Alums Help Wage War On Terror

by Ed Amorosi, '01

Philip Kiko and Rochelle Woodard never imagined the events of September 11 would occur or that their jobs would give them a role in responding to the worst terrorist attacks in our nation’s history, but these two George Mason University School of Law graduates are playing a role in the response to terror.

Phil Kiko ('77), Chief of Staff and General Counsel to the House Committee on the Judiciary, which is chaired by Republican Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin, helped move anti-terrorism legislation through Congress in record time. Rochelle Woodard ('96), an attorney in the Office of Chief Counsel for Export Administration, reviewed the proposed terrorism bill with a team of attorneys in her office and re-examined existing regulations designed to block terrorist groups and rogue nations from acquiring sensitive technology.

Both Mason graduates are strong believers in public service and say their recent assignments show how careers in public service can be personally rewarding. “It was really satisfying to make a substantial contribution when it was really needed to help enact the USA Patriots Bill,” says Phil Kiko reflecting on the 24/7 process leading up to enactment. “This bill, which was the product of incredible efforts by the members of the committee working together with the Bush Administration, will contribute in a significant way to increasing the security of our homeland. It was certainly the most important piece of legislation I’ve ever worked on.”

Rochelle says working for the

Grads Flock Back for Reunion 2001

by Richard Kelsey, '99

Eager to find old friends and relish together in the success of the fastest rising law school in America, alums came home in droves for the first official School of Law Reunion.

The idea for a school-sponsored gathering of alums grew from the inspiration of Alumni Board member Lawrence Dunham ('77) about one year ago. At the time, it was believed that such a gathering might be held in a small restaurant close to the School of Law. From such a gathering, Dunham hoped to build the event into a gala gathering. As the planning began, however, it soon became clear that alumni were itching for a reason to come home. The gala event, it turns out, was this year. The event drew over 200 guests and packed the Atrium of the School of Law, prompting planners to acknowledge that next year, we might need a bigger venue to fill demand.

The reunion was open to all alumni, but it honored the Classes of 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2001. The evening began with cocktails and guided tours of the law school. Alums also came to watch the finals of the upper-class Moot Court Competition at 5:00 p.m. The School of Law also provided a technology demonstrations for alums. A formal sit-down dinner commenced around 7:30 p.m., as Dean Mark F. Grady welcomed alums home. Grady received a thunderous ovation from alums as he reached the podium. Many alums have come to credit the rise and rebound of the School of Law to Dean Grady. In addition, Grady is credited with reaching-out, reaching-back, and honoring those alums from all eras who helped to build the School of Law.

The reunion had a full program, including awards and honors given by the School of Law to deserving alumni. Alumnus Award recipients included: Jonathan Adler ('00), Greg Bedner ('83), Gary Funderlich ('96), Bill Mercer ('93), Paul Misener ('93), Kathy Yarbrough ('87), and Craig Young ('82).

The event was a rousing success, with the administration and Alumni Board vowing to make the reunion a School of Law flagship event each autumn. Next year, join us again, or for the first time. Either way, don’t get stuck reading the clips. Come home to George Mason!
From the President: Reflecting, Giving Thanks, and Making Plans

by Rodney Turner ('93)

Since you received the last issue of The Mason Law Quarterly a lot has happened. As we all know, our country was attacked, and we are still in the process of recovering from that attack. Part of that recovery, as President Bush has recommended, is for all of us to go on with our lives and follow through with the plans that we had made. And, like you, the Alumni Association has done just that. In the last issue of this newsletter, a number of law school Alumni Association events that were planned for the coming months were mentioned. The Alumni Association went forward with its plans and those events were very successful. Accordingly, it is only appropriate that the Alumni Association take time during this holiday season to reflect upon our recent successes, thank those who made them possible, and make plans for the coming year.

