first days at the law school, the dean, Richard Childress, took me under his wing and told me he was a personal friend of Cardinal Carberry and could get me access to the Cardinal if I had any problems while I was at the law school. I never felt it prudent to pursue the offer because I was uncertain about what the Cardinal might think about my presence at the law school. In that same introduction to the law school, Dean Childress warned me to avoid a certain law professor who did not want women in his classes. I followed the Dean’s advice and did not encounter any problems with the professors I had.

Saint Louis University School of Law was open to women students, but was feeling its way. We had a women students’ organization that met occasionally. Professors or other students who made sexist remarks were quickly told that such remarks were unacceptable. Academically, women students did well. I found nurture and support for my religious vocation in the Jesuit community and in the other religious individuals who were studying at the other schools at the University. Saint Louis University and its urban environment was a good place to begin my legal work.

The only woman on the faculty during my three years at the School was Eileen Searls, the law librarian, though I did have a visiting woman professor for a summer school class on Women and the Law. In my first job as a lawyer in Duluth, Minnesota, I found that there was only one other woman lawyer practicing in the county. Later, I worked with legal aid in the rural counties of west Tennessee and was often the only woman lawyer practicing in the counties we covered. Bar association meetings meant dealing with cultural change. I often heard “pardon my French,” when the men would forget there was a “lady” in the room.

I am now a legal aid lawyer at Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services in St. Paul, Minnesota. Women are no longer a novelty as lawyers and judges. I have had cases in which all the participants — the judge, the lawyers and the parties — are all women. I have plenty of women colleagues. Even being a Catholic sister and a lawyer is no longer such a novelty; there are enough to have a national organization.

Both life in religious community and life in the law have changed significantly since I graduated from law school. Both face serious challenges. The needs of the poor are greater than ever. I am hopeful that the legal profession and religious life will continue to attract persons committed to justice for all.

My father, who died when I was seven, was a Harvard lawyer. Growing up, that is all I wanted to be. Guidance counselors said law school was three more whole years after college and, for a while, talked me out of it (although my mother and stepfather were always encouraging). I taught school, had three children, and, in 1968-1970, decided that if I was going to change the world — my ambition in those pretty dark days — I would have to go to law school.

We moved to St. Louis from Boston in 1971 for my husband’s residency, with me ending up at Saint Louis University because of Professor Pete Salsich’s wonderful letter encouraging women to come and Washington University’s very discouraging letter (though, since that time, things have obviously changed at that university). Saint Louis University School of Law was wonderfully accommodating, allowing me to take half of my first year classes with one section and half with the other, so I could cram the classes into as short a time as possible and get home to my 1, 2 1/2, and 4-year-old children. I went full time, taking summers off with the children and struggling to find childcare (there was no real day care then). I was able to attend law school because of a half scholarship and a student loan and the continuing care of Pete Salsich and others. I went to law school to work at Legal Aid, but there were no openings when I got out. I had taken the Title...
I left the Court of Appeals in the summer of 1973 to join the Public Defender Office in the City of St. Louis. I was the first female attorney hired by that office.

After spending nine months defending cases in the Juvenile Court, I was transferred to the felony trial staff and became the first woman in the Missouri Public Defender system to carry a felony trial caseload. It is likely that I won my first felony jury trial because of my gender. Several of the jurors, after returning the not guilty verdict, commented on the youth of my client — he was 17 — and the gender and youth of his lawyer — I was young then, too. Their further comment: they hoped he never did it again (the defendant had been charged with burglary and was caught inside the burglarized premises).

During the early part of my Public Defender career, I was confronted by one judge and roundly criticized for failing to exclusively use my husband’s last name. Now, hyphenation is all the rage.

I have to think that Evelyn Baker, ‘73, and I tried the first female v. female felony trial in St. Louis in 1976. I can’t remember the details. I’m sure she has a better memory of it than I do. She won. I lost.

In 1978, I tried two cases in my last month of pregnancy: a two-day trial, October 16 and 17, and a five-day rape and kidnapping trial that ended on November 3, 1978. My first child was born on November 14, 1978. Several judges refused to let me try cases in their courtrooms at that time because of my “condition.”

Also, when arguing, while pregnant, before the Missouri Supreme Court, the Court commented on the change in my appearance (since my last argument before those so very honorable judges).

After maternity leave, I returned to the Public Defender Office as a Special Assistant Public Defender. A “Special” was, at the office, “part time.” Previously, Special Assistants were male attorneys who were leaving the Public Defender Office but continuing to handle criminal cases part time, while building up their private practices outside the Office. My outside practice consisted of changing diapers.

I continued as a Special Assistant with the St. Louis Public Defender Office, working two weeks a month, until 1989, trying in excess of 100 felony jury trials during my tenure. It was great fun.
developed friendships among the men in the law school that continue to this day.

My first job was at Lewis, Rice. Although I wasn’t their first woman associate, I was the only woman lawyer in the office my first year there. There were no women mentors, but I had wonderful male mentors. Over the years I have found that, although I never had an older female mentor, I’ve learned a lot from the women attorneys who came along after me and have valued their example in how they approached the practice of law, participated in the community and balanced their careers and families.

All of us who started practicing in the early 70s were very conscious of being singled out as women, and we felt a pressure to probably overdo everything to ensure our acceptance. We often spoke longingly of being able to get lost in the crowd, and our measure of acceptance was the day when women wouldn’t feel the need to outperform.

