

2007

Golden Gate Lawyer, Spring/Summer 2007

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/ggulawyer>

Recommended Citation

"Golden Gate Lawyer, Spring/Summer 2007" (2007). *Golden Gate Lawyer*. Paper 5.
<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/ggulawyer/5>

This Newsletter or Magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the Other Law School Publications at GGU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Golden Gate Lawyer by an authorized administrator of GGU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact jfischer@ggu.edu.

SPRING/SUMMER 2007

Golden Gate

LAWYER

THE MAGAZINE OF GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Golden Gate Law Steps Up to the CHALLENGE of Climate Change

page 13

plus:

**Historic Gathering of GGU Alumnae Judges . . . Farewell to Professor Sompong . . .
Alumnus Alan Simon Receives Lifetime Achievement Award**

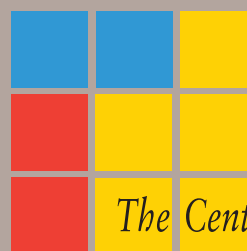


“Golden Gate exposed me to tax law and real estate early on. That’s how I knew what I wanted to do. What I learned at GGU helped me find the right balance and enabled me to succeed at what I love: tax law and wine.”

Robert Fanucci (JD 82)
Owner/Vintner, Charter Oak Winery
Tax Attorney, Gagen, McCoy,
McMahon & Armstrong

For more than a century, Golden Gate University has provided a quality professional-practice adult-learning experience in Northern California. GGU has given many people such as Robert Fanucci the opportunity to change their lives and advance their careers. GGU is still that place, helping adults work, learn and succeed.

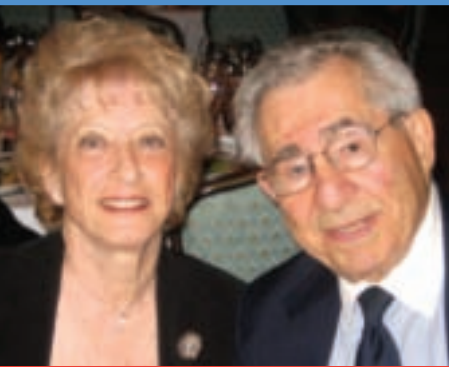
To continue to deliver on our heritage and our promise, we must invest in our future. To learn more about *The Centennial Campaign for GGU*, please visit www.ggu.edu/campaign, or call 415-442-7820.



The Centennial Campaign for GGU

Work. Learn. Succeed.

Golden Gate **LAWYER**



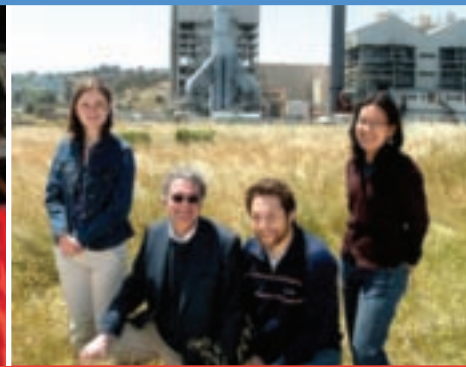
Award-winning
GGU alumnus
Alan Simon with
his wife, Marilyn.



Golden Gate has a strong presence
on the San Francisco Superior Court
with these and other alumnae
who have served on the bench.



Distinguished
Professor
Sompong
Sucharitkul.



Faculty and students with the
Environmental Law and Justice
Clinic are tackling air pollution and
global warming on many fronts.

FEATURES

- 5 Michael Daw Appointed
Director of the Law Library
- 8 Farewell to Professor Sompong
- 10 **QUITE AN HONOR:**
Seven Alumnae Judges
Gather on Campus
- 13 **CLIMATE CHANGE TAKES
CENTER STAGE:**
Golden Gate's Environmental
Law Program and Alumni Shine a
Spotlight on Global Warming
- 20 Los Angeles Deputy DA
Tamara Hall (JD 97) Meets
With Students
- 21 Alan Simon (BBA 50, JD 59)
Receives SF Trial Lawyers Award

Spring / Summer 2007

DEPARTMENTS

- 3 Faculty News
- 5 Golden Gate Briefs
- 19 Advancement News
- 20 Alumni News & Class Notes

© 2007 Golden Gate University School of Law

Writer and Editor:
Jill Goetz

Design and Production:
Jung Design

Printing:
Madison Street Press

On the Cover:

Professor Cliff Rechtschaffen, at lower right, takes students in his Environmental Law and Policy class on a tour of a waste treatment facility. Golden Gate law students gain practical training in the environmental and legal issues relating to air quality and industrial emissions, including those that contribute to global warming.



Summer is not usually the warmest time of year here in San Francisco. As I write this, fog enshrouds the City. But much of California and the rest of the country are experiencing a scorching heat wave. Many scientists predict such extreme weather events will grow in frequency due to global warming.

Climate—specifically, climate change and the greenhouse gases causing it—has received unprecedented attention in the courts, halls of Congress, and public consciousness. So it is at Golden Gate—where our students have outstanding opportunities (including a new course devoted to the subject) to learn about the issue from practitioners with direct experience. As you'll read in the feature article in this issue of *Golden Gate Lawyer*, our students are working on global-warming cases and problems through our Environmental Law and Justice Clinic as well as in prized internships and clerkships. And you'll learn of just a few of our alumni engaged in climate change litigation, compliance, and advocacy in governmental and nongovernmental agencies, law firms, and companies.

In these pages we also honor Distinguished Professor Sompong Sucharitkul, Golden Gate's legendary and longtime diplomat, scholar, and educator who truly built our international program from the ground up. "Professor Sompong" created our JD, LL.M., and SJD in International Legal Studies programs, founded our Bangkok summer study abroad program, established the Fulbright Symposium on Comparative and International Legal Studies, and transformed generations of law students from many countries—to name a few of his accomplishments during his 17-year tenure with the law school.

We also applaud the achievements of many alumni, including Alan Simon (BBA 50, JD 59), who recently received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association, and the seven alumnae judges and commissioners of the San Francisco Superior Court who gathered for a historic panel on campus this spring.



DEAN FREDERIC WHITE

Last but not least, I wish to take a moment to applaud our many recent graduates who passed the California bar exam on their first try. The School of Law's February 2007 first-time pass rate on the California bar exam and the overall first-time pass rate of California ABA-accredited schools on the exam are:

- ♦ **GGU Law first timers: 41/60 = 68.3%**
- ♦ **California ABA-accredited school first timers: 61%**
- ♦ **GGU Law December grad first timers: 36/46 = 78.3%**

These numbers are very encouraging, not only because we have exceeded the California ABA first-time rate, but because our results represent an approximate 27% jump over last February's results. Congratulations to all of our graduates and faculty who helped in this effort.

I hope to see you at our alumni reception on September 28 at the State Bar of California Annual Meeting in Anaheim. Watch for more details about the reception in future emails and on our website.

Best Regards,

Dean Frederic White

◀ In April, the GGU Student Bar Association organized a GGU Basketball Tourney, with four teams of GGU law students competing, at the University of California, San Francisco Recreation Center. Dean Frederic White refereed, and Associate Dean Greg Egertson was scorekeeper. A great time was had by all! The SBA hopes to hold more such tourneys in the years ahead, and alumni are welcome to join in! Shown at left are the winning team members (back row, from left): Stephen Baum, Blake Grossman, and Ben Poole; and (front): Luis Jaques, Dean Frederic White, Greg O'Connell, and Nate Kabanuck.



Associate Professor **MICHELE BENEDETTO** was a panelist at the Child Advocacy Project Conference in April hosted by the University of Oregon School of Law. She spoke on the constitutionality of the foster care system, drawing from her 2005 article published by the *UC Davis Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy*, and discussed current and pending legislative reforms in this area.

Associate Professor **ERIC CHRISTIANSEN** authored the lead article in the January 2007 *California Real Property Reporter*. The article is titled "Security Freeze Laws, Free Speech, and Tenant Screening Procedures: Recent Legal Developments in the Fight against Identity Theft." Another article, "Adjudicating Non-Justiciable Rights: Socio-Economic Rights and the South African Constitutional Court," appears in the February 2007 volume of the *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*. Christiansen spoke on "The Rule of Law and Delivering Justice in Africa" at a February conference of scholars and judges from South Africa and other nations held at Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Professor **MORTON COHEN** is commended in "Building Blocks for Institutional Safety: Promising Practices to Prevent Inmate Sexual Assaults," in the January 2007 *Colorado Department of Public Safety Bulletin*. The article notes that as a result of one of Cohen's lawsuits, *Stone v. City and County of San Francisco*, the new County Jail 8 was built, which the article calls "a national model for program-oriented prisoner rehabilitation."

RODNEY FONG, assistant dean for bar exam services, has been appointed by the State Bar of California Board of Governors for a three-year term to the newly formed Council on Access and Fairness. Fong, one of five council members who served on the State Bar's Diversity Pipeline Task Force, spoke on "Bridging the Generational Gap in the Legal Profession" at the February luncheon of the Lawyers Club of San Diego and was featured in an article about his talk in the newsletter *Lawyers Club of San Diego News*. His recent speaking engagements have included a diversity roundtable hosted by Gordon & Rees LLP, the Bar Association of San Francisco, and the Minority Bar Coalition; and the Society of American Law Teachers' Annual Awards Dinner.

Professor **MARC GREENBERG** has been granted tenure by the university. In April he spoke at a Golden Gate University Silicon Valley Forum, where he discussed IP legal issues Silicon Valley will face in the years ahead. This past spring he gave several on-air interviews concerning major developments in copyright law on CNBC, KGO-TV, and other TV news programs.

Associate Professor **HELEN KANG** participated in an international conference, "Globalizing Clinical Education to Protect the World's Health and the Environment," at the University of Maryland School of Law, where she was the only participant from a California law school. In January she participated in a roundtable discussion on new developments in environmental law and issues in teaching in a clinic setting, at the Environmental Clinical Professors Conference held in conjunction with the AALS conference in Washington, DC. In February she was a panelist at the Northern California Clinical Conference at Stanford Law School, where she participated in a panel discussion on policy advocacy in a clinical setting. And in March, her comment on *United States v. W.R. Grace & Co.* was published in the *California Real Property Law Reporter*.

Visiting Assistant Professor **JOSEPH LAVITT** participated in the first annual invitation-only Corporate Roundtable sponsored by the Berkeley Center for Law, Business, and the Economy at Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley, in April.

Professor **CHRIS OKEKE** spoke in December 2006 on "The Impact of Law on Science and Technology Relevant to the Future of Oil and Gas in Nigeria" as part of a think tank group formed to help plan the Abuja Petroleum Roundtable. In January he spoke on "The Nigeria Civil War: The Background of *Half of a Yellow Sun*, a Novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie" to the Golden Gate University Lit Club. In February, he chaired a book-signing ceremony at California State University-Long Beach for Cal State Professor of Literature Uche Ugwuze. In April he codirected the 16th Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law and the 17th Annual Fulbright Symposium on International Legal Problems and also spoke at Acalanes High School in Lafayette, Calif., on "Nigeria: The Last of Africa's Pseudo Federation in the Wake of the National General Election 2007." Okeke has assumed the role of editor-in-chief of the *Golden Gate University Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law*.

Professor **DAVID OPPENHEIMER**'s essay "Does US Labor Law Have a Culture of Litigation?" appears in the February issue of the *Revue de Droit du Travail* (Labor Law Journal). During winter break he delivered lectures on "Dr. King's Legal Legacy: A Critical Assessment," in Freiburg, Tubingen, and Heidelberg, Germany, hosted by the German-American Law Association. He also participated in panel discussions in Berlin on Comparative Employment Discrimination Remedies at the Free University (the program was organized by Professor Helen Hartnell) and in another event cosponsored by the US Embassy.



MICHELE BENEDETTO



ERIC CHRISTIANSEN



MARC GREENBERG



CHRIS OKEKE

FACULTY NEWS
CONTINUES ON
PAGE 4

More recently, he spoke at the University of San Francisco Law School on "Affirmative Action and Color-Blindness" and at the University of Paris X (Nanterre) on "Enforcement of US Anti-Discrimination Law: Judicial, Administrative, and Private."

Visiting Assistant Professor **BRENT PLATER**'s essay, "Requiem for a River Dolphin," aired several times on KQED FM in January.

Professor **CLIFF RECHTSCHAFFEN** had two op-ed pieces published in December 2006: "Toxic Disclosure Should Be Expanded, Not Scaled Back," by the Center for American Progress online; and "Law and Public Policy Support Lockyer's Suit Against Auto Manufacturers for CO₂ Emissions" (with Sean Hecht), at the online *California Progress Report*. In October 2006 he delivered a paper, "Shining the Spotlight on European Union Environmental Compliance," at the Fourth IUCN Academy on Environmental Law Worldwide Colloquium at Pace University School of Law. In March he gave a talk titled "Creating a Roadmap for Achieving Intergenerational Environmental Justice" at the University of Colorado Law School's conference "The Climate of Environmental Justice: Taking Stock."

