On Tuesday, November 18, students in Professor Neomi Rao’s Constitutional Law class had the privilege of a visit from Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Professor Rao once served as one of the Justice’s law clerks, and Mason alumnus Will Consovoy (’01) is presently clerking in his chambers.

For the entire two hours, students had the rare opportunity for give and take with one of the most powerful judges in the country. Justice Thomas took questions on a variety of legal and nonlegal topics, and students described the Justice as forthright, humble, and quite humorous. The group’s legal discussion spanned such issues as the Commerce Clause, the First Amendment, checks and balances, and stare decisis. Justice Thomas also shared his views on effective advocacy and encouraged students to come

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Justice Thomas Visits
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across the river to hear oral arguments. Responding to career questions, the Justice recounted his own struggles finding his first job out of law school and paying off his student loans. His advice? “Worry about what is in front of you, and the rest will take care of itself.” To the delight of his audience, Justice Thomas did not let the session end without praising the exacting training students receive at Mason.

With thanks to contributor Hilary Taylor (2D) and the Docket.

Senator Webb Visits Mason Law for Fall Symposium

Senator Jim Webb (D-Va.), left, selected George Mason to host his fall symposium on illegal drug trafficking. Held at the law school on October 14, the symposium, “Drugs in America: Trafficking, Policy & Sentencing,” featured law enforcement and criminal justice experts addressing the distribution of illegal drugs, law enforcement methods, and the treatment of drug users. George Mason’s Administration of Justice Department co-sponsored the event.

Dean Polsby welcomed guests, including Mason Law graduate and Senator Webb’s Chief of Staff Paul Reagan (‘91), and introduced the senator, who moderated three panels and gave opening and closing remarks. Both the dean and senator spoke of the enormous costs associated with the illegal drug trade and cited the need to explore innovative programs to decrease incarceration and improve the situation in our homes and prisons. Information about the symposium can be found at www.webb.senate.gov.

Senator Webb (right) listens to arguments during the symposium.

George Mason Law Review Annual Symposium

The George Mason Law Review hosted its 12th Annual Symposium on Antitrust Law on December 4, 2008, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. The symposium focused on antitrust policy in the new administration and was sponsored by WilmerHale and Criterion Economics LLC.

The Honorable Douglas H. Ginsburg of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia provided opening remarks, giving a brief overview of the history of antitrust law and discussing the current trends in antitrust law, the future of per se rules and the movement toward a rule of reason analysis.

William Kolasky of WilmerHale moderated the Rule of Reason panel, which included panelists Professor Einer Elhauge, Harvard Law School; Tad B. Lipsky, Latham & Watkins LLP; Professor Michael Carrier, Rutgers University School of Law-Camden; and Eric L. Cramer, Berger & Montague, PC. The panel discussed such areas as balancing anticompetitive with pro competitive effects of a merger and the framework used to analyze the monopoly standard.

The day’s second panel, entitled Merger Enforcement, was moderated by Alden F. Abbott, Associate Director, Bureau of Competition, U.S. Federal Trade Commission, and examined vertical merger guidelines and dynamic competition in evaluating mergers. Panelists were James Langenfeld, Director, LECG, LLC (and former Director for Antitrust, Bureau of Economics, U.S. Federal Trade Commission); J. Gregory Sidak, Chairman, Criterion Economics LLC; and Gregory J. Werden, Senior Economic Counsel, Antitrust Division, U.S. Department of Justice.

Robert Pitofsky, Sheehy Professor of Trade Regulation Law, Georgetown University Law Center and Of Counsel, Arnold & Porter, gave the luncheon address, which discussed the new administration’s likely enforcement level in three areas of antitrust: dominant firm behavior, mergers, and vertical integration. He also discussed the need to find a balance between enforcement in the 1960s, when no attention was given to defense claims that efficiencies justified transactions, and the 1980s when enforcement declined substantially. The closing address

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Mason Community Celebrates the Long and Illustrious Career of Professor Gordon Tullock

On November 21, over 100 well-wishers gathered to celebrate the career and retirement of Professor Gordon Tullock, who came to Mason in the fall of 1999 as a Professor of Law and Economics. Among the guests were The Cato Institute’s Chairman Emeritus William Niskanan and Chairman of its Institute for Global Growth Richard Rhan. During the evening Dean Daniel Polsby, among others, spoke highly of Tullock’s contributions. “Gordon is one of the most important political economists of the past century,” Polsby remarked. “His services to the university, the law school, and to generations of students has been incomparable.”

Throughout his career Tullock made significant contributions to the fields of law, economics and political science. His career began in 1947 when he received a JD from the University of Chicago following service in the military. After a short period of time practicing in a Chicago law firm, he was admitted to the Foreign Service Institute’s program. He first served as a diplomatic apprentice in Tientsin, China. Tullock describes his two years in Tientsin as having been enlivened by the Communist seizure of the city in January 1949.

After returning to the U.S., Tullock continued his work concerning China. He spent more than two years studying Chinese and in 1952 joined the Mainland China Section of the Consulate General in Hong Kong. Within a year, Tullock was transferred to the political section of the U.S. Embassy in Korea. He returned to Washington, D.C., in 1955 and resigned from the Foreign Service the following year.

Over the next several years, Tullock continued to research and write and began a second career in academia as a post-doctoral fellow at the Thomas Jefferson Center for Political Economy at the University of Virginia. Prior to joining George Mason Law’s faculty, Tullock was a full-time or visiting distinguished professor at the University of South Carolina, the University of Virginia, Rice University, Virginia Tech, Baruch University, and the University of Arizona.

Tullock’s contributions to academia and the fields of political science and law and economics are well respected and frequently cited. His body of work includes 16 books, several of which have been translated into five different languages. He has written over 150 papers and monographs, many of them also published internationally. Tullock’s most recent book was published in November 2008, and, despite his retirement, he is currently working on two others.

Among his many contributions to economics and public choice theory, he is best recognized for inventing the concept of rent-seeking, the use of political or institutional power to extract wealth transfers from the rest of the economy. Additionally, his book *The Calculus of Public Choice* (1962), co-written with James M. Buchanan, is considered the founding text of the public choice movement.

Tullock assumes the title Professor Emeritus of Law as he bids Mason Law farewell and begins the newest chapter of his most extraordinary life.
Trial Advocacy Association Winds Up Busy Semester

George Mason Law’s Trial Advocacy Association continues to expand opportunities for students to hone their skills and proudly represent the law school. In early February, the Trial Advocacy Association hosted the first John Costello National Criminal Law Trial Competition at the Fairfax County Courthouse. Students wrote the problem for the competition that addresses malicious wounding and robbery and had 24 teams from around the country registered.

In events held on-campus last fall, Nick Sanfilippo (3D) and Dan Robinson (3D) won the Intramural Competition in October, with Tim Silvester (2D) and Carol Wingler (2D) finishing second. Each year the winners of this competition receive a scholarship, which was initiated by Mason Law graduates Joseph Curran (’83) and John Whittington (’81), of Curran & Whittington, P.C. The Trial Advocacy Association also organized and hosted the Intramural Client Counseling Competition. Joshua Cumby (1D) and Aaron Brotman (1D) won that event and have been invited to represent Mason Law in the ABA Regional Competition to be held in Richmond, Virginia.