One of the other drawbacks of being a woman in law school and at a law firm in the late 60s and early 70s was not having a lot of women friends who were having similar experiences. It was refreshing to go to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in 1980 and practice law with a number of women attorneys. We were in the same place in our personal lives as we were in our professional lives, and I really enjoyed that experience.

When one of the other women in the U.S. Attorney’s Office and I had our children, we proposed and worked out a job-sharing arrangement that let us have some days at work out, so that job-sharing or part-time work could one day be an option for more women attorneys. It was really important to me to have this time with my children when they were babies, and still keep my place in the profession. Now I think it’s common for women to have part-time or job sharing arrangements in both government and private offices.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of having some very rewarding leadership posts and appointments. What really helped me find my place when I was starting out as a minority in the legal profession was immediately getting involved and staying involved in bar association committees and other legal and community organizations that had missions to which I was committed.

Now that our daughter is in her first year of college, she finds herself the only girl in the jazz ensemble. Some of the boys have told her that women don’t really understand jazz and don’t belong in a jazz ensemble. When she told me about it, I shared with her some of my experiences and was happy to be able to predict that those perceptions can and will be overcome.

When I think back on my legal career, I remember most vividly the work I did initiating the first full-service domestic violence organization in Illinois. In the late 1970s, the Mercer County States Attorney’s Office began to question why so many battery victims wanted their cases dismissed after submitting their initial report, which was given with great conviction. Through research we found out about a phenomenon called the cycle of violence (previously unknown to us, but certainly in the literature). We found that “victims” (survivors) came to file their charges while they were angry, hurt and committed to bringing the perpetrator to a trial (one part of the cycle), but that when the arraignment or trial time came (usually several weeks later), they didn’t want to testify because they were in another part of the cycle called the “honeymoon period.”

The “honeymoon period” was a time when the parties got back together, the victim was hearing lots of promises about change and love, and the victim, wanting to believe things could work out, refused to jeopardize the new relationship. This process caused our office a lot of frustration. We’d start cases only to find we didn’t have a witness who would testify. We began to see that folks in our county needed a lot of education, as we did too. This was a period of time when police dismissed a domestic battery as “something we don’t get involved with, because the police get hurt more often than not.”

Most of the helping professions were unsure of their new roles. We spent a year teaching police, ambulance workers, clergy, township commissioners, hospital personnel, sororities and service clubs — anyone we could. We gave presentations about every two weeks during that year. We raised money to fund an office, incorporated, got a charitable exemption and found volunteer safe houses (we used private housing and believed that mobility and secrecy were elements of safety). We trained advocates and built a hotline. We were the third domestic violence organization in Illinois, but ours was the most comprehensive and it still exists today. We only had three people to start with — our State’s Attorney, me, a part-timer (I had a private practice as well), and our secretary. I was the prime mover. Our effort was effective because we started with the official sanction of the Office of the State’s Attorney and we worked like the devil.

I’m glad we made the effort. Being useful is why we’re on this earth and I believe I did my part. My private practice was primarily probate and estate planning. I retired in 1997. Now I devote time to my other love — I’m a portrait painter, and am on the Board of our local Visual Arts Center. My experience as a lawyer helps me read faces and body language and the paintings are better for it. And, I like to think, that as a result of some of the work I did and continue to do for others, the people are better, too.
Susan A. FitzGibbon

RESUME

Professor of Law and Director of the William C. Wefel Center for Employment Law.

Barat College (cum laude) graduate, with a B.A. in English Literature, 1971; J.D. from Saint Louis University School of Law (cum laude), 1984; Order of the Woolsack and Assistant Editor-in-Chief of the Public Law Forum.

Was a clerk at the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit after law school. Worked as a staff clerk for Judge Richard Arnold and Judge Myron Bright, and then as a chamber’s clerk for Judge Myron Bright.

Spent seven years in personnel management prior to law school.

Scholarship includes articles on arbitrating employment claims, arbitration and mediation of sexual harassment claims and the workings of court-annexed mediation programs. Has conducted a study of the settlement program at the Missouri Court of Appeals-Eastern District, and has worked with the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri on a recent evaluation of their court-annexed mediation program through a satisfaction survey of all of the participants in the process.

Member, Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Missouri; Member and Former Chair, Labor and Employment Law Section, Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis; Ad Hoc Appointments as Arbitrator and Mediator.

A LEGAL LEGACY

Saint Louis University School of Law has always held a special place in Professor FitzGibbon’s heart because it is the place from which both her father and grandfather received their law degrees. Her cousin, Tom Weaver, a partner at Armstrong Teasdale, was also a graduate. When searching for the right law school to attend, FitzGibbon says she “found a universal consensus that Saint Louis University School of Law offered a top-notch legal education,” and time has only reaffirmed that fact for her. The course her cousin advised her to take — the Labor Arbitration seminar taught by Professors John Dunsford and Josef Rohlik — not only focused her interest in employment law, but also provided her an early introduction to two men who would later become her colleagues. “The classes I took from Professors Dunsford and Rohlik were the highlights of a wonderful curriculum,” recalls FitzGibbon. “When I joined the faculty in 1987, I had the great fortune to work directly with both of them in the Wefel Center for Employment Law program. They are excellent teachers, scholars, arbitrators and colleagues, and it has been an honor and a pleasure to work with them throughout the years.”

HISTORY LESSONS

• When I began teaching in 1987, it was a radical change to have someone other than the legendary Professor Immel teach contracts (even though it had been done before), but it will surprise no one who knows him that Vince was most supportive. He generously gave sage advice and shared his invaluable experience and perspective with me and I remain deeply grateful and in his debt.