Professor **SUSAN RUTBERG** testified before the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice in January at a public hearing on problems with the use of forensic evidence in California courts. (See page 7.) In April, she spoke to high school students at a screening in San Rafael of *The Trials of Darryl Hunt* about a 20-year struggle to free a man twice wrongfully convicted. The event was sponsored by the Diversity Section of the Marin County Bar Association. Also in April, she presided over a mock trial put on by middle-school students from the San Francisco Community School held in Golden Gate's Moot Courtroom.

Professor **BERNARD SEGAL** was a visiting lecturer in December 2006 at Temple University Law School, where he taught in the LLM in Trial Advocacy program as he has for the past six years. The longtime director of Golden Gate's litigation program and leader of the School of Law's mock trial competition programs, Segal is a nationally known trial lawyer and teacher of trial advocacy.

Distinguished Professor **SOMPONG SUCHARITKUL**'s article, "Legal Multiculturalism and the ILC," is being published by Martinus Nijhoff for a collection of papers on the major international legal agencies, including the UN, ICJ, Institut de Droit International, and Hague Academy. His February contributions to the *UNCTAD Update* are being used as teaching materials for ASEAN arbitrator trainees in a program organized by UNCTAD at the invitation of the Indonesian government. Sucharitkul will be listed in the upcoming edition of *Who's Who among American Teachers & Educators*. He led the 16th Annual Meeting of the American Society of International Law and the 17th Annual Fulbright Symposium on International Legal Problems at Golden Gate University. Professor Sucharitkul retired from the School of Law in May. (For more about his contributions to the School of Law, see page 8.)

Professor **RACHEL VAN CLEAVE** spoke at the annual meeting of the AALS in December 2006 as part of a "Katrina Workshop." She and other panelists discussed issues related to the re-composition of a community as it redevelops

following a disaster, including the effects of gentrification, the role of the new urbanism as a planning tool, and the importance of community and individual identity in the rebuilding process. In February she spoke at another panel on Hurricane Katrina at UC Hastings College of the Law, in a talk titled "Challenge to Communities." Her article "Property Lessons in August Wilson's The Piano Lesson and the Wake of Hurricane Katrina" has been published in the *California Western Law Review* (fall 2006). Van Cleave is teaching a new course at Golden Gate, the "Katrina Seminar," in which students are researching storm victims' legal property issues. The work of the students will directly benefit advocates in the Gulf Coast. The Katrina Seminar is cosponsored by the Elfenworks Foundation.

Adjunct Professor **JOEL MARSH** moderated a panel in February of immigration experts assembled for a community forum sponsored by the East Bay Chapter of the ACLU and the Richmond Public Library. The panel, which also included Golden Gate law alum **Michael Epstein** (JD 94), addressed civil liberties issues in raids of immigrant communities in the Bay Area and nationally. Marsh is a member of the board of the ACLU East Bay Chapter and chairs its Immigrant Rights Committee. He teaches Business Immigration Law at GGU.

Adjunct Professor **FRANK ROMANO** gave a reading in May at the GGU Bookstore from his new book, *Storm over Morocco*, about his experience living with a fundamentalist religious group in the 1970s.



▲ **JOEL MARSH (AT PODIUM) AND MICHAEL EPSTEIN (JD 94) PARTICIPATED IN A PANEL ON IMMIGRATION LAW IN FEBRUARY.**
COURTESY OF THE GLOBE NEWSPAPERS.

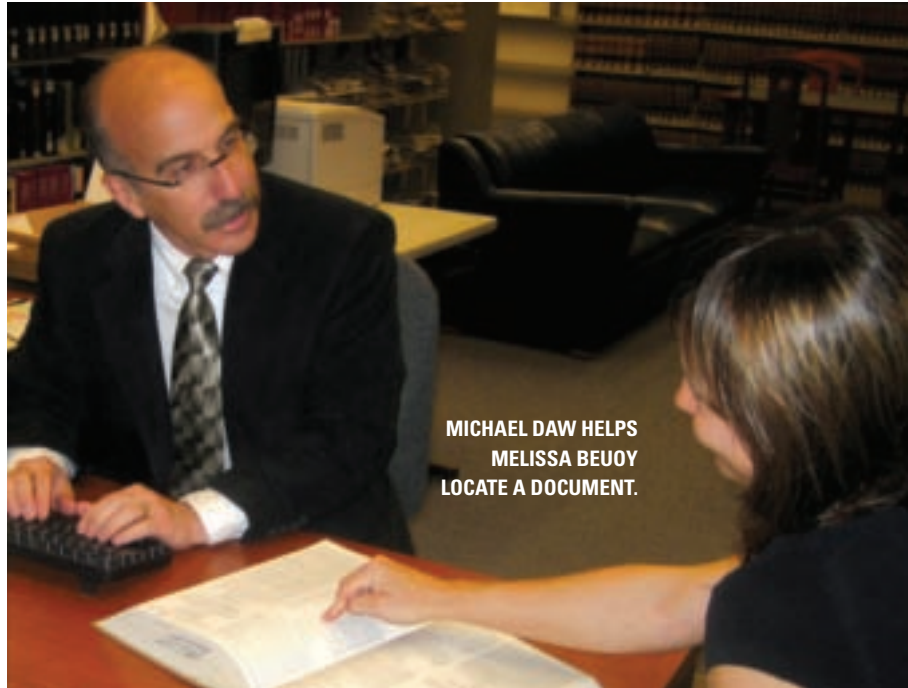
Adjunct Professor **BARTON SELDEN** has merged his practice with that of several other business, litigation, intellectual property, and international law practitioners to form Gartenberg Gelfand Wasson & Selden, LLP, a new firm with offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Orange County. Joining Selden as an associate in the firm's San Francisco office is **Michael Rinné** (LLM 05), an attorney from Germany who received an LLM in US Legal Studies from Golden Gate University.

MICHAEL DAW NAMED DIRECTOR OF THE LAW LIBRARY

Michael Daw, adjunct professor and longtime staff member of the Golden Gate University School of Law Library who has been its co-director for the past year, is the new director as of July 1.

Daw joined the law library in 1994 and served as electronic formats librarian until 1999. Specializing in international and tax legal research, he teaches several research courses for JD and graduate law program students, including Tax Research, Graduate Legal Research, eSearch, and California Legal Research. With law librarian Maryanne Gerber, he has introduced first-year law students to computer-assisted legal research in hands-on training sessions in LexisNexis, Westlaw, and the Internet each spring. Before coming to Golden Gate, Daw practiced tax law and litigation. He has a masters of library and information science (MLIS) degree from San Jose State University and a JD from Valparaiso University.

Daw says he relishes teaching law students and assisting researchers, “and striking that balance of showing them how to do the research as well as finding the answers they are looking for. If we’re doing our job right, we are research *consultants* more than anything else.”



MICHAEL DAW HELPS
MELISSA BEUOY
LOCATE A DOCUMENT.

Daw says he has enjoyed the challenge of adapting to the role of the Internet in legal research and the many new avenues for accessing legal materials electronically. But he says the new electronic resources have not changed the essential nature of law libraries, and he does not envision the law library of the future appearing dramatically different than it does now, although library materials will become available in new

“The **challenge** for law librarians is to **stay on top of the growing electronic offerings** students and other researchers may refer to—such as podcasts and Wikis—even as they remain fully versed in the printed materials.”

Daw is especially pleased to be taking the helm of the law library, where, he says, “The staff is the best there is—there is none better.” He says he’s looking forward to completion of the law library expansion project, slated for spring 2009, which will include a large reading room and a layout that facilitates easier processing of materials.

and diverse formats.

“The Internet and electronic legal databases have radically increased access, and future developments in electronic communication will undoubtedly affect how information is distributed,” Daw says. “But there will always be a need for ready access to printed primary legal materials and resources. The challenge for law librarians is to stay on top of the growing electronic offerings students and other researchers may refer to—such as podcasts and Wikis—even as they remain fully versed in the printed materials.”

“How legal researchers of the future will choose to absorb legal materials—online, or on the printed page, for example—will depend in part on preference,” Daw says. “It will be up to the law librarian to be able to direct each researcher to the appropriate source, in the preferred format.”

Always a pragmatist, Daw notes that whatever digital technologies may do for legal research, he always has to think of what can go wrong. Recalling past power failures, he notes, “The courts don’t care that the power went out—you’ve got to file your brief when it’s due.” To that end, he and the rest of the Golden Gate School of Law Library staff will remain on hand, ready to assist students and practicing attorneys with whatever their legal research needs may be.



MICHAEL DAW

Dozens of Bay Area Attorneys Visit Campus To Participate in "Meet the Bar Associations"

Representatives from over two dozen Bay Area bar associations were on campus in January for a "Meet the Bar Associations" event sponsored by Law Career Services to introduce GGU law students and alumni to the myriad professional legal groups in the San Francisco Bay Area. More than 100 students and alumni networked with bar association representatives, who included GGU law alumni Margaret Gannon (JD 75), president of Women Lawyers of Alameda County; Tamiza Hockenhull (JD 99), board member of the Charles Houston Bar Association; and Joan Herrington (JD 95) and Heather Borlase (JD 01) of the California Employment Lawyers Association.



CHARLES HOUSTON BAR ASSOCIATION REPS AT "MEET THE BAR" INCLUDED TAMIZA HOCKENHULL (JD 99, TOP RIGHT); IN PHOTO BELOW, JOAN HERRINGTON (JD 95) AND HEATHER BORLASE (JD 01) REPRESENTED THE CALIFORNIA EMPLOYMENT LAWYERS ASSOCIATION.



Law School Expands Programming to Commemorate Justice Jesse Carter

The 2006-07 academic year brought four distinguished speakers to the School of Law for the Jesse Carter Distinguished Lecture Series, which commemorates School of Law alumnus Jesse W. Carter (Class of 1913), associate justice of the California Supreme Court from 1939 until his death in 1959. This year's speakers were American Law Institute President Michael Traynor; the Hon. Marsha S. Berzon, of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; British Barrister Christopher Sallon; and Timothy Simon, an adjunct professor with the law school and former appointments secretary to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger who was more recently appointed commissioner on the California Public Utilities Commission.

Scheduled speakers for the 2007-08 Carter lecture series, which will have the theme of "Dissent," are Maya Harris, executive director of the ACLU of Northern California; Hon. William Fletcher, of the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; and Hon. Cruz Reynoso, former associate justice of the California Supreme Court and Boochever and Bird Chair for the Study and Teaching of and Equality at UC Davis School of Law.



In addition, the law school recently established the Jesse W. Carter Society to support superior academic achievement. Returning students who rank in the top 10 percent of their class after the first year of instruction will be admitted into the Carter Society, as well as students who, upon graduation, rank in the top 15 percent of their graduating class. Inductees will receive a certificate acknowledging their outstanding academic success and have their names inscribed on the Jesse W. Carter plaque that will be prominently displayed at the law school. During the fall semester, these student accomplishments will be recognized at the annual Jesse Carter luncheon.

◀ **ADJUNCT PROFESSOR TIMOTHY SIMON DELIVERS A JESSE CARTER LECTURE. PHOTO BY XIANG XING ZHOU/DAILY JOURNAL**

Second GGU Group Goes to New Orleans to Assist Victims of Hurricane Katrina

Over spring break, nine Golden Gate law students traveled to New Orleans to volunteer with the nonprofit organization Common Ground. This is the second year law students from the school have joined Common Ground in providing legal and other assistance to storm victims during spring break. The students not only did physical work gutting homes but also conducted research for attorneys handling cases involving renters' rights and assisted residents with finding jobs and housing. They spoke directly with residents about their experiences as victims of the storms and informed them of their options for recovery.

"There is still a lot of work that has to be done down there, but it was uplifting to see the number of volunteers that having been working to improve the situation of the residents and the city in general," says Michelle Bethge (JD 09). "By traveling to New Orleans and seeing the condition of the people and the city a year and a half after the storm, it opened our eyes to the many steps that must occur for the city to thrive again. New Orleans remains a beautiful city, and our experience was heightened by the kindness and welcoming attitudes we received from the people in the city."

Golden Gate Law Students Provide Research & Comment to Agencies

In January, the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice held a public hearing on problems with the use of forensic evidence in California courts, and the work of three Golden Gate students was distributed to the commissioners in advance of the hearing and was published on their website. Student Sara Markert submitted her paper on on "Beyond Capital: Examining a Defendant's Right to Expert Assistance at Trial"; Daniel Blanchette submitted a paper on on "The Nation's Forensic Laboratories Are in Desperate Need of Fundamental Change"; and Jung Pham submitted his paper on "Standards and Recommendations in Crime Laboratory Accreditation and Criminalists' Certification."