Through the Trial Advocacy Association, students also have the opportunity to compete in extra-mural competitions. In January, Kyle Epting (2D), Gillian Russell (2D), Mike Simpson (3D) and Christina Black (2D) competed in Stanford Law’s annual trial competition. As in the past, students also will represent Mason Law at the National Trial Competition Regionals and the American Association for Justice Regional Competition that take place this year in Baltimore, Maryland, and in Washington, D.C., respectively. Additionally, Nancy Lunsford (3D) and Donna Woodward (3E) will compete at the ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition, which also is being held in Washington, D.C. At press time, we wish them the best of luck as they prepare for the competitions.

Students receive tremendous assistance from The Honorable Jonathan Thacher (’80), the advisor to the Trial Advocacy Association. Other alumni regularly contribute their time and expertise to the Trial Advocacy Association as coaches and judges. If you would like to work with students in the Trial Advocacy Association, please send an e-mail to trialad@gmu.edu.

Robert May (4E), a student participating in Mason Law’s Clinic for Legal Assistance to Servicemembers (CLAS), secured his second favorable judgment for a CLAS client in a December bench trial in Fairfax General District Court. Last summer May won a similar judgment for another of the clinic’s clients after a bench trial in Arlington General District Court. May, an evening student, is an active-duty Marine gunnery sergeant working at Henderson Hall (Marine HQ). His supervisor from the local bar is McLean real estate attorney Mark Jenkins.

Thanks to the efforts of Congressman Jim Moran (D-Va.), in late December CLAS secured a second Congressional appropriation when the Department of Defense (DoD) executed a modification to the original grant DoD had made to CLAS over two years ago, also with Moran’s strong support. Moran represents Virginia’s Eighth Congressional District, which includes Arlington, and has been a faithful supporter of the clinic. Moran is a senior member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee.

First-year law student and Utahn Rick Pehrson (1E) was honored by President George W. Bush at a White House South Lawn reception on September 8 recognizing Americans who have had a significant impact on their communities as volunteers. Pehrson volunteered for a project to enlist the support of and help to train 1,300 fellow Utahns to host the reopening and rededication of the Utah State Capitol Building in Salt Lake City after a six-year reconstruction effort.

Mason Law’s Association for Public Interest Law (APIL), under the leadership of Alison Lima (3D), concluded its successful food drive on Friday, November 21, delivering over 300 pounds of food to the Arlington Food Assistance Center to help local families during the 2008 holiday season. The 2L class edged out the competing classes on the last day of the drive to bring in the largest amount of food donations.
Moot Court took center stage in November as alumni returned to the law school during the annual upperclass appellate competition for a mini Moot Court Board reunion. Following the semi-final rounds of the competition on November 15, the law school and current Moot Court Board welcomed judges, competitors, and alumni for a cocktail reception. Dean Polsby and Chief Justice David Rostker (4E) gave brief remarks. The event celebrated the numerous successes that the Moot Court Board has enjoyed in recent years and gave alumni a chance to reminisce about their contributions to one of the largest and most well-established student organizations at the law school. Many guests also took the opportunity to sneak a peek at the recently renovated trial and appellate courtrooms.

This year’s upperclass competition featured employment law, specifically sexual harassment under Title VII. The final round took place on Friday, November 21, in the Ceremonial Courtroom of the E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse in Washington, D.C. The team of Nicole Pahel (2D) and Amir Katz (2D) and the team of Rosanne Rust (2D) and Adam Aft (2D) argued in the final round, with Pahel and Katz taking top honors. On the bench for the final arguments were The Honorable Brett M. Kavanaugh, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; The Honorable Anthony J. Trenga, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia; and The Honorable Jonathan Thacher (’80), Fairfax Circuit Court.

www.law.gmu.edu/alumni/
Where in the World is . . .

Mason Law alumni can be found around the globe, taking on professional and personal challenges. Mason Law alumni live and work in at least 15 different countries, including England, Germany, South Korea, Ireland, and Italy. Many are serving in the military in Iran and Afghanistan. What began as the International School of Law truly has developed into an international network of alumni.

Maj. Michael G. McGovern (’89), serving in the Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps in Bagram, Afghanistan, reached back home to fellow Mason alumnus and Virginia State Bar President Manuel Capsalis (’88) for volunteers to help the new Afghan Bar Association advance the rule of law in Afghanistan. Capsalis sent out the request for help through the Virginia State Bar, and the response was immediate.

McGovern wrote to Capsalis on November 6: “My in-box keeps filling up with VSB attorneys who wish to assist in any capacity that they can—quite a load of talent you have in your organization! In all honesty, I should not be the least bit surprised, given that the response is totally consistent with the generosity of the American public as a whole. This installation is filled with books, food, toiletries, and clothing items (socks) donated by the ordinary American citizen. Overwhelmingly generous when one thinks about it.”

McGovern is on a twelve-month tour with the 101st Airborne Division in eastern Afghanistan, and one of his job duties is "rule of law coordinator," with his office supporting the Afghan self-government.


www.law.gmu.edu/alumni/
Robert Scott ('94), is taking on the challenges of a new language and culture working in Japan as a U.S. Patent Counsel for IPICS, a subsidiary of Denso Corporation, which is part of the Toyota Group. Even though he is halfway around the world, Scott says, “in the words of author Thomas L. Friedman, the world has become flatter.” He finds that the Internet has shortened distances and provides not only a research tool, but also a means to pay bills, monitor world news, and stay in touch, providing confidence and peace of mind. He notes choosing to move to Japan was an easy decision given the technology at his disposal and the circle of Japanese friends and colleagues at IPICS and Denso.

Scott shares that “after nearly a year and a half, my work, which includes liberal parts of lawyer, teacher (and student), mentor, and interpreter, consists of an ample and growing docket that reaches attorneys at patent law offices around the world including the U.S., Germany, China, Korea, France, Europe (EPO) and many others. There is still time for English conversation class, Japanese language study, Federal Circuit and Supreme Court case discussions and occasional trips to Tokyo presenting for various audiences, such as my recent seminar on In re Bilski, at a Japanese law firm in Shinjuku. More significant parts of the experience, however, such as increased self-reliance and a heightened appreciation for others, are less immediately apparent and seem to be uniquely associated with the challenges and culture of Japan.”

Robert Almosd ('05)
Director,
Amnesty International
Budapest, Hungary

After practicing law in Washington, D.C., for three years, Robert Almosd ('05), relocated to Hungary as the Director of Amnesty International in Budapest.

In addition to his important work on behalf of Amnesty International, Almosd has enjoyed the opportunity to participate in cultural events. Recently Petra Weber, a human rights activist and artist, asked Amnesty International Hungary to be present and open an exhibit of her work, an example of which is shown below. Almosd attended the opening, and is pictured in the photo above (left), along with Weber and her husband, His Excellency Alex Brooking, Australia’s Ambassador to Hungary.

Almosd sent word for alumni: “If any of you are ever in Hungary and would like to meet a GMU alumnus, please contact me.”
Mason Law alumni are active at all levels of professional organizations and bar associations. They volunteer their time and efforts to provide community service and to promote and advance the interests of the legal profession. In this issue, we profile four alumni who serve as leaders in bar associations. Read about how and why they volunteer their time and the benefits they gain from their involvement.

**Manuel A. Capsalis ('88)**
President of the Virginia State Bar Association

Manuel “Manny” Capsalis believes his involvement in local and state bar associations stems from his core interest in public service. “Part of being an attorney is serving the public. You obviously serve your clients, but you are also a leader in the community and work in a profession that serves as the steward of the Rule of Law.” His responsibilities as president of the Virginia State Bar and in other bar positions require hard work, but Capsalis finds it all interesting and rewarding. He says that “being involved in local and state bars has made me a better attorney and given me a more acute appreciation for the historic and necessary role that our profession plays in society. Personally, it provides fulfillment beyond representing clients by contributing to the profession. I enjoy working with attorneys and am invigorated by the high caliber of attorney in Virginia whom I have met and with whom I have created important networks.”