• The best part of being a law school professor is teaching. It is exhilarating to have first year students learn to engage in legal analysis and, in all classes, explore the law in both theory and in practice. It also is great to work with students outside the classroom — help them gain a better understanding of the law or discuss career or curricular options or just life in general.

• When I arrived at the School as a student in 1981, I was concerned that there might not be many women in the class, but I was happy to find that around 40% of the students in my entering class were women. I remember that some of us kept track and were gratified that the majority of students in the top of our class were women. Since then I have learned and seen how supportive the School has always been of women law students, particularly from the 1970s through today, and I am happy to have worked with the Women Law Students’ Association since the early 1990s on the annual reception honoring newly appointed women judges.

• The combination of my experience in human resources work prior to law school and my experience as a labor arbitrator since law school sparked my scholarly interest in labor and employment arbitration. I believe that individual employment arbitration may offer employees a real chance to resolve their employment disputes while serving the goals of employment statutes, if the process is fair and accessible. Current judicial scrutiny of the fairness of various individual employment arbitration schemes through the analytic lens of unconscionability demonstrates that some arbitration provisions cannot stand (for example, those providing arbitrators who are too favorably disposed to the employer), while no clear consensus exists on other arbitration provisions (such as provisions which require the employee to pay part of the arbitrator’s fee).

“I have found a universal consensus that Saint Louis University School of Law offers a top-notch legal education.”
CLASS NOTES

Let your fellow classmates know what you have been doing since graduation. Please e-mail your information to brief@law.slu.edu or mail your professional note to Saint Louis University School of Law, Publications Office, 3700 Lindell Blvd, QDH 320, St. Louis, MO 63108.

58
James J. Murphy has recently become a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, an invitation-only honor.

64
Thomas B. Burkemper practices law with his daughter, Rachel, and his son, Adam, in his firm, the Burkemper Law Firm, LLC, in Troy, Missouri.

66
Mike Kleinman retired from the Midwest Trust Company after a 33-year career as a trust officer and has now accepted a full-time position as Major Gifts Officer in the Advancement Department at Rockhurst University in Kansas City.

68
Terry Eckert was sworn in as a U.S. Administrative Law Judge in April, and is currently assigned to the Office of Hearings & Appeals of the Social Security Administration in Creve Coeur, Missouri. Charles J. Kolker Jr. is Of Counsel at the Belleville, Illinois, law firm of Kolker Law Offices, PC, and is currently in his second year as an Associate Professor of English at Shenzhen University, Shenzhen, People’s Republic of China.

73
The Honorable William A. Schuwerk Jr. has been appointed Circuit Judge of Randolph County, Illinois, by the Illinois Supreme Court.

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James W. Cavanaugh will assume duties as general counsel and senior vice president of external affairs at Hormel Foods Corporation in January. In addition to serving as general counsel, he will oversee the corporate communications, legislative affairs and marketing services departments at the corporate office in Austin, Texas. Richard D. Cimino is in private practice in Naples, Florida. He concentrates in real estate, probate, estate planning and commercial litigation. James A. Coles is chair of the Intellectual Property Group at Bose McKinney & Evans LLP. He is also a founding member of ATAIN, a non-profit organization formed to promote scientific and technological advances, facilitate the transfer of new technologies to industry and improve the quality of life through technology. Dan S. Hapke retired four years ago from his position as general counsel for a Salt Lake City-based company. He now does pro bono work for San Diego Habitat for Humanity and is chair of its Board. He is also active in the MCLE programs function of the San Diego Chapter of the Intellectual Property Bar Association of Corporate Counsel.

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Charles G. Misko has been named co-managing partner of the St. Louis office of Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP. Mark H. Neill serves as a circuit judge on the 22nd Judicial Circuit for the city of St. Louis. Francis X. O’Connor was appointed in September 2003 by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to the Disciplinary Board of the Court. This appointment made him the only person from the northeastern part of the Commonwealth on the Board and also the only sole practitioner on it. In March of 2004 he was elected to the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania Bar Association for a three-year term. Charles H. Staples represents abused and neglected children in the Hampton Roads area of Virginia, and spends time running a youth mentorship sailing program on the Chesapeake Bay, using his 36-foot sailing sloop, “Wind of the Holy Spirit.”

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Stephen M. Glassman is the principal stockholder of The Glassman Law Firm in Clayton, Missouri.

John Spano is with the Los Angeles Times specializing in courts and legal affairs and is an editor in the California Section. He was formerly with the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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Douglas M. Brooks was awarded a Master’s degree in Public Administration from the School of Public Affairs at Arizona State University. He is employed as Disciplinary Clerk of the Arizona Supreme Court and is Manager of the Attorney Discipline Unit of the Arizona Administrative Office of the Courts. Ann Hatch, a partner at Herzog Crest LLP, has been elected president of the Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois, an organization that provides funding to 34 not-for-profit legal aid organizations that serve low-income Illinois families and individuals in civil matters. Her responsibilities include overseeing the board of directors and grant-making operations, including managing the Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois’ investments to best serve the legal aid organizations and their clients.