Pham attended the hearing with GGU Professor Susan Rutberg (JD 75), who submitted her article "Anatomy of a Miscarriage of Justice: The Wrongful Conviction of Peter J. Rose" and testified about problems with the forensic evidence admitted during Rose's trial. Rose was exonerated after serving nearly 10 years in prison, due to the work of Rutberg, attorney Janice Brickley, and students with GGU's former Innocence Project. Markert, Blanchette, and Pham did the research and wrote the papers for the commission as part of Rutberg's "Wrongful Convictions" class at GGU, and their work made a direct contribution in the formation of three bills now before the state Senate aimed to reduce the problems associated with faulty forensic evidence. John Van de Camp, chair of the commission, publicly expressed appreciation for the GGU law students' contributions.

More recently, student clinicians with the law school's Women's Employment Rights Clinic (WERC) worked with Professor Marci Seville on public comments submitted to the US Department of Labor, urging the agency not to cut back on workers' rights under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The labor department published a fall 2006 notice in the *Federal Register* asking for comments from the public on the existing FMLA regulations. The agency's request for information generated widespread concern that there would be a rollback of FMLA protections. The GGU clinic prepared comments on behalf of law professors nationwide, presenting a scholarly perspective by addressing the history and purpose of the FMLA and the need to retain several key regulatory provisions. Third-year students Emily Hobbins and Yaromil Vélez-Ralph researched both the legislative history and various studies on the implementation of leave rights. Their research was compiled in a letter signed by 80 law professors from throughout the United States.

Golden Gate Contingent Attends National Lawyers Guild Dinner

In March, some 20 Golden Gate law professors, students, and alumni joined progressive Bay Area lawyers at a dinner honoring Dennis Cunningham, the renowned civil rights and defense attorney. The dinner was sponsored by the National Lawyers Guild San Francisco Bay Area Chapter. Previous honorees have included Golden Gate Professor Emeritus Allan Brotsky and alumnus Marc Van Der Hout (JD 77).



- ▲ In February, eight GGU law students visited with the Hon. Joyce L. Kennard, third from left, of the California Supreme Court in her chambers, where she spent nearly two hours talking with the students, sharing her experiences and offering career advice. The event was organized by first-year law student Cari Spivack, second from left.
- ▼ In April the School of Law presented the Michael A. Zamperini/W. Clay Burchell Scholarship to 3L Teresa McLaren, who plans a career in criminal defense. The scholarship was established in 1993 through an endowment by Professor Michael Zamperini, director of the School of Law's Writing and Research Program, and his partner, W. Clay Burchell. The scholarship recognizes lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender students in their final semester at law school who have demonstrated outstanding overall achievement and who have excelled in the law school's writing and research courses. Shown from left are Zamperini, Burchell, and McLaren at a reception in her honor.





Bidding Farewell to Professor Sompong

A Master Diplomat, Scholar, and Teacher Leaves a Rich Legacy to the School of Law

Few Golden Gate University law professors have done as much to advance programming and pedagogy in a particular field of study as has Associate Dean and Distinguished Professor of International and Comparative Law Sompong Sucharitkul.

Since joining the law school in 1990, he has founded and directed the JD, LLM, and SJD International Legal Studies programs; the Center for Advanced International Legal Studies; and a popular summer study abroad program in Bangkok, Thailand. He also founded the Fulbright Symposium on International Legal Studies at Golden Gate, an annual international conference since 1991 held in conjunction with regional meetings of the American Society of International Law.

Professor Sucharitkul has brought well over 100 renowned international legal scholars to Golden Gate, both through the symposium and as visiting faculty and visiting fellows. In addition, he brought the *Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law* journal, of which he has served as editor in chief, to the law school. Sucharitkul also has given generations of students hands-on practical training in applying the precepts of international law through participation in the prestigious Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the largest competition of its kind.

But to fully understand what he has contributed to the law school and its students, it is necessary to step back and consider the illustrious career of Sompong Sucharitkul.

A Luminary in International Law

Sompong Sucharitkul (“Professor Sompong,” to his students) was a renowned scholar and diplomat on the world stage long before he came to Golden Gate. The recipient of doctoral law degrees from Oxford University and the University of Paris and an LLM in international law from Harvard University, he served as secretary to Thailand’s prime minister and legal counsel to the Thai government before becoming Thailand’s ambassador to nine countries, the European Union, and UNESCO and representing Thailand in the UN General Assembly for nearly three decades. He was also a widely published author. Sucharitkul has authored more than 10 books and hundreds of articles, essays, and treatises. “My research and life’s work have focused on freedom and the rule of law,” he says.

Specializing in public international law (which addresses disputes between governments and public entities rather than between private entities, such as corporations), Sucharitkul’s leadership positions are far too numerous to list here. But one of his proudest accomplishments has been serving as a member and special rapporteur on the International Law Commission for 10 years—“The dream of every public international lawyer,” he says.

While on the International Law Commission, Sucharitkul submitted a series of eight reports and prepared a set of draft articles on the topic of jurisdictional, or sovereign, immunity that have served to codify and help develop states’ handling of questions regarding their immunity from the jurisdiction of the courts of other states. These reports and articles, as well as commentaries, have been incorporated in the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States, adopted by the General Assembly in 2004—when Sucharitkul was named “International Legal Professional of the Year.”

“I think it is Sompong’s work on the International Law Commission in the area of sovereign immunity for which he will most go down in history,” notes McGeorge School of Law Professor Stephen McCaffrey, who served with Sucharitkul as an International Law Commission member and special rapporteur. “It is an extremely difficult topic, and he had a very difficult line to walk. He did it with great skill and grace. His work resulted in the adoption of a treaty under the auspices of the UN, which is quite an accomplishment. It shows that his work was very well balanced, even though highly controversial at the time.”

Associate Dean and Distinguished Professor Sompong Sucharitkul, above, retired from the School of Law in May. He founded the law school’s international legal studies programs for JD, LLM, and SJD students, as well as numerous other programs on campus that have significantly raised the law school’s reputation in the public international legal community — where Sucharitkul himself has been an icon for decades. In the photo at right, Sucharitkul (with Dean Frederic White behind him) speaks at a dinner the law school held in his honor at a San Francisco Thai restaurant this spring.

A Broader Perspective

McCaffrey, who has taught at McGeorge since 1977, advised former GGU School of Law Dean Anthony Pagano in the 1980s, when Pagano was looking to develop an international law program. “Tony said they needed a good, solid cornerstone for the program,” McCaffrey recalls, “and that because the law school is in San Francisco, on the Pacific Rim, they were particularly interested in Asia. ‘Did I know anyone?’ Bingo! I gave them Professor Sompong’s contact information, and the rest is history.”

Distinguished Professor Sucharitkul has built the law school’s international program from the ground up,” writes Jon Sylvester, associate dean for graduate law programs. “When he arrived at the law school in 1990, a very few basic courses in international law were offered. Nearly two decades later, the law school’s international law program includes a rich and deep array of courses. These programs have attracted students from more than 50 nations around the world.”

In an article about Sucharitkul in the current edition of the *Annual Survey* journal, Chris Okeke, Golden Gate associate professor of international legal studies (who succeeds Sucharitkul as the journal’s editor in chief), hails “this well-honored and fame-adorned man, this intellectual giant and genius, this scholar and solicitor extraordinary. ... “I have personally learnt and benefited a lot from this humble yet great statesman, diplomat, and scholar.”

One of Sucharitkul’s hallmarks as a diplomat and as a teacher has been his reasoned and long-sighted approach to resolving conflict. He often tells his students, “For the study of international law, we need patience and open minds in order to be able to learn from one another.” He also teaches students the importance of considering any problem from multiple perspectives rather than just a local, or regional view. Another favorite quote of his: “American law is a drop of water in the ocean of law.” “Preparing international lawyers in their formative years has been extremely gratifying,” he says.

His former students are implementing the tools he gave them in a variety of ways. Simone McCormick (JD 04), a German-born litigator based in San Francisco who took Sucharitkul’s Asian Pacific Trade seminar, says, “I really admire Professor Sompong, and he is a fantastic mentor. Though I practice civil litigation, I often apply international legal principles and approaches in my cases. Any time you are dealing with multinational corporations, there will be international legal questions.”

Michelle Leighton (JD 86), professor of law at the University of San Francisco and director of the Human Rights Program at the USF Center for Law and Global Justice, has co-taught Asian Pacific Trade with Sucharitkul at Golden Gate. “Professor Sompong could inspire his students simply through the use of his soft voice and provocative words, helping them to stretch their minds in exploring their ideas and the law. I was honored to share the chair next to him, sure I would learn anew from his treasure chest of diplomatic anecdotes. He recited these with such ease and precision that they could crystallize even the most complex of international legal theories.”

Leighton adds, “I wish now that I had taken more personal notes. Just as his pupils, I was often too enraptured by the stories to pen the detailed

histories precisely. He would be happy to know, I’m sure, that at least we all left class with the fundamental concepts at hand!”

Many former students also remember Professor Sompong for the Bangkok Study Abroad Program, which he established in 1992 and directed with his wife, Thaithow. Thanks to his connections, Golden Gate JD and graduate law students enjoyed rare access to the highest levels of the Thai political and legal power structure and took courses at Thammasat University in Bangkok, not only from Sucharitkul but from high-ranking government officials and other renowned scholars.

“We were treated like VIPs and attended events with kings,” recalls Suzana Vianna (JD 03), who attended the Bangkok program. “But Professor Sompong wanted us to get a bigger picture of Thailand than just Bangkok; he also made a point of taking us into the Thai countryside, to meet with schoolchildren and other Thais.”

Honoring a Legend

This spring, Professor Sompong was honored by his students and colleagues on numerous fronts. He was celebrated at a dinner in his honor sponsored by the administration and faculty, where he received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition signed by US Rep. Tom Lantos, chair of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. This year’s Fulbright Symposium, as well as the *Annual Survey* journal, were dedicated to him. The School of Law renamed the Center for Advanced International Legal Studies the Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies and announced the creation of a permanent Sompong Sucharitkul Collection in International Law in the law library.

“Professor Sompong’s entire life and long and distinguished career as a counselor, diplomat, administrator, teacher, and friend serves as an inspiration to us all,” says Dean Frederic White. “Golden Gate University School of Law counts itself fortunate to have such a superb human being grace the halls of our institution.”

Sompong and Thaithow Sucharitkul have returned to Thailand, where Sompong continues to handle arbitration and mediation in major international legal disputes and continues to teach at universities in Thailand. He also will spend more time with his children, who include son Somtow, a conductor and founder of the Bangkok Opera.

Golden Gate’s international law program will continue to thrive and grow, with its now well-established offerings and esteemed faculty. The law school owes an incalculable debt to Sompong Sucharitkul.





QUITE AN HONOR

Superior Court Judges from GGU
Gather on Campus for Historic Panel

Above, back row from left: Hon. Carol Yaggy (JD 79), Hon. Cynthia Lee (JD 74, LLD 01),
Hon. Loretta Giorgi (JD 85), and Hon. Anne Bouliane (JD 80, LLD 00);
front row: Hon. Sue Kaplan (JD 86), Hon. Lee D. Baxter (JD 74), and Hon. Gail Dekreon (JD 81).

At right, Associate Dean Susanne Aronowitz introduces the distinguished panelists to the audience.

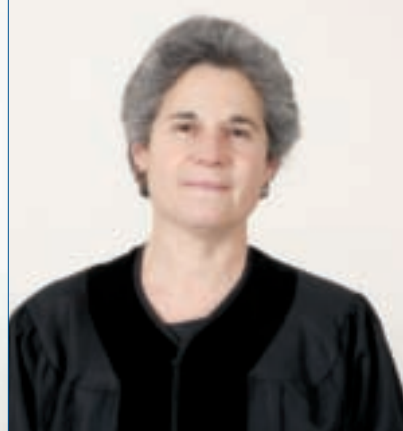
Photos by Kent Taylor



HONORABLE LEE D. BAXTER



HONORABLE ANNE BOULIANE



HONORABLE SUE KAPLAN



HONORABLE GAIL DEKREON

In February, seven alumnae currently or formerly San Francisco Superior Court judges and commissioners returned to Golden Gate University for a panel to share their experiences with students and offer career advice.

Participating in the historic event, cosponsored by the School of Law and the Women’s Law Association, were the Hon. Anne Bouliane (JD 80, LLD 00), the Hon. Lee D. Baxter (JD 74 and a trustee of the university), the Hon. Gail Dekreon (JD 81), the Hon. Loretta Giorgi (JD 85), the Hon. Cynthia Lee (JD 74, LLD 01), the Hon. Carol Yaggy (JD 79), and the Hon. Sue Kaplan (JD 86). The Hon. Cheryl A. Frank (JD 88) of the San Francisco Superior Court could not attend.