Capsalis has identified increasing diversity among the members of the bar and judiciary as his main initiative during his tenure as president. He notes, “I recognize that I have a one-year term, so a short shelf life as the president of the VSB. In that year I would like to improve and reinvigorate the profession’s efforts in diversity—not just for today’s judiciary and attorneys, but for tomorrow’s as well. In considering this issue, we acknowledge two facts: first, that for the profession and judiciary to be responsive, they need to be reflective of society’s demographics; and second, that they are not reflective of them, despite the sincere efforts of the past twenty-five years.”

An equally important project that Capsalis is proud to promote though the VSB is the education of young people with regard to the Rule of Law. “We as a profession should take more initiative to teach the Rule of Law and help young people understand what it is really like to be a lawyer or a judge. Hand in hand with the diversity initiative goes an effort to show all young kids that no matter their color or background, they can be lawyers and judges. Without diversity, the Rule of Law is an incomplete principle.”

When Capsalis reflects on the next generation of Mason Law graduates entering the profession, he is very impressed. “On one hand, I think they are entering the profession at a difficult time; however, they are being taught very well [at Mason] and will be well prepared.” He recalls that when he was a student, he did not have the same opportunities to meet judges and participate in externships that students have today as beneficiaries of a more mature law school. “While not all of these same opportunities may have been available 20 years ago, I had a wonderful experience.” He believes that part of the positive experience Mason provides has been a great network of colleagues. “It is wonderful to see fellow classmates rising up into leadership roles, in the bar and the judiciary, which just affirms the quality of education at Mason Law.”

Capsalis is the managing partner at Capsalis, Bruce & Reaser, PLC, in Arlington, Virginia. The firm’s practices include criminal and civil law, personal injury, and business franchise law. Capsalis’ wife, Carole Capsalis ('87), and Atticus Reaser ('00) are members of the firm. In addition to practicing law and taking the helm of the VSB, Capsalis acts as a substitute judge in Fairfax County General District Court and as a prosecutor and deputy town attorney in Herndon, Virginia.

“We as a profession should take more initiative to teach the Rule of Law and help young people understand what it is really like to be a lawyer or a judge.”
Ralph Albrecht ('97)
President of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia

Maintaining and expanding his connections with fellow lawyers is one of the many benefits Ralph Albrecht enjoys as the result of his associations with Mason Law and the Bar Association of the District of Columbia.

After working as an engineer at IBM for 11 years, Albrecht arrived at Mason as an evening student in intellectual property law, drawn by his desire to use his science and engineering background, as well as by his ability to continue working while studying.

As a second-career lawyer, Albrecht bypassed the usual path taken to bar association involvement, the Young Lawyers Section, immediately becoming involved in the Patent Trademark Copyright Section in order to expand his network of lawyers working in his field. His first job after graduating was with Sterne Kessler Goldstein & Fox, a midsize firm. “I wanted to be able to get to know other lawyers in the field and have additional resources available to me, so I got involved with the BADC, which allowed me to have the experience of a greater network of lawyers with which to interact.” Joining Venable LLP in 2000, when the firm had roughly 500 attorneys, Albrecht chose to stay involved so he could give back to the bar and members like him coming from smaller firms. He feels that one of the greatest challenges for the legal profession, especially with the economic downturn, is to increase the emphasis on volunteer activities, many of which have their start in bar associations. He believes that lawyers must recognize and demonstrate the importance of their contributions to society.

Albrecht speaks proudly of the BADC, founded in 1871 and the third-oldest voluntary bar in the country, and he is excited to be a part of the bar as it celebrates the 50th anniversary of the PTC and of Senior Judge Arthur Burnett Sr.’s membership as the first African-American. “As a voluntary bar, we have the flexibility to lobby on behalf of our members, something that the D.C. Bar, as the mandatory

Steven DeLateur ('83)
Chair of the International Law Section of the California State Bar

Steven W. DeLateur ('83) is a founding member of McDermott & DeLateur, LLP, located near Palm Springs, California, and currently serves as the Chair of the International Law Section of the California State Bar.

While attending law school in the evenings, DeLateur worked at the Export-Import Bank of the United States in Washington, D.C. Having earned an MBA in international business prior to law school, he knew that he wanted to focus his studies on international law.

As a student, DeLateur enlisted the support of his immigration law professor and the administration in beginning an immigration law clinic to assist low-income individuals, an effort he cites as invaluable not only in terms of the legal issues encountered, but also because of the experience of starting such an undertaking from ground zero. Likewise, while the time and effort he puts into the International Law Section as a volunteer today are demanding, the benefits DeLateur has received are more numerous than anticipated. “I’ve learned how to motivate volunteers when you don’t have the leverage you are accustomed to as an attorney,” he says.

DeLateur’s primary goals during his tenure with the Section include developing its future leaders and recruiting future members of its Executive Committee, as well as reaching out to affinity and specialty bar associations. This long-range thinking helps ensure organizational continuity and that Section projects, such as the International Law Journal, newsletters, law student writing competitions, and career days continue regardless of when any individual’s term of office ends.

DeLateur also values the educational and networking opportunities provided through the Section for California law students and small and solo firms. He notes that, “given the interdependence of nations, economies, and individuals, interest in and the need for international law practitioners is increasing. Since international law issues can arise in any number of legal matters, I want to make the resources of the
The Economy May Be Shaky, but Career Services Never Wavers in its Commitment to the Mason Community

Career, Academic and Alumni Services (CAAS) is always open to alumni looking for new employment opportunities or needing new workers in their offices. If you have changed jobs or are looking for assistance with a job transition, let someone in CAAS know. Alumni can access several job banks, including the Mason Law online job bank, to search for new employment opportunities in the D.C. area as well as in other parts of the country. CAAS also maintains sample alumni resumes, listings of employment agencies and headhunters across the country, and multiple books on career transitions. For those looking in other parts of the country, CAAS also can obtain access to career services offices in your particular region and help you identify local alumni via our online alumni directory. If you would like advice, access to job postings, or any job materials, send an e-mail to lawcareer@gmu.edu, with your name, address, telephone number, and year of graduation.

If you need a few good Mason Law students or graduates to add to your or your employer’s ranks, you can use the Mason Law on-line job bank to list your job opportunities or participate in our various recruiting programs, including fall or spring recruiting and the Public Service Job Fair. To post jobs and view resumes, visit: law-gmu-csm.symplicity.com/employers/, click on Register, and provide the requested information. To participate in a recruiting program, contact lawcareer@gmu.edu.

All services for alumni job counseling and hiring needs are free.

In late 2008, the law school completed a year-long project to add technology to both of the law school’s courtrooms. The trial courtroom was completely renovated with a rebuilt bench and witness box, new gallery seating, large plasma monitors, and custom-built, fully wired counsel tables and lectern. The lectern features evidence presentation capabilities that include a document camera for display of physical items and slides, a video recorder for display of VHS- and DVD-based evidence, and a touch screen annotation system that lets attorneys or witnesses mark up electronic images. A digital video and audio recording system, which includes web streaming, has been added to both the trial courtroom and the Win Whittaker Appellate Courtroom.

This technology is similar to that being installed in many courtrooms, including Fairfax County, preparing Mason Law grads for this special aspect of courtroom practice. In addition, both courtrooms have audio conferencing systems. Funding for the project came from the Win Whittaker Memorial Fund, the School of Law, and the Law Library.