During the fall, the Alumni Association planned two major events: The Third Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament and the Law School Alumni Reunion. On the morning of Saturday, October 20th, a record number of participants teed off in The Third Annual Law Alumni Golf Tournament. Despite the challenges presented by the course at Penderbrook Golf Club, all of the participants appeared to enjoy the day. Most importantly, however, the record number of participants helped the Alumni Association raise additional scholarship money for students. The tournament would not have been the success that it was without the tireless efforts of Alumni Association Board member Craig Young ('82), his committee, and the staff of the Career Development and Alumni Services Office. On behalf of the Alumni Association and the students that will benefit, I thank everyone who worked so hard to organize and run the tournament. I also would like to thank all of you who joined us out there on the links. Of course, without your participation, the Tournament could not have been a success. Thanks for coming out this year, and I encourage you to make plans to join us next year. The Alumni Association is already laying the groundwork for next year’s tournament set for September 2002.

On the evening of Saturday, November 17th, the law school and the Alumni Association co-hosted the law school’s Alumni Reunion. The Law Alumni Reunion was a wonderful event in which the law school’s Classes of 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996, and 2001 celebrated special anniversaries of their graduations. In addition, a number of alumni were given awards in recognition of their distinguished achievements since graduating from the law school. The award recipients’ achievements were all very impressive and the recognition of those achievements served to remind all in attendance of just how successful the law school’s alumni have become. It was a very inspiring and uplifting event that afforded many alumni the opportunity to reconnect with their classmates and their alma mater.

In recognition of all of their hard work in organizing and executing the Alumni Reunion, I thank Alumni Association Board member Larry Dunham ('77), his committee, and the staff of the Career Development and Alumni Services Office. All were instrumental in making the reunion a success. I also thank all of you who attended the reunion. As you well know, your participation and enthusiasm at the Law Alumni Reunion made that evening truly special.

As this year closes and we prepare for the next, we must look toward the plans we have made for the new year. The Alumni Association plans to be very active in the coming year. In addition to our efforts to award scholarships to deserving students and to encourage the development of local chapters of the Alumni Association, we will work with the Career Development and Alumni Services Office to organize an Alumni Reception in the Tidewater area in February. In May, the Alumni Association and the law school will co-host the Fifth Annual Judicial & Legislative Reception. You can get further details about these events and others by calling the Career Development and Alumni Services Office at (703) 993-8020 or by visiting our web page at www.law.gmu.edu/alumni. So, as you reflect upon the past year and give thanks for your good fortune, I ask that you include the Alumni Association in your plans for the future. Thank you.

A note on the Professor Richard S. Murphy Prize and Scholarship from John T. Murphy A.B., M.D., Ph.D., father of Richard S. Murphy

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this fund! Richard cared deeply about his students, and believed that the present and future excellence of GMU School of Law resided in their development. The Prize and Scholarship are intended to encourage academic excellence by the students. In his memory, his family is working to foster these goals on a long-term basis. We are hopeful that former students, alumni and faculty colleagues will continue to view this fund as a means both to contribute to the further progress of your School and to honor Richard’s memory. Contributions, which are fully tax deductible, should be directed to the following address. Thank you once again.

The Professor Richard S. Murphy Fund
Career Development and Alumni Services Office
George Mason University School of Law
3301 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22201

Please make checks payable to GMU Foundation and note the Murphy Fund.
The Mason Law Quarterly

Doing Their Part

Continued from page 1.

Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) gives her a chance to work on national security issues on a daily basis. “Even before the attacks of September 11, our top mission was to stop the spread of weapons of mass destruction. What September 11 did was give an urgency to our efforts that prompted us to re-dedicate ourselves to make sure our office was doing all that it could to prevent materials that could be used to produce biological, chemical, or nuclear weapons from getting into the wrong hands.”