Having served as public defenders, district attorneys, city attorneys, community advocates, private practitioners, and commissioners before being elected or appointed as judges, the panelists described, with humor and candor, their career trajectories and some of the unique experiences of serving on the bench. “If a stranger says hello, a million things run through your mind,” noted Cynthia Lee of her life as a judge: “Did they participate in one of your cases? What was the outcome?

If someone cuts you off on the road, you can’t overreact. It’s the tradeoff for the privilege and the honor of serving on the bench.” Carol Yaggy described the challenges she faced in running for office as an openly gay person. While her name was often raised for consideration as a judicial appointee, she says, she was continually denied consideration and eventually chose to run for office. “I learned so much about myself and the city of San Francisco because I ran for office,” she said.

From GGU to Judge’s Bench

The panelists—some of them close friends—spoke extremely positively of their experiences at Golden Gate, particularly as women. Judge Baxter commented upon the School of Law’s leadership in working to increase the numbers of women students, which rose from 10 percent in her class to 30 percent just one year later. A few years after that, the numbers were higher still when Carol Yaggy attended, and the law school had a woman as dean. “When I told then-Dean Judy McKelvey I wanted to be a judge, to her credit, she didn’t laugh at me!” Yaggy joked.

(continued on next page)





HONORABLE CAROL YAGGY

HONORABLE CYNTHIA LEE

HONORABLE LORETTA GIORGI

Loretta Giorgi, the panel’s most junior judge, who started her tenure in February, praised GGU Professor Bernie Segal’s trial advocacy class as a major influence and encouraged students to take his class. Anne Bouliane said a pivotal point for her career came when the School of Law helped her win a clerkship for a trial court judge.

The panelists, some of whom have hired Golden Gate law students as externs, strongly encouraged students in the audience to pursue judicial externships, whatever their career plans might be.

“Externs see how attorneys perform and respond in the courtroom, which removes the mystique of the courtroom,” said Dekreon. “Externs can see what goes on behind the scenes, in judges’ chambers,” added Yaggy. Kaplan observed, “Experience at a court can help students decide what direction they want—or do not want—to take.”

“It was wonderful for the Women’s Law Association to help students start building professional relationships,” says second-year student Erin Walker, vice president of the GGU Women’s Law Association and one of the event’s organizers. “This panel gave students a glimpse at the paths of seven successful GGU alumnae and a chance to learn what really matters to judges, to prepare us for when we start appearing in front of them in a few years.”

She adds, “Two students even received job offers as a result!”

In a follow-up note to the School of Law, Judge Cynthia Lee wrote, “Thank you for your efforts to allow us to share our experience and for getting us all together for our once in a lifetime reunion. I hope the students had as much fun as we did.”

“**Externs** see how **attorneys perform and respond** in the courtroom, which removes the **MYSTIQUE** of the courtroom,” said Dekreon.

“Externs can see what goes on behind the scenes, in judges’ chambers,” added Yaggy. Kaplan observed, “**Experience** at a court can help students decide **what direction they want**— or do not want—to take.”

One GGU Alumna Judge Swears In Another

School of Law alumni were in the audience as well as on stage at the Herbst Theatre February 15 for the Ceremonial Investiture of the Hon. Loretta M. Giorgi (JD 85), the newest judge on the San Francisco Superior Court. In a packed auditorium filled with state and city officials, judges, and other dignitaries, “Lori” Giorgi and her family and friends shared warm and often humorous anecdotes about her rise to the bench. Leading her in the Oath of Office was the Hon. Lee D. Baxter (JD 74), a retired judge of the court whom Giorgi credited as a mentor. “San Francisco is the greatest city in the world, and I am incredibly honored to serve on its bench,” Giorgi told the audience.

Below: Hon. Lee D. Baxter, second from left, and Hon. Loretta Giorgi at Giorgi’s Investiture at the Herbst Theatre.



CLIMATE CHANGE Takes Center Stage

Golden Gate's Environmental Law Program and Alumni Shine a Spotlight on Global Warming

By Jill Goetz

Scientists concur that humanity's dependence on fossil fuels and resulting emissions of carbon dioxide are causing global warming—and that Earth's rising temperatures portend serious trouble ahead.

"We know that warmer oceans mean more frequent storms, and that those storms will be more intense," says Professor Cliff Rechtschaffen, director of Golden Gate's JD program in environmental law and a widely published author on environmental law and policy. "What we don't yet know is the extent of damage that will occur, or the best way to change the behavior of automakers, power generators, and other contributing sources to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide."

Climate change and ways to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, the main "greenhouse gas" warming the Earth, were high on the agenda at the recent G8 summit of the world's major industrialized nations—attesting to the unprecedented attention being paid to the subject not just by scientists, but by many world leaders and policy makers.

In the United States, lawmakers and courts have taken two major steps on greenhouse gas emissions over the past year. The California legislature enacted AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act, which aims to reduce carbon emissions in California to 1990 levels by the year 2020 (the first state law of its kind); and the US Supreme Court ruled, in *Massachusetts v. EPA*, that the Environmental Protection Agency has authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles. Both developments are expected to lead to extensive litigation, and the need is dire for litigators and compliance experts schooled in the complexities of global warming and greenhouse gas directives.

"Global warming is a problem of such magnitude, that it is critical for environmental law attorneys to understand the problem, no matter what the focus of their practice," says Professor Alan Ramo, who directs Golden Gate's LLM program in environmental law. "What does it mean to transition society from a carbon-based energy and transportation system to one that is sustainable? How will the laws change, and how do we support and nurture these changes? That is our focus here at Golden Gate."

With its emphasis on practical training and faculty engaged in global warming litigation and cutting-edge research on the subject—not to mention an award-winning environmental law clinic, environmental law certificate program, national environmental law symposium, and new environmental law journal—Golden Gate's environmental law program (consistently ranked among the top 20 in *US News and World Report*) is poised to take center stage on legal education and policy research concerning climate change.

(continued on page 14)



On the Cover: Professor Cliff Rechtschaffen, at lower right, takes students in his Environmental Law and Policy class on a tour of a waste treatment facility. Golden Gate law students gain practical training in the environmental and legal issues relating to air quality and industrial emissions, including those that contribute to global warming.

GLOBAL WARMING AND THE COURTS

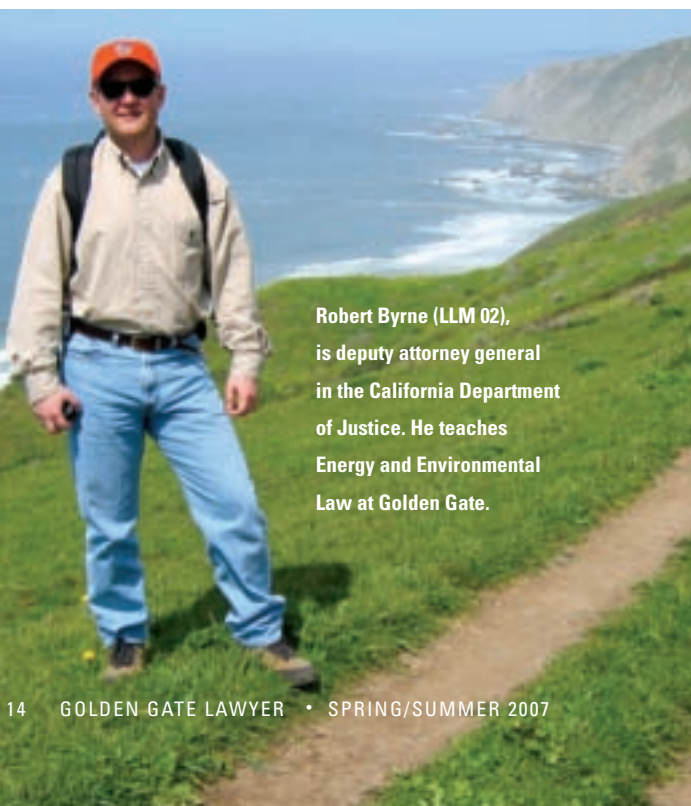
"Global warming is likely the most profound environmental issue of our lifetime, potentially impacting every industry and aspect of life," says Ken Alex, a deputy attorney general with the California Department of Justice who has handled many of the department's global warming cases.

Alex is co-teaching a new course at Golden Gate this summer, Global Warming and the Courts, one of the first such courses in the United States. "Not surprisingly, part of the response to global warming involves litigation and the courts," Alex says. "Whether our judicial system can handle an issue of the size and scope of global warming remains to be seen." He and co-teacher and deputy attorney general Janill Richards are California's lead attorneys in two nuisance actions filed against the nation's five largest power producers and six largest automakers to reduce their emission of greenhouse gases.

"California has taken the lead nationally and even internationally in regulating greenhouse gas emissions," Alex says. "The state's actions will result in even more litigation, and our class will explore that. Global warming litigation is a fact of life for the next decade, and our hope is that our students at Golden Gate will have a great head start in thinking about these issues and integrating them into their practice of law after graduation."

Alex and Richards personify a major strength of Golden Gate's environmental law program: the extensive practice experience of the faculty.

Robert Byrne (LLM 02), another deputy attorney general and adjunct at Golden Gate, teaches Energy and Environmental Law. He served on the California Department of Justice's Energy Task Force during the state's energy crisis in 2001–02, prosecuting violations of state and federal laws by the electricity and natural gas industries. He is now in the Natural Resources Law Section of the California Attorney General's Office, representing California's environmental agencies, such as the water and air resources boards.



Robert Byrne (LLM 02), is deputy attorney general in the California Department of Justice. He teaches Energy and Environmental Law at Golden Gate.

"When AB 32 takes full effect, we're expecting many challenges," Byrne says. "All the big law firms are watching it; any firm that represents manufacturers that emit greenhouse gases will have to deal with it. We're already seeing the creation of practice groups in many of the large firms devoted to global warming and the cases expected to result from AB 32."

Though he had practiced environmental law at a major Wall Street law firm and served as in-house environmental counsel before joining the Attorney General's Office, Byrne felt he had more to learn—so in 2001 he enrolled in Golden Gate's LLM program in environmental law.

"As a lawyer, you learn about a subject in a vacuum, depending on the case you happen to be working on," Byrne says. "I'd always felt an insecurity not knowing more about the big picture of how all these environmental regulations relate to each other. Federal and state regulations got increasingly complex, and I wanted to keep up with them. Golden Gate started an LLM program to give environmental lawyers a better overview of this monstrous body of law."

Besides teaching, Byrne has contributed to Golden Gate in other ways such as helping to organize the 2006 Environmental Law and Policy Symposium, which focused on renewable energy.

Another attorney uniquely qualified to teach her course at Golden Gate is Cynthia Koehler, who teaches Water Law. Koehler is the president of the Marin Municipal Water District and a former assistant regional counsel for the US Environmental Protection Agency and legal director of Save the Bay. She says it has been eye-opening to switch from the demand to the supply side of water resource issues.

"After years of bringing lawsuits on behalf of environmental groups, it's been surprising to see how difficult it can be to ensure a reliable drinking water source," Koehler says. "Even in Marin County, where we get 75 percent of our drinking water locally, we still must import 25 percent from the Russian River, and that source is declining." Koehler recently received a Fellowship in Environmental Regulatory Implementation from Resources for the Future to analyze the impact of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act, a 1992 California law that radically changed water reclamation policy in the state. She will be a visiting research scholar at Golden Gate during the 2007–08 academic year.



Marin Municipal Water District President Cynthia Koehler teaches Water Law at Golden Gate.

EVALUATING ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT

"One of the major policy questions as we move forward in the battle against global warming—and indeed a focal point of recent disputes between the United States and its European allies—is whether we need to implement mandatory limits on greenhouse gas emissions, or whether voluntary control efforts will be sufficient," says Professor Cliff Rechtschaffen.

At the law school since 1993, Rechtschaffen has evaluated similar questions in a book and several law review articles about environmental enforcement, in which he has examined what motivates companies to comply with environmental requirements. "Market forces alone will not be enough to trigger the large-scale reductions we need to achieve," Rechtschaffen says. "Mandatory caps, backed up by the threat of meaningful enforcement in the event of noncompliance, will be required."

The implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the state's major environmental law, is the focus of research by Professor Alan Ramo. Formerly legal director and general counsel for Communities for a Better Environment, founder of the Western States Legal Foundation, and advisory member to Cal-EPA before joining the School of Law in 1994, Ramo leads (with Associate Professor Helen Kang) the Golden Gate Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC). Greenhouse gas emissions and CEQA are integral to many of the cases he and students in the clinic are working on.

GLOBAL WARMING AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The Environmental Law and Justice Clinic, established in 1994, is the first in California and one of the first in the United States. Faculty with the clinic include Ramo, Rechtschaffen, and Kang, as well as Visiting Assistant Professor Brent Plater. The recipient of a 2006 CLEA Award from the Clinical Legal Education Association, the ELJC has achieved major victories on behalf of residents of low-income and minority communities harmed by environmental pollutants. In many cases those pollutants are greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide. Just this year, the ELJC and its clients achieved some major victories that will reduce toxic industrial emissions. (See sidebar at right.)