For more information, see www.law.gmu.edu/howto/trial_courtroom or contact Deborah Keene, Associate Dean for Library and Technology, dkeene@gmu.edu.

Tell It To The Judge!

Technological improvements to Mason’s moot courtrooms make it easier to do just that.
With the success of the annual Judicial & Legislative Reception held each May in Arlington for the past eleven years, Mason Law expanded its outreach efforts to the Hampton Roads area with a November event held in Norfolk, Virginia. The event recognized and promoted our alumni and the law school, as well as honored the service of legislators and judges of Hampton Roads.

Given the distance involved, alumni, legislators and judges from other parts of the Commonwealth often cannot attend the reception in Arlington. To overcome this problem, Mason Law representatives traveled to Norfolk for a reception that was unique in Hampton Roads and was launched by Albo & Oblon, LLC, as the event’s organizing sponsor. For the reception, David Oblon (’94) secured the Towne Point Club at Norfolk’s World Trade Center building, with its ambiance and beautiful views of the city and the Elizabeth River.

Numerous legislators and judges shared the evening with Mason Law alumni and other members of the legal community. As an added benefit, H. Morgan Griffith, representative to the Virginia House of Delegates for the 8th District, provided a brief address to the group.

The success of this event demonstrates the strength of Mason Law’s alumni network and statewide recognition of the School of Law in the legal community.

Virginia Supreme Court Justice S. Bernard Goodwyn, The Honorable Randall Smith of the Chesapeake Circuit Court, and The Honorable John Doyle of the Norfolk Circuit Court were in attendance at the event, which attracted a number of judges from as far away as Richmond, Virginia.
The Capitol Corner features distinguished Mason Law alumni who are making a mark in the nation’s capital—working on Capitol Hill or for the administration, key law firms, trade associations or other organizations involved in Washington policy debates.

This edition of The Capitol Corner directs the spotlight on Scott Talbott.

By David Landers (’93), The Managed Funds Association

Scott Talbott (’99)

No issue has dominated the attention of policy-makers in Washington, D.C., over the last year like the financial crisis and the federal government’s efforts to respond.

And few lawyer/lobbyists have been closer to the center of that debate than Scott Talbott (’99). Talbott is the Senior Vice President for Government Affairs at The Financial Services Roundtable, one of the premiere financial services trade associations in Washington, representing 100 of the largest integrated financial services companies providing banking, insurance, and investment products and services to the American consumer. Member companies participate through the Chief Executive Officer and other senior executives nominated by the CEO.

These last months have been extremely busy for Talbott, as he manages the Roundtable’s daily legislative and regulatory advocacy efforts and heads up the group’s communication efforts. It’s a full plate for Talbott, and any quick Google search will show that he is quoted regularly in the national media, including The Washington Post, USA Today, The New York Times, Legal Times and other publications as a leading spokesperson for the financial services industry, offering thoughts about the federal government’s Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and other issues. Regarding the federal government’s ongoing efforts to shore up the banking industry, Talbott recently was interviewed by the Nightly Business Report and observed that “[o]ne size doesn’t fit all, so let’s fit the government’s program to the individual institution’s needs at this point to help insure that the money one, is not wasted and two, is protected and three, is most effective.” (January 28, 2009)

Talbott first joined the Roundtable in 1994, following a stint working in the tax departments of Arthur Andersen and Ernst & Young. He received his BA from Georgetown University, cum laude, and graduated from the George Mason University School of Law in 1999. He attended Mason in the evening while working at the Roundtable as their C.F.O. Talbott notes that the law degree from George Mason “made it possible for me to trade my calculator for a blackberry and become a lobbyist.”

Talbott frequently returns to George Mason to talk to current students about the many benefits of working on Capitol Hill as a lawyer. He has participated in panel discussions on career opportunities for Mason grads and is also an active member of the law school alumni’s Capitol Hill Group, with the Roundtable having served as co-host of past receptions. The group brings together Hill staff, administration officials, lobbyists and other Mason alumni with a shared interest in Capitol Hill.

Talbott and his wife LeeAnn, another native Washingtonian, live in Bethesda, Maryland, with their newborn daughter, Lauren. Early mornings are no problem for the excited new dad, either. Talbott is an Ironman triathlete and usually wakes up at 4 a.m. to fit training into his busy life.
9th Annual Ethics CLE Update with Professor John Costello

In what has become an October tradition, Professor John Costello offered his continuing legal education ethics update to alumni on October 15. This year, with nearly 50 alumni in attendance, Ryan Brown ('07) joined Professor Costello to present the lecture Mining Data: The Ethics of Electronic Discovery, Identity Theft and Off Shoring Legal Services. Professor Costello addressed the Rules of Professional Conduct as applied to the increasing trend of lawyers sending legal work to professionals and paraprofessionals outside the United States. In addition, Brown detailed the importance and pitfalls of dealing with electronic data, including metadata, during discovery.

www.law.gmu.edu/alumni/
Faculty News

Highlights from Our Faculty News

Professor Victoria Espinel appeared as a panelist at a congressional briefing held at the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill in January on the matters of Global Innovation and Intellectual Property Rights Protection. The discussion, sponsored by the Center for Strategic and International Studies, addressed the role of innovation as a factor in U.S. economic health and the dynamic challenges to efforts to protect international intellectual property rights worldwide. In October Espinel took part in The Fifth Annual Intellectual Property Summit held by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce’s Global Intellectual Property Center in Washington, D.C., where she moderated a panel entitled “Intellectual Property: Barrier to Progress or Fuel of Innovation?”

In November Professor Jeffrey Parker argued U.S. v. Capener in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Parker asked the court for fully compensable fees and expenses for his client under the Hyde Amendment. In October, he argued a defamation case in Lott v. Levitt in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

Professor Allison Hayward participated as a panelist in an American Bar Association Administrative Law Conference in Washington, D.C., in October. In July Hayward was named a member of the new Office of Congressional Ethics, an independent panel that will work closely with the House Ethics Committee, involving private citizens for the first time in the ethics enforcement process.

Professor Michael Krauss was elected to membership in the American Law Institute (ALI) in October, becoming the fourth Mason Law faculty member to be distinguished by that honor. Krauss joins Professors Steven Eagle and Ross Davies in membership, while Dean Daniel Polsby, as law school dean, is an ex-officio member of ALI.

Professor Ilya Somin was a panelist in a September conference entitled “The Future of Federalism” held by the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) at its Wohlstetter Conference Center in Washington, D.C. Mason Law alumnus Jonathan Adler (’00), professor of law and director of the Center for Business Law & Regulation at Case Western Reserve University School of Law, also served on one of the event’s panels.

In September Professor Jeremy Rabkin was a panelist in a symposium on “The Supreme Court: Past and Prologue: A Look at the October 2007 and October 2008 Terms” held by the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C.

Professor Todd Zywicki was the recipient of a Hoover Institution annual postdoctoral fellowship for the academic year 2008–2009. He was awarded the Arch W. Shaw National Fellowship, through which he worked on the topic “Bankruptcy and Personal Responsibility: Consumer Bankruptcy and Consumer Credit in the 21st Century” while in residence at the Institution for the period September 29–October 30, 2008.

Professor Nathan Sales was a member of a task force chaired by homeland security experts from the Center for Strategic and International Studies and the Heritage Foundation that released its report, “Homeland Security 3.0: Building a National Enterprise To Keep America Free, Safe, and Prosperous,” in September. Committee members were drawn from academia, research centers, the private sector, and congressional staffs.