Working for the Judiciary Committee is a continuation of Phil’s public service over the last 25 years, which includes stints working at the Department of Education under Secretary Bill Bennett and Secretary Don Hodel at the Interior Department during the Reagan Administration and for Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan during the Bush I Administration. He has also worked in various other capacities on Capitol Hill. Phil’s wife Colleen is a 1986 graduate of the law school. Phil adds that another School of Law alum, Will Moschella (’95), worked on the USA Patriots Act in his capacity as the Judiciary Committee’s legislative counsel.

Rochelle, a Philadelphia native, started her career as an attorney in 1996 with the Department of Transportation before landing her current position in 1998 and fulfilling her lifelong interest in international relations. “I never imagined the circumstances that created the impetus for the USA Patriots Act, but everyday in my job we have to respond to significant world events such as India’s detonation of nuclear weapons in 1998 and Pakistan’s subsequent announcement of a nuclear capability. Every day is important and makes a difference in preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.”

With a swipe of President Bush’s pen, the USA Patriots Act became public law on October 26. Kiko says Chairman Sensenbrenner’s next step is to restructure the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service to better enforce our immigration laws, complete an overhaul of the nation’s bankruptcy laws, and continue his efforts to enhance homeland security.

For the attorneys at BXA, Rochelle says “the current climate is more tenacious, and with the nation unified we hear fewer objections about the impact of export control regulations on the ability of U.S. companies to compete in the global marketplace. There is always a natural tension between national security and business exporters who want a share of the global pie, but in this case everyone’s highest priority is to preserve our national security and prevent future acts of terrorism.”

The work being done by these two George Mason Law School graduates is helping the nation reach that goal. For both of them, it has been an unforgettable experience.

Mark Your Calendar:

5th Annual Judicial & Legislative Reception
May 29, 2002

“Wine and dine” with old and new friends while you meet and greet Virginia judges and legislators.

This year, join the tradition!

Want to learn more about a particular area of the law?

Law alumni are invited to audit courses at the law school for the Spring 2002 semester. Course information is available at www.law.gmu.edu/academics.

To register, or for more information about tuition for various courses, contact the Admissions Office at (703) 993-8010.
Tramposch Named Co-Director of George Mason Intellectual Property Program

Albert Tramposch, a senior official at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) until July of this year, has been named Co-Director of the Intellectual Property Program at George Mason University School of Law. Prof. Tramposch joins Co-Director John Witherspoon, who has built the School of Law’s program into one of the strongest and most distinguished in the country.

Prof. Tramposch comes to the law school from his post as Director of Industrial Property (Patent and Trademark) Law at the Geneva, Switzerland-based United Nations agency responsible for intellectual property law worldwide. During his eight-plus years at WIPO, he helped negotiate five international instruments, including the WIPO Patent Law Treaty of May 2000, and initiated WIPO’s involvement in dispute resolution for trademarks and Internet domain names. Most recently, he was responsible for drafting a future treaty on substantive patent law, including the controversial ‘first-to-file’ issue.

A registered U.S. patent attorney, Prof. Tramposch serves as Counsel for the Alexandria, Virginia, intellectual property law firm of Burns, Doane, Swecker and Mathis. He is a former Director of the Center for Intellectual Property Law at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago, and a former judicial clerk for The Honorable Pauline Newman, Circuit Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Prof. Tramposch is a welcome addition to the GMU intellectual property law program. Created in 1987, the program serves over 100 students, more than half of them current and former U.S. patent examiners. The law school’s 40+ courses in IP and technology law are taught by full-time faculty and a distinguished adjunct faculty which includes a sitting federal judge, a former Commissioner of Patents, a former Register of Copyrights, and a former Board of Patent Appeals judge. George Mason’s highly-qualified students edit the respected Federal Circuit Bar Journal under the direction of Professor Kimberly Moore.

Prof. Tramposch is also overseeing the development of a new LL.M. program -- an LL.M. in Intellectual Property. For more information, feel free to contact Prof. Tramposch at tramposch@gmu.edu or visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/IP&TL.html.