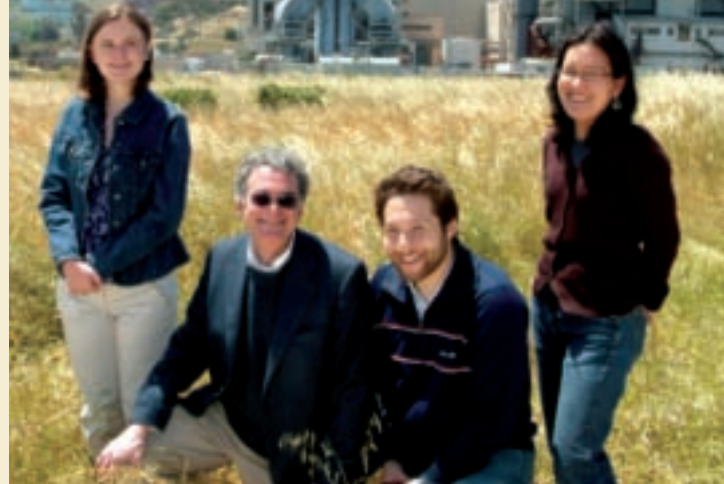
(continued on page 16)

California Residents Breathe Easier Thanks to Helen Kang and the ELJC

Associate Professor Helen Kang, with the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC) has been a major force behind many of the clinic's successes. A former law firm partner and trial attorney with the US Department of Justice's Environmental Enforcement Section, Kang has been the lead attorney on several clinic cases seeking to reduce air pollution in the San Francisco Bay Area.

From left, Megan Symonds (JD 06), Professor Alan Ramo, Jake Lubarsky (JD 07), and Associate Professor Helen Kang in front of the Hunters Point Power Plant. In 2006 the clinic and its clients succeeded in shutting down the plant.

Xiang Xing Zhou/Daily Journal



She was lead attorney on a case brought by the clinic on behalf of Oakland, California-based Communities for a Better Environment against Pacific Steel Casting Company, the third-largest steel casting foundry in the United States, in West Berkeley, California. The suit charged that Pacific Steel Casting was violating the Clean Air Act by exceeding emissions limits and failing to comply with reporting requirements, which was denied by Pacific Steel. In February 2007 Pacific Steel Casting settled with ELJC's client and agreed to reduce air pollution from the foundry.

"The lawsuit and the outcome are important because they have given hope to West Berkeley residents who for so long felt the air pollution problem was not being addressed by government agencies," Kang says. "Credit for this important victory goes to the neighborhood groups in West Berkeley, Golden Gate law students who figured out the legal angle to get the company to listen, and our client, who took a strong stance in the litigation."

In 2006, the clinic and its clients celebrated another victory in shutting down the Hunters Point Power Plant in Southeast San Francisco. Kang (at right in photo above) worked on the case with lead attorney Alan Ramo and several student clinicians.

In another case, the clinic has represented a coalition of Native American grassroots groups and environmental groups in Arizona seeking to use Southern California's acid rain allowances from the shutdown of the coal-fueled Mohave Generating Station to fund alternative, more sustainable energy projects. The California Public Utilities Commission recently agreed to refer the matter to mediation.

Kang also was ELJC's lead lawyer and co-counsel with other prominent environmental lawyers who provided clean air expertise in a case brought against Evergreen Pulp Mill Inc., located near Eureka in Northern California. The team represented citizens groups who argued that the mill was violating Clean Air Act standards, which the mill denied. In March, the company settled with the plaintiffs and agreed to install pollution control equipment and take other means to reduce toxic emissions.

"I can't tell you how proud I was of the excellent representation our students provided to our clients," Kang says of the case against Evergreen Pulp Mill. "Working on a case with real benefits to communities grounds our students and prepares them to hit the ground running when they graduate. It is no surprise that many of our former ELJC students are now my colleagues in the environmental enforcement community."

Though climate change is often discussed in the context of weather events and species extinctions, Ramo says it also has major environmental justice implications.

Globally, climate change will likely have a greater impact on people in poorer nations, Ramo says, because these countries will lack the resources and technology to adapt to the changes as quickly as industrialized nations. And in California, "It is the poorest communities that are suffering inordinately from our unsustainable practices. People of color and low economic status are more likely to live near power plants or the sites where the plants' toxic wastes are stored." The clinic recently cosponsored a symposium on what anticipated rising precipitation and floodwaters caused by global warming may mean for toxins containments at landfills and other waste sites in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Joe Como (JD 99), a former civil engineer, came to Golden Gate specifically for its environmental justice program and clinic. "I had been working on hazardous materials cleanups in San Francisco, and the relationship of urban contamination and environmental justice interested me greatly," he says. "Over time, I became more interested in the legal aspects and less interested in the technical aspects of environmental enforcement."

Como is an attorney with the Division of Ratepayer Advocates in the California Public Utilities Commission, where he promotes greater energy efficiency and "demand response" technologies that will flatten usage during peak times to reduce the amount of wasted electricity generation (and greenhouse gas emissions). Now being implemented by some power companies, demand response programs offer consumers incentives to surrender control of their thermostats at times of peak demand in exchange for incentives. "Demand response products are the wave of the future," Como says.

Student Darryl Gruen (JD 08) is an intern in the office of Commissioner Dian Grueneich at the California Public Utilities Commission this summer, where he is attending renewable energy meetings for a variety of proposed energy and transmission projects and conducting research, writing memos, and exploring ways to further streamline the agency's permitting process. Gruen was selected as an intern because of the combination of his law school background and CEQA experience. He has a master's degree in urban planning and was writing CEQA documents for the California Department of Transportation before attending law school.

"I wanted a law degree to build on my planning background so that I could approach environmental enforcement problems from both a legal and a planning perspective," Gruen says.

“I had been working on **hazardous materials cleanups** in San Francisco, and the relationship of **URBAN CONTAMINATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE** interested me greatly, ... Over time, I became more interested in the **legal aspects** and less interested in the technical aspects of environmental enforcement.”

Joe Como (JD 99)

► From left are Jenny Maier (JD 07), recipient of the law school's 2007 Academic Excellence Award in Environmental Law, and Holly Bressett (JD 07), recipient of the 2007 Rose Bird Award for Professionalism and Integrity, in Eugene, Oregon, while attending a public interest environmental law conference.



He gives the ELJC faculty credit in helping him achieve that goal. "The professors are all very experienced and take a real interest in exposing us as students to all aspects of the cases we're learning about and working on," he says.

Timothy J. O'Connor (JD 07) is a climate policy analyst with Environmental Defense in Sacramento. He obtained his master's degree in chemistry and toxicology before attending law school and worked as a regulator at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District in San Francisco, inspecting refineries, chemical plants and electricity plants, while attending law school at night. "Because I was working on enforcement at the Air Quality District, I thought a law degree was the best way to take enforcement to the next level," he says.

O'Connor works as a registered lobbyist for Environmental Defense to develop regulatory frameworks in California to implement the low-carbon fuel standard, an early phase of AB 32 implementation. He is also lobbying the California Air Resources Board for mandatory emissions reporting and a mandatory cap-and-trade program in the state.

Holly Bressett (JD 07), whose internship as a law student at the Sierra Club led to a fellowship upon graduation, says global warming has been a part of her classroom and clinical training throughout law school. Global warming was the topic of the 2007 National Environmental Law Moot Court, in which she competed with other Golden Gate law students. "Our brief and oral arguments tackled many of the difficult and cutting-edge issues associated with the need for regulatory action to curb greenhouse gas emissions, and we tied those in with important Constitutional limitations," she says.

“I enrolled at Golden Gate specifically due to the reputation of its environmental law program,” says Bressett, whose honors at Golden Gate included receiving the 2007 Rose Bird Award for Professionalism and Integrity. “I already knew that environmental law would be my focus, and I wanted a school (and a city) that would enhance my legal education through practical application of the environmental laws I was learning.

“There is a reason that this program continues to be ranked as one of the best,” Bressett continues. “The faculty are among the best the school has to offer. While teaching with the clinic, Professors Kang and Ramo used real-life situations to teach some of the harder concepts that come

ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Many Golden Gate law alumni are addressing climate change issues and other environmental law problems in the private sector.

Buzz Hines (JD 85), partner and chair of the Environmental Law Department at Farella Braun + Martel LLP in San Francisco, has practiced in the environmental law arena for two decades. He practices before all the major state and federal environmental agencies and is former co-chair of the Environmental Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association’s Litigation Section.

“What does it mean to **TRANSITION** society from a **carbon-based energy and transportation system** to one that is **SUSTAINABLE?** How will the **laws change**, and **how do we support and nurture** these changes?”

Professor Alan Ramo

up in the practice of environmental law, including equity, fairness, and the limitations of a legal solution. In Cliff Rechtschaffen’s classes, he supplemented relentlessly confusing statutes with expert instruction and problems that illustrated the application of important concepts. Cliff is not only a wonderful professor but genuinely wants to equip his students with the tools we need to leave Golden Gate and transition into practice.”

She adds, “Career-wise, I am right where I want to be. I am one of those idealistic young lawyers who still believes she can change the world. The environmental law fellowship at the Sierra Club is the perfect way to start my quest to do just that.”

“When I attended law school, there weren’t courses devoted to environmental law,” Hines says. “But Golden Gate was very tapped into the San Francisco public-sector community, and with the assistance of the faculty, I was able to connect with local environmental organizations—which segued into an internship with the California Attorney General’s Office Natural Resources Section.” Hines also obtained a judicial clerkship—“probably the best opportunity available to law students,” he says—and during the clerkship was accepted into the US Department of Justice Honors Program to work in the department’s Environmental Enforcement Section.

(continued on page 18)



◀ **A Calpine representative leads student interns at the California Department of Justice from Golden Gate and other law schools on a tour of the the Calpine Geysers**

Photo by
Robert Byrne (LLM 02).



Buzz Hines (JD 85, right), chair of the Environmental Law Department at Farella Braun + Martel LLP, and Kevin Polancarz, head of the firm's Air Quality and Climate Change practice, inspect a Fleischmann's Yeast plant.

Dwight Eschliman

on the team that left Landels, Ripley & Diamond to set up Farella Braun + Martel's Environmental Law Department. Today he is in-house counsel at Genentech, where he has just been promoted to head the Legal Department's environmental health and safety practice group after serving as senior corporate counsel for three years.

Whether in a law firm or at Genentech, Van Housen says the most important trait he looks for when interviewing job candidates is "a demonstrated interest in environmental law." It also doesn't hurt when the job applicants have great references, he says. "Cliff Rechtschaffen was a terrific influence and a big help to me at Golden Gate. He was a great reference for me on my first job. It was very important to have someone of his prominence speaking with lawyers who were thinking of hiring me."

Andrea Leisy (JD 99) is a partner at Remy, Thomas, Moose and Manley, LLP, in Sacramento, where she represents public and private sector clients in land use and environmental litigation. "Our focus is on the California Environmental Quality Act," Leisy says. "We assist cities, counties, and state agencies, as well as private entities, in compliance with CEQA both at the administrative approval level and in court." Leisy and her fellow partners write the widely used *Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act*.

Leisy, who clerked in the US Attorney's Office and worked at California Indian Legal Services and the California Department of Water Resources while attending Golden Gate, says, "Gaining practical experience during law school is what it's all about. If you want to get your foot in the door of environmental law, you need to get as much experience as you can."

She adds, "Golden Gate is outstanding in preparing its students, both inside and outside the classroom. The Golden Gate students we've hired here at Remy have been not only exceptionally bright and committed. They have been exceptionally experienced."

Anxious to return to California, he joined the then-leading West Coast environmental law firm Landels, Ripley & Diamond. In 2000, he and five other attorneys left the firm to establish the Environmental Law Department at Farella Braun + Martel, where Hines focuses on compliance counseling and regulatory work for such clients as General Electric, Levi Strauss & Co., the Port of Oakland, FMC Corporation, and Coca Cola.

"More and more firms are establishing environmental law practice groups, in large part because of the climate change issue," Hines says. "Regulatory practices addressing climate change are booming right now, and the need for attorneys working on the topic will only increase."

Gary Van Housen (JD 96) was also

Students Take the Lead

Golden Gate students are involved with several new initiatives that will further establish the law school as a center for environmental legal research and education. The school has established a new *Golden Gate University Environmental Law Journal*, which will include lead articles written by academics and practitioners as well as student notes, comments, and summaries. The Pacific Region Edition, published in winter, will focus on environmental law and policy in the North American Pacific Coast and Asian Pacific Rim and Basin. The "Symposium Edition" will be published in conjunction with the law school's symposium held in the fall. The theme of this year's symposium is the 25th anniversary of the Warren County, NC protests, a seminal event in the development of the national environmental justice movement. To submit articles and subscribe to the journal, contact elj@ggu.edu.