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Mason Law News

George Mason Law Review Fall Symposium
Continued from page 2

given by William E. Kovacic (right), Chairman, U.S. Federal Trade Commission, built on Pitofsky’s theme of finding a centrist approach to enforcement. Kovacic argued that in addition to the number of cases prosecuted, it is important to recognize the non-litigation agenda that lays foundations for future successes.

Overall, the symposium was a lively discussion of what antitrust law will look like, or should look like, in the new administration.

If you are interested in receiving information on next year’s symposium, please e-mail gmusymposium@gmail.com.  
With thanks to contributor Katie Ruffing (3D).

Civil Rights Law Journal Annual Symposium

The George Mason Civil Rights Law Journal held its annual symposium on October 23, 2008, at the generously donated conference facilities of Jones Day in Washington, D.C. This year’s timely topic was Election Law.

The event brought together distinguished presenters on three panels that addressed the topics of Federalism and Election Law, Campaign Finance, and Voting Rights. Following the panels, Virginia Congressman Tom Davis delivered the keynote address to more than 80 attendees.

The Federalism and Election Law panel included Kristen Clarke of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund; Cameron Quinn, former Special Counsel for Voting Matters at the Department of Justice; and Hans von Spakovsky, former member of the Federal Election Commission and Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. The law school’s Professor David Schleicher moderated the panel, which focused on whether costs imposed on the states by the Help America Vote Act and the Voting Rights Act are too high.

The Campaign Finance panelists debated topics such as soft money restrictions on contributions for political candidates and whether public financing limitations are effective at a federal level. The panel featured Federal Election Commission Chairman Don McGahn, Thomas Beck of Jones Day, Paul Ryan of the Campaign Legal Center, and George Mason Law Professor Allison Hayward. Jan Baran of Wiley Rein, one of the nation’s top election law lawyers, moderated the panel.

The Voting Rights panel, which included leading election law attorneys Sam Hirsch of Jenner and Block, Rob Kelner of Covington and Burling, and Jon Greenbaum of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, discussed susceptibility to voter fraud and whether various means to combat this problem, such as photo ID laws, have been effective. The panel generated interesting debate and was moderated by Professor Hayward.

Summing up the successful day, Professor Schleicher commented, “The symposium was a wonderful opportunity for students to hear top scholars, policy-makers and members of the election law bar debate the key issues in electoral regulation right before a presidential election. The quality of the speakers was just outstanding and the timing couldn’t have been better. It was something anyone interested in law and politics would have loved.”

With thanks to contributor Joanna Sherry (3D).

Federalist Society and American Constitution Society Program on District of Columbia v. Heller

Mason Law’s Federalist Society and American Constitution Society sponsored a November 19 program to address issues raised in the Supreme Court’s decision in District of Columbia v. Heller. The program consisted of three panels that focused on the future of Second Amendment litigation after Heller, the historic basis for the Second Amendment, and an engaging policy debate titled, “More Guns? Less Crime? More Violence? More Liberty?”

Students Carolyn Abbate (3E) and Josh Blackman (3D), opened the program and introduced esteemed panelists and moderators that included Nelson Lund, Mason Law Professor of Constitutional Law and the Second Amendment; Joyce Malcolm, Mason Law Professor; Dave Kopel, Independence Institute; Steven Halbrook, Second Amendment attorney; Alan Morrison, American University; Jeffrey Shaman, Depaul University; David Gossett, Partner, Mayer Brown LLP; Matt Shors, Partner, O’Melveny & Meyers; and Clark Neily, Institute for Justice and co-counsel for Heller.

Panelists Alan Morrison of American University; Steven Halbrook, Second Amendment attorney; and Jeffrey Shaman of Depaul University.
A Message From Dean Polsby

I am continually struck by the vibrancy of our community, and the New Year already brings fresh examples of energy and enthusiasm. In the wake of the historic inauguration of our new president, some of our graduates and students have left the federal government to take on new challenges in the private sector while still others prepare to join the new leadership on the Hill and in the administration. Here on campus a record number of students and alumni turned out for our winter mentoring and shadowing program. And a mere two weeks into the spring semester, student groups already had organized various policy discussions, including vigorous but always civil debates over the recent events in the Middle East. Meanwhile, our faculty and staff are at work on new programs on homeland security, expanded training opportunities for our adjunct professors, and much more.

The enthusiasm and energy is all the more remarkable given the economic climate. The Mason Law community long has had the ability to find inspiration and opportunity where others see crisis and loss. These times are no different. Like everyone else struggling in the present economy, we face significant challenges. Our budget support from the Commonwealth is less than it was eight years ago, and we expect more cuts will come. We have curtailed any new hiring and delayed planned facilities projects. But we’re not discouraged and neither should our friends be. Mason Law will weather this storm just as it has weathered previous budget crises.

Moreover, current times serve as a vivid reminder to all that we must take bold steps today to prepare for a certain future when state funding accounts for a declining fraction, and not the preponderance, of our resources. We have redoubled our efforts to expand our resource bases in new and imaginative ways. And we are succeeding. Today, for example, more private donors than ever before support our faculty research. We have re-energized our Center for Critical Infrastructure Protection with new leadership and new initiatives. Following the successful Law Firm Challenge, the board of your alumni association has plans for new outreach to increase alumni participation.

We need and welcome alumni input always, never more so than now. In this difficult job market, our students and graduates seeking employment will benefit from your advice and counsel. Our alumni association wants your ideas for self-sustaining and relevant alumni programming. Our incoming first-year students need your financial assistance. If you can get involved in these or other ways, let us know. This is your community, and we need your continued energy to keep it strong.

July 2008 Virginia Bar Takers Shine

George Mason law graduates taking the July 2008 Virginia Bar Exam once again exceeded the state pass rates, continuing what has become a welcome Mason tradition.

Our congratulations to these new Mason-trained practitioners, who were sworn in at an October ceremony in Richmond, Virginia.

Mason First-Time Takers Pass Rate: 88.46%
State First-Time Takers Pass Rate: 84.98%

Mason Overall Pass Rate: 87.3%
State Overall Pass Rate: 79.7%

www.law.gmu.edu/alumni/
MY GIFT TO MASON LAW
In support of the George Mason University School of Law, I allocate my gift to the following area(s):

$__________ School of Law General Account
$__________ School of Law Student Scholarships
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$__________ TOTAL GIFT*

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(Please note "School of Law" on your check.)

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Pledge of $__________

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JAN  FEB  MAR  APR  MAY  JUN

☐ Please charge equal payments to my credit card in the months circled above.

The following gift societies provide special recognition to alumni, parents, and friends who give $100 or more during a calendar year:

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In addition to my or my spouse’s own personal commitment, the following company will match the gift. I have enclosed the completed matching gift form.

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I am interested in making a gift through a will, a gift of securities, a trust, an insurance policy, or a retirement plan. Please have a university development officer contact me regarding the tax advantages of deferred gifts.

QUESTIONS?
Contact Mason Law’s Director of Development
Christopher Corish
703-993-9346  corish@gmu.edu

09ALP

Mail form to:
c/o George Mason University Foundation, Inc.
4400 University Drive, MS 1A3
Fairfax, Virginia 22030-4444

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QUESTIONS?
Contact Mason Law’s Director of Development
Christopher Corish
703-993-9346  corish@gmu.edu

09ALP

Matching Gifts
Gifts to George Mason University School of Law may be doubled or even tripled through matching gift programs provided by more than 1,000 corporations in support of qualified higher education programs. Since the individual and the company making the match receive recognition credit, a matching gift could qualify you for one of the giving societies listed above. If your employer or your spouse’s employer matches contributions, please enclose the matching gift form when you make your gift. For additional information about matching gifts, please contact your human resources department or the School of Law Development Office at 703-993-9346.