Christopher B. Hunter has opened an office in St. Louis. He is engaged in general civil practice and litigation, including business and transactional matters, real estate, personal injury and workers’ compensation, and limited domestic relations. Kevin R. Kelly was awarded the 2004 Dudley C. Dunlop Distinguished Service Award from the St. Louis County Bar Association. He is in private practice in St. Louis and serves as municipal judge for the cities of Cool Valley, Hazelwood and Maryland Heights, and serves as prosecuting attorney for the City of Dellwood. Alyse M. Lazar is busy with her own law practice which focuses on environmental law, and serves as the Interim City Attorney for Thousand Oaks, California. She was honored last year for her representation of environmental groups in two cases — one that changed the standards that government agencies need to meet to ensure that there will be sufficient water supply to serve new development before granting approvals, and another resulting in the purchase by the state of 2,800 acres of land in the future to establish the new Thousand Oaks State Preserve.

Hot off the Press
— Another Alumni Book!

Congratulations go out to Arlene Zarembka, ’74, who has recently had the book, To Establish Justice, published by Knopf. She co-wrote the book with fellow St. Louisan, Patricia McKissack, and in it, the two examine the role the Supreme Court has played in shaping civil rights.
a dedicated alum

Frank Duda, '67
Exceptional Law School Volunteer

Francis (Frank) Duda has been enthusiastically supporting the law school for more than 20 years. A partner with Anderson & Gilbert, he began his alumni fundraising efforts in 1983 when former Dean Rudy Hasl recruited him to help reorganize the School of Law Alumni Association, of which he was president. Fundraising is not always an easy task, but Duda says that his classmates have been extremely generous and supportive.

“The concept of giving to the School is an easy one, because you get such a return on your investment,” Duda said. “Just look around – so much of the good things being done in our community have come from the work of those at the School.”

He is referring to the work of graduates, such as himself, who recognize the importance of nurturing the upward growth of the School and its programs. It’s a commitment borne of pride, one that comes from having had good experiences while a student, and one that fosters similar experiences for current and future generations attending the School of Law.

“My experiences as a student were wonderful,” remarked Duda. “The faculty inspired the students and really provided us with a wonderful education. Throughout the years, I’ve watched the law school make tremendous strides in providing legal services at all levels to the community and, as a result, garner a positive reputation both locally and nationally.”

Duda believes the School to be a wellspring of good will in the community, and giving to the School, he says, ensures that the goodwill will continue.

Previously serving ten years as Director of the Board for the St. Louis Public Library, and currently serving as president of both the Law Library Association and the Missouri Supreme Court Historical Society, he feels strongly that volunteers get much more out of giving back than they actually give. Being a volunteer for the School of Law and serving as a Class Agent also affords Duda the opportunity to keep in contact with professors, see old classmates and watch the School continue to make tremendous strides forward. And, he said that alumni have a lot to be proud about, and giving is one way to show that pride.

“There are many, many rewards that come from being a graduate of this institution,” Duda said. “The success of my class and so many other classes is a direct result of the education we all received. When you say you’re a graduate of Saint Louis University School of Law, you’re not alone in saying that. You’re never alone.”

—Interview by Becky Chase; Compilation by Stefanie Ellis and Anne DeSchryver
of pristine park land that was set to be developed.  Bill J. Sheehan is in his 25th year of practice with his brother, Pat, ’77, in Springfield, Illinois. His practice is concentrated in adoption law. He also plays guitar with the local band, “Moroccan Soul,” and performs as a solo acoustic guitarist.

Sandra A. Mears recently had the chapter, “Commercial Drivers License Law,” published in the Missouri Bar CLE Desk Book, DWI Law and Practice. Kurt B. Reeg has formed the firm, Reeg, Nowogrocki & Yeckel, L.L.C. in Clayton, Missouri.

Larry M. Bauer has been named co-managing partner of the St. Louis office of Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP.

Janette M. Lohman, a partner at Thompson Coburn, LLP, was recently elected into membership in “The Best Lawyers in America” for 2005-2006. She specializes in state and local taxation, historical real estate redevelopment credits, tax incentive-based financing and acquisitions and mergers. She also serves as an Adjunct Professor at Saint Louis University School of Law. She is married to Doug Rush, ’81. Douglas K. Rush is Assistant Dean for the Evening Law Program at Saint Louis University School of Law. He also teaches Missouri Civil Procedure and is the Director of the Moot Court Program. David T. Smorodin, former Chief Litigation Counsel of MCI, Inc., recently joined the American Chemical Society as Assistant General Counsel.

Cawood “Woody” K. Bebout has relocated to Mount Vernon, Washington, where he has formed The Law Office of Cawood K. Bebout. He will concentrate his practice in the areas of business and commercial litigation, insurance coverage, personal bankruptcy, family law, and immigration and naturalization. Gregg G. Kirchnhoefer is a partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP. His practice is focused on transactional and counseling matters primarily involving computer, telecommunications, biotechnology, other technology and intellectual property, corporate and commercial issues. He’s responsible for the firm’s Intellectual Property/Technology Transactions Practice Group in Chicago. Maureen E. Laffin was awarded the Allan G. Shepard Professorship at the University of Idaho College of Law.

Ronald A. Clearfield is a Senior Partner in the law firm of Clearfield, Gaber, Kofsky and Penneys, which concentrates in the area of Plaintiffs Personal Injury. Donald G. Mueller, Jr. currently practices in the areas of corporate health care law and public finance in the St. Louis office of Bryan Cave LLP.

Sosnoff Okun is employed with Jill S. Souhartz and Associates, a Labor and Employment Law Firm in Winter Park, Florida.