In addition, the law school, led by the Environmental Law Society (an active student organization on campus) has joined forces with "Focus the Nation: Global Warming Solutions for America," an alliance of US colleges, universities, and K-12 schools working to increase awareness and understanding of global warming. At Golden Gate, the yearlong programming will include workshops and guest lectures. The first "Focus the Nation" lecturer was George Hays, one of the lead attorneys for the successful environmental groups in a recent US Supreme Court decision, *Environmental Defense et al. v. Duke Energy*. Golden Gate's "Focus the Nation" efforts will culminate in a Global Warming Teach-in on January 31, 2008. For more information about "Focus the Nation" programs, contact the Golden Gate Environmental Law Society at gguels@yahoo.com.

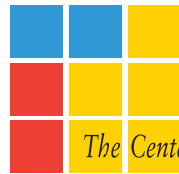
Save the Date!

Thursday, January 31, 2008

**FOCUS THE NATION:
A National Teach-In
on Global Warming**



At Golden Gate University's third Silicon Valley Alumni Forum, held in April at Hewlett-Packard in Palo Alto, Calif., the title was "What Focus Will Next Drive Silicon Valley's Future?" and the speakers included (from left) moderator Don Morrison (MBA 83), CEO of Remend; and panelists Tom Ehrich (MBA 00) of Hewlett-Packard; GGU Board Chair Les Schmidt (MS 81) of Adobe Systems; and GGU Professor of Law Marc Greenberg.



The Centennial Campaign for GGU

Work. Learn. Succeed.

By the Numbers

Thanks in large part to our lead givers, we have already raised \$32.11 million, which is 92 percent of our goal of \$35 million, and we have surpassed our goals for initiatives 3, 4 and 5. Our progress by initiative, as of April 30, 2007:

1. Learning Environment



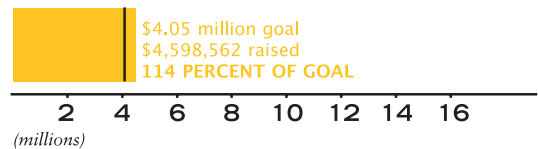
2. Technology



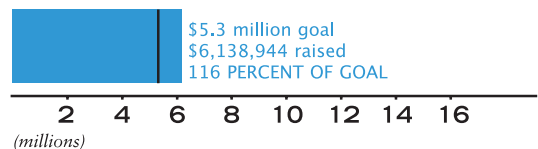
3. Scholarship



4. Teaching and Learning



5. Endowment





Los Angeles DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY Offers Career Advice to GGU Students

Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney Tamara Hall (JD 97) has brought members of the most hardened gangs in Los Angeles County to justice. The work can be harrowing and at times heartbreaking, she says, but she loves it.

“It’s a great job,” she told a group of first-, second-, and third-year law students at GGU in February in a visit sponsored by Law Career Services and GGU’s Black Law Students Association, “and if I had to do it all over again, I would definitely take the same route.”

Hall gave GGU students an overview of the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Office, where she has worked for the past eight years. She said it was after taking Professor Susan Rutberg’s class in trial advocacy that she knew she wanted to be a district attorney. “I applied to every district attorney’s office in California,” she recalls. “I received many offers, but I held out for the Los Angeles position.” A native of Inglewood, California, Hall said the cases she handles “are for crimes in an environment I know intimately.”

She encouraged GGU students to pursue judicial clerkships and internships with a district attorney’s office, or public defender’s office, or both—“because the best trial lawyer is the one who can handle both sides of a case.”

Hall, who served as a teaching assistant to GGU Professor Mort Cohen for his Civil Procedure class, added, “Golden Gate prepares you to hit the ground running.” As an example, she cited her experiences participating on a GGU Mock Trial team, for which she competed in San Diego, and the opportunity to work at the San Francisco City Attorney’s Office while in law school.

Hall, who does extensive community service work, particularly for children, spoke of the importance of giving back to the community. In May she transferred to the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s Hardcore Gang Division, where she will continue to work on behalf of victims and potential victims in some of Los Angeles’ most crime-ridden communities.



▲ **LOS ANGELES DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY TAMARA HALL (JD 97)**

Golden Gate **LAWYER** Let Us Hear From You!

Class Notes Deadline for Fall/Winter: September 15, 2007

Have you made a career move, changed your address, added to your family, or received an award? Photos are welcomed and appreciated.

Mail, fax, or email your news to:

Law Alumni Relations
Golden Gate University School of Law
536 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94105
Fax: 415-882-1660 Email: lawalumni@ggu.edu

Name	Degree	Class Year		
Home Address	City	State	Zip	Phone
Business Address	City	State	Zip	Phone
Preferred Email Address				
News Item:				

Alumnus ALAN SIMON Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

One of Golden Gate University's most devoted and accomplished alumni was fêted at the Four Seasons Hotel on May 2, when the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association honored Al Simon (BBA 50, JD 59) with its Lifetime Achievement Award at the association's annual awards gala.

Simon has been a sole practitioner for more than 47 years, engaged in general civil litigation practice with an emphasis on personal injury, automobile, torts, and product and premises liability, primarily on behalf of plaintiffs. He has acted as Judge Pro Tem in the San Francisco Superior and Municipal Courts and as an arbitrator for the San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Contra Costa County Superior Courts. He has participated in well over 1,000 cases as a mediator, arbitrator, and legal counsel, and approximately 90 percent of the cases he has mediated were resolved. He has served on the panel of the American Arbitration Association since 1978 and on its mediation panel since 1993. He served on the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association's Board of Directors for more than 15 years.

At the age of 80, he continues to practice law. After maintaining an office in San Francisco for 38 years, he moved to his Burlingame, California, office in 1998, where he has since limited his practice to mediation and arbitration. He also remains actively engaged with Golden Gate University, where he worked in the School of Management before attending law school, and is a member of the University's Bridge Society.

The day after the awards dinner, Simon said, "Last night was special indeed. It felt like old home week—several fellow GGU alums were there!"



Above, Alan Simon (BBA 50, JD 59) speaking at the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association



A family affair: Alan Simon and his wife, Marilyn, were joined by many family members at the awards dinner, including, from left, son-in-law Brian Delaney; daughter Marcie Delaney; grandson Chase Delaney; and granddaughter Jessica Delaney.

A Son Tells the Story of His Golden Gate Graduate Father

Earlier this year Al Simon (BBA 50, JD 59) received a letter from a friend and former client whose father had attended law school at Golden Gate. The letter's author was Edward Coble, a retired civil engineer with Caltrans, who shared the story of his father, Ralph Coble (Class of 1925). That story, in Edward Coble's words, is excerpted below.

"Ralph J. Coble was born June 9, 1888, in the state of Ohio. He grew up on the family farm in Southwestern Ohio. At the age of 14, he wanted to make his own way in the world. His mother gave him a bible and a few dollars and sent him on his way. Ralph apprenticed under his brother-in-law as a carpenter. In 1916 he met a young lady named Rose Boark and, after a short stay in Montana, Ralph and his young bride went to San Francisco. Ralph applied for and got a job as a shipwright building ships. He really didn't know the shipbuilding business, but was a quick learner and stayed with this job until the end of WWI.

"After settling down in San Francisco, Ralph enrolled in the International Correspondence Schools system and studied the necessary courses to become a general contractor. Later, Ralph again got the urge to move on to bigger and better things. He was interested in legal issues and decided to study law. He enrolled in Golden Gate College. He completed his studies and graduated with a law degree in 1925.

"Ralph began studying for his bar examination after graduation. However, there was a dark cloud enveloping this tiny family (which now included me): Ralph was also fighting cancer. He lost his valiant fight with cancer and passed away March 1, 1927. Mrs. Coble received notice that Ralph had passed his bar exam on the day of his funeral, March 4, 1927."



In October, 2006, **Kathryn E. Ringgold (JD 70)**, left, and **Jacqueline Serrao (JD 96)** were among the honorees at Golden Gate University's Annual Awards Luncheon. Ringgold, a noted family law attorney who actively volunteers with several Bay Area organizations and has been a devoted alumna and friend to the university and the School of Law, received the Amicus Award, given to a person whose efforts have resulted in significant contributions to the university's resources and, thereby, to its educational capabilities and services. Serrao received the Rising Star Award, given to graduates within the past decade who exhibit extraordinary professional achievements and contributions to the community. Serrao is associate director of the National Center for Remote Sensing, Air and Space Law at the University of Mississippi, where she also teaches aviation law and serves as executive editor of the *Journal of Space Law*.

Jacqueline Serrao and Dean Frederic White with Serrao's Rising Star Award. Top and bottom photos from Awards Luncheon by Caroline Kopp.



Alan Simon (BBA 50, JD 59) received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association on May 2, 2007. (See page 21.)

Marjorie G. Mandanis (JD 70) is semi-retired and caring for her 99-year-old mother.

Diana E. Richmond (JD 73), of Sideman & Bancroft LLP, was a speaker at the MCLE program "Family Law Developments and Strategies," on Jan. 20, 2007, at the Practising Law Institute in San Francisco.

Hon. Lee D. Baxter (JD 74), will accept the 2007 National Conference of Women Bar Associations' Public Service Award on behalf of the Queens Bench Bar Association at the national association's luncheon this August. The award recognizes the Queens Bench's Juvenile Hall Project, which Judge Baxter founded. She moderated a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners of the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.)

Michael R. Kain (JD 74) was quoted in an article in *The Washington Post* on Aug. 14, 2006, about changes in his Dupont Circle neighborhood of Washington, DC, where he has owned property since 1976.

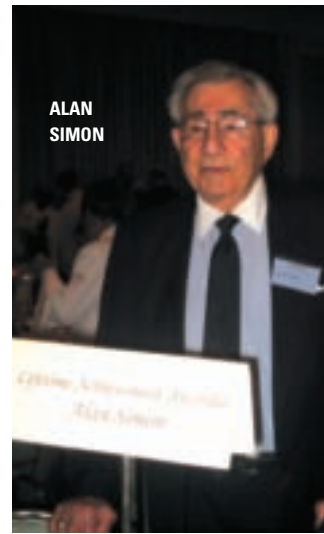
Hon. Cynthia M. Lee (JD 74, LLD 01) appeared on a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners for the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.)

Bruce B. Roberts (JD/MBA 74) joined Hopkins & Carley of San Jose as of counsel.

Linda M. Betzer (JD 75) retired on Jan. 31, 2007, from the US Department of Justice after almost 27 years as a federal prosecutor and 31 years as an attorney. Betzer was formerly an assistant US attorney in Cleveland and was awarded the Outstanding Investigation of 2006 Award from the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association and a special commendation from the FBI.

Margaret A. Gannon (JD 75) president of Women's Lawyers of Alameda (Calif.) County, represented the organization at the "Meet the Bar Associations" event held in January at GGU. She practices family law.

Susan Rutberg (JD 75) testified at a public hearing in Sacramento before the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice on problems with the use of forensic evidence in California courts in its investigation into the causes of wrongful convictions. (See page 7.)



ALAN SIMON



MARGARET GANNON



HON. LEE D. BAXTER

Marvin Stuart Lanter (JD 76) a sole practitioner in Century City, Calif., specializing in personal injury, product liability, medical malpractice, and wrongful death cases and an active volunteer with a variety of organizations, was named “Member of the Month” by the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles and was featured in the organization’s monthly newsletter *The Advocate*. Lanter spoke to recently admitted Golden Gate law students at a law school event held in Los Angeles in April 2007.

Hon. Sandra B. Snyder (JD 76) was profiled in fall 2006 in a *San Francisco Daily Journal* article titled “An Unlikely Path” about her rise to US magistrate judge for the Eastern District of California in Fresno.

Thomas V. Bret (JD 77) is a partner at Cederborg & Bret LLP in Walnut Creek, Calif.

David R. Mazzi (JD 77) is the administrative law judge at the Social Security Administration Office of Disability Adjudication and Review in San Rafael, Calif. Mazzi’s son, Michael, was born in September 2006.

Michele K. Trausch (JD 77), a shareholder at Hanson, Bridgett Marcus Vlahos & Rudy LLP, spoke at the “Managing Conflicts of Interest” MCLE program sponsored by the Bar Association of San Francisco in November 2006.

Marc L. Van Der Hout (JD 77) was quoted in the Jan. 30, 2007 *Los Angeles Times* about a judge’s ruling on behalf of his clients in a major deportation case. His firm, Van Der Hout, Brigagliano & Nightingale of San Francisco, had represented the defendants in the 20-year-old case on behalf of the National Lawyers Guild.

Charles R. Conradi (JD 78, MBA 81) spoke to GGU students at a “Careers in Tax Law” event on campus on Feb. 15, 2007. Conradi is vice president and treasurer of the Clorox Company in Oakland and a trustee of GGU.

