Capitol Hill Alumni Group Host Reception at the FTC

Over 80 George Mason University School of Law and Department of Economics alumni and staff attended a cocktail reception for the Capitol Hill Alumni Group at the Federal Trade Commission on Monday, September 9. FTC Chairman and former professor Tim Muris, FTC General Counsel and former professor Bill Kovacic, and FTC Director of Congressional Relations and former Assistant Dean Anna Davis joined the festivities to celebrate GMU’s growing presence in the federal corridor. The School of Law has over 300 members registered in this informal alumni chapter, which took off in the fall of 1999 thanks to the efforts of David Landers (‘93) and Jim Hyland (‘89). Current participants include members and leaders of the 1980s predecessor to the Capitol Hill Alumni Group, known as the George Mason University Legislative and Regulatory Group. Charlie Fritts (‘80) and Roger Courtney (‘75), past leaders of the GMU Legislative and Regulatory Group, remain active today and assist in reaching out to alumni from the ISL era. Another reception for the Capitol Hill Alumni group is expected to take place in early 2003.

Professor News

Vernon Smith, Professor of Law and Economics, will receive the 2002 Nobel Prize in Economics. Smith will share the prize with Princeton psychology professor Daniel Kahneman. For more on this story, visit http://www.law.gmu.edu/highlights/vernon-smith.html.

The School of Law suffered a terrible loss on September 25 when Professor Wesley J. Liebeler died in an airplane crash in New Hampshire. Professor Liebeler, a renowned antitrust scholar, joined George Mason in 1999 and will be sorely missed by his students and colleagues. For more information about Professor Liebeler's life, visit http://www.law.gmu.edu/currnews/liebeler.html.

More information about the accomplishments of Professors Liebeler and Smith and other members of the George Mason faculty will be forthcoming in the annual School of Law Magazine.
The verdict is in!

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Another Successful Law Alumni Golf Tournament

The sky was clear blue, spirits were high, and money was flying for limitless mulligans at the Fourth Annual Law Alumni Association Golf Tournament in honor of former Dean Ralph Norvell. Ten teams comprised of GMU and International School of Law (ISL) alumni, friends, and Dean Grady teed off at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, September 21 at Penderbrook Golf Course in Fairfax. The ISL team of Glenn Lewis ('77), Bob Letnick ('77), Bill Virgulak ('77), and Paul Nichols ('78) came in first overall. Eager to prove that the tournament is completely above board, tournament founder Craig Young ('82) found his team in last place. Thousands of dollars were raised for the student scholarship to be named after Dean Norvell.

2002 Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament Sponsors:

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The Richard Murphy Lecture Series

Alumni and friends of the law school are invited to The Inaugural Richard Murphy Lecture on Thursday, November 14 at 4:15 p.m. at the School of Law. The Inaugural Lecture will feature remarks from the Honorable Frank H. Easterbrook of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Following Judge Easterbrook’s lecture, there will be an opportunity for questions and answers and the awarding of this year’s Murphy prize recipient.

Richard Murphy was a professor at the law school from 1994 until his untimely death in the spring of 1997. Professor Murphy received his J.D. from the University of Chicago. After law school, he clerked for Judge Easterbook and practiced at Kirkland & Ellis. At George Mason, he taught courses on contracts and privacy. After his first year of teaching, he was nominated by the student body for a University teaching award. Family, friends, and former students have established a scholarship and host an annual pool tournament in Professor Murphy’s honor.

If you would like to support the Richard Murphy or other scholarships, please contact Jack Wertzberger, School of Law Director of Development, at (703) 993-8275 or jwertzb@gmu.edu.
A Message from the President...

Since this is my first article, I should introduce myself. My name is Mike Barnsback, and I am the current President of the Board of Directors of the George Mason University School of Law Alumni Association. I am a 1991 graduate of the law school (old Arlington building) and have been in private practice in Alexandria since 1992. That is enough about me. This article is about the Board and the Alumni Association.

One of the first actions taken by the Board this year was to amend our By-laws. I believe this represents a significant and positive change for the Association. The old By-laws had been in place since the inception of the Association and needed to be updated to keep pace with the growth of the Association and the growth of the law school.

We have adopted a mission statement that I believe represents what we have attempted to achieve in the recent past and hope to continue to achieve in the future. The mission statement follows:

We dedicate ourselves to promoting business and professional opportunities through strong alumni social interaction, a commitment to support and enhance the reputation of our School of Law, and to serve our students and graduates.

Please help us in this mission by volunteering your time or resources to the Board and help build a strong George Mason University School of Law alumni community.