Howie Block recently moved his law office to White Lake, New York. He is also President of the Kameonga Lake Fire Department. Craig S. Burkhardt, Chief Counsel for Technology at the U.S. Department of Commerce, has been named Counselor to the General Counsel at the Department and will provide legal policy advice and operational assistance to the General Counsel. Burkhardt joined the Bush Administration upon invitation of the White House in 2003, and relocated to Washington, D.C. after spending nineteen years with the Springfield, Illinois, law firm of Sorling, Nordrup, Hanna, Cullen and Cochran. Kevin D. Evans started his own law firm in Denver last year, Steese & Evans, PC., after spending a combined twelve years as a partner at the Chicago-based firm of Schiff Hardin, LLP and the Denver office of DC-based Hogan & Hartson, LLP. Craid Schmid was elected alderman of the 20th Ward in the city of St. Louis.

Joseph Fred Benson is the Judicial Archivist at the Supreme Court of Missouri. Part of his duties include overseeing the Court’s rare book collection, where there are law books going back as far as Statham’s Abridgment (1470), the oldest English printed law book. He is married to Sandra Ann Mears, ’79. Todd C. Brewer is a partner with the firm of Wolf, Block, Schor & Solis-Cohen LLP, and his practice is exclusively in Health Care Law. Dale A. Christ is the Executive VP of Business Development and Licensing for Streaming Technologies, an emerging internet communications technology firm. Joan J. Corderman is past president of the Virginia Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys and a recipient of their 2004 Outstanding Chapter Member Award. She practices in Leesburg, Virginia.

Patrick J. Hagerty is a principal in the firm of Gray, Ritter & Graham, P.C. He was recently presented with the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys President’s Award for his work in aiding Missouri citizens’ ability to access the civil justice system. Patricia J. Kampsen is working in the Law Offices of Scott G. Thomas as the Team Leader for the Workers’ Compensation department for the Chicago Staff Counsel Office for AIG Insurance Company.

Melody E. Noel is Of Counsel at Zeman & Mogerman LLC, practicing exclusively in the area of Domestic Relations. She will be featured in the November/December issue of Saint Louis Woman, a new local magazine.

Timothy P. Blanchard was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the American Health Lawyers Association for his second three-year term. He is currently working as part of the Association’s Public Interest Committee to develop the 2005 AHLA Public Interest Colloquium. Susan K. Hannasch (Linder) has joined the staff of the Office of the General Counsel at Vanderbilt University. She serves as University Counsel and her practice will encompass a range of health care issues, with regulatory issues, health care compliance and hospital operational issues as a focus. Cynthia L. Harcourt is the Director of the Legal Department at the St. Louis County Family Court. Tim A. Wynes became president of the Iowa Valley Community College District two years ago. He is also an adjunct faculty member in the Educational Leadership and Professional Studies Department at Iowa State University. He teaches courses that focus on legal and political issues in higher education.

Jeffrey A. Maassen has been appointed pastor of St. Angela Merici Parish in Florissant, Missouri. Bart C. Sullivan has been named Counsel at Fox Galvin, LLC. With more than sixteen years of experience in litigation, he will concentrate his practice in the areas of products liability, insurance, maritime, commercial and business litigation. He has served as Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission of Town and Country, Missouri, and on the Dean’s Council at Saint Louis University School of Law.

Candace Lee Welch was honored by Legal Services of Eastern Missouri with a Volunteer Lawyer Award for her pro bono work with low-income individuals. She has been a volunteer attorney with LSEM since 1998.

Robert J. Lambrechts, former special assistant to the Regional Administrator of the U.S. EPA Region 7, is now a partner with Lathrop & Gage L.C. in Kansas City. Since 1993 he has served as an adjunct faculty member with the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where he teaches courses on environmental law and engineering and the law. Terri A. Praszker (King) has joined Saint Louis University School of Law as the Assistant Dean of Students. She previously worked as a trial attorney and a human resources professional. Matthew J. Webb is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Law Offices of Matthew J. Webb, in Oakland, California.

J. Randolph Parham is a member of the Real Estate and Business Practice groups of Blumenfeld, Kaplan & Sandweiss, P.C.

Donald G. Wilkerson has been selected to be the next U.S. magistrate judge for the Southern District of Illinois.
Amy Rubin, ’77, would know. As the successful head of litigation and partner in charge of the West Palm Beach, Florida, Office of Ruden, McCloskey, Smith, Schuster & Russell, P.A., she’s spent the last 25 years laying the foundation for future generations of women.

A female graduate from the School of Law at a time in which few women were working in the profession, Rubin faced the kinds of challenges that many women today might not be able to imagine. The most interesting part of her story, however, comes from the fact that she wasn’t aware that she was being challenged. The things she encountered never held her back from accomplishing any of her goals. If anything, it allowed her to maintain an even clearer focus.

“When I graduated law school in 1977, I heard that the St. Louis firm of Kortenhof and Ely was looking to hire a woman, which was somewhat unusual at the time,” said Rubin. “But they were beginning to see that, in the insurance industry, a lot of women were becoming claims adjusters, so they asked me to join their team. This was really visionary for them because they were so conservative. I was actually the first woman to be associated with an insurance defense firm in the state of Missouri.”

And, just five years later, she became a partner, making her the youngest partner in the firm’s history. She worked there until 1985, and then went on to pursue another endeavor: “love, marriage and babies” — in Florida.

Never once abandoning her love of practicing law, she began working for the prestigious law firm of Foley and Lardner LLP. She was asked to head up their litigation department in West Palm, and did so for the next ten years. In 1998, she came on board with Ruden McCloskey, one of the five largest firms in the state of Florida.