Gifts of Securities
Gifts of appreciated stocks, bonds, or mutual funds can provide special tax advantages. These include a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift and avoidance of capital gains taxes. The simplest and most efficient way to make a gift of stock to George Mason University School of Law is to instruct your broker or banker to transfer the stock to the GMU Foundation. You or your broker may call the School of Law Development Office at 703-993-9346 for transfer instructions or write to the School of Law Development Office, 3301 Fairfax Drive, MS1G3, Arlington, VA 22201. You may also e-mail the Director of Development at corish@gmu.edu. Please do not sell the stock in your name and have the proceeds sent to us, or that will be considered a cash contribution, and you will be liable for capital gains tax. In addition, keep in mind that many corporate matching gift programs honor a donation of securities.
Information Update

Please use the following space to inform George Mason University of any recent news or accomplishments:

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George Mason University School of Law
c/o George Mason University Foundation, Inc.
Attn: School of Law Gifts
4400 University Drive, MS 1A3
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
Mentor, Recruit, and Hire at Mason

By Rich Kelsey, Class of ’99
President, Law Alumni Association

George Mason is one of the best law schools in the country, by any measure. We have great professors, terrific adjunct professors, a tremendous administration, and one of the most interesting stories of any law school in the country. It is hard to believe that just 29 years ago, we were fighting to get George Mason to integrate the International School of Law into the university system to create the now famous George Mason University School of Law.

Do you know who helped to make that integration happen? It was our students—our present-day alumni. They led the fight and helped to build the School of Law, just as they had when they literally helped build the walls for the first classrooms in the International School of Law. In the mid-1980s when no large law firm would even interview our students, again it was the sheer excellence of those students who fought to open doors and create career opportunities.

The real story behind the Mason miracle is you—my fellow alums. You created this great institution. You demanded excellence. You fought for respectability, and you created the School of Law that now continues its march toward the top. When we overtake William & Mary officially in the rankings in the next five years, it will be because of you and the alumni still to join us. We will overtake William & Mary and truly shake the foundations of Virginia higher education when we do so. To do that, however, requires that same push for excellence and record of doing things better, faster, and more efficiently.

What can you do to help write another great chapter in the Mason story? How can you further increase the reputation of the school and the value of your own degree? There are innumerable opportunities for you as new alums, old alums, or never-before-participated alums to help the cause. You can continue to give. Yes, the law school needs monetary donations, and even a small gesture helps more than you know. We have proven we can and will give our money. I thank everyone who has made the decision to reinvest in their own success.

You also can get involved. Help mentor a law student. Participate in moot court and law school events. Volunteer to provide interview and mock interview assistance to new law students. Call the law school and let them know how your firm, your agency, your company, your congressional office can use interns from George Mason Law. Provide an internship to give our students an opportunity to gain valuable experience in this tightening job market. When, after all, has a Mason law student failed to exceed expectations?

Hire our Mason graduates. Your firm and your clients will be happy you did so. If you are a law clerk, make sure those Mason law clerk resumes are at the top of your judge’s stack. Host a networking event at your firm for young lawyers or new prospective law students. Ask how you or your firm might help sponsor recruiting events in coordination with the admissions office to help continue to attract top young legal talent. We no longer need to kick down the doors of great firms, we only need our alumni to invite us in.

There are almost 6,000 law alumni now. We need each one of you to give back, to come home, or merely to provide an opportunity for your fellow alums. Our story of success and triumph is not over, and we remain the authors of the chapters yet to be written. This year, help us make a difference. Help us to continue our rise through the rankings. William & Mary alums and their administration are nervous. They should be, as they are being tracked by George Mason, its students, and its world-class alumni.

This year, mentor, recruit, and hire at Mason. To our great and respected friends at William & Mary—objects in the rearview mirror are closer than they appear.

Fellow alums, it is time hit the gas and drive right by William & Mary. How will you help to make that happen this year?

www.law.gmu.edu/alumni/
International Law Section more accessible to all California attorneys, especially solo and small firm practitioners who may need to seek out assistance in these areas.”

Through his bar involvement, DeLateur has benefited by meeting specialized practitioners in the international law field with whom he is able to work as co-counsel or upon whom he can call to assist with discrete issues that arise in his practice. “International law in reality covers many different fields beyond commercial transactions. For example, there are trust and estate issues for persons living in the United States with families overseas. International issues also arise with greater frequency in domestic relations and criminal cases.”

DeLateur believes that Mason Law is well positioned to help students in international law studies today, as it was when he was a student just after the merger between the International School of Law and George Mason University. “Our professors did not hide the fact that they were tough on us because Mason Law had to prove itself by showing we were very prepared and could compete with, and be better than, lawyers graduating from other Virginia law schools.” He recalls professors such as John Costello and Charles Friend meeting students in the cafeteria for coffee and encouraging them to go out as lawyers and achieve the highest ethical and work quality standards, advice that is as relevant today as it was then.

Gina Marine (’99)
President of the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association

Gina Marine became involved with bar associations as soon as she graduated in 1999. As the only associate in the firm in which she began her legal career, she found bar involvement to be the best way to meet other attorneys and gain professional resources. Marine adds, “The second reason I volunteered for certain bar committees was my interest in children’s issues. This was not a practice area of mine, but I wanted to work in this area and contribute to the efforts of the bar, and so I volunteered for the Peer Mediation Committee, and then worked my way up to a board position. I also met and learned from lawyers practicing family law, which was an area of licensing body, cannot do. We also can be active with regard to responding to proposed rulemaking by agencies that affect our members, such as the USPTO. Because of the respect of our members and the expertise within our ranks, we are often asked to submit amicus curiae briefs and provide feedback to the judiciary.” This year Albrecht joined presidents of 33 other state bar associations in an appeal to both presidential candidates to promote and advocate for justice for all, a fair and impartial judiciary, and the importance of civic education for young people. Albrecht notes that this effort is similar to the dialogue state bar presidents initiated with President John F. Kennedy as he began his Great Society efforts. The BADC and other bars intend to continue this dialogue with the Obama administration.

Albrecht adds that his involvement with the bar has helped maintain Mason Law relationships. “I continue to work with Robert Bertin (’97), who was the immediate past chair of the PTC.” Barbara Webb Walker, PhD, (’94), carries on Mason Law’s prominence in the PTC section of the BADC as the current chair. Albrecht is proud, too, that Venable continues to be a strong supporter of Mason, regularly hiring its grads. “It is great to see the ever-increasing number of top tier students who are going to work for local firms. As patent law is my area of focus, seeing the expertise in the IP area coming from Mason is impressive. As an adjunct instructor, I had a wonderful experience and saw firsthand again how Mason approaches applied law. As a practitioner, I know how extremely important it is to launch lawyers with these valuable skills to work in firms.”
LAW ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni news has been gathered from many sources over the past several months. If your information has changed, or if you have news to share, please send an e-mail to lawalum@gmu.edu.

2000–2008

Christopher DeSimone (’08) has joined Gross & Romanick, P.C., as an associate in their Northern Virginia law firm, where he handles litigation, business law, and transactional matters.

Joseph Hankins (’08) and Jackie Neff (’08) were married in August 2008 and are living in Arlington, Virginia.

Zackary Takos (’08) has joined the Las Vegas firm of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck as an associate.

Marcus Naples (’08) is an associate at Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads in Philadelphia.

Dean Lhospital (’08) has established Lhospital Law Firm in Charlottesville, Virginia.

DaRong Park (’08) is an Assistant Public Defender in Danville, Virginia.