M. Henry Heines (JD 78) spoke at an on-campus event in February sponsored by the Intellectual Property Law Association. Heines resolves disputes between patent inventors and recently published a book, *Patents for Business*. He is a partner at Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP in San Francisco. (For more about Heines, see Fall/Winter 2006 *Golden Gate Lawyer*.)

Dave Roberson (JD 78) has been appointed senior vice president and general manager of Hewlett-Packard’s enterprise storage business.

Michael A. Rosas (JD 79, MBA 91), an administrative law judge with the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, DC, was elected president of the Federal Administrative Law Judge Conference for 2006–07.

Hon. Carol C. Yaggy (JD 79) appeared on a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners for the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.)

Hon. Anne E. Bouliane (JD 80, LLD 00) of San Francisco Superior Court was featured in the July 31, 2006, issue of the *San Francisco Chronicle* in an article about the Diane Whipple dog-mauling case. She served on a panel, “Outstanding Trial Work: Best Practices as Seen from the Bench,” sponsored by Law.com and moderated by GGU Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus Peter Keane. Bouliane appeared on a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners for the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.)

Lynn Rossman Faris (JD 80), a partner and labor lawyer representing unions and employees, was featured in the April 10, 2007 edition of *Employment Law 360*, a New York-based electronic newsletter for employment and labor lawyers.

Jonathan C. Bacon (JD 81) has been named a partner at Archer Norris, a firm based in Walnut Creek, Calif., focusing on complex litigation and business transactions.

Hon. Gail Dekreon (JD 81) appeared on a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners for the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.)

Gerald D. Bloch (LLM 82) was appointed partner at The General Counsel LLC. Bloch has held positions with Wells Fargo Bank, The Grupe Co., Pacific Monarch Resources and Gauss Interprise AG. He also helped found INDX Software Corp., which was acquired by Siemens Corp.

Victoria R. Pasek (JD 83) taught in the Presidential Classroom for Young Americans (where she was a student in 1975) during its Law and Justice Symposium Week held Oct. 10-17, 2006, in Washington, DC.

Richard Trecartin (JD 83) is a partner at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP in San Francisco. His practice emphasizes patent prosecution in the biotechnology and chemical fields, IP portfolio management, validity and infringement opinions, and IP due diligence.

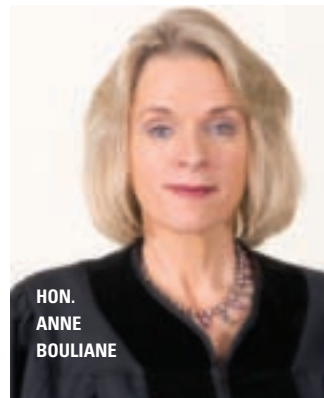
Peter M. Hart (JD 84) was elected managing director at Wright Robinson Osthimer & Tatum in San Francisco. Hart has been with the firm since 1990 and focuses on insurance defense.

Derek G. Howard (JD 84) appeared on the nationally syndicated radio program *America’s Premier Lawyer*. Howard practices in complex litigation and class-action suits.

(continued on page 24)



JONATHAN C. BACON



HON. ANNE BOULIANE



MARC VAN DER HOUT



Susan Rabin (JD 84), an attorney with the entertainment law firm of Sayegh & Pham PLC, has been named a 2007 "Super Lawyer" for Southern California. Rabin negotiates film, television and music licensing and production agreements for the firm and handles trademark enforcement, copyright matters, and licensing of celebrity rights. She is herself a professional musician with Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks and plays in Los Angeles jazz clubs with some of the world's top musicians.

Joel G. Selik (JD 84) is vice president of the Bar Association of North San Diego County (Calif.) and is on the board of the Consumer Attorneys of San Diego. He is a judge pro tem for the San Diego North County Superior Court and acts as an arbitrator and mediator on its fee-dispute and client-relations committees. Selik also serves as an arbitrator for the National Association of Securities Dealers.

James P. Cunningham (JD 85) was named partner at Carroll, Burdick & McDonough in its San Francisco office. Cunningham is chair of the firm's toxic torts group.

Hon. Loretta M. Giorgi (JD 85) appeared on a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners for the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.) She was officially sworn in to the bench that same month, at an Investiture Ceremony held at San Francisco's Herbst Theatre.

Jeffrey W. Hook (JD 86, LLM 99) is staff counsel at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in Sacramento.

Hon. Sue M. Kaplan (JD 86) appeared on a panel of GGU alumnae who serve as judges and commissioners for the San Francisco Superior Court at GGU in February. (See page 10.)

Paul Marigonda (JD 86) has been appointed a judge on the Santa Cruz (Calif.) County Superior Court. He previously served as a Scotts Valley, Calif., city councilman and longtime Santa Cruz County assistant district attorney.

Joshua M. West (JD 86) won a settlement for his client for injuries sustained from a fall on public property.

Andrew A. Goode (JD 87) is a shareholder at Bishop, Barry, Howe, Haney & Ryder in Emeryville, Calif.

Hon. Cheryl A. Frank (JD 88) is a San Francisco Superior Court commissioner and published author. Frank was featured in "Judicial Spotlight" in the January 5 *San Francisco Daily Journal*. She is working on her second novel, *The Dead Lawyer Conspiracy*.

James J. Phillips (LLM 88) was recognized as a Northern California Super Lawyer in 2005 and 2006. Phillips practices estate planning, trust and probate law at his firm in Pleasanton, Calif. Phillips is married with two children; he coaches soccer and track.

Below, the December
2007 School of Law
graduating class.





Reuben & Junius LLP Managing Partner Andrew Junius (JD 92), at left, shared advice and insights with law students attending one of Law Career Services' "Catching a Glimpse" programs.

Michael D. Schindler (JD 89) is vice president of tax planning and strategy for Kimco Realty Corp. in New Hyde Park, NY.

Andrew Junius (JD 92), a partner with Reuben & Junius in San Francisco, gave a group of GGU law students a tour of the firm's new offices at One Bush Street and offered career advice, particularly for students considering real estate law.

Simona A. Farrise (JD 93), a principal with the Oakland firm of Kazan, McClain, Abrams, Fernandez, Lyons, Farrise & Greenwood, presented a lecture and workshop, "Jury Selection in Civil Cases," at the Practising Law Institute MCLE program in January in San Francisco. She recently was appointed to the board of directors of the Impact Fund. In February she spoke to students on campus about career paths at an event sponsored by the Black Law Students' Association. She received the School of Law's Judith G. McKelvey Award for Outstanding Achievement by an Alumna at the 2007 School of Law Commencement Ceremony.

Douglas M. Flinn (JD 93) is a member of the Litigation Department of the Colorado-based law firm Sherman & Howard LLC, where he focuses on construction litigation and government contracts at the firm's Colorado Springs offices. Before joining the firm he was a JAG in the Air Force and an assistant professor of law at the US Air Force Academy.

Charlotte K. Ito (LLM 93) joined Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps as partner in its family wealth and exempt organizations practice group.

Erin Love (JD 93) is vice president for securities regulations and conflicts management at Bank of America in New York City.

Timothy Spangler (JD 93) was promoted to chief litigation counsel for the Sacramento Regional Transit District. Spangler lives in Davis, Calif., with his wife and three children.

Michael Epstein (JD 94) participated in a panel discussion in February of immigration experts assembled for a community forum sponsored by the East Bay Chapter of the ACLU and the Richmond Public Library. (See photo on page 4.)

Eric K. Ferraro (JD 94) and his firm, Jacobs & Ferraro LLP, of San Francisco, celebrated its fifth anniversary in October 2006. He and his wife have a son, Jake.

Orlando Gotay (JD 94, LLM 96), a counselor and speechwriter to the mayor of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the mayor's legislative representative, recently taught a course, "Lobbying the Puerto Rico Legislature," at the Colegio Universitario de San Juan. He previously practiced tax law as a sole practitioner and with Coopers & Lybrand LLP and was a staff intern with Rep. Nancy Pelosi.

Brendan M. Kunkle (JD 94) won a \$3.7 million award for a negligence suit related to injuries sustained by a family of three in a head-on collision caused by two commercial vehicles.

Justin Boyce (JD 95) has been named partner in the Intellectual Property Group at Dechert LLP, in Palo Alto, Calif.

Joan Herrington (JD 95) represented the California Employment Lawyers Association at the "Meet the Bar Associations" event held in January at GGU.

Michael H. Keeley (JD 95) has a private criminal defense practice in Napa County, Calif., and also heads the second-level conflict defender's office. Keeley is married with two children.



DOUGLAS FLINN

Daniel Pickard (JD 95) moderated a panel concerning the US Court of International Trade at the District of Columbia Bar Association in March, and co-authored an article titled "Can US Safeguard Actions Survive WTO Review?: Section 201 Investigations in International Trade Law," published in the *Loyola of Los Angeles International and Comparative Law Review*.

Paul W. Vince (JD 95) is the associate general counsel at Deltek Systems Inc. in Herndon, Va.

Peter A. Fitzpatrick (JD 96) is a deputy public defender at the San Francisco Public Defender's Office.

Jacqueline Serrao (JD 96) was honored at Golden Gate University's Annual Awards Luncheon in October. (See p. 22).

Phillip Wang (JD 96) has been named a partner at Gordon & Rees in San Francisco.

Below, When Orlando Gotay (JD 94, LLM 96), who works for the mayor of San Juan, Puerto Rico, saw the photo of the "GGU LLM" license plate featured in this magazine a few issues back, he sent us this photo of his own license plate.





TAMIZA
HOCKENHULL

Tamara Hall (JD 97) is a deputy district attorney for Los Angeles County. She spoke about her trial experiences to law students on campus in February. (See page 20.)

Vicki C. Trent (JD 97) is a licensed realtor with Prudential California Realty in San Francisco and Marin County. Trent ranked with the top 20 of 110 agents and was honored as a “Top Producer” for 2006. Trent’s jazz trio, Las Muchachas, released its second CD. She is a past president of the GGU Alumni Association.

Scott Cripps (LLM 98) has been named to the Trust Executive Committee of the Michigan Bankers Association. He is chief fiduciary officer of Citizens Bank and Citizens Bank Wealth Management, N.A.

Joanna Frazier (JD 98) is senior attorney and assistant general counsel at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP of San Francisco and a director of the Queen’s Bench Bar Association.



SCOTT
CRIPPS

Stuart J. West (JD 98) has his own Walnut Creek, Calif.-based patent law firm, West and Associates, and is the founding chair of the San Francisco Chapter of the Licensing Executives Society, an international organization dedicated to networking and education of licensing professionals.

Lynne A. Williams (JD 98) practices first amendment law in Bar Harbor, Maine, representing anti-war protesters, environmental activists and political prisoners before the Maine Federal District Court, the First Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Maine Supreme Court. Since 2004, Williams has been the northeast regional vice president of the National Lawyers Guild.

Mauricio S. Beugelmans (JD 99) was promoted to executive director, senior attorney for Morgan Stanley in New York City. Beugelmans previously worked in San Francisco as executive director at Morgan Stanley, as corporate counsel at Charles Schwab, and as associate at Steefel, Levitt & Weiss.

Callan Carter (LLM 99) has been named partner in the national law firm Fisher & Phillips LLP, in its Atlanta offices. She specializes in employee benefits law and equity-based compensation.

Erik V. Heger (LLM 99) is the legal counsel at BT Germany in Munich.

Tamiza A. Hockenhull (JD 99), an associate with Bryant & Brown PC, represented the Charles Houston Bar Association at the “Meet the Bar Associations” event at GGU in January. In April she was appointed by the governor to serve on the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission in Sacramento. Hockenhull also serves on the Board of the Charles Houston Bar Association. Before joining her current firm, where she specializes in education, public entity, labor and employment law and civil

litigation, she was a deputy city attorney for the San Francisco City Attorney’s Office; she also has taught at UC Hastings College of the Law.

Yvonne L. Nichols (JD 99, LLM 01) is the associate legal counsel at Smiths Medical Inc. in Carlsbad, Calif.

Stephanie Hamis (LLM 00) joined Arsene in Colombes, France, in 2005, as a tax attorney. She is a member of Taxand, a worldwide alliance of independent tax-law firms.

Dawn M. Knepper (JD 00) and her husband, Kurt, welcomed their first child, Ava Katherine Knepper, on Jan. 24, 2006.

Rachel Abelson (JD 01) is a deputy district attorney in Lake County, Calif. She was featured in the Feb. 22, 2007, *Lakeport Record Bee*.

Alan B. Bayer (JD 01) and **Heather Borlase (JD 01)** were featured in the Dec. 27, 2006 *San Francisco Daily Recorder* about spouses who work together. Bayer and Borlase run their two-person Bayer & Borlase Law Offices in San Francisco. Borlase represented the California Employment Lawyers Association at the “Meet the Bar Associations” event at GGU in January. Borlase and Bayer received the 2007 GGU Alumni Volunteers of the Year Award at the School of Law’s Graduation Awards Ceremony in May.