Throughout her career she has achieved as much as she has experienced, and, on both counts, that’s a lot. When reflecting on her younger days as an attorney, she recalls having encountered a variety of intimidating situations, but always sloughed it off rather than let it bother her.

“Women in the 70s and early 80s could be big-time feminists,” she said, “but I didn’t really care about all that. Even when a Federal judge used to say, ‘Joe Kortenhof’s secretary is here,’ knowing full well I was a lawyer, I didn’t let it stop me.”

And, when she was called a court reporter, or when attorneys asked her when “the other lawyer” would be showing up, making stabs at what they believed to be her incompetence as a woman, she persisted, undeterred.

“I think if it bothered you, you couldn’t get ahead,” commented Rubin. “It was an uphill battle, but I was persistent enough to make it to the top.”

A self-described “tough litigator,” Rubin credits her assertive nature with the fact that, as a young woman, and, quite often, the only woman, she had to hold her own against the mostly male legal professionals by which she was surrounded.

“They needed to see that I wasn’t a pushover,” she said.

The antithesis of a pushover, Rubin’s success is attributed to her strong sense of self and inner determination to succeed against the odds. But she prefers to give most of the credit to the education she received at the School of Law.

“I attribute who I am today more to my law degree than to my undergraduate training,” she admitted. “Without my J.D., I couldn’t be who I am, or be where I am. I love practicing law, being a litigator, trying cases. I love being a mentor. I love that I’ve had some great career experiences and worked with one of the most highly regarded lawyers in St. Louis. There’s no way I could have had these opportunities without getting a law degree from Saint Louis University School of Law.”

And, it seems that if she hadn’t made the leap, gone to law school at a time in which she was among a small class of innovators, and tested her own strength, she might not have the kind of story that would inspire others. And she wouldn’t have learned her own value in the world — her equality to others.

“It think you can do whatever you want as a woman…anything a man can do,” Rubin asserted. “It’s no more or less difficult to succeed. Children today, as well as young women just starting out, need to know this. I started out making $13,800 a year. Then, I moved to Florida and hadn’t a single client. But soon, I made more money. I got more clients. I did this not because I’m a woman, but because I’m a good lawyer.”

She forgot to mention inspiration.

Her office administrator decided to pursue a law degree at the age of 44, all a result of working with Rubin, who showed her how it could be done.

“She’s second in her class,” laughed Rubin. “Not bad for a woman.”
John R. Headrick retired from the State of Illinois in 2003 as Assistant Legal Counsel and Director of Governmental Affairs for Central Management Services. He now serves as Inspector General for the Office of the Illinois Auditor General and is the Humanities Chair for the University of Phoenix at St. Louis. Diane M. Hein (Lynch) has just released her first all original full-length album via her LLC, “First String Music.” Consuelo J. Hitchcock is Senior Counsel to the Director of the Division of Corporate Finance at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Tom E. O’Connor is Corporate Counsel in Labor and Employment Law for the Georgia-Pacific Corporation in Atlanta. Margaret Graham “Meg” Tebo is a Senior Writer for the ABA Journal. She also teaches Media Ethics and Law at Columbia College-Chicago, and is the president-elect of the Chicago Headline Club, one of the largest chapters of the National Society of Professional Journalists. Her forthcoming book, Full Court Press: Understanding the Law for Journalists, will be published in the fall of 2005.

Brian C. Behrens recently joined Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP in St. Louis. He practices corporate and securities law. Michael L. Overmann has a trusts and estate practice in the Chicago area. He and an associate attorney handle probate, guardianship, trust/estate litigation and taxation along with estate planning. His firm celebrated its 5-year anniversary this fall.

Benicia A. Baker-Livorsi formed “The Family Law Group LLC” in St. Charles, Missouri, with fellow alumna John Schneider, ’87. Pamela Ciskowski, ’03, joined the firm in the summer of 2004. The firm practices primarily in the areas of family law and appellate practice. Connie L. Johnson received the Champion of Justice Award from the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys and the 2004 Community Service Award from the Mound City Bar Association. Rebecca T. Magruder was recently elected as Chair of the Family Section for the Association for Conflict Resolution. She is also President of the Board of Directors for M.A.R.C.H., Inc. (Mediation Achieving Results for Children). Petra B. Schwartz is an Assistant District Attorney in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Her primary area of responsibility is prosecuting domestic violence cases. She recently returned from training at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

James O. Hacking III was recently selected by the Riverfront Times as the Best Lawyer in St. Louis. He practices admiralty litigation in downtown St. Louis at Tonkin & Mondt. Rachel L. Stewart became licensed to practice law in Maryland and is employed as an associate with Anderson, Coe & King, LLP in Baltimore, where she practices primarily defense-side civil litigation. Robert Q. Wilson has been living in Memphis, Tennessee, and practicing in the health care practice group of The Bogatin Law Firm, PLC, since 1999. He was recently appointed Vice Chair of the American Health Lawyers Association’s Health Information and Technology Practice Group and was also elected to the Executive Council of the Tennessee Bar Association’s Health Law Section.

Charles A. Caisley is the Chief Staff to the Speaker of the Missouri House of Representatives, Catherine L. Hanaway. Raymond B. Flojo has joined the firm of Rabbit, Pitt & Snodgrass, P.C., as an associate. He concentrates his practice in the areas of medical malpractice defense, product liability defense and general personal injury defense. Greg C. Kloeppel has been hired by the Eastern Missouri Coalition of Police, Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 15, as their Chief Legal Counsel. Tom Whaley is the Executive Vice-President for Business Affairs, St. Paul Saints Baseball Club.