Sherrie Kim (’08) and Anthony Schiavetti (’07) are engaged to be married. They met as notes editors on the law review.

Jamie Belcore (’07), formerly a Mercatus Regulatory Studies SBA Fellow, has joined the Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Jared Bataillon (’07) is pleased to announce the birth of his son, Leo Joseph, who was born in November.

Erica Little (’07) accepted a position with the general counsel’s office of Sempra Energy, a Fortune 500 energy company based in San Diego, in their environmental law group.

Daniel Fevrin (’07) is employed with Dugan, McKissick, Wood & Longmore, L.L.C., as a litigator.

Timothy Singh (’07) has joined the business and professional litigation practice group of Sands Anderson Marks & Miller in Richmond, Virginia, as an associate focusing on business disputes, including arbitration and litigation resolution.

Rob Luthman (’07) joined the firm of Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in September 2008.

Ken Motolenich-Salas (’07) relocated in November to Phoenix, Arizona, where he joined Perkins Coie Brown and Bain.

Stefan Black (’07) has joined Odin, Feldman & Ptintman in Northern Virginia as an associate in the firm’s Litigation Practice Group.

Laurie Proctor (’07) has joined Blankingship & Keith as an associate in its Fairfax, Virginia, office. Her practice areas are civil litigation, eminent domain, condemnation, and commercial matters.

Huong Lam (’06) is with the O’Neil Law Firm in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Jason Goff (’06) is working in-house at the San Antonio Housing Authority.

Marjorie Manne (’06) has left Wiley Rein to become an associate at McGuireWoods in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

Carlos Wall (’06) was married to Bonnie Jean Moulton on June 7 in Annapolis, Maryland. He is an attorney for Devine, Connell and Sheldon in Fairfax, Virginia.

M. Devlin Cooper (’05) is an associate at Sell & Melton, L.L.P., in Macon, Georgia, and was recently named a board member of the Georgia College & State University Alumni Association.

Sarah Zaffina (’05) of Albo & Oblon was named by Virginia Business magazine as being among Virginia’s Legal Elite.

Robert Almosd (’05) reports that after practicing law for nearly three years in Washington, D.C., he has taken a position with Amnesty International Hungary and moved to Budapest. (See story on page 7.)

Matthew Kremer (’05) and Stephanie Lawley (’04) were married on October 11, 2008, in Alexandria, Virginia.

Caswell Richardson (’04) joined Stallings & Bischoff, P.C., at the firm’s Virginia Beach office.

Mandy Hagan (’04) is director of State Government Relations for the Consumer Healthcare Products Association in Washington, D.C.

Allison Kitchel (’04) has joined Jackson & Campbell’s Washington, D.C., office as an associate in the firm’s real property and asset management group, where she specializes in civil litigation involving real estate matters.

Keary Dunn (’04) recently moved with his wife and three children to take a position as Senior Corporate Counsel at sanofi-aventis U.S. in Bridgewater, New Jersey, where he is in the Food and Drug Regulatory Law, Privacy and Policy Group.

Jeremy Schofer (’04) was named to the Legal Bisnow “30 Under 30” list in July. Among his claims to fame: He placed 10th out of 2,400 entrants in a World Series of Poker event in Las Vegas.

Jennifer Atkins (’02) has become a partner in the Washington office of Kirkland and Ellis, and focuses her practice on appellate and commercial litigation.

Elizabeth Gallenagh (’02) has been named Vice President, Government Affairs, for The Healthcare Distribution Management Association.

Joanne Waters (’02) was elevated from associate to counsel at WilmerHale as of January 1, 2009. She is in the Labor and Employment Practice Group.

Sarah Tuchler McElvane (’02) is currently the Assistant General Counsel at Deltek, Inc., and works remotely from Austin, Texas. She and her husband welcomed a little boy, William Tuchler McElvane, on December 19.

Matthew Hagarty (’02) served as co-editor for The Sedona Conference Commentary on Preservation, Management and Identification of Sources of Information that are Not Reasonably Accessible, published August 2008.

Elizabeth Keith (’01) is a member of American University’s Washington College of Law full-time faculty in the Legal Rhetoric Program.

Angela France (’01) of Albo & Oblon was named by Virginia Business magazine as being among Virginia’s Legal Elite.

Chandra Branham (’01) became an associate in the healthcare practice at Arnold & Porter LLP in July 2008.

C. Scott Meyers (’01) has joined Ellis & Winters LLP to represent regional and national blue chip clients from its Cary
and Greensboro, North Carolina, offices. He practices in the areas of complex commercial and business litigation, bankruptcy representation, and antitrust litigation.

Darryl Richardson (‘01) and Christina Chiesa were married November 27 in Paraty, Brazil. Darryl is living in Pleasant Hill, California, and he works at the Soloano County District Attorney’s Office in Fairfield, California.

Colette (Pumphrey) Wilcox (‘01) and husband Chris announce the birth of their son, Ian Christopher Russell, on July 21, 2007. Colette is an Assistant Commonwealth’s Attorney for the City of Bristol, Virginia, prosecuting felonies, misdemeanors, and traffic cases.

Karen (Morris) Corbett (‘01) was married to Jason Corbett in May 2007 in Fort Myers Beach, Florida. She has relocated to Alexandria, Virginia, where she is a Special Agent with the FBI at its Washington Field Office.

Stephanie Duck Merritt (‘00) is a supervising assistant in the Richmond, Virginia, Commonwealth’s Attorney’s Office and participates in the instruction of Homicide One, an annual week-long course offered by the Commonwealth’s Attorneys Services Council that teaches Virginia prosecutors how to better investigate and try murder cases.

Bob Hicks (‘00) is the happy father of Hailey Elizabeth, born in July 2008.

Brad Lucas (‘00) has been elected a partner in Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobsen, LLP as an attorney in the Corporate Department in the firm’s Washington, D.C., office, Brad focuses his practice primarily on asset management matters.

John Henault (‘00) and wife Kim are very happy to announce the birth of their son, Caden Michael, on May 20, 2008.

Chuck Henter (‘00) was named a Rising Star in the 2008 Super Lawyers in Virginia. Chuck’s practice is HenterLaw PLC in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Kelly West (‘00) has joined VR Business Sales, Mergers & Acquisitions as a business intermediary in its Charleston, South Carolina, offices.

Peter Ganser (‘00) and family have relocated from Rome, Italy, to Lilongwe, Malawi, where Pete serves as Consul to the U.S. Embassy. (See related story on page 7.)

Rabia Chaudry (‘00) is an immigration attorney in Bloomfield, Connecticut.

James Cooper (‘00) will serve as Acting Director of the Office of Policy Planning at the Federal Trade Commission, replacing Maureen Ohlhausen (‘91).

1990–1999

Peter Balnave (‘99) is an associate at Gibb & Rahman, LLC, in Annapolis, Maryland, and concentrates on patent application preparation and prosecution in the electrical, chemical, and biotechnology areas.

Scott Talbott (‘99) and wife LeeAnn welcomed daughter Lauren Dove Talbott on January 3, 2009. Scott, who is senior vice president of government affairs at the Financial Services Roundtable, was involved in lobbying efforts for the $700 billion bill passed by Congress to rescue U.S. financial services industries and was featured in a January Legal Times article about

Bryan Haynes (‘98), a litigation partner with Troutman Sanders, enjoys the exciting pastime of racecar driving as a hobby.

Douglas McDonough (‘98) joined the firm Sterns and Weinstroth in Trenton, New Jersey, in March 2008.


Sunwoo Lee (‘98) was named partner and head of the patent practice at Holland & Knight.