Harjit K. Gosal (JD 01) was quoted in the Sept. 18, 2006 *San Francisco Daily Recorder* about her trip to India to assess the health and education needs of impoverished villages, which included a meeting with the Dalai Lama.

Matthias Berger (LLM 02) and his wife, Ilka, became parents to Emilia, born in January 2007. Berger is an attorney with Harmsen & Utescher in Hamburg, Germany.



From left, GGU alumni Heather Borlase, Professor Susan Rutberg, and Alan Bayer celebrate Borlase and Bayer’s receipt of the Alumni Volunteers of the Year Award at the School of Law’s Graduation Awards Ceremony in May.

Pamela Kong (JD 02) is a member of the board of directors of the California Young Lawyers Association.

Daniela R. Lungu (JD 02) is a member of the 2007 board of directors of the Alameda County (Calif.) Bar Association.

Cheryl A. Smith (JD 02) opened her own practice in San Lorenzo, Calif., in 2005, focusing on juvenile dependency, delinquency and custody issues. She also became a grandmother four times in 2006.

Ryan F. Thomas (JD 02) formed American Mortgage Law Group in Novato, Calif., and is the managing principal of the firm, representing mortgage lenders, secondary market investors and insurance companies' mortgage fraud litigation and recovery cases.

Tuija I. Catalano (JD 03) is an associate at Reuben & Junius, LLP in San Francisco, where she focuses on land use law. Since July 2006 she has served as a planning commissioner for the city of Clayton, California. She and her husband Mark have a son, Eric Johannes, and a daughter, Hanna.

Keith B. Koller (JD 03) is in Namibia working on a human-rights trial involving 119 imprisoned defendants who were tortured into confessions after a regional uprising in 1999.

Shannon S. Lindsay (JD 03) is an associate with the general-practice law firm of Carter, Vannucci & Momsen LLP, in Ukiah, Calif.

Chandra E. Miller (JD 03) has joined the Sacramento law firm of Bartholomew and Wasznicky LLP.

Svetlana Rishina (LLM 03) is an associate in the real estate and construction litigation group at Carroll, Burdick & McDonough LLP in San Francisco.

Ryan M. Sheets (JD 03) is a solo court-appointed attorney representing minors and parents in dependency cases in the county of San Francisco. Sheets also teaches history and government to at-risk high-school students. He has two children.

Gregory Tanaka (JD 03) spoke at a reception on campus in April honoring GGU's public interest law students and sharing his experiences as staff attorney with Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach and as a former clinician with the law school's Women's Employment Rights Clinic.

Benjamin Vollrath (LLM 03) practices entertainment law at the international law firm Noerr Stiefenhofer Lutz in Munich, Germany.

Rocio Avila (JD 04), an attorney with La Raza Centro Legal, is quoted in the April 27, 2007, *San Francisco Chronicle* in an article about raids of illegal immigrants in the Bay Area. While attending Golden Gate, Avila worked as a clinician and graduate fellow with the Women's Employment Rights Clinic.

Alma Soongi Beck (LLM 04) is an attorney and diversity consultant in San Francisco and serves on the board of directors of Our Family Coalition and the Transgender Law Center. In February she led a panel, "Creating Inclusive LGBT Organizations," at the San Francisco LGBT Community Center sponsored by Out & Equal Workplace Advocates. In February she also spoke at a diversity panel at Golden Gate University School of Law.

Christopher P. Dobbins (MS 04, JD 04) won a seat on the Oakland school board in the June 2006 election. His campaign managers were **Johanna G. Atienza (JD 03)** and **Nick A. Urick (BA 00, JD 04)**.

Mary S. FitzPatrick (JD 04, LLM 06) is an attorney with Tour-Sarkissian Law Offices in San Francisco.

Autrey James (JD 04), of the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, attended a mixer on campus at Golden Gate sponsored by the Women's Law Association and spoke with many students and fellow former alumni.

John P. Marsh (JD 04) was hired by the Carter Center as field-office director for the Ethiopian Democratic Dialogue Initiative. This is his second position in Ethiopia for the Carter Center; during 2005, he served as head of the elections-observation mission.

Mai D. Phan (LLM 04), an attorney in Alameda, Calif., represented the Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California at GGU's "Meet the Bar Associations" event in January.

Michael Robertson (JD 04) is managing the Congressional relations operation for Barack Obama's presidential campaign.

Mark Goossens (JD 05), an attorney in San Francisco, received a 2006 Outstanding Volunteer Award from the Bar Association of San Francisco Volunteer Legal Services Program. He was interviewed for the March 25, 2007 broadcast of *Benefit Radio*, a radio program focusing on philanthropy in San Francisco that airs on 960 AM.

Brigit M. Kavanagh (JD 05) is an associate at Silk, Adler & Colvin in San Francisco.

In-Sop Pak (SJD 05) has been appointed to the faculty of Kyungpook National University in South Korea.

Michael Rinné (LLM 05) joined GGU School of Law adjunct professor Barton Selden to form Gartenberg Gelfand Wasson & Selden LLP, a new firm with offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Orange counties.



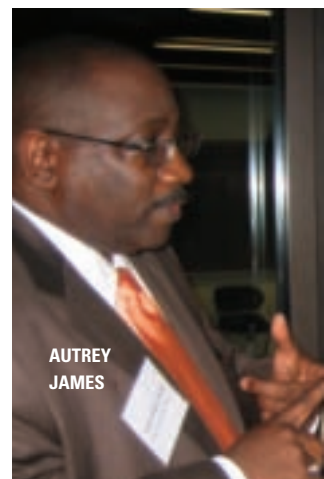
MAI D.
PHAN



ALMA
SOONGI
BECK



GREGORY
TANAKA



AUTREY
JAMES

David Waggoner (JD 05), a staff attorney at the Homeless Action Center in Berkeley and member of the Executive Board of the National Lawyers Guild San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, was quoted in the Jan. 29, 2007, *San Francisco Daily Recorder* regarding the need for state assistance for law-school loans in California and the impact on non-profit-sector law careers.

Manisha Aurora (LLM 06) represented the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California at the "Meet the Bar Associations" event at GGU in January. Aurora is secretary for the organization.

Ingo Bednarz (LLM 06) joined the Clifford Chance law firm's Frankfurt, Germany, office, representing clients in restructurings and other areas of corporate law.

Justin Buffington (JD 06) is a deputy district attorney in Contra Costa County, Calif.

Cecily Clements (JD 06) is working as an immigration attorney with the Law Office of Robert B. Jobe in San Francisco.

Marc D. Cramer (JD 06) works at the US Department of Labor in San Francisco as an investigator with the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Deborah Dyson (JD 06) is an attorney with Strand & Seaborn, an immigration law practice in San Francisco. Dyson handles employment- and family-based cases, as well as asylum and deportation defense cases.

Annamarie Fitzgerald (JD 06) is a deputy district attorney in San Joaquin County, Calif.

Meredith H. Hiltgen (JD 06) is an associate attorney at Ropers, Majeski, Kohn & Bentley in Redwood City, Calif., handling IP trade-secret and insurance coverage cases.

Paul Hogarth (JD 06) is a managing editor for *Beyond Chron*, a political news website run by the Tenderloin Housing Clinic in San Francisco.

Sean Kenney (JD 06) spoke to GGU students at a "Careers in Tax Law" event on campus on Feb. 15, 2007. He is an associate with Ramsbacher Prokey LLP in San Jose.

Jasbir Kaur Khalsa (LLM 06) has been promoted to legal counsel in the legal department at Hitachi Data Systems and will work with the company's general counsel to support US sales, finance, and other departments.

Brian E. Leach (JD 06) is employed with Leach, McGreevy & Labrador LLP, a civil litigation firm in San Francisco specializing in insurance defense and personal injury.

Elizabeth Rest (JD 06) is an associate with Idell & Seitel LLP in San Francisco.

Gina A. Scialabba (JD 06) is a deputy district attorney with the San Mateo District Attorney's Office.

Erika Scott (JD 06) is an attorney with Cooper & Mora of San Ramon, Calif.

Sandra G. Sepulveda (JD 06) is an associate attorney in the estate planning group at Berliner Cohen in San Jose.

Jennifer A. Smythe (JD 06) is an immigration attorney for two immigration law firms in San Francisco: Cornerstone Law Group and the Law Office of Gali Schaham.

Christopher R. Swanson (JD 06) is a federal investigator for the US Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Laura Narimatsu Wasserman (JD 06) practices estate planning, trust administration, probate, corporate law and litigation at the Law Offices of Larry M. Nakahara in Torrance, Calif.

Joseph Weatherbee (JD 06) is an associate attorney at Haverstock & Owens LLP of Sunnyvale, Calif.

IN MEMORIAM

Jean A. Deeds (JD 61)

Gordon E. Reynolds (JD 65)

Fred Reinhart (JD 66)

Roger A. Hedrick (JD 74)

Terrence E. Helmick (JD 77)

Dale A. Sipes (JD 77)

Mary B. Reid (JD 82)

Speakers at the 2007 School of Law Commencement Ceremony included San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris, who delivered the Commencement Address; Nicole Sato (JD 07), representing the JD graduates; GGU Alumni Association President Jim O'Neil (MBA 86); and Dean Frederic White. Simona Farris (JD 93) received the Judith G. McKelvey Award for Outstanding Achievement by an Alumna.



SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT ATTORNEY KAMALA HARRIS



NICOLE SATO (JD 07, RIGHT)



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT JIM O'NEIL (MBA 86)



COMMENCEMENT 2007



DEAN FREDERIC WHITE



SIMONA FARRISE (JD 93, RIGHT)

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 24

"DIVERSE PATHS" PANEL

Sponsored by the Bay Area Legal Recruitment Association and GGU Law Career Services, 11:45 am-1 pm, GGU, 536 Mission Street, 5th Floor. RSVP Required: Contact 415-442-6625, lawcareer@ggu.edu.

SEPTEMBER 10-OCTOBER 12 FALL RECRUITMENT 2007

Contact Law Career Services at 415-442-6625, lawcareer@ggu.edu.

SEPTEMBER 18

JESSE CARTER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Hon. Cruz Reynoso, UC Davis Boochever and Bird Professor of Law and former associate justice of the California Supreme Court, speaking on dissent. Noon-1pm, GGU, 536 Mission Street, Room 2202. Contact David Oppenheimer, 415-442-6655, dbo@ggu.edu.

SEPTEMBER 28

GGU LAW RECEPTION AT THE STATE BAR ANNUAL MEETING

Reception 5-7pm, Anaheim Marriott, California. Contact Lenore McDonald, 415-442-7824, lmcDonald@ggu.edu.

OCTOBER 4

GGU ALUMNI DINNER, WASHINGTON, DC

Hosted by Afghan Ambassador Said Tayeb Jawad (MBA 02) and his wife, Shamim Jawad (BA 02). Contact Susan Neuwirth, 415-442-7817, sneuwirth@ggu.edu.

OCTOBER 16

JESSE CARTER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Maya Harris, executive director of the ACLU of Northern California, speaking on dissent. Noon-1pm, GGU, 536 Mission Street, Room 2202. Contact David Oppenheimer, 415-442-6655, dbo@ggu.edu.

OCTOBER 24

GGU ALUMNI AWARDS LUNCHEON

Professor of Law Roger Bernhardt to receive GGU's Distinguished Service Award. Contact Lenore McDonald, 415-442-7824, lmcDonald@ggu.edu.

NOVEMBER 1

2007 "SUPER LAWYERS" RECEPTION

Contact Lenore McDonald, 415-442-7824, lmcDonald@ggu.edu.

NOVEMBER 2

LLM IN TAXATION JOB FAIR

Hilton Torrey Pines, La Jolla, California. Contact Jonathan Chu, 415-442-5387, jchu@ggu.edu.

DECEMBER 3

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Contact Lenore McDonald, 415-442-7824, lmcDonald@ggu.edu.

DECEMBER 7

BRIDGE SOCIETY LUNCHEON

Contact Elizabeth Brady, 415-442-7813, ebrady@ggu.edu.

JANUARY 31, 2008

FOCUS THE NATION GLOBAL WARMING TEACH-IN

Contact Cliff Rechtschaffen, 415-442-6674, crechtschaffen@ggu.edu.



EDUCATORS EXTRAORDINAIRE:

Professor Emeritus Allan Brotsky (left) and Professor Bernard Segal

SAVE THE DATE! APRIL 5, 2008, GGU LAW REUNION, PALACE HOTEL, SAN FRANCISCO

Contact Lenore McDonald, 415-442-7824, lmcDonald@ggu.edu

Golden Gate **LAWYER**

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY

School of Law
536 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA
94105-2968

NON-PROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

SAN FRANCISCO, CA
PERMIT NO. 8212