Nathan O. Cooper won a primary for a seat in the Missouri Legislature and faces no opponent in the General Election. He will take office in January. He has also recently opened his own firm in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Ron J. Eisenberg is a litigation associate with Schultz & Little, L.L.P., in Chesterfield, Missouri. He previously worked as a Staff Attorney with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, and as a Federal Law Clerk with the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. Todd C. Gwiltim is in-house counsel in Tax and Securities for Caterpillar Inc. in Peoria, Illinois. Lisa M. Marshall works in the legal department of the Missouri Department of Social Services in Jefferson City, Missouri. She provides legal representation for the Department in 18 counties in the South Central part of Missouri, in juvenile and child protection cases. David S. McDonough opened up his own practice, the Law Offices of David S. McDonough, in April of 2003.

Steven D. Rineberg is a partner with Stephen F. Meyerkord and Doreen A. Graham in St. Louis. He continues to practice in the areas of personal injury, medical malpractice and workers’ compensation. Ian C. Simmons is working in real estate litigation with Federer & Federer, P.C. Ronda F. Williams moved from the Missouri Court of Appeals, where she was a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Brooker T. Shaw, to Fox Galvin, LLC. She is an associate practicing in civil litigation defense.

Heather M. Asunskis is an associate for Herzog Crebs LLP. She concentrates her practice on toxic tort defense and criminal defense. Chad M. Moore accepted a new position with Centene Corporation, a multi-line managed care organization that provides Medicaid-related programs to organizations and individuals through government subsidized programs. He is the Manager of Ethics and Compliance.

Michael J. Adrian recently joined the law firm of Gallop, Johnson & Neuman, L.C., as an associate. He will concentrate his practice in the areas of corporate law and securities. Ralph E. Altman has joined the firm of Rabbit, Pitt & Snodgrass, P.C., as an associate. He concentrates his practice in the defense of civil litigation, specifically Construction law. Sharon L. Centracchio opened her own practice, Centracchio Law, in October. She is sharing an office space with Rebecca Magruder, ’96. Mark M. Favazza recently joined the Litigation Department of the law firm of Gallop, Johnson & Neuman, L.C. He is involved in the areas of corporate and commercial litigation and tort defense.

In Memoriam
Glennon B. Blomes, ’37
Rinaldo Di Rocco, ’43
Edward F. Downey, ’50
Donald S. Hilleary, ’51
The Honorable Clyde S. Cahill, ’51
Russell D. Mann, ’51
Thomas T. Gordon, ’53
William R. Dorsey, ’54
Gene L. Taylor Jr., ’54
Paul F. Branner Sr., ’55
John “Harry” Wiggins, ’56
G. Joseph Neaf, ’57
Anton J. Pregaldin, ’60
James Vermeersch, ’65
C. Glenn “Owlie” Stevens, ’66
Gene R. Pepka, ’66
Frederick A. Wray, ’69
Michael F. McHugh, ’77
Jeffrey S. Maguire, ’81
Patricia W. Shaw, ’82
Scott T. Erbs, ’85
Christopher J. Gagliardi, ’97
Talk to Connie Johnson, ’96, about justice, and she’ll talk to you about accountability.

She’ll tell you why she thinks policy needs to change, why health care needs to be more accessible. She’ll talk to you about the situations in her life that helped her realize she wanted to fight for the things that matter — to her and to others.

Raised in a single-family home, Johnson grew up watching her mother work two jobs to support the family. It wasn’t until the pillar of strength she relied so heavily upon fell ill with lupus, that Johnson was shown a different view of things. She saw her mother, too ill to work, be denied disability assistance.

“Why was she denied coverage when that’s what the system was created for?” Johnson wondered. “Who’s making these laws?”

Armed with countless questions and ceaseless frustration, the memory of that experience solidified Johnson’s future plans. She wasn’t going to stand by while a system that denied assistance to those who needed it most. She was, instead, going to fight for those people.

And that’s just what she’s been doing. After receiving a J.D./M.H.A. from Saint Louis University School of Law, she began working for the Missouri Department of Health in their Center for Local Public Health Services. There, she managed core public health contracts for 114 counties, and assisted the director in researching special projects, including insurance for Missouri’s low-income children. She has served as assistant to the director, Division of Aging, Missouri Department of Social Services, and provided leadership to the Commission on the Special Health, Psychological and Social Needs of Older Minority Individuals and the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging. She also worked on the legal team in the Office of the General Counsel for the Missouri Department of Health, serving on the Minority Health Advisory Council.

All of that led her to her current position as Representative for the 61st district in St. Louis city for the Missouri House of Representatives. Now into her second term, Johnson serves on the Budget, Appropriations for the Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health, Department of Social Services and Rules Committees. In her legislative capacity, she is a member of the Law and Criminal Justice Committee, and speaks regularly at regional and national conferences on Health care and health-related issues for the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The experiences Johnson has had while in office have instilled in her, more than ever, the knowledge that passion can create action. It was her passion for affecting change that allowed her to create the Lupus Education and Awareness bill in an effort to help educate Missourians about lupus and encourage public and private partnerships to help battle the disease. And it was action that allowed her to get the bill passed in 2001. She continues to fight for a variety of important causes in her legislative capacity.