Jerry Hogge (‘97) is now on the senior management team at Unisys Corporation in Reston, Virginia.

J.V. Schwan (‘97) has left his post as deputy chief of staff at the Commerce Department to join Baxter International as senior manager for federal affairs, where he will spend time on international issues.

Declan Leonard (‘96) of Albo & Oblon was named by Virginia Business magazine as being among Virginia’s Legal Elite.

Geneva Vanderhorst (‘96) was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) at the Association’s 50th annual meeting. Geneva has her own criminal defense practice in Washington, D.C.

Will and Amy Moschella (both ’95) recently welcomed their fourth child, Nathan.

David Oblon (‘95) of Albo & Oblon was named by Virginia Business magazine as being among Virginia’s Legal Elite. In addition, he was named by Virginia Lawyers Weekly as being one of Virginia’s “Leaders in the Law” for 2008.

Bradley Wright (‘94) of Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., has written Drafting Patents for Litigation and Licensing. published by BNA Books.

Tom Kiernan (‘94) was appointed Vice President, General Counsel, and Assistant Secretary of VSE Corporation in November 2008.

Andrew Levin (‘94) is the Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Clear Channel Communications, Inc., in San Antonio, Texas.

Granta Nakayama (‘94) was profiled in a Legal Times article appearing in its October 28 edition.

Laura Vallance (‘93) and husband Bill McMoil are pleased to announce the birth of their second son, Ryan, on June 20, 2008. Ryan joins brother Will to round out the family circle. Laura is currently working part time as an attorney for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Courtney “Corrie” (Runion) Hunt (‘93) and her husband H. Glenn Hunt, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Connor Glenn Hunt, on July 23, 2008.

K. Brett Marston (‘93) of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP, was named to the “Best Lawyers in America” list for 2009 in the practice of Construction Law.

David Landers (‘93) has moved from Credit Suisse to join the Managed Funds Association, the Washington, D.C.-based
Alumni News
Continued from page 22

Mike Branca (’93), currently with Peckar & Abramson, P.C., in Washington, D.C., has co-written a book entitled Virginia Construction Law, which was published by Thomson West. The book is a comprehensive Virginia construction law treatise written by prominent Virginia construction attorneys and covers all major legal issues arising in the construction industry.

Tom Hanson (’93) became commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Management and Budget (MMB) subsequent to a merger between the state’s Finance and Employee Relations departments in May 2008. In February Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty appointed Hanson as Federal Stimulus Coordinator for the State of Minnesota.

Stuart Smith (’92) joined Williams Mullins’ Tysons Corner, Virginia, office as a partner in the intellectual property practice.

Anne Greer (’92) was appointed to the Board of Immigration Appeals in August 2008 and was sworn in at an investiture ceremony in December by Attorney General Michael Mukasey.

LaBravia Jenkins (’91) was elected Fredericksburg (VA) Commonwealth’s Attorney in a special election on December 16, 2008. She previously had been appointed to that position when her predecessor was selected as a circuit court judge.

Maureen Ohlhausen (’91) has left her position as Director of the Federal Trade Commission’s Office of Policy Planning after four years in that position and more than ten years with the FTC. She has joined the Business Software Alliance as Technology Policy Counsel.

Katie Sweeney (’91) was named general counsel for the National Mining Association and is responsible for mine safety and health policy.

1981–1989

Kelly McNamara Corley (’89) was interviewed in October 2008 by InsideCounsel regarding her longtime position as executive vice president and general counsel of Discover Financial Services, where she leads the law, compliance, and internal audit departments.

Tom Doyle (’89) is CEO and Commissioner of the Premier Basketball League, which he started after buying the Maryland Nighthawks and moving them to Montgomery County, Maryland, where he has a law practice focusing on medical malpractice and personal injury cases.

Megan Wolfe (’87) was named Manager of Government Relations for the National Association for Sport and Physical Education, where she will function as the organization’s resident expert and lead on government relations activities related to education and health issues.

Jan Brodie (’86), formerly a deputy county attorney in the Office of the County Attorney in Fairfax County, Virginia, was appointed to the Fairfax County Circuit Court in August 2008.

Cheri Taylor (’86), currently a partner at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett and Dunner, has been selected as a member of the International Who’s Who of Life Sciences Lawyers 2008. As a litigator in the areas of biotechnology and pharmaceuticals, she also was named a D.C. Super Lawyer 2007 and Virginia Super Lawyer 2006. She is a member of Council, ABA Intellectual Property Law Section 2006-2010, and received an ABA Presidential Appointment to the Special Committee on Bioethics and the Law.

Daniel Vara (’86) is currently in private practice in Coral Springs, Florida. His recent article, ICE: “Intelligent, Competent, Enforcement?” Not Quite, was published in IPT (the Investigative Project on Terrorism) and the Congressional Quarterly.

Jack White (’86), proprietor of the New Point Oyster Company, was noted in a Washington Post October 15 article as one of the few people who are working to grow and harvest native oysters in the Chesapeake Bay.

John Byrne (’83) was honored at the Eleventh Annual Wall Street 50 dinner, which “celebrates the Irish in the finance industry.”

Ben Glass (’83), a malpractice attorney, has developed a side business called Great Legal Marketing in which he offers tools and services for personal injury lawyers designed to provide an “ethical, effective, and outside-the-box” approach to growing their businesses.

Craig Young (’82) has joined LeClairRyan as a partner in the firm’s bankruptcy practice group. He focuses his practice on creditors’ rights, bankruptcy litigation, commercial transactions, and commercial litigation.

Denise Bode (’82) has been appointed CEO of the American Wind Energy Association effective January 1, 2009.

Len Zawistowski (’82) received a certificate of recognition from former Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan for his contributions to a post-September 11 interagency initiative to dismantle terrorist-related financial and fund-raising activities. He has served as a Senior Special Investigator in the Federal Reserve Board’s Special Investigations Section since 1993.

Judge Thomas Bateman (’81) was appointed by the president of the Florida Bar to chair the Criminal Procedure

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IN MEMORIAM

The entire Mason Law community extends its heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of those alumni listed below. Our ranks are diminished by their loss.

John A. Newman ('87)
William F. O’Neal ('81)
Jeffrey H. Frankel ('80)
Rick Rude ('76)

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Rules Committee for the 2008-09 year. The committee recommends procedural rule changes to the Florida Supreme Court.

W. William Gust ('81) of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP was named to the “Best Lawyers in America” list for 2009 in the areas of Employee Benefits Law and Tax Law.

1980 and Earlier

Richard McMahon ('80) was honored in September with the St. Thomas More Award for dedicated service at the annual Red Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Fall River, Massachusetts. The mass honors those who work to provide justice in the legal system and to acknowledge the service of members of the community.

Joann DiGennaro ('79), president of Center for Excellence in Education and a liberal arts alumna of Purdue University, was invited to speak to students and the public there during a fall speakers series celebrating the College of Liberal Arts.

Denyse Sabagh ('77) was profiled as a leading lawyer in immigration in The Legal Times Almanac of Leading Lawyers: Five Years of Washington Attorneys at the Top of Their Game.

A Work In Progress

The George Mason property on Fairfax Drive in Arlington has enjoyed a long history of change and evolution, and today is no exception. Above is a December 2008 view of the construction progress in the area that once was an outdoor parking lot.

When completed in spring of 2010, the seven-story Arlington II will feature, in addition to classrooms and offices, a 300-seat auditorium, a 438-seat library, a large multipurpose room, and underground parking. A half-acre plaza will grace the area along Fairfax Drive.