In addition to her role as Representative, Johnson also works as an attorney at Armstrong Teasdale in the firm’s Litigation Department, and concentrates her practice in the areas of medical malpractice and tort litigation.

Though dual appointments as Representative and attorney can be a daunting task, it is, for one so fully committed to the mission of achieving justice, par for the course.

“When I was interviewed at Armstrong Teasdale, they told me they valued my commitment to public service enough to create a schedule that’s workable for everyone involved,” said Johnson. “And they’ve given me tremendous support. It’s been a blessing.”

The work she has been able to accomplish in such a short length of time is a blessing to more than just Johnson, however. The people who are direct recipients of her efforts are all the better for it. Still, Johnson doesn’t take all the credit for her work. She credits, instead, the influence of her long-time friend and mentor, former Senator for the 5th district of the City of St. Louis, Paula Carter.

“She took me under her wing,” remembered Johnson, “and encouraged me to run for office. Every time I gave her an excuse, she gave me a reason. Every time I grew weary from fighting so hard and battling those who just didn’t seem to care, she would remind me that sometimes, there is nobody else but you to do it. ‘You have to step up to the plate,’ she’d say.”

And it is because of Carter, because of her mother’s inability to receive governmental assistance, because of the many people in the state who aren’t getting the help they need, that Connie Johnson finds the motivation to do more than just step up to the plate. She’s determined to win the game.

“I knew this was what I had to do,” said Johnson. “It was what I was meant to do.”
REUNION
2004

Photos by Gina Sholtis and Colleen Murphy
Student Support
Scholarship endowment to support our students is a high priority for the campaign and the future of the School of Law. More than ever, scholarships are critical to attracting a strong and diverse student body.

Endowing a scholarship will permanently associate the donor with the School of Law.

- Full Academic Scholarship: $600,000
- Full Tuition Scholarship: $500,000
- Half Tuition Scholarship: $250,000
- Quarter Tuition Scholarship: $125,000
- Partial Tuition Scholarship: $50,000 minimum

Faculty Support
Professorships represent endowments, the income from which provides needed extra support and recognition. Because fine teaching and research are crucial to our mission and our reputation, increasing the number of professorships is a top goal of the Campaign for the School of Law.

Endowing a professorship will permanently associate the donor with the School’s most outstanding members of the law faculty.

- Professorship: $500,000
- Visiting Professorship: $250,000

Program Support
Endowments in support of specific programs for our students are necessary to enhance the student experience. Endowments in support of programmatic areas listed below can be established. Naming opportunities are available for each program endowment by consultation.

- Centers of Excellence
- Law Clinic
- Library Enhancement
- Moot Courts
- Student Exchange Programs
- Student Organizations
- Technology Enhancement
- Student Journals

Unrestricted Endowment
Unrestricted endowment funds provide important funding for the law school. To recognize donors who make a gift to the School of Law General Endowment Fund, an appropriate plaque will be placed in the selected room or area to recognize the donor’s generous support. The following rooms and areas may be named:

- Connector Building: $2,500,000
- Queen’s Daughters Hall: $2,500,000
- The Dean’s Office: $1,000,000
- Clinic Building: $1,000,000
- Career Services Suite: $500,000
- Student Services Suite: $500,000
- Classrooms: $100,000
- Faculty Offices: $50,000
- Library Study Carrels/Tables: $5,000

Beyond the opportunities listed above, the School of Law, as does every institution of quality, looks for that single, strategic and transformative gift. Other opportunities are also available. For more information, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 314-977-3300.

The Law Annual Fund
As part of the campaign, the School of Law asks graduates and friends to continue to make annual gifts to the Law Annual Fund in support of the School. The Law Annual Fund has a tremendous impact on the School’s quality. By combining gifts from hundreds of individuals, the Law Annual Fund raises more than $250,000 annually, thus enhancing the law school experience.

Gifts to the Law Annual Fund are encouraged and recognized at a variety of levels.

Partners in Excellence
Requires a minimum gift of $2,500 per year for four years, for a total commitment of $10,000. Annual giving at this level allows the donor to sponsor a course of their choosing for the full four years of the commitment. In addition, donors are invited to present the Excellence Award to a student receiving the top grade in their sponsored course.

Dean’s Circle
Requires a minimum gift of $1,500 per year for five years, for a total commitment of $7,500. Donors who give at this level are recognized in the DuBourg Society category of the School of Law Honor Roll.

Dean’s List
Requires a minimum gift of $1,000 per year for five years, for a total commitment of $5,000. Donors who give at this level are recognized in the Dean’s List category of the School of Law Honor Roll.

Dean’s Associates
Open to alumni who graduated 10 years ago or less. Requires a minimum gift of $500 per year for five years, for a total commitment of $2,500. Donors who give at this level are recognized in the Dean’s Associate category of the School of Law Honor Roll.

The University also recognizes donors in the School of Law through membership in the DuBourg Society and the Century Club. Annual giving levels are as follows:

- DuBourg Society: $1,500-$2,499
- Dean’s Fellow: $1,000-$1,499
- Ambassador: $500-$999
- Patron: $250-$499
- Member: $100-$249

* The School of Law encourages unrestricted gifts to the Annual Fund along with gifts to restricted funds. All gifts to the School of Law will be recognized at the giving levels indicated above.
“It feels great to come here every day and surround myself with so many people who devote their lives to doing good. They inspire me.”

— Vinita Ollapally, 3L